



TITLE 1 TEACHERS plan an Assembly Program, Friday, July 2, 12:30 at Carlisle Elementary School. Parents are invited. Seated from right to left: Rita Williams, Fannie Ruth Seeling, Frances Todd, Dorothy Soudry, and Annabell Burden. Standing: Patricia Hopkins, Hazel Swartz, and Rita Livingood.

GRASS ROOTS
by Roy Stevens
Kentucky Farm Bureau Federation

For longer than most of us can remember, there's been a lot of talk about "returning government to the people."

By and large, unfortunately, that talk seems to rise on the waves of campaign oratory and then die on the beaches of broken promises when elections are over. Much has been promised about more fiscal control, but to this point little has been done.

Now, the national administration has listed as one of its major goals the return of some tax money to state and local governments and increased participation by taxpayers in determining the use of that money.

This idea is incorporated in the administration's "general" revenue sharing proposal—a plan whereby Washington would send down some \$16.1 billion to state and local governments.

Some people argue with the avowed goal of the revenue sharing plan. There is disagreement with the method involved in reaching the goal. For example, it is pointed out that if we are truly to return government to the people, why send the money to Washington in the first place? Why not just keep the money at home, where it would be solely in the care of state and local officials more in tune with, and more responsive to, the people?

Then too, the revenue sharing idea could result in less, rather than more, taxpayer participation in the workings of government. If Washington collects the money, and state and local governments spend it, who will be responsible for the taxpayer? Everyone's business could become nobody's business, and it's possible the state and local officials would be more interested in what Washington wanted than in what the taxpayers wanted—since the money would be piped in from Washington.

One idea advanced to achieve

fact, their corporate identities cease. Limited Fuel was organized in 1903 and its first activity was to obtain gas leases and drill production wells in southern West Virginia. In 1909, the company acquired ownership of the local companies serving communities in the 1st-3rd area and leasehold operations that were both interstate and intrastate. The first communities served included Charleston and Huntington, W. Va., Ashland, Ky., and Tennessee, Ohio. As the structure in the gas industry grew, United Fuel entered into every phase of natural gas operations, including production wells in the Appalachian area, purchase from independent producers, development of underground storage and purchase of gas under long-term contracts from suppliers in the Southwest.

As a part of the System's realignment program, United Fuel gave up its retail operations in West Virginia to Columbia Gas of West Virginia, Inc., on Oct. 1, 1970, when, at the same time, Manufacturers Light, Heat and Cumberland and Allegheny surrendered their retail business in northern West Virginia to the same company. This left United Fuel, Manufacturers, and G. A. managed solely in interstate business.

Kentucky Gas Transmission also had historical roots in interstate operations and its present formation is to obtain a gas supply from United Fuel and deliver it for ultimate use by customers of affiliated non-affiliated companies in Kentucky and Cincinnati, Ohio.

Atlantic Seaboard was launched in the early 30's with the construction of a pipeline from eastern Kentucky across southern West Virginia through Virginia and on to the Maryland-Pennsylvania border. Its principal pipeline system was constructed beginning in 1944 from the vicinity of Clendenin, W. Va., to the Washington-Baltimore area.

the objective of more government by the people, with minimum federal involvement, is the "tax credit" plan. Under this plan, individuals and corporations could deduct from their federal income tax liabilities a given percentage of their state and local income and sales taxes.

As an example, if Congress authorized a federal income tax credit of 40 percent, a family which paid \$400 in state and local taxes could deduct \$160 from their federal income tax liability. So if they owed a total federal tax of \$1,000, they would only pay the federal government \$840.

Then, state and local governments would be in a position to increase the family's taxes by up to \$160—without adding to the family's total tax burden—in order to finance programs needed and desired locally.

Of course, the whole debate about revenue sharing versus tax credits is highly theoretical at this point because the federal government is already spending more than it takes in and there's a big question about where they could find the revenue to share. If there's sharing to be done, it more than likely will be debt sharing rather than revenue sharing.

All of which means the goal of bringing government back to the people, an elusive objective thus far, may continue to be a nice subject for discussion rather than a specific cause for action.

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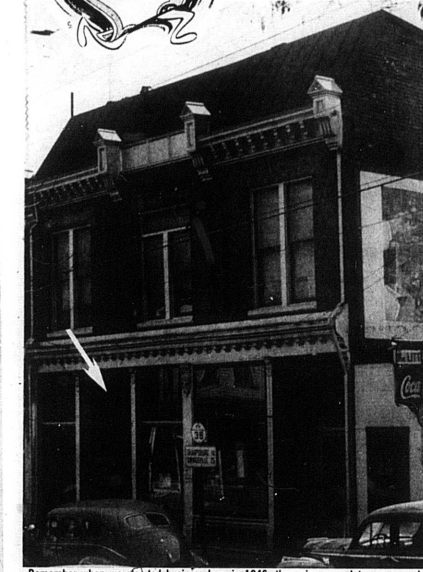
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TabletRite **Coriander Bread** 19¢
TabletRite **Hamburger or Hot Dog Buns** 29¢
IGA **Potato Chips** 49¢
Reddi-Whip **Frozen Non-Dairy Topping** 10¢
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IGA **Salad Mustard** 5¢

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