APATHY WINS!

VOTERS GIVE UP

Lawrence's 1977 election gamut began with the March 8 primary. On that ballot were 12 commission candidates, 13 school board candidates and a question on financing of the Clinton Matsu Treatment plant.

Voter turnout was low as it has been in the past City elections. Only 23.7 per cent of 7,064 out of nearly 30,000 registered voters went to the polls.

The City's political history is not notably lacking in issues. Those who attempted to raise them, faired poorly. The three top vote getters outspent the rest of the field. They bought newspaper and radio ads and had more yard signs than the rest of the candidates combined.

The candidates finishing first were Barkley Clark, assistant dean of the KU Law School and incumbent commissioner; Jack Rose, director of KU laboratory services and former commissioner; and Ed Carter, district manager of Southwestern Bell.

The two candidates who attempted to raise issues were_lacking in that department and was by far the top vote-getter.

Only three school board candidates, 13 school board candidates and a question on financing of the Clinton Matsu Treatment plant.

Voter turnout was low as it has been in the past City elections. Only 23.7 per cent of 7,064 out of nearly 30,000 registered voters went to the polls.

The School Board campaign was notably lacking in issues. Those candidates who attempted to raise issues like wages for teachers, procedures for teacher negotiations, racial discrimination and corporal punishment, faired poorly.

Roger Fine, a native of Lawrence, ran a "non-see-to-sink" campaign and was by far the top vote-getter.

Jane Frydek, KU Law student, made a unique attempt to address a broad range of issues including student's rights, and she placed 7th, barely missing the general election run-off.

On a hopeful note, Willis Dukelow who once advocated double doses of corporal punishment both at home and school, finished last.

The Commission race, an oddball pointed out the value of a well-funded campaign. The three top vote getters outspent the rest of the field. They bought newspaper and radio ads and had more yard signs than the rest of the candidates combined.

The candidates finishing first were Barkley Clark, assistant dean of the KU Law School and incumbent commissioner; Jack Rose, director of KU laboratory services and former commissioner; and Ed Carter, district manager of Southwestern Bell. They outdistanced Carl Mibeck, incumbent commissioner and former commissioner; and Jerry Albertson, a Hallmark employee who is making his second attempt to win a commission seat.

The six finalists will be on the general election ballot April 23. The six finalists will be on the general election ballot April 23 to decide who will be seated on the Commission.

WATER PLANT QUESTION

The water plant question passed by a four to one margin. The landslide vote was surprising for an electorate who have, more often than not, turned down questions of appropriating money.

The key to voter approval was a propaganda campaign by the City. The City sent letters to every household telling voters that they must support the new water plant to insure a water supply for the future of Lawrence. The City's campaign simplified the issue to one of "Do you want water or not?" Although voters gave strong approval, the question wasn't asking whether the plant should be built. It was merely a choice of financing methods. A "yes" vote would have delayed the project for one year.

The City's so-called "educational" campaign didn't stress the 105 per cent increase in water rates scheduled for the next five years to pay for the plant; they didn't.

CONTINUED ON PAGE TEN
PUBLIC NOTICE PAGE 2

A SENSE OF COMMUNITY

BY KATE DUFFY

PUBLIC NOTICE

The PUBLIC NOTICE is published monthly in cooperation with the Community Mercantile and People's Energy Project. Our office is located on the upper floor of the Stores Building, 1101 Pass, Lawrence, Kansas 66044. Meetings are held every Monday evening at 7:30 pm.

People contributing to this issue: Diane Luber, Frank Addington, Susie Hanna, Paul Johnson, Chip Jones, Lawrence Schnarr, Mark Kaplan, Kate Duffy, Paul Hughes, Patti Plamam, Chuck Mager, Molly Vanhees, Steve Otto, Dick Durkamp, John Haughton, Julie Babay, Marianne Otto, Anne Browning, Don Zavelo, Helene Pesche, Dorothy Springer, Kelly O'Keefe, Marsha Foster, Pam Johnson, Richard Linker, Ferry Keizer, Kathy Clark, Mary Shepard, P.E.

A NEIGHBORHOOD FIGHTS BACK!

Prevent Rape Through Awareness

BY MARTHA COOLEY

On the South Side is a 15-year-old girl. Other girls are attacks, and 21-year-old was attacked and raped in Pus. Following those incidents, neighborhood meetings were set up to discuss street lighting. The community commissioned local artists to create posters to be distributed around the neighborhood. Plans are underway for a poster which can be put in house windows much like the Block Mother System. If someone is in trouble, they can run to an identified house and receive aid.

Visitors are welcome at CLARA meetings any evening that they will use the information to start similar programs in their own neighborhood.

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Dear Public Notice:

Disco disease plagues our community, proving again that our town is not immune to such scourges. You might well ask "what is wrong with this?" Well, disco rends to art what McDonald's does to our daily bread. Shewmogen's does it all for you, if you catch my drift. Bad enough that our food is processed in such a manner. But, however creative and exciting food can be, it is for sustenance; music, like my art, is for our mind, and should not be processed in the manner of the Big Mac.

Folk music, in a broad generic sense, i.e., blues, country, rock, jazz, etc., gives us the aesthetic expression of all that's great and small about democracy itself. Folk art depends on a healthy relationship between artist and audience for growth. This relationship entails communication of a direct nature: ideally, the audience is critic and incipient artist, the latter quality of folk art.

Disco music is one-dimensional music for a one-dimensional society. Old N. Marcuscotta couldn't have conjured a more dreadful endorsement. To disco is to dance ... and not much of anything else. Now don't get me wrong, dancing in fine and folks like to do it. Even folk music invites the dance. But what happened to listening, thinking and acting? These are essential to involvement in most folk music, but they are altogether dispensable in the disco. Disco music is simply not been listened to or thought about--there is nothing in the lyric or the music which encourages such behavior. It's numb and dumb from the word go. So much for the function of the critic, right?

Folk music also denies the role of incipient artist to its audience. Listen to this to a song sometime. Most disco grub requires listeners to subscribe to several highly paid session musicians (lotsa horns and strings), massed choruses and the studio technology requisite to mix such a mess. Where does this leave someone who wishes to "create" in this style? Just plain ol' replace, disco is controlled in production and distribution by a really few people. What did I tell you? Just like McDonald's and Hoover Kings, Woody Guthrie begatting Bob Dylan begatting Graham Parker. In folk art you can create your own chain of begatting, that's the beauty of it. You too with a modicum of brains, talent and artistic facility can contribute. Not so with disco.

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Consider the implications if disco were to come to pervasive as to gain a valuable popular music hegemony. Why, folk was in the land of the bland would become an endangered species.

Finally, people bring very little of themselves to the experience of disco. Whatever little is to be found believe that the chief purpose of art, folk or 'serious' music was to make us feel more human. If this is so, then disco is the antithesis of art. Furthermore, by denying artist-to-audience communication, which is crucial to the folk process, disco is the enemy of democracy too. Remember brothers and sisters--nobody can ever "do it all for you" and those who claim they can are the worst kind of serpent.

Steve Wilson
A WEST-MEETS-EAST FEAST

The Community Mercantile sponsored a Tofu-Chili Supper on Sunday, February 20, in the Community Building. The evening included a slide show by John Stitz of Fanshen Farm on farming in the People's Republic of China. The whole wheat berries and flour, corn and cornmeal, soybeans and soy flour presently carried by the Community Mercantile were produced by Fanshen Farm.

In part, the supper was an attempt to educate people about tofu, a product of soybeans. There was a display table with information about and samples of soybeans and soy products along with hand-outs of the recipes for items in the menu and instructions for making tofu. Tofu was a major ingredient in several of the recipes: the chili, three soya teas.

The revolution began in the heart of the farmers. The Fanshen Farm people — Betty and dome Peas, and John — named their farm for the Chinese word meaning "roots up," an agricultural term for the practice of turning over the roots in the soil to dry in the sun and kill the weeds. John applies this term to the agricultural revolution in China and believes that we must do the same in America — till the weeds in our agricultural systems.

Approximately 150 people attended the Tofu-Chili Supper. The majority were old faces familiar to co-op members, but there were several new faces, too.

The Mercantile donated the leftover tofu to Sister Kettle. Whatever money is left after expenses will go either to the co-op's educational or building fund, or to Sister Kettle.

A LOOK AT CO-OP BOOKS

The Co-op is now stocking a variety of cookbooks. The following comments may guide you in selecting the best book to fit your needs and interests.

Deaf Smith Country Cookbook: This is a well-documented comments on how to combine proteins. The recipes contained in the book are always tasty. Even so, this book is worth buying for the information on protein.

Diet for a Small Planet: This book is really a must for anyone who is concerned about the health of the earth's ecosystem.

GOVERNMENT FOOD COUPON PROGRAM: 1972

This year's government food coupon program is designed to help increase the availability of nutritious, low-cost foods for people and so that we live in harmony with the earth's ecosystem. This book is really a must for anyone who is concerned about the availability of the most nutritious foods. The recipes contained in the book are excellent, and can serve to teach you some basic cooking techniques, like setting eggnog, letting it stand, and then rinsing it to remove the bitterness. This book is worth buying for the information on protein.

New Ag Vegetarian Cookbook: This is an encyclopedia of healthy foods with an exhaustive supply of recipes. It contains menus suggestions, information about herbs, tables listing food value information, narrations on proteins and vitamins, conversion tables, information on cooking needs we may not need to cook beans and grains with or without a pressure cooker are invaluable.

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A Vegetarian Epicure: This is a very functional book for those trying to learn about vegetarian diets.

Ten Talents: This book is published by the Seventh Day Adventists. It provides convincing, well-documented comments on how we can use protein so that the most proteins exist for the most people and so that we live in harmony with the earth's ecosystems.
This past month has brought to our co-op the exciting addition of organically grown produce. In mid-February we received our first shipment and began our new relationship with Sunburst Organic Foods. This development has been an intense experience with both good and not-so-good sides to it.

On the plus side, the co-op now has a year-round source of fruits and vegetables and is the only store in town that has the variety and quality of produce we choose.

As of now, we have 120 kinds of produce available. Since we need a supply of the bigger sizes, the smaller sizes of fruits and vegetables have been gassed to delay ripening and prevent brown spots. They are far smaller than Dole or Del Monte but taste fine and no possibly carcinogenic chemicals have been used on that like the bigger and yellow ones. This is not to say that you should buy organically growing produce, organically grown or not. But a slight will, brown spots or a smaller size do not justify passing a fruit or veggie by.

On the minus side, we have a huge shipment (5,000 pounds) of food to unload once a week and barely enough space to put it even after hours of shuffling many cases. Sadly too, we have found that most of the people are not used to brain-washed about how produce should look. In spite of any intellectual awareness that Americans are overly appearance-oriented, co-op members are very picky about the produce they choose. So to get the record straight let me remind everyone that we are accustomed to produce that is dyed in color, gassed to prevent spots, and chemically fertilized to be bigger and better (?). For instance, the organically grown red delicious apples we now have are less even in color and smaller in size but crisp and juicy with no bitter taste from being sprayed. They are truly delicious unlike their giant, bright red counterparts with green and red blotsides. The bananas we now have are grown in Mexico and have not been gassed to delay ripening and prevent brown spots. They are far smaller than Dole or Del Monte but taste fine and no possibly carcinogenic chemicals have been used on that like the bigger and yellow ones. This is not to say that you should buy organically growing produce, organically grown or not. But a slight will, brown spots or a smaller size do not justify passing a fruit or veggie by.

To make sure that I'm not misleading anyone, I should point out that not all of our produce is organically grown. We have marked on the produce price list ORG by the items that are in K/O by those that aren't. And to reassure any local growers, the inventory is always to buy locally grown whenever it is available.

To help get the Sunburst produce to the store, for storage we need a truck or van every Friday from 12 noon until 2. If you have one and can help, sign up on the special list by the work calendar.

We hope to keep getting Sunburst produce. The prices are reasonable and the quality appears good. We like being able to support small growers and provide organically grown produce. But we will only be able to continue if you truly believe that it's what's inside that counts! Feedback and comments are welcomed and encouraged on this and any other area of the store.

Recycle Your Bottles

There's a new and hopefully final bottle policy at the store. The February policy of 20¢ for every bottle and jar led to a financial disaster - we were paying much more money out for bottles than we were getting back. After much agonizing, the work of some hard-working folk, and the following system.

The store will pay and charge 20¢ for all milk bottles and all the returnable glass bottles. These will be the only jars and bottles that will have deposits or refunds on them. Since we need a supply of jars and bottles and since there is no recycling center in town, it's to everyone's mutual benefit for the store to recycle glass containers. We'll take anything that people want to recycle and if the store can't use it, we'll throw it away.

So please continue to bring in jars and bottles. And when you do, always carry the returnable glass bottles to the clerk for credit and then put them in their proper racks. All other jars get left up front in the area by the clerk but do not need to be checked in. The back room will continue to be reserved for sterilized jars and empty milk bottles.

HELP WANTED

by Patti Spenar

I don't know if everyone has noticed, but space is shrinking at the store. We are carrying more and more merchandise all the time, which is far out for our shopping but hard on our coolers. The result is that the store needs some major done-cleaning, remodeling, building cold storage areas. At the time this article is being written plans haven't been finalized. But we do know that major amounts of energy are going to be needed.

Please watch for signs in the store and check in too late to classify. In late March these will be several sections about changes we need to make. April will be the target month - please plan to save some time to help get the store in shape. Please don't count on someone "who has more time" doing it for you. If we don't do it all together, it won't get done.

Whodunit?

Our store definitely runs by the efforts of many people. We are attempting to tell each other who's been doing what at the store since we can't. And to show our appreciation, we have one and can help, sign up for making signs by Molly Van Hee, Barbara Stanley, Jody King, Fran Beiler, Mike Weinhart, Jackie Magel, Annie Smith, Kathy Swain, Barb Smith, Molly Van Hee, Ambrose Nelson, Chuck Magel, Kate Diffy, Mark Laramen, and many others, for the tofu-chili supper.

Tom Eingle and Galen Zaman - for cutting our own loaves of bread for tofu for the tofu - chili supper. Also, please let us know if you know someone who deserves thanks.

Special thanks to Ed Schuerlein - for making a lid song, Renee Lazar, Barbara Stanley, Jody King, Fran Beiler, Mike Weinhart, Jackie Magel, Annie Smith, Kathy Swain, Barb Smith, Molly Van Hee, Ambrose Nelson, Chuck Magel, Kate Diffy, Mark Laramen, and many others, for the tofu-chili supper.

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FOOD DAY April 21

This is a building at SADHANA FARM

These are the Co-op sacks of whole grains that sit in the building at Sadhana Farm.

This is the mill that grinds the whole grains belonging to the Co-op that sit in the building at Sadhana Farm.

BOOKS cont. from p4

Tassajara bread book: A splendid bread book. If you really want to learn how to make bread this is the one for you. This book offers a large variety of yeasted and unyeasted breads—even a bagel recipe. And it teaches you to make those great braided breads.

Recipes for a Small Planet: An extension of the recipes offered in Diet. Each recipe utilizes the concept of combining proteins and tells you what percentage of your daily protein requirement you are getting. These recipes seem to be a little tastier than the ones in Diet.


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PAGE 6
For all of you who are ready to have that vegetarian dinner for your parents, co-workers or other uninvited guests, here are the recipes that were starred in last month’s menu.

Lentil-Tomato Soup — very hearty small bowl for first course, or large bowl next time for a main dish.

1 2 c. water
1 onion chopped
3 stalks celery chopped

Put these ingredients in a pot and simmer for three hours, adding water as needed. Then add:

3/4 teas. thyme
1 teas. sage
5 teas. garlic salt
4 teas. salt
dash dill weed

Simmer for another half hour or so then add:

1 small can tomato paste and heat through. Garnish with a large dollop of sour cream and serve some more on the side.

Potatoeauille

1 c. olive oil
2 large cloves garlic minced
2 tomatoes chopped
1 lb. eggplant unpeeled
cut in 3/4" stripes
1 tomato chopped
2 scallions thinly sliced
1 tab. minced parsley
4 teas. pepper

In a large skillet heat oil and add garlic, onions and mix until dark golden in color. (15 mins.) Add remaining ingredients and cook gently about 30 minutes until eggplant is tender and there is only a little liquid left.

Batter Fried Pineapple

4 tab. flour
2 beaten eggs
1 teas. salt
8 slices canned pineapple

Mix these ingredients and dip the pineapple slices in the batter and brown in hot oil.

Short notes — A recent newspaper article reported that Americans eat 194 pounds of meat per capita each year. A sobering thought.

And — Also a reminder to all you gardeners, due to the drought in California and the freeze in Florida, all predicitons say that the quantity and quality of produce this Spring and Summer will be down and the price will be up. This means we shall all plant as many vegetables as we can and we shall concentrate seriously on having a productive and bountiful garden next year as we did before. If you have always said ‘next year I’ll really keep out those weeds and I’ll dig in some compost and I’ll plant more...’ then this is the year, of all years, 90 it!!

COFFEE, TEA, AND THEE

Almost every American knows that in 1773 a group of American colonists, disguised as Indians, boarded British ships in the harbor at Boston, Massachusetts. They dumped chests of tea overboard in protest at the high taxes imposed by British customs officials. Could that have been the beginning of anger for three hours’ addi­

COFFEE, TEA, AND THEE

It has been estimated that 150 billion cups of coffee are drunk annually. I wonder that Americans are taking the lesson by the millions to offset their coffee nerves. Delicious, healthful herbal teas will help you in your battle against coffee jitters. So necessary you can carry the tea bags with you, ask for a cup of hot water, and presto! A cup of brew that will help not harm your health. One of my favorites from the Mercantile is Red Hip Tea, which makes a pick or mild tea, depending on how much of the material you use. Rose hip tea will provide you with Vitamin C.

I quit drinking coffee about 40 years ago; I even drank coffee as a child and wonder that I now have drunk about 2,000 cups of coffee less than I used to. I know who now have jitters? Nerets and some of the symptoms listed above. Don’t drink coffee; drink healthful, delicious herbal teas. One last word: the ingredients in colas, cocoa and chocolate. You can substitute these for the cream and chocolate, even in cold tablets, and also herbs, some of the caffeine in the coffee. You can substitute these for the coffee, and then use tea instead of the chocolate, even in cold tablets, and also herbs, some of the caffeine in the coffee.

More on caffeine in a later issue of Public Notice...

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MAYOR-COUNCIL REFERENDUM

This set the stage for the general election featuring the referendum question to abandon Manager-Commission government for a Mayor-Council system. This has been the most controversial issue in the spring campaign.

Throughout the winter, a group called Citizens for Mayor-Council Government circulated petitions calling for the vote. Barely meeting the deadline required by law to have the question on the April ballot, more than 1,300 signatures were finally filed with the County Clerk in late January.

Recently four of the five Commissioners hold four-year terms. Council members would all serve two-year terms.

The Mayor-Council issue, proponents argue, is essentially one of participation and Democratic representation. Their main criticism of the present system is that it lacks checks and balances and is designed to inhibit public involvement. The prime target is the unelected City Manager and the at-large elected Commission. Opponents of the change defend the present system as more efficient and business-like and argue that it is representative and responsive.

Twenty-five candidates and two referendum questions involve a citywide information drive for the electorate to digest in a few short weeks. As usual, a notable lack of in-depth coverage by the daily newspaper and radio have made it impossible for voters to cast informed ballots.

The low-voter turnout reflects this lack of information. Without adequate information about the issues and candidates, most of the electorate made no decision at all. While not unique to Lawrence, the problem here is growing by leaps and bounds. In the 1975 general election, for example, only 54 more votes were cast than in 1963. Despite the population increase of more than 40 percent and despite the increase in eligible voters with 18 to 20 year olds given the right to vote.

PUBLIC NOTICE doesn’t think the problem rests with the electorate. Last November 2, more than 85 percent of our registered voters exercised their right in local and national elections, sending direct representatives from their districts to these offices. Why Lawrence’s voter turnout in state and national elections has remained excellent, the turnout for local election has dropped, almost steadily, for the last 12 years.

We place the blame for lack of interest squarely on our City government. More interested in building airports and roadways than in regulating streets and picking up trash, our government has actively promoted growth and development as the salvation of the city. The results are growing cynicism and voter apathy.

Claims of responsibility by our present Commissioners are hollow when you examine the issues. North Lawrence lobbied for four years for just one traffic light. Pinckney battled with a petition drive.

It’s a question Lawrence voters haven’t faced in a quarter century, since the Manager-Commission system was adopted in 1950.

Today, Lawrence’s City government consists of a 5-member Board of Commissioners, elected at-large; paid a token $500 per year acting as a legislative body, and a City Manager, hired by those Commissioners and paid more than $50,000 per year. The City Manager has operational control over City Administration and nearly 600 employees.

Proponents of the Mayor-Council system want to replace the Commission with a Council of 5 people elected from at least four districts, two councilmen from each district. A Mayor would be elected at-large to head the administration.

One member of the City Council has spoken against the referendum: Public Notice’s Editor and Publisher.

In May 1973, when the proposal was last before the City Council, he discussed the details of the referendum that would result from the ordinance. Now, he’s fighting a City-backed referendum to sell 108-year-old Landmark Garage out of its neighborhood.

He believes the old garage should be restored and be preserved. He is not alone. In late January, City Manager John Mahoney wrote a letter to the Lawrence Journal-World urging the community to support an Ordinance to keep the Landmark Garage.

At the time of the referendum, 108-year-old Landmark Garage was in the process of being sold to the City Council. The sale of the garage would result in the City Council taking over ownership of the garage. The City Manager was reported to be in favor of the sale, while the City Council was divided in its opinion. The sale of the garage could result in the loss of a landmark building and a part of Lawrence’s history.
People on the way

Why Is This Man Smiling?

You might say that his mirth stems from his pending resignation. Ed Carter, district manager of the Lawrence-Douglas County planning department. His name is Dick McClanathan, and he is on the way up. Forced to resign by insubordinate and scandalmonger commissioners, Dick will no doubt surface soon in a larger city with a higher salary.

Meanwhile, the nation-wide search goes on, for a new planning director. Main qualifications: must be able to work well with local developers and contractors; must be a beautiful "military" environment; high school diploma, or equivalent.

Firing the City Manager is the only effective means the Commission has to affect the internal structure of the City administration. If they want to do that, they would dissolve the whole infrastructure that manages the City and provides them with information with which to direct the official they are firing.

The fact that the Commission is charged with setting policy and seeing that the City administration carries out the policies, shows that the lack of the third and most important representative democracy in City government is perfectly clear.

That tenent is the system of checks and balances inherent in the separation of power provided in the U.S. Constitution.

In that ingenious document, the legislative and administrative functions of government were divided into two branches, each the opposite of the other and checked by the other. With one person chosen to head the executive branch, the founder of the Republic understood the value of a free and independent legislative body, elected by the people and their representa­tives.

Thus, the chief executive, being a direct representative of the people at-large, was given similar power over the legislature, by a system of checks and balances.

To guard against administrative and governmental abuses of power. At the same time, the chief executive, being the representative of the people at-large, was given similar power over the legislature, by a system of checks and balances.

No such system exists in Lawrence City government. To the contrary, there exists a built-in conflict of interest in the City Manager system. Since the Commission is the board of part-time, unpaid "amateur" politicians, most of the legislative and administrative functions of government were divided into two branches, each the opposite of the other and checked by the other. With one person chosen to head the executive branch, the founder of the Republic understood the value of a free and independent legislative body, elected by the people and their representatives. Thus, the chief executive, being the representative of the people at-large, was given similar power over the legislature, by a system of checks and balances.

By Carter's own admission, Manager government is basically a marriage of business and government. City Manager government is designed to run like a business. It's main purpose is not to serve the needs and desires of Lawrence residents, but profit, through business and industrial development and profits. In this participation, Democracy, fairness, representa­tion are certainly not the main object in such a system.

This form of government has no place within or around the 50 United States. Within the past few months we have seen the outcome in Alabama and Louisiana where the Commission System government as unconstitutional in the face of inherent discrimination against minorities through dilution of the voting strengths of Blacks.

The form of government recommended by these courts is called government by a Mayor and Council. An elected chief administrator, a Mayor, is voted on by the city at-large and is ultimately responsible directly to the people for all administrative decisions at City Hall.

The Mayor, accountable to the public and to the Council, serves as the chief executive of the City. The Mayor has the right to appoint a staff or professional experts, including a City Manager, and council members have no right to appoint. The Mayor appoints a staff or professional experts, including a City Manager, and council members have no right to appoint.

The separation of powers provided in the Constitution is basically a marriage of business and government. City Manager government is designed to run like a business. It's main purpose is not to serve the needs and desires of Lawrence residents, but profit, through business and industrial development and profits. In this participation, Democracy, fairness, representation are certainly not the main object in such a system.

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WHALES 2, PYGMIES 0
UTILITY WOOS REPS

BY C.D. CEDE

Utilities lobbyists have been able to score two major consumer-oriented bills to compete with the legislature so far—a bill giving the legal right of citizens to oppose nuclear plants, and a bill prohibiting the inclusion of construction work-in-progress (CWIP) costs in utilities' rate base. But this year the lobbyists' have had little to earn their fat salaries.

K.G. & E's Wilson Cadman and Glenn Fodor could often been seen lurking about on the third floor or the fifth floor away from their legislative capital sometimes chattering with lawmakers at anytime, leading with them, leaving into them, jawing.

Cadman, a feisty little bull-terrier of a man, loves to reconnect the whiskey his industry endures from the legislature, "Why is it that the industry that has always paid for the new plants until they begin to produce electricity, that the customers do not pay for the new plants as they are built, and that the customers argue in the long run this is a cheaper method, that the utilities need not pay interest on the borrowed money?" he questioned. "They feel that they would be paying for something they're not getting. If it is that they take away the incentive from utilities to do better with what they already have."

Bob Miller, R. Wellington, spokesmen for the Kansas Farmer's Union, Mary Williams Salvesen of the Bull Creek Opposition, Diane Testwuide of the Mid-America Coalition for Energy Alternatives, Paul Burns, a farmer from Chillicothe, Kansas, and Wichita geologist, Fred Jones, among others.

Senator Arnold Berman (D-Lawrence) told the committee, "With a nuclear system, the effects of an incident can be so substantial, that the decision to require Kansas to be exposed to such risks, however small, shouldn't be left without considering our people's concerns." Berman, an attorney and engineer, worked for the Atomic Energy Commission for many years.

Only the utilities testified against the bill. They claimed they were already working to reduce the nuclear issue was diffuse; in the hearings before the House Energy Committee, many folkson their side. Paul Johnson of the People's Power Project, Ivan Wyda of the Kansas Farmer's Union, Mary Williams Salvesen of the Bull Creek Opposition, Diane Testwuide of the Mid-America Coalition for Energy Alternatives, Paul Burns, a farmer from Chillicothe, Kansas, and Wichita geologist, Fred Jones, among others.

Miller's bill got him some good "media splashs", and it had symbolic importance, but its short-term, even long-term impact, was negligible.

In the hearings before the House Energy Committee, many folks were identified in favor of the bill. Senator Arnold Berman (D-Lawrence) told the committee, "With a nuclear system, the effects of an incident can be so substantial, that the decision to require Kansas to be exposed to such risks, however small, shouldn't be left without considering our people's concerns." Berman, an attorney and engineer, worked for the Atomic Energy Commission for many years.

Secondly, if the pygmies want to change the law (the utilities seldom need a law changed, because they score all these points a long time ago). They must carry a bill and force it through the lines. If the bill is introduced and voted on at the beginning of the session, the House committee will pass it to the Senate. Then the bill is passed. At this writing the score stands: Seven goals. The pygmies, however, must rely on the usual anemon players. This year, the pygmies have one full-time advocate, Ann Banar of the Mid-America Coalition for Energy Alternatives, and a few part-time players.

As they want. Wilson Cadman receives $35,000 a year as K.G. & E's "Senior Environmental Liaison Services", but the law guarantees the customer you see him up as long as you can. It is on only one of such laws, who are chosen utility customers, who are often pygmies.

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KENANS PUBLIC SERVICE CO.

OUR (LOCAL) GAS COMPANY

BY PAUL JOHNSON

Even wonder who owns the gas company here in Lawrence? With some 27,000 customers, the Kansas Public Service Co., one might believe it is a city-owned operation. Believe me, that is not the case although the Kansas Public Service Co. is only a small operation.

The truth of the matter is our gas company is primarily owned by three families. They are the names of the owners, the Deckings (Virginia, George and Bob of Garden City); Hills; and R. H. Lawrence. The company has only issued 13,000 common stocks and 3,000 preferred stocks in its existence. By law, any person owning more than 3% of the common or preferred stocks must be identified as the Secretary of State's office. Together these families own 13% of all common stock and 75% of all preferred stock. Thus the line to influence the operation in our gas company is clearly defined.

The sole regulator of the Kansas Public Service Co. is the city commission of Lawrence. No state agency has control over EPS rates or profits. However, the Kansas Commission does have some say over pipelines safety. Thus, the citizens of Lawrence find themselves in position to elect city commissioners who have real power over the gas co.; persons who will feel the consumer's side of the picture. Since gas prices were set by Black and Veatch of Kansas City, a fee of all engineers, and return with their recommendations. This recommendation is binding, so the citizens of Lawrence must live with the wisdom of this H.C. Company.

Service hikes prices, our gas co. has little choice but to pass on the hikes. This is done by notifying the city commissioners and waiting 30 days. If during this time, no Commission objects, the price hike automatically goes into effect. This price hike is accepted by using the state adjustment clauses, and no extra profits are accrued since the added cost of gas flows through to the customers.

Black and Veatch may understand the technical and engineering aspects of our gas company, but how well do they understand the impact of higher and higher prices on a city citizenry unable to stay up with all these inflated prices? No doubt the owners of Kansas Public Service Co. will gain, but are the customers getting an equal say?

A forceful and enlightened city commission could take a great lead in helping Lawrence citizens conserve gas and save money. In a recent interview with a gas company official, this reporter was told that any conservation measures mandated by the city would be diligently pursued by the gas company. Out of the discussion came a few suggestions:

- Home insulation—all new homes should meet minimum standard before a gas hook-up is allowed. For existing rental units, insulation codes should be written into the building occupancy code. For those landlords unable to afford such improvements, the city should make available low interest loans or work with the gas co. to have the bill paid over an extended period. Space heating and cooling represent the greatest use of energy in the home thus good insulation promises the greatest savings immediately.

- The city and gas company should consider aerial infrared photography. It would measure heat loss and could help locate the worst buildings. A priority system could be established so worst houses could be helped first. As gas prices skyrocket, such help would be welcomed.

- Installation of electronic ignitors on all gas stoves, water heaters, and furnaces, in order the pilot light. It's estimated that 1/4 to 1/3 of your cooking gas is wasted on the pilot light.

- Installation of automatic switches so the fuse is closed when your furnace is not operating. This represents a start in helping customers to conserve gas. Since the city commission has the power to issue the firm Black and Veatch for rate hike reviews, it's time for some other firm that may have a greater interest and conservation orientation. A new firm that would have staff engineers who would help the city draft more energy conscious building codes.

A new firm that would take more interest in seeing that insulation programs get as much attention at other parts of the Gas Co. operations.

The avenues for energy conservation are unlimited if the city finds an engineering firm to re-evaluate the gas rates and insulation program in light of a dwindling resource. Indeed, your vote on a city commission candidate and form of government, will show up on your gas bill. Evaluate carefully!

Utilities (cont.)

(Continued from page 12)

means it will be studied over the next year for possible action next year.

After the vote, the meeting broke up and the committee members filed out. The utility lobbyists shook hands with some of them, giving them a hearty smile and "thanks."

One Committee member was heard telling one lobbyist, "Well, that's the best we could do for you."

A representative of KPL told Committee Chairman Mainey, with more than a little swagger and a hint of privity, "You won't try to have the bill brought up again, will you?" The engineer lined up against it. A couple of the members later stated that they had been confused by the word of Motions. Indeed, that when they voted to refer the bill to interim study, they thought they were voting favorably, on the bill. So it goes.

And there you have it, sports fans: Sharks, er ... Whales--2; Fans: Sharks, er ... Whales--1.

NEXT MONTH:

Our Place Cafe
841 Mass (O.Z) GOOD FOOD at reasonable prices. OPEN 6 AM - 9PM TUESDAY 6AM - 8PM SATURDAY 6AM - 9PM EIGHTH LAWRENCE, KANSAS N.E.

MADONNA INDIAN SHOP PHONE (913) 242-3712 TURNBUCKLE JEWELRY • SHIRT CLOCKS RUB 09 SHABULE & BEADS

OUR PLACE AT 1N THE UPPER 13TH AND OREADS

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841 MASSACHUSETTS GOOD FOOD at REASONABLE PRICES OPEN 6 AM - 9PM TUESDAY 6AM - 8PM SATURDAY 6AM - 9PM EIGHTH LAWRENCE, KANSAS N.E.
EAST LAWRENCE CLEANS UP!

It's spring cleaning time for the East Lawrence neighborhood! The East Lawrence Improvement Association has scheduled the annual neighborhood clean-up for Saturday, April 16. All day long, volunteers will be removing the litter along the alley behind sanitation department trucks, looking for large pieces of trash and helping neighbors in the clean-up.

So, let's clean out our yards, basements, and alleys! Out with slowly, slippishly, and sloppily! Join in the work! Gardeners who are interested in leaves or grass clips for mulch and compost so they can be heaped and not near the alley will be trimming the alleys behind sanitation department trucks, looking for large pieces of trash and helping neighbors in the clean-up.

If you're interested in helping with the neighborhood clean-up or have other activities to suggest, call Barbara Willis at 842-2713.

HOW DOES YOUR GARDEN GROW?

Organic gardeners prefer mulches of old plant matter—grasses, clips, leaves, straw, spoiled hay, woolen, shredded newspapers, pieces of carpet, and sods are other satisfactory mulches. Roots have the added advantage of adding minerals and releasing heat at night, but they add no humus.

The mulch material is applied to protect all soil between plants. The idea is to leave as little soil exposed to sun and wind as possible. Mix it and move the mulch in closer to the plants as the weather grows hotter.

When a garden is mulched, rain can trickle into it slowly and won't run off. And, watering is not so likely to disturb soil around plant roots. Mulch acts like a layer that makes up rain or water and releases it to the plants in a more manageable rate. Mulched gardens will take weeks of drought because the waterline to the soil is kept open.

However, consideration must be given to the fact that some decomposing mulches tie up nitrogen in the soil, nitrogen essential to healthy growth of plants. Therefore, it's wise to supplement the benefits of the mulch with a nitrogen source such as ammonium.

Do you have some tried a true gardening tip? You can share them in next month's PUBLIC NOTICE.

THERE IS A BETTER WAY

Spundered by the disastrous natural gas shortages this winter, organic and eco-agriculture farmers are promoting alternatives to current farm practices. A recent release claims, "U.S. farmers can release over 200 billion cubic feet of natural gas per year... enough to heat 4 million homes."

"If that sounds incredible, consider this: America's agriculture currently uses nearly 500 billion cubic feet of gas annually to make its nitrogenous fertilizers, despite the fact that alternative energy-saving technologies and products are available to produce full yields of farm crops at lesser costs. Using these energy savers will release large amounts of vitally needed gas."

Indeed the fertilizer plant on the east edge of Lawrence is a major gas consumer as well as a major source of air contamination. And the nitrogen fertilizers producers is creating headaches for local farmers. When excessive amounts of the nitrogen are applied to fields, a soil imbalance is created, destroying vital microorganisms and bacteria essential for healthy soil and strong crops. Greater amounts of nitrogen must be applied each year as the soil slowly dries and can't provide the nutrients for crops. Increases in fertilizer are needed just to maintain a steady crop yield.

This fertilizer 'addiction' spells doom for farmers in light of rising costs of petrochemical products unless they can make the transition to a balanced eco-agriculture.

CANNING CENTER CANNED?

Plan for a neighborhood canning center were presented to the city commission for community development funding earlier this month. The proposal would establish a supervised and sanitized center for preserving all types of garden produce as well as fish and meat.

The equipment for the center was designed by the Ball Corporation, the leading name in food preservation products. Over 150 of the canning units are operating in the U.S. today and the response to these centers is encouraging. Home canners have begun using the centers and beginning gardeners have been introduced to the economic and nutritional advantages of canning their own food. The pressure canners, steam kettles, and spray coolers allow a faster and safer canning process with all the necessary equipment conveniently arranged for ease of operation.

A small fee is charged for each jar to cover the costs of operating the center. But home canners have recognized that by sharing the actual costs of home utilities and the time spent in the kitchen, the centers turn out to be a bargain. The canning centers represent a more efficient use of energy and water than a scattering of home canners.

And with the projected jump in the kitchen, the centers turn out to be a bargain. The canning centers represent a more efficient use of energy and water than a scattering of home canners.

Unfortunately the city commission wasn't receptive to the funding request from this year's CD budget. They did promise to plan a space for the unit in the new East Lawrence Center planned for construction this year. The Canning Center's backers will seek funds elsewhere and if necessary apply for CD funds from the city next year.

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