THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

Thursday, April 23, 1970

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY, LEXINGTON

A Focus On Man And Environment

Senator Cook Speaks Against Man's 'Consumptive Technology'

By MICHAEL WINES
Kernel Staff Writer
Senator Marlow W. Cook
eased conservationists at Senator Marlow W. Cook pleased conservationists at W.dnesday's Presidential Convocation by speaking out strongly against man's "consumptive technology." At the same time, however, he warned against using industry and business as "scapegoats" for the pollution of the environment the environment.

Cook, a Republican, was the main speaker at the Memorial Coliseum convocation. He was introduced to a standing ova-tion of about 2,500 students by UK President Otis A. Singletary, on the state of th

technology and procreative pow

A 'Dominant Being "From a historical perspective, it is not the result of the last decade, the last hundred years, the industrial revolution, or even the agricultural revolu-tion," he stated. "The root cause lies in ancient man's conscious philosophical belief that he is the central and dominant being in the

central and dominant being in the environmental structure."

Cook said the immediate cause of man's environmental problems lies in technical advancements that have made possible, the "Ultimate subjurgation of the continuation sible the "ultimate subjugation

"Appliances, automobiles, and air conditioners have become necessities, not luxuries," he

"The manufacture, use, and eventual disposal of these and other items creates ever-increasing demands upon our resources." We have indeed created a consumptive technology – a technology which devours and consumes without truly creating or replenishing."
He noted that UK Professor

in The New Republic compared the average American's consump-tion to that of 25 citizens of India. Dr. Davis computed the population of the U.S., using this "Indian equivalent" system, to be equivalent to four billion

The senator was equally emphatic in his support of popu-

lation control.

"Even without a highly developed consumptive technology, and the desire to use it, the earth will support only a finite number of people," Cook said. number of people, Cook said.
"The counter-arguments that our science will find ways to feed billions more, and that many parts of the globe are thinly populated, are no longer relevant in terms of present scientific knowledge."

A Bleak Future

While he said that the future While he said that the numer may very well be bleak, he cau-tioned against blaming technol-ogy for all of man's ills. "It is essential that we recog-nize that all of us share in the

degradation of the environment, said "We can no longer blame business, industry, agriculture, or



Polluted Water

Students watch as a spokesman in one of the many Earth Day booths in the Student Center, compares polluted water with clear specimens. This was only part of an entire day spent to stress the importance of man's relationship with his environment and how to prevent its distruction.

Expert Panel Aims Debate At 'Survival'

By DANIEL GOSSETT

Associate Editor
A largely diminished crowd of Earth Day participants heard a panel discussion entitled "Can Man Survive?" Wednesday night as part of the final session of the

as part of the final session of the Environmental Teach-In. Slightly over 100 people listened as a panel of four specialists fielded questions from the audience on a variety of subjects.

The panel consisted of Dr. Kuehne of the UK department of zoology, Dr. Robert Grieves of the chemical engineering department, Ronald Hill, a director of the federal Water Quality Control Commission and Dr. J. H. Gibbons, research physicist at the Cibbons, research physicist at the National Laboratory at Oak Ridge Tenn. Dr. Dean Jaros of the political science department moderated the discussion.

All of the panel members were in agreement on two major points First that efforts to persuade people to quit polluting the en-vironment were futile and sec-ondly that hard cash combined



DILIGENT DESTROYERS

with a stable population growth rate could clean up the environ-ment and stabilize the ecological process. Dr. Grieves commended. "We have to pay with the all-mighty dollar. Combined with fewer numbers of people, the problem is controllable."

Problem Solving

One of the first questions,

* Please Turn To Page 4

Destruction Of A Planet

Kernel Staff Whiter
In an atmosphere similar to old-time political
party conventions or a campfire revival, Earth
Day speakers delivered a message of a doomed

planet.

Jerry Thornton, founder of UK's Environmental Awareness Society, opened the morning session by comparing the earth's problems with those of Apollo 13. He pointed to the problems of water shortage and temperature problems as being common denominators between the earth and the Apollo mission.

Throughout the day's speeches, a taped ver-n of "America the Beautiful" could be heard in the background.

High school and pre-high school children sat through the day's speeches with a restless inquisitiveness.

quisitiveness.

Dr. Wayne Davis, UK zoology professor, told the crowd of approximately 500 he wasn't worried about hurting people's feelings.

"Up To The People"

He added that he wasn't advocating any course of action for people to follow. Davis said that was "up to the people

Davis declared air pollution the most critical

problem threatening to bring civilization to an

Davis also predicted taxpayers would not allow Davis also predicted taxpayers would not allow further taxes to be placed upon them to solve environmental problems. He claimed that military expenditures would be cut and that within five years the "military complex" will collapse. Population growth was termed by Davis as the most serious problem man has ever faced. He claimed modern medicine has complicated the problem by enabling people to live longer and not cutting birth rates.

Davis pointed to three curbs to population crisis: thermo-nuclear war, vast fast-spreading virus diseases, and toxic waste pockets.

Renewed Sex Drive

Renewed Sex Drive

The problem of feeding starving people was also pointed to by Davis. He said that feeding hungry people also continues the population problem by renewing the sex drive.

Davis further claimed that the United States

Davis further claimed that the United States was in more serious danger than any other nation of suffering an ecological catastrophe.

Dr. Harvey Sloane, chairman of "Action for Clean Air," spoke next and encouraged citizens to act and attend hearings concerning poilution.

* Please Turn To Page 8





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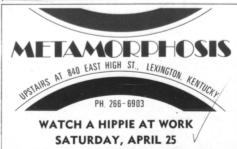
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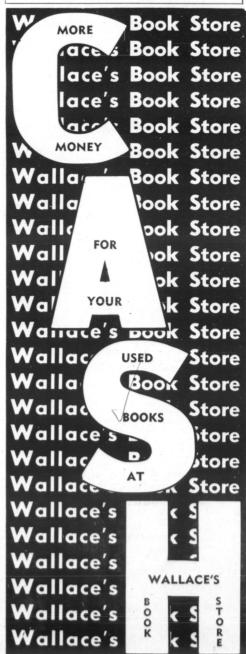
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Teach-In Panel Discusses Man's Survival

addressed to the entire panel, asked whether American technology can solve the pollution problems while still allowing the affluent to maintain their standards of living. All four answers centered around the opinion that the American public is unwilling to take the necessary steps to combat the problem.

Dr. Grieves concurred in part,

"Measures are available if are willing to pay for them. People are talking about the abolition of the internal combustion

Later, Jerry Thornton, chair-man of the UK Environmental Awareness Society, addressed

himself to this issue. may have to get rid of their elec-tric tooth brushes. They may have to stop buying plastic bags and disposable bottles of soft drinks and beer. They may even have to start riding bicycles in-stead of using automobiles and thereby slow down their pace of living. But will this constitute a lower standard of living? I think not, I consider it to be a higher standard of living."

Compressed Wastes

Referring to the measures taken at the National Laboratory in Oak Ridge, Dr. Gibbons said, "The best method we have now, and I think it will prove to be adequate, is to compress these wastes into solid matter, encase them in metal containers and place them in salt mines or domes some 800 feet below the surface of the earth. The salt mine methof the earth. The salt mine meth-od has two advantages in that the salt is not subject to leach-ing and drifting, as are other substances; plus the fact that these mines are usually found in areas where there is minimum earthquake activity, measured in millions of years.

Preceding the panel discussion, Dr. Jaros gave an address, commenting on the historical and psychological antecedants of the pollution problem. "The entire

western culture is enmeshed in the values of the Protestant Ethic. Industrialization has crowded people into cities, which is only logical since no industrial society can function without centralized labor. As a result of this phenomenon man has difficulty holding any values beside the achieve ment-oriented ones that are now Although he recognizes the limitations of a long run or futuristic view, Dr. Jaros set a long term goal for persuading people to eliminate their personal contributions to the problem. "We must divorce man from the consumption ethic either by eliminating means of acquisition or by substituting alternate sets of by substituting alternate sets of

*Sen. Cook Attacks Pollution

other scapegoats. We all derive benefits, however small, from this consumptive technological soci-

Sen. Cook offered "optimum population" control and "tech-nology control" as the solution notogy control as the solution to environmental problems. However, he warned against a "technological retreat" to the level of earlier days, as some have proposed.

"This would result in a desc."

This would result in a dras tic reduction in our standard of living as we know it," he stated. Cook claimed that "a withdraw-al to the 1870 level of technology would place the median American standard of living below the 1970 poverty line.

Technology Control

As an alternative to this sort of technology control, the senator suggested that the present system be "improved and refined" so that it is less consumptive and more productive. Such a system would be productive "in the sense that it conserves and recycles non-renewable resources... in that it works able resources... in that it works in relative harmony with a world-wide ecosystem, rather than in total disregard thereof," he said.

Cook stated that population control depended on a coordina-tion of the amount and availability of resources, the desired stan-dard of living, and the optimum number of people that can be sustained. He called for individual consideration of the popula-tion problem, but foresaw it becoming "a matter of collective thinking resulting in social and political action."

After the speech Cook took

a different stance on one facet of political control of population growth. He stated he opposed a bill introduced in Congress pro-posing the elimination of income tax deductions for children, be-ginning with the third child. The reasoning behind the bill is that it would discourage parents from having more than two children because it would be fi-nancially undesirable.

Father Of Five

"I'm the father of five children ... maybe I'm guilty of overpopulation, and maybe I ought to apologize," he said.
"But when we had those children we were so poor that income tax deductions didn't matter a

bit to us."

Cook ended his speech by asking the students to work acasking the students to work ac-tively in helping to create a bet-ter society. "Direct your ener-gies toward the institutions which can effect changes—uni-versities and research centers, industry and government. How-ever, in your resolve to improve the quality of the environment combine militancy with pa-tience," he urged.

"For if there are any lessons

to be learned from past events. it is that violent confrontation breeds divisiveness.

At a reception held for the senator after the speech, he com-plained of the "red tape" that he believes has held up projects

in Congress.
"I think we're going to come closer and closer to a legislative oversight commission . . . we're letting the same departments of government sit there with the same amount of red tape, the

same foot dragging, and the sam amount of overhead . . . and I just don't believe we're ever going to get anywhere this way, he stated.

Rhetoric And Promises

He combined this with an attack on senators who he claimed wasted time and money

on rhetoric and promises.

"They love the art of creation, but not fruition," he said. "The only thing they complain about is that they need more money, and they don't even pay a bit of attention as to whether the

of attention as to whether the bills work or not."

Cook also praised the De-partment of Agriculture for its steps in reducing the spread of pesticides.
"I think that the agriculture

department is becoming more and more convinced and it's taking its own steps in eliminating the various pesticides, and I think it's up to us to do more," he

The senator also supported proposals to curtail and cut federal purchase contracts with com-panies that are in violation of the federal Clean Air and Water

In a TV interview made after the speech, Sen. Cook stated he had received six to seven thousand letters regarding his vote against the confirmation of Florida Judge C. Harrold Carswell to the U.S. Supreme Court, and that more of the letters supported

his position than condemned it. He said the only view the voters got of the fight for the nomination was through the newspapers and that their view was not "the total picture."



Earth Day

A day of national concern in which displays were made, donations were given and speeches were presented to save man's environment.





Student Appeals Conviction

A UK student will appeal his disorderly conduct conviction in a Fayette Circuit Court hear-ing Friday, April 24. Lew Colten, a member of the

steering committee of the UK chapter of the Students for a Democratic Society, was arrested March 4, the day that Mrs. Richard Nixon visited the campus.

During the arrest, Colten received a concussion, was jailed, and then was released to a hospital for medical care.

After his conviction, he re-fused to pay the \$10 fine which was levied on him.

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Environmental Awareness

Speakers Talk Of A Doomed Planet

Continued From Page One

Sloane pointed to two factors as being chief causes of pollu-tion: automobiles, and the need

tion: automobiles, and the need for power and electricity.

A brief lunch break followed and the audience left, filing through blue-tail fly salesmen and BS Press pushers.

Wendell Berry, author and a UK associate professor of English, told the audience after lunch that the "consumer mentality is

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still too often intact." He added, "We do not understand earth in what it offers us and what it

'Corporations and machines "Corporations and machines will never care for the land—they are bound by efficiency... We're going to have to go further than protest," Berry said. He pointed out that people had to start to save the land individually, in their everyday actions. Push Government Control

"If you are concerned about air pollution, push for government control, but also drive your car less," Berry submitted.

Berry continued, "To be fearful of the disease and to be fearful of the cure is to be doomed."

nil of the cisease and to be learful of the cure is to be doomed."

A collection was taken up by
the Pike County Citizens Association (PCCA) before the next
speech. William Worthington
pleaded, "You can help us so poor people might be heard.

Coins dropping into old Fal-staff beer cans held up the first part of Ronald Hill's speech.

Hill, chief of the Acid Mine Drainage Pollution Control Cen-ter, used slides to illustrate his

Underground mines produce the greatest amount of acid," Hill said, indicating that underground mines are much more of

a problem than strip mines.
"I think we can solve," Hill
continued, "the strip mine prob-

lem. I cannot say this about the underground mining problem." Hill said another major prob-lem is the "pre-law" mines. These mines have been abandoned for some time and neither coal com-panies nor the state claims re-sponsibility for reclamation of the land.

Hill commented that these mines are the "major source of

1st Run!

pollution" from mines. "You shut a mine down, it produces pollu-tion potentially till infinity."

The speeches ended in the Student Center as an official from Zero Population Growth noted that 10,000 people had been born since the noon lunch.

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