Opinion

Some thoughts on Panama Canal

Much debate on the issue of the Panama Canal has resolved around the legalistic question; does or does not the United States have sovereignty over the Canal, under the terms of the treaty signed with Panama in 1903. This is really beside the point since our rights were granted "as if (the United States) were sovereign." Let the lawyers make of that what they will.

The real questions ought to be: 1) is continued free access and transit through a Canal a vital U.S. interest, and 2) can such transit be "assured" by any method other than a physical U.S. presence?

We believe the answer to the first question is affirmative for two reasons: 1) the waterway is vital to both our commercial and naval interests; of the 14,000 ships which transit each year, 8,000 serve U.S. ports, and use of the Canal by our fleet allows us to fulfill our global commitments with fewer ships. 2) Surrender of the Canal in principle, no matter how long delayed, will convey a further impression of a weakening U.S. will to maintain its interests everywhere. Many U.S. officials will argue that the U.S. has to react to Soviet advances in areas where the U.S. has no intrinsic interests, such as Angola, because we cannot be perceived to be weak. The same is true of the Panama Canal.

The answer to the second question is obviously negative. The U.S. is presently negotiating to surrender control of the Canal after a period currently estimated at 25 to 50 years, which proponents argue is sufficient time to make the transition. But treaties can be and are scrapped at will. The future course of Panamanian politics is uncertain. We know only that the present ruler, General Torrijos, is a dictator who openly admires Fidel Castro. There is no guarantee that he, or some future ruler, would continue to be satisfied with such a delay even if agreed upon; or that some future U.S. administration, faced with the threat of guerrilla warfare, would not agree to a much quicker pullout.

No! The U.S. should make no such commitments in the first place, especially under the threat of guerrilla war. That is the first leg down a slippery slope. Sometimes a great power must hold to its position simply because it is a great power and cannot afford to do otherwise. This is one of those times.

ARMY BURGER

Agree or Not

by S.C. Van Curon

FRANKFORT—Gov. Julian Carroll made a strong bid before the Senate Public Works Subcommittee on Transportation last week for federal aid to repair the coal-haul roads in Eastern and Western Kentucky.

The governor anchored his pitch on a four-point program with emphasis on the point that Kentucky is supplying coal to the nation and that the nation should help pay for the cost of maintaining the roads.

His four strong points were:

—Where the coal comes from.

—Where it goes.

—How it gets there.

—Who is paying the bill.

The governor told the subcommittee, "The delivery of coal from the mines and pits of Kentucky to the generators, coke ovens, furnaces and docks of America is an essential element in the national energy transformation process. The problems it creates along the way are national problems. We feel that the next 10 years, by 1985, may see us reach a yearly production in the neighborhood of a quarter billion tons."

He went on to explain that 88 million tons were mined in the larger eastern field in 1975, and that 56 million tons came from the western field.

Between 80 and 90 per cent of this coal is used in power generation plants in 22 states. Coal from the eastern field is transported by truck and rail while much of the western coal is barged on the rivers, the cheapest transportation system.

He pointed out that 77 per cent of the coal mined in Eastern Kentucky moves initially by truck to rail heads or to river ports and part to consumers. Eastern Kentucky produces 60 per cent of the state's production.

It isn't economically feasible to build railroad spurs to truck mine or strip mine sites that will be mined out within a year, and this coal must be moved by truck.

He cited this example: In 1974, Kentucky's coal production grew more than seven per cent. That same year the tonnage hauled by the five major railroads serving the state increased by only 1.5 per cent. He said this is no criticism of the railroads, for their tracks just don't reach many surface mines.

There are some sorts of roads already near the mines, and these are the arteries that carry out the coal for eventual distribution to the nation's markets.

These inadequate roads were never constructed for heavy truck traffic, and they are crumbling. He said there are 5,800 heavy trucks hauling coal in Kentucky today.

"I tell you frankly," the governor said, "I have no doubt that our mining industry can double its production of coal by 1985, but I do not believe our road system will support, even inefficiently, the number and kind of truck it will take to get the coal to the rail or barge loading point, or the ultimate consumer".

He said Kentucky has allocated $22 million for the next biennium for special rehabilitation projects on coal-haul roads. During the next two years the budget is $25 million for work on "what we have identified as energy roads".

He is asking federal government help. Kentucky expects to spend $300 million on these roads in the next 10 years and he is asking the federal government to ante up $700 million for the coal is for national use.

20 and 40 years ago

Thursday, June 7, 1956

Tax Commissioner A.V. "Doc" Allison said today that Nicholas County assessment for 1956 had been placed at $10,834,198, a decrease of $340,854 from the 1955 figure.

David Alexander, son of Rev. and Mrs. Raymond L. Alexander of Washington, D.C. and a grandson of Rev. and Mrs. Jesse A. Alexander of the Concord Road, received his Bachelor of Divinity Degree Friday from the College of the Bible in Lexington.

Miss Bonnie Ritchie of Myers received her diploma with "Distinction" from Transylvania College, Lexington on Monday.

The following boys left Wednesday for Ft. Thomas for pre-induction examination: George Lee Anderson, Everett Earl Pfanstiel Jr., Delbert Floyd Bailey, Billy Hatler Scott and Reynolds Jennings Mattox.

Alice Sue Lynam, Margaret Lynam and Wilma Jean Stanfield, members of the Carlisle Methodist Church, are spending this week at the Methodist Intermediate Camp at Camp Ruggles in Lewis county.

BORN—To Mr. and Mrs. Sam Cooke Reynolds, a daughter, June 5 in Paris.—To Mr. and Mrs. William Leach of Jackson, Ohio, a son, Howard William, May 15.

MARRIED—Miss Wilma Lee Watkins, Bourbon county, to Floyd Shannon, Nicholas county, Saturday. —Miss Barbara Ellen Bentley, Paris, to Eugene Correll of Neon, Sunday.

DIED—Clinton Cannon, 90, Thursday in Shelbyville.

Thursday, June 4, 1936

Billy Harper, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Harper, suffered a badly bruised arm Monday while at work at the rock quarry on the farm of Forrest Dalzell.

Mrs. Kate Earlywine suffered a fracture of the right leg in a fall at her home at Barterville last Wednesday. She was brought to the Johnson Hospital where her leg was put in a cast.

The fire department was called Friday morning to the home of Allen Hopkins on Sycamore Street when sparks from a burning trash pile had set fire to the roof of an outbuilding. Damage was slight.

The store building at Blue Licks owned by Mrs. M.C. Hawkins of Carlisle and formerly occupied by Eddie Roy Price was burned to the ground early Thursday morning.

Stripping of blue grass seed will start this week. The crop this year is almost a complete failure, farmers say. The cold weather last winter froze out much of the blue grass.

S.T. Cameron has about finished the remodeling of the old W.I. Dorsey home on Dorsey Avenue.

BORN—To Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Walton of the East Union Road, on the 3rd, a daughter.

The world's meanest man

Although we are not quite six months into 1976 so far, if we were to nominate the meanest man of the year, it would be the anonymous "citizen band" radio operator in or near Longmont, Colo., who, on May 7, deliberately "jammed" a radio emergency call for help.

In response to a "10-33"—emergency call for help—some heartless and irresponsible individual replied, "Shut up and get off the air." Then, according to other CB operators in the area who tried to help, the offender started "dumping his carrier"—i.e., keying his microphone in such a way as to knock out the emergency signals. Even Channel 9, the nationwide emergency call channel, was jammed by the carrier-thrower.

As a result, an ambulance with a paramedic and emergency cardiac equipment arrived half an hour later than normal. By that time the victim, "Lonesome" Cecil Curtis, a retired policeman and himself a CB operator, was dead from a heart attack.

Citizens Band radio-transmitter-receivers have become enormously popular in the last two years. Thousands of applications for licenses to operate are flooding the office of the FCC. After granting Mrs. Gerald Ford with a "quickie" license to operate, and as a result of protests that all others should be granted similar treatment, the government has been sending out such licenses virtually automatically.

But the time has come to crack down. Those with criminal records, known psychopaths (as the above individual must certainly have been) and others who misuse the privilege of Citizens Band airwaves should not be granted or allowed to hold licenses. Not at the cost of even one human life.

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AMERICAN REVOLUTION BICENTENNIAL 1776-1976

Carlisle and Nicholas County

Letters from our readers

To The Carlisle Mercury:

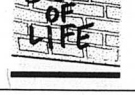
I would like to thank you and all the staff for your cooperation in covering all the activities of the Head Start Program during the past year.

I appreciated Jimmy Smith coming and taking pictures at our annual parent program.

Thanks again for a job well done.

Sincerely,
Margaret Hunter

The first rule of advertising is to get their attention.
The second rule is sustained, repeated advertising.



Mercury Evapors

by Warren R. Fisher

All those loose ends!

Though we worked until noon Memorial Day or stated another way, 24 hours after copy ran out, we're faced with seven or will it be 14 hours of grueling work trying to fit those little loose ends together into a newspaper.

Well they say, the wheels of fances must pay the fiddler. I wonder how much he'll want this time. Hope I have the right change.

—MV—

From all-over the place

One of my helpers, and I do have several, and they are all good workers, and I know it, says Labor Day just past, although it feels like it, said, "the recent Burton Fund handled by the Eddie Roy Price was burned to the First National Bank received monies from all-over the country."

That's no surprise to me! The Mercury goes all-over the place. It doesn't make every state, but to those subscribers that do take it, they've always shown they have a heart!

—MV—

Risk-prone career

Farming has been called one of the world's most risk-prone careers, but hopefully that won't deter anyone from entering one of the Nation's biggest industries with assets totaling $531 billion.

Other facts:

—It is also the Nation's largest employer. Between 4 and 17 million people work in some phase of agriculture.

—Farming itself uses 4.4 million workers—as many as the combined payrolls of transportation, the steel industry, and the automobile industry.

—From farm and the dinner table, agriculture requires the services of 8 to 10 million people to store, transport, process, and merchandise the output.

—American farmers today produce over 53 percent more crops on 6 percent fewer acres than did their fathers. Today, one hour of farm labor produces nearly nine times as much food and other crops as it did in the 1919-21 period.

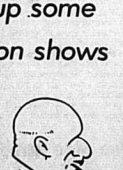
—One farm worker now supplies enough food and fiber for 56 people.

—The Dairy industry, including manufacturers of such products as fluid milk, concentrated and dried milk, cheese, butter, and ice cream, employs 167,000 workers and has a payroll of more than $1.6 billion.

No wonder they call June—Dairy Month!

Russ Metz!

Networks have finally lined up some good television shows



The three big networks have been scheduling their fall television shows you'll be pleased to know there are some dandies in store for viewing. A friend of ours, who keeps his ear to the ground in New York, has sent me some of the top series and specials you will see beginning in September.

I think the networks have practiced so long they finally got it right. Because these shows are dangling some mighty tasty plums:

"DENTIQUE" . . . a left-handed dentist moonlights as a detective and wrings confessions from crooks by luring them into his office on the promise of free root canals and an unlimited source of novocain. Then he tortures them with a dull drill bit on a rotten molar with the suction hose turned off. His beautiful nurse is hooked on laughing gas but still manages to help her boss subdue meanies by cementing their fingernails together. Not recommended for children with cavities.

"TRUE SPIT" . . . a young Arizona gunfighter - turned - vacuum cleaner salesman stuns bullies and irate husbands by blinding them with a quick squirt of tobacco juice to the eyes. Then he triggers the reverse button on his super vaccum cleaner and fills his victims full of dirt, nails, cockleburrs, Goldwater-for-President buttons and shoe horns. He is tripped up by a young widow with a push broom and a band of badmen with muddy sneakers.

"ALL IN THE FAMILY WAY" . . . a house for expectant mothers in Bombay faces a dilemma when a water buffalo wanders in and gives birth to triplets. The home is run by a Ghurka midwife, who speaks with a Nehru accent and tells old British jokes. India's first attempt at breaking into the lucrative American television market. Guru approved for family viewing.

"LOCHJAWS" . . . a tidal wave washes a great killer whale into a Scottish lake, where he meets and falls in love with the Loch Ness monster. Jacques Cousteau plays a kindly skinny dipper, who befriends the creatures, who think he is their long-lost son. Tension mounts when the happy pair try to feed Jacques pieces of photographers, divers, fishermen and sightseers picked up on the surface by the twosome. Mudovision by Paramount. Theme music by Miami Jack and his Sons of Beaches.

"IRON PANTS" . . . an old Air Force pilot, who flew by the seat of his pants through so many layers of skin he had to be given a bionic buttock is hired by the CIA to crack a Russian spy ring using a pay toilet as a message drop. Iron Pants is almost electrocuted when enemy agents wire a john seat to high voltage. But he captures the sneaks by coating his bucket with bear grease and sliding down the men's room steps at high speed while the foreigners are arguing over the last piece of tissue.

Raymond Burr was tested for the part of Iron Pants, but could not carry around an iron diaper big enough to fit him.

"ONIONSKIN" . . . a master Washington bureaucrat, who uncovers tight-fisted congressmen and tight-sweatered secretaries with equal finesse. As a feathermerchant's feathermerchant, he blends into cocktail parties, where he spots bugged olives and cold-shoulders lame duck legislators and slithers through Appropriations Committee red tape to leak suggestions for new boondoggles and ratholes. An unsavory character, closely resembling Ralph Nader, tries to scuttle Onionskin's patriotic fight, but finds himself catching reptiles from a fall in the Potomac and is visited by IRS agents. Another great bicentennial production.

"DOCTOR BILL" . . . a new realist television series. For the first time on the screen, you will see not only doctors curing acne, solving crimes, rescuing cats and mending marriages, but getting paid for it all. Drama mounts when the patients without hospitalization insurance try to crash a hospital receiving desk. Filmed on location in hospitals, doctors' clinics, lawyer and loan offices and at poor farms. Rerun right granted to medical schools.

"WPA" . . . a construction shovel crew isolated on a public works project deep in the Appalachian wilderness is set upon by a band of hungry Republicans. After leaning on their shovels in a circle, the men make a last-ditch stand by throwing out compliments about Herbert Hoover. A dedicated strawboss wisecracks his way through difficult operations—street and sidewalk building, schoolhouse raisings, dirt dams and outhouses, making out with depression debs and mountaineers' daughters. May be billed as a documentary, if they can get Teddy Kennedy to play the lead.

"DEAD LETTER" . . . an Orwellian fantasy based on the future when government's Big Brother will control all lives, including travel from city to city. The postal service is in charge of transportation and people traveling are packaged up and sent through the mails. The suffering of the common man is portrayed when unconcerned postal workers kick his package into the wrong sip bin and he is sent to the Chicago sectional center instead of his destination four miles away. The human mail is supposed to be sexed into separate areas, but a mixup puts our hero into a shipment of topless go-go dancers addressed to the Las Vegas strip and he manages to lose his address label in the fun. He pays by ending up in the Dead Letter drop with a lot of nameless packages. If paroled in time, Charles Manson will play the lead.

Onward, tvward.

Farm Bureau news briefs

by Gary Huddleston

Farm machinery repair and replacement parts will cost 5 per cent less after June 19 as a result of some legislation passed by the 1976 General Assembly.

The savings come in the form of a new exemption for such items from the state sales tax. Included are batteries, tires, plow points, fan belts, mufflers, spark plugs and other motor and assembly parts for power-driven or animal-driven farm machinery.

June 19 is the date that most legislation passed by this year's General Assembly goes into effect.

The same law that exempts machinery repair parts also removed the sales tax from farm chemicals used in livestock and poultry production and from feed supplements to be blended in livestock feed. Pre-mixed feeds, as well as crop chemicals, fertilizer, seeds, livestock and machinery, at the time of purchase, were already exempt from the levy.

The new exemption applies only to parts necessary to the operation of the machinery, according to the state Department of Revenue. Such tractor attachments or accessories as radios, canopies, air conditioning, tool boxes or deluxe seats will still be subject to the tax. Hand tools will also remain taxable.

* * * * *

Although farmers have long maintained that OSHA has them on the hot seat, the agency's newly proposed field sanitation regulations have them concerned over seats of a different type.

Under the new rules, farm employers could be required to install and maintain, in farm fields, portable toilets, water fountains and hand washing basins. The rules would apply to farmers with a work crew of five or more employees.

Kentucky Farm Bureau's Board of Directors has voted to relay its objections to the standards to the American Farm Bureau's Washington office, and to the U.S. Department of Labor.

The stated purpose of the new rules is to alleviate "climate-related" stress among farm employees, upgrade sanitation and reduce the chance for spreading disease.

Where fewer than five employees are working, the facilities would not have to be in the field, but must be within a five-minute drive by available transportation. A further exemption is provided if the work is less than two hours in duration.

Farmers have until July 6 to comment on the proposals. Letters can be sent to the U.S. Department of Labor, OSHA Docket Officer, Docket S-307, Room N3620, 3rd and Constitution Ave. NW, Washington, D.C. 20210.

* * * * *

A Kentuckiana Beef Days media luncheon is scheduled in Louisville June 9. The event is being sponsored by the Kentucky and Indiana beef cattle associations.

Beef Days activities, set to run the entire month, are designed to point out the importance of a healthy beef industry to the area's economy, and to remind consumers that beef is an important natural source of high quality protein.

The luncheon, set for 12:30 p.m. at the Executive West, features an address by Dick McDougal, Nevada cattle feeder and first vice president of the American National Cattlemen's Association.

Three Nicholas Countians graduate from UK recently

Students who recently received degrees from the University of Kentucky are: Gary B. Broderick, Master of Science in Home Economics; Patrick Carter Conley, Bachelor of Arts; and Douglas Mynear, Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Engineering.

Hovermales purchase French cows and bull

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Hovermale purchased two full French cows and one full French bull at the Don Anderson Dispersal Sale in Waverly on April 10.

Hospital notes

ADMITTED: Frankie Abnee, Ruby Campbell, David Hardin, George R. Carter, Calvin Workman, Lillie Jolly, Debbie Bach, Lorene Hall, Helen McVey, Jesse Caswell, Carlisle; Charles Crump, Moorefield; Richard Lewis Mitchell, Millersburg; Anna Arrasmith, Bethel, Blanche Shepherd, Lexington.

DISMISSED: Edna Boyd, E.H. Allison, Debbie King and baby girl, Eudora Herrington, Quiller Jolly, David Hardin, Elisabeth Ickendoffer, Calvin Workman, Earl Pettit, Addie Ritchie, Frankie Abnee, Ruth Simons, Leona Leer, Carlisle; Ray Wagoner Sr., Richard Mitchell, Millersburg.

* * * * *

May 12 to May 19. Visiting hours are 2 to 4 p.m. and 7 to 8:30 p.m.

ADMITTED: E.H.D. Allison, Lorene Hall, Addie Ritchie, Eudora Herrington, Quiller Jolly, Avery Mitchell, Carlisle; Flordia Moore, Mary Fooks, Childers McDowell, Mt. Olivet; Mary Riggs, Blanche Buchanan, Durward Bevins, Ewing; Everett Swim, Paris; William Tolliver, Moorefield; Debbie King, Bethel.

DISMISSED: Ben Trussell, Helen Rose Blake, Ruth Ledford, Orpha Brumagen, Della Ring, Lorene Hall, Allen Howard, Carlisle; Tom Reid, Irvin King, Moorefield; Blanche Buchanan, Mary Riggs, Ewing; Mary Fooks, Mt. Olivet; Everett Swim, Paris; J. W. Hazelrigg, Sharpsburg.

In service

Marine Staff Sergeant Hiram A. Hogg, 29, son of Mr. and Mrs. Hiram Hogg of Carlisle, has been promoted to his present rank while serving at the Marine Corps Air Station, New River, Jacksonville, N.C.

A 1965 graduate of Nicholas County High School, he joined the Marine Corps in April 1966.

Farmers to plant more corn, wheat

"It looks like farmers will be planting more corn and wheat this year," Paul E. Hall said. According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's report, farmers intended as of April 1 to plant about 219 million acres to major field crops this year.

Total acreage for 1976 crops, including winter wheat planted last fall, comes to about 276 million acres. "Although the total acreage forecast this year is up only around 2 million acres," Hall said, "there was a lot of crop shifting."

Corn acreage will be gaining the most as producers intend to plant almost 83 million acres, up 6 per cent from the previous two years, and the highest since 1959. Farmers boosted planting intentions some 2 million acres since January.

Farmers plan to plant around 49 million acres to soybeans this year, down about a tenth from 1975 and the smallest since 1972. Indicated acreage is down in all major areas, as producers in the south are planting more cotton and those in the midwest are switching to corn.

Hall said larger U.S. imports of palm oil and increased soybean output in other countries are providing increasing competition with U.S. soybeans and are factors behind the smaller soybean acreage.

Historical Society to hold another abnormal Boone Day

FRANKFORT—Perhaps next year the Kentucky Historical Society will be able to hold a normal Boone Day celebration. But in this Bicentennial year, Boone Day will be anything but normal.

The last routine Boone Day was held in 1972, with the usual program of speeches followed by the luncheon on the Old State Capitol grounds. In 1973, however, with restoration work on the Old Capitol in progress, the luncheon was moved to the amphitheater near Fort Harrod State Park in Harrodsburg.

Again, in 1974, the Old Capitol restoration program forced the Boone Day celebration to find another location. That year, the festivities were held at Boonesboro State Park. Last year, the luncheon returned to the Old Capitol grounds, again the site of the reopening celebration following the restoration. At that time, the Boone Day crowd numbered nearly 1,000.

This year, beginning at 11 a.m. Monday, June 7, the traditional date marking Boone's first view of the state's Bluegrass region, Boone Day will be another special occasion, as part of Kentucky's Bicentennial salute to America. To make the celebration extra special, the format of the program has been changed from the usual formal speeches. Instead, the focus of the festival will be on musical entertainment.

To provide the entertainment, the Historical Society has scheduled the casts of both "The Stephen Foster Story," from Bardstown, and Harrodsburg's "The Legend of Daniel Boone." The performers will be in costume.

The only speech planned is a short address by state Historian Dr. Hambleton Tapp about Kentucky and the significance of the American Revolution Bicentennial. Then, the entertainment will begin.

The Boone Day luncheon follows the program. This year's menu, according to Historical Society Director Gen. William Buster, includes country ham, beaten biscuits, mints, sandwiches, potato chips and punch. Since the program's planners need some idea of how many will be participating in the luncheon, Buster said, "We will be limiting the number of luncheon tickets to 300. Everyone is welcome to watch the entertainment, but if someone wants to have lunch with us, they will have to have a ticket."

Tickets to the luncheon are available at $3 each from the Kentucky Historical Society at the Old Capitol Annex, Frankfort, 40601.

Correction

In last week's Mercury in the cutlines under the Nicholas County Education Association Installation Tea picture, some of the teachers offices were incorrectly stated or left out. They are: Mrs. Charity Griffith, president elect; Mrs. Vicki Pumphrey, president; Mrs. Kay Wills, secretary; and Mrs. Brenda Anderson, treasurer.

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1960 Ford 641 gas.....
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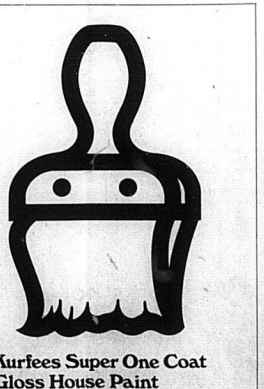

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