

# Opinion

## A tale of two tales

This is a tale of two tales. Two articles that were submitted recently to the Mercury for publication. Both articles were turned in well before the dates involved. Both concerned events of public interest and gave interested persons times and dates of the events. Both articles wanted to use the Mercury as a means of informing the public, a media that is effective and, in these cases, free. But that's where the similarity ends.

Since both articles were submitted more than a week ahead of the events involved it was decided by the Mercury staff to wait a few weeks in order to print other articles that were more timely.

The people who submitted the articles (whom we will call the Complainer and the Questioner) naturally looked for them when they saw the Mercury arrived and when they did not see their articles wanted to know why.

The Complainer called and began complaining, at length. The Complainer's attitude was that any article that they brought in should be printed as soon as possible — and wanted to know why it wasn't. When told the decision was made to hold it a week and then publish it closer to the date of the event concerned the Complainer said that they depended on the Mercury to print the article so that they would not have to contact other members of the organization and let them know the hours and date. This information would have to be passed on to third parties and the Complainer complained that by delaying the article the Mercury prevented this from being done.

In short, the Mercury was expected to carry out the role of secretary to this organization, at no cost whatsoever to the organization. It wasn't enough.

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When asked when the article was left at the office the Complainer replied "Tuesday, before you opened." When told that a simple note or phone call would have prevented the delay and would do so in the future, the Complainer replied, "I've been so busy lately I didn't have the time."

To top it all off, before the notice was finally printed three times of the events involved were changed, meaning that if the article had been printed when the Complainer wanted it printed it would have been incorrect.

Contrast this with the actions of the Questioner. The article, submitted by the Questioner was typed, double-spaced, easy to read and understand and carried a phone number to call for more information. It was for a future date and when the article was delayed there was no indignation phone call. The Questioner saw a Mercury staffer during the normal course of a business day and asked politely if the article would be printed the next week, due to the date involved. When told it would, the Questioner said those two little words the Complainer never thought of: "Thank you."

Now, which of these two handled the situation better and which one would you rather work with?

## Agree or Not

## Truck deal investigated

by S. C. Van Curen  
FRANKFORT — How much scandal and corruption in state government will the citizens of Kentucky tolerate?  
State Auditor George Atkins apparently has had his fill, for he has called upon the Franklin County Grand Jury to investigate an increase of \$22,339 in a contract for truck purchases weeks after the bid was awarded.  
Memories seem to be short in the Finance Department. Purchasing Director Kenneth Medaris once who told him from the Finance Commissioner's office in a telephone call to pay the additional money.  
There were no written records in the file for the increase authorization. Lester Motors of Central City was the successful bidder for 257 chassis for school buses.

However, Howard Woodall, fleet sales manager of Lester Motors said he discovered a \$100 per unit error in his computation weeks after his firm was awarded the low bid. He asked the State to amend the contract to cover a lesser bid which was awarded.  
This similar procedure was used by Lester Motors in a contract previous to the truck deal in which the price was increased by \$29,727. That money has been refunded to the state since it was discovered the manufacturer had made provisions for such a situation.  
A great many people are wondering how much if any other corruption in state government has gone on in the past.

The FBI spent several months in probing purchases, leases, and truck taxes, but this information has not been revealed. U. S. District Attorney General George A. Gettleman has requested the U. S. Attorney General's office to authorize the empaneling of a special Federal Grand Jury to hear the information gathered by the FBI.  
As many as 40 FBI agents were engaged in the investigation that covered several months and was apparently completed in February. There has been no action on Klotz's request.  
Critics of the administration of Governor Julian Carroll are claiming foul, saying that the governor has used his influence with President Carter to delay calling the special Federal Jury until after the election.  
A controversial lease contract on the old Popper Distillery at Lexington was cancelled after the Lexington Herald revealed it. The owners would have received enough rent in four years to pay for the property.  
A proposal that the state lease a proposed building for the State Library was cancelled before it was consummated. The rent would also have paid for this building in a very short time. Carroll's friends in Frankfort made the proposal to construct the building on some land they owned that has not been developed.  
The proposal called for a time when the state already owned a much more attractive site back of the Health Department buildings on East, also handmade of round piece of

**THE MEXICANS ARE WAITING TO ANNOUNCE THE PRICE OF THEIR OIL. HOW MUCH DO YOU THINK IT WILL BE?**

① \$14? ② \$15? ③ \$16? ④ \$17?

**TEXAS**

**THE big—and little—of it**

Two Rhode Islands can almost fit into the 40th largest state, Delaware. On the other hand, Alaska, the largest, state, would have to double its population to match Rhode Island's.

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## Down Memory Lane

## Fishing season now here; local option election sought

(Editor's note: The 20 and 40 years ago column reproduced below should have been placed first on an, says Harry Morgan Street, Wednesday at Nicholas County Hospital. — William Spencer, 83 of Philadelphia, Pa. — Miss Annie M. Berry, 80, of Spycamore Street, Saturday at Nicholas County Hospital. — Mrs. Leann B. Shawhan, 81, Lexington, Monday.

and Mrs. Harold D. Smart, a daughter, Donna Martin, April 3.  
DIED — H. Thomas Griffin, 83, Morgan Street, Wednesday at Nicholas County Hospital. — William Spencer, 83 of Philadelphia, Pa. — Miss Annie M. Berry, 80, of Spycamore Street, Saturday at Nicholas County Hospital. — Mrs. Leann B. Shawhan, 81, Lexington, Monday.

Paul Street, discontinued April 6, 1979.  
Use of the Myers school plant was discontinued late in February after the furnace fire took out the building. The Nicholas County School Board has decided to discontinue the use of the building.  
BIRTHS — To Mr. and Mrs. John R. Andrus, Lexington, a son, John Michael, Thursday, April 2. — To Mr.

uniform for the members of the Carlisle high school band.  
Local buyers are making contracts for the purchase of wool and offering 20 cents per pound.  
Local National Guard unit receives orders to be on duty at Churchill Downs on May 4, Kentucky Derby Day.  
Ralph C. Boar, former agent for the Louisville and Nashville Railroad, has been retired by the company because of ill health.  
DIED — Mrs. Susan Tancy Watson Sr. of Clarkburg, W. Va., at Tucson, Arizona. — Charles Lane Gramma, 46, at his home in Bowling last Thursday morning. — David Patton McClanahan, 69, native of Nicholas County March 30 at his home in Carmi, Ill., following a long illness.

## Little-known Kentucky facts

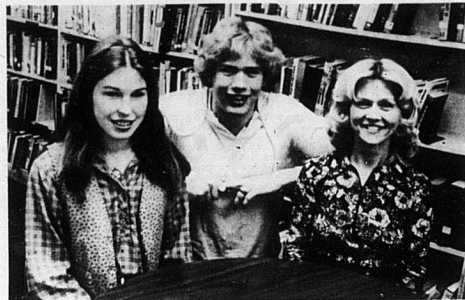
Pomeroy, Ohio in the early 1800s was a few hundred miles from Louisville via the Ohio River. In 1810 the community mined its first coal and transported 1,200 bushels of the fuel to Louisville, where it was sold at 25 cents per bushel.  
In 1846 Maj. Jacob Fowler lived in Covington. When he was 80 a newspaper account said he was an early Indian fighter and that he had "his eye as hard as flint, nor his natural force abated" and that the Kenton Countian "can still pick off a squirrel with his rifle at 100 yards distance."  
Jane Kelly was an infant when her grandfather in Pennsylvania became abandoned for the family's safety in settlement days in Mason County and sent for his son and family. Jane's father was killed enroute to Pennsylvania, but she made it to her grandfather's, where she grew to womanhood and became widely known for her remarkable beauty.  
In the Battle of Perryville, one of the participants was a lad who had run away to join the army at age 10. John Winton (Klem) became known as the Drummer Boy of Salina. At the time he stood 30 inches high and weighed about 60 pounds. Native of Licking County, Ohio, Johnnie Klem also was called Drummer Boy of Chickamauga and when grown stood about five feet tall and weighed 108 pounds.  
Dr. James Webb, native of Kentucky, was one of those who fought in the Revolutionary War as a Virginia soldier and settled in Kentucky in 1790. When Dr. Webb died he left his daughter Lucy who was two years old. Lucy was born in Chillicothe, Ohio, Aug. 28, 1801 and later married Rufus H. Hayes, 19th president of the U. S. Many early records of Harrison County were written by Henry Clay, who was county attorney in 1801.  
In 1811 David Gooding of the Fleming County Goodings, acted as an agent to sell land in Wayne County, Va. Albert barn Gooding had been granted a patent of about 300 acres in 1785.  
An item in the Village Register of West Union, Ohio, noted the marriage in January, 1827 of Mary Kilgore, daughter of Col. Kilgore of Kentucky to John Allen, editor of the Switzerland Gazette, published in Vevray, Ind.



In Eastern Kentucky, early wheat farmers cut their crop by hand with a scythe and cradle, and bound it in sheaves to be threshed by hand with a flax, also handmade of round piece of

**Mercury vapors**  
by Warren R. Fisher

Just some observations...  
Reading "Lolly" Tuesday morning in the comic section and noting the hurry-up call for a psychiatrist since Mr. Quimby had paid his income tax without griping, reminded me that the Kentucky Department of Revenue was a "bill" guy!  
All these people who wait until the last moment to file their income taxes were deprived of using their funds until the last moment when the commissioner of revenue extended the state deadline until Tuesday midnight, April 17. You Can Win!  
One wonders just how much money is saved with the post office's new policy of returning all letters with insufficient postage. True the lack of postage would amount to a sizeable bill, but considering the time and effort expended by postal clerks in returning those epistles with insufficient postage also amount to a whopping bill, YCWI!  
Another pet gripe. The way the politicians jump on the fuel clause — surely they can't all be so dumb — there's no company, municipality, utility or what have you that will absorb the fuel cost at no cost to the consumer.  
The jobs would have one paying fuel costs on the estimated average amount of the cost incurred for purchasing fuel to generate power for all customers including the peak load or demand. As it is, one pays now the fuel cost on the number KWH (kilowatt hours) they use individually not collectively. I suppose one can't deprive the politicians of their "political football," YCWI!  
If you answer the telephone before opening hours. How do you get your customer written?  
I knew the minute I took the receiver down in was in trouble. I don't procrastinate on my taxes, but I sure do when it comes to doing the income tax. YWC!  
Also noted that Robert Penn Warren, Todd County native, won the Pulitzer Prize for the third time. It's now one in fiction and twice in poetry. Mr. Warren, at 73 plus, works four hours a day writing and is well into another book of poetry for his 73th birthday in 1980.  
His philosophy if I interpret correctly... never expect anything until you earn it!  
Now that's the way to work!



Speakers Shelley Gabriel (left) and Jeff Smith competed recently in the state speech contest at the University of Kentucky. Shelley received a medal and a superior rating after competing in three rounds of prose with 21 other students. Jeff received an excellent rating after competing in one round of broadcasting with 70 other students. Their sponsor is Victoria McCormick (right). — Mercury photo.

## Nicholas County High School announces Honor Roll

Nicholas County High School has released the Honor Roll for the third nine-week session.  
Students named for the Honor Roll must attain a grade point average between 3.5 and 4.0 on a scale of 4.0.  
The students, by class, are:  
Freshman: Jane Ann Bradley, Barbara Edwards, Charlotte Fryman, Darlene Green, Melissa Hays, Debra Matson, David McGuffey, Sherry Pryor, Sheri Rayner, Deana Ring, Ronnie Sadler, Stephanie Gannon, Peggy Stewart, Mark Taylor, Dean Woodie, Angle Wilson, Wanda Wilson and Jimmy Wood.  
Sophomore: Todd Allison, Tommy Biddle, Mike Brunner, Sandy Carwell, Mike Dulaney, Jane Dempster, Margaret Duncan, Mark Duncan, Beldora Fryman, Greg Hasey, Pat Knapp, Favored Koury, Arden Livingston, Kelly Mathis, Marsha Martin, Teresa McDonald, W. I. McNabb, Jeff Mitchell, Rose Polard, Sheila Richey, William Stewart, Laura Turpin, and Jeff Vaughn.  
Junior: Mark Baker, Kay Conley, Tommy Crawford, Charlene Darrill, Deanna Darrell, Laura Edwards, Jeff Gabriel, Mary Jane Harper, Vicki Herrington, Dana Howard, D. S. Hughes, Michelle Knapp, G. J. Mathis, Doug McCarty, Sandy McDonald, Cathy Mitchell, Judy Ratliff, Susan Richards, Phillip Rose, Tammy Stewart, Tracy Tolliver, Kathy Wade, Claudia Williams, Martina Woolley, and Teresa Woolley.  
Senior: Chris Baker, Cindy Baker, Pam Bowles, Rose Brunner, Charlene Bussell, Vicki Bussell, Mike Conley, Becca Darringer, Tammy Hales, Pam Hopkins, Harwood Koury, Kathy Lyova, Julie McDonald, Wendell McKee, Tom Moreland, Mitch Stewart, Jeff Stevens, Dominik Smith, Jeff Smith, Doug Tisdler, Donna Vaughn and Tina Wilson.

## Nicholas County Budget and Revenue Sharing Hearing

A public hearing will be held at 10:30 A.M. on May 1, 1979, at the Nicholas County Courthouse to consider use of the Revenue Sharing Funds of Nicholas County in the 1979-80 fiscal year. Listed below are federal regulations pertaining to the County's tentative 1979-80 budget and the expenditures of Revenue Sharing funds contained in the proposed budget.

Section	Purpose	Actual Expenditure Previous Year	Estimated Expenditure Proposed Year	Budget Appropriation
I	General Government	76,339	79,035	98,640
II	Protection to Person and Property	8,201	5,850	8,400
III	Health, Education and Social Services	2,100	2,475	2,475
IV	Hospital, Sanitation and Corrections	23,444	33,700	35,800
V	Libraries and other Educational Activities	12,635	15,872	18,526
VI	Debt Service, General Fund	55,878	66,119	137,500
VII	Maintenance, General Fund	24,456	27,510	108,799
	Total, General Fund	203,033	230,581	410,140
VIII	Highways	324,740	259,877	306,695
IX	Road and Bridge Bond Debt Service			
X	Other Funds (Total from page 17)	161,440	191,223	191,350
XI	Revenue Sharing Fund	63,412	118,318	48,316
	Grand Totals	752,625	799,999	956,501
	Less Principal of Temporary Loans	120,000	60,000	140,000
	Less Withdrawals from Savings Funds			
	Net Expenditure	632,625	739,999	816,501

**ESTIMATED REVENUE FOR REVENUE SHARING FUND**  
1979-80 Fiscal Year

Estimated Cash Balance, July 1, 1979: 5,000

Estimated Receipts, July 1979: 10,423

Estimated Receipts, October 1979: 18,423

Estimated Receipts, January 1980: 3,235

Estimated Receipts, April 1980: 3,235

Estimated Interest Earnings: 48,316

Total Available to be Appropriated: 48,316

**SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATIONS**  
REVENUE SHARING FUND  
(From pages 18 through 24)  
1979-80 Fiscal Year

1 Ordinary and Necessary Maintenance and Operating Expenses	
Public Safety	6,130
Environmental Protection	
Public Transportation	25,000
Health	
Recreation	1,500
Libraries	500
Social Services for the Poor or Aged	1,500
Financial Administration	5,696
	40,316
11 Ordinary and Necessary Capital Expenditures Authorized by Law	
Capital Construction, Maintenance or Equipment	8,000
	48,316

The County's proposed 1979-80 budget and a statement of the proposed uses of Revenue Sharing Funds are available for public inspection at the Office of the County Judge/Executive during normal business hours.  
Interested persons and organizations are invited to the public hearing to submit comments about the proposed uses of the Revenue Sharing Funds as they relate to the County's entire budget (especially the proposed Capital Construction and Maintenance and Operating Expenses) which cannot submit comments or attend the public hearing, but wish to submit comments about the proposed uses of the Revenue Sharing Funds as they relate to the County's entire budget.



Degree winners Winners of the State Homemakers Degree at the state FHA Convention recently were, from left, Vicki Bussell, Shari Rayner, Julie McDonald, Donna Hughes, Kay Conley, Diana Howard, Michelle Knapp and Letha Hardin. Not present when the picture was made was Sharon Turpin. The State Homemaker Degree is the highest honor the Future Homemakers of America can bestow. — Mercury photo.

## Unemployment rate lowers

Employed Kentuckians numbered 99,100 in February, down from the 114,000 without job in January. The February unemployment rate dropped to 6.6 per cent. The January rate was 7.5 per cent.  
"This decrease in unemployment was due primarily to fewer persons being laid off in February and to people previously laid off being called back to work," said Robert Kaufman, chief labor market analyst for the Department of Human Resources.  
The high levels of unemployment experienced during the first quarter of this year are caused by seasonal layoffs, bad weather conditions and national economic conditions, Kaufman said.  
The national rate of unemployment was 6.4 per cent in February. The total number of Kentuckians working in February was 167,100. This labor market analysis for the Department of Human Resources.  
Of those unemployed in February this year, approximately 20 per cent or 30,000 people were out of work due to seasonal factors, about 25 per cent or 24,800 persons were new workers and those re-entering the labor force who were unable to find jobs, and the remaining 45 per cent or 44,300 were unemployed by layoffs influenced by economic conditions.

**Hop to it.**

Don't put it off any longer. Get into a regular exercise program now. It'll not only make you feel better, you'll look better and live longer.

Of course, you should consult your doctor first. Then start jumping rope, walking, bicycling or jogging.

How you take care of your feet directly affects the cost of health care for all of us. In the long run, good health habits are the best form of health care — and the least expensive.

At Blue Cross and Blue Shield and Delta Dental of Kentucky we're concerned about rising health care costs. That's why we're working with consumers, dentists, physicians and hospitals to find ways to hold costs down.

Write us for information on enrolling in quality health care preparation plans. For a free booklet on fitness (don't just write "Food & Fitness Booklet" at the following address: Blue Cross and Blue Shield and Delta Dental of Kentucky, 9901 Linn Station Road, Louisville, KY 40221.

We want you to stay healthy.