

The Kings Mountain Herald

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TODAY'S BIBLE VERSE

For unto you is born this day, in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. St. Luke 2:11.

Christmas 1949

It's Christmas again . . . To the older folk, it seems only a minute or two, or at best a few days, since Christmas 1948, but to the youngsters, eagerly and excitedly awaiting the visit of their faithful friend Santa Claus, it's been a long, long time.

A sober attitude toward Christmas 1949 would be a review of the improvement of mankind during the past 12 months.

At first glance, the review is not too pleasant and not too indicative of progress toward the goal of brotherly love to which the great mass of the world ascribes in their religious practices.

The headlines of the past year have been as complete as formerly with news of violence, death, and personal behavior not in keeping with the teachings of Jesus Christ, whose birth we celebrate.

Yet, the news goes deeper than the headlines, for the headlines go to the sensational, and the unusual, and it is an indirect tribute to the 140,000,000 people of the United States, and the many more millions of the world, that there is no more bad news than occurs.

The influence of Christ on the world has been felt in ever-widening areas the world over for 1,949 years.

Every person should take advantage of the Christmas season to rededicate himself to these principles which, if followed by all, would eliminate the need for armies, navies, wars, atom bombs, police departments and even laws.

The principles of Christ form such a high moral code that few, if any, have ever attained it.

It would appear the city board of commissioners lost the bus station battle, but the Herald believes the commissioners were on the right track. The city will do well to keep close to the bus transportation situation, and, as time passes and traffic increases, reopen the matter, if the situation warrants. Loss of one battle doesn't mean losing a war.

It is unfortunate that sale of North Carolina Symphony memberships in Kings Mountain was not sufficient to bring the Little Symphony here for a concert next spring. The Little Symphony group actually is a more finished group than the full ensemble. Nevertheless, it is a source of gratification that the orchestra will again play for the children. This annual event is not only a treat for the children but a musical education for them.

Our congratulations to Rev. J. H. Brendall, who has been elected president of the Kings Mountain Ministerial association for the coming year.

10 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

The crack 21-passenger liner of the Eastern Airlines attempted to land here in the field near the Kings Mountain Ice and Coal Company during a recent electrical and wind storm at night.

Mr. Charlie Cash will entertain all the boys and girls under 12 years old at a free show at the Dixie Theatre Christmas morning to make the morning a real joyous occasion for the little folks.

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL
Mrs. C. E. Russell, Mrs. Iris Moore

In Poor Repute

The Herald has heard much comment among members of the Kings Mountain Kiwanis club on the address recently of Dr. R. C. Granberry, president of Limestone college, who spoke on the occasion of the club's "Past-Presidents Night."

Most comment was heard on his declaration that the twin virtues of work and thrift, prime factors in the growth and progress to greatness of this nation, are now in disrepute.

It reminds of the recent address of General Eisenhower, who said America is worrying about caviar and limousines when it should be dining on hot dogs and beer. It also reminds of the several recent addresses of James F. Byrnes, former legislator, jurist and statesman, who has complained that this nation is in danger of selling its birthright for a mess of pottage.

It is perhaps human nature to wish to have the cake and eat it too, but Dr. Granberry's remarks are all too true, and it is high time for the men and women who refuse to accept the false doctrine of ease to make their feelings known to the men who shape the nation's policy. Few deny the great need for liberalizing in 1932, but few, too, will argue that it is impossible for the pendulum to swing too far in the opposite direction.

The Herald regrets, particularly at the Christmas season, to disagree with anyone, but it finds disagreement necessary with the majority of the Kings Mountain unit of the North Carolina Education association. In a resolution published last week, the teachers went on record again for federal aid to the schools, with the proviso, of course, that no federal control would be entailed. It seems to the Herald that the teachers have not learned a basic fact of economic life: he who plays the fiddler gets to call the tune. No law, or group of laws, can prevent it. It has not been prevented on road aid, hospital aid, housing aid, or any other kind of federal aid. The teachers may not mind being controlled from Washington, but the school patrons do.

It is an interesting coincident that a displaced persons family has arrived in Kings Mountain — its new home — just in time for the Christmas season. The people of America have no conception of the suffering and trouble undergone by former citizens of nations used as battlefields. Aubrey Mauney and his father, S. A. Mauney, are to be congratulated on their willingness to extend a helping hand to this family, which we take pleasure in welcoming to the neighborhood.

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

and Miss Gladys Russell were visitors in Kings Mountain Sunday. Little Lottie Lynch, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Haywood E. Lynch is recuperating from an attack of tonsillitis.

Mr. Charlie Dilling is confined to his home with a case of flu.

Mr. and Mrs. S. A. Mauney celebrated their fortieth wedding anniversary by entertaining at a family dinner on Wednesday evening, in a private dining room at Thacker's in Charlotte.

martin's medicine

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

Letter To Santa

Mr. Santa Claus
North Pole
Top-of-the-World
Dear Mr. Claus:

It is again time for me to write you my annual letter, and I will apologize for being late, as usual. Otherwise, I have been a very good boy all year, and I trust you will discount any reports to the contrary. You know how it is. Some people never can be satisfied . . .

1-t-s

First I will report certain general requests of the medicinal constituents, before getting to the more specific requirements.

1-t-s

Without exception, there's not a one of the estimated 100-odd merchants in town who couldn't use some extra customers. This includes vendors of everything from television to peanuts, with the possible exception of the various coffee departments, where the rumor got around there was going to be a shortage. It was almost like rationing days again, with several folks layin' in a year's supply.

1-t-s

Another general-type request comes from all coal users, with more particular emphasis locally from Claude Hambricht, Ted Weir, and Tolly Shuford. These boys are asking strongly for the five-day week. I know this will surprise you muchly for the last-mentioned, for you think it will double the Shuford work schedule. Do not be alarmed, Shuford, and friends, want the five-day week for those fellows who mine coal. See if you can't arrange it.

1-t-s

Still another general-type request comes from Kings Mountain Carolina fans who feel Justice should come at least once every four New Year's Days. If you cannot grant this request it will be very hard on a lot of local folks, and I suggest a substitute gift in the form of a special medicinal antidote for an over-dose of Rice.

1-t-s

P. D. Patrick tells me the ministers want a little more money in the collection plate during the next 12 months, and, as they have tried all means known, from prayin' to fussin', think you might be able to turn the trick. It seems a valid request to me, as most folks have much less trouble shelling out \$3.50 for a football ticket than 35 cents for the collection plate.

1-t-s

Jacob Cooper, Byron Keeter and Hilton Ruth, the current high mugs of Jycoism, Kiwanism and Lionism in our fair city, are desirous of a gift of full attendance for all district meetings they hold, particularly in instances where the arranger of the meetings is expected to pay for unfilled dinner reservations.

1-t-s

I think I've asked for this before, from the Loyal Order of Barber Shop Customers: bring Baxter Wright, Fat Tignor, Floyd Dover, R. C. Stroupe, L. V. Gaffney and Lee Roberts a manicurist each. This is very muchly needed, in spite of certain rumblings from the Amalgamated Association of Wives of Kings Mountain.

1-t-s

And speaking of wives, there's another little matter. There are several eligible YOUNG bachelors in the community who need attention in this department, for they are getting older every day. I think of Faison Barnes, Nathan Reed and Wilson Griffin in the professional category and also Harold Plonk, Ned McGill, Sonny Peeler, and John Henry Moss, who could at least be classed as am-pros, though I am referring primarily to evening hour business, rather than daytime work. (I had to strike Pete Barkley's name off the list.) Wives are very important people, Mr. Claus, as any number of married men will say (in self-defense). A wife would also fill the bill of Billy McGill and Hudson Bridges, fellows who've been before, and who are willing to try it again.

1-t-s

There are a lot of other gifts I'd like to mention, but I'll close with one more. Please, Mr. Claus, don't send Dave Saunders any more blue Mondays! (Yes, my spelling is correct.)

Your faithful friend,
THE MEDICINE MAN

Pilgrims Deplored "Ye Christmas Day"

Puritan disapproval of Christmas celebrations disembarked from the Mayflower with the Pilgrims in 1621 and, accordingly, Governor Bradford issued a statement publicly rebuking certain young men who declined to work on December 25, "ye day called Christmas."

This first New England Christmas — or non-observance thereof — should not be credited as the first Christmas on American soil, since Leif Erikson spent a winter or two on the North American continent around the turn of the 11th century.

Leif was a Christian, and it is likely that members of his crew were Christians, too; although it is quite possible that some had accepted the faith without remodeling their pagan natures, since King Olaf's methods were ruthless and his command "Be baptized, or else!" left them little choice.

Undoubtedly, flagons of crude, raw wine fermented from the grapes of Leif's vinland were passed around and the celebration may have been rather boisterous, but in all fairness to Leif—who, according to excellent testimony, was a sincere convert—it is reasonable to assume that there was a trace of religious observance.

Perhaps Leif remembered the few words of Latin prayer he learned at the time of his conversion and recited them in honor of the birthday of the Redeemer he had accepted. . . . Thus, the first Christmas in America was observed.

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May Your Christmas be Merry and Bright... 1949

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to all of you.
May no cloud appear to disturb its serenity.

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