

Opinion

Foreign leaf hurting

By Bennett Reech

Foreigners are bringing economic woes for U.S. burley growers, just as foreign markets are on the verge of a collapse. This discouraging outlook is voiced by R.C. (Dick) Travis, who has just completed a \$1000-mile around the world trip in behalf of export promotion for the burley tobacco growers' cooperative Association.

"It simply means the producers are facing the certainty of postage quota cuts, for we're not only going to lose export business, but a lot of our domestic market as well," said Travis, reporting to the Burley Association directors at their July 11 meeting.

Citing increased exports by burley-growing countries around the world, Travis warned that the buildup of such stocks in the inventories of U.S. manufacturers and dealers (now 173 million pounds) means lowered production quotas for U.S. farmers.

Will assembly alter?

By S.C. Van Curen

Kentuckians will have an opportunity to provide for a more flexible legislature when they vote to the polls in November.

The opportunity is provided in a constitutional amendment that will be on the ballot. If approved, the amendment provides for election of legislators in even-numbered years instead of odd-numbered years as presently.

The amendment also changes the definition of a legislative day, allowing the legislature to adjourn for bad weather or for public hearings without such counting as legislative days at present. It also would eliminate Saturdays as a legislative day.

The present constitution calls for 60 successive legislative days, eliminating only legal holidays and Sundays as non legislative days. The legislature rarely convenes on Saturdays. Within the last 20 years, I can recall only one Saturday when the Senate was in session.

The change in legislative days would be effective for the 1980 session.

The even-year election wouldn't become effective until 1981 when the 10 House members and half of the Senate would be elected. Present members, elected this November, would come up for election again in 1981 to serve a three year term. The next election would be 1984. Senators would serve five years for that change-over session and then return to four-year terms and two year terms for the House.

The remaining half of the Senate would be elected to five-year terms and two year terms for the House.

A Legislative Research Commission Study concluded that the change would provide a better informed legislature with a more flexible schedule.

The study pointed out that legislators are now elected less than two months before the legislative session begins. New members therefore go into the session with little knowledge of legislative procedure or what bills will be considered. Re-elected legislators have the benefit of

"Sooner or later this will all come out of your allotments as growers," he warned, and added:

"Something else we need to be aware of is the huge quantities of scrap from the Philippines and elsewhere. It is bound to take its toll from burley. When scrap, stems and dust are rolled out into sludge it makes homogeneous tobacco. It is ideal for making low tar, low nicotine cigarettes, but it displaces leaf, for we're not only going to lose export business, but a lot of our domestic market as well," said Travis, reporting to the Burley Association directors at their July 11 meeting.

Citing increased exports by burley-growing countries around the world, Travis warned that the buildup of such stocks in the inventories of U.S. manufacturers and dealers (now 173 million pounds) means lowered production quotas for U.S. farmers.

Agree or Not

Travis said there are 200 million pounds of excess tobacco leaf in U.S. stocks, with total supply of 1,160 million pounds and the annual disappearance of 600 million, making 13 years supply on hand, compared with the normal 27 years.

In Greece a top-seller brand which Travis formulated for manufacturers there 10 years ago, using U.S. burley, now contains locally-grown burley. Similar changes were noted in Korea, Japan, the Philippines and Hong Kong.

"This follows exactly the pattern of every country that has introduced the burley blend," Travis continued. "And year after year, some of it of good quality, said

having worked on interim committees between sessions where bills have been studied and some prefiled for legislative action.

The amendment provides for a 10-day organizing session in the odd-numbered years. In this session legislators would be assigned to committees and the leadership chosen. Thus new members would have the benefit of the interim committee sessions and to learn legislative procedure as well as study bills and problems they will have to face in the legislature. No time would be wasted in organization since the organizing had been done in the odd-numbered year brief meeting.

The elimination of Saturdays as legislative days also would provide about 10 more working days to the legislative session.

On the average about one third of the legislators are new each session.

The only additional expense the proposed new system would incur is the 10 day organizing session in odd numbered years. This would mean the difference in pay for legislative days instead of interim pay now effective between sessions. This would be minuscule in terms of legislative cost.

The amendment was proposed by House Speaker William Kenton and approved by the session and then returned to the legislature.

The proponents of the measure point to the advantages listed above.

There is some skepticism among some of the legislators although the majority approved submitting the amendment to the electorate.

The opponents, the skeptic legislators, point out to their colleagues that "you'll be up for reelection following a legislative session." They also point out this is when the electorate is well aware of how the legislator voted. "There isn't time for the electorate to forget," the opponents claim.

Doing away with Saturdays would stretch the legislative session up into late March and the primary in its late May, just two months from the June election.

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Down Memory Lane

Straw is scholarship winner; Barton bit by copperhead

Thursday, August 6, 1959

The annual hospital benefit dinner will be served from 6 to 9 p.m. Friday at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Edzie Ashby.

William Roger Straw, son of County Agent and Mrs. "Straw," has been selected the winner of the American Society for Mental's 1959-1960 Merit-Scholarship award at the University of Kentucky at Lexington.

Billy Barton of Carlisle is recovering at his home from the effects of being bitten by a copper head snake while at work at Elliott County last week.

Comptroller reduction of relief rolls of the WPA in Kentucky will cause 41 to lose their jobs in Nicholas County.

Ernest Ward of Carlisle, who has been employed in the Railway Mail Service at Cincinnati for the past three years, has been transferred to St. Louis and left Monday for that place to take up his new duties.

BORN — To Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Glavin of Paris, a daughter, Mischel Denise, July 27 in Lexington. — To Mr. and Mrs. Warren T. Wilson, a son, Aug. 4. — To Mr. and Mrs. Michael Allen Hunter, a daughter, Elaine Allen, July 29. — To Mr. and Mrs. Billy Earls, a son, Don Avery, Aug. 2. — To Rev. and Mrs. Ben Cain, a son, Bobby Paul, Aug. 1.

MARRIED — Miss Pamela Hall of Covington and Bobby Gene Kenney of Saltwell, Aug. 1 in Jellico, Tenn. — Miss Dorothy Jean Davis, Carlisle, and Bobby Gerald Bretz, Meyer, Aug. 1 at the home of Willie Hammond's. — Miss Gladys Flora of Harrison County and Bradley Earlwyne, July 27 at the home of Rev. Preston Jones.

DIED — William James Kenney, 60, Friday at his home in Lexington. — Isaac Roberts, Paris, Sunday in Nicholasville. — Mrs. Dudley Bette Balfour, 70, Ovingville, at her home in Washington, D.C. — Mrs. Pearl Barnes Brother, 82, Ovingville, in Atlanta, Ga. — Mrs. Rose Evans Kokenedoffer, 81, at the home of her son, George Kokenedoffer, Friday.



Mercury vapors

by Warren R. Fisher

The biggest since the last one!

At the Southern States Cooperative fish fry Monday evening someone asked if there would be a lot of flood pictures in the Mercury this week. I replied, I hoped there would be a few, but not too many.

One might say the flash flood last Thursday morning was the biggest Carlisle had experienced since June 27, 1959, before that it was 1929, and "The Flood" was Aug. 27, 1920 according to Mercury records. That was when all the lumber got loose and jammed against one of the bridges causing much loss of property.

When I asked Jeff to develop the roll of film I told him I was about 1 1/2 stops under exposed and to develop accordingly. Some of the negatives came out right on the nose and others were extremely dense.

On some of the dense negatives I tried Farmer's reducer and was able to get a picture of Jewel Viced and a crew of workmen checking a timber pile and tying same so their lumber could get away and dam-up against a bridge.

The picture on page one showing West Main Street during the 1950 flood was taken about 3:30 a.m. I spent about an hour looking for the old negative, then had to make the prints on the 35 mm enlarger in three sections. The conglomeration was too large for the copy board of the process camera and had to be taped to the outside of the glass. Exposure had to be hurried as heat from the camera's lamps made the three pictures curl, but happily the reproduction will be sans curl.

In case you didn't know... —WV—

It's back to school on Aug. 20, and the last issue before school starts in Aug. 16, just two issues away.

—WV—

He's with the Army!

Thursday afternoon Mrs. James R. Brady phoned to tell me the reason the Belton, Texas post office couldn't deliver the Mercury to Mr. Howard. He was in the Armed Services and had moved three weeks ago.

As per Mrs. Brady's request, we'll forward the remaining issues of his subscription to her.

IN QUOTES

Parents are the last people on earth who ought to be in charge of their children —SAM BUTLER

France became dominant in the 18th century in the glass-making field with the invention of a process for casting glass. French plate glass was used to make the Galeries des Glaces at Versailles.

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Saltwell

by Mrs. Fred Hollar

Mrs. Gladys Kenney and Mrs. Violet Lawson of Covington spent several days the past week at Wilmore Camp meeting.

Mrs. Sterling Holter and Mrs. Kenneth Gaunce accompanied Mrs. Lillie Patterson to her home in Clarksville, Tenn. on Saturday after several weeks visit with Mr. and Mrs. Sterling Holter.

Mrs. Brady's nephew Dale Fryman at St. Joseph Hospital, Lexington, on Monday night. Dale was badly injured in a truck accident while visiting Mr. and Mrs. Richard Cain spent Sunday with his sister Mrs. Golda Kewit of Manchester, Ohio.

Mr. and Mrs. Keith McCord and son of Chatham spent Sunday with Mrs. Everett Gaup.

Bobby Gene Price ended Nicholas County hospital on Tuesday and underwent surgery on Wednesday morning. He had many visitors on Sunday and during the week.

Mr. and Mrs. Lucien Grey, Paris and Mrs. and Mrs. J. Hinkle and daughter visited Mrs. Andrew Grey on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. J.E. Adams Jr. and two daughters of near Georgetown, Mr. and Mrs. David Doyle, Mr. and Mrs. Donnie Doyle and others visited Mr. and Mrs. Orville Doyle the past week.

Miss Amy Feaback spent a couple days the past week with Mr. and Mrs. Guss Adams and family, Sunday.

Andy Gaunce spent the past week with Mr. and Mrs. Freddie Gaunce, who accompanied him home on Sunday and spent the day with Mr. and Mrs. Bonnie Gaunce and family, Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hollar spent Sunday with Mrs. and Mrs. James T. Earls, Millersburg, on Sunday.

They also visited several patients at Nicholas Co. Hospital and Nursing home in the afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Harris and baby of Ft. Thomas spent Saturday night and Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Strander Holter and some Mrs. Fide Gaunce and baby and Merv Hollar were also Sunday visitors.

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Kennedy, Lexington, Mr. and Mrs. James Penick, Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Power, Ballymore, North Ireland, and Frances Barlow, Carlisle spent Sunday with Daley and Martha Kenney.

Many crops and gardens in this vicinity and adjoining communities were completely destroyed by the high waters here on Thursday and Friday.

Our community extends sympathy to the families of Mr. Chester Fisher and Mr. Sherman Earls, who passed away the past week.

Mrs. Everett Snapp visited Mrs. Fred Hollar on Thursday afternoon.

Mrs. Bobby Brady, Jimmie and Betty Hollar attended camp meeting at Wilmore on Sunday and Sunday night.

Mrs. Arnold Matton, Lexington visited with her sister Bobby Lou and brother Mr. Chester Tallent and Mrs. Tallent, Covington at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Eagine Tallent Winchester on Friday night.

Miss Martha and Daley Kenney visited Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Kennedy of Lexington and their guests Mr. and Mrs. James Penick and Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Power of Ballymore, N. Ireland.

Mrs. Fred Hollar and Layne Hollar, Harold Matton and Kay Mahoney and Mrs. Ramona Wilson visited Mrs. Joyce Hollar at University Hospital, Lexington during the week. Her condition is good.

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USDA clarifies foreign ownership reporting rules

The U.S. Department of Agriculture, in response to numerous inquiries from Canadian citizens, has clarified U.S. reporting requirements of foreign owners of U.S. farmland.

The reporting requirements stem from the Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act of 1978, which requires all agricultural, forestry or timber land of one acre or more owned by foreigners to be reported to the department by August 1. Those purchasing land recently have 90 days to report. Some Canadians have interpreted this to include homesteads and land devoted to recreational uses.

Ray Fitzgerald, administrator of the department's Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS), said, however, that tracts of less than one acre, which produce less than \$1,000 worth of agricultural products in gross sales each year are exempt from the reporting requirements.

"This is not a fact," he said. "While there are penalties for non-reporting of bona fide farm or timberland, seizure of the land is not one of them. Penalties for failure to report could be fines of up to 25 percent of the land's fair market value."

Fitzgerald said he wanted to assure Canadian citizens that there is no intent in the act or regulations to penalize or harass foreign owners of homestead in the U.S. or land that is devoted to recreational uses. Rather, he said, the act was designed to identify foreign ownership of U.S. farmland and timberland.

Fitzgerald also said further information on the reporting requirements is available from the department or from county ASCS offices. Foreign owners of U.S. agricultural land should contact the ASCS office serving the county in which the property is located.

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