The Littlest Raindrop

By Betty Ishmael (Age 11)
Nicholas County Elementary School

A little raindrop was sitting peacefully in the silver lining of a cloud. The sun was shinning, and the little raindrop felt its warmth through his watery little body.

The little raindrop turned sideways to look at his father, the cloud, "Oh, please Daddy, is it time to fall to earth? I want so much to be of use to the humans. Do we have to wait any longer?"

The wise old, stern faced cloud turned to his son, "You are too young to go to the earth, you do not know what humans do to little raindrops like yourself." Humans waste raindrops daily. Look at that big green earth. We big clouds and raindrops made it that way and what do those silly humans care? Look at their creeks and rivers; see how polluted they are? Humans throw sewage, trash, and detergent wastes into our vast water population. Humans not only waste our brothers and sisters outdoors, but they waste water indoors, too. Look at those families down there in Nicholas County. Their faucets, and daily they waste more of our water family than we father clouds can ever produce. Those kind of people should not be allowed to have a good water supply. You don't want to go to earth."

"But Father, I want to go. Please when will I know?" The little raindrop look up pleadingly at his father.

"You not worry, son, you will find out soon enough." The old father cloud put a stern look on his wispy white face and refused to answer any more of the little raindrops questions.

Many days passed and the little raindrop stayed with his father. At last on a certain bleak day, the little raindrop knew the answer. Today was his day to fall to earth. The old father clouds turned black and growled fiercely at one another. Soon all the little raindrops gathered together. After a loud clap of thunder, they began to fall one by one to earth. The little raindrop was so happy.

He drifted downward and at last fell into Goose Creek, where he and his brothers were again united. But everything was not friendly there. Two mean tin cans pushed him on down the stream. Papers and dead fish were floating along beside him. They not only look horrible, but they smell bad, too. After drifting down the stream, the little raindrop got tired, because the muddy water was slowing him down. He was about to give up on life, when suddenly he drifted into a reservoir. There he saw many different kinds of machines and chemicals with a clean kind of smell. He knew then that he would be purified and be ready to go to the faucet, and be forced by the power of electricity into someone's home.

In the home he overheard two housewives talking about their new automatic washing machines, and dishwashers, and swimming pools. A terrible feeling came over him as he wondered which one of these he would be forced into. Oh, how he wished he could tell them there was plenty of water for all of their machines, if only they would use it wisely.

The little raindrop heard the farmers talking about the farm ponds in Nicholas County. He knew that they used the water for fire protection, crop irrigation and for their livestock.

He wished he could go to the 4-H Club Lake or Camp Carlisle, because he would be of value to the county.

Perhaps he would be sent to the Fish and Game Club, or the Game Reserve and be swallowed by some of their wildlife: a deer, turkey, or some other animals.

He told his other brothers and sisters about Licking River. It holds so much water there is enough for all the residents in Carlisle.

The raindrops in the forests said "We are able to stay in the good earth and hold mositure for the trees." "Why couldn't you come with us?"

The little raindrop had only a few brothers and sisters left. Each of those drops of water knew their destination, but the little raindrop did not know where he would go.

One day he found himself alone on the ground. Slowly he felt himself sinking into the soil. He did not know how long he stayed there, but the bright sun peeped out at him through the clouds. The sun became very warm and he felt himself being lifted upward. The little raindrop looked around. He was overjoyed, because he was by his fathers side once more.

His father smiled toward him, "Well, son, have you grown older and wiser?"

He replied with a smile on his face, "Yes, Father, it is so peaceful here. Fathers always know best."

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Bill Threlkeld of the Nicholas County Soil Conservation District, sent the essay above for publication, as he says, "This was one of the most unusual soil and water conservation essays received.")

Twenty & Forty Years Ago

Thursday, February 23, 1950

Public health personnel from the entire state will convene for the Second Annual Kentucky Public Health Association Meeting to be held on Mar. 2-10 in Louisville, at the Warren Memorial Presbyterian Church. The welcoming address will be given by Dr. Bruce Underwood, State Health Commissioner, followed by a response by Dr. B.F. Reynolds, Nicholas County Director of Health.

Jimmy Carter, CHS sophmore won the $50 U.S. Savings bond in the tobacco division of the FFA Production Contest sponsored by Harper's Garage. Bobby Gene Price won the corn division sponsored by the 1st National Bank.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Morris and their three-year-old son, David, will be leaving soon for mission work in India. Mrs. Morris was formerly Ruth Rice of Carlisle.

Don A. Jones, W.L. Markwell and Herbert Anderson, who recently purchased the store of R.T. Kirkland, are promoting a gigantic change of ownership sale which starts today, Feb. 23. Earl Marshall will continue as manager. Mrs. Clara Bostain and Mrs. Hord Crouch will remain with the new firm as clerks.

The seven-room residence of Arthur Argo, located on Sycamore street, was sold at auction Saturday morning to Mrs. James C. Saunders of Headquarters, at $7,500.

Assistant superintendent of Fayette County Schools M.E. Norsworthy will be guest speaker for layman's day at the Methodist Church. Mr. Norsworthy was formerly superintendent of the Carlisle City school.

Miss Beulah Wasson left Friday for New Orleans, La. for a visit with Dr. and Mrs. E.M. Smith and Miss Lucille Broadway. Miss Wasson will also attend the Mardi Gras.

Corp. Chester Bretz, located in the Pacific area, is expected to arrive in a few days to be with his mother, Mrs. Arthur Bretz, who is very ill at her home on E. Chestnut.

The 187-acre farm of Billy Frey and A.R. Fisher was sold Feb. 15 to Russell and Malcolm Wills for $54.25 an acre. The farm is known as the late Peter Bonta place.

Mr. and Mrs. W.H. Earlywine, Mr. and Mrs. V.O.(Dick) Earlywine are returning to their home from Stuttgart, Ark., where they were two weeks guests of their uncle, V.O. Earlywine, and family.

Mrs. W.L. Smith and Mrs. J.M. Pitman were in Lexington, Tuesday to attend a council meeting of

HOW COME THE FATHER OF OUR COUNTRY IS ONLY SHOWN ON DOLLAR BILLS?

are forced to leave the county due to poor economic conditions. This county offers very little in the way of good opportunity to young people.

Yet I noticed an article in the back of the paper pertaining to more industry being interested in Harrison County. The great and prominent question here is, What is wrong with Nicholas County?

I for one am tired of seeing the elite class of people create jobs for their family and then look down on the rest of the people who can't make their standard of living. It's time to seek more genuine competition and we can do this only through better education and more opportunity.

In conclusion, let us become concerned and work for a better Nicholas County and Carlisle.

Allen Clay Stone

The Carlisle Mercury

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MERCURY VAPOURS

by Warren R. Fisher

Headlines in nearly all the larger dailies proclaim: Flu Erupts in 45 States. Some newspapers closer home explain it really isn't flu but a flu-like illness--just take it from us, if it wasn't flu that kept us flat of our back from noon Feb. 6 thru Feb. 11, (we were abed at doctor's orders) then we don't care to sample the other varieities.

We had got up rather early that Friday morning in order to meet a gentleman from Texas arriving at 7:49 Lexington via jet.

He was, we had been instructed through several letters commissioned by Parnell McKay, of Pass Christian, Miss. coming to move "KT" our old S81. Harris offset press upon or thru which we had put countless sheets of newsprint during the five years we "rolled our own" and that of a neighbor publisher. We didn't envy him his task, and are really sorry that we konked-out. We didn't see a single piece of that monster moved.

Sam W. Burns, owner of two weekly newspapers in Texas, one at Harlingen, which is about as close to being in Mexico as one can get, made it to Pass Christian. At least he called to ask if a piece or part had been left, saying he was enjoying the sunny clime and beaches on the Gulf. There weren't any hunks of metal belonging to the press that Kay could find, so it must be assumed they left here with all parts.

Having called long distance to Pass Christian and also Harlingen, it's something one doesn't do for a pastime, so maybe one of these days we'll be favored with a letter saying that "KT" now functions as a newspaper press again.

Readers of this column may remember our mentioning that Mr. McKay lost his plant to some 30 inches of sand and water following a Hurricane named Camile.

Since we hadn't printed a newspaper on "KT" since February of 1968 and didn't expect to in the foreseable future, we advertised the old gal for sale and received three pitiful offers. We felt we'd rather give the whole she-bang as to be beat-out of it. There was a lot of blood and sweat and dollars too in the conglomeration it took to operate that press. So the only request we made of Mr. McKay was, that if he wanted the equipment, then it was up to him to get it out of the building. He did. Or I should say Mr. Bruns did with a lot of help from local people.

Mrs. Jane Ellen Booth, councilman or woman if you will, chairman of the Streets and Alleys committee along with Councilman Eugene Kelley and Councilman Charles Wilson were most helpful in seeing that salt was applied at strategic places; as was General Services Superintendent Brooks Henson and his crew. Woody Wilson and the "Big Hook" plus many more, are accorded our thanks.

As we said before we weren't here, and maybe it's just as well. Each time we look into the back shop, we get a sort of naked feeling. It is we think, the first time that the Mercury has been completely without a newspaper press. Plenty of our friends in the newspaper publishing business have taken this same route--they've survived. We hope we do too.

It's called Central plant printing. Some other fellow buys good equipment and all the publishers within an area flock to his doorstep to be printed on that which they can't afford.

LETTERS
from our readers

Editor, The Mercury:

I would like to write in regard to the article concerning plans to build a new elementary school. I have made some studies in many areas and I have found that, in many cases there is a great deal of difficulty in obtaining new schools. Of course a new school will be our expense as citizens. But the future of our young people is of far greater importance.

As we know Nicholas County has come a long way in the past few years. When I speak of Nicholas County in this case, I refer to Carlisle as well. A new elementary school would be a great step forward for both city and county.

At this time we also have an older problem. Many young people

Agree or Not,

I Say What I Think

By S. C. Van Curon

FRANKFORT--Now that the $3.1 billion budget has passed and been sent to the governor, legislators can settle down to hassling seriously over some of their pet bills.

The amended version of the budget sailed through both branches with little more than a ripple of opposition that was voiced mostly for benefit of the people back home.

Lawmakers were in general agreement that the budget presented by the Appropriations Committees of both houses in joint session was not a perfect document, but was the best that could be put together. They also agreed that there never has been a perfect budget passed--where every member got what he wanted in the budget.

It was a victory for Gov. Louie B. Nunn who was faced with a legislature dominated by the Democrats, 72-28 in the House and 23-15 in the Senate. Neither can the Democrats be accused of acting irresponsible for what little shifting they did in budget funds apparently met the approval of the Republicans.

The budget sailed through the House 93-1 and 37-0 in the Senate.

The legislature passed the halfway mark Friday with about 700 bills being introduced to date.

Still facing final action are emotionally controversial bills on the abortion issue, sex education in schools, and an enabling act to aid parochial schools.

The pace will quicken its pace in the last half of the session. If early indications are any criteria, almost half of the membership is willing to be drafted for one statewide office or another.

Schools Supt. Wendell P. Butler already has his political cart on the track.

The Republican administration

Sheep Association, is planned for March 6 at 9:15 a.m. in the Carnahan House on the Coldstream Farm near the Interstate 75 and Newtown Pike interchange.

Dr. John L. Ragland, associate dean of UK Extension Service, will welcome the group, and Dan Beasley, teacher, nutritionist with an Illinois feed firm, will discuss dry-lot feeding of lambs.

"The Wade way with feeder lambs" will be shared with other Kentucky sheep producers by Robert C. Wade, Hardin County farmer who feeds out as many as 800 lambs yearly.

Wayne Mosher, Douglas County Oregon sheep specialist will list ways that sheep can produce profits from lost acres.

Luncheon speaker will be Barney Arnold, WHAS radio and TV farm director. Master Shepherd Awards will be presented after the Luncheon to the three adult-winners of the small, medium, and large-sized flocks and to the top young farmer, FFA, and 4-H sheep producers.

A $-dollar registration fee, which includes lunch, will be charged. The public is invited.

March 1 is the new deadline for farmers to file their final income tax returns and pay their tax in lieu of estimated tax by Jan. 15, the Internal Revenue Service has announced.

IRS said the Tax Reform Act of 1969 changed the date from Feb. 15 to March 1 for farmers who have not filed their declarations of estimated tax by Jan. 15. Under the new law these taxpayers may file their Forms 1040 and pay the tax due by March 1 to avoid estimated tax penalties.

Farmers who filed their declarations of estimated tax by Jan. 15, have until April 15 to file their income tax return.

This means farmers will have an additional two weeks to file their income tax return if timely declarations are not filed. March 2, 1970, is the deadline for 1969 returns because March 1 falls on a Sunday.

For estimated tax purposes farmers are defined under law as those who get two-thirds of their income from farming.

The following release has just been received from the Experiment Station:

"Chlorinated hydrocarbon insecticides, with the exception of endosulfan (Thiodan), are not being recommended for use on tobacco this year. This is in order to reduce the level of chlorinated hydrocarbon residues in cured leaf. We anticipate that a reduction in chlorinated hydrocarbon residues will be necessary in order to maintain a continued market demand for cured leaf.

For this reason we no longer recommend the use of certain chlorinated hydrocarbons for use in tobacco, either mixed with fertilizers or as sprays or dusts."

The next meeting of prospective cucumber growers will be at the courthouse Thursday, Feb. 19 at 7:30. All who are interested in learning more about this project are urged to attend the meeting.

in Frankfort inadvertently has provided Butler with the fuel for his cart.

First, Butler is opposing two bills that would establish the Kentucky Program Development Office under statute and the area program boards for the 15 state districts. It is now operating under authority provided in an executive order from the governor.

The other tank of fuel for Butler is provided in a resolution suggested by the governor in a recent press conference. The resolution calls for an establishment of a State Task Force on Education Innovation. It was introduced by Senators Scott Miller and Wendell Van Hoose. A companion resolution was introduced in the House.

Butler is a great man on studies, particularly in campaign years. He can round up superintendents across the state to appoint local committees to go into these studies and Butler gets a lot of publicity out of them.

Butler usually starts out running for governor, but can be persuaded by Democratic leaders to run for some other minor office. Butler is now serving his third term as superintendent. He was elected Agriculture Commissioner under Gov. Edwart T. Breathitt.

He knows how to get mileage out of issues.

This isn't the year when educators are welcomed in legislative halls with open arms. They failed to get their requested salary increase for teachers, but did get a $300 increase over Wilson Wyatt.

Their sabbatical leave bill, with full pay, was debated in the House and ran into a bundle of trouble.

Their professional negotiation bill is likely to come out of committee later this week by a narrow margin.

The State School Board Association is lobbying hard against the bill. That's not all. Another bill was introduced last week that would give teachers association the right to confer with school boards on all subjects covered in the Kentucky Education Association professional negotiation bill.

It gives them rights in one place, but later takes most of it away in stringent legislation that would allow strong punishment. A subject can be brought up only one time a year without mutual agreement between the board and the teachers. Fines or jail penalities are provided if a strike is called or the teachers vote to invoke sanction.

They also can be fired.

College officials cried about how poor they came out in the budget, but they fared much better in comparison than these secondary schools. But the college presidents got their hand called in a committee meeting the other day when a senator reminded them that they are going to raise tuition for next year and pocket the money without even asking the legislature "by your leave." This isn't figured in the budget. A $60 raise in tuition means $60,000 per 1,000 students.

GRASSROOTS OPINION

LA PORTE, IND., HERALD-ARGUS: "What should be clear to freedom-loving citizens is that this nation cannot consider establishing policy on the basis of constant protest marches. The democratic foundation can withstand honest expressions of dissatisfaction with governmental policy, but it cannot accommodate to a steady diet of revolution-bent agitators shouting into every available microphone and holding forth on every street corner. We must be a responsible nation as well as a fair nation. If in dissent, we are bent only on destruction, we have sad and fatal times in our future."

HYANNIS, MASS., PATROIT: "The future of the nation depends on citizens who are willing to study carefully and weigh the economic, educational and social issues--and vote for candidates who stand for sound government at every level, national, state and local."

ELLENVILLE, N.Y., JOURNAL: "Inflation has us by the seat of our pants and the more we try to help ourselves by seeking higher wages to meet higher cost (brought about by higher wages) the more we worsen our predicament..... The high cost of government is killing the purchasing power of the taxpayer. And it is going to get worse unless taxpayers unite and make their protests heard, loud and strong, in the legislative halls of government, all the way from the old home town, through county and state levels, on up to Washington."

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Senior Girl Scout Troup 170 Reports 4-Month Activities

By Sharon Crawford

Senior Girl Scout Troop 170 has been engaged in many activities of public interest during the past four months.

The troop started out the new year of 69-70 with a new leader, Mrs. Sally C. Allison and Mrs. Virginia Lee Coatney assistant leader. Karlyn Coatney is the troop president; Debbie K. Vice, vice-president; Sharon Ecton, scribe; Rita Williams, treasurer; and Jane Small, assistant treasurer. Our Mothers Committee consists of Mrs. Kenneth Hunt, chairman, Mr. Manuel Crawford and Mrs. Oliver Vice.

During the Christmas season the troop entered a float in the Christmas Parade. Many hours of hard work were put into the float which was stored at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Julian McKee.

Last week the troop made a Valentine heart and tray favors. The items were taken to the Johnson-Mathers Nursing Home for our Senior Citizens to enjoy.

Most of the girls in the troop are working on service aid bars. Service aid is the training a girl receives by working in public facilities such as church, hospital, school, etc. After working fifty hours in one certain area, she is considered accomplished in this field and can thereafter help whenever the service is needed. The following are some of the divisions of service aid bars: Teacher's aid--Phyllis Atkinson, Sharon Crawford, Sharon Ecton, Susan Logan, and Mary Ann Mitchell; Office aid--Joyce Simpson; Program aid--Anne Boothe, and Karlyn Coatney; Public relations--Sharon Crawford; Aid to the Handicapped--Mary Neal Patricia Ockerman, Sharon O'Bannon, and Anne Boothe; Hospital aid--June Small and Vicki Simpson; Child care--Anne Boothe and Karlyn Coatney.

Jan. 31 Ardella Thompson and Sally Allison attended the Leadership and Training meeting that was held in the community room at McAlpin's Department Store in Lexington. The purpose of this and other L.I.T. programs conducted by the Wilderness Road Girl Scout Council is to help prepare Senior Scouts to become Girl Scout leaders.

Feb. 7, Phyllis Atkinson and Anne Boothe attended the Senior Planning Board Meeting also held in McAlpin's Community room.

Thursday, Feb. 12, Senior Girl Scout Troop 170 met in Wyrick's Department Store. Mrs. Walter Wyrick and Mrs. Camille Ockerman demonstrated the art of projecting make-up. Sharon Ecton, Jo Ann McKee and Debbie Sexton were given personal demonstrations while the other troop members looked on.

The next Senior Girl Scout Troop 170 meeting will be held Thursday, Feb. 19, at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Patricia Ockerman, Route 6.

The purpose of this meeting will be to plan the International Dinner to be held on Thursday at the Carlisle Presbyterian Church and Mrs. William E. Woodall of Paris, orginially from Ireland, will be the guest speaker for the dinner.

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Myers

By Mrs. Rena Crawford

Mrs. Paul Minton visited her mother, Mrs. Thomas George of Carlisle, one afternoon this week.

Mrs. Mable Shrout was guest of Mrs. Myrtle Hughes one night this week.

Miss Penny Hagg, Miss Virgie Flora and Helen Flora visited Mrs. Rosemary Kinder, Sunday.

Mrs. Margaret Farrow visited her husband, Henry Farrow, who is in the Paris T.B. Hospital, Thursday. He is getting along fine.

Mrs. Kathleen Fryman of Pleasant Valley is on the sick list.

Mrs. Rosemary Kinder and children were shopping in Paris, Friday night.

Miss Swango To Host Show

Any young lady can choose a profession today which keeps her right in step with the "roaring 70's." She may be called by 1001 different job titles but she is known everywhere as a home economist.

Facts about home economics, this very important profession will be presented on the Extension "Homemakers Today" program televised over WLEX TV, channel 18, Sara Swango, County Extension Agent for 4-H, will be hosting the show on Saturday, Feb. 21, at 1:30 p.m.

The "Homemakers Today" show is sponsored by the University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service.

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4-H Photography Meeting Feb. 18

By Kenney Hunt

There will be a meeting of the 4-H Photography project group at the County Extension Office on Wednesday, Feb. 18, at 7:00 p.m.

Those members attending the first project meeting were to take pictures of; Tall Building, Landscape, Animal, Someone who was unaware that you were taking their picture, Group picture, and Tree.

Please bring to meeting the six pictures listed above and negatives, camera and package of envelopes.

All new members are invited to join us on Feb. 18!

"It's easier to break a New Year's resolution than a habit."

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* Offer applies to all purchases of afy Southern States Pelleted Swine Feeds or combinations of them, not more than 25% protein, *billed and delivered* in February. (Minimum eligible purchase, 1000 pounds.) For example, if you purchase 14 tons during February, you receive a check from Southern States Cooperative for $42.00! When the pork making-est feeds are also the money saving-est feeds, it's time to stock up. Southern States Pelleted Swine Feeds are unsurpassed in getting pigs off to a healthy start . . . packing on low-cost pounds . . . winding up with a fast high-profit finish. Come in or call now.

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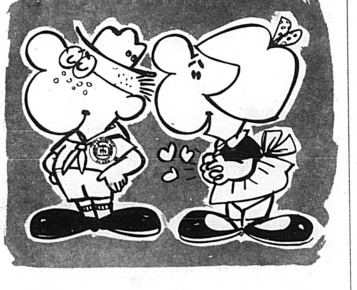

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