

Time changed back and forth in 1967

TIME, from Page 1

state must observe Mountain time effective yesterday (Saturday)," Dreiling wrote.

"Bill Rhoads, chairman of the Sherman County commissioners, said early Saturday, in a conversation with *The News*, that he would advise residents 'not to fool with their clocks.' Rhoads said this is his own opinion. He said that on April 30, when the rest of the state turns their clocks to conform with Daylight Saving Time, this area will take up Mountain Daylight Saving Time, which, in essence, means leaving the clock where it is now is, leaving those counties in other parts of the state one hour behind the time in Sherman County."

Problem in Kansas

As the date for the time change moved closer, *The Daily News* reported that a joint resolution had been introduced in the Kansas Senate requesting that the eastern limit of Mountain Standard Time be set at the Kansas-Colorado border.

It suggested a line should be drawn that would be more convenient "for the junction points and division points of common carriers engaged in interstate commerce."

"It would be more convenient for commerce within the state of Kansas if the entire state was within the same time zone," the resolution said, suggesting the Colorado line as the eastern boundary of Mountain Time.

High court decision

The long-awaited decision by the Kansas Supreme Court indeed was handed down on April 8.

The court said, in essence, that there was nothing wrong with the City of Goodland and Sherman County placing city and county offices on Central Standard Time, upholding the District Court's decision.

Plaintiffs in the case said the city and county tried to establish the legal time for the county in the resolution passed in 1965.

But the city and county said they were setting the time for office hours and workers in the offices.

The plaintiffs argued the resolution reverting to Central Time was in violation of the time act of 1918 and the Uniform Time Act of 1966, which required all states to revert to their original time.

The court, however, did not rule on that question. Instead, it said: "The only question is to determine whether or not the adoption of the resolution was a lawful exercise of the powers of the two governing bodies."

The high court said: "We believe such authority is also within the scope of the broad powers delegated to the cities to enact ordinances."

It continued by saying: "The resolution was within the scope of the lawful authority of the bodies and not in conflict with any state or federal law."

Waiting for official word

With time running out, and the

Only the cat knows; she's not talkin'

As the national changeover to Daylight Saving Time approached in March 1967, Goodland Daily News Editor Tom Dreiling wrote that no one knew what was going to happen to the time in Sherman County on April 30:

No one knows but the cat. And, unfortunately, the cat can't talk. So, as of this writing, we are unable to tell our readers just what time it will be in this part of the state come April 30, the date set by Congress for changing, retaining, or breaking the clock.

This writer spent the better part of a day on the phone chatting with an aide to Attorney General Bob Londerholm and ... United Press International to learn what action will be taken, clockwise, in those areas which were formerly on Mountain Time when the time zones were set down by Congress in years gone by, and since then adopted Central Standard Time.

The only answer we got from anyone was "we don't know."

According to a dispatch from the Dallas Bureau of United Press International, "the federal bill says there

can be no time differences in a state." The article was referring to areas of Texas and Kansas which have some sections on Mountain Time.

We read this short paragraph to the aide of the attorney general and the implication was that it is wrong and that in effect, the bill reads a little differently.

So, we decided to pop still another question. "When will a decision on the time controversy be made?"

The answer we got was "that the decision would probably be held up pending a ruling from the Kansas Supreme Court on the Sherman County time issue."

Our next question was: "When is a ruling from the state's high court expected?"

The aide to the attorney general said it will be around April 8.

Today we are on Central Standard Time. April 30th might find us on Daylight Saving Time. Then again, it might be Mountain Daylight Saving Time. Then again by that time it might just be another time.

No one knows but the cat. She's sitting here smiling. Too bad the cat can't talk.

should have been consulted on the matter, which was the reason behind the meeting.

Attending the meeting besides Mayor Sparks, councilmen Bob Fenner, Jim Riley, Hap Carroll, Max Carman and Ed Carelton, were County Commissioners Bill Rhoads and Paul Kuhrt, in addition to attorneys Pete Whalen and Tom Oglevie and reporters.

Quite a discussion ensued. It was stressed that the time act, as it reads, applies only to those coming under Interstate Commerce rules and federal employees. It does not bind any city or county governing body. But, others argued, after the Department of Transportation finally makes a decision on the matter, "it might be advisable for the cities and counties to consider that decision in setting their time policy."

In was further brought out at the meeting that Sherman County commissioners approved a resolution that spring asking county employees not to change their time "until further notice." It was this resolution that apparently ignited the city motion to ask "city employees and

city clocks to remain on exactly the same time until further notice."

Councilman Bob Fenner said he had received 21 calls since the mayor's order was aired, by residents of the city who did not want to move their clocks again. Fenner, who made the motion to leave the time as it is, said he felt "nothing should be done about the time until the Transportation Department handed down some sort of ruling."

Councilman Ed Carleton questioned whether federal offices would be observing a different time than city employees if the time is not changed. Whalen excused himself at the meeting and made a call to Postmaster Dale Rauscher to ask what time the post office will observe. Whalen reported that Rauscher said the post office will utilize the prevailing time in the community.

Also brought up at the meeting was the possibility of a referendum election, the next spring to see just what time the people of the county wish to observe.

County Commissioner Kuhrt said he would be in favor of such an election.

"I think it would be a good idea to let the people decide what time they want," he said. Commissioner Rhoads agreed.

A lot of questions were asked and many opinions voiced. And the end result was approval of a motion to let the time in the city and county remain as it was, eliminating the necessity of changing the clock.

There is no evidence that the idea of the referendum on the time issue was followed through with, at least not in the spring of 1968, and it was such a non issue by then that there was no mention of changing time at all in the first six months of the year.

The county reverted to Mountain Standard Time in October 1968, according to the stories in *The Daily News*, but that was not the end of the time question. It came up again in the spring of 1989, when a straw poll was conducted which came out in favor of staying on Mountain time.

Wanted For Questioning

with regard to charges of exhibiting pernicious pettifoggery toward the Elderly in small-town America.

Has anyone seen this woman?



Her real name is "Rain" O.A., but she has been known to go by sundry other flowery aliases, such as Tilda Tulip, Ida Iris, or Claudia Crocus, her all-time favorite, in an attempt to alter a run of bad luck. She has been sighted on occasion, after dark, at various *Bowladiums*, where she has been referred to as **Strikeless Stella**. Rumor has it, that while frequenting these rowdy bowling establishments, she has often assumed the identity, Beverly Bouncer, and can be found in the company of her cohort, AKA Bonny Bouncee, pictured below.



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CORRECTION

The J.C. Penney ad that ran in *The Goodland Star-News* Friday, March 21, was run early, but will be in effect next weekend, March 29 and 30.

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