Sunnyside

By Bessie Jackson

Mrs. Henry (Mary Elizabeth) Moore entered the University Medical Center Hospital in Lexington last Wednesday for surgery the last of this week.

Mrs. Eugene (Bettie) Hopkins had surgery in the St. Joseph Hospital in Lexington.

Mr. and Mrs. James Lail and family spent Sunday in Lexington as guests of their children.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles C. Minton and girls had company Sunday.

Gov. Ford announces proposed civic center

Gov. Wendell Ford has announced plans to include $4 million in his Executive Budget for the construction of a proposed civic center in Lexington.

In a press conference, Ford stressed that the center would be a multi-purpose complex designed for conventions, exhibitions, sports, entertainment, business and the arts.

Not only would the center be vital to Lexington and Central Kentucky, he said, it would be important in some aspects to all Kentuckians.

Construction of the civic center would mean the creation of a new industry, new jobs, new opportunities to increase the entertainment and cultural potential for all the state's citizens, Ford said.

He also pointed out that the center would stimulate additional economic growth and expand Central Kentucky's convention and tourist opportunities.

"Through a self-supporting concept, the return on our investment is significant, because when growth is created, all Kentucky prospers," Ford said in justifying the state's participation.

The proposed complex, which would cost approximately $36.8 million, has been under consideration since March, 1972. The Lexington Center Corporation formulated plans which call for:

—A convention-exhibition hall containing 80,000 square feet for meeting, banquet, display and ballrooms.

—A sports and entertainment area seating 22,600.

—Restoration of the old Lexington Opera House to be used as a theater for performing arts.

—A 400-room hotel, plus space for parking and retail shops.

The Governor explained that the state's lump-sum share would be channeled through the University of Kentucky, which would use the sports arena for basketball games. The arena would be the nation's largest and would provide 10,000 more seats than the existing UK facility, Memorial Coliseum.

"With approval of the General Assembly which convenes in January, work can begin at once, and Kentucky can expect completion in approximately 30 months after the first shovel is turned," the Governor reported.

The remainder of the cost for the center will be retired through the issuance of bonds.

Mrs. Wilbur Schu, right, Georgetown, and the Hon. Leonor K. Sullivan, Congresswoman from St. Louis, inspect a flower carnation replica of the new steamboat being built for the Delta Queen Steamboat Co., by Jeffboat, Inc., Jeffersonville, Ind. Mrs. Schu created the flower carnation replica which was on display at a reception at the Marriott Inn, Clarksville, Ind., following the dedication of the new boat's hull at Jeffboat on Sunday, Nov. 11. Mrs. Schu is the daughter of former Senator and Mrs. H. Stanley Blake, Carlisle. Another daughter, Betty Blake, is vice president and general manager of the Delta Queen Steamboat Co. and was speaker at the dedication ceremonies. Mrs. Sullivan sponsored legislation that saved the Delta Queen.

Cook's Tour

by Nancy Cook

Last month I started a column on Blair House, the President's guest house in Washington, D.C. I found the Kentucky influence so interesting that I couldn't resist carrying the story over into this month's column.

Blair House was purchased in 1836 by Francis Preston Blair who came to Washington from the Commonwealth to establish a newspaper for the Jackson Administration. It remained in the possession of this fascinating family for more than 100 years.

Blair was an 1811 honors graduate from Transylvania University. He studied law and was admitted to the Kentucky bar in 1817 but never practiced. Instead he tried farming, rather unsuccessfully, than entered politics at Frankfort and also added many journalistic endeavors to his career. It was as a loyal supporter of Andrew Jackson that he came to Washington in 1830 to assist that President.

As editor of the Administration newspaper, "The Globe" he developed a remarkable ability to mold public opinion through his editorial columns as well as his methods of presenting news and ideas. As he became part of the group of intimates of President Jackson, the Blair House became a political as well as social center.

President Martin Van Buren, who succeeded Jackson, consulted daily with Blair, it is said, and even later with Blair's eldest son, Montgomery. Montgomery Blair gained national prominence on his own when he was appointed Postmaster General in the Lincoln Administration.

During the early 1860's the Blair House was a frequent meeting place for chiefs of both sides of the Civil War conflict. General Robert E. Lee, Jefferson Davis and President Lincoln were among the noted visitors who came to confer with the Blair family members during that period.

Gist Blair, the youngest son of Montgomery Blair, was the last member of the family to occupy the house. He loved the Blair House with a poignant appreciation for its place in history and devoted a large measure of his thought and care to it.

As I wrote last month, the federal government acquired the house in 1942. President Franklin D. Roosevelt approved the purchase, "because, first, I am convinced that the government needs it and will continue to need it for the entertainment of distinguished visitors, and secondly, because it has been listed by the Interior Department as an historic monument to be preserved for all time." All of the furnishings at the time of purchase were donated by the Blair family.

I truly was excited to discover Blair's Kentucky background and his contribution to the heritage of our nation. I do hope when you're in Washington you will look across Pennsylvania Avenue from the White House and absorb the fine beauty of Blair House as well.

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Consideration given converting plant

WASHINGTON—Eastern Kentucky is now in a better position than it has ever been before to get a demonstration plant for converting coal to other fuels, Rep. Carl D. Perkins said today.

The Eastern Kentucky Congressman made the statement after an exchange of correspondence with the Interior Department.

Rep. Perkins had written to Interior Secretary Rogers C.B. Morton requesting that any new research facility on using coal to make gasoline and other fuels be located in the Eastern Kentucky coal area.

His letter said, in part, that:

"... full and careful considerating be given to locating facilities, such as demonstration plants, in the Eastern Kentucky coal area, with Hazard, Whitesburg, Pikeville, and Prestonsburg as potential sites. Locating facilities in this area would be logically and fiscally wise, because it would be putting them where the coal is. It would also provide jobs for the people there, and they have a history of being highly efficient workers who ask only the opportunity to hold down a job."

The Interior Department response said, in part:

"Eastern Kentucky would, indeed, be one of the prime candidates for siting a pilot or demonstration plant because of its vast resources of high-sulfur bituminous coals and its large, available, high-quality labor force."

The Interior Department response also said:

"It was not unfortunate that the coal conversion programs you cited, initiated two decades ago, were abruptly discontinued."

This was a reference to a point in the letter from Rep. Perkins, which emphasized the fact that the Interior Department had been operating several demonstration plants in Missouri during the late 1940s and early 1950s, but the Administration then in office declined to budget funds to continue operation of the plants.

"At that time they were only about two cents a gallon away from a process that would convert coal to gas as cheaply as making gas out of crude oil," Rep. Perkins said. "But because of short-sightedness those plants were closed down, and now we see why—at least in part—we have an energy crisis."

Rep. Perkins also pointed out that coal technology and training for thousands of additional workers, technicians, and engineers would have to be funded, if the nation's needs are going to be satisfied.

The Interior Department response endorsed this position, saying:

"I was particularly interested in your comment about the need for skilled professional and non-professional manpower. In many of the projections that are being made relative to tremendous efforts in energy programs, there seems to be insufficient emphasis on this point—which could very well be the rate-determination for the development of our energy resources."

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Galbraith stand behind a large mum plant growing in front of their home on Catherine Street. Not pictured is another plant in front of Mr. Galbraith. These exceptional plants were given to Mrs. Galbraith as Mother's Day gifts by two of their children. After the blooms died, the plants were set out. The largest one, in the foreground, is white with 729 blooms [give or take a few!], 30 inches tall, the largest bloom measuring three inches across. The other, bronze, is 34 inches tall, largest bloom four and one-half inches in diameter. Pearl was the only sell additive. —Mercury photo

Concerned Citizens committee presents $200 to VA hospital

The Concerned Citizens Committee, Lexington-Fayette County and Central Kentucky, representatives presented the Lexington Veteran's Administration Hospital with a check in the amount of $200 for use in the hospital's remember a vet program; in assisting needy veterans who are hospitalized and temporarily without funds.

Victor Vesay, president, accompanied by Mrs. Lois Davidson and Carl Hamm, presented the check to J. Paul Junkin, special assistant to the Director.

The Concerned Citizens Committee was first organized in 1970 primarily to make certain that members of the Armed Forces in Vietnam from this area would all receive a Christmas package.

The committee also had a public drawing with the winner in Vietnam receiving a free phone call on Christmas Day from his parents or family.

Since the withdrawal of our troops from Vietnam, the committee voted to adopt a program of assistance at the Lexington V.A. Hospital and plans are now being made for entertainment of the veterans during the coming year.

The funds were derived from the advance sale of tickets to the nationally famous "Tanya Tucker Show", to be held at the Convention Center, Frankfort, Dec. 22, two shows, 6:30 and 9:30 p.m.

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Threaded Staples
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Lisk Enamelware

Electric Mix Masters
Hot Plates
Coffee Urns
Toast-R-Ovens
Electric Bun Warmers
Electric Serving Trays
Picnic Baskets
Baby Supplies
Weening Supplies
Pyrex Dishes
Corning Ware Sets
Panty Hose, 42 cents
Bargain Table, 2nd Floor
Hoover Washer Dryer
Reg. $132.95, now $112.07
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Reg. $79.95, now $59.10
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HELPFUL TIPS—Time table of roasting chicken and turkey at 325 degrees F.:

Chicken 1¼ to 2½ pounds—1 to 2 hours; 2½ to 4½ pounds—2 to 3½ hours.

Turkey 6 to 8 pounds—3 to 3½ hours; 8 to 12 pounds—3½ to 4¼ hours; 12 to 16 pounds—4¼ to 5½ hours; 16 to 20 pounds—5½ to 6½ hours; 20 to 24 pounds—6½ to 7 hours.

HOW TO THAW FROZEN POULTRY

In Refrigerator: Leave chicken or turkey in original plastic wrapper. Small chicken takes about 12 hours, a large one takes about 1½ days. A turkey less than 18 pounds takes one to two days to thaw; one over 18 pounds takes two to three days.

In Cold Water: Put poultry in water-tight plastic bag in large pan of water. Change water often for quick thawing. Chicken may take only one hour. A large turkey six to eight hours.

TURKEY POINTERS FOR SAFETY'S SAKE

Make sure that the stuffing reaches a temperature of at least 165 degrees F. during roasting, whether it be cooked separately or with the turkey.

Do not partially cook poultry one day and complete the cooking the next day.

Keep cooked poultry hot about 140 degrees F. until it is served. Heat leftovers thoroughly. Boil broth and gravies several minutes when reheating them to prevent certain type of food poisoning.

HAPPINESS IS THANKFULNESS

The art of Thanksgiving is Thanksliving. It is gratitude in action.

It is Thankfulness for the gift of life by living it triumphantly.

It is Thankfulness for your talents and abilities by accepting them as obligations to be invested for the common good.

It is Thankfulness for all that men and women have done for you by doing things for others.

It is Thankfulness for opportunities by accepting them as a challenge to achievement.

It is Thankfulness for happiness by striving to make others happy.

It is Thankfulness for inspiration by trying to be an inspiration to others.

It is Thankfulness for health and strength by the care and reverence you show your body.

It is Thankfulness for the creative ideas that enrich life by adding your own creative contributions to human progress.

It is Thankfulness for each new day by living it to the fullest.

Calvin Coolidge has said: "We have been a most favored people. We ought to be a most grateful people. We have been a most blessed people. We ought to be a most thankful people."

My Neighbors

"Separate checks?"

THANK YOU

I wish to thank all those who supported me in the recent election for City Police Judge.

Raymond Hall

Advice to Wives. . .

Husbands can be bears, lions, tigers, or rabbits . . . but almost any man will become a lamb if you choose his Yule Gift from . . .

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