# The Carlisle Mercury

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## Our Editorial Platform

1. Zoning of city for answering fire calls.
2. Consolidation of city and county schools.
3. Installation of natural gas lines.
4. Better lighted business district.
5. Establishment of a Board of Trade.
6. Location of an evaporated milk plant in Nicholas County.
7. Full support of the Nicholas County Community Chest.
8. An industry for employable Ihales.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 26, 1950

## " Come Into My Parlor "

Kentucky has always been noted for her "fast horses and beautiful women". Fact is, mention the word horse and immediately Kentucky is associated with it.

And yet, probably 47 other states have more public riding stables than Kentucky—horse haven.

Samuel Wallace, travel editor for the Chicago Tribune wrote an article "There's Gold In Those Hills" for the January issue of Kentucky Business in which he evaluates tourist trade. He foresaw Kentucky resort and recreation facilities such as good swimming pools and beaches, well stocked lakes and streams, fine tennis courts and golf courses and excellent riding horses as necessary drawing cards for prospective tourists.

According to Mr. Wallace some 90 million Americans traveled for recreational purposes the past year. They spent in the neighborhood of $14 billion, of which $200,000,000 was dropped in Kentucky. This figure represents the third largest industry in Kentucky, preceded by $450 million in farm receipts and $250 million in minerals and coal.

**In other words, tourist trade receipts were above those of tobacco and livestock** ($35 million more than its total tobacco production in 1948 and $25 million more than livestock industry produced for "kaintuck" in the same year.)

The old saying goes that "you can lead a horse to water but you can't make him drink". How true! Name me a prettier state than Kentucky . . . . one more centrally located . . . one with more historical shrines . . . . and yet you've got to have a magnifying glass to find the road sign pointing the direction to Mammouth Cave when you get to Cave City. If facilities were adequate, that $200 million figure should read $400 million at least.

What's wrong? Road conditions for one thing. Below par tourist accommodation for another and a lagging tourist promotion campaign for still another. The magic name of Kentucky yearly brings thousands of tourists to the Blue Grass section to see the heralded thoroughbreds that grace the horse farms near Lexington and outlying communities. But, instead of holding prospective spenders, we lose them to Tennessee, Ohio, Virginia, North Carolina and bordering states.

One good thing about the road conditions however, once tourists invade the scenic beauty of our state, the bumpy, winding roads rather impede their too-fast exit. But . . . . we're doing better.

## Tossing Orchids

April 15, 1945 . . . . Anybody recall the date? Doubt it. Probably passed—it usually does 29 out of 30 days in April.

Anyway, rain or shine, it was a good day in Nicholas because a very good man took over the office of county agent. Since that time, William T. Straw, better known as Bill, has done a tremendous job towards improving farming in our county.

His job has not been an easy one—that goes without saying. But through the co-operation of the local agriculturists—co-operation for which Bill has been largely responsible, many worthwhile farming feats have been accomplished and still others furthered.

Recently Bill, a native of Kerrmore, Pennsylvania, was elected director of the State County Agents Association. Last Thursday, he was named vice-president of the Community Recreation Council by acclamation.

During his seven year niche here, he has given unselfishly of his time and energy in promoting measures beneficial to the community.

Good will can't be measured in dollars and cents, but, were it possible, one William T. Straw would be a very rich man.

## The Faith Of A Child

A group of boys anywhere from seven to nine years of age were playing a game of baseball one day some months back—August, possibly.

The wind was stirring slightly, just enough to cool the hot, dripping faces barely visible beneath shocks of matted, dusty hair. Otherwise, the day was boiling hot—like August days usually are.

The pitcher wound up. Bob Feller style and let go a wobbly pitch. The raveled, lopsided ball came towards the plate . . . . crack! and a base hit riffled into the outfield. The batter, rounded first base and started for second, but the alert outfielder more or less rolled-tossed a throw to the outstretched hands of the second baseman that beat the dark haired runner by a split-2 or so.

"Safe!" shouted the self appointed umpire, smallest boy on the field.

"He—ell of a mile," screamed the second baseman gesturing wildly with the ball.

"You had your foot off the bag," the runner insisted—and then the fight began.

A tall pleasant looking man who had been watching the game unnoticed by the players, mounted the fence and walked onto the field.

"What's the trouble here, fellers?"

At the sound of the deep masculine voice the scuffling stopped.

"Did you see it, Mister? He wuz out wouldn't he?"

After hearing both sides of the story, the visitor, wearing a remembering smile, asked if anyone else had noticed if the second baseman had his foot off the bag when he caught the ball.

"Now, but that little squirt wouldn't know straight up," said one.

"Seems to me you fellas are losing a lot of good playing time." An awkward silence followed. Then—

"Yeah, let's play ball. We'll put him out at third."

"Hurry up, I gotta cut the grass at home and I wanna nother bat."

Pretty soon the boys were playing again and the incident all but forgotten.

The tall man with the deep voice passed for a moment as he swung a long leg over the much climbed over low place in the fence row. That had been a big decision and major problem with those boys, he mused, but they had accepted his judgment in the matter without question.

A child's faith is cancelled in all the world he thought, looking back once more. The "little umpire" stood glued to the spot not more than a foot from the second base. He was going to make sure right next time a close decision was to be made, or the other fellas wouldn't let him play with them again . . . . they had a way of taking care of that.

Monte Stratton smiled and limped on. It had been an awful hot day . . . .

## Eloquence Of Chimney Smoke

(from The Harrod-burg Herald)

In going around in places where we were not acquainted we have often fallen into the state of musing about the people of the place, both large and small. There are places we know that must have children by what we see as evidence. Toys, swings, see-saws and the like.

We can certainly state the character of a farmer by his farm gate and care of his implements.

We can be certain that there is a good housekeeper where window shades and curtains are correctly hung. The front porch and stoop inviting. The closely drawn window shades speak as audible as a loud "No! I am not at home."

We took the following from Good Housekeeping an another angle:

Next time you see smoke coming from a neighbor's chimney, consider how many things it can tell you. Writer Donald Peattie has long known the significance of such apparently prosaic sights. Here's what he says in the January issue of Good Housekeeping magazine:

"Everyone knows you can tell the weather by the behavior of chimney smoke. If it blows down from the chimney and slinks along the ground, rain is coming; if it stands straight up, dry, crisp weather is promised. Moreover, if the smoke is piling out of the chimney in sweltering, smelling, dense billows, then the master of the house is in; he has just started the fire. If the smoke is spinning out in a long, hazy, bitter-smelling twirl, then he may have gone out, for the fire is dying. A hearth fire at its height shows only a transparent violet wraith of smoke dancing on vigorous heat waves; at such a time, probably the whole family is gathered around. A friend's hearth smoke is like a crooked finger, beckoning you in. The perfume reaches out and greets you before your friend comes to the door."

## A Great Tragedy

By Dr. Gordon Wilson

Superficially we have come a long way from a time when all of us could be classed as of the folk. In a single generation of fabulous inventions have lessened distance, have brought bodily comforts, have profited life. From the flickering candles to electric lights is a long way to cover in a half century. From oxcarts to supersonic planes is equally far. And it is an odd thing that the gadgets that ride the most daring scientists knew a half century ago are the toys of playthings of anybody. All of this we have been told over and over. Sometimes we almost believe that we have come as far in our thinking as we have in mechanical invention. If you will stop and think a little, you will see that we are often riding in modern air chariots when our poor brains are doing no more thinking than they did when the country seat was the farthest place that we had ever seen.

A great tragedy of our age, and I am not merely a man bordering an old age when I say it, has been the inadequate leadership that has bridge the phenomenal gap between yesterday and today in our lives. The alarm bomb is not the only thing that has suddenly found its way into the modern home. We have worked out ways to combat germ and insect life and almost all system needed reforms, who could lead except those who had given up their lives to study problems that were being inaugurated? Our town is filled with more and more-and-baggy lines, are now crowded to the curbs with more somewhat traffic. The narrow, one way streets of nearly every town we plan a problem that is outgrown the horse and its days. But how many are the leaders that seen the tremendous change and built for it?

My home town, and probably yours, is beset with a traffic problem that seems incapable of solution by any known means. Problems of load have given and even the most casual observer can see that the conditions