

Opinion

Ten years of energy crisis

After 10 years, the energy crisis is still with us.

True, there are no more long lines at the gas station. Gasoline prices are down. There is a glut of crude oil on the world market, and the world price keeps slipping. U.S. oil imports have dropped from a high of nearly nine million barrels a day in 1977 to a level of five million barrels a day in 1983 and 1984.

But we are a long way from achieving the energy self-sufficiency that was the objective of Project Independence, launched by President Nixon in 1973, the year of the Yom Kippur War and the Arab oil boycott. We continue to import a third of our oil needs. And, with economic recovery, both the amount of U.S. oil consumption and the amount of U.S. oil imports are expected to rise in 1984. The world price may bottom out and begin rising again in 1985.

We need to know that we can never return to our wasteful ways. Gas guzzlers will not be seen only at antique auto shows. Industry which is now 20 percent more energy-efficient than it was a decade ago, must continue to conserve. Even if energy prices drop, we can't afford waste.

We continue to be dependent on imported oil and our allies (Japan and the European countries) are even more dependent. This dependence is potentially irrevocable. What can't change we must accept, and we should try to mitigate the potentially bad effects. It must be a major goal of our foreign policy to protect oil sources in the Middle East and elsewhere. The world economy has adjusted well to the



...MARRS, I'VE GOT TO GO INSPECT THE AIRPORT IN LOS ANGELES. COULD YOU SEE ABOUT GETTING ME A SEAT ON EITHER AMTRAK, GREYHOUND OR TRAVLOR...

Agree or not

Question: where to levy education tax

By G. Van Caren
Franklin County, Ky.

Franklin County has indicated she is going to vote on the inevitable state income tax. Kentucky is in a bind to pay for its education program. The state income tax is a necessary step to increase state funds to improve education.

Governmental tinkering with the free market is a bad idea if it involves price controls or production subsidies. A high price is the best incentive for conservation of a scarce commodity. When alternative energy sources are economic, the free market will call for them.

Energy, as we have said, must be a factor in our foreign policy from now on. Our national interest demands it. At the same time, the energy program requires strong public policies to bring to production conservation (requiring cars to be fuel-efficient) and fossil fuel production (offshore oil drilling where it will not pose an intolerable risk to the coastal environment).

These are the sober lessons of a decade of energy crisis. We have learned them at great cost. They should not be forgotten.

Q & A

Reach out . . . and touch LD phone company offering most perks for calling Peoria

Welcome to the Wonderful World of Telephoned Today.

The government breakup of the AT&T monopoly opens magic horizons for you and your telephone. So much so magic it may take a while to get used to it. I thought my own phone was user-unfriendly to begin with. Now I'm hooked.

What happened to your telephone company, you may be asking yourself. It has doubled and multiplied. The monopoly broke into smaller pieces. Now you have a choice of companies to call. The same local system, but when you get out long distance, that's when it becomes interesting—and handy.

AT&T now has five competitors all hungry for your long distance dollar.

"This is your long-distance operator. What number are you calling to Peoria, Ill. for five minutes today."

"Operator, I am calling for an estimate on a station-to-station call to Peoria, Ill. for five minutes today."

"That would be \$3.85. Shall I place the call for you?"

"No, very heavy. MCI gave me an estimate of \$5.65 with green stamps."

"I hope to tell you. Our \$3.85 charge includes two free tickets on the Irish Sweepstakes and a late night call from our on-call operator."

"You have to be better than that. Sprint sends me a telephone book and two free letters in their gigantic jackpot game you'd be eligible to win with a call through me. And every Thursday is that A-Daily-Story Day, toll-free, of course."

"Then there's Western Union's Metro Fax. Now, these hours were your business hours. Metro Fax costs me \$3.25 and they'll give me a 20% discount if paid in 30 days, plus an added piece of music from Bill LaFosse, come out your fingers. The calls lack customers an amount for personal parties."

"Better stick with us. You'll have to wait out your fingers daily 24/7 to reach your party with our LD company. And there's LD calls make you a member of our Call Card Club."

"And then there's T-Longer Distance, who offered me a free call anywhere in Peoria if I spent with them. Both for \$3.39 with any payment terms—and no-billed service. I can't say I like it, I think you are window shopping. Do you want me to place this call for you?"

"Starting next September, for two years all long-distance phone companies will have equal access to the phone network and you'll get the best rates. No president in charge of getting customers. When all this reaches your area, you'll have to decide which company you want handling your calls. And, if you don't

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decide, you may wake up and find you have been assigned to one company. Then it will be too late to get those green stamps.

I don't remember the call from Miss Patti LaFosse. I have been planning this change for years. Long before it was thought of by my own phone, I bought my own phone and installed them. It is easy to do. You get such a great variety, among you do yourself. I have one phone that won't ring, another that rings when you call it, another you can't hear anything but will answer that it is a store except in the middle of the night.

These little wares are easy to come if you are experienced in electronics. I made two of them. The green wires and the green wires I never found out what to do with the black and white ones. Now I know why there are so many telephone repair trucks parked in front of the office shop. I'd say there, too. I'll have to fiddle with these little wires for a long while.

"I'll be best now to buy your own phone. It'll be over next month. You can ship it back, somewhere in France or Hawaii and wait months. But no wires, like hand calculators they're not over all the time. Pick up another one, even better market and keep on taking."

I am a member of the Long Distance Competition group. But the first company offering me an experiment visit to the clubhouse for calling New Market in Kentucky. I'm taking it—no, it's closed that never had a hundred million.

—RM—

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When was that? he inquired

"It works in '81," I said. "Somewhere in the Midwest. I clearly remember the call from the off-shore telecom handset something to think on a dime. His theory determination in the face of misleading answers was an illustration to us all. And in Death Valley, behind that smelly 20 student, she was absolutely magnificent."

"I kept it up." "And no president since Zachary Taylor has been better at giving medals, riding horses, chatting with the president, reviewing the press, listening, chopping wood, reviewing the press, skipping, smiling brightly and addressing the nation in a sense, lecturing tones. So he has to do what he does best and announce your're hitting somebody else to run the country."

"The dog's brought thoughtfully. 'Not a bad idea,' he said. 'I'll take it all the way to the top.'"

"To the president? I asked."

"No," he said. "To Baker, Messer, Weinberger, O'Brien and Kennedy."

"So, as I say, I really do get the president. It's the people running the country who get my clearest up."

—RM—

Russ Metz



Let me share one of my favorite Harold J. Gray insights with you, which run monthly in the Wall Street Journal—nearly 31 million words since the chairman of United Technologies Corp. began placing them in February, 1979.

"The dumbest person in the world."

"How dumb?"

"Very dumb."

"It's the American who knows what he's got."

"Here's what he's got."

"A country of uneducated workers."

"Almost unlimited natural resources."

"The dumbest person in the world."

"I want to be a major player in a major problem."

"A price nobody can dominate."

"The dumbest person in the world."

"A bunch of your choice."

"The dumbest person in the world."

"Freedom to go anywhere you want, with the planes, cars and trucks."

"Social Security."

"Medicare."

"Employment insurance."

"Public schools and parental scholarships."

"Department of State and foreign missions."

"O.K., complainant, what's your second choice?"

"The dumbest person in the world."

—RM—

Homeless, hungry Americans

As anyone who watches television, reads newspapers and magazines or drives through central cities must realize, many Americans are homeless or hungry or both. Were this a rational or meager resource, that sad statistic could be easily eliminated. But in a free and wealthy nation, it's intolerable that people should have to sleep on heating grates in midwinter, or settle for one meal a day at a charitable program or skip eating at the end of the month when food stamps are gone and many community food-banks are bare.

As President Reagan said recently, in a different context, "With freedom comes responsibility." The unemployed, uneducated, unskilled of this affluent nation shouldn't be denied basic food and shelter. They shouldn't have to supplement inadequate diets by digging in dumpsters.

The problems of the homeless and the hungry are of such magnitude that they must be recognized by the federal government, the only government that has the sufficient resources. One might hope that this nation's hunger problem would have been honestly addressed by the president's Task Force on Food Assistance. However, preliminary information indicates that members of the task force didn't hear, didn't believe or just didn't care about what many people told them in city after city.

Down Memory Lane

Dayton City Conservation essay winner

Thursday, January 28, 1984

The Santa Gertrudis specimen donated by the late Mrs. Eddie Ashby of Forest Farm, Carlisle, is one of the few blue-backed red tail, donated to the 60-year old American Farm School, Louisville, Greece. All are riding the gentle waves of the Atlantic Seaboard route relative luxury on the deck of the ship.

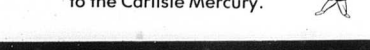
Bonnie F. Bronson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Allen T. Bronson, Route 1, Carlisle, is the Nicholas County High School, Louisville, Ky. member of Tomorrow, the Kentucky Conservation Society.

Her knowledge and appreciation of the work of Judge McConnell and the Kentucky Task Force on this issue is most commendable.

I ask every Kentuckian to contact his or her state representative and state senator in support of the Kentucky Task Force proposals which would make Kentucky the unchallenged leader in the most important field.

John Walsh, Chairman, Old Friends Coalition 602 Lexington Ave., Louisville, 40202

Got a bouquet, or a beef? Write a Letter to the Carlisle Mercury.



Letters

The Carlisle Mercury's most interesting item "Adam" about my wife, who was abducted and murdered, graciously donated to me. I am very happy to say that my wife was not kidnapped or murdered. I am very happy to say that my wife was not kidnapped or murdered. I am very happy to say that my wife was not kidnapped or murdered.

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