You've watched too much TV if —

By JAY SHARBUTT
AP Television Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — You've been watching way too much television lately if you

—Can't recall whether Walter Cronkite, John Chancellor or Harry Reasoner won last night's New Hampshire primary

—Have seen John Wayne doing an impression of Rich Little

—Was thrilled at CBS' plans for live coverage of Muhammad Ali's next title fight, against Mason Reese (the commrcials start at 9 p m EST, the bout an hour and 55 minutes later)

—Shrug when the television reporter asks the badly injured accident victim, "Can you tell us how you felt when the train hit your bicycle?"

—Watch a Saturday afternoon commercial, obediently pick up the phone as the announcer says, "Now, here's where to call " and wind up wondering why you paid $6.95 for 20 old Teresa Brewer records

—Believe the Public Broadcasting Service is made possible by a grant from the British Broadcasting Corporation

—Quiet down during those dog food commercials where coyote howls and Lorne Green whispers, "Shh' Listen' Listen'"

—Have seen the "American Academy of Humor Awards," "The People's Choice Awards," and "The American Music Awards" but still plan to watch the "Academy of Country Music Awards" as well as the shows handing out Tony, Grammy, Emmy and Oscar awards

—Haven't heard rumors ABC will radically alter its summer Olympics show by televising every event live and in sequence while Jim McKay describes every event on tape and out of sequence To heighten interest, Curt Gowdy reportedly will cover Pierre Salinger

—Don't wonder why studio audiences don't hold up signs saying "Clap' Clap'" when the studio sign overhead flashes "Please Applaud."

—Think "Rich Man, Poor Man" is a spin-off situation comedy about the Six Million Dollar Man's first and second visit to the Internal Revenue Service

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But seriously, folks, commercial television's rerun season is drawing nigh and you might give some thought to trying some new wares public television will be offering from March 7 through March 22

The specials, 22 in all, will be aired during PBS' "Festival '76," when local stations hold fund-raising drives and try to make viewers more aware of public television

The list of attractions includes "I Regret Nothing," a program about the late, great French singer, Edith Piaf, "Benito Mussolini, My Husband," a study of the Italian dictator, with interviews of his widow and one of his sons, and "Mel Torme in Concert with Woody Herman "

Other goodies include a 10-program series of excerpts of early silent comedy films starring Laurel and Hardy, a whimsical documentary about this year's Superbowl bash, and "The Good Old Days of Radio," hosted by Steve Allen

The Midland View

By M. M. VAN KIRK
Nebraska Farm Bureau

PER CAPITA TAX NONSENSE

It's high time that some outstate senators stood up in the Nebraska Legislature and knocked down the claim that 47 per cent of the state's sales and income tax revenues are paid on a per capita basis by the people of the metropolitan areas of Lancaster, Douglas and Sarpy Counties, which represent approximately one-third of the population of the state

That argument has been trotted out once more by metropolitan area interests in their latest attempt to discredit and revise the 1972 Personal Property Tax exemption law State Tax Commissioner William Peters is quoted as saying that these three counties get only 21 per cent of the benefits returned to the counties on 1975 personal property tax reimbursements

The figures are probably accurate but the use of them is something else, particularly in the case of the sales tax revenues The people of the Omaha and Lincoln areas simply do not pay all those sales tax revenues, any more than the people of North Platte, Scottsbluff, Grand Island, Norfolk or any other major area shopping and trading center can take credit for all the sales taxes reported from their immediate confines

Omaha and Lincoln are major retail and wholesale shopping, trading, financial and service centers which serve a vast area Just like Denver, Kansas City, Minneapolis and Chicago, the wealth of a region funnels into them and they enjoy the benefits from it It has always been so

But on a per capita basis on sales tax revenues — and on income taxes to some degree — to say, "Look at what the people of Lincoln and Omaha pay in sales taxes," is ridiculous

One need only go to the big suburban shopping centers of Omaha or Lincoln on a busy day and check the outstate and out-of-state cars to get some idea of the millions of dollars in sales tax revenue generated by "non-local" sources Every Chamber of Commerce in every hub trading city across the state spends a sizable portion of its budget to develop and attract business from what it envisions as its "market area "

There is nothing the matter with this it's free enterprise at work. Modern transportation and a good road network have made it possible for shoppers to travel hundreds of miles to seek the larger selections of goods and services available in the larger cities and towns across the state One may lament the decay of the villages and small towns because of it, but it is an inexorable fact of economic life

The backbone of Nebraska's economy is its more than $4 billion annual agricultural production which multiplies many times over in sustaining the total economy The wealth of the entire Midlands is dependent on agriculture to a very large degree — on the region's soil and water resources and the productivity of the farmers and ranchers who put them to use

Think of the sales tax revenues generated in the City of Lincoln on a "football Saturday" with the influx of fans from all parts of the state Think of the sales tax revenues generated from money from outstate to send thousands of young people to the University of Nebraska Think of the sales tax revenues in the City of Lincoln paid by the hundreds and thousands of people who travel in to attend legislative hearings and deal with state government And then think how silly it is for a metropolitan area senator or an official of state government to say, "Look at the burden of sales taxes paid by the people of Lancaster, Douglas and Sarpy counties "

USDA claims ABP not in compliance

LINCOLN, Neb (AP) — A Nebraska Department of Agriculture attorney said Thursday that American Beef Packers, Inc , was not in compliance with state regulations before it filed for bankruptcy in January 1975 and is still not in full compliance

Bill Abell told the Unicameral's Agriculture Committee that a bond filed by American Beef to comply with regulations issued under the Nebraska Livestock Sellers Protective Act of 1969 was not payable to protect cattlemen who sold directly to American Beef It covered only cattle sold through the Omaha Livestock Exchange, he said

"I could not say that they were in full compliance," Abell said However, he contended that if the department had insisted on full compliance, it would have made little difference in the amount of bond money available to pay livestock sellers holding bad checks

Committee Chairman Loran Schmit of Bellwood suggested that had the department insisted that the requirements be enforced, the financial condition of Amrican Beef could have been discovered earlier

Abell said American Beef is still not in compliance with the financial security regulations but is depositing money daily in an Omaha bank to insure payment to livestock sellers

Abell said Agriculture Director Glenn Kreuscher would meet with American Beef officials Friday to work toward compliance with the regulations

The hearing was held because Holbrook Sen Richard Lewis asked for more testimony on LB544, a bill to write the department's current packer bonding regulations into law The department issued stricter regulations after the American Beef situation developed After the testimony, Lewis said that both Kreuscher and his predecessor, Elmer Schlaphoff, were "lax" in their administration of the Livestock Sellers Protective Act

The law was passed in 1969 after an Iowa packing firm ran into trouble

"I do belive that the situation was not as closely monitored as it should have been," Schmit said

"We are not going to be at this time vindictive," Schmit said "I am concerned about the protection we are going to provide in the future "

Schmit and Lewis both publicly lamented the fact that Kreuscher did not attend the hearing Schmit said he was in Chicago

UNION

Connie Mullis

Mr and Mrs Frank Strough were recent guests at the Don Hutchison home at Millard

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The Buck Ends Here

By Ivan D E. Beaumont

Seems a shame

that we can put men on a bus route to the moon and take pictures of the surface of Mars....but can't stop the flu bug from attacking children

+++++

Arizona likes us

Ten thousand Nebraska football fans generated an estimated $4.5 million in added revenue in Arizona during the Fiesta Bowl

Nebraska and Arizona State each received $210,419, a record payoff, according to George Isbell, president of the Bowl.

During the Fiesta Bowl festival, 8,100 people participated in 24 events including 3,200 who were competitors in 14 Fiesta sporting events Those included tennis, bowling, football, basketball, wrestling, judo, volleyball, gymnastics, golf and swimming

Approximately 210,000 fans were spectators at these events including record crowds of 122,000 at the parade and 51,396 at the Fiesta Bowl game

(Wonder how many went to the churches and how much the receipts were there, compared with a year ago)

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Stock car racing returns'

Ted Wilson, Sidney, Ia , has met with drivers and owners to plan the reopening of the I-29 speedway across the Nebraska City river bridge

And new cars will be on the track, we're told Dave (J.R) Snodgrass and friends have been working all winter

"We're about ready to put the body on it now," J R says

Auto racing attracts one of the largest group of sports fans in the country The half mile dirt track near Nebraska City has also attracted some top drivers and race fans tell us they hope to relight that interest again

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Stolen

Some green members of a hunting club returned from their first day's shooting Since none were used to handling guns, the casualty list was a bit obvious.

One had his hand in a sling. One was hopping on one foot A third looked like the drummer boy in the Revolutionary War picture.

"Cheer up," an old member urged "Judging by the bulge in that bag, you're not coming in empty-handed "

"That," said the bag carrier, "is ole' Shep, our dog "

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The March issue of the American Legion magazine has an interesting story about Eisenhower and his famous grin

Frank Holeman, a former reporter for the New York Daily News, says he learned the secret of the grin in 1959 while Ike was visiting the Air Force Academy

It was at a time when the President had much on his mind with illnesses of his cabinet, advisers and friends He wasn't scheduled to speak, but took the podium anyway

He didn't groan about his troubles He didn't plead for sympathy or help He said this.

"Make sure you get enjoyment out of every day Life should be a thing to enjoy Make certain that your face doesn't grow longer as the day grows older Go to bed with a smile and remember a very fine day.

"And with that custom I am quite sure you will find a long, happy and fruitful life — fruitful to yourself, to your country and to humanity "

I guess that's why so many people said, "I like Ike "

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Today's quickie on the law —

Are fire and rescue volunteers exempted from traffic laws?

Nope The blinking red or blue lights don't give them any more right than you. A volunteer who runs a red light and has an accident with his private vehicle or an emergency vehicle is "stuck with it " He knows that, too

The same applies to speeding on streets and highways Law enforcement officers cooperate on all emergencies, but an outright speeder is a plain speeder

But — out of common traffic courtesy, you might give the volunteers the right of way They're trying to do a job.

Fire Chief Bill Berger and Rescue Chief Harold Rowe say they remind the Nebraska City volunteers regularly about traffic laws

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After over 14 years, we finally enclosed our carport during winter and made a garage on the south side of the house We had forgotten the comfort of puttering around in the evening in a garage I like to tinker with cars and over the years the carport has left little cover, except for shade

Meanwhile, my neighbor, Harold Gress, erected a double garage on the east side of his house, put a heater in it and has spent the winter working on projects

My garage houses cars, a motorcycle and an electric barbecue grill, the latter which was purchased from Jack Scharp because he didn't like the !!!——&&&???++(())! (censored) thing and instead let Max Endelman talk him into a gas grill The grill isn't ready just yet to go "into service " First, I have to get some of those Polynesian Love stones from Bill Brockley at City Utilities

Back to this meanwhile thing . .you see, my neighbor Harold doesn't just putter to putter

I enclose a carport for a garage
He puts up a double garage
I tinker around with motor vehicles and barbecue grills
Know what he's doing?
Rebuilding an airplane
Yup He's got a pickup truck, a sedan and a Piper Cub in his double garage.

+++++

Rebuilding airplanes is old hat for Harold He's had a private pilot's license since the post-WWII days and has worked on a number of planes

He went down during a coyote hunt some years ago and although he doesn't get into any foot races, he's steady and confident about airplanes He still flies and is rebuilding the Piper as another project

He has the best reason we've ever heard for such a project.

"I like to do it!"

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Recipes wanted'

The News-Press will publish a Bicentennial cookbook edition soon and your help is needed to do the job.

Got a favorite "oldtime" recipe? Send it to the News-Press The oldtimers had a way of getting a hearty meal on the table without the electric mixers, blenders and gas and electric ovens that have automatic timing devices etc

We'd like to know how they did it and we think our readers would appreciate your sharing that treasured recipe.

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