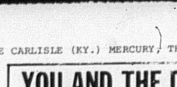
YOU AND THE DRAFT



By Colonel Taylor L. Davidson

If "silence is golden," it's a truism seldom recognized by prospective draftees. It is rare that such a young man does not speak loud and clear when presenting evidence that may lead to a draft deferment.

However, such was not the case with Elmo, a registrant of a local board in the western part of the state. He was the exception that proves the rule.

There was evidence in Elmo's draft file that he had enlisted in the Army. However, there was no further proof that he had fulfilled his military contract or had been separated from service prior to the term of enlistment.

The board endeavored to verify Elmo's military service through the normal channels but ran against a stone wall, as neither the Active nor Reserve branches could furnish the required documentation. The draft board wrote Elmo three times and in each letter pointed out the importance of his supplying proof of prior military service in order that he could be considered for proper classification.

The letters were sent by registered mail and receipt was acknowledged by the addressee. However, Elmo refused to respond to the communications from the draft board.

As the documentation in the file did not justify a deferment and Elmo had a low lottery number, the board had no other alternative than to process him for induction when draft calls were resumed in April.

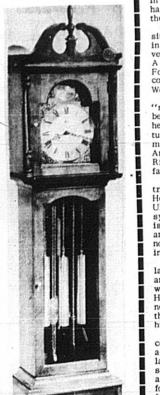
Until the date of departure for induction, the board tried to communicate with Elmo regarding producing some proof of prior military service. But he continued to maintain silence.

Shortly after Elmo was sworn into the Armed Forces, a member of his family brought to the board a copy of his separation from the previous enlistment. The report contained specific information to confirm that Elmo would have been entitled to a classification of 4-A (having completed service) if such proof had been submitted in time).

Although there was a definite breakdown in communication between Elmo and his draft board, the local officials did not want to be a party to this young man's involuntarily performing military service when he had previously fulfilled his draft military obligation. The case was referred to our office. We, in turn informed the Army that Elmo was entitled for consideration of 4-A and requested that he be given the option of applying for discharge or remaining in the military.

We do not know why this young man steadfastly refused to bring to the board the proof of his previous military service. However, we do know our local boards will go the full nine yards in trying to see that each registrant receives equal treatment with his peers. It is to the registrant's advantage to keep his local board fully advised as to his status.

An Ideal Gift



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GARRETT'S FURNITURE

Carlisle, Kentucky

Poke, a potherb without peer

by Nevyle Shackelford
UK College of Agriculture

In the opinion of wild greens enthusiasts, poke, which also goes by the name, Phytolacca decandra, is a potherb without peer.

In early spring the tender shoots are gathered from the wild, cooked like asparagus or rolled in meal and fried like okra. This makes a dish, wild greens gourmets say, that is "delicious, nutritious, and fit for a potentate". Especially so rashers of fried salt-cured side meat, cornbread, onions, and sassafras tea.

Besides being good to eat, poke has long been regarded as good medicine. For generations, sliced poke root soaked in whisky has been used in the treatment of rheumatism and arthritis. Old herbals list this prescription, when taken in doses of "two sips a day," as being beneficial as a "Cathartic, alterative, and blood purifier".

According to a well-known 19th century physician, very few, if any, alteratives, drugs that gradually change a morbid state of health into one of well being, "have superior powers to poke if properly gathered and prepared for medicinal use". Adding to these medicinal virtues, some old home remedy books also state that a tea made by boiling poke root in water is a quick and certain cure for the itch.

A native plant common to dry fields, hillsides, and roadsides throughout much of the United States, poke has a large perennial root, fleshy, fibrous, and sometimes exceeding a man's arm in diameter. The stems are annual, pithy, and often grow from five to 10 feet in height. The flowers are small, greenish-white in color, and in the fall, mature into long clusters of attractive dark-purple berries that provide excellent food for several species of birds. The berries can be fermented into a wine also said to be "good medicine".

Modern chemists say that in chemical composition, poke is very peculiar. Among other things it contains an alkaloid, a little formic acid, a bit of potassium, and some saponin which causes a lather-like soap. The roots and seeds are poisonous, but not the tender light-green spears that shoot up from the roots in early spring and which, when cooked, taste somewhat like spinach.

Over the years considerable fun has been poked at poke and poke lover expense, since it becomes edible at a time when fresh foods from the field and garden non-existent, country people of times past often scoured the hills in search of this "wild sallit". After a long winter diet of dried, pickled, salted fare, the craving for food fresh and greens became almost unbearable. Poke satisfied this intense hunger.

In these olden times, as one whimsical story goes, it was necessary to spoil "poke wardens" to protect and save this plant from extermination. They were also necessary to prevent avid poke eaters from jumping the gun and forcing premature and unseasonable growth of poke by pouring boiling water around its roots.

This method of garnering an early mess of greens not only deprived more law abiding poke lovers of their just share, but also weakened the roots and kept them from producing bountifully come another spring.

But actually poke is no joke and is now much more than a plebian food eaten only by back country folk. Poke lovers are in greater number than ever before and the validity of this statement is attested by the fact that the plant is now grown commercially in several Southern states. No longer do connoisseurs of this wild weed have to comb the outdoors for it when spring comes by, it can be purchased in cans in most well-stocked food markets.

As a home remedy for treatment of diseases, poke could have disasterous results and is certainly not to be recommended. When ill, even its most dedicated proponents advise seeking a doctor. It is, however, in its early stages of growth, a very good food and, otherwise, an attractive plant valuable to many forms of wild life.

More trees? More paper?

Hawesville--The paper this is printed on--most of the other paper products you use every day--started out as trees. Multiply your daily use of paper by 205 million, the number of people in the United States, and you'll have some idea of the demand on the nation's forest resources.

One way to help remedy this situation is being tried out here in Hancock County by the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture's Department of Forestry and two local wood pulp companies, Western Kraft and WesCor Corporation.

This method--fast growing "mini-trees" on land that can't be used for other purposes--could help reforest land in western Kentucky and, at the same time, help meet the need for paper products. And it could turn owners of Ohio River "bottom land" into tree farmers.

The secret is the sycamore tree, according to Dr. Donal D. Hook, associate professor in the UK Department of Forestry. The sycamore grows well on land that is too wet for agricultural crops, and many acres of this kind of soil now lie idle along the Ohio River in western Kentucky.

This flat, fertile river bottom land was once covered with trees and, even without the help of man, will someday return to forests, Hook says. The idea behind this new method, being tried here for the first time in Kentucky, is to hurry up this process.

This spring, UK and the pulp companies planted about eight acres of Hancock County bottom land with sycamore seedlings. The seedlings are in rows 3 feet apart and are spaced as close as 1 foot apart within the rows. Careful fertilizing and cultivation the first year after planting are also part of this tree-growing method.

"Since sycamores should grow fast in this fertile land, we expect the trees to reach 15 to 20 feet in height in three to five years," Hook points out. "At that time, they'll be cut and chipped by a mechanical harvester, similar to that used for corn silage, and taken directly to the pulp mill for processing into paper."

A major advantage of this kind of tree farming is that a new stand of "mini-trees" will sprout and grow, without any help from man, from the stumps left after cutting. In anothe three to five years, the trees can be cut again. And the stumps should reforest the area sprouts for 5 to 10 successive cuttings.

If this system works--and results this year look very favorable, farmers of Ohio River bottom land may have a new money crop, Hook says. Those idle acres that are too wet for other agricultural uses can be planted in sycamores. And regular farm equipment will handle much of the "mini-tree" care and harvesting.

Close-spacing of trees and intensive care should make these good bottom soils produce nearly ten times as much as the forested land in the surrounding hills, Hook pointed out.

Thus, more trees to help meet the need for paper products can be grown on less land than that is much less valuable for agricultural crops, recreation and watersheds than the surrounding rolling hills.

Landlords still subject to controls

Louisville--Landlords are still subject to Phase II rent regulations even though certain small businesses have been exempted from controls, Robert J. Dath, District Director of Internal Revenue for Kentucky, said today.

On May 2, the Cost of Living Council lifted controls from firms with 60 or fewer employees, except for businesses in the health service and construction industries. In response to numerous inquiries, Mr. Dath said that his small business exemption has no application to non-commercial rental transactions. Mr. Dath said that presently, the only categories of non-commercial rental property exempt from rent controls are:

1.--Apartment units renting for $500 or more;

2.--Owner-occupied dwellings of four or less units having a longer than month-to-month rental agreement; and

3.--Single family rental dwellings rented for longer than month-to-month periods where the landlord owns four units or less.

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Nursing Home News

By Virginia Smith Donovan

I often find myself going back to Darwin's saying about the duration of a man's friendship being one of the best measures of his worth.--Anne Thackeray Ritchie

The ladies really were remembered on their special day. Hope we won't forget Father's special day. Many of them like flowers, visits and cards.

It's just like one lady who had a beautiful pot of mums in her room said, "One does wonder how they could come from as far away as Dayton, Ohio and be in such good shape".

Mrs. Ellen Kenney had beautiful red roses and white daisies, but the best of all was that she had one of Frances' new permanents. Even Mrs. Kenney said she knew she looked like a perfect doll!

Jimmy Hall came and gave his uncle, Hurschell Dampier, a haircut.

Rev. and Mrs. Lacey came one afternoon recently, and Bro. Lacey tried out the new piano. As one old man said, "He could really make it hum!"

There won't be anything for Roy Snapp to look forward to on Father's Day. He's being so well remembered everyday. The girls that work with his daughter, Ruth, sent a pretty planter.

Barbara Hopkins took Mrs. Maude Stone to visit her sister-in-law, Mrs. Willie Stone, one afternoon recenuy. Her daughter, Pauline Jones of California, sent a beautiful duster, and Bertha Marshall came and brought a pretty corsage.

Mrs. Edith Colemire had a pretty vase of carnations in her room.

Tony Dotson said he really likes the book that Barbara Hopkins brought from the library, for it's about Kentucky horses.

Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Helphenstine and their granddaughter, Hermley Ann Sullivan of Ruddlesmill came to visit Mr. Helphenstine's sister, Mrs. Victoria Hill.

Louise Smith came from Cynthiana and visited her aunt, Mrs. Nella Allen. Mrs. Allen and Mrs. Stanley Galbraith had a nice talk. They used to ride horses together. Mae Jefferson said Mrs. Allen always could play the piano well.

Mrs. Johnson came to visit her husband, Oscar. Her niece, Mrs. Stanley Carpenter, brought her from Mt. Olivet. Mrs. Carpenter lives at Aberdeen, Ohio.

The Central Council of the Carlisle Christian Church came one day and visited their members and friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Billy Tincher went to Cincinnati over the weekend.

Norma Harney of Lexington and her father, Ruben Cleaver, visited Mrs. Grace Cleaver on Sunday.

The Mother's Day favors were made by Kathryn Smart's Sunday School Class of the Moorefield Methodist Church.

Tony McDonald was wearing a pretty corsage which was from the Garrett family. Her thumb is beginning to get green around the edges already. Tony said she had visited her mother, Mrs. Effie Whitaker of Cynthiana.

Mrs. Tency Frederick's children of Ohio sent her a pot of beautiful mums.

Mrs. Claudia Wells is the owner of a dozen red roses from Florida. She has a pretty bouquet too.

At this writing Ollie Finch is the only resident in the hospital. It's nice to see Conway Tedder and Sarah Donovan administering to the residents. Glad they can be spared from the hospital that long.

Lizzie said her daughter, Frances Bretz, had finished her two years' college course at Eastern Kennucky University.

Mrs. Edith Bradley of Bethel visited her sister, Mrs. Mary Rogers. Jennifer Bradley came along too.

I'm holding my breath as I write this, hoping I have all the names right. The following visited Mrs. Carlie Huddleston Sunday from out of town: Mr. and Mrs. Billy Barton, Paris; the Jerry Brannocks, Millersburg; Bobby and Paula Eads of Nicholasville; Mr. and Mrs. Mason Bryant (Edith Lawrence) and daughter; Mrs. Billly Moran, Rocky and Blanch Moran, Mason County. I was so excited on seeing Edith. Mrs. Huddleson's room looked like a greenhouse. Little Rodney Brierly made some very pretty tulips from egg cartons and brought them.

I attended part of the commencement at Eastern Kentucky University, Richmond, recently, and had the pleasure of meeting Mrs. Turley Noland of Richmond. Her husband was a close relative of George Noland who recently moved from Carlisle. She said she was a girlhood friend of Mrs. Grace Tandy Hutchings. They both lived at Gent, Ky, then.

Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Fridman of Cincinnati, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Johnson; and Bernice George of California visited Mrs. Lora George on Sunday.

Due to the illness of Rev. Don Moseley, there was no weekly worship service the past week.

If it were possible to sum up the teachings of Christianity in one word, that word would be "Love".--Dr. Norman Vincent Peale

Jane Ellen Talbert (center) of Carlisle was among 83 University of Kentucky College of Home Economics graduates taking part in the 105th annual commencement exercises held Saturday (May 13) on the Lexington campus. Pictured at a brunch in honor of the graduates in Erikson Hall are Miss Talbert and her parents, Mr. and Mrs. R.L. Talbert.

Boys you may transfer your votes thru May 27!

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