Opinions

Costs should be measured

The U.S. has sent $200 billion in aid and credits to 138 foreign countries since the end of World War II, according to the Senate Committee on the Budget. That amounts to over 40 percent of the $474 billion national debt that hangs like a millstone around our national neck. It is estimated that 1974 will see some $11 billion more go to the cause of foreign aid.

The problem is that much of the assistance given to other nations shows up in sections of the federal budget other than that designated as foreign aid. As a result, Congress can never consider total appropriations being made and balance expected benefits against total costs. Some of the items that are quite plainly foreign aid appear instead in Defense Department budget requests, in Department of Health, Education and Welfare spending, in the Department of Agriculture budget, State Department funds and any number of other places. A final accounting of all foreign aid spending is given to Congress several months after it is too late to do anything about it and long after many appropriations for the following year have already been considered.

The United States must continue a reasonable level of aid to other nations. But, unless the American people enjoy paying $6,000 for a compact car and $1 a pound for steak, they should demand that the costs of federal programs, of which foreign aid is only one example, should be clearly defined and measured against their benefits.

A modern moral

What a temptation it is sometimes to shirk our responsibilities or pull "a fast one" occasionally if it looks like we can get away with it. An editorial in the Craig, Colo., Press shows the folly of such thinking. The story is told of a rich man who came to a carpenter with these instructions: "I would like you to build a house for me to give to a friend of mine. Use the finest materials; the cost is no problem . . ."

During the months of building, the carpenter decided to build a cheaper house, charging the same price. He skimped, using inferior materials and workmanship. Finally, he called the rich man to him and presented the bill and the key. The rich man, looking through the house, seemed pleased and returned the key to the carpenter with these words, "It's your house. I wanted to build it for you in return for all you have done for me . . ."

The moral of this story is plain. We are building today the type of life we will live tomorrow. Can you imagine the carpenter's feeling of shock and regret when he heard the words, "It's your house." Let's not have the same experience.

Mercury Vapors

by Warren R. Fisher

Things have been running too smoothly! A record check shows March of this year as the last time there was trouble with the machine that produces our body type. That amounts to some seven and one-half months of practically trouble free operation and we'd even guess a million or more words.

So far it is nothing critical, I guess a phone call to Washington would solve the problem — but here, I spent a week studying the thing and now can't seem to solve it. Every time the operator sends in a line, (it doesn't happen when the machine takes the line away) the gadget photographs all characters, advances spacing, does everything correctly except it blanks-out the character display which it knows it shouldn't do.

There it did it!

Oh, well! What would newspaper life be without problems?

—MV—

AND TO THINK it was all caused by the Display Reset switch which had accidentally been thrown to the on position. That's what I get for reaching up under the cover, not looking at the switches.

—MV—

Of all the notes we have written to remind us of something — this one stands out. It's rumored there will soon be 13 cent letters, that is, it will cost 13 cents to mail a letter first class, and/or a 30 per cent increase in all classes of mail. Befige long mail will rival sugar, cotwise.

From the McNaught Syndicate we note the following:

"It's no longer a sin to be RICH, It's a Miracle."

—MV—

Up in Illinois the soaring cost of sugar has triggered a boom in the bee business, plus a boom in rustling. Rustlers just drive up to a hive, plug up the entrance and take the hive, bees and all, home to mix with their own bees.

—MV—

Battery-powered buses are catching on in West Germany. The Duesseldorf transit service is adding 14 to its fleet.

Dearborn, Mich. Nine auto and oil companies have announced the founding of an international research program aimed at developing cars with better driving, gasoline mileage, durability, and emission controls.

—MV—

This may not belong here, but we'll mention it just in case you don't read it elsewhere.

MAIL RATES for the Carlisle Mercury will be $5.71 plus 29 cents sales tax, in Kentucky, while out-of-state rates will be $7 per year come December 2, 1974.

And even then, the poor publisher wonders if that will stem the tide of costly newsprint, sugar, coffee, and now they tell me milk has reached 49 cents a quart, not to mention the many, many other items that have soared sky high.

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Agree or Not

by S.C. Van Curen

FRANKFORT—The Department of Human Resources is still wrestling with the problem of how to provide more adequate facilities for the mentally retarded, and everyone knows the state will not be able to care for all of the estimated 200,000 plus retardates in the state.

The newest move is to contract the operation of Outwood at Dawson Springs to a private concern. Following a recent bidders conference attended by 12 or 15 organizations, the proposal date has been extended to Dec. 31. The state's proposal calls for bidders to construct a new modern facility capable of handling 200 patients where 280 are now housed.

The cost per patient day will be one of the determining factors to be considered by the state from prospective bidders, but not necessarily the only factor, Daniel B. Howard, commissioner for the Bureau for Administration and Operations in Human Resources, said last week. The successful bidder will not take over opeation of Outwood until July 1, 1975, the beginning of the new fiscal year.

The state readily admits that a private operator can operate such a place more economically than government because private enterprise is not as cumbersome and there is not as much red tape or review involved.

Present per patient cost at Outwood is about $25 per day, Howard said, but the per patient cost at Oakwood near Somerset is $38 or more per day: at Hazelwood in Jefferson county where bed patients are kept, the cost is from $5 to $56 per day. Hazelwood is the only facility that the state is now projecting to turn over to a private operator.

Howard says he believes private enterprise can get a new building constructed cheaper than the state can. The private operator also must conduct classes and recreation suitable for the ambulatory patients. Presently most of the patients at Outwood are above 18 years of age. Most under 18 are now at Oakwood.

The state has had a plan of placing retardates in foster homes, but that program has been slowed some in recent months because of bad experience in some cases. Some are placed in personal care homes and the federal government, under medicaid, picks up the tab of about $18 per day.

A recent Federal Court ruling in Lexington has placed responsibility on the State Department of Education for providing classes for exceptional children where they are physically able to attend classes, but this program will not care for all of the needs of the mentally retarded. Some need to be in state-operated of private facilities like Oakwood.

Stewart Home School, a private facility just outside of Frankfort, has 246 pupils, and its operating costs are below the state. Stewart Home School is ranked among the top in the United States. It has pupils from 30 states.

There's some lively legal debate here whether Lieutenant Governor Julian Carroll will become governor or acting governor after the first of the year when Governor Ford takes his oath of office as United States Senator. Provisions in the state Constitution are somewhat cloudy on this subject, but Lawrence Wetherby took the oath of office when Governor Earle C. Clements went to the U.S. Senate and there may be some practical precedence here.

But if Carroll takes the oath of office, he vacates his office as lieutenant governor, and then what happens? Technically, Carroll automatically will become acting governor and still retain his office as lieutenant governor if he doesn't take the oath as governor. He could draw both salaries.

If Carroll does take the oath, does Senate President pro tem William Sullivan becotie lieutenant governor? There's some debate about this. If Carroll leaves the state, Sullivan would be acting governor in his absence as he was last week when Ford and Carroll were both out of the state. If Sullivan should take the oath of office as lieutenant governor, under the constitution he would vacate his office as State Senator and president pro tem of the Senate.

This is a good topic for discussion, but nobody seems to have an answer for it.

Farm and Home

County extension agents
Estil J. Noffsinger
Sara Elmer
Mrs. Margie Wilson

With the increased cost of production, especially that of fertilizer, it is more essential than ever before to test your soil. More Nicholas county farmers are taking advantage of the local testing facilities as samples are coming to the office daily. You won't get the most from your fertilizer dollar unless you know what your soil needs.

One of the big needs in our county is for limestone. If this need is not met, the other fertilizer will not be as effective. Some of the tobacco fields have been fertilized to a very high level of phosphate and potash. This might be the year to save on some of the elements in liberal supply. The only way you will know is to have a soil test made. Fall is the best time to collect samples.

* * * * * * * *

There are several very important reasons why farmers keep records. Three good ones are: (1) for analyzing the farm business and making needed adjustments, (2) to serve as a basis for obtaining credit and (3) for the purpose of filing taxes and Social Security. Complete and accurate records provide the farmer with information to detect which enterprises are most profitable and those which add very little to farm earnings. Records are also important for income tax purposes but this is not the most important reason. The high investment in farming today requires good records over a period of years to help make needed changes in the farm business. Farm account books are available at the Extension Office for a very small charge.

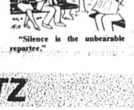
* * * * * * * *

Beef cattle members have increased greatly in the county. Prices of feeder calves have been low and some producers are keeping them over the winter. This is good practice, if feed is available. A note of warning—Dr. Noll, our local veterinarian, says several cases of black leg have occurred this fall. Calves should be vaccinated to prevent this disease.

Now is probably a good time to do some cow culling. The following should be culled: (1) cows with physical disability such as cancer eye, spoiled udder, lameness, etc., (3) old cows, those with all or most of their front teeth missing, (3) open cows and (4) cows with poor production records, whose calves are lighter than the herd average at weaning.

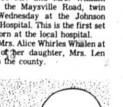
Dr. Ilan Brefahl, University of Kentucky Beef Specialist, says cows being fed crop residues or poor quality hay need supplementary vitamins and minerals. A good vitamin and mineral mix contains 40 percent galt, 20 percent dicalcium phosphate (or steamed bone meal), and 20 percent Vitamin A premix (containing 5,000 IU per gram). About one-half pound of supplemental protein per head per day may also be needed if the forage is of poor quality. A good supply of clean water is essential.

An outstanding event will be held in Kentucky Nov. 17-22. It is the North American Livestock Exposition. Farmers should try to attend one day at the State Fair Grounds.


"Silence is the unbearable repartee."

RUSS METZ

Groggy columnist in high spirits after sniffing bourbon bonanza



"Holy Loretto," a University of Kentucky researcher shouted the other day. "The big still in the sky has done sprung a leak!"

Sky gazers from the University of Maryland, the National Radio Astronomy Observatory, the National Bureau of Standards, the University of Chicago and Harvard University were all eyeballing strange liquid layers in outer space, but it took a Kentuckian to tell them what it was.

"That's bourbon, boys," he said. And the gang chorused "We'll drink to that!"

They were all watching their radio telescopes, which is not nearly as much fun as looking at the girls' dorms through regular telescopes. This shows you what dedication can do for you.

Right there in the center of our galaxy in an area astronomers call Sagittarius B2, they discovered enough ethyl alcohol to produce 10 billion fifths of Kentucky bourbon after it goes through condensing coils and soaks up just enough charcoal to give it character and take away that wild outer space taste.

The alcohol out there is spread out as a very thin vapor over vast regions. Its molecules were discovered when spectral radio lines with wave lengths characteristic of ethyl alcohol were picked up at two different sites. What actually happened was their radio telescopes began to hiccup and could not track a straight line. When they blew the Drunkometer test, the scientists knew the things were on the take from somewhere up there on Cloud 9.

On the same day, radio astronomers announced they also discovered heavy water in space. No coincidence there. Give a Kentuckian all that bourbon and he'll find the water to go with it. Sagittarius B2 means bourbon and branch. Any bartender can tell you that, but he'll probably still spike your drink with cheap bar whiskey instead of genuine Sagittarius if you don't watch him.

Discovery of this b & b bonanza over Kentucky ought to finally convince the Bureau of Standards it is time this country went off the gold and oil standard and got on something more practical and palatable.

With their radio telescopes locked in on wino heaven, the government can fire out radio active isotopes, tattooing federal liquor tax stamps on all that booze before moonshiners or Exxon can tap into it. Then, with the world's greatest bourbon market cornered, we can set a standard we can live with and thumb our noses at speculators stuck up to their armpits in gold dust and crude oil. It would serve them right.

This country was established on the

tea standard. It proves an impalatable standard because the English owned the tea company and the Colonists couldn't grow enough sugar to make it taste sweet. That brought on the stamp act, causing the settlers to rebel. Not only was the tea spoonfed to them bitter, but the postal service was no better than it is today.

So those who couldn't get away to Kentucky stayed home and drank coffee and waited for Paul Revere to come along and say: "First the bad news . . ."

Alexander Hamilton, a big shot, if not a good shot, in those days, became Secretary of the Treasury when there was no money in it, which shows you how far he was trusted. The patron godfather of bureaucrats, Hamilton devised a system of taxes to relieve the people of any excess money they had and he also invented the mint.

The Kentuckians thought the mint idea was cool and began dropping sprigs of it into their julep glasses to toast the Secretary. The sale of mint to government social functions put the state on its feet and removed a good many feathermerchants from theirs. They had the mint and the bourbon and then would have been a good time to get on the bourbon standard, but the combination made non-Kentuckians unsteady on their feet and their minds easily swayed by gold diggers.

49 dirty old men, called Forty-Niners, got run out of Kentucky after being suspected of being Republicans and they went to California and discovered gold in a creek at Sutter's Mill. They were called squatters because they squatted down in the creek removing the gold from the creek bed with beltpans.

With the gold, some went into business, some into the professions, but all went into saloons and bought redeye, a poor imitation of bourbon. This made them liars and everyone except people in Washington knew this. The federalists thought everyone was as honest as they were and when it leaked out that there was gold in them thar creeks, they hurriedly put the country on the gold standard, thinking that way our nation would never be up the creek without a beltpan.

But gold was never a very stable standard for us. It kept being discovered in European bank vaults, even after we tried plugging up the holes in Fort Knox Depository with large wads of paper money. Its best use is for counting teeth and brides' fingers, neither of which is any great shakes as a standard of endurance.

A sky full of liquid assets is all we need to put our monetary system back on a bonded, 100-proof standard we can all belly up to. Ten billion fifths of Sagittarius B2 ought to be just about enough to pay the interest on our national debt for a couple of weeks and throw a wing-ding of about the same duration.

Here's pie in the sky and mud in your eye.

Kincaid doubles charitable gift

Continued from page one

Williamsburg; Bank of Danville; Peoples Bank and Trust Company, Berea; Powell County Bank, Stanton; The First National Bank, Carlisle; The National Bank and Trust Company, Paris; First State Bank, Manchester; First Farmers Bank and Trust Company, Owenton; The Bank of Richmond; and The Waco Deposit Bank.

Smith said requests will be accepted only from non-profit organizations.

Agencies wishing to be considered must submit written applications by 4 p.m. Monday, Dec. 16, to H.A. Smith, vice president, Trust Department, Central Bank and Trust Company, Short and Upper Streets, Lexington, 40507.

No applications will be received by telephone.

One of Kentucky's most successful businessmes, Kincaid is widely known for his civic and philanthropic activities. In addition to service with many local organizations, he is the founder of the Kincaid Foundation, which over the past 30 years has given away more than 1,500 college scholarships, and he was a leading figure in the funding and formation of the Kentucky Big Sisters of Lexington.

Several years ago Kincaid donated $100,000 to the local YMCA building fund drive.

A lifelong resident of Kentucky, Kincaid has been the recipient of many honors for his community efforts, including the Horatio Alger Award, Outstanding Alumnus Award from the University of Kentucky, and "Outstanding Kentuckian" award from the Kentucky Press Association.

The 57 agencies which received funds from his $100,000 donation last year are:

Fayette county—Trinity Baptist Church Housing for the Blind; Baptist Community Center; High Street Neighborhood Center; Division of Juvenile Detention and Probation Services; Voluntary Action Center; Family Counseling Service; Urban League; Neighborly Organization of Women; American Cancer Society; Baby Health Service; Bluegrass Association for Mental Retardation; Bluegrass Regional Birth Planning Center; Central Kentucky Blood Center; Children's Leukemia Fund, University of Kentucky Medical Center; Cystic Fibrosis Care, University of Kentucky Medical Center; Kentucky Lung Association, Bluegrass Area; Kidney Foundation of Central Kentucky; Eastern Kentucky Chapter, National Multiple Sclerosis Society; Central Kentucky Chapter, Muscular Dystrophy Association of America; Lexington Chapter, American Red Cross; Florence Crittenden Home of Lexington; Manchester Center; United Cerebral Palsy of the Bluegrass, Child Development Center; YMCA; YWCA; Salvation Army; Lexington Deaf Oral School; Bluegrass Boy's Ranch; Nathaniel Methodist Mission Kindergarten; Wilderness Road Council of Girl Scouts; Camp Smile A While, Lexington Metro Police; Bluegrass Council of Boy Scouts; Bluegrass Council of Campfire Girls; and Big Brothers of Lexington.

Madison county—Berea Hospital Auxiliary; Madison County Association for Retarded Children; Mountain Maternal Health League; Pattie A. Clay Infirmary Association; and Telford's Community Center.

Owen county—Owen County Board of Education, Underprivileged Children Eye Glasses program.

Clay county—Clay County Public Library.

Pulaski county—Cumberland Area School for the Handicapped.

Franklin county—Kentucky State Police, Troopers' Island.

Whitley county—Cumberland College for Fellowship of Christian Athletes; Cumberland Regional River Mental Health, Mental Retardation Board; and Williamsburg Park and Recreation Board.

Lee county—First Church of God for Glen-Eden Youth Camp.

Montgomery county—Hope Hill Children's Home.

Scott county—John Graves Ford Hospital Auxiliary; and Scott County School Charities.

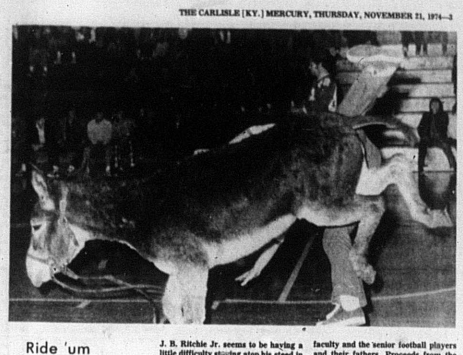
Boyle county—Kentucky School for the Deaf; Pioneer Opportunity Workshop; and Boyle Medical Society, Inc., for McDowell Home Health Agency.

Woodford county—Midway College.

Nicholas county—Nicholas County Board of Education Recreation Park.

Bourbon county—Paris-Bourbon County Community Center; and Bourbon County Association for Retarded Children.

Jessamine county—University of Kentucky Extension Service Jessamine County 4-H Program.



Ride 'um cowboy?

J. B. Ritchie Jr. seems to be having a little difficulty staying atop his steed in Thursday's basketball contest between the Nicholas County High School faculty and the senior football players and their fathers. Proceeds from the game went to the athletic department.
—Smith photo

Look what you can win in PENNY-PINCHER'S SWAP SHOP

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