

The Kings Mountain Herald

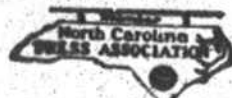
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TODAY'S BIBLE VERSE

The getting of treasures by a lying tongue is a vanity tossed to and from of them that seek death. Proverbs 21:6.

Taxes

"There's nothing sure in this world but death and taxes..." This is an old quotation which is somewhat on the morbid side, and which most people constantly try to put off as long as possible. There has been some success with Number 1 (insurance companies regularly report an increase in the average person's life expectancy), but Number 2 seems to be a losing battle.

Remember when many people were viewing with alarm the big national debt. It was hovering at the \$50 billion mark, and the viewers with alarm thought the nation was just a stone's throw from bankruptcy.

Then the war came. Now the debt is \$252 billion. The viewers with alarm are still viewing, and, it would seem, with some real grounds for it. Not so much because of the debt, but because of the federal government's willingness to spend and spend and spend. The war seemed to give a new go-signal to big national spending.

Senator Harry F. Byrd, chairman of the joint committee on reduction of non-essential federal expenditures, isn't getting much cooperation. He recently wrote a letter to the North Carolina Fair Tax association (dedicated to the same purpose) and outlined some rough looking figures, which the association has, in turn, passed around to North Carolina newspapers, association members, and others.

The Senator wrote: "In view of pending proposals to increase federal income taxes 13.5 percent and employment taxes 59 percent, there is tremendous need for constructive work... These new taxes would mean federal, state and local taxes this year would take one dollar out of each \$3.55 we earn. Federal taxes alone would take one dollar out of each \$4.75 we earn. They took one dollar out of each \$5.45 in the past year..."

Senator Byrd wants the people to write their Congressmen and otherwise exert their influence for spending less. From the Senator's figures, a rash of letters would be very much in order.

Attend the Lions club's Talent Show Friday night. It will be an interesting evening of entertainment. Nothing is more fun than to see the young folks perform. They can beat most of the so-called professionals.

That check to the Red Cross: it's time to write it, if you are in the estimated two-thirds of the citizens who haven't made their contribution yet.

10 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

Mrs. E. W. Griffin, chairman of the division of public safety in the N. C. Federation of Womens Clubs, will speak from Station WBT next Tuesday, March 21st, at 3:15 p. m. Mrs. Griffin will use as her subject "Accident Prevention."

Traffic Problems

The more a city grows, the more complicated becomes its traffic problems. Like parking, bad situations, usually, can only be alleviated, not completely cured.

The Herald has advocated for some months a survey of the traffic situation locally with respect to improving some bad and dangerous spots.

It hopes the city will be successful in working out some improvements for the bad intersections at the corner of the First National Bank, at the intersections of Piedmont, Parker and Battleground, and at the E. Gold street entrance into Battleground, as the city board announced its intentions of doing as the March meeting.

A stoplight at the corner of E. Gold and Battleground would have an added benefit of slowing down through traffic, which sometimes seems to have trouble getting down to 50 on this crowded street.

Municipal officials all over the state are sounding off against the General Assembly "for forgetting the cities." And they seem correct. Certainly the plea for sharing in the gasoline tax to the extent of one cent per gallon of the tax was justified, but the legislators turned a deaf ear. The situation is this: both the state and the several cities are in the road-building business. But only the state gets regular road-building revenue. Who can argue that one-sixth of the gasoline sold in North Carolina is not burned on city streets?

It looks like the Southern group of the Senate has won again in its efforts to keep the federal government out of problems of the states: to wit, civil rights. Among the many southern senators taking the rostrum was Senator Clyde R. Hoey, of Shelby, who again distinguished himself by the logic and reasoning behind his remarks. Senator Hoey does not harangue as some are wont to do, but delineates in plain words why legislation would hurt, rather than help.

Interested citizens, and there are many, should attend the organization meeting of the Mountaineer Club Monday evening. It is to be an organization to aid school athletics, and offers an opportunity for all to participate. Similar groups have proved of inestimable value in a number of other communities.

Our best bow to Charles H. Gantt, Wake Forest college, and W. Earle Myers, Davidson, who have recently been initiated into Phi Beta Kappa, national honorary scholastic fraternity.

Items of news taken from the 1939 files of the Kings Mountain Herald.

The regular monthly meeting of the Business Womens circle of the First Baptist church was held at the home of Mrs. J. M. Rhea on Monday. Miss Melva Settelmyre was hostess to the St. Lydia circle of the Womens Missionary Society of Central Methodist church on Thursday evening. The Senior Woman's club held its regular meeting in the lounge room of the club last Friday afternoon.

martin's medicine

By Martin Hammon

(Containing bits of news, wisdom, humor, and comment. To be taken weekly. Avoid over-dosage.)

Funerals, Etc.

I suppose the reason for this subject, unusual for this time of year when spring is ready to break (according to the calendar if not by the thermometer), is two-fold. One was the unusual number of funerals reported in last week's edition. The other was an interesting news story in a paper from another city.

But the news story was the main one. It was an account of certain recommendations by the city's ministers and funeral directors to the good people of the community concerning funerals and funeral arrangements. Among the recommendations to families were:

(1) Try to avoid Sunday funerals. (Reason: it was harder on the families, it was the minister's busy day, the funeral directors liked to attend church, too.)

(2) Use local pastors for funeral services.

(3) Discard the practice of opening caskets either during or after the funeral service.

There was another specific recommendation, but I forgot what it was.

Frankly the story made my eyes pop. I wondered what the reaction would be, and it only required a short wait—until the next issue of the neighboring paper. In an editorial, the paper, which had endorsed the recommendations, quoted the old colored man who had been in trouble and said, "I jus' don't wanta hear no mo' 'bout it."

People are notably thin-skinned about funerals. They want to have them like then want them, when they want them, etc. And I was surprised that the funeral men and the ministers thought for a moment they could change an attitude of centuries.

The only recommendation I cottoned to was Number 3, about the casket opening. That does seem to put added stress and strain on all concerned, and particularly on the family. But some people enjoy it in a sadistic sort of way, and it is their privilege to have it, I suppose.

I can understand the ministerial desire to avoid Sunday funerals, for Sunday to a minister is just like Saturday to the retail merchants and Wednesday to the Kings Mountain Herald. Sunday is the minister's busy day. But I never heard of a parishioner criticizing a minister because he cancelled a service to hold a funeral.

And as for the business of using local ministers, it is a logical recommendation, but not necessarily a good one. The family may know of some special personal association with a former pastor; for instance, that the present pastor doesn't. If they want an outside minister to hold the service, then the local man should assume the role of an errand boy, or anything else desired, and try to satisfy the folk concerned.

Often-stated privately, it is the Herald's rule-of-the-house to make all efforts to satisfy the people involved (the families usually) in all instances of marriage or normal death. Both are personal matters, in which the interests of those concerned should be paramount. The Herald's lone exception is in printing memorial poetry. The stuff is usually quite atrocious, has no general interest, and is charged for at regular advertising rates.

Pick-ups: Downtown Saturday afternoon under a dentist's office, I heard some awful wailing from the upper deck. It sounded like somebody was getting killed, at the very least. The ladies in the office confided it was only a child getting a tooth pulled. They could hardly stand it in previous instances, they said, until assured that the walls were those of fear rather than pain. On this particular job, the third series of walls was sufficient. The tooth yielded.

Last week was a big one in the Finger household. Receiving congratulations on having a bouncing boy at his house, Carl had a stock reply. "That ain't nothing. The world's comin' to an end." It developed that Elder Brother Fred had completed arrangements for getting into double-harness...

Happy springtime!

Use Of Certified Seed Is Urged

Only by purchasing certified seed can a farmer make certain that he is getting the best product available, says Dr. R. P. Moore, director in charge of the North Carolina Crop Improvement Association at State College.

Dr. Moore says seed are unique in that their breeding cannot be determined from appearance alone. To determine in advance the type of crop which a particular lot of seed can produce, it is necessary to know the history of the seed and the conditions under which they were grown.

In the production of hybrid corn, the plant breeder probably will know much about the performance of the proposed hybrid before it is actually produced. After it is produced, it is put through a series of tests to determine how its performance compares with that of commonly grown varieties or hybrids.

This type of information, Dr. Moore points out, is accumulated, summarized, and made available for all growers who wish to take advantage of it. On open-formular hybrids, similar information is available to reveal what the hybrid is, what it will do, and what it will not do.

Farmers wishing to take advantage of this type of protection, says the Crop Improvement directors, are urged to make use of certified seed.

School Plays To Be Given

By Doris McDaniel

Three one-act plays, "O, Say Can You Sing," "Trista," and "Not Wanted-Another Woman" to be presented in the Central high school auditorium March 17 at 8 p. m.

The plays under the direction of Miss Mary Belle Teague are cast as follows:

"O, Say Can You Sing"
Betty—Connie Bennett.
Tom—Sonny McDaniel.
Lucy—Shirley Houser.
Danny—Jerry King.
Mrs. Blodgett—Gail Allen.
Miss Dobbs—Joyce Biser.
Stake—Manager—Billy Briggs.
Production secretary — Shirley Falls.

"Trista"
Trista—Jean Lynch.
Eph—Bill Amos.
Kezzle—Joyce Falls.
Gaffer—Charles Blanton.
Dr. Trask—Demouth Blanton.
Production secretary — Peggy Mauney.
Head of Property—Jeanne Hallman.

"Not Wanted—Another Woman"
Pamela—Pat Neisler.
Evelyn—Jean Cash.
Susan—Barbara Gault.
Julie—Pat Jolly.
Peggy—Linda Baity.
Donald—Kenneth Roberts.
Father—Don Ellison.
Production secretary — Shirley Arthur.
General Stage Manager — Jack Ruth.

The third play is an original play written by Miss Teague, the high school dramatics teacher.

Miss Teague stated that the three plays will be judged and the winning play will be presented at the Deama Festival at the University of North Carolina, March 23 and 24. Casts of the other plays will go to Chapel Hill as make-up and stage crews.

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