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Reports from Washington

A "Lame Duck" Session — Not In The Public's Interest

Congress has before it in the remaining weeks before adjournment legislation of immense importance to the country.

It is legislation which should be considered now — not sometime after the general election on November 4, when it might be more politically expedient to do so. Postponing major decisions on major pieces of legislation is not in the best interest of representative government. The American voting public should understand the serious implications.

Yet to be taken up for final consideration by the House and Senate are several appropriations bills, and legislation pertaining to oil and coal development, to health research and manpower training, as well as legislation directed at this country's overall intelligence operations. The final decision on next year's Federal budget is also pending action.

Congress clearly will consider and dispense with some of these in the next few weeks. But just as clearly, the majority leadership intends to hold back action on other bills, and take them up after Americans go to the polls on November 4. This means that these bills will be voted on by persons no longer representing their constituencies because they will have been defeated in the election.

To date, 39 Members will not be returning to the House of Representatives for the 97th Congress, convening next January. They have retired, they are seeking other elective office, or they suffered defeats in earlier primaries.

It is conceivable, then, that as many as 20% of those participating in the so-called "lame duck" session will be voting their own preferences, not necessarily those of their former constituencies. Accountability, and what may be in the best interest of the country, will be sacrificed for political advantage.

There may well be circumstances that require post-election legislative sessions — in a national emergency, for example. But that is not the case today.

Much of the legislation the majority leadership wants considered after November 4 involves big spending programs, to which the public has already voiced its strong objections.

For example, the Foreign Aid Appropriations bill was reported out of Committee on July 29. But it has not — and most likely will not — be scheduled for floor consideration before Congress adjourns for the election. This bill would commit \$8.6 billion of taxpayer money to foreign aid at a time when the American public is seriously questioning the level of expenditure in practically every category of the Federal budget.

But the most important bill the majority leadership wants to sidestep consideration of is the Second Concurrent Budget Resolution. This resolution sets binding limits on the amount of money Congress can spend for the next fiscal year. By law, final action on spending limits must be complete by September 15 of this year.

Unfortunately, this bill has not been acted upon, and if the majority leadership has its way, delaying tactics of one kind or another will prevent final consideration before election day.

Their rationale is simple. Despite months of boasting that they planned to present to the public the first balanced Federal budget in a dozen years, the majority leadership does not want to face voters to defend what the majority finally produced.

It will not be a budget in balance at all. In fact, estimates are that, depending on how severe the current recession becomes, the total deficit for next year could reach \$60 billion.

Putting off votes on the final budget resolution until after the election not only subverts the intent of the budget process, but it means politics has taken precedence over the public good.

Delaying action on vital legislation for purely political reasons is forsaking a trust to govern responsibly.

These are the facts. The American public has a right to know them, and cast votes on November 4 accordingly.

Petroleum Journal

Compiled by Jym Trimble

The Railroad Commission today set the Texas oil production rate for October 1980 at 100 percent of market demand for the 44th month in a row and the 100th time since the Commission first went to the ceiling level in April 1972.

Chairman John Poerner and Commissioner James E. (Jim) Nugent directed the continuance of the maximum statewide allowable after receiving and reviewing purchaser nominations for Texas oil in October totaling 2,617,096 barrels daily, an increase of 9.163 barrels daily when compared with September buyer requests. October 1979 nominations totaled 2,698 barrels daily.

October's permissible rate of output is calculated to average 3,394,844 barrels daily with actual production estimated at 2,520,000 barrels daily. The maximum allowable applies to all but 10 fields in Texas that are assigned lower legal rates of flow for conservation reasons. Actual production in October was 2,644,843 barrels daily.

mitted pipelines will transport gas, three will move crude oil and condensates, and three are designated for other materials.

Private pipelines accounted for 18 of the permits, while three were for common carriers.

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Texas oil and gas wells produced 562,182,025 Mcf of gas in June 1980, down 1.94 percent from field runs a year earlier.

Marketed gas production totaled 479,772,539 Mcf and reflected a 0.65 percent decrease from the June 1979 volume. Marketed production is the total gas to transmission lines, carbon black and plant fuel and lease use.

Gas exported from Texas in June totaled 247,305,946 Mcf. Natural Gas Pipeline Co. of America was the month's largest exporter, moving 63,627,457 Mcf of gas of which 23,823,109 Mcf was Texas produced.

gas. Exports of Texas produced gas in June totaled 172,833,887 Mcf, and reflected a 5.01 percent decrease from the year earlier month.

Texas gas production in June came from 206,320 oil and gas wells.

In May 1980, Texas wells produced 580,093,091 Mcf of gas. Marketed gas production in May totaled 486-180,704 Mcf. May exports of Texas produced gas totaled 208,551,876 Mcf.

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State leases in offshore and coastal Texas petroleum

provinces produced 56,311 barrels of crude oil during July 1980 in contrast to 63,113 barrels in the same month of 1979 and 48,569 barrels in June, according to operator reports to the Railroad Commission's Oil and Gas Division.

Gas well gas production from state leases amounted to 22,045,868 Mcf in July against 18,424,251 Mcf a year earlier and 20,429,677 Mcf in June.

Casinghead gas production totaled 187,834 Mcf in July against 192,674 Mcf in the same month of 1979 and 202,999 Mcf in June.

Condensate production from state leases amounted

to 106,246 barrels in June.

Production from offshore state waters in the first seven months of 1980 amounted to 323,246 barrels of crude oil, 1,001,096 Mcf of casinghead gas, 148,614,134 Mcf of natural gas and 922,728 barrels of condensate. Recorded production to August 1, 1980 totaled 9,606,776 barrels of crude oil and 1,811,313,169 Mcf of gas.

Production in the first seven months of 1979 was 491,717 barrels of crude oil, 1,100,282 Mcf of casinghead gas, 115,103,416 Mcf of natural gas and 1,047,135 barrels of condensate.

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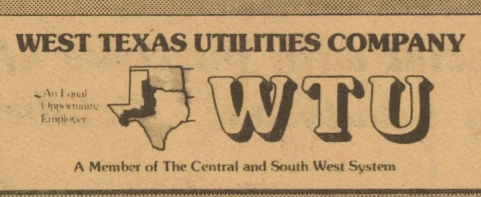
"CLICK."

"CLICK." That's where energy conservation begins. Turning off unnecessary lights, running the clothes washer, dryer, and dishwasher only with full loads. Turn the TV off when you leave it. Set your thermostat at 78 degrees for cooling and at 68 degrees for heating. These are simple conservation measures that can add up to big savings with just a little effort.

For even greater energy savings be sure your home has adequate insulation in the walls and ceilings. Double paned windows or storm windows and doors also help to insulate.

Weatherstripping and caulking are important to help keep your heating or cooling inside where it belongs. An energy efficient heat pump can provide 200% efficiency for summer cooling and winter heating.

All of these conservation measures can save you energy. And saving energy means you're saving money, all year long. West Texas Utilities wants you to get the most for your energy dollars. If you want more information on energy conservation we'll have one of our energy consultants assist you free of charge. Just call WTU.



Remember REDDY Supplies the energy— but only YOU can use it wisely!

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September 25	Ozona	Ozona
October 2	OPEN	
October 9	Mason	Mason
October 16	Ozona	Eldorado
October 23	Menard	Menard
October 30	Big Lake	Eldorado
November 6	Junction	Junction
November 13	Wall	Wall

Slym Gym
"Lean too Factory"
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Hwy. 277 Eldorado

Big John's Welding
All Kinds of Oil Feild Welding
24 Hour Service-Anywhere-Anytime
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Whitten's Liquid Feed

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\$1.00

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No Picture Available

No Substitutes

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