

Opinion

Down Memory Lane
Hospital is air conditioned;
city marshal is after speeders

They deserve to know

For the past two years the Mercury has paid particular attention to the finances of the City of Carlisle, chiefly because of the revelations of January 1979 and because the city council itself has addressed itself to these problems at almost every meeting.

In January of 1979, the city's finances were in a mess. The city had to borrow \$160,000 and some city debts were overdue as much as five months, even though the city itself slaps a percentile charge on unpaid utility bills. It was clear that something had to be done. Just who was responsible for this situation may never be known but it has come to our attention that some people blame the city council that took office in 1978.

That's like blaming the fire department for the fire at your house when that is not it. It is the opinion of this newspaper that the council is composed of present members Frankie Hughes and Clarence Corder as well as Carl Sparks, Alec Crawford, Julian Green and Charles Fay - did the people of Carlisle a great service in recognizing a problem and taking steps to correct it.

It was not corrected overnight because it did not happen overnight. The city's auditors said that the system of accounting used made it virtually impossible to give a complete picture of the city's financial dealings. To some extent this has been corrected but the most recent audit shows that the city still has some way to go before it can be put on at least a break even basis.

The city faces many problems. Sooner or later the sewer system must be enlarged. The gas system is becoming antiquated fast. In the near future the city may be forced to install a full-time fire department and the law enforcement arm of the city is under-manned, under-equipped and under-paid. The trash collection service the city provides (at a cost to the taxpayer) is costing more and more as both the costs of collecting the trash rise as well as the cost of the equipment.

It would be easy for the city workers and the council members to become discouraged by these situations. But problems and challenges are a part of everyone's life and the process of meeting and correcting them gives a purpose to our days. All that can be hoped for is a reasonable, responsible and intelligent approach to the problems and the citizens of Carlisle deserve no less.

Above all the city must be open and frank with the citizens about the problems it is facing. It does no good to say "things are in good shape" when they are not.

The publishing of the audit, the first time it has been done voluntarily in three years, is a step in the right direction. Even though the audit does not go into detail about city disbursements it is a vast improvement over the three-year silence the city maintained in spite of Kentucky laws that mandated a report to the citizens at least once a year.

Agree or Not

FRANK S. VAN CUREN
As things are shaping up the National Convention should be more interesting than the Republican was. It has been said that it is a carnival of a convention for the nomination of Senator Edward Kennedy doesn't change his mind seven times until August 11.

His aides and his faithful cohorts are now making an effort to change the rules and make it an open convention instead of obligating the delegates to vote on the first nomination ball by the way citizens of New Hampshire and the New Jersey state were going to get some of the publicity they registered as a representative of Libya.

It is so much they mind Billy doing his thing as they do that it is frustrating the chances of Jimmy to win. Republicans Ronald Reagan in November. Truth of the matter is they might not mind Jimmy going to the Democratic, at least some of the Republican was.

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Will Teddy 'open' convention?

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Down Memory Lane

Thursday, August 11, 1960
This week the Nicholas County Jaycees completed the installation of new air conditioners at the Nicholas County Hospital. This project was undertaken one year ago and involved raising \$1500 with shows, dances, raffias, etc.

The Nicholas County Schools will open for instruction for the 1960-61 term on September 12. In addition to new teachers already employed, the Nicholas County Board of Education has recently employed Elmer Bellamy as principal of the Nicholas County Grade School.

Stewart Moore, Coe Oil Service Distributor, presented a set of new Barolva watches to Mrs. Harvey Waggoner, Nicholas County #41 Council president. The watches will be awarded to the most outstanding 4-H boy and girl in Nicholas County.

Billy Ken Anderson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Orson Anderson, has accepted a position in the new Kenton High School in Kenton County as freshman coach and teacher.

BORN - To Mr. and Mrs. Milton Whitte a son, Milton Edward, August 3 at the Nicholas County Hospital - To Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Austin a son, Brian Taylor, August 5 at the Bourbon County Hospital - To Mr. and Mrs. Owen Chickerman a daughter, Pamela Kay, August 5 at the Nicholas County Hospital.

DEPARTURES - Miss Joanne Turner, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Austin, left for her home in Lexington, Kentucky, Wednesday at the Veterans Hospital, Lexington. Mrs. Mary Ann, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Austin, left for her home in Lexington, Kentucky, Thursday morning at the Veterans Hospital, Lexington.

DEATHS - Mrs. Edna Grace Turner, 91, Sunday night at the Harrison Memorial Hospital in Cynthiana.

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Thursday, August 6, 1949
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Nicholas County Board of Education Financial Statement 1979-80

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The Carlisle (Ky.) Mercury Thursday, August 7, 1980

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