Opinion

Officials and reporters erred in net report

The Enterprise sports writer Tom Adams, the Paris radio station, and the officials who made the report to the State High School Basketball Commissioner, erred in reporting the circumstances of the altercation between Nicholas County and Bourbon County during their district game Feb. 28.

Clifford Thompson not Dwaine Williams as was reported, charged Craig Summers, and was then kicked by him. Thompson then kicked Summers and both benches emptied as was reported.

Earlier in the game, several sources have stated Williams and Bourbon County's Tony Sims had been rather aggressive with each other.

But, Williams was expelled from the game and given a technical foul for the Thompson-Summers confrontation.

Nicholas County Superintendent Don Elder said Monday that there are no hard feelings on either side. Nicholas County players were in contact with Bourbon County players the next day, and discussed the altercation. And, Mr. Elder said Coach Bobby Jenkins has talked with the Bourbon County Principal and Athletic Director and both have assured him that Nicholas and Bourbon will continue to play ball with each other.

Both teams were fired up for a district tournament win, and tempers got out of hand. This was definitely unfortunate for both teams.

In most peoples' minds its been accepted as just that, and we Nicholas County fans wish Bourbon County the best of luck in regional play this week.

Give blood Monday

On Monday, March 13, the Nicholas County Ministerial Association will sponsor a Bloodmobile at the Carlisle United Methodist Church Annex between the hours of 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Persons interested in donating should contact Rev. Herman Kamlage at 289-5502 or Rev. Eugene White at 289-5266.

The supply of blood to patients in local hospitals has been limited these past two months. The weather has prevented the Blood Center from sending out staff to collect blood donations and it has prevented regular donors from getting to the sites where Bloodmobiles were held. Recently, an outbreak of flu has lowered the number of eligible donors and this, combined with the weather, has created a critical shortage.

The Central Kentucky Blood Center supplies an average of 125 pints of blood each day to patients in 33 hospitals throughout Central Kentucky. This is the normal daily amount, which must be available to meet regular demands and does not include the extra amount needed in times of emergency. Since blood can only be available in the amount that it is given, some surgeries had to be cancelled or postponed.

This year, approximately 364 pints of blood will be transfused to Nicholas County residents. The Central Kentucky Blood Center is the regional blood center responsible of the supply of this blood to these residents.

A person who donates blood once a year can assure that blood will be available for their self, their spouse, their children up to age 18, their parents, and parents-in-law, regardless of where they live. They also help to make sure that blood will be available for other Nicholas County residents by helping the county reach its goal (this covers all Nicholas Countians even if they can't give or won't).

Most hospitals require that blood be replaced by the patient or patient's family. Some hospitals require that a fee be paid if that blood is not replaced. If a Nicholas County resident uses blood, under the blood donor program, that blood will be replaced. All they need to do is to contact Rev. Kamlage, Rev. White, or the Central Kentucky Blood Center by calling 1-606-422-9528, toll free.

The Nicholas County Blood Donor Program, sponsored by the Nicholas County Ministerial Association, helps to guarantee that blood will be available. To become a part of this program, contact Rev. Kamlage at 289-5502 or Rev. White at 289-5266 and make plans to donate on Monday, March 13.

Middle income taxpayer bears tax burden

Old myths die hard, but one is fading fast. This particular myth holds that the poor bear the burden of taxes and costs of government while the rich dodge through "loopholes" and escape them.

To most of us "the rich" means someone else. It's only human, therefore, for most of us to favor shifting the tax burden from our own shoulders and onto someone else's.

But the fact is that the so-called "rich" actually includes the middle class wage earner — people like you and me.

This is where the facts have been overlooked or misinterpreted. In 1975 the top half of the taxpaying public paid nearly 93 per cent of the total tax bill. One-half of this came from the top ten percent of the taxpayers.

That "top ten percent" included those people earning $23,420 or more. In today's economy, $23,000 scarcely sounds like the income of a Rolls Royce owner with a diamond stickpin in his silk cravat.

The top 25 percent of 1975 taxpayers included people who earned $15,898. They paid nearly three-fourths of the tax bill.

Consequently, it's really the $15,000-a-year breadwinner who's being asked to provide expanded unemployment benefits that sometimes encourage people not to work.

He's asked to bear the burden of increased Social Security taxes and the cost of President Carter's energy program, should it be approved. He's also asked to provide the money the government needs to expand its welfare programs.

More importantly this income group could be faced with the responsibility for the entire cost of government and all its programs in the very near future.

The costs are high and getting higher all the time. In 1930 federal, state and local governments combined took 10 cents of every dollar earned in the United States. One-third of this went to Washington.

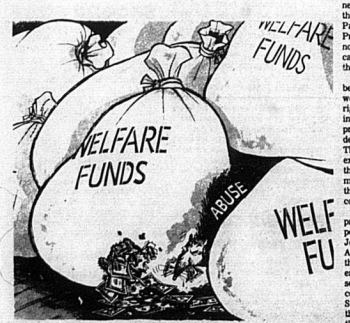
Today these governments require 44 cents of every dollar earned and two-thirds goes to Washington.

In the past 20 years government spending has risen 340 percent. (It's interesting to note in the face of so much government criticism that during this same 20-year period, corporate profits increased 105 percent and wages and salaries increased 213 percent.)

It's apparent, then, that the government has become an enormous burden to the productive sector of the economy. This means the average taxpayer. As the Internal Revenue Service statistics prove, it isn't only the millionaires who feel the pinch.

In 1975 there were about 1,150 people who earned a million dollars or more. Together, the taxes collected from this group amounted to only about a billion dollars. At current spending rates that would keep government in business about one day.

Let's not let Uncle Sam forget who's footing his bills the other 364 days a year. — Ashland News



Letters from our readers

To The Carlisle Mercury:

I am taking the liberty of writing you to ask for your consideration of the two Panama Canal treaties before the United States Senate.

During my service in the Senate, and as a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, I followed the negotiations for a new treaty between the United States and the Republic of Panama, which were supported by Presidents Johnson, Nixon, Ford and now President Carter. I have studied carefully the existing treaty of 1903, and the two new proposed treaties.

Like you and all Americans, I have been concerned that the new treaties would assure to the United States the right to defend the Canal and its interests. One of the new treaties provides to the United States primary defense rights until December 31, 1999. The second new treaty, as does the existing treaty of 1903, guarantees to the United States the authority to maintain permanently the defense of the neutrality, open use, and thus our continuing protection of the Canal.

I believe firmly the new treaties provide to the United States the right to permanently defend the Canal. The Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marines have stated that approval of the treaties will enhance our security. The treaty of 1903 served its time and purpose but no country today, certainly not the United States, would grant to another country the right to own and control a strip through its territory. We have the opportunity to demonstrate our fairness to small as well as large countries and thereby increase our confidence in the strength of our country, and its free and democratic system, unique in the world.

With appreciation for my association with the people of Kentucky over many years, and best wishes,

Yours sincerely,
John Sherman Cooper
2900 N St. N.W.
Washington, DC 20007

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If they'd ask us, we don't like the UMW ultimatum either

by S. C. Van Curon

What next?

The United Mine Workers of America issued an ultimatum to the people of the United States over the weekend, and a few individual miners issued President Jimmy Carter an ultimatum.

We expected President Carter to issue his ultimatum to the miners yesterday . . . back to work under the Taft-Hartley Act.

This sets up a test of strength in this nation.

Are 160,000 United Mine Workers more important than the other 200-plus million citizens in this country?

The miners in effect are saying they are.

There is no argument here against the UMWA representatives going back to the bargaining table with representatives of the Bituminous Coal Operators Association. Up to this past weekend, the procedures for arriving at a new contract between the two adversaries have been followed to the best of my knowledge according to the contract and the rules governing labor disputes.

The thistle in the roses now is that the UMWA members, or at least some of the more militant ones, are saying they are not going back to work under the Taft-Hartley Act that says the miners must return to work and have another 80 days of negotiations. In effect, they are defying the United States Government.

This is just part of the problem. The more serious part involves the remainder of the mine working force of this nation. Less than 50 per cent of the coal miners are members of the UMWA. Others belong to the Southern Labor Union, the Progressive Mine Workers Union, and some are non-union.

The UMWA has negotiated a separate contract in Kentucky with the Pittsburg-Midway Company in Western Kentucky.

The question is will the striking UMWA members try this rough-house picketing on these other coal miners to try to keep them from work. This nation is in dire need of coal.

Over the weekend, I read a lot about the strike, and it was well covered by newspapers, and I listened to radio and television. There are some radicals that say they will defy the United States Government and refuse to return to work. The inference in some of their voices was that they are not going to allow any other miners to work and try to drive this nation into a position that the people will have to be subservient to the UMWA.

In all fairness, this group of militants is in the minority. Several who voted against acceptance of the contract said they would return to work under the Taft-Hartley Act, and others seemed afraid to express their feelings.

UMWA members turned down the contract because the health benefits are not as good as their last contract. They will be forced to contribute under the proposed contract to their health insurance program, just as millions in business and industry do today.

Everybody wants to get this labor dispute settled as quickly and as peaceably as possible without any infringement upon the rights of the UMWA members.

But when they defy the United States Government and destroy private property to keep other miners from going to their jobs, then it's time for the governments to act — both state and national.

The members of other mine unions and the non-union members have just as much right to go to their jobs as the UMWA members have to stay away from theirs.

The UMWA has no right to bully and badger other workers with such tactics as beating miners wanting to work, destroying trucks, tipples and railroads, or stopping trucks and forcing them to dump their coal.

This is supposed to be a nation of law and order. It is incumbent upon the governors and the President of the United States to protect mine owners and miners who want to work from a gang of destructive hoodlums.

Hitler seizes Austria

Thursday, March 13, 1958

Roger Womack, chairman of the Nicholas County Hospital board, has announced the resignation of Miss Doris Cloyd as administrator of the local hospital. Miss Cloyd will assume her duties with the Bourbon County Hospital as hospital administrator April 1.

Mrs. Don Ray Smith, has taken a position with Faye's Cut & Curl Beauty Salon.

Everett M. Smith, prominent young businessman of Carlisle, who has been ill for the past three weeks, is scheduled for surgery today in Cincinnati.

Paul Garrett will have charge of the Carlisle Rotary program tonight at the Masonic Hall. His subject will be "Trade Associations".

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Hughes of Ewing, will be married 58 years Saturday, March 15. They live in the same house in which they went to housekeeping.

BORN — To Mr. and Mrs. Billy Allen Tincher, a son, James Clay, March 9. — To Mr. and Mrs. Charles Herbert Allison, a daughter, Kathy Jean, March 4 in Paris. — To Mr. and Mrs. Meredith Evans, a daughter, Karen Lynn, March 6.

DIED — Alfred Motch, 79, Wednesday in Middlesboro. — Frank Tyrer of Birmingham, Mich., Sunday, a brother of Lew Tyrer. — Joe Martin, 74, at his home in Hamilton, Ohio, Saturday. — H. Clay Hellman, 77, Sunday at his home. — Edward Phillip Wagoner, 80, Tuesday in Paris. — Mrs. Cyde Clark Scott, 88, Thursday in Lexington. — Mrs. Ella Davis Archdeacon, 78, Saturday. — Elisha Crowe, 60, Saturday at his home near Sherburne. — Mrs. W. C. Dodson, Saturday in Somerset. — Nelson Robert Crump, 75, Clark County, Friday in Lexington.

Thursday, March 17, 1938

Defying all of the European countries, Adolph Hitler seized Austria Saturday and proclaimed the union of Austria and Germany.

Preliminary organization of the Nicholas County Fish and Game Club was completed Tuesday night by a group of sportsmen at a meeting held at the courthouse. E. E. Pfanstiel was elected president, and Everett Smith, secretary of the organization.

Barefoot and Drayton school students will be transported to the Headquarters consolidated school and the two schools were ordered closed by the Nicholas County board Saturday.

Notices are being served approximately 300 property owners in the county to appear before the tax assessment board to show cause why their assessments should not be increased. The state tax commission ordered an increase of approximately $65,000 on farm lands and town lots.

Measles in an epidemic form has struck Carlisle and a number of students in the city school are suffering the disease.

Lee Hollar of the Saltwell section, brought to this office last week, a curiosity found on a stalk of corn. Instead of an ear of corn growing on the stalk, a custer of tiny ears was found. The cluster contained about 50 tiny ears, most of them being almost perfectly formed.

BORN — To Mr. and Mrs. George Bowles, March 10, a daughter. — To Mr. and Mrs. Millard Feeback, a daughter, Feb. 24. — To Mr. and Mrs. J. Malcolm Berry of Tunnell Hill, a son, March 15.

MARRIED — Miss Louise Miller Tilton and Carruth M. McGraw, all of Lexington, Thursday in Lexington.

DIED — John Golden at his home in Jacksonville Tuesday morning. — Mrs. Minnie Davis Daltell, 71, Monday at her home in Lapel, Ind. — Mrs. Fannie Dinsmore, 67, at her home Monday.

Mercury Vapors

by Warren R. Fisher

57 days the way I count

Yes, it was 57 days before I could see three-quarters of the carport drive way, but wasn't it a beautiful warm day Monday compared to the past 50 plus days.

The warmth of the sunshine held forth the promise of Spring, even though what we all woke up to Tuesday morning seemed to shatter those dreams.

Snow at 5:30 o'clock was coming down like Nature was using a bucket to pour the white stuff, and at the risk of being ostracized, it too was beautiful. It covered up all that old dirty looking melted snow and slush, and if I am to believe NOA there will be sleet, a mixture of sleet and snow, and then rain today and tonight. Oh, well, you can't win 'em all!

* * *

Now I know I should have read my electric meter at the K-frame Monday while the thaw was on — there's small chance that I would attempt it today! Maybe I can get the job done by the tenth, which is when Harrison County Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation likes their money.

* * *

Haunting statement

Last year in the Spring I made a statement (at a Lake Carnico sewage plant meeting) to the effect that my plant had never had the power shut down for any great length of time except for routine maintenance, all of which means it is running this winter just as if we were down there. Frankly I think that half horse power electric motor that drives the pump uses too much juice even when it's set at five minutes every half hour. There are lots of other things, I think, but for my best interests, I'll not think them on this sheet of paper. —MV—

Headlines in The Herald

Headlines Tuesday like:

"Carter gets tough on UMW, hopes to scare miners into ending strike", (is he joking?); "History, provisions of Taft-Hartley", the law has been invoked 34 times, the 35th being by President Jimmy Carter. Now we'll see what kind of metal the "peanut" farmer is made of! "State stays mum on plans to see order enforced", as the article states, it's a waiting game — disorder must occur before order can prevail. "Motorcycle gang rides shotgun. . .", Paramount Mining Corp., Norton, Va., president Jim Brown is fighting fire with fire. As he said in an UPI story, "My philosophy is the meaner the pickets are, the meaner the extra drivers are." "They (UMW) get mean, er pickets, I get meaner extra drivers."

Brown is making good use of the motorcycle gang called the "Fugueros," hired to ride shotgun for Paramount during the UMW strike.

—MV—

Unusual circumstances

Mrs. L. E. Clinkenbeard has written the following:

Lorie Denise Berry, seven-months-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Berry and John and Kevin Watkins, sons of Mr. and Mrs. Charles W. Watkins, have a very unusual record. Lori has two sets of living grandparents: Mr. and Mrs. O. T. Berry Jr. and Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Clinkenbeard, four living great grandmothers: Mrs. Florence McIlvain, Mrs. Catherine Reid, Mrs. Mary Alice Berry and Mrs. Armintie Clinkenbeard, she also has one great grandfather, Sid McIlvain and a great-great grandmother, Mrs. Gertrude Flora, in addition to this she is the third Berry girl born into that family in approximately 23 years. Her cousins John and Kevin also have two sets of grandparents: Mr. and Mrs. Sanford Watkins, Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Clinkenbeard, four great grandmothers, Mrs. Inez Watkins, Mrs. Gladys Oder, Mrs. Catherine Reid and Mrs. Armintie Clinkenbeard. They also have one great grandfather, Ernest Townsend and a great-great grandmother, Mrs. Gertrude Flora.

Seems unusual that circumstances like these would occur in an immediate family. —MV—

Our door sign

When you see our front office dark you'll know we are trying to save a little bit of electricity.

We're Open
We are trying to save electricity!

It's hard to do here, The Mercury office doesn't have a profusion of windows except on the second story where there's nothing but junk stored, that is, according to some!

Scrapbook presented

Jimmy Carter, owner of Carter's Men's Clothier, is presenting a scrapbook to Nicholas County High School football coach, Ben Pumphrey. The scrapbook, containing clippings from THE MERCURY and surrounding newspapers telling the Blue Jackets' football story of 1977, is being donated by Mr. Carter to the high school and will be placed in the school's library. — Duncan photo.

Ellisville Homemakers meet

The Ellisville Homemakers met at the home of Mrs. Reese Smoot, with Mrs. Thelma Fryman co-hostess, for their regular monthly meeting March 1.

Twelve members and six guests were present. Part of the regular business was conducted in the morning, at which time it was agreed to again welcome all those uninterested in becoming better informed homemakers and willing to work to this end, to become members of our club regardless of race or creed.

Mrs. James Markwell conducted the devotional, reading a poem, "What if Jesus came to your house?"

Mrs. Ralph Marwood gave some pungent pointers relative to truthfulness and what to expect as the result.

Articles for a sunshine box were assembled to be presented to Mrs. Sam Day.

Previous lessons were discussed for the benefit of those who had been absent. The book report for the past three month was taken, 233 books had been read besides magazines and the daily news.

The next meeting will be with Mrs. Ruth Anderson in Carlisle, and all members are looking forward to this date.

Students enrolled in UK Agriculture

There are six students from Nicholas County enrolled this semester in the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture.

The students and the departmental majors they are pursuing include: Priscilla Budden, Animal Science; Philip Gilkison, Ag. Production; Sarah Hughes, Agriculture; Michael Judge, Ag. Education; Robert Tout, Ag. Production; and Hugh Wilson, Agronomy.

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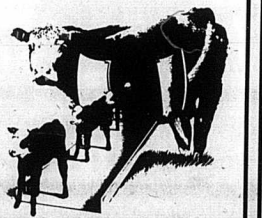

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