

Gov talks tourism 'n' Terry

By Jerry Samuelson
Kentucky Post Staff Writer

Gov. Julian Carroll helped dedicate the Carroll Bell Tower carillon Wednesday by getting in a feverish sales pitch for both tourism and Terry McBrayer.

Carroll, who sounded the first note of the "Big J," the largest bell in the 43-bell carillon, told about 125 business, civic and political leaders at the I. T. Verdin Co., Cincinnati, that "tourism is our greatest potential."

He cited the bell tower named for him, currently under construction at Goebel Park in Covington's Main Strasse project, as an example of tourism potential and growth.

Boost for city

The Main Strasse will boost trade \$1 million in its first year, Carroll predicted. The state has shelled out \$2.5 million for the entire project, including the 100-foot tower.

"I'm a great optimist," Carroll told the group gathered in the sweatering factory, which was being cooled off by giant fans. "We (the state) would be irresponsible if we did not try to help you a little bit."

Carroll praised the leaders of the northern Kentucky legislative caucus and, in a thinly-veiled political speech for McBrayer, state commerce secretary who is thought to be Carroll's choice for governor, he called McBrayer "one of the best friends I have and effective individuals I know."

Million tourists

Carroll lauded the state's new Horse Park, near Lexington in the heart of the Bluegrass country: "There is nothing like it in the world!" And he said a million visitors a year were expected—who would spend \$25 each—and "at least half those people will enter Kentucky on I-75 and drive past the Carroll Bell Tower."

"We want you to get your share," thundered Carroll.

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Gov. Carroll autographs the cast of Covington City Manager Wally Pagan after the dedication ceremony at I. T. Verdin Co., Cincinnati.



Julian Carroll stands by one of the bells to be installed in the Carroll Carillon during a ceremony at the I. T. Verdin Co., Cincinnati, yesterday.

Boone fatal crash case

The Kentucky Post, Thursday, July 20, 1978

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Gov talks of tourism, Terry

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Carroll also revealed that the office of State Commissioner of Public Information Dan Mangert, a northern Kentuckian who accompanied Carroll Wednesday, had been conducting, for the past six months, an "unusual survey."

The survey, said Carroll, asked "what people outside Kentucky think about us, what industries think about us, and what Kentuckians think about themselves."

"We're going to have a campaign to show that we're not barefooted, not ignorant, but that we're progressive and beautiful," said Carroll. "And come see us!"

Carroll said a full Department of Tourism eventually would emerge from the state commerce department.

After Carroll sounded the "Big J," carillon near Dick Watson played "My Old Kentucky Home" on the Pepsi-Cola carillon, followed by "America The Beautiful" and "My Country, 'Tis of Thee."

A champagne reception and typically Southern ham and beaten biscuits awaited Carroll after the bell dedication. And, perhaps in keeping with the German theme of Main Strasse, there was beer and soft pretzels.

Carroll Chimes Bell Tower was dedicated 19 July 1978.
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