



Unless there's a change of sentiment in the County Commissioners Court, Sheriff T. O. Lang is headed for another budget defeat. Lang is asking for funds enough in '67 to pull his department into the 20th Century . . . and courthouse spokesmen have lost no time in putting out the message that to give him what he wants would lead to an increase in county taxes — by way of upping the percentage of property assessments used for the tax base (presently only 20 percent). Now from Commissioner Lawson Boothe comes a prediction there will be no tax hike of any kind for any reason. The commissioners, Boothe says, are agreed on that. Remaining to be seen is whether the court's stand patism will draw applause from taxpayers in suburban and rural areas where there's virtually no police protection . . .

Expensive and hard to find money doubtless will mean a slow down soon, but these are still construction boom times here. The evidence: Building permits for July topped \$9.5 million, bringing the year's total to \$52.5 million — just \$13 million short of the sum for all of '65. It's true that most of the July activity was backed by financing commitments made before money was squeezed tight. But . . . August also looks strong. Two projects alone, both ready to go this month, will add \$5 million: An 18-story student dorm at 24th and San Antonio, and Greenwood Towers, an 8-story apartment house on 18th running from Lavaca to Guadalupe . . .

It's sadly true that most of the big news stories are of tragedy — manmade and naturemade. Here are some examples of the enormity of the UT Tower Massacre: KTBC radio and TV alone made 250 "feeds" to stations all over North America. Oddly, the first requests came from Canadian stations. The first inquiry here at The Statesman was from the New York correspondent for a newspaper in Cologne, Germany. And the Reuters news agency (British) cleared its wire of all else when the story began coming in . . .

George Theodore, a retired Navy combat veteran now working as a civilian for the 8th Army Corps HQ, files this plan: Someone — the city, state, someone — ought to pin citations on those giddy volunteers who exposed themselves to Charles Whitman's uncannily accurate fire to bring in the wounded. Says Theodore: "Had they been soldiers in battle they would have gotten medals — as civilians they get nothing." . . .

Mrs. Karey Bresnenhan, 1407 Concordia, catches city hall in a breach of flag amenities. She called in a protest to the city manager's office when she saw the US flag flying in the midst of yesterday morning's rainstorm. Mrs. Bresnenhan was so right. Says Public Law 829, 77th Congress: "The flag should not be displayed on days when the weather is inclement." . . .

Put them in the morning rush, and makers of tranquilizers will love that southbound freeway exit above 8th St. Traffic trying to get out stacks up in an express lane for a block or more, inviting rear-end calamity. The trouble is that some drivers pay no attention to the sign at 8th commanding that cars in the right turn lane must turn right. When that happens the pileup begins. Putting force behind what the sign says shouldn't be too difficult. Police HQ is right across the street . . .

Short Shorts: Jaycees can expect some kidding about this: They had a men's style show at Club Caravan today with members doing the modeling —including the very latest in bathing trunks . . . The Swiss Chalet, a Houston gourmet spot, is said to be considering opening a restaurant here . . . Memo to Victor Nardecchia at The Italian Village: The OEO's Chris Aldrete found this on the menu in an Albuquerque restaurant: French Fried Ravioli . . . Wrong number: A Southwestern Bell truck buzzing the wrong way on Guadalupe until fast dialing driver called up an alley . . . Musicians Dick Lain takes contrast in stride; switches on Tuesday from rock 'n' roll KNOW to country and western KOKE. (Personal note: This reporter with this column is on KOKE now three times a day — 7:50 a.m. (!), 12:05 p.m. and 5:25 p.m.) . . . Life in River City is sometimes like this: At Scholz Garten they pick up dozens of one-way beer bottles, and they don't even sell suds there that way . . .

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Forecast

Mostly fair and warm through Friday with light southerly winds. Temperature range, Friday 75-90; Thursday 74-94 degrees. (For full report and map, see Page B9.)

Author Says of Sniper Parallel

'Oh, God, Not My Book'



American-Statesman/UPI

THE UNKNOWN PILL — The unidentified pill at left is held by a chemist at the Department of Public Safety laboratory as tests were being run to see what drug Charles Joseph Whitman took to the top of the Tower. At right, the contents of the capsule are put under a microscope. Blood tests also are being made to see if traces of any drug were found in the body of Whitman. The pill is believed to be dexadrine, but official tests are incomplete.

White House Labels Steel Price Hikes Irresponsible

WASHINGTON (AP) — The White House labeled as "irresponsible" today the moves of price-boosting steel producers, complaining they acted without talking over the situation with the government beforehand. A statement was put out at the White House in the name of Gardner Ackley, chairman of President Johnson's Council of Economic Advisers. In response to a question, press secretary Bill D. Moyers said it would be fair to assume that Johnson discussed the matter with Ackley before the statement was issued. A short time earlier U.S. Steel, the giant of the industry, and Youngstown Sheet & Tube Co. had joined the parade of other firms which have announced price increases since Tuesday. On the heels of the White House denunciation of the move, Bethlehem Steel joined in the increase. That made it unanimous among the top producers. Ackley's statement did not put an inflationary tag on the announced price increases. However, Moyers, when asked if the administration did deem it inflationary, insisted that Ackley is "very concerned about the impact of these increases on the economy and on the goods that utilize steel."

Solons Back Airline Plan

By WALTER R. MEARS

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Senate's Democratic and Republican leaders joined today in backing a compromise plan that would have Congress send striking airline mechanics back to work for a month, and empower President Johnson to keep them there for five more months. Sen. Mike Mansfield, D-Mont., and Sen. Everett M. Dirksen, R-Ill., said they will be among the sponsors of that proposal. Mansfield said he hopes the Senate will decide before the day is out what Congress should do about the four-week airline walkout. A major alternative awaiting a Senate decision is legislation that would leave to Johnson the task of forcing an end to the strike. And there was talk also of foregoing any kind of legislation to end the strike. "There are some people who don't want any legislation but I don't think they'll drag it out," Mansfield said as the Senate opened its third day of debate on strike measures. The compromise proposal would divide strike-stopping responsibility between Congress and the President in three steps: 1. Congress would order the

Beauties' Last Call

Deadline for entrants in the Miss Austin Beauty contest is midnight Friday. Those wishing to enter the pageant, set for Aug. 8-10, may call GR 5-9383.

Modified Housing Plan Squeaks By

WASHINGTON (AP) — House galleries of the House and the mill members on the floor. The dramatic vote cut an estimated 60 per cent of the nation's housing units out of the proposed open housing law. It was the price its sponsors believed they had to pay to keep the administration's 1966 rights bill survived Wednesday a sharp challenge by a one-vote margin — with the deciding vote on a controversial amendment cast by Rep. Richard Bolling, D-Mo., presiding at the time. After an initial tally of 179 to 179 was announced on the amendment, Bolling declared: "The vote is 179 to 179. The chair votes 'aye' and the amendment carries." With this, a roar went up from the packed

"In my view, the action of these companies can only be characterized as irresponsible. They were unwilling even to hear the government state the public interest in this matter," Ackley said. Inland's action was followed by Jones & Laughlin and Armco. Then Pittsburgh Steel Co. and National Steel Corp. acted earlier today. Ackley said, in words reminiscent of the late President John F. Kennedy's denunciation of a price increase by U.S. Steel several years ago: "This is not an hour in which this business leadership of America can take pride." In Pittsburgh, a spokesman for U.S. Steel, the nation's No. 1 producer, said the company would not have an immediate reply to the White House charge. Jones & Laughlin also had no comment. The spokesman for both companies indicated they would have nothing to say until they have had a chance to study Ackley's statement. The statement, trailing the fast-breaking developments a bit, referred specifically only to Armco, Jones & Laughlin, U.S. Steel and National as having ignored the government request for pricing discussions. But Moyers implied that the blast was directed also at Inland and would apply as well to other price-boosting producers who acted without talking first with government officials. Moyers said it had been well (See STEEL, Page A8)

Writer Ford Clark Has Received Threatening Calls

By GLEN CASTLEBURY

Staff Writer

"Oh, God, don't let it be due to my book," Author Ford Clark, abused already by a threatening phone call, realized that the fictional sniper killings of his "Open Square" had been dramatized in real blood on the University of Texas campus. This must have been about noon. I completely misunderstood her. I thought they were making a play of the book. Then she went on and told me about it and I realized what she was talking about. After I hung up I got another phone call and then another. These were from friends who knew about the book and had heard the news. "Then I got a call, I know it was long distance because a woman, the operator, I guess, asked for 'Mr. Clark.' When I said 'that's me,' then a man's voice came on the line and said: 'If you ever come down to (See BOOK, Page A8)

Sniper 'Worst Type' Psycho

By NAT HENDERSON

Staff Writer

The well known pathologist who performed the autopsy on the body of Charles Joseph Whitman said Thursday that he believes the 25-year-old University of Texas student was "an anti-social psychopath, and that's the worst kind." Dr. Coleman de Chenar said the small benign tumor found in Whitman's brain "could not have influenced his psychic behavior . . . It was a small, very slow growing, blood vessel type tumor, not destructive." At a press conference called by Justice of the Peace Jerry Dellana concerning the completed autopsy report on Whitman, Dr. de Chenar said all of the ex-Marine's "organs were in perfect health." He said the tumor was not malignant and had been growing for only about "six months to a year." He said it would have taken years for it to cause death. Following the press conference in 126th District Court, Dr. de Chenar told The Austin Statesman, "In spite of what some people say, I think he (Whitman) was an anti-social psychopath — and that's the worst kind. "They usually give a good impression, meet many people, make many friends and are good leaders of groups, and Whitman was all that. "But they have concealed hostilities to an individual, a group — or people at random," Dr. de Chenar said. Numerous news reporters at the press conference questioned the pathologist about reports that dextedrine pills had been found in the footlocker Whitman took to the Tower during his infamous sniping spree. Dr. de Chenar emphasized that his part of the autopsy had nothing to do with the chemical analysis of the blood to find if there was a presence of some drug. Although the Department of (See AUTOPSY, Page A8)

Austin Aqua Festival

- Pre-Festival Events
- TODAY'S EVENTS
- 5:30 p.m. Canoe Race Dinner Camp Tom Woolen, Lake Austin
- TOMORROW'S EVENTS
- 7:00 a.m. Highland Lakes Canoe Race Depart Camp Tom Woolen for Festival Beach
 - 8:00 a.m. Cuero Chisholm Trail Blazers Boy Scout Hike Depart Bergstrom for Festival Beach
 - 9:30 a.m. Arrival, Cuero Chisholm Trail Blazers, Festival Beach
 - 10:00 a.m. Conclusion of Highland Lakes Canoe Race, Festival Beach
 - 12:00 Noon Official Kick-Off Luncheon, Crest Hotel
 - 7:30 p.m. Opening of Ford Times Exhibit, Laguna Gloria

Ambulance Service May Go Up for Bids

By JACK MADDIGAN

Staff Writer

Emergency ambulance service in Austin may be put up for bids. The City Council received notice Thursday morning from all but one of Austin's funeral homes that they definitely plan to quit the emergency ambulance business, as of Aug. 31. An attorney representing a group called Austin Ambulance Service, told the Council his clients will take over the service now provided by the funeral homes on Sept. 1 if some kind of agreement can be reached for covering unpaid bills. Charles Villaseenor, owner of Mission Funeral Home — the only one which plans to stay in the ambulance business — said he is willing to bid on providing all ambulance service within the city. Villaseenor said he could be ready to take over the entire service "tomorrow." Dan Felt, attorney for the newly formed company, asked that the Council appoint some-

Rains Do Damage, But Aid Farmland

Associated Press

Downpours of up to more than 8 inches soaked sections of Texas Wednesday and Thursday, inflicting damage in El Paso but bringing much needed moisture to parched ranges and farmlands. The heaviest rainfall — 8.23 inches — for the 24 hours ending western tip of Texas, at dawn was recorded at Barker just west of Houston in Harris County but an Army Engineers spokesman said there was no damage and all roads in the area were open. Ruins of more than 5 inches fell in the Austin area but the only damage reported in the state was in El Paso in the far western tip of Texas.