

Interim Sess. off | June 5, '71

Because the Texas House of Representatives has been ~~xxx~~ run more like a feudal kingdom than a legislative body, defeating Gus Mutcher for Speaker is not enough," said members of the Dirty Thirty.

bipartisan

As a flexibly organized group of ~~xxx~~ legislators who opposed Speaker Mutcher throughout the 62nd Legislature, the Dirty Thirty are now pressing for substantial ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ reforms in the Texas House machinery.

meetings

" Unannounced bootleg committee ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ and unrecorded hearings, unrestricted conference committees must be ~~effxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ wiped out of the legislative process," said Representatives Tom Bass of Houston, Frances Farenthold of Corpus Christi, and ~~Rx~~ Dick Reed of Dallas in a joint statement.

"Too much attention ~~ix~~ centers now on dumping Gus"

~~xxx~~

"Simply replacing ~~Speaker~~ Mutcher with another speaker

more sophisticated in manipulating the legislative process in no victory".



During the 62nd Legislature ~~was intended to maintain and improve~~ our legislative programs aimed at enacting strong pollution laws, reform health care and child assistance programs were destroyed by the vindictive Mutcher team, largely because we pressed for a full investigation of the legislative involvement in the Sharpstown bank and stock fraud."

The Mutcher team through the House of Representatives administrative machinery even censored <sup>our</sup> the news letters to the voters, ~~which~~.

"Speaker Mutcher and his close knit team look like a sinking ship today"

Suffering from the recriminations of the iron hand redistricting "the Dirty Thirty" has its greatest test ahead. We have been pitted against each other in some districts ~~and~~ through ~~the~~ unscionable gerrymandering."

Gerrymandering is part of politics we ~~we~~ knew ~~the~~ <sup>what we were</sup> facing when we opposed the Speaker at the first days of the session. ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~



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~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

Our ~~primary~~ aim now is to ~~gr~~ reelect as many members of the Dirty Thirty as possible. ~~This effort~~ Facing reelection in legislative districts carved out by vindetta, we need broad based popular support.

The Dirty Thirty campaign is looking for candidates who will oppose the Mutcher team ~~all over the state.~~ ~~Too much of the opposition~~ ~~is now~~

~~centered onumping Gus.~~ We are concentrating on ~~defeating~~ the special interest lobby financed legislators that make the phenomea of Gus Mutcher possible.

~~It is of little consequence to Gus if he is replaced by simply~~  
~~another speaker who is more sophisticated and capable in dealing with~~  
~~placard cards for special interest legislation.~~

~~If the Texas House is to function as a democratic body it must operate~~  
~~by its rules.~~ ~~The day must end for unannounced committee meetings, and~~  
~~unrecorded hearings.~~ The Rules committee must be more than a sieve for  
passing out the favor of allowing your issues to come to the House floor  
for debate. The local and consent calendars must ~~never~~ not be used  
to pass major pieces of legislation without debate and without ~~x~~ the  
possibility of amendment.



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We hope that the Speaker's unfettered venhom went so ~~fast~~<sup>infected</sup> the House

redistricting plan is unconstitutional", but ~~practical~~ politicians ~~xxxxxx~~

~~know~~ ~~cannot~~ depend on the federal courts ~~to~~ act ~~xxxxxx~~

ix quickly enough to redraw the lines before the next election.

~~The Dirty Thirty is taking ix its case to the people, as a flexibly~~

~~organized group of House members who stood up to the Speaker and the lobby~~

Citing the legislative accomplishments of the Dirty Thirty, the house members pointed out that they were responsible for calling for a

*introducing resolutions*  
initiating the call for an

investigation of Mutchers dealings with Frank Shapr and the Chairman

of the H<sup>0</sup>use Appropriations Comte. Bill Heatly the Duke of Paduka.

The Dirty Thirty also claims credit for fighting the consumer ~~xxxxxx~~

taxes passed this session and convincing Governor Smith ~~ix~~ to veto the

26x 2¢ gasoline tax. "We also ~~xxxxxx~~ sliced at the fat in the appropriations

\$ 700 million

appropriations ~~ix~~ bill by carriny more than 40 cost saving amendments to the

House floor in a 12 hour debate.

The Dirty Thirty made legislative ethics its number one goal, by

pushing for an ethci bill with teeth that would require full ~~xxxxxx~~

disclosure of all the financial dealings of ix state officials.



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~~Because~~

~~The Texas House runs more like a feudal kingdom than~~

~~a democratic body, dumping Gus mutcher is not enough. The handmadens~~

like ~~wixd~~ deal wiht unbridled  
of the lobby will still ~~wixd~~ immense power ~~ix~~ in the House in

Mutchers absence.

like The Chairman of the Appropriations Comte, Bill ~~AN~~ Healty

known as the Duke of Paduka.

~~Rxxxxxxx~~ The mutcher team must be replaced, Behind Gus

an inside group of hand ~~x~~ picked  
there has been ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ of sycophants, who carry the ball

for the Mutcher team. ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ The rewards of serving of the

Mutcher team include the political and financial rewards of carrying

legislation for the lobby, like the gas utilities , insurance~~xxxx~~

*redistributing Appropriations*

The Dirty Thirty once the underdogs in the House now

can push for positive ~~ix~~ reform. Writteh and oral assurances

mean nothing around the Texas House, just ask the all the refugees

from the Mutcher team that are now withdrawing their pledge cards.

We need more ~~ix~~ legislators who care about the process

~~Ofxxxxw xxxxxx~~ with fair play not just the substance of their



Since we of the "Dirty Thirty" are a pretty independent lot it would not be correct to say that we are organized. Nevertheless, we are united in our desire to reform the leadership and rules of the House. Gus Mutscher is only a symptom, it is the system that needs changing! We are in the process of drafting reform rules. We shall recruit and support candidates for the legislature based on their concern with reform. We will support conservatives or liberals, Democrats or Republicans, on that basis. We will talk to a candidate as follows: "We are not working for any particular Speaker candidate we are pledged to a program of reform. Ask any speaker candidate how he stands on these reforms and do not vote for the man who equivocates." "Dirty Thirty" analysis and support is not going to be determined by labor, business, either major party, or any outside group. We elected representatives who have shed our "political blood" this session will take total responsibility for any official action on the part of the "Dirty Thirty." We welcome and solicit help from any individual or group interested in House reform but such help must be offered with the understanding that there are no strings attached.

- Reform Rules must be effective at the beginning and during the next Spks first term. It is unacceptable for the effective date to be the end of the session or the beginning of the following session.
- Reduction of total number of standing committees. At least 50% fewer than the current number
- More autonomy to the standing committees. Chairman authorized to conduct interim studies in their area. Organization & utilization of permanent sub-committees.
- Modified Seniority. ~~Each~~ A member has the right to remain on one committee of his choice. Once on the committee a member may be removed from the committee only at his request.



- Local legislation should be handled in the same manner for all-members. An anti-speaker stance should be irrelevant in the consideration of local matters.

- Individual members, not House Administration, should be responsible for and have authority over their staff and contingency.

- As in the election of the Speaker, members of the committee should select the Committee chairman.

- Debate on Appropriations, Taxes, Redistricting and ~~the~~ <sup>similar</sup> ~~the~~ topics should not be held to the same time limits as debate on other topics.

- The Rules committee operation should be modified. There is too much discretion on assigning bills to the calendar. Each meeting of the Rules committee should assign bills to the calendar without delay. Bills will automatically take their place at the bottom of the General State Calendar.

At 110 H. R. P. in session



with ~~only~~ one forwarding

- a) Const. And to the appropriate calendar.
- b) Local ~~bill~~ bills on request to the local calendar
- c) Requests for consent to be approved by unanimous committee action. <sup>And</sup> Votes in opposition to be a permanent part of the records <sup>of the committee</sup>.
- d) By a 2/3 vote bills can be transferred to the Major State or Emergency calendar.

The Speaker shall not have authority to assign or reassign bills on the calendar.

- The Rules committee, not the Spk, shall have the responsibility of assigning bills to committee on 1st Reading.

- The rules should automatically provide for the nomination of more than one member for speaker. The system of pledge cards should not be allowed to determine the election prior to the convening of the session.

- Conference committees should be restricted to adjusting the differences between the houses.

- <sup>session</sup> Pre<sup>a</sup> filing of bills