Opinion

An editor's random thoughts...

By Warren R. Fisher Sr.

A shimmering gossamer veil of green shows on the willows and the maple catkins rain to earth...bees in the maples, bees in the pussy willows this morning and the shout of a yellow hammer and his merry, foolish laughter...Grass greening in the pastures and the upflung sword blades of the daffodils forecast their coming soon. Already the snowdrop has flaunted its tiny challenge of gallant beauty under dripping skies and is drooping into another sleep...rain and again rain, with yellow swirling waters in the creek beds, but tiny rootlets sucking in the moisture, sending strength to the green bodies pushing up, up into the sunlight, with buds tight-wrapped for May's burgeoning...The plaint of the male robin is now a wistful note of the March twilight and across the fields comes the first tremulous floating carol of the meadow lark...Gayly painted corks will dance soon on rippling waters, sparkling under windswept skies, darkening under the tears of April...Life stirs, throbs, pushes up through the sodden earth and soon there will begin the hushed anticipatory rustling of the curtain's rise upon Spring's prologue and the Pageant of Summer...Leaves of the lilac braving the winds of March, sturdy nurslings of the blossom that is the very breath of Spring. Ah!

"Go down to Kew in lilac-time, in lilac-time, in lilac-time;

Go down to Kew in lilac-time (it isn't far from London!)

And you shall wander hand in hand with love in summer's wonderland;

Go down to Kew in lilac-time (it isn't far from London!)"

...Lilacs in the rain! The heralds of Spring and her incense, taking up the dance when the nodding heads of golden daffodils droop into withered sleep...And oh, Lordy, Lordy! The bills, the bills, the flutter and the crackle of the bills...overdue bills, the urging and the threatening of the bills!...And Lordamercy, April in the offing and the last day for the improvident to pay taxes...of which fellowship I shall be always.

Policy towards Mexico

By Anthony Harrigan

MEXICO CITY — A cordial but firm attitude towards Mexico would be an appropriate posture for the Reagan administration.

While President Jose Lopez Portillo offered the hand of friendship to Mr. Reagan in Ciudad Juarez Jan. 5, it would be foolish for the new administration — or the American people — to imagine that the going will be easy in Mexican-American relations during the next four years.

The Mexican people are friendly to visitors from North America, but the Mexican government and intelligentsia are hard Left.

Consider the remarks of Jorge Diaz Serrano, director of Petroleos Mexicanos. In a ceremony last month marking an agreement for an oil and technology exchange with Cuba, he said: "As a historian, I understand that what has happened during this century is imposing, but what has been done and is being done in Cuba will go down in human history as an example of dignity."

Press reaction to Mr. Reagan's election and, to the appointment of Gen. Alexander Haig as Secretary of State suggests problems ahead. In a newspaper account, Dr. Leopoldo Zea charged that Gen. Haig "already is brandishing the big stick." **Excelsior**, a leading newspaper, said that "Haig has formed a frame of crude demagoguery" and warned of eventual action against the "bastion of social democracy called Nicaragua."

The Mexican foreign secretary, Jorge Castaneda, already has spoken out against "intervention" in El Salvador. By this, he means American aid to the Salvadoran junta which is struggling to survive against an assault by Marxist terrorists who are being assisted by pro-Soviet Nicaragua.

The United States, of course, must do everything in its power to prevent the small Central American countries from falling under revolutionary rule and becoming mini-satellites of Cuba. The Reagan administration shouldn't pull any punches in discussing these countries with the Mexican government. It should make clear that the United States will resist communist subversion in this hemisphere.

Another major diplomatic problem is likely to arise in connection with the North-South meeting scheduled to be held in Mexico City later in the year. Mr. Reagan would do well to let the Mexicans know, well in advance of the meeting, that the administration is not about to support a so-called new international order or participate in any transfer of wealth to Third World countries.

There are practical matters that the Reagan administration can and should negotiate with Mexico. While Mexico's government has announced the goal of self-sufficiency in food production, the goal is not likely to be reached because of the inefficient farm cooperative system. The country is both mountainous and arid. Two-thirds of the land area is unfit for cultivation. Last year, therefore, Mexico imported four million tons of corn from the United States.

The situation points logically to an exchange of food for Mexican crude. The Mexican energy plan limits oil exports to the United States. If Mexico continues to have a food requirement that only the United States can fill, however, and if the U.S. helps Mexico develop its industries, an arrangement might be made for increased oil exports to the United States.

The U.S. however, should be prepared to pay top dollar for Mexican oil — something Jimmy Carter was unwilling to do. It also should understand Mexico's need to export labor across the border, for Mexican unemployment ranges upwards of 50 percent.

Mexico expects the United States to act as a great power. It also expects mutual respect between the two nations. Maintenance of dignity is very important in Mexican culture. The United States, while insisting firmly on hemispheric security, should be mindful of the importance of respect in all its dealings with Mexico.

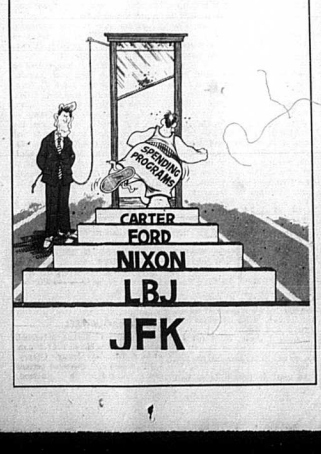
Agree or Not

Columnist outlines revenue methods; one cent equals $100 million income

By S.C. Van Curon

FRANKFORT — There was nothing sneaky how Gov. John Y. Brown Jr. gave Kentuckians notice there is going to have to be more taxes levied by the 1982 session of the General Assembly.

In the face of the $185 million shortfall next fiscal year and the possible loss of $335 million in federal funds, the governor said we are going to have to bite the bullet and get more money from taxes, which means an increase somewhere. He didn't say where.



He did indicate he would call a special session this year to handle the problem if it were not for the fact that the legislators are running for office this year and there is no way to expect them to vote for a tax increase during a campaign year.

The state had to cut expenditures $114 million last fiscal year to meet the shortfall that the downturn in the economy provided.

The governor will live by the old canard there will be no new taxes, for Kentucky already has every kind of tax available. There are only three kinds of taxes — income, property and excise. We have them all. The governor is going to have to increase these taxes or tax some other product or businesses under the tax tent.

Kentucky's two largest sources of revenue are the sales tax and the personal income tax. According to a report released last week by the Finance and Revenue Departments, the sales tax produced $607 million last fiscal year and the personal income tax produced $506 million. Corporate income tax produced $159 million. All of this revenue goes to the general fund.

Oil and gasoline taxes produced $187 million for the general fund last year and is down $9.5 million for the first seven months of this fiscal year against the same period last year.

The coal severance tax produced $176 million.

The cigarette tax will produce about $20 million this year for it has taken in $9.5 million for the first seven months.

The road fund is running about $22 million behind estimates for the first seven months.

However, overall, the revenue the first seven months of this year is $59 million above the same period of last year, but well behind budget estimates.

The framework of the revenue structure and its sources have been laid out above. Now, where is the governor going to get the needed $185 million?

He told us he was going to run government like a business, and he knows you have to have money to operate the business and he has to go after it. In business you produce new products, increase sales, raise prices and cut overhead.

Brown has been reducing overhead by reducing the number of state employees, but the payroll gets higher because he is paying higher salaries to his key people and the rest of the employees got cost-of-living increases.

Now, he has to increase the revenue and that means increasing taxes. He can spread the increase over several sources, but the two chief sources for the general fund are the income and sales taxes.

Kentucky has a relatively low personal income tax. This can be increased, and he could disallow the federal income tax as a deduction in calculating the Kentucky tax. This disallowance would be more equitable to the low income people. Persons in the 50 percent federal bracket pay only three percent of the state's six on their gross because of the federal deduction reducing their base on which to pay.

Increasing the sales tax one penny would bring in an estimated $100 million a year. The sales tax could be extended to take-home groceries and produce more than $100 million a year or the sales tax could be extended to services.

The problem with extending it to services is that it produces a nightmare for administration.

Kentucky has the third lowest excise, three cents per package, on cigarettes. Each penny produces a little better than six million dollars a year. If this was increased five cents, to eight cents per package, you could gain $30 to $35 million, but this is a piddling amount of the $185 million shortfall.

Gov. Brown also could ask the 1982 General Assembly to reinstate the tax on utilities that the 1979 special session repealed.

The gasoline tax will go up in April because the 1980 legislature changed the tax from nine cents per gallon to nine percent of the wholesale price of gasoline. This price is expected to reach the $1 mark in April.

The Proven Tax Cutter slogan of Kentucky Democrats of the Wendell Ford era is in for sad days.

Down Memory Lane

502 people enrolled in Red Cross

Thursday, March 9, 1961

Nicholas County Clerk J. Berry Burnaw reports that at the first of the week 2,506 car licenses had been sold.

The Carlisle City Council voted to allot $100 toward the preparation for mosquito prevention.

Two former Carlisle students, Becky Barlow and Charles Rankin Carter, enrolled in the College of Arts and Sciences, University of Kentucky, were named on the dean's list for the first semester.

A check for $42.63 from the Boyle County 4-H Club Council was the first donation recorded to the North Central Kentucky District toward the building of a new 4-H Club camp in Nicholas County. Total cost of the camp is estimated at $295,000.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Hughes of Ewing will observe their 61st wedding anniversary March 15.

BORN — To Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Payne of Ewing a daughter, March 3 at the Nicholas County Hospital. — To Mr. and Mrs. Walter Smith a daughter, Bonnie Lou, March 4 at the Nicholas County Hospital.

MARRIED — Miss Barbara Allen King of Dayton, Ohio and David Warren of Barbourville, Ky., Feb. 18 in Dayton. — Miss Martha Tincher and William Linville, March 7 at the Carlisle Christian Church.

DIED — Mrs. Eva Lynam Sousley, 79, Bath County native, Monday at the Good Samaritan Hospital. — Mrs. Ray Dwelly, 55, Sunday in Hamilton, Ohio. — Mrs. Mollie Mynear, 87, Nicholas County native, Tuesday in Covington. — Mrs. Laura Ann Purcell, 80, Tuesday at the Nicholas County Hospital. — Mrs. Edna Mason Berry, 71, of Millersburg, Friday at the Virginia Rest Home. — Claudie Bussell, of Dayton, Ohio, Nicholas County native, Monday.

Thursday, March 6, 1941

Mrs. Ina F. Gilley, East Main Street, suffered a severe scalp wound Friday morning when a section of plaster in one of the rooms occupied by the local WPA Sewing Project, located on East Main Street, collapsed. Mrs. Gilley was treated by Dr. D.B. Thurber and then removed to her home.

Nicholas County's Board of Supervisors are in session at the county courthouse for the purpose of equalization of taxes. They will continue in session next week.

The Santee and White property on Main Street in Carlisle sold at master commissioner sale Tuesday to L.B. Burns of Mt. Olivet.

Mr. and Mrs. W.A. Boyd, formerly of Lexington and Maysville, moved to Carlisle Monday and are now living on Locust Street.

The local chapter of the Red Cross has received a certificate of merit from the National Headquarters of the Red Cross for their excellent membership drive. A total of 502 people were enrolled in the membership campaign.

BORN — To Mr. and Mrs. Julian McGowin, of Chapman, Ala., Feb. 25, a daughter, Eleanor Davis. Her mother was formerly Miss Betty Rossell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Rossell.

MARRIED — Miss Mary Catherine Gaunce and Willard Perry Varnell, both of Nicholas County, Feb 26 by the Rev. W.L. Clark at Paris. — Miss Wanda Hunt, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Hunt of Nicholas County, and Lloyd Breeze of Paris, Saturday afternoon at the home of Rev. W.L. Clark of Paris.

DIED — Mrs. Mollie Blount Davis, 69, died at her home on the Bardstown Road near Louisville, on the Upper Lick Road Sunday. — J.D. Ellington, 84, died at his home Thursday. — J.D. Ellington, 84, died at his home on the Upper Lick Road Sunday. — J. Parks Tilton, 36, died of a heart attack on Monday at New Orleans. — T.J. Crouch, 82, a retired farmer, died at his home at Sharpsburg Saturday.

Letters from our readers

To The Carlisle Mercury:

I would like to comment on the Nicholas County Road Department. Our truck broke down at the quarry and the folks out there helped us when we really needed the help. One of the boys was headed in our direction and they saw that we got home.

John L. Ecton even opened up for us on Saturday so that we could get the truck fixed and take it home.

We also need to give a word of thanks to Ed Dale and his friend for the repair work in the rain.

To make a long story short, it's people like them who work long hours at a difficult job and still have time to help people. These are the people in our county that you don't hear much about and they deserve recognition. Thanks and best wishes to them.

Sincerely yours,
Mr. and Mrs. Allen Kash Store
Route Four, Carlisle, Ky.

Kentucky Afield

By John Wilson

"I'm hardly surprised by anything anymore," says Jim Durell as he looks over the results of an annual survey of animal highway mortalities and sightings of strange "critters" around the commonwealth.

Durell, an assistant director in the Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources wildlife division, hardly raises an eyebrow anymore when someone reports, for example, a road-killed badger in Bullitt County. But even he paused a bit over the Martin County porcupine sightings.

One person seeing a porcupine could be attributed, perhaps, to a slight overdose of mountain dew, but three separate reports are something else. And it's also hard to argue with a dog that shows up with a face full of quills. Durell speculates that the porcupine must have been brought into the area, where it either escaped or was released. There haven't been any sightings recently, so maybe the porcupine has headed back to the north woods, its usual home.

One animal that was once rare or absent from the state is now relatively common in almost all sections of the commonwealth. Coyotes were first reported in far western Kentucky, but now their likely to show up just about anywhere. There was even a road-killed coyote reported from populous Fayette County last year.

Bear reports are also becoming more widespread, although still unusual. A bear was hit by a car, stunned and captured in Lawrence County last June. An ear tag indicated that it had wandered over the line from nearby West Virginia.

The bear was sedated, tagged in its other ear and released. This past December it was legally killed by a hunter near Tazwell, Va., more than 100 miles from where it was last seen in Kentucky.

Other reports of bears have come from Fleming, Bell, Clay, Harlan and Laurel counties in Eastern Kentucky. There was even a bear sighting (unconfirmed) in Spencer County.

Cougars (or mountain lions) were once virtually extinct east of the Mississippi, but these big cats are showing up more and more frequently in the Appalachian mountains with each passing year. In 1980, there were what Durell calls "strong" sightings in Lewis County and in McCreary County.

A more common native species, but one that is hard to see, is the bobcat. It too seems to be increasing its numbers. Last year there were 32 bobcat sightings by conservation officers, 20 reported sightings by individuals and 11 road kills.

"The most road kills we've had before was five in 1978," Durell says. "There were three in 1979, so the 11 last year represents a significant increase, probably reflecting a growing population."

The point of all this is that you shouldn't doubt your own sanity if you should come up on some completely strange creature out in the woods. The first thing to do, especially if the critter in question has big teeth and/or claws, is to leave it strictly alone.

The second thing to do is report the sighting to your local conservation officer, who will in turn file a report with the wildlife division in Frankfort. Your sighting will help fit one more piece into the complex and apparently ever-changing picture of what animals we do have sharing Kentucky with us.

The Carlisle Mercury
(USPS 090-820)
Established 1867
Phone (606) 289-2464
Published every Thursday at 234 Locust Street, Carlisle, Nicholas County, Kentucky 40311. Postage paid at Carlisle.

Warren R. Fisher ..... Editor and Publisher
(Mrs.) Katherine T. Fisher ..... Managing Editor
(Mrs.) Janie Duncan ..... Assistant-to-the-Publisher
(Mrs.) Libby J. Moss ..... CompuWriter Operator

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
Nicholas County, one year ..... $6.30, *sales tax included*
Other Kentucky Counties, one year ..... $7.35, *sales tax included*
Out-of-State, one year $9.00

MEMBERS
The Kentucky Press Association
Kentucky Weekly Newspaper and
Western Kentucky Newspaper Associations

and
NATIONAL NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

The unaided human eye, in optimum circumstances, can distinguish 10,000,000 different color surfaces.

Crouch heads

Continued from page 1

rehabilitation services for physically handicapped children and adults throughout the state.

Organized in 1923, the Kentucky Easter Seal Society operates seven centers in its services program. Services include hospitalization; hearing and speech services; physical and occupational therapies; recreation and resident camping and information and referral.

The state society also supports the National Easter Seal Research Foundation, Dr. Sloane reported. More than 400 grants have been made by the foundation for research investigating the causes and means of preventing crippling, he added.

"Generous Kentuckians have always responded to the Easter Seal Appeal," Dr. Sloane said. "Every dollar given will help provide services for the handicapped and help them get started on the road to better lives."

All-Risk Federal Crop Insurance is now available from M. C. Blair INSURANCE AGENCY

Before you spend a fortune planting your crops this year, think about protecting yourself with **All-Risk Federal Crop Insurance. Just Call: 289-2492**

Find out how the benefits of all-risk insurance can be tailored to your farming operation.

All-Risk Federal Crop Insurance. In good years and bad, it pays off.

All-Risk Federal Crop Insurance

'All Kentucky City' reviewers

In Lexington to review Carlisle's entries in the All Kentucky City report were, back row, Chester Stevenson, district chairman, All Kentucky City; Dudley Vaughn, John Burke, Carolyn Dotson and Mike Phillips. Seated are Don Jones, Gerald Roueche, Nick Chandler, judges. — Photo submitted.

Carlisle All-Ky. City entry in the state final judging

Carlisle's All Kentucky City report was reviewed in Lexington this week as one of 22 entries in this year's State Final Judging. Carlisle's report was evaluated by professionals in community development from West Virginia, Virginia and Mississippi.

Contributing to the report were committee members Carolyn Dotson, Mike Phillips and Dudley Vaughn. Overall chairman of Carlisle's All Kentucky City project, John Burke, traveled to Lexington with other community leaders to present the report and visual presentation to the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce's panel of out-of-state judges.

The results of Carlisle's effort will be announced in Louisville at the All Kentucky City Awards Luncheon scheduled for April 1. Tickets to the luncheon may be obtained by contacting the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce office in Frankfort, P.O. Box 817, Frankfort, Ky. 40602, or calling (502) 695-4700. It is hoped by supporters of the Carlisle entry that Carlisle will be well represented at the Awards Luncheon.

Carlisle's report covered community activities and involvement in the categories of health, education, comprehensive planning, ecological, hospitality and commercial development.

This is the sixth year Carlisle has entered the 16 year old Community Development Program sponsored by the State Chamber.

The All Kentucky City Program is the only state-wide effort in community development. It has been recognized nationally as one of the best programs offered in the country, and was most recently recognized as the southeast region's better community development projects by the Southeast Community Development Association. SECDA is made up of professional, industrial and community development personnel in a 13 state region.

Visit 20 minutes in Dallas for only $2.94.

Someone's waiting.

Reach out. With long distance.

It doesn't matter if you've been away three years. Or 30 years. Folks back home like to hear from you. Regularly. So call them today.

That inexpensive visit to Dallas is based on the 60% discount off the weekday rate. You can save with the 60% discount rate anytime Saturday, Sunday until 5 p.m., and from 11 p.m. to 8 a.m. Sunday through Friday when you dial the 1+ way*. In fact, during those times, you can call out-of-state anywhere in the continental U.S. and talk for 20 minutes for $3.33 or less.

So go ahead. Call. Someone you love is waiting.

South Central Bell

*Low 1+ rates do not apply to 0+ dialed calls, operator-handled calls, coin telephone calls, calls from a hotel or motel, or calls to Alaska or Hawaii.

KAHCF ranks

Continued from page 1

the state's Medicaid program," he said. "The survey is really a report card from people who spend enough time in nursing homes to see and appreciate the quality of care we're able to provide."

Mr. Wren said the quality of care in nursing homes is threatened by the proposal from DHR.

"Patient care is bound to suffer because forty percent of participating facilities will receive less than the cost of providing for Medicaid services if the current reductions are put into effect," he said.

He also said one proposal limiting each facility to 80.1 percent Medicaid patients is unworkable.

"One hundred and one of our 166 facilities already have more than 80 percent Medicaid patients. In effect, this proposal would result in a quota system that would require "busing" of patients from all over the state into the lower occupancy regions," Mr. Wren said. "The surveys show that families are very concerned about the distances they would have to travel to visit their relatives if this proposal is adopted."

The Kentucky Association of Health Care Facilities represents 70 percent of the long term care beds in Kentucky.

March proclaimed Red Cross month

Governor John Y. Brown Jr. has proclaimed the month of March as Red Cross Month in Kentucky. This year marks the 100th year of service of the American Red Cross.

"The people of Kentucky have many reasons to be grateful for the existence and strength of the American Red Cross...It touches the lives of our people and our community through such services as blood, safety, youth, first aid, nursing, disaster, as well as service to military personnel, veterans, and their families."

OUR FINAL **Clearance**
Men's
OXFORDS & SLIP-ONS
Terrific buy. . . just in time for Spring & Easter!
CITY CLUB
choose from a wide selection of favorite styles — built for long wear
•REGULAR $30.
Now Reduced to. . . **$15.**
LERMANS
COMPLETE FAMILY DEP'T. STORE

Your daily Courier-Journal is the best guide to all the players . . .

. . . whether the 'game' is an international confrontation between superpowers, the maneuvering behind the scenes in state government, a showdown between college basketball rivals or any other news of importance to our region.

And, right now, you can get your best deal on a mail subscription to the daily Courier-Journal.

It's Bargain Offer time. That means you can get a substantial savings off the regular $80.60 cost of a mail subscription to the Monday through Saturday Courier-Journal.

Offer expires March 7, 1981.

You must enter your new or renewal Bargain Offer subscription by Saturday, March 7, 1981 to get convenient same-day mail delivery of the daily Courier-Journal at this special, low rate. Don't miss out, please complete the coupon and send it along with your payment today.

To: **The Courier-Journal**
BARGAIN OFFER
Louisville, Ky. 40202

☐ YES send me 313 issues of The Courier-Journal by same-day mail delivery for a full year (Monday-Saturday) at your special Bargain Offer rate.

Find Enclosed: ☐ $66.65 (C-J at $53.00 plus $2.65 Ky. sales tax for residents of Anderson, Boyle, Breckinridge, Bullitt, Fayette, Franklin, Green, Hardin, Henry, Jefferson, Jessamine, Larue, Marion, Meade, Mercer, Nelson, Oldham, Shelby, Spencer, Taylor, Trimble, Washington and Woodford counties in Kentucky.)
☐ $61.45 (C-J at $48.00 plus $2.45 Ky. sales tax for residents of all other Kentucky counties.)
☐ $63.00 (C-J for all Indiana residents.)

Check one:
☐ This is a new subscription.
☐ This is a renewal subscription.
(Please attach a current mailing label to this coupon.)

NAME.....
ROUTE..... BOX..... TOWN.....
COUNTY..... STATE..... ZIP.....

This offer positively expires March 7, 1981. Mail orders are payable in advance and can only be accepted for delivery to Kentucky and Indiana addresses not served by carrier delivery. For home delivery or further information call toll free 1-800-292-6568 (Ky.) or 1-800-626-8315 (Ind.)