Deaths

MRS. JESSE M. FLORENCE

Mrs. Lola Rachel (Doyle) Florence, wife of the Rev. Jesse M. Florence, daughter of the late Alfred D. and Amanda Carpenter Doyle, died Thursday, Jan. 26, 1984 at the Harrison Memorial Hospital, Cynthiana.

She was a member of the First United Methodist Church, Cynthiana, and the Pattie Allen Circle. She entered God's Bible School, Cincinnati, OH, for biblical training, completing "The Conference Course of Study" from her own church for ordination, at that time attending Ohio Wesleyan for lectures and exams, and completed studies at Emory University in Georgia after the Southern Methodist and Methodist Episcopal and Protestant Methodist United.

Survivors are four brothers, Orville and Wilfred Doyle, Nicholas County, Huffman Doyle, Fleming County, and R.J. Doyle, Harrison County; one sister, Mrs. Letha Doyle Adams, Bourbon County; several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were Saturday, Jan. 28, at the Drake Funeral Home with burial in Battle Grove Cemetery.

Pooled burley over one-half of 1983 crop

by Bennett Roach

Tobacco figures never lie — they just don't always give the true picture.

Last year with the burley markets winding down the 1983 sales the farmers' pool had taken in about 300 million pounds. This year the figures add up to the same — about 300 million pounds again.

But what a difference — the same "take" by the Burley Tobacco Growers Cooperative Association at the same stage of the market as last year, but then there was an accumulation of pooled tobacco from previous seasons. The Association had sold out, and demand was strong after two years of short crops.

Now however, in the pool storage in the five-state area where price supports are handled by the Association, there was already 67 million pounds following the previous season's record high production.

With the present market ending, the Burley Association is left holding upwards of 250 million pounds. In the week ending Jan. 20 the Association took 77.7 percent of sales on the Kentucky, Indiana, Ohio, West Virginia and Missouri markets, according to this week's report by Alvin R. Beckley, executive secretary-treasurer. The season's "take" now had reached 56.87 percent, compared to last year's 33 percent.

Before Feb. 1, as required by law, the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture will announce this year's national marketing quota. Tobacco people generally are expecting the maximum allowable cut of 10 percent.

But because of last year's drought-shortened crop, the 10 percent reduction will likely be more than offset by carryover production from 1983, since many farmers are expected to try to make up part of their shortage from last season.

From many other directions the burley outlook is clouded, and tobacco leaders are searching for answers to problems, which many fear will get worse before they get better. Increased costs of carrying a larger inventory are calling for higher no-net-cost contributions in 1984. That figure was five cents per pound, and could be raised by the Secretary, if he and USDA economists deem it necessary.

Imports of foreign-grown burley have been on the rise for many months. At the January board meeting of the Burley Association, Joe McDaniel, president, noted that almost half a year's domestic needs now comprises the stocks of imported burley (271 million pounds) now held by U.S. dealers and manufacturers.

Foreign production now provides 51 percent of the world's burley, against 38 percent 12 years ago. Legislative action to control imports is being widely talked, but could only be attained through trade quotas involving lengthy and complicated proceedings at Washington.

Second in phone series

This is another in the series of short articles we are presenting to South Central Bell customers in Nicholas County to help them better understand changes in the telephone industry and how they will be affected.

On Jan. 1, 1984 South Central Bell and 21 other operating telephone companies split off from American Telephone and Telegraph Company (AT&T).

This court-ordered corporate breakup means that Nicholas Columbians have new options for leasing or buying equipment, and new ways to get telephone equipment repaired.

Questions concerning repair of telephone lines and equipment seem to be the most asked about topic from customers. District Manager Carl Renz answered the following general questions on repair.

Q. Is South Central Bell still responsible for repairing my phone line?

A. Yes. We will continue to maintain our local lines and switching equipment which provides dial tone to your home or business.

Q. I'm leasing my telephone from South Central Bell. Will they fix the set if it breaks?

A. Telephones you were leasing from South Central Bell became the property of AT&T Information Systems on Jan. 1, 1984. AT&T will be responsible for repairing them. Customers can take their non-working leased telephones to the AT&T Service Centers in Louisville or Frankfort or can ask AT&T to mail them a replacement.

Q. Will AT&T send a repairman to my home to fix a broken set that is leased from them?

A. Yes, but it is my understanding that you would be billed for that visit.

Q. Who will repair the telephone sets I bought?

A. This depends on where you bought them. AT&T will repair equipment still under warranty that it had sold or that South Central Bell sold prior to Jan. 1. If you bought telephone equipment from other companies, you need to check their equipment warranties and repair arrangements.

Q. How can I get these new repair numbers for my telephone line and for sets I'm now leasing from AT&T?

a.	Residence	Business
Line	800-422-2000	800-422-8070
Equipment	800-555-8111	800-247-7000
PBX, Data		800-252-2121
Key Horizon		800-326-2000

Q. Is there a toll-free number that customers can call if they have a question concerning the breakup of AT&T and other changes in the communications industry?

A. Yes, the Bell Answer Center, 1-800-555-5000.

Later we'll try to answer your questions concerning changes in long distance service, billing and telephone rates.

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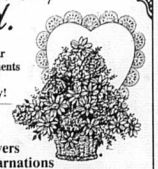

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Gov. Collins

Continued from page one

The governor has always said she would support the General Assembly if it found a better way to raise an extra $234 million without raising taxes, Lindsey said.

Collins urged the General Assembly last month to approve a series of tax increases to raise another $234 million over the next two fiscal years. Seventy percent of that would be earmarked for educational reforms.

Jim Bunning, Collins' Republican opponent in last year's gubernatorial election, advocated a lottery whose profits would be dedicated to education. Bunning predicted it would raise $75 million in the first year.

Collins said at the time that she was against a lottery, often using the remark about gambling.

A lottery bill is pending in the Senate and would require a constitutional amendment in November.

If the measure were approved by the voters, the General Assembly would have to pass legislation implementing the lottery. That could not be done before early 1986, when the next legislative session is scheduled, unless a special session was called for that purpose in 1985.

Boswell says burley quota cut necessary

Kentucky Agriculture Commissioner David Boswell said that the consensus of leaders of the burley tobacco industry appears to be that a reduction in the 1984 growing quota is absolutely necessary, and that the 10 percent reduction announced by Secretary John Block is probably not adequate to accomplish its purpose. "But a larger quota reduction is not possible right now," Boswell noted, "because a quota cut of more than 10 percent in a single year requires legislation."

Boswell points out that 1983's drought severely affected burley tobacco farmers in a number of ways. "Production of 1983 burley was drastically reduced from the level of 1982's excellent growing season," the Kentucky commissioner said. "This resulted in greatly reduced revenues to Kentucky tobacco farmers who are expected to receive little more than half of the billion dollars they were paid for their burley crop a year ago."

More than 45 percent of the tobacco offered for sale in 1983 has not been bought by manufacturers, Boswell notes, adding that the leaf not purchased has been placed in grower cooperatives.

"Meantime, farmers who did not produce the amount of their 1983 quota will be allowed to carry that production level over into the 1984 growing season," Commissioner Boswell continued. "And even with the new quota reduction just imposed by the federal government, an expected excellent 1984 growing year will produce far more than the industry is expected to use." Commissioner Boswell added that a large 1984 burley crop could result in additional surplus holdings for the producer cooperatives and increased costs to burley farmers. The producers must now pay for the cost of operating the program.

"Burley growing is such an integral and vital part of Kentucky's farm economy," Commissioner Boswell asserted, "that the full range of programs that affect tobacco and the farmer who grows it deserve a great deal more serious study and attention than they are currently getting in Washington. I'm talking about the import of foreign tobacco to the agrbasion of domestic leaf with no meaningful tariff or quota system, and I'm talking about the drawback system which allows manufacturers to import and process foreign tobacco and export it without the costs of growing domestic leaf. I'm also talking about the carryover program and the production quota program and the no-net-cost program, all of which must be examined for their effectiveness and usefulness to the industry.

"I am convinced that tobacco will continue to play an important role in Kentucky's agricultural economy if it receives its appropriate share of scientific attention and research into alternate uses and health-related concerns.

"Tobacco deserves our dedicated study of ways in which it can resist the barrage of problems and threats to its economic survival," Boswell concluded. "And I note that there is not a single farm bill on the floor of the United States Congress at the moment. I do stand ready to work with tobacco industry leaders and the Kentucky Congressional delegation to find remedies to what now appears to be tobacco's troubled road ahead."

Secretary Block has announced that the burley quota for Kentucky farmers for 1984 stands at 363 million pounds, a 10 percent reduction from last year. The USDA predicts the effective quota for burley, what the farmers will actually grow, will be up 10 percent at 706 million pounds.

Dept. of Agricultural leads Ky. EDB inquiry

Kentucky Commissioner of Agriculture David E. Boswell has asserted that department samplings of bulk grains in storage areas and handling facilities across the Commonwealth indicate an extremely low incidence of the banned fumigant chemical ethylene dibromide (EDB). The testing was done on a random basis during recent days by the department's Division of Pesticides.

"These results show that at the grain handling level at least, Kentucky is in extremely positive shape with regard to the use of this chemical," Commissioner Boswell said. "There are a number of other pesticide/fumigants that can be as effectively used and our research indicates that the Kentucky industry generally selected chemicals other than EDB."

The Federal Environmental Protection Agency Feb. 3 issued a general ban on the agricultural use of EDB.

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Revenue cabinet

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ment information for more than 40 years, the Department believes that the ratios show valid general relationships between market value and assessments.

The countywide ratios cannot be applied to the assessments on individual parcels. For example, an assessment ratio of 95 percent does not mean that each individual's property is assessed at 95 percent of its fair cash value. It simply means that the typical countywide assessment is 95 percent of indicated market value.

Assessing property is not an exact science. The International Association of Assessing Officers has suggested that the median assessment to sales ratio may be acceptable if it falls within 10 percent, plus or minus, of market value. In other words, a ratio may range from 90 percent to 110 percent and still be considered acceptable as an indication that properties are assessed at fair market value.

Under the homestead exemption act and the agricultural use assessment act, a portion of the assessed value on qualifying property is exempt or deferred from taxation. Thus in some counties, property owners are paying taxes on substantially less than the full market value.

Thank You!

I want to thank the citizens of Nicholas County for the many deeds of kindness and care extended to my Mother, Elizabeth Neal. She loved people no matter what their station was in life. You good people have returned that love by visiting her at home and in the nursing home.

I have nothing but the highest praise for the Johnson-Mathers Nursing Home staff. The cleanliness and tender love and care cannot be equaled.

A special commendation to Mrs. Paul (Betty) Smoot and Eugene Neal, who cared for Mother as if they were a daughter and son. There are so many others who went the second mile in love and concern by preparing and sending food and flowers, and the mail continues to bring sympathy cards from Nicholas County. God's richest blessing be upon you.

Sincerely,
Rev. Paul Neal and Family

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