Opinion

Small farm survival achievable goal

Hollywood stars have put on Caterpillar tractor hats and overalls and gotten their hands dirty making movies about the current farm crisis.

Two films, "Country" and "The River," both nominated for Academy awards, dramatize the agony of small farmers battling nature and the banks and the rich grain dealers. They're powerful films, with visual images reminiscent of the Dorothea Lange photographs of Okie families caught in the swirling Dust Bowl in the Great Depression.

But the farm crisis of the 1980s is no return of the farm collapse of the 1920s and '30s.

The farm depression of the 1920s was a forerunner of the Great Depression of the 1930s. Many farmers who had paid high prices for their land, based on the high farm prices of the World War I period, went broke in the '20s and lost their farms. Things got worse in the '30s, and soil erosion drove thousands of farmers out of Oklahoma and Texas.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt initiated an unprecedented farm rescue program, putting in price supports, production controls and soil conservation subsidies to help farmers who hadn't yet lost their land to hold onto it.

The New Deal saved farmers and farming in a crisis much more acute than the present one. And in the next decades farm subsidies and soil conservation transformed the life of farmers, yielding a bounty for farmers and providing the American people with cheap, plentiful food. The forlorn Dust Bowl refugees and their children became wealthy farmers in the great Central Valley of California.

But the subsidies distorted economic realities, making many farmers millionaires for not producing crops and pushing up the price of farm land. The farmers complain now that the banks finagled them into borrowing against inflated land prices, and undoubtedly the bankers share some blame. But the farmers were gambling on land prices and relying on the federal government to bail them out if they made a misstep.

What should be done? The answers of the 1930s are not the answers of the 1980s. America, with its $200 billion deficit, cannot afford to pay farmers not to grow crops or help them speculate in land. The small farmers who made bad business decisions must pay for them, like any other businessmen. And the small farmers, not depicted in these films, who had the sense not to go into debt to make big bucks, have the right to survive as rugged, independent farmers.

The survival of small farmers and of family farming as a way of life is an achievable goal. But it may involve painful changes and harsh realities. The romantic solutions conjured by Hollywood are false. The real solutions will be market solutions. They must come from individuals who know and love farming and who will do everything in their power to keep their way of life, free of government support and control.

Bet a farm Kenny stays

I was wrong. Last October it said here that the Wildcats of Kentucky would lose more games than they would win this season. Obviously, and happily, I knew not of what I wrote.

It's not that Kentucky was any better than I thought they would be. It's just that the rest of the SEC didn't come up to expectations. LSU, for example, has all the talent in the world. They just never developed a team concept that's necessary to win on a consistent basis.

Let's put the won-loss records and speculating aside and zero in on a positive. **Kenneth "Sky" Walker** may be the greatest all-around college basketball player I have ever seen. He's just a long jumper away from matching all the feats of **Larry Bird**, but that's all, and Bird, to me, did and does more things to win a ball game than any forward in the game.

Another complete player was The Big O, **Oscar Robertson** of the University of Cincinnati. And you'll always hear **Bob Cousy's** name mentioned as one of the all-time great guards, of course. Both are Hall of Famers and deservedly so.

But back to Kenny. The way he played last week against Tennessee was like a one-man wrecking crew in a demolition derby. He's looked awesome at times on the tube. But you had to be in the stands Thursday night to fully appreciate the immenseness of his contribution, with and without the ball, though he was "with it" more times than not. It was almost as if Kenny (and not seniors **Brett Bearup** and **Trey McKinney**) was making his last appearance before the home crowd.

Rumors that the big junior may jump to the NBA have surfaced of late but I would be greatly surprised if this happened. Kenny simply plays hard all the time. That's the only way he knows.

Kenny, the person, surfaced almost every time a teammate made a basket. You had the feeling it was every more gratifying to him (than scoring) to see some of the Cats who have struggled all season finally shine before the capacity crowd and national cable tv audience.

He's captured the imagination of young and old alike. Last year at this time I labeled the departing **Sam Bowie** as a class act. He was, but Kenny's better. He may not command the megabucks which dominating big men are offered in the pro ranks but I doubt seriously if Kenny could care less. He may have me fooled, but don't bet on it.

Come to think of it, go on and bet the farm. You don't have much to lose, anyway. (Some people sell just in time, huh WNY?)

***

Other nice guys — We got to the game early. Crossing the street from the parking lot to the entrance to Rupp Arena can be a hassle at "quitting time." I mean, folks barrel along the thoroughfare. On the second attempt to cross I was pleasantly surprised to see that a car had actually stopped to allow us to jaywalk to safety.

The driver had a big smile as he waved us on. It was none other than color analyst **Joe "String Music" Dean**, who, we're sure, will be greatly surprised if this happened. Kenny simply plays hard all the time. That's the only way he knows.

Kenny, the person, surfaced almost every time a teammate made a basket. You had the feeling it was even more gratifying to him (than scoring) to see some of the Cats who have struggled all season finally shine before the capacity crowd and national cable tv audience.

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Come to think of it, go on and bet the

Here Abouts

...with Emily A. Wolf

Letters... from our readers

Letter to Sharpsburg Water Dist. customers

To The Carlisle Mercury:

I would like to inform you that I have been replaced as a commissioner on the Sharpsburg Water Board as of Feb. 22, 1985. I view this with mixed emotions. On the one hand, I regret not seeing the contract for the new water supply from Bath County Water District completed as planned. On the other hand, I am relieved to be removed from a thankless task. The only problem I have with my dismissal is the manner in which it was done. My term expired in August 1984 and I repeatedly asked Judge Hart to either reappoint or replace me since I was treasurer and didn't want to sign any papers if I wasn't legally on the board. Judge Hart did neither of these directly, but instead I was informed by a citizen of Sharpsburg that I had been replaced. In my opinion this was not handled in a very honorable way.

My policy is honesty and doing what I felt was best for the water district, and that is the basis for my disagreement with the Judge and my consequent removal from the Water Board.

After the new supply system was designed, approved, let for bid and the contract awarded, Judge Hart, with the help of the engineer changed the contract to include an Owingsville hook

* See Letters, page 3

Cheerleaders feel like winners

To The Carlisle Mercury:

We would like to express our thanks to everyone who attended the Bath District cheerleading competition Wednesday, Feb. 20. Your support was greatly needed and appreciated.

Even though the results weren't as we had hoped, we can't help but feel like winners with fans like you. We hope you will continue your spirit and support throughout the following year because "we'll get 'em next time!"

Thank you very much,

1984-85 Boys Varsity Cheerleaders and Annette Davis, Sponsor

Agree or not

Road system going to pot

by S.C. Van Curen

Frankfort — Ever since 1948 when the legislature added 2.2 cents to the gasoline tax for farm-to-market (Rural Secondary now) roads, Kentuckians have been asking for a better road system than the state can afford.

In addition to the regular road-building and maintenance program, the Inter-State and Toll Road systems have been built through bond issues beginning in the 1950s.

While the federal government furnished 90 percent of the money to build the toll roads, until just recently the Feds contributed no money toward their maintenance, and the state made no provision to establish a fund to maintain the toll roads. Any major construction requires the issuance of revenue bonds to finance them, but the present toll road system had produced insufficient revenue to meet the debt service. Therefore, it has been necessary to use money from the general road fund to help meet these obligations.

NOW IT'S TIME to face the inevitable. The roads are going to fall apart if money isn't provided to reestablish an adequate maintenance program that has been allowed to get far behind. For example, the Bureau of Transportation says a 15-year resurfacing program is necessary for good road maintenance. In 1984 the resurfacing program is necessary for good road maintenance. In 1984 the resurfacing cycle for Rural Secondary was 38 years and the other state roads, excluding the interstates and toll roads, was 18 years.

In a report last year, state engineers said it would take $39 million annually for six years beginning in 1986 to reach this goal on rural secondary and others, excluding the toll roads and interstates. Toll roads would require $24 million for the next six years, and this is not all.

THE TOTAL bill reported for Kentucky's share for Better Transportation would be $156 million a year just to maintain the status quo, President Jack Fish said.

"Our substantial investment in highways is in jeopardy," Fish said. "The fundamental problem is inadequate funding for maintenance and reconstruction."

It is broken down this way — $40 million for resurfacing, $24 million for toll roads, $50 million for construction and reconstruction, and $36 million for other demands.

Suggested sources for the new revenue are: increase motor fuels tax from nine to 14 percent to raise $70 to $78 million for the state system and $20 to $22 million for local; increase auto registration from $12.50 to $25, providing $36 million for the state, and $2 for local. The estimated total increase would be $96 to $104 million for the state if the $47 million of coal severance tax taken from the highway fund is returned; and would give the local systems $22 to $24 million.

"THE ROAD FUND is really in worse shape than the General Fund," Fish reported. "For the 13-year period ending June 30, 1985, the Road Fund was up 50 percent while the General Fund was up by 224 percent — a growth rate more than four times that of the Road Fund."

Debt service is a major Road Fund problem ($231 for the current biennium), amounting to more than 30 percent of the projected revenue. More than 80 percent of the motor fuels tax revenue is required for debt service: $23.9 million for Economic Development Road Bonds; $46.9 million for Resource Recovery Roads; $50 million for Toll Roads; $18.6 million for general obligation bonds.

Underfunding problem is not included in the above, but it is estimated it would take more than 70 years to solve it.

Down Memory Lane

Feeback awarded Purple Heart

Thursday, March 11, 1965

Lovell Hollar, chairman of the Nicholas County Soil Conservation District board of supervisors, has announced that the local SCD board went on record last week as unanimously opposed to the "Revolving Fund" as proposed by the United States Bureau of Budget. Under the provisions of the proposal, $20,000,000 would be cut from the fund providing technical assistance to farmers and private land owners.

Why wait for better tobacco prices? Walter Shepherd, former Nicholas County judge, thinks he has an answer. This year he is curing 300 "old" Kentucky barns and has plans for curing 2,000 next year. Andy Sargent and Clayton Morris are handling the processing.

At the last regular meeting of the Carlisle Junior Chamber of Commerce, Henry Peters was elected president for the coming year. Other officers elected were R.S. Wills Jr., first vice-president; David Zachary, second vice-president; Ronald Haney, secretary; James A. Carter, treasurer; Ralph Taylor, Charles Carter and Norman Duncan, local directors; Jerry Cameron state director.

Eugene Kelley, Carlisle chief of police, was recently given honorable mention at a meeting of the National Police Officers Association held at Venice, FL. He was cited as one of the "outstanding leaders in law enforcement, criminology and corrections" in Kentucky.

Ivoy Gray, new beef cattle specialist from the University of Kentucky, will speak to a group of beef cattle producers in Nicholas County in the assembly room at the post office Thursday, March 11. He will discuss the future of beef cattle production in the county and special emphasis will be placed on feeder calf production.

BORN — To Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Gum, a son, Daniel Steven, March 2 at Central Baptist Hospital, Lexington. — To Mr. and Mrs. William Wood Jr., Mt. Olivet, a daughter, Wendy Lee, March 3 at Nicholas County Hospital.

DIED — Mrs. Hazel Vice Flora, 46, wife of E.C. Flora, Lexington, March 4 at Central Baptist Hospital, Lexington.

— Mrs. Sally Mason Dayton, 97, widow of William G. Dayton, March 5 at Nicholas County Hospital. — Tom Payne, 86, Saturday at Nicholas County Hospital.

Thursday, March 15, 1945

Dr. Cecil V. Crabb, former pastor of the Carlisle Presbyterian Church and now pastor of the Lee Church at Columbia, TN, occupied the pulpit at the regular Sunday morning services in Carlisle last Sunday.

The 10th regional basketball tournament got underway last Wednesday afternoon at the Southside gymnasium in Paris and continued through Friday with Maysville winning the championship.

Bath town captains reporting a total of $3,497.35 collected during the first week of the campaign, Nicholas County has passed the halfway mark in the campaign to raise a quota of $6,000 for the American Red Cross War Fund, according to chairman Cleary Fightmaster.

At a meeting Friday night at the office of Roger Wenneck, members of the Kentucky State Foxhunters Association discussed plans for the 1945 fall meeting. President Dillard Hill, Mrs. Hill and Neville Yates of Waco attended.

Pvt. First Class Maurice Feeback, a 22-year-old infantryman of Carlisle, is now recovering at a United States Army general hospital in England. He was wounded in the left leg by mortar shrapnel as his unit fought from house to house in a German town. He has been awarded the Purple Heart.

MARRIED — Miss Martha Taylor Riley, daughter of Woman's Army Corp, and Lt. William David Fiederlein, March 3 in New York City. — Miss Dorothy Jean Scott and Edward (Tommy) Booth, March 7 at the home of the Rev. Ira McMillan. — Miss Bobbie Ann Small and Sgt. Roscoe W. Jenkins, March 6 at the Rose Hill Methodist Church. — Miss Ruth Towles and Willie Lee Ritchie, Feb. 24 at the Carlisle Methodist Church.

DIED — Mrs. Mary Lyda Vaughan, 85, widow of Thomas Barton Vaughan, Friday at Johnson Memorial Hospital.

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* See Here Abouts, page 3

Op-Ed page

Our univented inventions... *are designed to put the crunch on the Russian bunch*

My neighbor Mr. Crannich is a nut, Arthur Hoppe was saying the other day. He went on to say: He caught me in my backyard mucking my hydrangeas and demanded I sign a petition supporting the Happy Hour Neutralizer.

"What's a Happy Hour Neutralizer?" I asked.

"It's a bifocalized, rocket-guided laser beam that turns vodka into Postum," he said. "Believe me, it'll bring the Russians to their knees before you can say Cap Weinberger."

"It certainly would change the face of Mother Russia," I agreed. "How does it work?"

"I don't know," said Crannich. "It hasn't been invented yet. But it'll cost $36 billion."

That's ridiculous, Crannich," I said. "How do you expect to scare the socks off the Russians with a $36 billion weapon that hasn't even been invented?" I thought for a minute. "By george, Crannich," I said, "I think you've stumbled onto something."

"You bet your sweet patootie," he said. "If we can terrify Moscow with Star Wars, an incredibly complex system of shooting down missiles in mid-air before we even put it on the drawing boards, think of the host of other awesome unvented weapons we can stockpile in our undeveloped arsenal of democracy."

"You have other incredible engines of destruction in mind that no one else has thought up yet?"

"A dozen," he said proudly. "Think of the reaction in the Evil Empire, for example, when we announce plans to design a digitally MIRVed intercontinental snow machine capable of transforming the USSR's Caspian resorts into Arctic tundra

RUSS METZ

while, at the same time, converting all commie anti-freeze into chicken noodle soup."

"That'll destroy their will to resist," I said.

"Then," he said, rubbing his hands in anticipation, "we'll hit them with price releases on our proposed submarine-based Mediterranean Cruise Missile which will emit electromagnetic waves guaranteed to put all their telephones on hold, stick all their elevators at the third-and-a-half floor, and render inoperative every Xerox machine west of the Urals."

"You wouldn't knock out their Xerox machines!" I gasped.

"We must destroy their ability to reproduce," said Crannich grimly. "That's when we'll deliver the kayo: a hint from an unnamed source that we have in the works a tasteless, odorless, binary chemical gas that will yuppify their youth. Oh, the instant demand for Bath Oliver English biscuits and hot canard pate alone will bankrupt their economy and destroy their social structure."

"Good grief, Crannich," I said. "There is such a thing as a Geneva Convention, you know."

Crannich shook his head. "When it comes to inventing univented weapons, we must be heartless," he said. "Do you think the President gave one thought to Russian sensibilities when he invented Star Wars which hasn't been invented yet?"

"I suppose you're right," I said, "but aren't you worried that if the President spends $36 billion on your Happy Hour Neutralizer, our scientists won't be able to figure out how to design and build it?"

"No, I'm afraid they will," said Crannich. "You see, an ununvented weapon will only terrorize the Russians as long as it remains unvented. For every expert I've talked to agrees that my Happy Hour Neutralizer has one more thing in common with Star Wars."

"What's that?" I asked.

"It won't work either," said Crannich.

— RM —

The weather has been getting to a lot of people. Everybody talks about it, so maybe we can talk our way out of it. We have some questions from people who clearly have symptoms of cabin fever and are walking on the edge, where they run the risk of being sprayed by a salt truck or being run over by a cowboy in a big four-wheeler.

Q: I'm a newcomer to your area and I'd like to say your roads are something else. I've seen 20-story building excavations that were shallower than your potholes. How do you cope with them? Is this a Third World country?

A: No, and I'll tell you why. We don't get enough sunshine to be a Third World country. Like many whiny, pampered outsiders, you simply don't understand the function of the pothole. The pothole is government's way of saying, "Slow down, speed kills." Think of the pothole as a safety device, a concave version of the speed bump.

Potholes also stimulate the used hubcap industry. Most important, they have social value. Potholes give us a common bond, something we can all share and talk about at the garages where our cars are being repaired.

Q: It seems to me we've got a head start on the pothole season and it has the potential for being one of the biggest years yet. As a connoisseur of potholes, do you have a favorite kind?

A: This is like asking a parent to single out a favorite child. They're all lovable in their own way and have unique personalities — the broad flatcaken, the chunky maiden, the lunar craters capable of hiding a Toyota. I suppose my favorite is the constellation formation, a pull of the above in what is known as the "minefield pattern." Under this configuration, the driver swerves left and right as if dancing through a hail of machine-gun fire. Sometimes you can get so caught up in the game that you can nail a jogger, or cross the line and hit someone coming the other way. But what is life without risk?

Q: Seems to me that the exception of one or two years, we have had rather severe winters in recent times. What is the pattern start?

A: About the time the weather people started to use the term "windchill factor" with regularity. Back when the cold was measured simply in degrees, people said, "yeah, it's cold but that can happen in winter" and went about their business. Now when the windchill factor is announced, people are under the impression they'll get frostbite if they so much as leave the house.

Q: Do you favor getting rid of the windchill factor?

A: No, it should be retained but used only in the summer when it would cheer people up.

— RM —

Here are some symptoms of winter blahs never revealed by the American Medical Association. You have a terminal case of cold weather neuroses when:

— You remove the June picture on your calendar and paste it over the snow-layered scene depicting February.

— You consider trading in your pet parakeet for a penguin.

— You are grateful if someone threatens to tan your hide.

— You have an uncontrollable urge to pet your lawnmower.

— You take your overshoes to a cobbler and ask if he'll put studs in them.

— You demand that city officials designate your driveway as a snow emergency route.

— You fly off the handle at anyone who, when asking if you understand something, inquires if he gets it.

— You decline all pastry covered with icing.

— You refuse to eat any meal classified as cold cuts.

— You start arguments with strangers at bus stops in hopes they will lead to heated exchanges.

— You consult a dermatologist on whether a person with constant goose bumps is likely to sprout feathers.

— You develop a sudden craving for whale blubber.

Onward, upward.

Here Abouts

Continued from page 7

of leadership in its midst, men and women who, without being designated, would step forward to help their neighbors and put things in order.

"The writer's storms remind us that the country hasn't gone soft; its people spring back from adversity; courage exists in vast abundance; the feeling of community hasn't been extinguished by the impersonal routines of contemporary life."

The best of the human spirit in America is alive and as well as it was in any previous generation. One is reminded that the qualities of ordinary humanity are superb qualities. When people and communities are tested by fire, famine or other crises, all that is good in people comes out in a remarkable way.

***

Speaking of Persimmon Ridge and Goose Creek, we received a letter of thanks to all who helped during the "awful night of the snow" from someone in those areas. Particularly singled out for praise were the National Guardsmen, road crews, the factory for opening their doors for the workers to stay, rest and eat, as well as "all the good folks along the roads who opened their doors and heart to the stranded and working."

The letter was not signed and therefore not published, a long-standing policy of The Mercury. In fact, it bore no return address and we had no way to contact the writer, except this acknowledgment.

We LOVE to get letters, especially those saluting the good deeds of others. But, please, get them to us by Monday and do sign your name, address and give us a phone number (which will not be printed) where you may be reached, in case there's a question. Much love.

EAW

Letters... *from our readers*

Continued from page 2

up requiring different pumps. These pumps were ordered. All of this was done without the Water Board or FHA's approval. This change has caused undue delay in the completion of the new system and has caused the Water District thousands of dollars in repairs and maintenance, labor, chemicals and other expenses involved in keeping the old system operating. In addition many of you have suffered the inconvenience of low pressure and interrupted water supply. Now I ask you who has the greatest need for water, the city of Owingsville, which has no water problems, or the Sharpsburg District which has little or no water?

If the Judge had approached the Sharpsburg Water Board, I am sure the board would have agreed to allow the Division required to its pumps in order to provide Owingsville with an emergency water supply as long as it did not degrade the quality or reduce the quantity of water delivered to Sharpsburg. I am also sure that no one in the county can fault the Sharpsburg Board for withholding payment on work that was not authorized, and I do not believe that the funds for an Owingsville system should be diverted from the funds allocated and loaned to the Sharpsburg District.

Good luck to the remaining board members, and to the newly appointed members. I hope you see the project through as originally planned and that you continue to conduct the business of the Sharpsburg Water District honestly and without politics being involved.

I hope this explains just a few of the many roadblocks that politicians and bureaucrats sometimes put in the way of our obtaining a decent water supply for the Sharpsburg Water District.

Jimmy Wells
Former Water Commissioner
Sharpsburg Water District

No Parents Night upsets parent

To The Carlisle Mercury:

Why didn't we have Parents' Night at Nicholas County High to recognize the students and their parents? This is the question I would like someone to answer for me. As a make-up game day didn't we play Bath (County) or Maysville at home instead of Boyle County away, then we could of had parents' night.

Our basketball (team), football (team), band and cheerleaders need to be recognized for the goals they have achieved during the year. Our senior players and their parents need to know how much we appreciate all the hard work and time they have devoted to their school. How are we going to keep our children interested in school when no one acknowledge their achievements?

Other schools smaller than ours have Parents' Night, Homecoming and Homecoming dance. Why can't we? I know I am not the only parent who is upset over this situation. We as parents want better for our children than what we had during our high school years, but I feel our children are being left out.

Sandy Ritchie
130 Catherine St., Carlisle

Editor's note — NCHS principal David McMillen notes that the school parking lot was covered by three feet of snow Feb. 15 when Parents' Night was to have been observed at the Bath County game. Snow had not been removed on Saturday. Both Bath County and Maysville had conflicting make-up dates when the Boyle County game was rescheduled at Boyle County Feb. 23. In addition, the team had away games and/or a Bath-Mason prior commitment all six nights of the final week of the season.

It's time to face reality

To The Carlisle Mercury:

There are many concepts and views presented in this nation, but I fear that reality has not been faced. The economy has always been placed on a boom or bust cycle. In recent years I have encountered no one who spoke of stability in economy. Greed and basic dishonesty has been fashionable in this century. For example, we hear a great deal about arms control and world peace. The facts are that peace and world stability are not profitable in the world market. Young men and women are a renewable resource and they are looked at as only numbers.

I predict before the end of this century that we have another Vietnam on our hands in South America. We are not fighting to protect freedom and democracy because the nation lost

School menus

HIGH SCHOOL
March 11-15

Monday, taco salad, nacho cheese chips, corn, apple. Tuesday, bologna and cheese sandwich, potato chips, peas, waldorf salad. Wednesday, sausage, vegetarian beans, baked apples, hot biscuits and butter. Thursday, spaghetti with grated cheese, peanut butter and crackers, lettuce wedge with dressing, French bread, apple. Friday, chicken pattie on bun, potato rounds, sliced tomatoes, banana pudding.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Breakfast — Monday, juice, Danish, milk. Tuesday, juice, pancakes with syrup, milk. Wednesday, applesauce, sausage with biscuit, milk. Thurrday, juice, pop tart, milk. Friday, juice, blueberry muffins, milk.

Lunch — Monday, coney island, bash browns, mixed vegetables, cookie. Tuesday, chili with crackers, pimento cheese sandwich, fruit. Wednesday, hamburger on bun, french fries, peach half. Thursday, chicken patties, buttered potatoes, green beans, hot rolls, ice cream. Friday, grilled cheese sandwich, cowboy beans, slaw, brownies.

Hospital lifts ban

The restrictions on visiting patients at the Johnson-Mathers Unit during Home and Nicholas County Hospital, imposed for two weeks during the flu outbreak, have been lifted.

Administrator Robert Hester Jr. said that conditions had improved throughout the county by March 1 and that visitation limitations surrounding the late February crisis were no longer in effect.

Hester noted that local physicians credit the family-only visitations as a key measure in helping control and treat the flu outbreak.

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I was surprised at Mr. Reagan's speech to the nation. I think he believed it himself. In some magical kingdom perhaps it could all come true. The reality is that most things in this country are failing to work. Unemployment is still disgracefully high and no person of average income can afford to buy a home. If it wasn't for some of the foreign investment our industrial base would be even lower.

As for national leadership this subject should be talked about. When our nation was founded it was proposed that all people should participate in the function of government. I wonder then why we have turned the government over to the rich and special interest segment?

Most of the people in high positions have no concept of world reality or responsibility. They have never worked or tried to raise a family on the income of most working families yet they make policies for you and I to live by. We have gone through an oil shortage and high interest rates. I have a theory that should be shared with the people. The crisis was created with the knowledge of the potential profit to the chosen few in high finance and government.

The administration stresses the great communist threat and how we need to protect America. I laugh at this as much because the communist countries are feeling out their own problems for them. This in concept is to take your mind off the real problems that confront America. It has been predicted that by the end of the century we will be a Socialist-type country and a third rate in the western industrial world. I predict a total economic collapse in our present course. I further predict that it's preplanned and the outcome is known in high circles of finance.

America will continue to meander along in this part of the century and we will do well to hold on to this country. Then the leaders of any nation place themselves above the wishes and needs of the people they invite revolution and disaster. The country does not have to be the quality of leadership merits very little.

Sincerely yours,
Allen Clay Stone
Route 4, Carlisle, KY

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