

FOCUS

Ford's Footnotes

By Senator Ed Ford
It appears that the recent primary election may have somewhat diminished the prospects of a special session of the General Assembly in 1987.

William Wilkinson, the Democratic nominee for governor, opposes making the state income tax code conform with recent changes in the federal tax laws.

This item along with worker's compensation insurance was at the top of the agenda of Governor Martha Layne Collins' last legislative extraordinary session of the General Assembly.

Wilkinson contends that changing the tax code amounts to a tax increase in disguise. He has stated that he would fight any attempt to change our present income tax laws.

In view of the Democratic nomination open competition, Governor Collins doubts that she would be able to hold the votes necessary for passage of revenue legislation.

Wilkinson says he believes a primary election will raise more revenue. The only problem with this theory is that our legislative budget staff tells us that a primary will raise an additional \$25 million dollars and that this money would be available until 1991.

This is based on the assumption that the proposal passes the general assembly with a three-fifths

Arnold eyes session

Special to The Carlisle Mercury
Anticipating his eighth term in the Kentucky House of Representatives, Representative Adrian Arnold, D-Mt. Vernon, predicts positive economic development, and to lawmakers in the 1988 session of the General Assembly.

The House Committee on Commerce and Special Districts, which Arnold chairs, is looking at federal cuts in the area of local assistance. Arnold and local governments are way out on a limb and will federal cutbacks are waiting to be heard.

"Local governments are responsible for many state mandated services and in the past have relied on revenue sharing to fund many of these projects," he said.

"And, unfortunately, this budget year is the one that finds revenue sharing being totally written out of the federal budget picture. Somehow a plan must be engineered to find, at least in part, funding to replace these losses," Arnold warned.

Arnold said revenue issues such as the out-of-control costs of Worker's Compensation and liability insurance rates require immediate attention by legislators.

Questions must be addressed, such as whether the state income tax code should conform to the federal code and where the additional revenue is coming from to continue our education reform.

The Governor's Task Force on Worker's Compensation has only recently finalized its recommendations for budgetary reform.

The program is losing \$2 million a month.

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Bond's Broadcast
By Hank Bond

My Kind of Town...

A great place to visit, but Last weekend, Marilyn and I took a three day spree and traveled to the north to visit the Windy City, Chicago.

Let me tell you north doesn't have to mean cold. No. It was hot... and the farther we went north the hotter it got.

And forget all that breeze off the lake stuff, too. Yeah, there was a breeze if you were standing by the lake, but who can spend all that money and stand by the lake just to get a little breeze?

I had been to Chicago twice, and Marilyn had never been, so after talking about it for the past 10 years, I figured it was time to take her to the big city. The real big city.

If you think Lexington or Louisville are big, just figure from the 34th floor of the hotel we were staying in, you could see anything but city.

In fact, from the top of the John Hancock Insurance Building you can't see all of the city and its 50-60 stories high.

That's a big city. And traffic. There's no real comparison of traffic available in Kentucky to Chicago at rush hour.

Of course, we had to fool around and hit Lake Shore Drive at rush hour and then miss the turn, I won't say why, and go through some of the roughest territory I have ever ventured.

It is, however, manage to make it back to Michigan Avenue, home of Illinois' highest priced stores, restaurants and hotels.

We did manage to find a reasonable rate at a hotel and set into the city.

We parked the car and had to walk. No way this guy was going to drive again until Sunday morning when we started back to Carlisle.

I believe that there are two reasons which made the trip even more enjoyable.

On Saturday and Sunday WGN Radio and the City of Chicago sponsored the annual Water and Air Show held at the Grand Avenue Beach on Lake Michigan.

Also that weekend, there were sail boats from all over the country in town for the Chicago to Michigan race, which began Saturday.

All-in-all there were probably 10,000 sail boats on the lake from Hammond, Indiana to Chicago proper, a sight which defies description.

Saturday at noon we ventured down to the Ohio Street Beach and Marilyn dangled her feet in the lake to say she and then we walked about two miles down the beach to watch the shows. There were only about 20,000 people crowded onto that stretch of beach.

We had the opportunity to watch the Blue Angels fly over and do their thing and it was a tremendous adventure.

After a couple hours we were nearing well done, it was 98 degrees, and there was a slight reflection of the lake, slight rain, so we decided to tramp, remember no car, down Chicago Avenue to Michigan Avenue again to visit the Water Tower.

It is, too, something hard to explain, except I will add there should be a sign posted on the doors (every door in Chicago revolves) WARNING: You Can Go Broke In Here; Within Five Minutes of Entering.

I've been to the Tower a few times before, but I had forgotten there were stores that sold just one thing like a socks store; This Little Piggie.

In addition to every fashion and accessory there were food stores, pants stores... the list goes on and on and some more food.

It's a real adventure if you don't mind a little heat and some sore feet.

If you have never been to a Chicago type city: Pack plenty of clothes, go to the bank before you leave, and most importantly take your walking shoes.

One thing's for sure, though, it's a great place to visit, but living there's another matter.

And so, for another week, thanks and thirty.

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