

Opinion

Guest editorial

Dangerous stuff?

By Louis B. Strong
Ky. Assn. Electric Cooperatives

Among the technologies that emerged late in the last century and have gained wide acceptance in this century are two that have proved to be quite dangerous and destructive. One of these technologies will kill approximately one million persons between now and the end of the century and will injure and maim about 25 million others. It will result in insurance losses reaching into the billions of dollars.

But, even in the face of such carnage and destruction, you can be certain this technology will not be banned or significantly restricted by any regulatory or legislative body because the American public is willing to accept this level of risk in exchange for the benefits the automobile brings.

Another technology that emerged about this same time was the idea of extending alternating electric current into homes and factories of this country. This idea was widely debated. Horror stories as to its dangers were widely proclaimed in the news media of the day. Its use was even opposed by the father of the electric light, Thomas Edison. He favored using direct current rather than alternating current because he perceived the latter to be too dangerous.

Alternating current is dangerous. It kills thousands each year, but we accept the risk because we could have never achieved the benefits and blessings that electricity brings without the use of alternating current.

I feel confident that one day our country and the world will look back upon the horror

stories surrounding nuclear energy in much the same way as we now look upon the horror stories associated with extending electric service into homes and factories. As I read of all the foods that may cause cancer, all the chemicals and pollutants that endanger life, I'm about to conclude that simply being alive today is unsafe.

There must be an army of researchers who hope to achieve fame and publicity by conducting a study of some substance with the objective of finding some evidence, that under some circumstance and if taken or exposed in some unlimited quantities, might cause cancer in a laboratory animal. [Most of these studies are probably financed with a government grant].

The results of these studies will receive wide publicity before they are evaluated by any scientific board or competent group. By simply saying that one knows for sure what the risks and effects may be but so-and-so expect there may be a link between this substance and cancer, we set in motion all kinds of scare stories. Legislators call for investigations and a lengthy time-consuming expensive investigation follows.

A true professional does not go public until he knows the facts and acknowledges the significance of potential errors. Not everyone who proclaims themselves an expert is one and certainly not everyone with a Ph.D. after their name is competent and faithful to everyone who claims to be acting in the public interest is actually doing so.

Agree or Not

Sheriffs may win vote

By S.C. Van Curen
FRANKFORT — Kentucky apparently will get to vote on only two constitutional amendments this fall instead of four, as appeared in the legislature ground to an end this week.

More than 30 proposals were filed to put before the people in compliance with the four permitted when voters liberalized this avenue two years ago. Up until this session, only two constitutional amendments could be put before the people for vote.

One likely to be on the ballot this fall will permit state constitutional officers and clerks to serve two consecutive terms.

The other would establish a lottery on the Kentucky Derby. Profits would be used to pay a bonus to Van Dusen and other and that the money would be distributed to cities and counties, 25 percent each, with the balance going to education.

I intend to use my Senate Bill 125 to establish a lottery on the Kentucky Derby with the proceeds to go to the state's general fund and also would prohibit all other lotteries.

But as other constitutional amendment bills failed, legislators began to back on amendments or attempt to piggyback ideas onto the bill. One such successful idea is to permit established

charitable organizations to operate bingo games.

An effort to change the length of terms for legislators apparently has failed. An amendment was introduced to change the terms of House members to four years and of Senate members to four years.

This bill never got anywhere in the legislative process, but it was tucked onto the bill applying to institutional officers and sheriffs. The amendment got through the House but was killed in the Senate.

Other bills pertaining to elections had a hard time fighting their way through the legislative process. One of the most controversial pertains to the election of city legislative bodies, but it died particularly with Louisville.

Presently Louisville's Board of Aldermen is nominated and elected at large. The next time the candidates will be nominated by wards but elected at large will be in November. This has been a partisan political battle for years. Louisville is predominantly Democratic and the Democrats seemed to have an advantage under the old system.

Under the new bill, the Republicans argue they have a better chance of nominating by ward and winning in November in some of the wards.

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By M.A. PETTI, M.D.

Anemia has many different causes. If you have it, find out what's causing it even though this may require a lot of tests. Then your doctor will be able to prescribe the proper, effective treatment.

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MEMBERS

The Kentucky Press Association



Down Memory Lane

Phillips takes local pastorate; fire damages Lyric Theater

Thursday, April 7, 1960

Coach Bill Ed Leedy has announced that the junior high football game to be played Friday afternoon would wind up the Carlisle High School sports season. The teams are, Green; Steve Ockerman, Jay Morford, John Crouch, Charles Davis, Robert McAnley, Billy Ledford, David Kern, Bobby Bustin, Marshall Cox, Cecil Dougherty, Jimmy Rawlings, Phillip Howard, Jackie Caywood and Mike Dotson. White: Marion Sims Jr., Carl Evans, Eddie Price, Roy Kokendoffer, Earl Medley, Larry Anderson, Bobby Jo Ritchie, Dwayne Green, Charles Marshall, Chester Scott, Billy Hunt, Robert McCullery, William Frey, Johnny Small, Everett Coyner.

Band leader Don Trivette presented a silver goblet to Charles Shoen, Carlisle High School senior who was adjudged the outstanding graduating music student at a banquet recently.

The Rev. and Mrs. Samuel E. Phillips moved to Carlisle last week to become the pastor of the local Assembly of God Church.

BORN — To Mr. and Mrs. Roger Cobb, a daughter, Regina Sue, April 4 in Mt. Sterling. — To Mr. and Mrs.

William Terrell, a son, Mark Stone, March 31. — To Mr. and Mrs. Donald Shields, a daughter, Debra Ann, April 2. — To Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Hibel Campbell, a son, Robert, 63, last Wednesday in Paris. — To Mr. and Mrs. Joe Raymond Brunker, 33, of Bourbon County, Thursday. — Mrs. Leticia Richards Graves, 81, last Thursday. — James Lee Shawhans, 96, Cynthiana, Sunday. — Robert Clyde Byron, 83, Sunday in Owensville.

Thursday, April 4, 1940
Fire originating in the stairway of the balcony of the Lyric Theater on Locust Street about 12:30 o'clock Tuesday morning destroyed both balconies and projection room and equipment of the theater, and the entire interior of the building was damaged by smoke and water. Fire is believed to have started from a lighted cigarette being thrown down on the balcony steps.

Carlisle Commandery No. 18, Knights Templar, elected the following officers Friday night: Commander — E.K. Kendall; generalissimo, L.M. Gaffin; captain general, J.M. Pittman, senior warden, W.G. Irvin; junior warden, W.F. Tune; prelate, C.C. Ratliff;

transurer, C.S. Vaughn; recorder, H.K. Vesch; standard bearer, Emory Aubury; sword bearer, Nathan Ann, April 2. — To Mr. and Mrs. J.E. Soper; a son, J.B. Liville. — Fleming-Mason Electric Cooperative Association has practically completed the construction of lines in this county. Fire in the roof of a residence owned by Mrs. Nannie Liville on Spring Street and occupied by Kabh Shanklin and family caused considerable damage Monday morning.

Dr. Howard McIntire of Cincinnati, formerly of Carlisle, who is a noted surgeon and specialist of Cincinnati, delivered an address before the Harrison County Medical Association at Cynthiana on Monday.

BORN — To Mr. and Mrs. Fisher Gaffin of New York City, a son, March 20. — Miss Sallie Bassell and Luther Thornburg, all of the Milltown section, Monday at Moorefield. — Mrs. Eliza Belle Perry, 77, at her home in the Buzzard street, section Tuesday night. — W.F. Harney, 34, Tuesday morning at a Lexington hospital.

Mercury vapors

By Warren R. Fisher

Coal inflation
A headline the other day proclaimed, "Silver's new tarnish could cool inflation." And none too soon, Merck's!

Although the price of silver has dropped, it is still double or better than it was in the spring of 1979.

Science asked, "Now that silver is down, will photographic film follow suit?"

Having nothing but past experience to base my assumptions on, I guess that materials formulated with silver will be just like everything else in this inflated country of ours, high, so film and Ekimatec photographic papers will remain high.

While I'm guessing, I suppose the number 1 condition of the "Modern Weather Indicator" that we mentioned last week applied all day Monday and today, condition number 2, is outstanding for the moment with condition 3, waiting in the wings. As long as condition 8, doesn't show up, we'll all be better off.

— MV —
"Don't run that house for Rent ad again!" "We've already had 50 calls!" "Those little ads side do work!" — you are so right, they do a good job — the Mercury Classifieds!

— MV —
Tone deaf
Is it the Weather Alert? After an evening of rumblings and I wasn't dreaming of Mt. Saint Helena either, I managed to cross the room, turn up the volume wondering all the time, was it a flash flood warning, tornado or what?

About that time the better half offers this suggestion: "It must be a car horn button that's stuck. My having patted at two switches in the dark, realizing that the alert had not activated, I heard the voice of KIH 41 National Weather Bureau, Blue Grass Field, Lexington, talking of flash floods in Georgia. That settled that, it had to be a car horn and

Big deal
There's a club in a surrounding county that is raffling off chances on a prize. [I can mention this because this is a news story. If I was trying to list the Post Office would close us down.] Anyway, these guys are going to sell 6,000 tickets and give away \$200 worth of gasoline. And the tickets are a buck a shot.

If all goes to some sort of charity, I suppose, but you can get better odds than that in Vegas and they ain't exactly going broke handing out money out there.

I think I'll start a club.

Tuesday
Tuesday morning after a night of watching the fights [didn't Big John Tate look cute sleeping on that canvas?] and the music has deserted me. Nothing issues forth and callers are plying me back and forth, with many a one leaving any choice left with writing about. Even Trooper John Hall was playing it close to his vest on the con men scam.

Then to and behold here comes a caller with a box of Girl Scout cookies. Chocolate mint, even. Something worth writing about. What can you say about a box of Girl Scout cookies?

By the time you read this they will be gone. That's what you can say.

Imports
From Uncle Levi in the Green River [Ky.] Republican: Speaking of marriage, old man Rufe McKelton always said whether or not a man ends up with a nest egg in the bank or a goose egg on the head depends a lot on the chick he marries.

My grandpa told me one time about a couple who had a big fight

* Please turn to page 8

BGI Easter Egg Hunt winners

(Story on page 7)



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