Opinion

The hidden costs of big government

It doesn't take much persuasion to convince most of us that the cost of big government is outlandishly excessive. We feel it, we see it, and we pay for it in our local, state and federal government taxes.

Now, however, we are just beginning to learn that the true picture is worse than we thought. In addition to the direct costs of big government extracted from us in taxes, there is an additional "hidden tax" we are forced to pay, just as excessive and just as burdensome.

The bad news comes by way of a study which is even now in its initial stages, conducted by the National Association of Manufacturers. The purpose of the survey: to discover, if possible, what "hidden" costs are imposed by government regulation and bureaucratic red tape.

Among the first reports to come in was one from the Dow Chemical Company. Last year, this firm decided to build a new petrochemical plant. To date, not a single board, nail, concrete block or any kind of construction is in place. But, already, it has cost Dow over $1.3 million to fill out government forms to over 60 different government regulatory agencies.

General Motors reports that their NAM-requested survey reveals that no less than 23,000—that's twenty-three thousand—people on their payroll are working full-time just to fill out hundreds of thousands of government forms. The cost to you? According to the initial figures, over $200 for every automobile that you buy.

Senator Paul Fannin of Arizona, in a recent speech in the Senate, cited estimates all the way up to $130 billion a year in direct and indirect costs to American consumers, brought about by "regulatory overkill." And every penny (and dollar) of it is added to the cost of things you buy.

So, the next time you pay your taxes, remember—that is only part of the cost to you for big government. You pay a lot more every time you buy a product or service.

Straight talk on Panama

There are many conflicting opinions about the Panama Canal; but the real question is this: How vital to the future of the United States and the Free World is the Panama Canal? Based on that assessment, what should the U.S. position be?

The answers to both those questions came recently when Adm. John McCain, the former Commander in Chief of all U.S. forces in the Pacific, testified before a House international relations subcommittee. McCain, now retired, said the following:

". . .It is. . .in our national interest to safeguard American passage in the vicinity of strategic islands closer to home—such as the strategic island of Cuba, which stands between us and free passage through Central America via the Panama Canal. We maintain our right of passage through Panama in the same way we protect the Philippines—through seapower.

". . .The United States is virtually an island nation. Some 69 of the 72 vital raw materials we require must be imported to America by ship. Some of these materials, which are crucial to our industry, come from as far away as the Indian Ocean. Thus today, more than ever in our history, we are critically dependent on the sea-lanes for our economic survival—in fact, for our total survival".

McCain noted that, in contrast, the Soviet Union is virtually self-sufficient in raw materials, requiring the importation of only two, tin and rubber, to assure its survival. Yet, paradoxically, the land-locked Soviet Union today, with its hugh merchant marine and navy, is a greater sea power than the U.S.

And the Soviets, through their "Cuban satellite in the Caribbean", said the admiral, "are continuing to increase their influence in the vicinity of the Panama Canal, "a short-cut between the Atlantic and Pacific that is "absolutely essential to the economic strength and military security of the United States."

McCain's conclusion? "It would be a mistake to give the Panama Canal away. It would be dangerous to our security".

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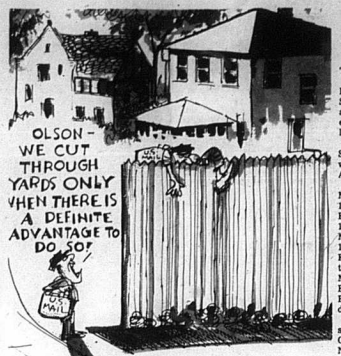


Postal Service Considers Allowing Mailmen To Cut Through Yards
— News Item

Mercury Vapors

by Warren R. Fisher

Stop gap measure

Several weeks ago we picked up a 160.40 megahertz crystal for our scanner. This particular crystal is cut to the frequency of **KIH41** at Lexington. The **KIH 41** broadcast is continuous, thus our scanner stays with the Lexington National Weather station until we lock the number one channel out. We listen to the NOAA station only when we think about it or when the weather looks threatening, so we are prone to call it a stop gap measure.

Hopefully one of these days, UPS will leave an alert activated receiver. Such a device remains silent until a 15-second tone burst is received and decoded (the burst preceeds an alert situation) then activates the device's speaker.

Some may wonder why there is a need for a silent device. Should one attempt to listen to the continuous broadcast, it would not be long before one would either ignore its contents or scale the nearest wall.

In the last few weeks I've probably heard more about the weather than ever before, but can only proclaim I know less about what the weather will do, than before.

Yesterday there was a 40 percent chance of rain today, and today there is a 30% chance of thunder showers increasing to 40% tonight with a 50 percent chance on Wednesday. And Wednesday, well I'll wait and see what the percent will be, but were I a betting person, I'd bet on 100 percent.

For the farmer, the agricultural forecast would seem to be a must.

It would seem that some of our enterprising radio outlets would have been plugging, that is advertising, the NOAA receivers, but if memory serves me right, they've been as silent as a non-activated receiver!

Letters from our readers

To The Carlisle Mercury:

I'd like to thank you and your staff for the wonderful coverage you have given to kindergarten throughout the past 14 years. Through the years I have cut out and saved the many pictures and articles you've printed in the Mercury. I know they will mean even more to me as time passes.

Kindergarten will always have a special place in my heart. I'm indebted to the Jr. Woman's Club, the many parents, library board and many others too numerous to mention, for the many nice things done for me and kindergarten throughout the 14 years. I appreciated the lovely reception, the telephone calls and letters I have received. I'm most grateful to the parents for sharing their precious children with me for 3 hours a day There have been 255 of them and I've loved them all.

I wish the Jr. Woman's Club and Mrs. Bill Guthrie much, much success and best wishes as they continue to serve the community with their kindergarten.

I will cherish the memories and relive many good times with the help of the picture from the Mercury. I will continue to love and watch with pride my kindergarten children as they grow and take their places in the world. May God bless them all. Thanks again Mercury Staff.

Sincerely,
"Miss" Dottie Marshall

SAY YOU SAW IT IN THE MERCURY

20 and 40 years ago

Thursday, June 21, 1956

Working around the clock, Brooks Henson, Carlisle Gas Superintendent, Simon Shumate and others, turned off all gas supplies at the meter Tuesday evening following a break in the supply line near Lester Coatney's residence.

Jimmy Sandidge, Charles Vice and Steve Pumphrey left Monday for a week at Cedarmore, the Royal Ambassadors camp near Bagdad.

BORN—To Mr. and Mrs. George Marshall, a son, Michael Wayne, June 14.—To Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Miller, Barterville, a son, Rudy Blaine, June 17.—To Mr. and Mrs. Houston Watkins, Moorefield, a son, William Dave, June 14.—To Mr. and Mrs. John A. Fitzpatrick, Brooklyn, N.Y., a daughter, Patricia Sue, June 1.—To Mr. and Mrs. John Sibert, a daughter, Donna Elizabeth, June 17.—To Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Ludenburg, Lexington, a daughter, Caryol Lynn, June 13.

MARRIED—Miss Wilma Jean Addison, Beattyville, to Charles Yazell, Cincinnati, June 9 in Covington.—Miss Nancy Shannon Scott to Charles Perront, Mayerille, June 10.—Miss Barbara Kathleen McKee to Jimmie Judge, both of Moorefield, June 17.—Mrs. Ruth Smoot Paul to Harold W. Wurtenberg, both of Lexington, Saturday.

DIED—Harry Ennis Day, 63, Covington, Friday.—Mrs. Elizabeth Snodgrass Ward, 73, Monday in Lexington.—William Floyd Gaunce, 52, last Wednesday at his home near Barterville.—Ezekial Lawrence, 78, Friday in Mt. Sterling.—Mrs. Emma L. Perrin, 82, Tuesday at her home.—Mrs. Mary Lou Blake Cavanaugh, 52, at her home in Mt. Sterling.

Thursday, June 18, 1936

James Hardin has completed his new residence on Broadway and he and his family will move to their home within a few days.

G.E. Duncan and Malcolm Armstrong have leased the building of Mrs. M.T. Ruddell on Main Street and will operate a general dry cleaning and pressing business in addition to upholstering and furniture repairing and radio repair work.

The fruit crop in this section will be one of the smallest in many years, hundreds of trees having been killed by the cold weather last winter. Buds on other trees were blighted by cold weather in the early spring. Farmers say there will be few if any blackberries.

The contractors have started the final surface treatment of the Mt. Olivet and Blue Licks Road, and day and night shifts of men are being used in the work.

The price of potatoes is higher than at any time in several years. They are retailing on the local market for more than $3 per bushel.

The Nicholas Fiscal Court, at a meeting last week, voted to purchase a traveling crusher and motorized grader.

R.M. Smith and J.A. Standiford were named directors of the new soil conservation program at elections held this week in Magisterial Districts 1 and 2.

MARRIED—Miss Elizabeth Lodge of New York City and Lieutenant James B. Leer of Carlisle, last Saturday afternoon in the Holy Trinity Church in New York.

Farm and Home

County extension agents
Estil J. Noffsinger
Sharon Alexander
Mrs. Margie Wilson

NOAA Weather Radio

The very latest in weather information at any time of the day or night is now available to Nicholas county residents at the twist of a radio dial.

By tuning to 162.400 megahertz on the public service radio band, you can hear the current local forecast, extended weather outlook, hourly weather, radar reports, agricultural weather information, and severe weather warnings—no night, they've been as silent as a non-activated receiver!

This new service is called NOAA Weather Radio — NOAA (the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) is the parent agency of the National Weather Service. The Weather Service and the Commonwealth of Kentucky have just installed nine transmitters, each serving an area within some 50 miles of the transmitter site, to broadcast weather information statewide. The transmitter for this section of the state is at Lexington.

Frequencies assigned to NOAA Weather Radio are not on the regular AM or FM broadcast band. Instead, they are all near 162 megahertz in the public service band, along with frequencies used by police and mobile telephones. Many Nicholas countians already own multi-band radio receivers which will pick up the weather broadcasts, while others may want to buy them — they sell for as low as $12.

Warning of impending severe weather is a feature of NOAA Weather Radio which will interest many county residents. These warnings, broadcast shortly after the Weather Service receives the information, will be preceded by a special 10-second tone which will automatically turn on certain types of radio receivers. If you have one of these special receivers, which are somewhat more expensive than the regular multi-band ones, the tone will turn it on so that you will hear about tornadoes or severe thunderstorms soon after such conditions are sighted in the area. Regular multi-band receivers will, of course, have to be turned on manually for such warnings to be heard.

Farmers in this county will be particularly interested in the agricultural weather information provided by NOAA Weather Radio. This includes crop spraying conditions, hay cutting forecasts, soil temperatures and various other seasonal advisories, updated as necessary.

Keep Mower Blades Sharp

Keep the blade of your rotary lawn mower sharp. You'll have a machine that's safer to use and that guzzles up less gasoline.

Most accidents with lawn mowers happen because of the constant pushing and pulling you have to do when the blade is dull. Instead of slicing the grass quickly and cleanly, the dull blade beats it off. This makes the engine work harder, too, so that you're using more gas and oil.

Another reason for keeping a blade sharp is that a lawn will look better when the grass is cleanly cut. Mower blades are made of high-carbon tempered steel. You can sharpen them with a grinder as long as you are careful not to get the metal too hot.

Again this year the Chappaquiddick Chatauqua Forum is conducting a non-partisan survey to find out how its favorite son is making out on the campaign trail. This great truth-searching foundation sends out questionnaires only to reliable soothsayers and camp followers, so it will get the right answers. The questionnaire asks:

1. Teddy Kennedy decided not to run for president because: (a) Jackie will want to marry him if he's elected, (b) he's too busy taking swimming lessons, (c) he's saving himself for greater things, (d) he thinks he should be appointed by an act of Congress.

2. If drafted, his platform would be: (a) to abolish such four-letter words as F-o-r-d, g-u-n-s, a-r-m-y, l-o-s-e, w-o-r-k, (b) and such three-letter words as w-a-r, G-O-P, H-H-H.

3. He has the qualifications to be president because: (a) he inherited them, (b) he sat on his brother's knee when Jack was president, (c) he can buy West Virginia, too, (d) he has never been a vice-president.

4. After the nomination, his platform in the November election will be: (a) peace at any price, (b) mystique and charisma roll-ons, (c) short memory of voters, (d) he doesn't need one.

5. The country needs Teddy because: (a) he is from Massachusetts, (b) he is more honest than Spiro Agnew, (c) he is less ruthless than Attila the Hun, (d) he has no hair transplant scars.

6. Gerald Ford should have a chance to get it right because: (a) he has fully recovered from his old football injuries, (b) he wants to finish his language course so he can understand Henry Kissinger, (c) he is four years behind in his vetoes, (d) he wants to make up for pardoning Nixon.

7. He deserves to be elected president because: (a) he gave at the office, (b) to keep Rocky out of the White house, (c) he doesn't have any crooked (or honest) friends, (d) he opposes forced busing when he's in Boston or Louisville.

8. Ronald Reagan should win because he: (a) is too old for leading man movie roles, (b) would balance the budget by printing more $2 bills than $1 bills, (c) put welfare bums to work in government jobs, (d) would patrol the Panama Canal with Green Berets on water skiis.

9. If elected president, Reagan would: (a) pardon Gerald Ford, (b) hire a Secretary of State who speaks with an American accent, (c) keep all government money at Fort Knox away from congress free-spenders, (d) would stop crime in the street by forcing it indoors.

10. Jimmy Carter will win on the first ballot because: (a) he has no platform to confuse delegates, (b) he will pass out free bags of peanuts at the door, (c) he has a direct line to the man upstairs, (d) he has no cavities.

11. He has the qualifications to be president because: (a) he was awarded the Good Conduct Medal, (b) he knows how to talk without saying anything, (c) he was never a member of the Ku Klux Klan, (d) his sister is on his side.

12. Hubert Horatio Humphrey will step in when time is right because: (a) he has never missed a cue or forgot a punch line, (b) he will have to run for senator if he does't get top billing, (c) someone may leave the door unlocked, (d) he is able to leap over tall Republicans in a single bound.

13. President Humphrey will handle the energy crisis by: (a) offering the Arabs sand castles, (b) using tricks Lyndon Johnson taught him, (c) become a Moslem, (d) harnessing hot air.

14. George Wallace deserves a crack at the Big Apple because: (a) he will change the complexion of Washington's pointed heads by giving them red necks, (b) he has the prettiest wife, (c) he will balance the budget with lodge raffles, (d) just because.

15. If he is elected he will: (a) move out of Alabama, (b) open the East Wing restrooms to taxi drivers, (c) pardon Jeff Davis, (d) bring only good old boys to Washington.

16. He would solve the energy crisis by: (a) guaranteeing a chopping axe in every woodshed, (b) offering the Arabs a Disneyland East, (c) burning old Hubert Humphrey speeches, (d) developing a car that runs on hominy grits.

17. Morris Udal should upset the front runners because: (a) he looks Lincolnesque, (b) if you take out the d, it leaves U-all and that ought to carry the South, (c) corporations are not making illegal contributions to his campaign, (d) he more closely relates to taxpayers—broke.

18. Jerry Brown could be the darkhorse because: (a) as a late starter, he runs in the shade of the others, (b) he is trying to get out of California before it falls off into the ocean, (c) he has voted getting magic-ques carnival mirrors in voting booths, (d) he started out on a white horse but the LA smog discolored it.

19. Frank Church wants to be president because: (a) he can keep the FBI, CIA and IRA from knocking on your door after midnight, (b) he wants to move Washington to Boise, Idaho, where he can keep an eye on it, (c) he is running out of witch-hunts and is now trying to spook voters, (d) it is the only way Church and state will be brought together in our form of government.

20. Then you take Fred Harris: (a) Fred who?, (b) he my guest, (c) only if he can sing as pretty as his brother, Phil, (d) whatever happened to that fellow?

21. The GOP ticket will be: (a) Ford-Connally, (b) Ford-Reagan, (c) Reagan-Dale Robertson, (d) Ford-Lincoln-Mercury.

22. The Dems ticket will be: (a) Carter-Wallace, (b) Kennedy-Cutty Sark, (c) Humphrey-Geritol, (d) Udall-Uhaul.

23. Howard Hughes will not be a write in candidate because: (a) he is busy writing wills, (b) he refuses disinterment, (c) where could he find a contributor to his campaigan like Howard Hughes, (d) no one believes he is dead, so who'd believe he was alive.

24. A write-in ticket that could win would be: (a) Donny and Marie, (b) Charlie Brown and Snoopy, (c) Nixon and Rooster Cogburn, (d) Teddy and Charo.

25. I have not completed this survey because: (a) I'm giving up politicians during Lent, (b) you got more honest answers than honest questions, (c) I'd rather make a contribution to send Teddy Kennedy to camp, (d) I'm getting sick.

Onward, upward.

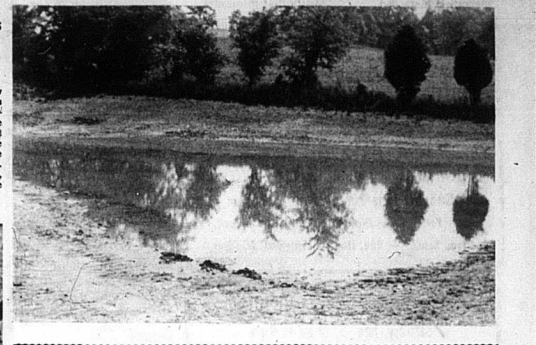
Russ Metz!
Who? Why? What?
Survey tells all
about the candidates

Slow pitch tournament July 3-5

The Mt. Olivet Lions Club is sponsoring a mens slow-pitch soft ball tournament Saturday, Sunday and Monday, July 3,4, and 5 at the Mt. Olivet Recreation Park.

Anyone interested should contact Larry Allison before noon or after 11 p.m. at night at 289-2321.

Environmental Center progresses at High School



This pond has been built at the new Environmental Center at the Nicholas County High School. The Environmental Center will make use of the approximately 36 acres of land not presently being used at the school. The center will include in additics to the pond, an orchard and a bird sanctuary. Students will be able to study birds, trees, fish and participate in nature projects.—Mann photo.

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6 JACKETS BY JOCKEY
Dad will enjoy these on cool summer nights and Mom will love laundrying time—$12.00

7 GOLF WEAR BY JOCKEY
Shirts—$9.50 to $15.00; Slacks $26.00. A choice of colors and styles.

Carter's Men's Clothier Carlisle, Ky

Pictured is one of the 21 fruit trees planted recently at the Nicholas County High School. The environmental center orchard is planted in the shape of an N which is 180 feet tall and 130 feet wide.—Audra Mann photo

Gary McCord receives degree

Gary Clyde McCord of the Myers Station Road in Nicholas County received a Bachelor of Business Administration Degree from the University of Kentucky at graduation exercises in May.

McCord, the son of Mr. and Mrs. J.C. McCord of Fleming County, is married to the former Brenda Puckett and they are the parents of a daughter, Julie.

Vacation Bible School
June 21-25
8:30 A.M. - 11:30 A.M.
Ages 3 - 16
First Baptist Church
Backyard Bible School each evening at 6:00 P.M.
At
Green Valley Apartments and Sexton's Trailer Court

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