THE MERCURY

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SWATTING SENTIMENTALISTS

In another column we are republishing an editorial from the Henderson Journal, which sees a "mawkish sentimentalism run rife" in those of us who prefer to see Cumberland Falls preserved as a wonderful bit of natural scenery, rather than turn it over to a foreign power interest.

The Journal's editor is quite peeved with those who see more beauties in the shifting mists of a waterfall than in the solid masonry of a hydro-electric dam. "Plan to spend millions and achieve the development is met at the border with a sentimental and hog and clubbed into silence and inertia."

The Journal waxes eloquent in ten point and capital letters, to show the folly of mawkish sentimentalists who would stand in the way of the power interests, though these same interests seem to have missed being clubbed into silence and inertia at the border. The feel of the business is, they give us to understand that the permission to exert their Cumberland Falls dam is already "as good as given." Why not let us of the sentimental flock "mawk" a bit if we may?

No one of us, we think, is attempting to "hull and chain" Kentucky in the race of industrial progress by opposing the use of Cumberland Falls as the site for another great power dam. There are other sites available in Kentucky, yet it seems to be the Falls or nothing with the power interests.

The Journal's concluding sentence, might be used, in part, at least, as the text for the editorial which it ends. "The least that we can do is to be sure of our facts" says the Journal, and we wonder if the writer is sure; if he knows!

That the beauty of the Falls will not be impaired.

That hydro-electric dams have caused North Carolina to leap to a leadership over night.

That Cumberland Falls is not seen by the people of Western Kentucky, of Eastern Kentucky or of Central Kentucky.

That no one fishes there.

That the way to develop is to develop.

And just where sentiment comes in, we wonder sometimes.

A NEEDED IMPROVEMENT

The Mercury is glad to learn that the question of a bond issue of $25,000 for the construction of a filtering plant and the making of other improvements at the Carlisle waterworks is to be submitted again to the voters.

We believe that this measure would not have been defeated, had the citizens of Carlisle understood that the voting of these bonds will not increase taxes; that the present tax levy is the constitutional limit. Twenty-five cents of the present levy of one dollar has been used to retire the original water-works bonds. This, we are informed, will be sufficient to carry the proposed issue.

Additional information is required to the improvement will appeal from time to time in the news and editorial columns of this paper. We need filtered water; we can get it without adding to the burden of taxes. All that is needed to pass the bond issue, it seems to us, in the interest of the voters of Carlisle is this matter of civic improvement.

CONFIDENT RICHARD

Senator Ernst is confident of re-election. He tells his party so. No matter how great a majority the Democrats roll up in the western portion of the State, he is going to be able to find the Republican votes in Louisville and the Mountains necessary to offset 'em, says Richard P.

Somehow we believe the Senator is for an unpleasant surprise. But perhaps he is only whistling to keep his courage up, as the young Republican enthusiast who brought the recent Republican conference to will cheering by announcing that he would carry "the first district."

A CROUCH

(By a Deafened Editor.)

It was after about eight "dofening cracks" in the ear last Wednesday morning, we happened to pick up "Homefolks" in the Courier-Journal. Homefolks is always good, but in this he hits the nail on the head, or the telephone in the mouthpiece. We end, "stop lifting your chapters of the staff."

Chapter I

We have been aiming to write a story about telephone but couldn't seem to make the right connection.

Anyway we heard a story today day about two young fellers that filled each other up for quite a bit to play tension.

Chapter 2.

(Interval here for quite a peale of phoing, phoneys, phonegies, phoneys. Phone off-Phone. Waiting? . . . What number did you call, please? Line still busy . . . Wrong number . . . Phoney, phoney, phoney! Lines busy.. Waiting? What number did you call please? . . . That number has been changed. . . . Phoney, phoney, phoney. . . . Wrong number . . . Dead silence. . . . Darkening crack in the ear. . . . Phone off-Phone. What number did you call, please? . . . Wrong number.

Chapter 3.

So finely they got to the connection . . . But by that time they was too old to play tennis . . . So they had to play chess.

It turns out that the editorial writer, whose recent diatribe in the St. Louis Post-Dispatch evoked such a vigorous response from Governor Fields, was at one time employed by the Courier-Journal and was "summarily discharged" by the newspaper. The Courier-Journal and the Governor seem to be in accord for once, in their judgment of the author of "Kentucky's Surrend-ah."

The launching of a new morning paper in Winchester was signed in the bad luck week, when the premier was arrested on the charge of having used the mails to defraud Lucky Winchester. One paper is rough for the town. Lucky promoter, for he might have landed a newspaper in the town house, had he been successful in launching his "Star."

POEMS THAT WE LIKE

DANNY DEEVER

(Kipling)

"What are the bugles blowin' for?" said Flowerd-Parade
"To turn you out, to turn you out," the Colour-Sergeant said.
"What makes you look so white, so wan?" said Flowerd-Parade
"I'm dreadin' what I've got to watch," the Colour-Sergeant said.
"For they're hangin' Danny Deever you, you can hear the Death March play,
The regiment's in 'allow square—they're hangin' him to-day;
They've taken of his buttons off an' cut his stripes away,
An' they're hangin' Danny Deever in the mornin'.

"D'ye hear the rear-rank breathin' so 'eavy?" said Flowerd-Parade
"It's bitter cold, it's bitter cold," the Colour-Sergeant said.
"I cannot tell the 'ow or why," said Flowerd-Parade
"For they're marchin' round 'im all day long, a-waitin' for 'im to be made
Ready for 'im to go to the grave," said Flowerd-Parade
"Beyond the Pit of Stinks, I 'ope," said Flowerd-Parade
"An' 'ow 'e'll 'ang in 'ell a minute or two," said Flowerd-Parade
"O they're hangin' Danny Deever in the mornin'."

"An' was 'ee right, poor lad, an' was 'ee wrong?" said Flowerd-Parade
"Ky, sleepin' out an' for foraging," the Colour-Sergeant said.
"I've drunk 'is beer a score of times," said Flowerd-Parade
"E's drinkin' bitter beer alone," the Colour-Sergeant said.
"They are hangin' Danny Deever, you can't 'ear the fife no more,
For 'e shot a comrade sleepin' — you must look 'im in the face,
Now 'ooever 'ad the luck to miss the Regiment's disgrace,
While they're hangin' Danny Deever in the mornin'."

"What's that so black agin the sun?" said Flowerd-Parade
"It's Danny fightin' 'ard for life," the Colour-Sergeant said.
"What's that that whimpers over-'ard?" said Flowerd-Parade
"It's Danny's mother, poor 'old 'ooman!" the Colour-Sergeant said.
For they're done with Danny Deever, you can 'ear the quick step play,
The regiment's in column, an' they're marchin' an' away,
An' the young recruits are shaky, an' they'll want their beer to-day,
After hangin' Danny Deever in the mornin'.

MAJESTY OF FALLS

(Ulrich R. Trowbridge in the Cincinnati Times-Star.)

There is only one explanation of the curiously unrepresentative pictures carried by the National Geographic. Just a year ago, when I was walking in Kentucky, the whole mountain South was in the grip of about the worst drought in history, with the rivers running dry and the forests going up in smoke. Not one photographer in a group was taken there.

Cumberland Falls is a reality of consequence. It is not comparable to Niagara. Yet, when I saw it, the rapids above its brink were wider than any memory I have of the rapids above Niagara; this was doubtless because the river had less a more precipitous slope. Its normal flow is said to be about one-third of the American Falls action of Niagara, its stream averaging at the plunge to 125 feet from rock ledge to rock ledge. The water drops from about seventy to twenty feet, depending on how full the gorge is at any time, which is carry off all the third dropping into it, the lower stretch, over rapids just ruins. Thus the plunge is about half as far as that of the great cataract of the lakes.

The Kentucky cataract may be likened to a longitudinal section of Niagara. It wears the same relation to the latter that the Yosemite Valley does to the Grand Canyon. Its views are more intimate, and its rainbows are more beautiful, as the boat crossing you can hallow from brink to brink. But it does have an extra good carrying voice. Its roar is really musical, and the rhythm of the falls where some of Niagara is Algonquin for "Thunder of Waters." When I leaved it, it seemed to be saying something but whether it was "I'll see thee in the wheels of hell a-coming," or "I am a sheet of primeval thunder; profane me not," I could not tell. The interpretation was Kentucky's. Viewed by sunlight, the fall has no "Niagara" in its light still another. By day the rainbow lurks in the mists, and like water, dissolved right now by the sun, appears and disappears. The original flood the color of old ale, but sometimes it takes on the tints of the wall of water second to one vast topaz, and still another yellow precious metals. By night the mists darken to a sullen gray, finally go from the boiling reality, filling the gorge below with a mass of mist and mingling with the wooded hills to become part of the night, and to be made in the morrhow. With the ghostly light of the moon, the gorge is transformed on the tunnel, of the impressionists. Its rocks, below, are lost or witnessed from the rocks above are one of my major memories of travel.

A State Park

Kentucky wants to establish a Lincoln State park there and sell the power interests to develop their programme at place where it will cost more and do the biggest thing the Commonwealth has. What kind of a park would this be? It would be something where you would want to spend about a week, as compared to the single day that visitors to Niagara. Thus, the wildest Kentucky. Here is the 1 acre to mind Emerson's lines, "Song of the West," and illustrate the glowing prose of Roosevelt to make the forest quoit of Boone and Kenton and Daniel Boone a temporary things. But what would like a week to spend in the place is a penultimate paragraph. The notion is one of hours, and it is that you would not find elsewhere. For example, I heard a guide tell the wife with a voice as big and round as a robin's. Hers they still boiling cabins, and one some of their perches the women spin and weave in colonial fashion. Beneath both it that the moonshine in Mc. County County, just across the river, is of a quality high, fastidious, unique that they call it a mule. I can personally testify that one teaspoon of it can be distilled. Big as lead thirty inches by twenty. Such a leaf I carried on a quiet trail on a woman night a Japanese parfait.

Why is so little known about Cumberland Falls and why do the pilgrims thither been few? The reason, in part, is that last thirteen miles of wagon road. Yet, until hardly Kentucky crowded in Mammoth Cave, the cataract shared the obscurity of all other places of pilgrimage. Mammoth Cave, High Bridge, Natural Bridge, the birthplace of Abraham Lincoln and Jefferson Davis, are the railroads. Only the Kentucky River Palisades and Cumberland Falls are motor highways. Yet, the Falls are a wealthy Kentucky, and the price he pays represents anything but enormous profits to the utility.

WHERE TO GET THE FISH

"Well, what do you know about that?" reminded the Indiana Hoosier as a country lad passed him with a five bass string of crappies and blue gills. "You've had a mighty fine day, young man; where did you catch them?"

"Just back down that path much-ed 'Private' and keep a walking till you come to a sign, 'Trespassers will be prosecuted.' Then go a few yards farther and there's a fine pool in the river marked 'No fishing allowed,' and there's where I got them."

30 YEARS AGO

Thursday, Sept. 10, 1896

Rev. A. S. Morrison arrives in Carlisle and assumes pastorate of Carlisle Christian church.

Carlisle graded school opens Monday with 312 students, the largest number in its history.

Barry Stewart, Chris Frey, Will Lyons and Will Gooch formed fishing trip at Mackinac Island, Mich.

Joe Kirsig, of York, Pa., purchases 70 head of mules here to carry for which he paid from $150 to $160.

Dr. Harry Mangor sells his residence on the corner of Main and Stoney streets to H. C. Reed for $2,000.

Born—To Mr. and Mrs. John M. Duthrell, of the county, on the 8th, a daughter.—To Mr. and Mrs. John Williams, of Covington, on the 6th, a son.

Married—Miss Sallie Francis and Mr. William Lyons, both of county, on the 3rd.—Miss Bobbie Francis, of Lumkin, to Mr. J. O. Kimbrough, of Cynthiana.

Carlisle Fire Company organized with following officers and active members: C. R. Keller, chief; Geo. Brown, assistant chief; Joe McDaniel, Ed Gillispie, Victor Thomas, Joe Trebble, James Ivy, Elijah Tyler and William Dell.

At a meeting of the city council Monday night, W. J. Kennedy was elected clerk to fill the vacancy caused by the death of T. P. Tuggle. Mr. Gardner E. Rogers was chosen to fill Mr. Kennedy's seat in councilman.

42 YEARS AGO

Thursday, Sept. 11, 1884

Large crowds attending the Caledonia County Fair this week.

Willie Ross and Coburn Turner leave for Hanover, Ind., to enter Hanover College.

M. V. Bostain purchases livery stable of Willie Moore and leaves it to Mitchell Grimes.

Mike Rafferty's tobacco was in the ruins of the Carlisle Tobacco Fire Friday morning, entailing loss of about $1,000.

Mathers & Bailey livery stable and equipment of Potts & Berry burned Friday night. Potts will move to Florida to recuperate.

Mike Conners suffers painful injuries when a falling cider fire scatters and is run over while the fire company was enroute to fire.

Born—To Mr. and Mrs. James Stewart, of Carlisle, on the 6th, a son.—To Mr. and Mrs. John W. McMahill, of Carlisle, on the 10th, a son.

Citizens meet at court house and organize a volunteer company with following members: T. P. Nelson, chief; George Mann, assistant; Jesse McDaniel, C. G. Bryant, Cal Drivall and H. Glenn.

CHEAP POWER

(Louisville Times)

Vance Pratcher, secretary of the State Public Convenience Board, is in Central Record of Lancaster, that Williamsburg would be able to get electricity from dams at Cumberland Falls, and says Pratcher, Mr. Stanton, London and Corbin are paying about twice as much for it as is now current generated by water power on Springfield. He says it can at most made by coal.

Cheap power and cheap electricity from water power is discussed in a speech by O. C. Merritt, Assistant Secretary of the Federal Power Commission, delivered to a complete form.

Mr. Merritt says that because water costs nothing it is assumed that hydro-electric power must be much cheaper than steam power. Whereas a hydro-electric plant may cost several times as much as a steam plant of equal capacity, and in addition may require an expensive transmission line, substations and storage reservoirs. Expensive, nothing but a clear exposition of facts, from a wholly disinterested source, sec-ending to Mr. Merritt, will convince the average consumer that the wide difference between the cost of the finished product and the price he pays represents anything but enormously profits to the utility.

A FINE "TEXT"

—IN CONCLUSION—

The following editorial is republished from the Henderson Journal:

The directors of the Henderson Chamber of Commerce are quoted as adopting a resolution opposing the proposed power development at Cumberland Falls.

And insisting that "Cumberland Falls be preserved."

Preserved for what?

For fishing?

For fishing? Well, the fishing is still the best in the world, and it has been done to Cumberland Falls, and it has been done to Niagara Falls; it has been done to Niagara Falls; it has been done to Cataracts; it has been done to Niagara Falls; it has been done to Niagara Falls; it has been done to Niagara Falls