

# Opinion

## An editor's random thoughts... Superfluous mistletoe

By Warren R. Fisher Sr.

The mistletoe which festoons so graciously the fast disappearing trees of our once beautiful Kentucky woodlands is doomed, if we would heed the warning of the scientists that it is, at best, a parasitic pest and partly responsible for the destruction of our forests.

Time was when such a pronouncement would have aroused a storm of protest. But that was in the days of the puff sleeve and the bustle, the crimping iron and trailing skirts, when rubber tires on a Columbus buggy were regarded as luxuries for the rich and effete only and Nancy Hanks, at 2,400, set the pace for fast-moving equine bodies on this terrestrial sphere.

For in those placid and straight-laced days of the good queen Victoria one had need of mistletoe, in order that the gladness Yuletide the female of the species might be enticed from her corner of the old horsehair settee to stroll innocently. (Oh, my you you you innocently!) to a spot beneath the glossy leaves and waxen berries depending from above an open doorway, or, better

still, though it cramped one's style somewhat, you might hold it bunch above her head—behind the door.

Came the war, as the movie title writers used to put it in the old silent film days; came the days after that war, the days of the one-arm driver, that ambidextrous wonder, who with one arm full of girl and 'o'ther full of steering wheel, foot and the gas and rather thoroughly synthetically ginned, made the speed of poor old Nancy Hanks but the jog trot of a plow horse. And so it was and is. And does it cramp the young man's style to have the use of but one arm? No it does not cramp the young man's style. The lady has two arms, has she not. That is, she has, after she has extracted the extract of juniper berries and eucyrene from her escort's hip pocket and applied inwardly, as needed.

Mistletoe! They are always "under the mistletoe," clown.

Down with the destroyer of our forests, though grandma may drop a reminiscent tear at its passing. It doesn't mean a thing to her grandchildren.

## Down Memory Lane

### Rabbit seekers warned of tularemia

Thursday, December 11, 1940

The local selective service board, presently composed of Elva Kendall, W.S. Atkinson, Lee Ochsner, Roy Blount, Arnold Bowen, Eddie Barbee, Dr. Jack Morford and Halvey Griffin, is 20 years old this month.

A crowd estimated at 3,000 persons braved cold weather Saturday night, Dec. 10, to watch the second annual Christmas parade sponsored by the Carlisle-Nicholas County Chamber of Commerce. Out of 15 float entries first place award went to the Younger Woman's Community Club float entitled "Fruit of the Earth."

An electric pump house near the residence of Joe Reid in the Moorefield section was destroyed by fire Tuesday morning. Also the home of Willie Mitchell located near Licking River was damaged by fire of unknown origin.

Luther Clay, prominent Nicholas County farmer, has been chosen chairman of the Nicholas County Democratic Party.

Walter Bradley of Moorefield stopped to pick up a passenger on KY 22 Monday morning and Earl Corbin of Marion, Ind., unable to stop on the icy road, struck the rear of the Bradley car. Then a car driven by Julian McKee of Myers struck the Corbin car. No one was injured.

**BORN** - To Mr. and Mrs. William E. Fryman a son, Jack Turner, Dec. 6 at the Nicholas County Hospital. - To Mr. and Mrs. Donald Stringer of Somerset a son, Tuesday, Somerset. - To Mr. and Mrs. Johnnie Ray Flora of Fort Lauderdale, Fla., a daughter, Katherine, in Fort Lauderdale. - To Mr. and Mrs. Jack Simmons of Chattanooga, Tenn., a son, Nov. 29 in Chattanooga. - To Mr. and Mrs. Innes Ockman a son, Timothy Lane, Nov. 30 at the Nicholas County Hospital.

**MARRIED** - Miss Barbara Ann Myers and

Jerry Wayne Ormes Sunday at the North Middletown Christian Church. - Miss Geraldine Laytard and Edward Gates Dec. 9 at the Christian Church parsonage.

**DIED** - Mrs. Florence Deitzler Martin Gore, 90, Nicholas County native, Nov. 26 at her home in Los Angeles, Calif. - John Edgar Huffstetter, 78, Sunday in the Nicholas County Hospital. - Mrs. Lulu Bromberg Vies, 86, Monday at the home of her niece in Lexington. - Joseph T. Gardner, 84, of near Elizabethtown, Sunday at the home of his daughter in Lexington. - Mrs. Myrtle Purcell, 76, of Paris, Friday at the Bourbon County Hospital. - Mrs. Minta Maxwell, Dec. 6 at a hospital in Keittsburg, Ill.

Thursday, December 12, 1940

Roger Willoughby, 15, a son of Mr. and Mrs. Lenox Willoughby of Myers, was brought to the Johnson Memorial Hospital Wednesday morning suffering from a gunshot wound in the mouth.

The residence of Mrs. Tillee H. Feedback on Sycamore Street was practically destroyed by fire about 7 o'clock Monday morning and most of the contents were damaged or destroyed.

Kentucky hunters were warned by Major James Brown, Director of the Division of Game and Fish, to use extreme care in the handling of wild rabbits killed in the fields of this state in order to avoid the dreaded disease, tularemia.

**BORN** - To Mr. and Mrs. Cecil King of Bensville a daughter on Wednesday, Dec. 4. Mrs. King was Miss Ruth Murray of Carlisle. - To Mr. and Mrs. Joe Johnson a daughter on Monday morning, Dec. 8.

**MARRIED** - W. W. Linville of Nicholas County and Mrs. Margaret Webb of Bourbon County. - Miss Ella Harp of Lexington died Sunday afternoon at the Good Samaritan Hospital.

MV has found himself behind the eight ball and gladly forms the space over to his late father.

Many persons have told us they are pleased to be able to read his writings again, and since we cannot see our way clear to publish them in book form—newsprint will have to suffice.

## Mercury vapors

by Warren R. Fisher

## IDIOTIORIAL Ricinus Communis

Being a discourse upon label writers and castor oil

Recently we had occasion to take a dose of that mixture, which "goeth down softly." There the analogy to Solomon's wise coaxes, for never has it been found "causing the lips of those who are asleep to speak," no man nor woman either ever having been so perfidious as to dose a sleeping enemy or rival with the stuff. It is a clear and harmless appearing fluid, viscoid or axle-grease tendencies. The apothecaries tell us it is compounded of the Ricinus communis or the Palma Christi. We prefer the former; the latter Latin smacks too much of qualities it doesn't possess. Ricinus communis, one supposes, is the castor bean, and that its speaking little embryo! and integuments! That's what they grind up, or mash, pulverize or powder to make the unctuous stuff. We hope it hurts 'em!

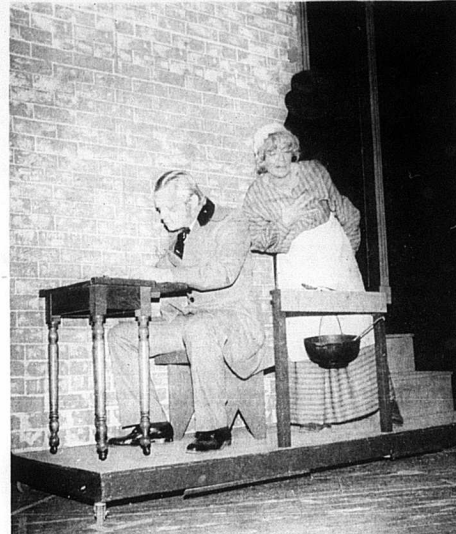
But does the apothecary stop with the little castor beans? He does not! He delves with devilish ferocity into the black alchemy of all times and ages; he corrals and peates-tensers akin to assfoetida and eggs that have been ripened not wisely, but too well. And he denatures the smell. But, my lad, he gets a taste that would "draw iron tears down Pluto's cheek and make Hell grant" as well, most anything reasonable to be relieved of saying "here's how" again.

Yes, we have suffered! And we have been fully insulted in our misery. We held our nose and the viscid, unctuous, not-miscible-in-water mess began to slide slowly towards its destination. There is no hurry about this bird; the nervous rush of the axe of jazz has left it calm and untroubled. Slowly it slid and we held nose, profanity and breath. And then, if ever a man had cause for righteous indignation, here it was! Our eye, in a wild frenzy roving, met the cause of misery sitting there before us on the warming oven of the kitchen range. Angels and ministers of the grace defend us! For with one eye, torso convulsing while, we read:

"Has an agreeable nutty flavor."

Nutty forsooth! Something should be done about this, a bill passed or something, for does not the Constitution or the Eighteenth Amendment or something provide that cruel and unusual punishment shall be no more forever? And this label writer jokes a dying man! Nutty is right. He should be bound like Prometheus, so he couldn't hold his pen and make this first century axle-grease powder down his gutlet, ad infinitum.

Come all you, who have suffered since the days of infancy, when noses were held for you and this axle-grease powder upon you. The light is on, for this is too much! "Agreeable nutty flavor," me eye! Down with nutty flavors and label writers. Pistachio on him!



In this scene it is Christmas Eve and Scrooge is eating his usual meager supper of warmed-over gruel. Mrs. Dilber, his housekeeper of many years, once again suggests, with obvious uncertainty, that "as

tomorrow is Christmas perhaps it won't be necessary for me to be coming in," Scrooge and Mrs. Dilber are played by Brad Sorell and Judy Byron, respectively. - Poline photo.



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## Council to have 1980 records audited; dam study to be done by '81

City Council voted Monday night to hire the auditing firm of Miller, Mayer, Sullivan and Frank of Lexington to audit the City's books for 1980. In addition a written request for explanation of fees charged, the firm's estimate of \$3,000 was explained: averaging \$10 to \$100 hours to complete audit; \$20 to \$50 per hour with average of \$20 per hour. Total not to exceed \$1,000 unless extra auditing or consultations are involved.

"High hazards" structure  
In a letter received from the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection (EPN), a survey made by the Corps of Engineers, stated that the old dam at the city reservoir is classified as a "high hazard structure." Further study will be made by council. EPN must have written assurance by Jan. 1981 that the city has begun its own survey and plan of action.

Bobby Barnett was tentatively appointed as Mayor Pro Tem to serve on the Energy Advisory Council of Community Action (CALP) which conducts its meetings in Lexington.

**Budget passed and adopted**  
Seven ordinances were read to Council and passed, 11 of which have been in effect for many years, but needed updating. There were minor changes in some and none in others. These ordinances will be read again at the January meeting and adopted at that time. They are:

- (1) An ordinance adopting mayor's council form of government for the City of Carlisle. (Same.)
- (2) An ordinance providing for the time and place of meetings of the City of Carlisle, Ky. (Same.)
- (3) An ordinance relating to City automobile license fee. (Change as explained in The Mercury dated Nov. 13, page 1.)
- (4) An ordinance relating to digging. (Any firm, contractor, business or individual using digging equipment deeper than 12 inches must have permission from the City.)
- (5) An ordinance prescribing the qualifications for the office of mayor of

election, term, duties, oath and compensation of the mayor. (Must be 25 years of age, live in City for one year, own property in City and be a qualified voter. Compensation is \$1,800 yearly.)

(6) An ordinance prescribing the qualifications, number, duties, manner of election, term, oath and compensation of members of the City Council of the City of Carlisle. (Must be 23 years of age, its members, compensation \$800 yearly for each member. One quali-

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## Agree or Not Preliminary 1980 census figures reveal dramatic population shifts

By S.C. Van Curen  
FRANKFORT — Preliminary 1980 census figures released reveal there are going to be some dramatic population shifts, nationally and in Kentucky. The flight to the suburbs from the inner core cities is probably the most dramatic. Louisville and Jefferson County both have lost large chunks of their population to the surrounding counties, the figures tend to reveal. At least the surrounding counties have gained in population while Jefferson County has lost.

Northern Kentucky cities of Newport and Covington have both lost in population as has Ashland in north-eastern Kentucky. The Bluegrass area shows gains in population while early reports from some of the mountain counties show gains because of the upsurge in the coal industry within the past decade. The Mountaineers who fled in the recession years of the 1960s and the 1970s are returning home when jobs become available.

Fayette County has shown more than 20 percent gain in population during the decade and surrounding bedroom counties have also showed marked gains.

Some of the critics are blaming school busing for the flight from the inner core cities to the suburbs. The school census in Jefferson County is a strong indicator this fact is true there where the school population has a

**OFF THE WALL**

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**I'M HERE TO GET TOUGH, COMRADE**

**WHERE DO YOU WANT OUR GRAIN?**

**The Carlisle Mercury**  
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**Letters**

**To The Carlisle Mercury:**  
"If you're going to park, you have to get the meter." I agree fully, except when it's possible.

I parked on the lower end of Broadway on the 11th day of October but later went and found that the meter I found this particular date to an improper working meter. When I returned to my car I found a ticket on the windshield, (no amount of money would make that ticket disappear) I heard for the officer which had placed the ticket there but I was unsuccessful. I later called the city office after receiving notice of payment due. They told me to

come to the office and get it straightened out. I told the officer the meter was not working properly and that I would show him the meter. He said that he said the meter was working all right now and that I should pay it. I did not believe him and I found that the broken meter had been replaced by a new one. I didn't mind paying the \$2, but I feel that if the meter money ticket that badly, there are other, more honest ways of getting money out of cheating the tax-payers.

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