Opinion

Who's the freeloader?

Suppose you are a retiree who got tired of sitting around taking life easy, so you went to work and are making more than $25,000 a year.

And suppose you are married and your wife is retired, too, and losing her taste for endless leisure, she got a job also, and the two of you are now earning more than $32,000 a year.

Or suppose you are a retiree who in your active working years put in long, hard hours and labored like a dynamo to earn enough to save and invest so that when you retired, which you finally did, you would be earning enough from your investments to travel the country or raise horses or buy a ranch or farm or sail the lakes or seas in your own yacht — and you and your mate are in the $32,000-plus bracket.

Suppose that you are in your 70s, and these are supposed to be your "golden years" and you are in one of the categories described above and you are drawing Social Security, into which you and your employer paid throughout your youth and middle age, and to which you continue to contribute if you have a part-time or full-time job.

Under current law, such individuals and couples pay taxes on 50 percent of their Social Security benefits.

So you know what House Speaker Thomas P. "Tip" O'Neill, D-Mass., thinks you are?

He thinks you are a freeloader.

O'Neill proposes raising the level of taxation on Social Security benefits for persons in those categories from 50 percent to 85 percent.

"Those people are freeloaders, to be perfectly frank," said he.

To be perfectly frank, that is a fine remark to be coming from Tip O'Neill, who has spent most of his 72 years nuzzling at the public trough, who has just signed a contract to do a book for a million-dollars-plus fee up front and who, along with his $97,900 salary as speaker of the House and his myriad perquisites and associated benefits, is drawing Social Security.

Who's a freeloader? — The Indianapolis Star.

Americans in Paris, etc.

Americans traveling abroad are often the targets of purse-snatchers, so when Kay Wills was approached by a man on the streets of Lucerne, Switzerland she clutched her bag tightly and alerted husband R.S. to intercede in her behalf.

What did he want?" she asked R.S. after the man had moved on.

"He wanted to know if we were Americans. When I said yes, he simply said, 'They have released the hostages!' "

That was sort of the "icing on the cake" for six local students — Lynn Reynolds, Onias Villaflor, Cindy Hamon, Dewayne Baker, Michelle Marr and Julie Wills, who with Mrs. Marjorie Wilson, Mrs. Gail Irvin, R.S. and Kay — who returned July 8 from a nine-day, four-country tour of Europe.

They flew from New York to Brussels, Belgium where they boarded a bus with student/adult groups from Pennsylvania and Texas, who also were touring under the auspices of the American Institute for Foreign Studies of Greenwich, Conn. These were their constant companions for hundreds of miles of sights and experiences they will remember the rest of their lives.

First stop out of Belgium was Cologne, Germany, where they toured the Guild area before boarding a boat for a Rhine River cruise to Heidelberg and its castles and hillside vineyards.

It was back on the bus and off to Switzerland. Somewhere along the way outside Heidelberg they saw tobacco being raised: It was rather

Here Abouts

...with Emily A. Wolf

startling and even though she'd seen burley growing around here all of her life, Kay had to double check with R.S. to be sure she wasn't seeing things. It was the last thing they expected to see growing in Germany.

***

Next stop was Lucerne in the beautiful Swiss Alps, easily the favorite tour attraction. They did it up brown, taking the boat trip around Lake Lucerne, going to the top of Mt. Pilatus and listening to the playing of an alp horn. They even had a free afternoon, as it turned out, and Lynn and friends spent it with her aunt, Mrs. Eleanor Yerdery, who came by train from her home just outside Zurich. Eleanor and Lynn had made tentative arrangements to get together while Eleanor was here earlier this summer.

From Lucerne it was on to Paris, the city of their dreams, and Versailles where they celebrated the Fourth of July. Some felt Paris was dirty, but all agreed that the Louvre was quite a treasure trove of art. In fact, many things came to life they'd studied in "A Tale of Two Cities" as sophomores.

Their courier (tour guide) was from England and the bus driver from Belgium. And since Kay teaches French as well as English at NCHS, they had few language difficulties.

Kay pointed out that the larger, fancier French restaurants are now limiting the number of American diners for a better blend of international clientele. Ta Ta.

Any disappointments? Only that for some reason, their pre-planned dinners consisted of pork for six of the nine evening meals.

The whole trip was memorable, but what seemed so impressive was the way Europeans utilized every bit of ground for vegetable and flower gardens.

"Just imagine," Kay remarked, "no yards to mow!" (No place like home, huh Kay?)

***

Coke was 'It' — All the talk of Coke changing its flavor, then bringing it back as Coca-Cola Classic last week, jarred the memory of Roger **Womack**, who recalls "the real thing" was a drink by the name of "It," dispensed only at the soda fountain at Waddell's Drug Store in Millersburg, back in the late 1920s and early 30s.

Bud and Ed Waddell were brothers-in-law and partners in the drug business of Millersburg. Beeding had worked for the Coca-Cola Company in Atlanta during the early years of this century. He returned to Millersburg and developed a formula similar to Coke, which most people preferred to the "real thing." "It" was sold by the glass for a nickel and was a popular drink of thirsty travelers and townsfolk.

When the drug store ceased operation in the 1930s the formula died with it, unfortunately. Pres **Blair** recalls "It" was a favorite of Bud and Ed's great aunt, Hattie Wood. Roger thought "It" was it...so much better than the Coke you buy today." Waddell's was located across from the Post Office on Main Street.

Its originator was the father of **Waddell Beeding** and grandfather of the present **Thomas Beeding** of Millersburg and **Polly Beeding** (**Mrs. Phelps Ratliff**) of Sharpsburg.

***

Speaking of Millersburg, our neighboring city is the birthplace of Hurst Home Insurance Company, with the home office across the street from the Christian Church. **Fielding and Orie Hurst** were the founding officers. Office manager was **Charlie Chanslor**, late father of **Robert Chanslor**, a resident of Pleasant Springs Road.

Fielding, who served as president, was the father of **Amelia Hurst**, who married **John Wright**. Their son, **Walton Wright**, a director with Harrison REC, is the father of **Johnny Wright**, who is married to the former **Marsha Soper** of Nicholas County.

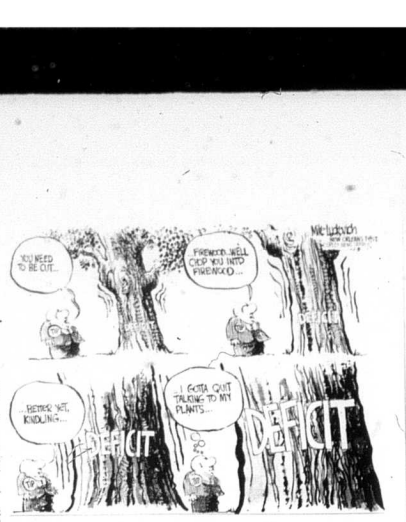
Still another local connection is **Roger Womack**, a stepson of **Sanford Carpenter**, who was also the stepfather of Amelia Hurst (Wright).

***

Crafts needed — Arts and crafts people and small antiques dealers are needed to display, demonstrate or sell items during the "Battle of Blue Licks" celebration August 17-18 at the state park.

Manager Sam Devine, who has nothing but praise for local

• See Herrabouts, page 3



Down Memory Lane

...from Mercury files of bygone years

10 years ago

Thursday, July 31, 1975

Six girls representing Nicholas County modeled in the Area Fashion Revue at the Bluegrass Fair, Lexington. They are Margaret Ellen Hamm, Stitching Post; Donna Gail Hughes, Pattern Magic; Kay Conley, Simple Dress; Jewel Shaw, Hairstyles; Ginger Lea Myers, Mix Match; Cheryl Lawe, Special Occasion. All girls received blue ribbons.

Carmico Country Club's first member-guest golf tournament is scheduled for this weekend, August 2-3. Over 80 persons are signed up to compete for the over $1,000 in prizes to be awarded. Additionally each entrant will receive a sport shirt donated by Blue Grass Industries.

Two Nicholas County boys showed their calves at the Bluegrass Fair 4-H Beef Cattle Show Saturday night. Andy Judge, son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Judge, showed his Hereford steer and placed second and received a blue ribbon. Bradley Murrell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Murrell, placed second and received a blue ribbon with his Charolais heifer.

Joseph H. Conley, Nicholas County attorney, was re-elected vice chairman of the Bluegrass Area Regional Crime Council last week. The council provides criminal justice planning and grant administration to Nicholas and 16 other counties.

The Little League Baseball Stars to play in Mt. Sterling next week are Bonnie Sadler, Pat Knapke, Steve Hamilton, Tracey Vice, Kirk Mattox, Mike Sowell, Mike Baker, Steve Fryman, Barry Bretz, David McGaffey, Donald Mathews, Dean Mathews, Todd Allison, Mike Webb, Frank Hatfield and Timmy Hunt.

Mrs. H. Dallas Sugg, Mrs. S. Evans Brown, Mrs. James Anderson and Mrs. David Zachary were among the 30 women who attended the Kentucky Federation of Women's Clubs Eighth District Workshop on Saturday at the South Shore Legion Building at South Shore.

BORN — To Mr. and Mrs. Michael E. Bunnell, Moorefield, a daughter, Krista Jo Carol, July 13.

MARRIED — Miss Deborah Lynn Ritchie and Lawrence Junior Terrell, July 5, at Carlisle Christian Church.

— Angela Worden and Reynolds Judy Jr., July 25 by the Rev. Frank Simons.

20 years ago

Thursday, July 29, 1965

Six members of Battery C, 3rd Howitzer battalion, 138th Artillery of the Kentucky National Guard awarded the Kentucky Commendation Ribbon for meritorious service for their artillery unit in Carlisle are Fire Ch. Raymond O. Leedy, Lexington; Sgt. First Class Howard F. Warner Jr., Corinth; Staff Sgt. Edgar F. Boyd, Sharpsburg; Staff Sgt. Clay Hart, Staff Sgt. Jesse C. Mynhier and Staff Sgt. Henry C. Peters Jr., all of Carlisle.

Dana Coatney, Nina Young, Jane Talbert, Lorraine Frey, Kay Threlkeld, Kay Marshall and Vicki King, members of the Conservation Club, are spending the week at Camp Earl Wallace for conservation instruction and fun. Also attending were Mrs. Lester Coatney, Mrs. Maurice King and Harry Duncan, conservation officer.

Paul Stone won a silver cup for top gun July 21 at the Hilltop Trap Shoot in Bourbon County. Scored broke 95 out of 100 clay targets.

The Nicholas County Beef Cattle Tour will be held July 31 starting at 9:30 a.m. at the W.W. Kendall farm on Leesburg Grade Road. The next stop will be the Ishmael Smith farm on the Hardy Pike and lunch will be served at the Harold Letton farm, sponsored by the Deposit Bank, First National bank and Eastern Kentucky Production Credit Association.

Yeoman Third Class Ronald C. Smith, USN, son of Mr. and Mrs. William W. Smith, is serving as a member of the staff of commander Carrier Division Six aboard the attack aircraft carrier USS Shangri-La presently deployed on a cruise in the Mediterranean Sea as a unit of the U.S. Sixth Fleet.

BORN — To Mr. and Mrs. James Tincher, a daughter, Jamie Denise, July 22 at Nicholas County Hospital.

— To Mr. and Mrs. Donald Merrill Bowles, a son, Gayle Wayne, July 24 at Nicholas County Hospital.

DIED — Stone Freeman, 71, July 22 at Nicholas County Hospital. — Mrs. Mary M. Fryman, 23, wife of Everett Fryman, July 22 at Nicholas County Hospital. — Firman L. (Buck) Wasson, 68, July 22 at Johnson-Mathers Nursing Home. — James G. Allison, 84, Thursday at home in the Headquarters section. — Mrs. Madge Holderman, Clawson, MI, wife of Charles F. Holderman, July 26 in the Highland Park General Hospital.

— Mrs. Nell Richart Letton, 74, widow of Harry T. Letton, July 27 at home in the Carpenter Road.

40 years ago

Thursday, August 1, 1945

Members of the local National Guard unit arriving home this week from Germany after serving for almost 18 months overseas are Ist Sgts. Brothers, Staff Sgt. Raymo and Conyers, T-5 Owings Wade, T-5 Quentin Snapp, T-5 Jack Ritchie, Cpl. Thaddeus Selby, Cpl. Dudley Vaughn, James Honaker and Charles Armstrong.

Roger C. Womack, local attorney and chairman for the 7th War Loan Drive here, has recently received a letter from Ben Williamson, Jr., Oakland, state chairman of the campaign in which appreciation was expressed for the excellent showing of Nicholas County.

Word from Louisville Wednesday disclosed that Ruth B. Wilson, four year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Wilson, is not suffering from infantile paralysis.

Nicholas County is not to secure the recently projected headquarter for Germany air prisoner labor because a satisfactory location had not been found by July 24. It is understood the war prisoner station is to be maintained in Bourbon County.

Scoutmaster Everett Smith and Boy Scouts Kenneth Campbell, Robert Allen Palmer, William Newell, Charles Dixon and Gaylord Caswell spent several days last week camping near Larking River.

Robert F. Davis of Middlesboro has been elected superintendent of Carlisle City Schools by the Board of Education and will assume his duties on August 15. Also Charles Anderson of Lexington will be the athletic coach and science teacher succeeding Coach A.L. Fisher. Other appointments were Mrs. Glennie Fisher, math teacher; Mrs. Ben H. Pumphrey, math and social science; Mrs. Rolla Cavanaugh, social studies; Miss Louella Huddleson, first grade.

DIED — Mrs. Ada Waugh Talbott, 86, widow of Edward Talbott, Tuesday at the home of her son, Roger Talbott near North Middletown.

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Op-Ed page

My everlasting pill

...is the world's only recyclable laxative

The last time I got out my everlasting pill was when Richard Nixon was president and had decided to release a stockpile of government metals to be sold on the public market.

At the time, I figured I could clean up if the government could. But Nixon was even harder to swallow than my everlasting pill, so because people were having too much shoved down their throats at that time, I concluded it just wasn't the proper climate for the resurrection of my little wonder pill.

Maybe now is a better time, what with medicine going back to the basics and indoor toilets in every home. I'd sort of like to get my everlasting pill back into action before doctors find out how much they can make with one.

The everlasting pill is a small ball of silvery metal called antimony. It was discovered back in the 18th century when constipation was a problem because Eskan hadn't been invented, forcing a lot of people to experiment with yucky herbs to try to find something explosive enough for a laxative.

Thrifty harbgers of that day saved money by eating it in small portions pill. After the initial outlay of money, this remedy cost nothing to use. The patient simply swallowed the pill and waited for the blast, recovered his pill, washed it off and it was ready to use again.

As a prized possession, the family's everlasting pill descended through successive generations. It was usually kept in the family jewel box and if someone grabbed up a stray pearl and gulped it down for the pill, there was no harm done other than making him a little more valuable during the interment.

It was a good sign in those days if you married a girl whose dowry included an inherited everlasting pill. You knew you then had a chance of surviving her cooking.

For doctors, the everlasting pill was a real gold mine. One woman, according to one report, became alarmed after she swallowed the pill and it did not reappear in a reasonable length of time. The doctor assured her everything would come out well in the end. He had used the pill on 106 patients before her without any problem.

The pearls were so busy raking in the swag, it took them a hundred years or so to realize the magic action of the antimony pill was a wee tad upsetting to the patients' systems. It was actually the irritant effect of a nonabsorbable foreign body to the human body that made it such an explosive laxative. So doctors reluctantly quit using it in favor of castor oil to prove there are things worse than constipation.

My family always lubricated its everlasting pill with bear grease. Not only does it relieve irritation on the inwards, you can keep better track of the thing by listening to your stomach growl.

—RM—

Two fellows attending a seminar turned a rented canoe over in the middle of the lake at the Inn of the

Mountain Gods on the Indian reservation near Ruidoso, NM.

Dee Blakely of Wharton, Tex., a seminar speaker, said one of the two tried to blame it on a monster in the lake.

We got out on the lake and did well except for rigging, tagging and going in circles," that guy said.

"Then we had to turn back and go against the wind. We had a terrible time going in circles again, but then we seemed to get it together and I said to my partner, 'I think we've got this thing licked.'

"At that very moment, something came up under that canoe and turned us over."

But a member of the lake patrol who helped rescue them said it was going in circles that did them in.

"It would be better..." he told the two, "if you didn't face each other in the canoe."

—RM—

Here's one for all your natives of Ohio who were born before Aug. 7, 1963.

"Do you realize technically you were not born in the United States!

Why

Due to an oversight, Congress never voted on the resolution to admit Ohio to the Union until that date.

Maybe there's some back federal taxes you could ask to be returned. Hah! Lots of luck."

—RM—

If you're going to make something, you need plans, right? But there are plans and then there are government plans.

According to the Washington Post, the plans the Pentagon supplies to manufacturers of its MIL-W-10639 consist of 16 single-spaced pages, plus illustrations. The MIL-W-10639 isn't a tank or a missile.

It's a plastic whistle.

"The specifications," according to

Here Abouts

Continued from page 2

cooperation between his arrival here this year, says that no more food vendors are needed but he would like to have another craft booth or two where people can demonstrate and sell their wares. He said small antique dealers would be welcome but emphasized that flea market items would not be acceptable. Call him at 289-5607 if you'd like to participate.

Deitle, Gladys, Loretta, are you reading this?

***

Too jammed — This week's mail brought a letter from **Willard Scott** of The Today Show who we hoped would plug our recent Blackberry Festival during his weather stint one morning.

Wayne Shumate had cooked up a batch of his famous blackberry jam and we sent it to the NBC address in New York but he got the package but we didn't get the plug. The card said: "Thank you for your request for publicity and for the jam. As you can guess, we receive thousands of requests to announce events presented by our friends, but limited time makes it impossible to announce all. Love, Bev Willard."

I guess what we need is a t-shirt, or maybe a huge jam cake. The Today Show gang certainly likes to eat.

***

Hostless nation — We have reports on several more interesting trips our local folks have taken. Watch for them in coming weeks.

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Thanks, Rudy Hollar

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New GI bill increases $$ for college

On July 1, 1985 the New G.I. Bill and New Army College Fund programs authorized by Congress and signed by President Reagan went into effect.

The New G.I. Bill authorizes persons entering on active duty after July 1, 1985, a very lucrative education fund. The individual contributes $1,200 ($100 per month for the first 12 months) and the government adds $9,600 for a total benefit package of $10,800 after three or four years' service.

The U.S. Army is the only service to offer a two-year enlistment, therefore, the G.I. Bill total offer for two years is $9,000.

The New G.I. Bill also offers for the first time a non-contributory education fund offer to bright young men and women. This program is the New Army College Fund. To qualify, individuals must be a high school graduate and score 50 or above on the Army written entrance exam.

The New Army College Fund offers $17,000 for a two-year enlistment, $22,800 for three years or $25,200 for a four-year Army enlistment.

Agree or Not

The system needs changing

by S.C. Van Curon

Frankfort — Gov. Martha Layne Collins and legislators are due commendations for their efforts to improve educational opportunities for Kentucky children. The public should accept the changes as a beginning and not as a solution to the problems.

It is generally accepted that money alone will not do the job, and the special session of the legislature acted accordingly. But even the changes made can stand a lot of future improvement.

Basically, it's the system that needs changing. The old political spoils system is still too prevalent at the grass roots level and reaches up through the State Superintendent's office. It also penetrates the colleges and universities.

The fact must be recognized that it is going to take some years to do this. Expecting too much of recent actions can be a mistake that could be very harmful in the future.

The governor and others are claiming the present effort is the greatest effort for improvement in the system, but there are others who will argue with this.

Some will claim that changing from the school age census method to the average daily attendance method through the minimum foundation for distributing state aid to local districts is the most progressive step. This put thousands of children in classrooms across the state that had been left out before.

The incentive for politically motivated superintendents back then was that he would have more money to spend elsewhere if children were not in the classrooms.

KENTUCKY is such a political state that if it is going to take a lot of time to correct these ills. It goes back to the early days when the sheriff was a kingpin in the county for he was the chief law enforcement officer and tax collector. This gave him power.

Next in line was the county judge, working in tandem with the sheriff created a powerful duo, and it wasn't hard to draw in the county attorney.

The tax assessor also had a lot of power for he had a string on the pocketbooks of the property owners and he curried their favor.

It didn't take the school superintendent long to gain power in terms of years for in many counties he and the school boards controlled the largest single payroll. This combination formed the "courthouse" gang that had so much political power but is now waning.

The Kentucky Education Association has not escaped the political arena. It celebrated its 100th anniversary in 1967. College presidents first controlled it even though there were not annual meetings & some of those early years.

Then, school superintendents gained control, until the principals took over, and now the classroom teachers who finance it with their dues are in control, so to speak.

BUT THE superintendent and school boards at the local level still are the single most dominant force in the state's education today and this is where politics is played the hardest because in some cases they are still the largest single employer in the county with the largest payroll and respected buying power.

All of the laws pertaining to schools and their operations have been influenced in one way or another by one education group or another. And don't overlook regulations to implement these laws are drafted through or influenced by the state superintendent's office which in turn is influenced by local superintendents.

These can't be eliminated, but the system can be improved which leaves a lot of work yet to be done.

Gregory Peck narrates special

Dramatic medical breakthroughs have revolutionized the science of human transplants. In 1983, 2,900 Americans received kidney transplants, 736 underwent bone marrow procedures and 20,000 received new corneas.

"Transplanting Hope," narrated by Gregory Peck, looks at the human side of transplantation — the pain, the problems, and the miracles — when it airs on KET Wednesday, July 31 at 9 p.m. The program focuses on the experience of transplant recipients, their families and those who choose to donate organs of dead loved ones so that others might benefit.

Lightning strikes storage building

A storage building belonging to David Tipton on Headquarters Road, 13 miles from Carlisle, was destroyed by fire July 21 about 8 a.m.

Lightning struck the building which contained some hand tools, County Fire Chief Mark Hughes reported.

The department was called to the county landfill July 17 about 9 a.m. to extinguish a fire in some trash being unloaded by Kenneth Ishmael.

'Headwaters' encores on KET

"Headwaters," a series dealing with concerns of Eastern Kentuckians, encores during August on KET Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. Topics discussed in August are the problems of coal severance, implications of violence, the Frontier Nursing Service and the importance of the arts in community schools.

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Letters

from our readers

'Your hard work appreciated'

To The Carlisle Mercury:

I would like to publicly commend the Carlisle Community Woman's Club and the local Chamber of Commerce for their efforts to bring "new life" to the Blackberry Festival.

The 5K Run and the Solo II Time Trials were an exciting addition to the usual activities. Your hard work was appreciated by many.

Sincerely,
Judy Judge
Carlisle, Ky.

Efforts 'gratifying'

To The Carlisle Mercury:

It has been awhile since I wrote to the Mercury as a way of thanking and commending the folk of our community who make our three yearly blood drives happen, both workers and donors. Our two drives thus far in 1985 have been especially gratifying efforts — 80 and 82 pints in March and July respectively.

To be sure, neither was 100 pints, but then, we have both Blue Grass Industries and Company D of the National Guard sponsoring drives where some of those that would make for 100 are given. The picture is good, and our county continues to be a bright spot in the Central Kentucky Blood Center's programs.

So, my heartfelt thanks to all who have come through. You know who you are. What you have done is important. Keep it up!

Sincerely,
Philip M. Hastings, coordinator
Nicholas County Blood Drives

Better Festival days are coming

To The Carlisle Mercury:

We read with interest and appreciation your editorial of July 11, 1985 in **The Mercury** entitled "Gentlemen, Take A Bow." We, the Nicholas County Ministerial Association, would like to go on record echoing what you said there. No doubt about it, this year's Blackberry Festival was a step in the right direction. The gratifying results made the effort and energy expended more than worthwhile. Continued and expanded such improvements will have a long-term positive effect on the psyche (and economy?) of our community. It should encourage others to move into the arena in such positive ways.

Now if only we can relocate the midway to a site where there is room for it, its noise and ugliness alleviated by a little space, that will be another help. Then too, the neighboring yards and bushes will no longer find themselves used as "comfort stations."

Better Festival days are coming! 1985 showed that that can be so. Congratulations to everyone who made this year's happen.

Sincerely,
Philip M. Hastings, Secretary
Nicholas Co. Ministerial Assoc.