

Opinion

Soil conservation plan is smart move

By Senator Wendell Ford

By far the best provision in the 1965 Farm Bill is the soil conservation program that — for the first time ever — ties farm program benefits to the way a farmer treats his cropland.

Since Kentucky has one of the top 10 highest erosion rates in the nation, we can be especially pleased about this historic legislation which will help preserve our land for tomorrow's crops.

The new bill would deny crop price-support loans, subsidy payments, crop insurance and other federal benefits to any producer who continues to till land classified as a high erosion risk.

Soil conservation programs had actually been targeted for drastic cuts in the Administration's 1966 budget proposal. However, it has finally been realized in Washington that soil conservation is actually a very smart program from a budget perspective.

Since retiring land from production means fewer commodities subject to federal subsidies and price supports, it can be less expensive to pay farmers to idle cropland rather than allowing them to grow crops. So the soil conservation language in the Farm Bill is a result of both a growing erosion

threat and the need to reduce federal spending on commodity surpluses.

For highly erodible soils which are already in crop use, the bill provides a long-term conservation reserve program under which farmers would contract for periods of 10 to 15 years to return 25 to 40 million of such acres to less-intensive uses such as grass or trees. In return farmers would get cash or "in-kind" land rental payments, established on a bid basis, plus payments covering a part of the cost of needed land treatment measures. No more than 25 percent of the land in any county could be enrolled in the reserve without approval by the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture.

The bill also contains a "swampbuster" provision which would deny farm benefits to producers who convert wetlands to crop use in the future except in cases where the impact of the action is found to be minimal.

Soil erosion has long been described as the nation's No. 1 pollution problem, costing up to \$6 billion a year in increased flood damage, water treatment expense, river and harbor dredging, and lost recreational use. This conservation program can help ensure that we have a continued efficient and reasonably priced food supply in our nation.

Well...the deep subject:

You win a few and lose a few!

What said people last week the Mercury? Well, wherever we got the December 26 issue on the newswatch and the mail didn't please a lot of people, but we had little choice — being short of wanting to give that help and ourselves a chance to enjoy the Christmas holiday etc., we chose the early publication date.

Not so for issue No. 1 of January 2, 1966. We're in the mail and on the newswatch a whole day plus a few hours later than the Mercury in the past.

Down Memory Lane

10 years ago
Thursday, January 8, 1956

Monday night at the regular meeting of the City Council, members were sworn in by City Attorney Billy Hopkins. Re-elected members are Calvin Willis, Charles Fry, Alex Crawford, Julian Green and Clarence Gert, with Bob Paul as the newly elected member. Alex Crawford was re-elected by the Council as mayor Monday.

Leafy tobacco sales resumed Friday after a 15-day break for the holidays. Prices statewide, slumping before Christmas, were up more than \$5 per hundredweight. The state average Monday was \$10.00.

Mrs. Floyd Clark was sworn in Monday as Nicholas County judge by County Clerk J. Berry Harmon. George Julian M. Carroll appointed Mrs. Clark to serve as county judge until the next General Election in November 1970. Mrs. Clark, the only female county judge in Kentucky, was named to the vacancy created by the recent death of her husband, Judge Floyd Harmon Clark.

Seven members of the Baptist men's organization of the First Baptist Church representing the organization in the Johnson-Matthews yellow cases, towels and wash clothes in the past week, were: Fred Sorell, Jr., Frank Starnes, Baconum Sorell, Dan Black, James Wells and H. Dallas Spitz. This was the thirteenth action project for the month of December 1965.

Last week Postmaster John Anderson presented George Harbets with a service award certificate for 28 years of dedicated service to the U.S. Postal Service. The award was made on behalf of Regional Postmaster General Clarence Lutz.

BORN — To Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Gilmore, Milersburg, a son, Dwight Thomas, Dec. 31, at Bourbon County Hospital. — To Mr. and Mrs. Richard Deibel, Crestwood, a son, Andrew Charles, Dec. 30, 1975 at Louisville. — To Mr. and Mrs. George H. Hays, a daughter, Dawn Susan, Dec. 28, at Nicholas County Hospital. — To Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Jones, a son, Samuel Wayne, Dec. 30, 1975 at Nicholas County Hospital, Lexington.



Mrs. Morris Whitley, arrived home Tuesday, Jan. 4, by plane from the States. She has spent the last eight months in England from where she was in the month of London, London, England.

MARRIED — Miss Emma Emerson, a daughter, Penny Deane, at Nicholas County Hospital, Dec. 28 at Harrison Memorial Hospital.

MARRIED — Miss Constance Marie Weigh and Randall R. Marley, Dec. 21 at the home of the Rev. Frank Starnes, — Janice Pate Lantz and Phillip Joseph Clark, Dec. 28 in Lane Branch, Ca. — To Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Dwyer, a son, Raymond H. Dwyer, Dec. 21 at Good Samaritan Hospital, Lexington.

Kiss 79 men and what do you get... sore lips and Dutch-elm disease, you bet

If you are an average American girl, you will have 79 men before you are married, so say social scientists who study such matters, without having the foggiest idea what they are talking about.

Kissing has become a chancy sport, doctors warn that it causes all sorts of diseases.

A few years ago there was a lot of monomaniacal gung around and it was passed from person to person by kissing. prominent claims reported it.

The Screen Actors Guild worries about the disease.

The Hollywood starlet calls a press conference. Explains why she won't kiss her hero: "He's a tree worshiper. I might get Dutch-elm disease."

And what is a kiss, when all is said and done?

A promise given under seal — a vow.

Taken before the altar of matrimony, a signature acknowledged — a vow.

Over the top.

Perhaps you have heard that the Democratic Party plans to drop the donkey and get a new symbol, possibly a tree. The party designer, I know what you're thinking — "why would the Democrats give the donkey the boot just when they need it most?" Say it isn't so.

And "why let a Hollywood fruitcake design anything as important as the Democratic Party emblem when the party needs something more substantial than tinsel and make-up?"

Well, I'm afraid it is so. The donkey is a tree worshiper. And it should have been replaced by a tree.

Every state Geriatric Society is trying to get rid of its old people. They are doing their best to cultivate a more dignified and cultured image of their old people. They don't know that old people are not old.

According to New York magazine, the donkey will be used to make a new logo, designed by an old person. I had a bogey not long ago.

"What's the deal with these old people? I'm not an old person, but I do have some suggestions for the old people. I'm not an old person, but I do have some suggestions for the old people. I'm not an old person, but I do have some suggestions for the old people."

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Another School Picture Circa 1923

Sugar Creek School, October 1923, Front row, l. to r., Raymond Hamm, Cliff Fryman, Gilbert Ashbury, Eugene Ashbury, Mrs. Nellie Brayfield, teacher, Clyde Hamm, Paul Logan, Bradley Logan and Maggie Lee Frasier. Second row, Minnie Logan, Marguerite Hamm, Omer Anderson, Martha Ritchie, Russell Ashbury, Marion Anderson, Estie Tucker and Nelson Fryman. Third row, Edna Fryman, Alma Logan, Sudee H. Ritchie, Anna H. Selby, Guy Anderson, Stanley Hamm and Jimmy Logan. Pictures brought to Mercury office by Mrs. Anna H. Selby.

VAPOURS

Continued from page 2

terest, among one of the Sugar Creek School class sans school buildings, but picturing Anna H. Selby, who is not shown in the one we are printing this week on the front page.

The Fryman report on the explosion of information beginning with "The Living Machine" Wednesday, Jan. 21 at 9 p.m. on KET.

A hard and thorough search of the files after calling one of our employees for the date of the Nelson Fryman picture between 1920-75.

Thanks to Ann Shearer who stuck with the search. The picture as published was found in our files of Jan. 19, 1969.

Memory Lane

Continued from page 2

home of his son, Teddy Master in Paris. — William T. Shaw, 30 Thursday at the home of his mother, Mrs. Alice Hittley Shaw near Shady Nook. — Joe Miller, 20, Saturday at the home of his mother, Mrs. Edna Moore Sparks, Saturday at the home of her son, Frank Sparks in Cynthiana. — Mrs. Isabelle Alice Caswell, 10, wife of Rev. C.H. Caswell, Wednesday at home in Cynthiana.

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The Carlisle (Ky.) Mercury, Thursday, January 2, 1966 - 3

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