

Tax Burden In W.Va. Among Lowest In Nation

From UPI, AP Dispatches
CHARLESTON — West Virginians have less to gripe about in their tax rate than residents of 47 other states, according to a report made available yesterday to the Legislature.

As a percentage of all state taxes collected, West Virginia citizens pay less than their counterparts in the five contiguous states, and less than in all but two of the (50 states), the West Virginia Research League said in a report to a legislative subcommittee on taxes.

The figures are based on 1976 statistics. The information was requested by finance chairman

Sen. John Pat Fanning, D-McDowell, and Del. Chuck Polan, D-Cabell.

West Virginians, as individuals, pay 55.1 percent of all state taxes collected and which can be distributed between businesses and individuals, the report said. Businesses picked up the remaining 44.9 percent.

The report said only in Louisiana and Alaska did individuals pay a lower percentage of taxes than in the Mountain State.

A total of 19.8 percent of the tax burden, the report said, was due to the personal income tax.

ON OTHER POINTS, the report said, West Virginia's retail sales tax was on a par with Virginia's, but lower than similar taxes in Kentucky, Maryland, Ohio and Pennsylvania, although each of the latter four generally exempt food from the sales tax.

West Virginia's new gasoline tax rate of 10 1/2 cents a gallon will be higher than any of the other five. Ohio's is seven cents and the gas tax is nine cents in the other four.

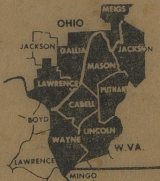
The Mountain State's 17-cents-a-pack cigarette tax will be one cent lower than Pennsylvania's, but will be higher than Kentucky's three-cent rate; Maryland's

dime; Ohio's 15 cents and Virginia's 24 cents.

MEANWHILE, tax collections during the first nine months of the fiscal year have exceeded predictions by \$10 million, the committee was told.

Legislative Auditor Encil Bailey said collections during March totaled \$58.5 million, just slightly short of the \$59.2 million that had been projected.

For the period from July through the end of March, Bailey said collections have totaled \$599.2 million compared with projected estimates of \$599.1 million.



The Herald-Dispatch

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Final

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Ex-FBI Officials Indicted

Grand Jury Cites Gray, 2 Others



Patrick Gray faces charges



EDWARD MILLER W. MARK FELT

Associated Press
WASHINGTON — Former FBI Director L. Patrick Gray III and two other former key FBI officials were indicted yesterday in connection with bureau wiretappings and break-ins.

Attorney General Griffin B. Bell, announcing the indictments at a news conference, said the charges arose from FBI activities earlier in the decade when the agency was pursuing radical fugitives.

The federal grand jury in Washington indicted Gray, former Associate FBI Director W. Mark Felt and former Assistant Director Edward S. Miller on a single charge of conspiring to violate the rights of citizens.

The charge carries a maximum penalty of 10 years in prison and a fine of \$10,000.

AT THE SAME time, Bell said the Justice Department has dropped its prosecution of John J. Kearney, a former FBI supervisor in New York, indicted a year ago in connection with the same activities.

Kearney was the first agent in FBI history to be charged with a felony involving official duties.

Bell told reporters that a thorough review of unlawful FBI activities during the agency's pursuit of members of the Weather Underground showed that the responsibility lay at the top and that prosecution of Kearney could not be justified.

In addition to the indictments, Bell also announced he is taking disciplinary action — presumably including the prospect of dismissal — against J. Wallace LaTrade, currently an assistant FBI director and head of the bureau's New York office "for his conduct in these matters."

BELL SAID 70 other persons will be subjected to disciplinary action ranging from censures to dismissal. Most were members of the New York unit which conducted the anti-

Bailey Calls Charges Hogwash; Frankel Quiet

By JACK SEAMONDS
 Herald-Dispatch Staff Writer
Fired Assistant City Manager Gary Black levelled specific charges which he said are grounds for ousting Mayor Harold Frankel and Councilman Bob Bailey yesterday, but Bailey termed the charges "hogwash" and Frankel denied wrongdoing but refused to discuss specifics.

Meanwhile a group of black clergymen called for "ethical and moral leadership" in city government before a packed meeting of city council last night and the Huntington Ministerial Association announced plans to meet tomorrow on the matter.

In a statement issued yesterday, Black said Frankel and Bailey had broken a charter provision dealing with personnel by applying political pressure on job appointments.

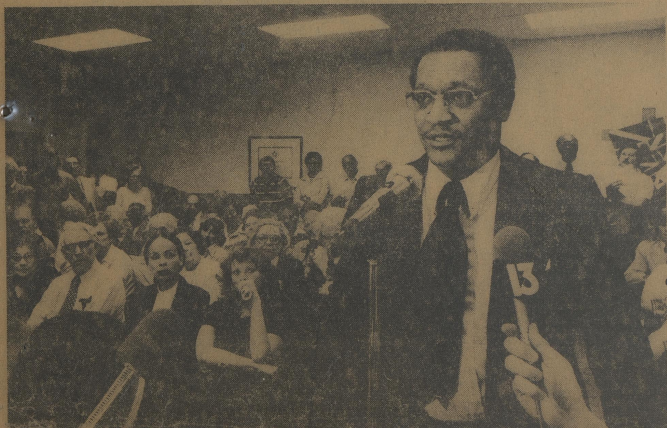
The charter violations are grounds for removal of Frankel and Bailey from office, according to Black, who said yesterday it is "up to the people of Huntington to bring about their removal. I can't afford to go to court to have it done myself."

COUNCILMAN Bailey termed Black's five page typewritten statement "hogwash" and told The Herald-Dispatch, "I'm ready to go to court right now (on the charges)."

Mayor Harold Frankel handed out a single-page statement last night following a regular meeting of city council but refused to respond to repeated and specific questions on the statement or on Black's statement.

AT THE council meeting, the spokesman for Black Concerned Clergy of Huntington called for "ethical and moral leadership in city government."

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The Rev. Charles Smith, spokesman for Black Concerned Clergy of Huntington, criticizes City Council last night for the firing of two city employees and asks for a return of "moral and ethical leadership to city government" before a packed city council audience.

The spokesman, the Rev. Charles Smith of the First Baptist Church of Huntington, also asked council to name a "blue ribbon committee" to investigate personnel practices in city hall.

Another minister, the Rev. James Franklin of the Highlawn Baptist Church, endorsed the statement of the black clergy.

"All I can say is 'amen' to what Rev. Smith has said," Franklin added.

The furor surrounding the dismissal last Tuesday of Black and city purchasing agent Winnie Snow also has precipitated a special meeting of the Huntington Ministerial Association scheduled Wednesday at 1:30

p. m. at the Baptist Temple, 21st St. and 9th Ave.

Association president Rev. Jackson R. Haga said the meeting has been called to discuss "the situation in city government over the last six or so months, but was precipitated by the firings."

THE LEAGUE of Women Voters last night issued a statement citing that organization's desire to keep city council out of administration and personnel matters at city hall.

"We believe in the council-manager form of government, with the council making the policy and the city manager handling administration and personnel," said the

statement written by league president, Mrs. Virginia Gaigano.

"We do not favor any weakening of the lines of responsibility, either in practice or in charter revision."

Black presented his statement to reporters yesterday at his home.

Citing a provision of the city charter dealing with personnel, Black said Bailey and Frankel "definitely" exceeded their authority as members of council.

Among Black's charges were: — "At a luncheon with Harold Frankel, he admitted that council had promised (current police chief) Ottie Adkins the post of police chief

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Economic Summit Is Planned

Associated Press
WASHINGTON — President Carter and the leaders of Canada, Japan and four European nations will meet in Bonn in July for an economic summit conference, the White House announced yesterday.

The conference will draw leaders of Italy, France, England and Canada to the West German capital, along with Carter, Japanese Prime Minister Takeo Fukuda and German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt. The meetings will be held on July 16 and 17.

At the same time, Carter will conduct a state visit to West Germany, said Henry Owen, a White House aide.

and industrialized nations and global economics.

The summit will be the second attended by Carter — he took part in the London economic summit last May — and will be the fourth such conference held in recent years.

The same nations also took part in economic summits in France and Puerto Rico.

OWEN SAID the other nations involved were obviously concerned about the state of the dollar and that "the way to address the problem is to deal with the underlying problems."

These, he said, included the fact that the United States imports approximately 50 percent of its oil, the high U. S. growth rate compared with slower rates elsewhere and growing inflation.

After Owen's announcement at a briefing, White House press secretary Jody Powell told reporters no stops other than Bonn are on the president's

agenda for the July trip but he refused to rule out the possibility that the schedule may be changed.

Owen said the conferences produce "better economic policies" when the heads of state get together once a year. Each of these issues finds their way to the desks of heads of government. They can't be decided lower down."

OWEN VISITED Bonn last week, along with representatives of the other nations involved, to review preparations.

In addition to the heads of state, leaders of the Common Market and the European Commission will take part.

The White House statement announcing the trip said the summit would allow the heads of state "to review the world economic situation and to give impetus to national and international approaches that can contribute to a healthier world economy."



Arkady Shevchenko

Soviet Leaves Post At U.N.

Associated Press
UNITED NATIONS — Arkady N. Shevchenko, the highest ranking Soviet citizen employed by the United Nations, has walked off the job because of "differences with his government," a U.N. spokesman said yesterday.

A diplomatic source who asked not to be named said Shevchenko planned to seek political asylum. Shevchenko, 47, was not available for comment.

U.S. government officials in Washington said no request had been received.

(See 'DO NOT', Page 2)

Weather

It will be balmy and summerlike again today with temperatures rising to the low 80s (27 C). But, the high temperatures will be accompanied by showers and thundershowers. Showers ending tonight with the low dipping to 45 F (7 C). Partly sunny tomorrow with a high near 70 (21 C). There is an 80 percent chance of precipitation today.



Reds Best, Says Sparky

Guess what Mr. Optimism, Cincinnati manager Sparky Anderson, thinks of his Reds team of 1978? "The best I've had since I've been here," Sparky says. And, he may not be blowing smoke.

The pitching, always a sore spot, looks better if for no other reason than having Tom Seaver around for the whole season.

Read Sports Editor Mike Brown's Sports Jottings. Page 15.

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'On The Street' Could Be Next

One Huntington woman says she and her neighbors expect to be "living on the street" this week because their homes have been condemned by the city of Huntington and they can't find other places to live.

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