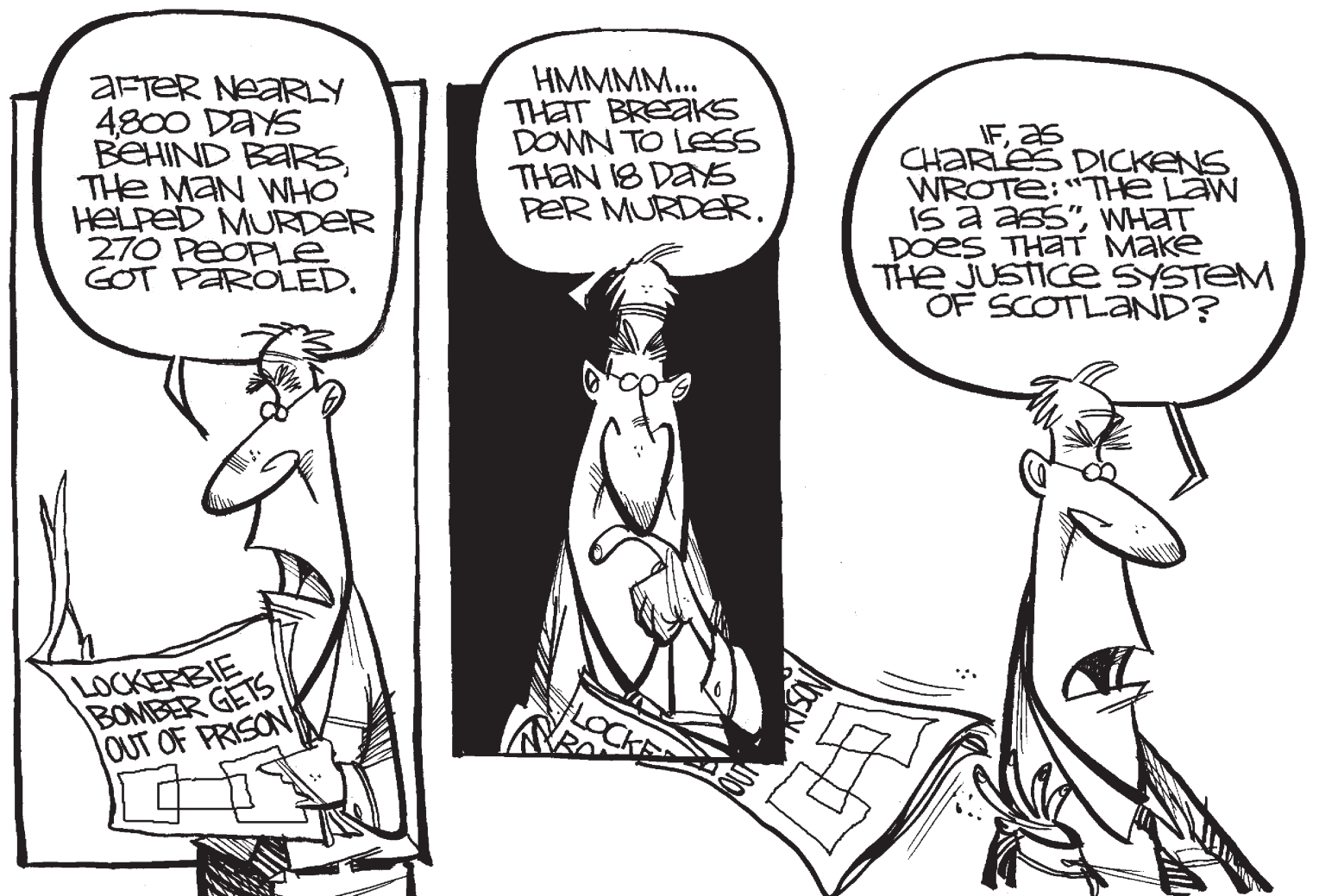


—*The Manhattan Mercury*, via *The Associated Press*

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We do not publish anonymous letters. We sign our opinions and expect readers to do likewise. Nor do we run form letters.



Summer is a time to kick back. (Or, summer is a time for 18-hour days in fields, gardens and outdoor activities.) Either way, the pace of

Marian Ballard has collected careers as counselor, librarian, pastor, and now copy editor for the Colby Free Press. She collects ideas, which are more portable than other stuff.



Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack has said U.S. pork is safe to eat. His statement is sup-

John Schlageck of the Kansas Farm Bureau is a leading commentator on agriculture and rural Kansas. He grew up on a diversified farm near Seguin.

