

Kentucky reflections

Edison
by George Street Boone
"A license for well-to-do people and for trucking companies to violate the law," is how State Senator David Karen, an unrepentant idealist, describes House Bill 21 passed by the Special Session.

One aim of the administration's, proved measure was to establish a uniform schedule for traffic fines and costs. After its introduction a committee approved an amendment to remove drivers' penalty points for

speeding up to 70 miles per hour on interstate highways and on limited access 4-lane divided highways. Objectors complained that this was tantamount to giving large trucks a permit to exceed the legal limit of 55 MPH established in 1974 on demand of the Federal Government. The fines provided are comparatively modest and Senator Karen voiced the view of many that the large trucks would speed to the 70 mile limit, considering any fines incurred as operating costs.

After the amendment was attached, officials in the State Police and in the State Transportation Department criticized severely the removal of the points. They expressed concern that highway deaths would rise and that the Federal Highway Administration could cut back on its estimated annual allocation of some 111 million in funds to Kentucky if speeds on our highways rose.

The 1974 Kentucky Legislature adopted the 55 mile speed limit not as a safety measure, but "to conserve energy on Kentucky highways."

The 1974 Act provided that the 55 MPH limit would expire either on July 1, 1976, or whenever the President declared there was no longer a fuel shortage, whichever came earlier. The 1976 Legislature, in its Regular Session, removed the July 1st expiration date and substituted a clause that permits the Secretary of Transportation to alter the speed limit to comply with federal requirements.

In 1966, when Kentucky had a speed limit of 45 MPH, Kentucky had 712 motor-vehicle deaths. This was before the beginning of the construction of our limited access highways and our interstate system, systems designed for driving speeds up to 70 MPH. In 1973, when Kentucky had made considerable progress in its major road systems, benefiting from the constructive leadership of Henry Ward, among others, 1117 people were killed in highway accidents in Kentucky. The reduction of the speed limit to 55 MPH in mid-1974 by the Legislature was followed by a drop in highway casualties to 729 in 1974. The mileage death rate dropped

on these highways consists of heavy trucks, with the advantages of easing the load outweigh the benefits of a lower speed rate? The Legislature has judged it will. Perhaps they should issue licenses for speeding.



The New Year is here
As the old year fades
we embrace the new
with high hopes for
a bright future!
**Nicholas
Bar Assoc.**



**Once more the
delight of a New
Year is ours to
share, as we share
the delights of
our friendship.**
**D & A
Grocery**
We give
Top Value Stamps

OFF THE WALL

**YOU CAN
MAKE AN
ASH OF
YOURSELF
SMOKING IN
BED**

**Dee Jay
Auto Parts**



**Hope everything
comes up roses in your
New Year. Thanks for the
bright gift of your friendship.**

Nicholas Feeder Supply



**A Prayer
for the
New Year**

**Love is light. Let that light bring us all
together in peace and understanding, and its
brightness bring many cherished moments
for you to enjoy, with those you hold dear.**

Mathers-Shearer

NEW YEAR PRAYER

*We give thanks and
pray for peace
and happiness for
our friends and
all mankind.*



Cynthiana Motor Co.



As you greet the
New Year in the
shared warmth of
your family and
friends, we wish
that yours will be
filled with all
the meaningful
pleasures.

Eastern Ky. P. C. A.

Mini Practical Arts courses offered

Students in Grades 6, 7, and 8 at the Nicholas County Elementary School are enrolling in courses which are not usually considered for children of these ages. These courses are called Mini-Practical Arts and students are allowed to choose from a wide range of course offerings. Courses range from auto mechanics to French and Spanish to driver's education.

Last spring the teachers, principal, supervisor and superintendent met several times to discuss some new and

innovative teaching ideas for the 1976-77 school year. Out of these discussions came the idea of Practical Arts courses. Some of the teachers visited various schools last year which were using ideas similar to this in their Career Education programs. Teachers discussed the idea with the students and found that they were very interested. Now, through the use of federal funds, the idea has become a reality.

The purpose of the classes is to allow students to receive instruction in

courses which they would not ordinarily receive in the regular classroom; freedom of choice; and, to become acquainted with careers which they may wish to pursue later in life. Eighteen different courses are taught each Friday afternoon from 1:10 to 3:10. Students sign up for the courses which interest them most. The courses have four class periods and are taught three times during the year. The first session for all classes ran from Nov. 12-Dec. 17. The next session will begin in February. Classes which would be regularly scheduled for this time of the day are incorporated into the schedule at another time of the day or week.

Classes offered are: Basic Cooking, Basic Sewing, Cosmetology, Intramural Sports, Basket Making, Pottery, Chess, Checkers, Auto Mechanics, First Aid, French, Spanish, Driver's Education, Macrame, Burlap Flowers, Typing, Home Nursing, and Newspaper/Annual.

Many interested people in our community other than classroom teachers are freely giving their time and talents

in making the program a success. They are Lucile Clark, Larry Willis, Annette Piers, Sharon Alexander, Carol Sparks, Catherine Smart, Supt. Elder, Betty Conrad, State Patrolman Delwick, Margie H. Wilcox, Anita Dampier, Elizabeth Ellington, and Mattie Kate Guthrie. They are helping to make the program a success.

James Biddle receives diploma

James Robert Biddle of Route 2 received his diploma recently from the Central Kentucky State Vocational School. Biddle has completed his occupational program in auto mechanics. He is presently employed in Lexington at Dixie Auto Repair. He is the son of Mrs. Pauline Biddle of Carlisle and the late Thomas Ray Biddle.



Cosmetics

Mrs. Betty Lynn Conrad, is the instructor for Cosmetology Mini Practical course offered at Nicholas County Elementary.—Duncan photo



**Mildred Clark,
County Judge**



Harper's Garage



Cookin' school

These elementary school girls are learning the culinary arts from Mrs. Mariette Wilcox and Mrs. Catherine Smart.—Duncan photo



Pure skill

Chess is a game of concentration, and these elementary school students seem to enjoy it, as Harry Spickler instructs. —Duncan photo



**He floats through the air
With the greatest of ease,
Bringing thanks and good wishes
Our dear friends to please.
Hope your year is the swingiest yet!**

Small's Greenhouses



Hospital corners

Mrs. Carol Sparks, R.N., is demonstrating how to make a hospital bed in the Hospital Workers Mini Practical course at N.C.H.E.S.—Duncan photo

Say You Saw It In The Mercury



True Value Hardware & Variety



Hunt's Ashland Service Station



**Compliments of
County Clerk's Office
Rose Scott and Lois Allison**