



Ed Prichard

Ed Prichard called 'The Philosopher'

by John Davidson
FRANKFORT—Sitting behind the desk in his wood-paneled office in Frankfort, Ed Prichard leans back, closes his eyes and contemplates before he speaks—a trait which may be one of the reasons former Gov. Bert Combs calls him "The Philosopher."

Resting on the coffee table in that office is a book titled "The Diarist of Felix Frankfurter," the man responsible for giving Prichard his status.

A law clerk for Supreme Court Justice Frankfurter, a White House "Boy Wonder" under Presidents Franklin Roosevelt and Harry Truman and an unofficial advisor to almost every Kentucky governor since Earle Clements, Edward F. Bricker Jr. is one of the most colorful, productive and influential men, both statewide and nationwide, in Kentucky's history.

In almost any gathering of Kentucky politicians, a listener can pick up at least one new anecdote on "Prich," as he is widely known. As with all stories, the more they are told, the more they are exaggerated. But there are enough bona fide Ed Prichard stories to keep a listener spellbound and chuckling for hours.

Described as scholarly, humorous, eloquent, eccentric, insightful, concerned and a long list of other adjectives, the Frankfort attorney has served on the Kentucky Council on Public Higher Education since 1966, except for one year, 1971, when former Gov. Louis Nunn, a Republican, did not reappoint him.

But Prichard's friends say that he is especially proud of the work he did on the Constitutional Revision Committee from 1964-66. They say he is a scholar of such things and enjoys the work that others find tedious and complicated. Prichard laments, though, the outcome of the work done by the committee, remembering that the legislature "beat it severely."

Those two appointments are the only two difficult positions he has held in Kentucky state government. But former Gov. Cohen asserts that Prichard has served as an advisor and confidante to more Kentucky governors than any other man. Prichard stated

that he has served as an unofficial advisor to every governor since Clements, with the exception of Linn Nun and A.B. "Happy" Chandler. Now, 65 years old, with falling eyesight, mustache and longish salt-and-pepper hair, "The Philosopher" was a 15-year-old when he graduated from high school. At 22 he became Justice Frankfurter's law clerk.

The former Supreme Court Justice was one of Prichard's instructors at Harvard Law School. As was his custom, Frankfurter likes to tell one Frankfurter story which brought him the power and respect of authority.

"Justice Frankfurter used to tell me to turn up at the house about 8:30 to have a breakfast and begin work," Prichard remembers. "I'd always get there by 8:30 and have to wait a half hour or so for him to come downstairs. One morning I was about 10 minutes late, and I found him downstairs waiting for me."

"Prich" smiled and continued, "He chided me for being late, and explained to me how he wanted to see me every morning and had to wait for him. He then told me to stand up for him and not be for me. He kidded me once saying, 'I think you have the most beautiful hair I've ever seen.'"

Prichard went on to say that he and Prichard's friends say that he is especially proud of the work he did on the Constitutional Revision Committee from 1964-66. They say he is a scholar of such things and enjoys the work that others find tedious and complicated. Prichard laments, though, the outcome of the work done by the committee, remembering that the legislature "beat it severely."

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Jr. Woman's Club supports judicial reform amendment

Submitted by
Carlisle Junior Woman's Club (JKWC) wants citizens of Nicholas county to know that Kentucky's constitution may be amended to keep pace with the times by a referendum which will create a unified court system, keeping judges from partisan political elections, and speeding up court actions throughout the state.

A non-partisan survey conducted among a cross section of Kentucky citizens is actively supporting a referendum in the Nov. 4 election.

The 1974 General Assembly has provided the means for the voters of

Kentucky to substantially reorganize and modernize the court system in Kentucky.

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the press. He looked around the room for a candidate to lead the story and chose Prichard. The young Prichard responded that he could not do it. He Prichard asked why, and Prichard responded, "I already did it." After serving for four years in the White House, he returned to Kentucky and established a law practice. Well known for his keen mind, he has represented various interests in legal cases, been chosen as a legislative lobbyist for several cases and been invited as featured speaker for a whole host of occasions.

An insatiable reader, Prichard can quote from most books in print. But the scholarly side of Prichard goes hand-in-hand with the eccentric side. Friends tell of times when he would disappear for days with one knowing his whereabouts. After one of these excursions to a Louisville hotel, he was found in the lobby and handed the doorman his parking ticket. The doorman looked at the ticket with amazement and explained, "You've been here longer than I have."

Prichard had been in his room reading for three weeks, his friends claim. Gov. Combs describes "Prich" as possessing "intellectual horsepower" and attributes much of the Commonwealth's progress in the areas of civil rights, education and a more efficient state government to the work and advice of Ed Prichard. You have to hear southern gentleman style of speaking, Prichard says that his mind is still sharp by often sharing his views on current problems.

The philosopher believes that the most important way to help the current economic dilemma is to develop international leadership in the armaments race. "Armaments don't create wealth. They destroy wealth," he observed.

He also believes the energy crisis could have disastrous results and that a drastic change in our living manners may be the only way to preserve life. Lewis the conflicts and the more complex than just a youth rebellion, the poor and society's fringe groups. Prichard stated, "There was a lot to rebel about," and he believes it stemmed from "the eight year nap the country took during Eisenhower's administration."

A close personal friend of Lyndon Johnson, Prichard believes the former President's administration was partly at fault, also, "for promoting more than anyone could deliver."

The scholar viewed the rebellion as "anti-intellectual," though, saying, "You can't simply march around the Walls of Jericho three times and expect them to fall down."

Observing from his more than 30-year class association with government, Prichard believes that one cause of public mistrust of government is that "too many public officials try to create a personality cult. They try to make the party subservient to the leaders. That type of attitude makes us susceptible to an authoritarian."

The unofficial advisor and confidante to most of the Commonwealth's recent governors, believe that "rational coherence" (a quality of making planned progress) is what makes a governor's administration a good one.

Earle Clements had it and Bert Combs had it. "Happy Chandler's first administration had it, even though I'm not sure Happy understood it," Prichard stated.

He also stated that Gov. Lawrence Werberry and Wendell Ford had programs which benefited Kentucky, and added, "Ned Breathitt got less recognition for his accomplishments."

Prichard praised Breathitt's work in the area of civil rights, the environment, strip mining and polling. "Breathitt had a very far sighted legislative program," he remembered.

The Prichard story reveals the broad intellect of the man. Last year a group of foreign politicians was touring Athens to learn what they could of our

political system. In Frankfort they were set up for a dinner with Ed Prichard as the featured speaker. An unusually modest Prichard stated that he could not understand why he had been chosen to address the group. But most of the foreign politicians had heard of him, they were looking forward to hearing what he had to say.

Although his eyesight would not allow him to see his audience very well, Prichard remembered their names by their voices. He ended up giving each visitor some insight to their own country's political system as well as ours.

Never one to back down from a challenge, and not wanting to lose a bet with his friends, he explained, "You've 'Boy Wonder' walked to a telephone booth to place his bid at the horse track. Prichard returned momentarily and handed his friend a dollar."

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JAWS
MSTERLING, KY.

David Griffin joins Litton Ford

David Griffin, Fleming county native, has joined the sales staff of Litton Ford Sales, Flemingsburg, according to an announcement made recently by Ray Litton, owner.

Mr. Griffin, 33, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Griffin, Garr Avenue, Flemingsburg. He is a graduate of Fleming County High School and attended Morehead State University. For the past three and one-half years he has been associated with the Liberty Loan Company. He managed an office in Olive Hill for six months and was assistant manager in Carlisle. He has worked in a Landmark store in Lexington and also worked at the now defunct Fleming County Publishing Company.

Senator Dee Huddleston

REPORTS TO THE PEOPLE OF KENTUCKY

IMPORTANCE OF AGRICULTURE TO KENTUCKY

We all know the role of agriculture in feeding our nation and many other nations of the world, but often overlooked is the central role that agriculture plays in our economy and in contributing to economic growth and stability.

Last year the more than \$100 billion of U.S. agricultural marketings created economic activity many times that amount. For instance, farmers purchased over \$75 billion worth of production inputs, creating jobs throughout every industrial sector, including such areas as transportation, wholesaling, processing and retailing.

Agriculture has long been our best weapon in the effort to maintain the stability of the dollar, and we must continue to export our agricultural products both for that purpose and to achieve a favorable balance of trade.

It had not been for agricultural trade surpluses our trade deficits for the past five years would have been \$20 billion greater. In 1973, the only year in the past four that we had a positive trade balance, the \$9.3 billion net trade contribution from agriculture offset a nearly \$9 billion non-agricultural trade deficit. Without the net trade balance of nearly \$12 billion from agriculture in 1974, our trade deficit that year alone would have plunged to almost \$18



As can be readily seen, agriculture is vitally important to Kentucky and the nation as a whole—both as to its role in producing food and in its role as a central sector of the economy.

Further information regarding reservations and rates for the weekends can be obtained by contacting each park, or by dialing toll-free 1-800-372-2961.

admission and \$2.75 for students with UK Identification Cards. Persons sending checks or money orders to room 203, UK Student Center, will receive tickets in the return mail. Checks should be

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Molasses for charity
Members of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity at Morehead State University have cultivated six acres of sorghum cane and are processing it into sorghum molasses as a fund-raising project. Louise Hootsler of SAE, vice chair of the first stage of harvesting.

Fishing Unlimited again at Barren River Lake and Lake Cumberland State Parks

For the 10th consecutive year the Kentucky Department of Parks will sponsor its fall Fishing Unlimited program at Barren River Lake State Park and Lake Cumberland State Park. These lakes should provide for excellent fishing, beautiful scenery, and good weather. Fishing unlimited also provides for fun, relaxation, and enjoyment for all who participate.

The first Fishing Unlimited weekend will be at Barren River Lake State Park, Lucas, Ky., Sept. 26, 27, 28. The second at Lake Cumberland State Park, Jamesstown, Ky., will open its angling competition Oct. 24, 25, 26.

Programs for both Fishing Unlimited weekends begin at noon (local time) on Friday and end at noon (local time) on Sunday with the trophy presentation to follow at 12:45 p.m.

Willentrick's, Inc. of Louisville, will display the latest in items for the fishermen at both programs. They will also feature Taylor Britton and Bill Stenbridge, president of Stenbridge Pflanzl, famous artificial plastic worms, at Barren River, and Vern Buchanan, director of Field Testing for Herley and Company, Spirit Lake, Iowa, will be at Lake Cumberland. These gentlemen will be at the Fishing

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