

SOUTH CENTRAL TEXAS — Partly cloudy through Tuesday. Not so cold Monday afternoon and night. Moderate variable winds on the coast, becoming fresh northeasterly late Monday night.

## Town Talk

Members of Post M. Travelers Protective Association, have been asked to join in a campaign to reduce the alarming motor vehicle accident rate in the fifteen to nineteen year old group, a rate which has been climbing almost uniformly from the eight per cent per 100,000 of population for 1921 to 33 per cent of 100,000 population last year. In contrast, the non-motor vehicle accident death rate for the same group has shown a drop from 43 per cent in 1921 to 21 per cent last year. It is therefore quite apparent that the increase in motor vehicle accident rate in this age group is preventing a substantial drop in the overall accident rate.

Charles Riebschlager, chairman of Post M Traffic Safety committee has requested us to voice the following message to members of the organization, and we are glad to cooperate.

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"What can we men of The T.P.A. National Safety Committee do to stop this enormous loss of life in the age group above mentioned?" Riebschlager asks.

"What can we do to stop the show-off driver in this age group who after all, is really causing this trouble? What can be done to cut these accidents at the time of special events, such as dances, games, shows, etc.? What can be done to control the noon-hour driving of those who drive to school? What can be done about those out-of-school drivers who hang around the school they once attended and take students—particularly girls—off for rides? What can be done to be sure that student driven cars are not "souped up" and are really in shape to drive?"

"What can be done to assure that motor bikes and motor scooters driven by students are in good shape for operating? How can you find ways and means to focus attention on the good student driver, and not on the bad, reckless, braggart teen-age driver, that the entire student body likes to brag about?"

What ways and means can we adopt for closer cooperation with law enforcement officers against these reckless school drivers—rather than jump on the officer for bringing the faults of the student to the parents? What ways and means can we use to outline these responsibilities to the student driver himself, that he may also respect others using the highways? Last, but most important of all—what can we do to

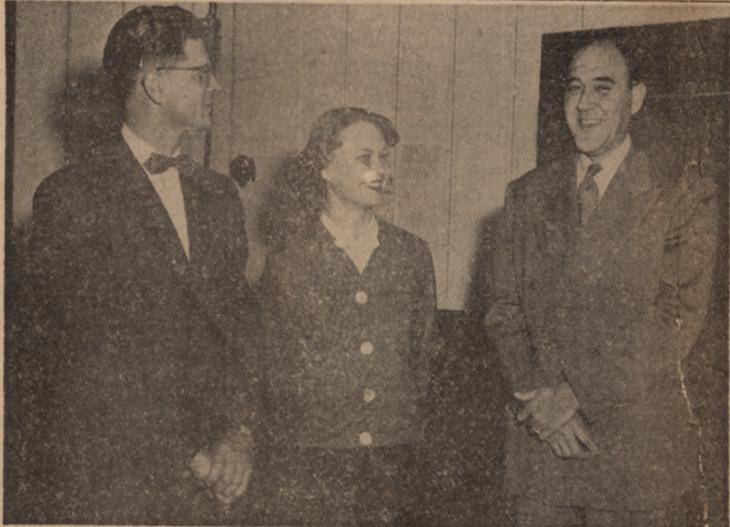
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### Why We Say--



Man's desire to fly like a bird is reflected in the word aviation. The Latin word "avis" meaning bird is the source of this modern term.

# BASCOM GILES BALKS



They'll lead Spring Cancer Crusade—Rev. John Jacobs, DeWitt County General Chairman of the 1955 Cancer fund drive, Miss Jean Wesley, of Galveston, representing the American Cancer Association, and Maurice Aronstein, chairman of the DeWitt County Cancer Finance committee, talk over preliminary plans for the campaign. Goal of this year's drive has been set at \$3,500. —(Photo by Tiffin).

## Texas Lawmakers Begin Detailed Study Of Bills

By O. B. LLOYD JR.

AUSTIN, Jan. 24 (UP)—Texas lawmakers were studying "brass tacks" business Monday, with activities due on taxes, labor, veterans land programs and insurance as the third week of the 54th session got under way.

Committee hearings were scheduled on the labor, land and insurance problems Monday and Tuesday.

The first tax bill, proposing a two-cent per gallon boost in gasoline levies, was already in the hopper. Another of the revenue-raising plans advanced by Gov. Allan Shivers, a boost of the cigarette tax from four to five cents, has not yet been introduced.

Monday, a meeting of the House Military and Veterans Affairs committee was scheduled, with the group due to hear a subcommittee report on whether the full committee should seek House approval for a probe of the \$100 million veterans land program.

The Senate's general investigating committee, headed by Sen. Dorsey B. Hardeman of San Angelo, is already probing reports of alleged irregularities in the program, with the prospect of working

### NUGENT TRIAL ON RED AID BEGINS TODAY

FORT SILL, Okla., Jan. 24 (UP)—Court martial proceedings against Maj. Ambrose Nugent, Army career officer charged with treason, were scheduled to start Monday. The defendant was confident he would be the first former prisoner of the Communists to win acquittal in court.

Proceedings were to start at 9 a.m. CST at this historic southwestern Oklahoma military base, with Lt. Col. Donald L. Manes Jr., from Fourth Army Headquarters, Fort Sam Houston, serving as presiding law officer.

Nugent, 44, of Merrill, Wis., is specifically charged with seven violations under the 96th Article of War and six under Article 134 of the uniform code of military justice. If convicted, the maximum sentence would be life imprisonment.

He was charged with collaborating with the enemy from the day he was captured by North Korean Reds. He was taken July 5, 1950, just three days after he went into combat with the first Americans thrown into the line against the advancing Reds. The Army charged he offered intelligence to the enemy, hindered the escape of flow prisoners and permitted the use of his photo and signature on surrender leaflets.

out corrective legislation.

Two labor bills proposed by Sen. George Parkhouse of Dallas, chairman of the Senate's labor committee, were to be discussed by that committee Monday.

One of the bills would ban picketing of a firm unless the union represents a majority of employees at that specific establishment. It would tend to reduce work stoppages by small groups working on large projects. The other bill would prohibit unions from interfering with movement of common carriers such as railroads or truck lines, through use of a picket line during a labor dispute with a firm.

The insurance proposal to be discussed by the Senate Insurance committee at 2:30 p.m. Tuesday was introduced by Sen. Searcy

of Houston in an effort to strengthen the state's regulatory powers over life, health and accident insurance companies. Braicwell is chairman of the committee conducting the hearing.

The gas tax proposal was dropped into the hopper by Rep. Charles Murphy of Houston. It would boost the Texas tax to six cents a gallon and would bring in about \$60 million a year. Of that, about \$45 million would go into the highway funds and the rest to the state's available school fund as provided by the state constitution.

Murphy said the bill was his answer to an "emergency situation" and predicted the taxpayers would back it as an answer to the problem of getting better and safer highways.

### Giant Rats Vacate River Seine Falling After Record Flood

PARIS, Jan. 24.—(UP)—The rampaging Seine river reached its highest level in 31 years Monday, flooding thousands out of homes and jobs and driving giant rats from the sewers of Paris.

Then the waters slowly began to fall. Authorities warned that the Seine may rise again to a dangerous new crest Tuesday or later this week unless the rains end. At least 22 persons have died in the floods and damages exceeded millions of dollars.

Dead-weary American airmen in canary-colored exposure suits helped evacuate families in the flooded Paris suburbs where muddy yellow water of the Seine and the Marne swirled into thousands of homes and shut down 200 factories.

Thousands of giant rats swarmed into basements of riverside buildings and the Paris prefecture of police warned inhabitants to kill them or call for official help. It was the rats which carried the

### Liquor Spokesman Says High Tax Hurts Industry

NEW YORK, Jan. 24.—(UP)—A top liquor industry spokesman warned Monday failure to cut the excise tax on liquor from \$10.50 to \$9 a gallon as scheduled April 1 will be a shot-in-the-arm to "moonshine murder."

President Eisenhower's budget message to Congress recommended excise taxes be held at present levels for at least another year.

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### Fleet Stands By To Evacuate Isle

By WILLIAM MILLER  
TAIPEI, Formosa, Jan. 24.—(UP)—The U. S. Seventh Fleet stood by Monday to evacuate the Nationalist garrison from Tachen Island. Vice Adm. Alfred M. Pride said his ships, guns and planes could cope with "any eventuality."

A war-ready task force was reported by unofficial Navy sources to be within striking distance of the Tachen Islands, but Pride, the Seventh Fleet commander, would say only his men could "move to evacuate Tachen within a few days."

The actual operation awaited only final orders from Washington. They were expected the moment Congress acts on President Eisenhower's urgent request to approve the waging of defensive war if necessary to protect Formosa and its outposts.

"Very Grave Move"—"If any eventuality should develop in that area we would be able to cope with it," Pride said. "It would be a very grave move and a change in United States policy. President Eisenhower would need the confidence of the United States people. The Tachen situation is very much in our mind."

Asked if the Seventh Fleet could cope with Chinese Communist air power based at big bases at Shanghai and other nearby inland cities, Pride replied, "we very certainly could."

A naval spokesman said, "the Seventh Fleet is on the alert, on time and ready for anything."

A reliable American source said the fleet of three huge carriers, destroyers and cruisers rushed to the troubled area with 300 carrier-based jet fighters ready to fight off any attempt by the Communist air force to interfere with the operation.

### DINTER POST GIVEN FLAG BY JOHN BELL

A beautiful 5 x 8 foot American flag which has flown over the capitol of the United States in Washington, will be presented Dinter Post American Legion here Tuesday evening by Commander William Nami, acting on behalf of Congressman John J. Bell, the donor.

The flag arrived Monday, accompanied by a certificate by J. George Stuart, capitol architect, that the flag had been flown over the capitol building.

### DOGGETT TO LEAD WOMEN COUNCIL MEET

Mrs. Marshall Doggett will lead the Worship Service Friday when the church Council of Women will meet in annual session at the Presbyterian Church at 4 p.m., according to Mrs. Howard Jackson, president.

A nursery for young children will be provided. Mrs. Alton Enke is retiring president.

Assisting Mrs. Jackson will be her committee composed of Mmes. Evie Lockart, H. L. Mueller, and Carl Bohne.

### FARM BUREAU EXPECTS NEW MEMBERSHIP

WACO, Tex., Jan. 24 (UP)—Presidents of farm bureau units in about 160 counties are meeting in Waco Monday to discuss ways to make the Texas Farm Bureau more effective in serving farmers and ranchers.

J. Walter Hammond, state president, said the TFB is the largest of general farm organizations in the state, with 55,670 member families out of the possible 280,000 farmers in Texas.

Farm bureau officials at the state headquarters here expressed belief Sunday the meeting would be the springboard for "tremendous gains in membership in 1955."

### Small But Dangerous

The Costa Rican revolt was small but dangerous. It could have exploded into war between Costa Rica and Nicaragua.

Costa Rica charged that the rebels came from Nicaragua, its neighbor on the north. President Jose Figueres of Costa Rica, a liberal, and President Anastasio Somoza of Nicaragua, a right wing "strong man," have long been on bad terms.

The revolt in Guatemala involved only the military bases of La Aurora, in the suburbs of Guatemala City, the capitol. It was stamped out within a few hours. But it marked the re-emergence of the extreme leftists who were thrown out of office last June.

### IKI ASKS FOR BACKING IN ASIA CRISIS

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24.—(UP)—President Eisenhower Monday asked Congress for specific authority to use United States armed forces "if necessary" to defend Formosa and the nearby Pescadore Islands against the threat of Red Chinese attack.

Mr. Eisenhower said that as commander in chief he has the authority for some of the actions which might be required, but that he wants a congressional resolution to provide clear and public authority for the prompt employment of the armed forces if in his judgment it becomes necessary.

The chief executive did not spell out the precise measures he might take. But he said the United States must be prepared to fight should the Chinese Communist forces obviously undertake a move threatening to overrun Formosa.

### Cuero Weather

Temperatures and rainfall for the last 24 hours, reported by H. A. Taylor, at the CP&L dam

High	51
Low	24

### Central America Seethes With Revolt

President Carlos Castillo Armas remains beset by opposition from both left and right, and his middle-of-the-road government face more trouble.

The most notable development of the hot three weeks just passed was the victory of the little-known Organization of American States in ending the Costa Rica revolt.

The OAS in a little United Nations. Its members are 21 American republics.

The OAS was formed in Bogota, Colombia, on April 30, 1948. It provides for collective action against aggression. It maintains a permanent council in Washington, consisting of ambassadors of the 21 republics.

Asked to Intervene—On Jan. 9, Costa Rica told the

### FATAL WRECK RECORDED NEAR GOLIAD

Goliad County had its first traffic fatality for 1955 early Sunday morning when Bennie Griffin, 35, Corpus Christi Negro was killed after being thrown from his car following an accident 2.9 miles west of Goliad on U.S. Highway 59, according to Patrolman F. B. Byrne who investigated.

Byrne said Sheriff Claud Taylor of Goliad County assisted in the investigation.

According to the officer, Griffin's 1941 Chevrolet coach left the highway on the right shoulder while he was driving at an excessive speed. In an attempt to regain the road, the car rolled three and a half times, throwing Griffin out.

The accident occurred about 12:30 a.m. Sunday, according to Byrne.

### Vandals Make Second Raid On Church Here

Vandals broke into the office of Dr. D. H. Truhitte at Calvary Baptist Church Sunday night, however, nothing was stolen, he reported Monday.

This is the second time in two months the office has been broken into, the first time the culprit or culprits getting off with an expensive Shaefer fountain pen, Dr. Truhitte said.

Entrance both times was by prying open the door. Dr. Truhitte said no money is kept in the office, and nothing else of any particular value. City police are investigating.

### Silent On Sheffield Partnership

AUSTIN, Jan. 24.—(UP)—Former Land Commissioner Bascom Giles Monday invoked his state constitutional privilege and refused to testify on certain matters before a Senate committee investigating the 100 million veterans land program.

Sen. Dorsey B. Hardeman, chairman of the committee announced: "Mr. Giles has invoked his constitutional privilege and has declined to answer questions or give testimony relating to his business relations, transactions, partnerships or co-ownership with any and all persons and companies, including J. Paul Little, C. O. Hagan, B. R. Sheffield, L.V. Ruffin and T. J. McLarty."

Giles—who voluntarily left office Jan. 1—the day he would have started a new two-year-term—was closeted in a closed hearing with the committee for one hour and 40 minutes.

Appears in Good Mood—The former land commissioner and ex-chairman of the Veterans Land Board was affable and smiling as he followed Hardeman from the committee room.

Hardeman beckoned to reporters and prepared to read his statement.

Giles, in response to a reporter's question, said he intended to return for another closed-door appearance before the committee at 4 p. m. Monday.

Hardeman confirmed the statement. "The statement speaks for itself," Hardeman replied when reporters pressed for further details. "You must have talked about something . . . can you say what was discussed?" Hardeman was asked.

"We went into the history of the veterans land board legislation, the committee chairman replied. "He Giles made some recommendations about the program," Hardeman added.

In addition to Giles, the committee had under subpoena Hagan, operator of a Yoakum tomato processing plant.

His name has figured prominently in testimony before the committee relating to block deals of land in several South Texas counties.

Hardeman said Hagan was expected to appear before the committee Monday afternoon. No definite time was announced.

J. Paul Little was named in testimony as a Crystal City attorney. McLarty, of Austin, is president of a South Texas land development company, while Sheffield and Ruffin are Brady land promoters.

Previous testimony indicated McLarty paid \$310,000 for 11,085 acres of Webb county land and in transactions completed 14 months later sold it to 77 veterans for a total price of \$511,400.

Ruffin was pictured in earlier testimony as a man who apparently netted more than \$300,000 profit in less than a year from his land dealings.

### COMING EVENTS

Gobbler Band Concert — 8 p.m.  
Hawthorne Club— Woman's Bldg 3:30 p.m.  
Eastern Star — 7:30 p.m.  
Legion — 8 p.m.

Don Pelon Says... Richard Burt believes that behind every successful man is a woman—and she usually catches him.