Opinion

Public should attend!

The Nicholas County Historical Society, Inc. is sponsoring a Bicentennial History Forum on Tuesday, Sept. 30, at 7:30 p.m. at the Elementary School. The public is invited to attend.

The eighth grade Social Studies Class, under the leadership of its teacher Wilbert Winkle, will present "Revisit to Our Founding Fathers Through a Time Machine."

The community Bicentennial forum is being presented in order to set aside a time for all Nicholas countians to reflect on our heritage. And it is hoped that a large crowd will be present to show our county's patriotism and love for this great nation which is celebrating its 200th birthday next year.

The History of Nicholas County is well on its way to being completed. The Historical Society needs and wants you as a member. Dues are nominal, and will be spent wisely for worthwhile projects such as the publication of this local history.

Won't you take this opportunity to support the eighth grade-class and the Historical Society in this Bicentennial endeavor?

And, at the same time on Tuesday, join the Historical Society. Most of you will want a copy of The History of Nicholas County when it is published. Joining the Historical Society is one way of insuring its publication.

Posthaste on postal reform

Just how long is the American public going to have to put up with the postal mess? The steadily rising cost of mailing a letter, which is now due to go up to 13 cents soon after Christmas, has been accompanied by no improvement in service. If anything, service has deteriorated. Moreover, all the vaunted efforts of the past 15 years to modernize postal operations, through automation, have proven less than adequate to a mounting task.

On top of all this, there has been a flow of charges of corruption, malfeasance, and ineptitude on the part of postal officials. These, together with the obviously inadequate service and escalating rates, lead many in Washington to wonder if establishment of the independent United States Postal Service in 1971 may not have been a mistake. There is growing support on Capitol Hill for a return of the whole postal system to its pre-1971 status as a department of the executive branch of government.

The postal service's request this week for a doubling of its whopping near-billion-dollar annual subsidy from the federal government, together with the contemplated steep rise in postage rates, will likely spur this movement.

What is needed at the moment is a fresh look at the whole postal system—perhaps a blue-ribbon congressional panel to put the spotlight on everything from the cost of a stamp to the concept behind a postal system. Should the post office be self-supporting or should massive government subsidy go into the system? In other words, should the cost of a stamp cover the cost of delivering letters, packages, and publications? What sort of checks should exist on the performance of not only the top people in the postal system, but also the hundreds of thousands of postal employees?

The present system has come a long way from Benjamin Franklin's day when the system was originally developed. It obviously cannot creak along with antiquated ideas and approaches. But just as obviously, it cannot limp along with continuing inefficiency, waste, and inadequacy. It is time to clean up the postal mess.—The Christian Science Monitor

Agree or Not

by S.C. Van Curon

FRANKFORT—The black lung bill introduced by Congressman Carl Perkins, D-Hindman, offers a slight glimmer of hope to business interests in Kentucky that the state workmen's compensation insurance rate may be reduced.

Miners from Kentucky were in Washington last week lobbying for the bill. It would create an industry-financed insurance pool to pay benefits and it would provide compensation payments to miners after 15 years in the mine, on the presumption that each has black-lung disease.

Presently, black lung benefits are paid from the Special Fund of the Workmen's Compensation Fund financed by all business concerns in Kentucky. Contributions to the Special Fund have been running about $18 million a year for the past several years. Business spokesmen outside the coal industry say that they contribute 50 to 60 per cent of the special fund every year, but coal industry beneficiaries receive between 80 and 90 per cent of this amount.

Since 1972 the coal industry has assumed the first 25 per cent of the black lung claim awarded to a disabled miner, and the balance has come from the Special Fund, contributed to by all business firms in the state. About 23 per cent of the amount paid by any business for workmen's compensation goes into the Special Fund.

Congressmen in Washington are saying there is no way the 15-year presumption clause can stay in the bill. It first must be approved by the House Committee and then be approved by the full House and then go to the Senate.

The slight glimmer of hope for reduced workmen's compensation rates for Kentucky business depends upon the final form of the bill as passed by Congress.

The Public Issues Counsel, Louisville, has made a study of what the black lung costs are to the food industry. A report issued last week said the food industry said about $2 million last year into the Special Fund. The report said the payments ranged from "a weighted average of about 30 cents for every $100 of payroll for food retailers to more than $1.26 per $100 for butcher employees." The compensation insurance rate depends upon the experience rating of industries or coal for a particular trade or industry.

In 1974, a bill was passed which requires any business with one employee to carry workmen's compensation insurance. This brought in all professional people who have a single secretary, and supposedly spread the cost over a larger number of people and business interests.

James Fleming, in Senator Wendell Ford's office in Washington, said the form the bill takes in its final stage will be the determining factor. He said many changes are expected to be made.

One idea could be that the workmen would have to apply to state workmen's compensation and any amount paid under the federal provisions of the bill would be paid out of the federal industry insurance program. If this happens, the compensation rate for Kentucky business would not be reduced.

Tom Duncan, president of the Kentucky Coal Association, said the proposed federal program "ought not be a welfare program. It's one thing to compensate for disability incurred in employment. It's something else to pay for something that didn't come under employment."

He said the presumptive clause is being opposed by the industry.

Another feature of the bill would place the "retroactive burden" on the proposed fund. Some coal firms are out of business.

He said it would be unfair to place the full retroactive burden on a company that had sold coal at "a low price through several years."

What really would happen is that the cost of coal would have to increase to pay into this insurance fund, and the consumer would pay the bill in the end.

However, one bright future for Kentucky is that the cost would be the same for the coal industry across the United States and Kentucky coal would not be put at a disadvantage in the world market.

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MEMBER:
The Kentucky Press Association
The National Newspaper Association

Mercury Evapors

by Warren R. Fisher

A helping hand!

The Postal Rate Commission, in a 4-1 decision, overruled the exhorbitant rates proposed by its chief administrative law judge, Seymour Wenner and adopted rates, higher than present to go into effect sometime this month. The Service is expected to ask for another increase shortly after the new rates go into effect. This can and probably will start the entire rate setting process all over again and spiraling inflation.

If we have out-of-county and state subscribers (and we do) then they it seems will have to bear the burden of postal increases. Suddenly it has become a costly procedure to have subscribers in another county or state.

Frankly, it looks to us like one way around the First Amendment will be to price us out of business. You may say to yourself, it can't be done—well I've seen my postal bill quadruple itself in a year.

Perhaps the postal increases are only a small portion of the total cost of producing a newspaper, but cost it is! It's a cost that must be borne by every second class mailer (for profit).

At the moment, no end seems in sight.

In a year's time we've lost approximately 70 subscribers or sales to The Carlisle Mercury on the average. We know the figures, they'll be published shortly in accordance with Postal law. They were filed with the Carlisle post office on Sept. 18 and will be published in the second issue after that date.

We also know why we lost the average of 70 subscribers, we had to raise the price of the product we sold—whether you consider it a lot of hard work to produce an issue of The Mercury or not is beside the point. We believe we could show the "doubting Thomas'" within a week, if they visited us that long.

We continually try to improve our product—we'd like an expression from you our public: what do you think and what are our shortcomings, we welcome all letters to the editor that are signed.

You may have to give us a helping hand again in the way of another small price increase on subscriptions.

—MV—

Goes American

In recognition of the development of the Maine-Anjou breed as a uniquely American breed of cattle, the Board of Directors of the International Maine-Anjou Association has agreed that the Association's name be changed to American Maine-Anjou Association. Their president, Gary Gershmel, said, "we wish to recognize the American cattleman and his contributions to the development of the breed." "And we are certainly proud of the French heritage of our cattle."

The name change is particularly significant in honoring the Bicentennial of our Nation.

—MV—

Our face is red

We received a letter from William Brumley an inmate of the Louisville Ohio Penitentiary, asking us to publish an ad to his girl friend. The letter was lost, hence we couldn't publish on time the birthday greeting, but here goes our belated attempt:

"Patsy Gilvin,

I hope you had a very Happy Birthday and may you have many more. I love you.

William Brumley"

Sorry Bill, but we did find it, better late than never.

20 and 40 years ago

Thursday, September 29, 1955

The State Fair had its share of Nicholas countians when 38 4-H entries were made in the 4-H statewide competition. Out of 38 that entered, won ribbons were: Linda Snelling, Bonnie Whitaker, Jean Sharpe, Judy Whiteley, Martha Raye Tincher; Michal Morford, Betty Faye Stephenson, Becky Barlow, Mary Frances Fryman, Deloris Gaunce, Dottie Hollar, Jean Smart, Rose Ann Simons, Sally Dayton, Linda McClanahan and Beverly Brogan.

Carlisle Variety is undergoing some remodeling on its third floor. The Kehrt Brothers, operators, stated that the floor will be used for the display of Christmas merchandise.

The 18th annual youth fair will begin at the Armory Friday. Wildlife exhibits will be the featured attraction this year. The exhibit includes poisonous snakes and a miniature camp exhibit.

BORN—To Mr. and Mrs. Gaylord Hunt, a daughter, Sept. 22. She weighed seven pounds and six ounces.

DIED—Charles Newton Brasheara, 34, Sept. 24.—Buford McIntosh, 40, Sept. 27.—Walter Wilson, 76, Sept. 24.—Mrs. Jeanette McFarland Tarr, 76, Sept. 21.—Mrs. Grant Griffith, 43, Sept. 27.—Mrs. U.G. Hawkins, 78, Sept. 23.

Thursday, September 26, 1935

An allotment of federal funds totaling $8,536 to be used by the Works Progress Administration for carrying out the work program here has been made. The two projects are painting and varnishing of the courthouse and the grade and drain of 4.23 acres of land including football field, playground, grandstand and wire fence on the East Union Road near the city limits.

Fire of undetermined origin completely destroyed the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Will McRohan of the Scrub Grass pike, near the Wright school house, Tuesday afternoon.

Catalogs for the Nicholas County Agriculture Fair have been distributed and final arrangements are being completed for the fair, which will open next Thursday morning at 9 o'clock in the Farmers warehouse.

J.B. Jacobs purchased at public auction Saturday the farm of 63 acres of the late S.S. Clay on the Moorefield and Upper Licks road for $86 per acre.

Dr. S.F. Hutchings has purchased from Guinea E. Dudley his residence on Sycamore Street. The price paid was not made public.

The contractors for the surfacing of the Blue Licks and Mt. Olivet road have opened a rock quarry on the farm of Forrest Daizell near Carlisle.

BORN—To Mr. and Mrs. George Rankin Carter of the county, a son, on Friday, Sept. 20.

DIED—David Andrew Banta, 89, native of Nicholas county at the home of his son, Aubrey Banta in Crittenden, Grant county.

200 YEARS
OF INFORMATION AND INSPIRATION

SENSING THE NEWS
Newspaper Column

By Anthony Harrigan
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT
United States Industrial Council
918 STAHLMAN BLDG., NASHVILLE, TENN. 37201

TEACHER STRIKE SCANDAL

In recent weeks, thousands of unionized public school teachers displayed a shocking contempt for the educational needs of young Americans as they went out on strike. The schooling of untold numbers of children has been seriously disrupted by the walkouts which took place in many states. Moreover, the children were shown an example of irresponsible behavior on the part of those who are supposed to teach responsibility.

Parents undoubtedly regard shutting down public schools through strike action as an intolerable abuse of power. Such action is in a class with depriving a community of police, fire and hospital services. It should not be permitted. If teachers strike, they should be summarily replaced with persons who are sincerely committed to the education of young people. Certainly, it is unconscionable to curtail a child's schooling in order to strengthen a union negotiating position.

The current crop of teachers' strikes should focus public attention on the outlook and ambitions of teacher unions and lobbies. Americans must realize that teacher unions and associations are deeply involved in partisan activities.

The attitude of the National Education Association was clearly revealed by its executive secretary, Terry Herndon, at the organization's annual convention in July.

Mr. Herndon said that the organization's activities had "produced a new degree of power in political action." He declared:

"Our ability to back political commitments has been noted in every state and in the halls of Congress. NEA members this year directed their money and talents to the political process in unprecedented numbers. Through NEA-PAC, teachers invested $225,000 in political action. Most state and local PAC groups added their endorsements and dollars to give us a total financial commitment of almost three million dollars. But perhaps the most remarkable contribution to our political success was the thousands and thousands of hours that teachers personally contributed to the campaigns. The dollars and the people paid off; 290 of 310 candidates backed by teachers won seats in the 94th Congress."

Mr. Herndon continued:

"We are going for bigger stakes in 1976. We have learned from the failures of the present Congress to override Presidential vetoes on key economic issues that we need even more responsive Congressmen and Senators. Even better, we might elect a President of the proper type and stop worrying about veto overrides and federal agency behavior."

No doubt many parents would be profoundly shocked to realize that the NEA, which presents itself on the local level as a professional educational organization, is up to its ears in partisan politics.

If the NEA is involved in politics outside the classroom, can parents be sure that politics aren't carried into the classroom? If teachers will take part in a militant strike action, contrary to the interests of school children and disruptive of the community, they aren't likely to hesitate to utilize propaganda in the classroom and thereby use their instructional positions to influence the rising generation.

Monopoly unionism has no place in the schools of the 50 states. It turns schools into battlegrounds and disrupts and sacrifices the education of young Americans.

Quality education cannot coexist with teacher unions or unions that masquerade as professional associations. Education is too crucially important to be controlled by a new breed of union bosses who are willing to prevent American youngsters from getting schooling if the taxpayers don't meet the union bosses' demands.

GRAFFITI

COTTON GINS MAKE FLUFFY MARTINIS

MAGICWORD

HOW TO PLAY: Read the list of words. Look at the puzzle. You'll find these words in all directions — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, backwards. Draw a circle around each letter of a word found in the puzzle then strike it off list. Circling it will show a letter has been used but will leave it visible should it also form part of another word. Find the big words first. When letters of all listed words are circled, you'll have the given number of letters left over. They'll spell out your MAGICWORD.

SHARKS AND MORE SHARKS SoL: 9 letters

CLUES

A–Aquarium, Attack; B–Beach, Big; C–Carnivore, Craze; D–Danger, Deadly; F–Fear, Fins, Frenzy; G–Gray; H–Heavy, Huge; J–Jaws; L–Lidless, Loner; M–Motion; O–Ocean; P–Picture, Pilot, Predator, Prey, Primitive; S–Sand, Scare, Sea, Sharp, Skin, Species, Swift, Swimmer; T–Terror, Teeth, Tireless; V–Vicious, Voracious; W–Wary, Water, White.

ANSWER NEXT WEEK
Last Week's Answer: CORNUCOPIA 176
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E	V	I	T	I	M	I	R	P	C	S	H	A	R	P
L	D	N	O	I	T	O	M	A	H	C	A	E	B	I
O	E	F	S	N	I	F	R	P	G	S	E	A	S	C
N	A	E	G	I	B	N	E	H	R	P	R	S	Y	T
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A	Z	A	O	S	A	C	N	I	K	S	T	R	A	E
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V	C	A	S	P	E	C	I	E	S	S	W	I	F	T

Letters from our readers

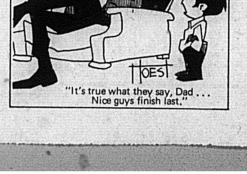
To The Carlisle Mercury:

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your assistance in running press releases and our ads which we feel contributed to the large success we had in the Chamber sponsored Carson & Barnes circus in Paris on Sunday, Sept. 7, 1975. We appreciate your assistance.

With all best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,
Jerry Aske, Chairman
Circus Committee
Paris-Bourbon County
Chamber of Commerce

LAFFS



"It's true what they say, Dad . . . Nice guys finish last."

Kentucky Water Sports

By Donovan Smith

ARE BASS TOURNAMENTS HARMFUL?

[First in a two part series]

"They call that sport?!" a bystander sourly observed as several high powered bass boats roared away from the starting line. "Looks more like hydroplane races to me."

"Yeah," his companion muttered. "Our nice quiet fishing trip is ruined. These tournaments are killing our lakes. They ought to be outlawed."

Bitter words perhaps, but a good example of how many fishermen feel about the merits of competitive fishing. Opponents are becoming increasingly vocal. Bass clubs have a real image problem.

I was once a bass club member. To me organized tournament competition is not as enjoyable as unhurried, carefree fishing. Yet, many of my friends thrive on just such rivalry and pressure. Is their style of fishing hurting the sport or are their opponents merely crying "wolf"?

Are they catching all of the big bass and eliminating the brood stock? Is the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife aware of the controversy? Have they studied the effects of tournament fishing pressures? Should money fishing be regulated or perhaps eliminated?

Before looking at the facts, let's back up a little and look at how bass tournaments evolved and became what they are today.

The first step to competitive fishing was taken a few years ago when Holmes Thurmond of Shreveport, La. designed the first boat made exclusively for bass fishing. Later marketed as the "Skeeter" bass boat, it was widely copied. In the last 10 years this type of boat has become the rage of the boating world.

Meanwhile, G.L. Harris of Jackson, Miss. developed the first foot operated electric trolling motor now known by the trade name of "Motor Guide". Also Carl Lawrance of Tulsa, Okla. began selling the first depth sounder-fishfinder and soon scientific bass fishing was born. Competitive fishing soon followed.

Successful fisherman began to challenge each other. Bets were made—reputations were put on the line.

Marina operators organized bass fishing contests. Soon the better bass fishermen of one town were organizing and challenging their peers from other towns. Personal competition became an interesting sidelight to the sport of bass fishing.

The entry fees were small, usually around five dollars with prize money going to the top two or three contestants.

Then came the big national bass tournaments. B.A.S.S. (Bass Anglers Sportsmen Society) with 170,000 members and 932 affiliated chapters was founded on the principle that organized fishing is a virtue not a vice. Other organizations holding tournaments included the Bass Casters Association, the American Bass Fishing Club, and a host of others. Some are held in Kentucky. First place finishers earn big money—from $1,000 to $15,000. Prize money is usually awarded to the top 40 places.

Many members of these groups have abandoned their former occupations and have turned "pro". Names like Stan Sloan, Billy Westmoreland, Roland Martin, Bill Dance, and Tom Mann are just a few of the big names. These men earn thousands of dollars each year—fishing.

Like the pros in other sports, they have a following of fans that copy their every life style. They buy the same brands of fishing equipment and wear the same types of clothing adorned with the same lure patches.

Commercial as all this seems, few can dispute the pro's contribution to the annals of fishing knowledge. Their experiments and development of techniques and methods have literally revolutionized fishing. Their books, magazine articles and television shows have made better bass fishermen out of almost every angler.

Again, the question: Is this kind of exploitation harmful to sport fishing? What are the facts?

Kentucky is one of the few states that has held extensive studies about the effects of tournament fishing. Trained biologists in the Department of Fish and Wildlife have compiled impressive statistics about the number of fish tournament competitors catch and how various lakes are effected by big tournaments.

Next week I will report these findings.

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Legislative report

by Philip W. Conn
Director of the
Legislative Research Commission

The busiest between-sessions period in the history of the Kentucky General Assembly is drawing to a close.

Since the last regular session ended in March, 1974, more than 100 committees and subcommittees have met in Frankfort and around the state to consider legislation that will be introduced when the 1976 General Assembly convenes in January.

Going into September, 83 bills had been approved by interim committees for "prefiling." This is 10 more than committees prefiled for the 1974 session and nine times as many as were prefiled for the 1972 session.

The current total should easily surpass 100 before committees conclude their interim activities Sept. 30.

Prefiling, which can't occur officially until Nov. 15, assures a bill of being introduced on the first day of the session. This gives it a headstart in the legislative mill before the flood of legislation that will be introduced after the session begins Jan. 5.

For the first time, committee prefiled bills will fall into one of two categories—those to be introduced without recommendation and those which the committees feel should pass and have turned "pro". Names like as prefiled bills go through the normal channels of consideration during the session, hopefully many discussions and arguments will be shortened because of the airing the bills have received before interim committees.

Many members of these groups have abandoned their former occupations and have turned "pro". Names like Stan Sloan, Billy Westmoreland, Roland Martin, Bill Dance, and Tom Mann are just a few of the big names. These men earn thousands of dollars each year—fishing.

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The lock locked

The jobs of a teacher are many and varied, and for Mrs. Barbara Hatton fixing a stubborn lock recently is just one such job. Mrs. Hatton, now on maternity leave, is the Physical Education instructor at Nicholas County Elementary School.—Duncan photo

Prefiling is a bridge between interim and regular session activities. The effect of legislative turnover also will be lessened if incoming legislators accept and support the efforts of their predecessors.

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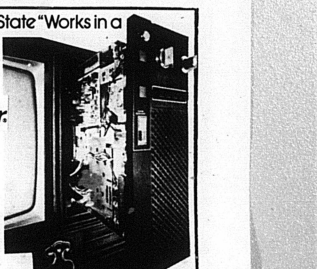

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