

The Kings Mountain Herald
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A weekly newspaper devoted to the promotion of the general welfare and published for the enlightenment, entertainment and benefit of the citizens of Kings Mountain and its vicinity, published every Thursday by the Herald Publishing House.

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MARTIN'S MEDICINE
By Martin Harmon

Ingredients: bits of news, wisdom, humor, and comment.
Directions: Take weekly, if possible, but avoid overdosage.

June Opener

Writing anything, particularly a personal essay, has been anything but a nice chore during the past few days, with the cool mountain climate again run off by another heat wave. It just plain looks like the weatherman is in collusion with the air-conditioning dealers. At five down and five a week, could we lose?

J-o

Thursday night is opening night for the Legion baseball kids in the 1953 wars, and there is a glimmer of quiet optimism in the attitude of Coach Hal Dedmon and Legion officials. They like the looks of their players and they feel they'll do better than in some previous seasons.

J-o

They also like the arrangement of eliminations this year. All teams play through a 14-game stand for the area title. However, the final winner is determined by a round-robin playoff, similar to the Shaughnessy playoff used by many of the pro leagues, except that all teams are involved. It means that a team which loses its first five games doesn't throw in the towel and quit. The change should help the spirit of all teams, and the general condition of the several team treasuries, too.

J-o

Ollie Harris is the athletic officer this season, and I have already nicknamed him "John Henry Moss" Harris, John Henry, now operating out in Wisconsin, having been the most prominent baseball promoter in this town in recent seasons. Back when John Henry was running the semi-pro Kings Mountain Vets, he was also on the city board of commissioners, and John was always bringing up needed ball yard improvements. Another of his pleas was, "That light rate is out of reason." Ollie qualified for the "John Henry" title when he invited the present administration to provide some light rate relief on ballyard tenants. He was successful, and, from the tenure of last Friday's game, it was a good thing.

J-o

Legion baseball remains the best brand of all from the spectator standpoint. Anything can happen, and quite frequently does, when Legion teams hook up for a nine-inning setto.

J-o

Dotted jots: Grady Howard, rapidly learning the intricacies of operating a hospital, says one of the things he's already learned is that no hospital, large or small, ever has all the various types of equipment it needs. . . . recently the Kings Mountain plant had need for a portable X-Ray machine, because it couldn't move some patients injured in a wreck, even as far as the X-Ray room. . . . Grady wonders if some civic group wouldn't like to make a donation. . . . At the recent pharmacy association convention at Pinehurst, Charles Blanton, president of the Junior Pharmacy association, made a report on the activities of the Junior group. . . . and among the prizes offered to the druggists attending were a pair of chinchillas. . . .

J-o

A. U. Tindall, the Southern Railroader, is also a good gardener in his off moments, and was vending tomato plants last Saturday. . . . sorry I'm no gardener, for I know Mr. Tindall's are nice 'uns. . . . Mike Millam, now a New York salesman for Neisler Mills Company, was in town briefly last week, he has not bothered to pick up a Yankee accent as yet. . . . Ray Kiser, son of Gus Kiser who lives up the Cherryville Road, has recently received a promotion in the county agent's organization, having been appointed assistant county agent in Stanly County (Albemarle, county seat). . . . his immediate superior will be Vernon Hunneycutt, promoted from the assistant's job, and onetime agriculture teacher at Grover. . . .

J-o

Speaking of air-conditioning (again), one of my neighboring friends doubts the advisability of air-conditioning churches. He says a preacher will have a hard time bringing up visions of Hell and the smell of brimstone, if his hearer is too cool and comfortable. May be right. . . . And, since they're air-conditioning cars, it would be amiss to let Amos Dean give a demonstration of this form of summer motoring comfort. . . . better still, ask to try out his air-conditioned demonstrator for a few days. . . .

CROSSWORD By A. C. Gordon

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ACROSS

- The country known as "down under"
- French river famous in World War I
- English textile city
- Water on the geographical map
- Wholly absorbed
- Abbreviation for a southern continent
- Facing toward the direction from which an overriding glacier impinged
- Abbreviation for a world-famous desert
- Small U. S. state (abbrev.)
- River in Great Britain
- Small bag
- Latin abbreviation for "that is"
- Water-surrounded tract of land
- City once famous for its culture
- Indefinite article (abbrev.)
- Chemical symbol for erbium
- An old German state (poss.)

AROUND THE WORLD

- Asiatic country
- Printer's measure
- Thus
- Latin connective
- Real Land (abbrev.)
- Playing card
- French city
- Discharge a debt
- Alaskan city
- A watery expanse between Arabia and Africa
- Profits
- African river
- Largest river in France
- Western dam named after a U. S. president

DOWN

- Swiss river (poss.)
- Ancient city of the Chaldees (poss.)
- Chemical symbol for potassium
- Experimented
- Northern territory
- Landed Educators (abbrev.)
- Noun suffix equivalent to "er"
- Girl's name (poss.)
- Hawaiian island (poss.)
- European country
- Large southern expanse of water
- Eligible Orders (abbrev.)
- Division of northern Greece (poss.)
- Japanese coin
- To rest
- Natives of a Scandinavian country
- The theater (abbrev.)
- Scottish boy
- To diminish
- City in the Canal Zone
- Correlative of "neither"
- Legal for "the thing"
- Angry
- Arabian military commander
- Sins
- Latin abbreviation for "that is"
- Roman 1555
- Probably
- The self
- Nothing
- Polishened Officers (abbrev.)
- Old English (abbrev.)

See The Want Ad Section For This Week's Completed Puzzle

Battle Drama Has Personal Style

By Charlene Padgett

For the third season the production of the historical drama about the Battle of Kings Mountain, "The Sward of Gideon" puts into effect its own personal style in the realm of outdoor historical dramas.

It is sponsored by the Kings Mountain Little Theatre, Inc., and the entire cast and production crew of over 150 people are in the venture purely out of love for the theatre, or the desire to see their section of the Carolinas put its best foot forward. The only person who gets any money is the author, who receives a royalty.

By throwing the drama open to all interested groups and individuals, a great reservoir of talent has been made available. Intensive talent auditions are held and all of the main roles are usually filled by actors with years of experience in various non-professional groups. They come from Gastonia, Shelby, Kings Mountain, Besemer City, N. C., and from Rock Hill and York, S. C.

Backstage an even higher degree of professional skill has been utilized. Electricians offer their services as lighting men; carpenters build sets and stages; beauticians act as make-up girls; all in their spare time, and all for free because they believe in the play and want to see it succeed. The result of this is a smoothly-staged, professional production.

A proposed project this year is to award dramatics scholarships to outstanding high school actors appearing in the play. The production will be given 12 times this summer in the Kings Mountain National Military Park amphitheatre, beginning July 23rd and continuing on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday through August 15th, at 8 p. m.

TODAY'S BIBLE VERSE

Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity. 1 Timothy 4:12.

Odd Form Of Giving

Dr. W. L. Halberstadt, who spoke to the Lions club the other night after a recent trip around the world, expanded on a theme many speakers, returning from overseas, have advanced in the past few years.

He charged a great mistake to the United States and Great Britain in fostering the independent state of Israel. Dr. Halberstadt said he doubts the wisdom, at any time, of displacing five persons to accommodate a lone additional D. P.

Merely being practical, he is worried, he said, about the attitude of the Arab world, which is one of the largest population groups.

To the more important question of ethics, he doubts the ethics of taking one man's home on the grounds of making better use of it.

The world is shrinking, through faster ships and eight-mile-per-minute planes. His thought that we have become a neighborhood, without becoming a brotherhood, is an intriguing one. Who is to operate the police force, and how tough a job will the poor policeman have?

School Consolidating

The Herald approves, and heartily, the current effort to consolidate the schools of Number 4 Township into one administrative unit, and, in turn, to build two township-wide high school plants.

Indeed, a great many citizens feel such a consolidation would be a great stride forward in providing better education, more cheaply, for all the young people of the area.

The principal advantage in the educational realm would be the broadening of the number of courses offered to the young people of the township. Several years ago, a young Bethware senior remarked that he wished he could have had a course in typing, rather than agriculture. But agriculture (which he felt his father was supplying in both regular and concentrated form) was required, and no typing was offered. Conversely, it could be assumed that plenty of urban students would benefit greatly by a little learning about the soil and how things grow. After all, the farmer is the backbone of the nation, and everything begins in the soil.

The principal advantage to the taxpayer would be to give him more and better education, for his children and for his neighbor's children, for less money.

Almost all the high school plants involved in the suggested consolidation area are bursting at the seams at the moment, and the prospects are that the student population will get larger each year. That has been the case for many years past. The alternative to getting together and building two fine, well-equipped, modern plants which would be expandable as future student load requires, is a multitude of small, struggling high schools, doing, at best, a limited job with patchwork facilities.

The present high school plants, once the consolidated ones are in operation, would be available to accommodate adequately the incoming elementary and grammar pupils for many years to come.

There are problems, to be sure, but the major one undoubtedly is the initial outlay. After the original outlay is handled, the schooling bill for Number 4 Township would be cheaper.

With good paved roads and modern transportation, the problem of getting the youngsters to school is no longer a major one.

The Herald agrees with a number of its friends, representing almost all of the various districts involved, in feeling that the many side issues involved should be satisfactorily answered prior to final action. But there should be no slowness in proceeding with the investigation of these side issues, and, where snarls exist, finding ways to straighten them.

Grover school patrons answered resoundingly the question on the split term issue last Friday, voting almost 2 to 1 to abandon this old-fashioned, outworn method. Grover patrons are to be commended on their farsightedness and in their interest in seeing that the children of their community are not handicapped by a stop-and-start school term.

Lower Than Expected

The first unofficial estimate of the city's property valuation for tax purposes was somewhat disappointing to some people, many of whom had anticipated that the former valuation would double. Actually, the increase is going to be only about half the figure first guessed by these optimists.

Nonetheless, the figure of \$9,500,000, or thereabouts, is much more realistic than the old low figure of \$6,500,000, and will ease somewhat the strain of the city fathers as they squeeze out future budgets.

The city board of this year, or future years, is not going to go wild and increase tax rates.

But the principal advantage is in the change of the bonded debt-to-valuation ratio.

The improvement in this formula will enable city boards to plan for public improvements with more freedom.

Advantage to the property owner will vary. Some will get a bigger tax bill, some a smaller one. Theoretically, the one getting the smaller bill has been paying more than his share all along, and vice versa.

But, then, equity was the will-o-the-wisp being sought after from the start.

It is good news to many friends that Ben Bridges is returning home to join the Kings Mountain Building & Loan association. It is always good news to learn of young people returning home, for a community which does not keep its young people soon withers and dies away. Without making a close inventory, it seems to the Herald that the number of Kings Mountain young people returning to take responsible positions in the community has been on the increase during the past few years. If that is correct, it is a good sign.

Our congratulations to Ollie Harris and the other newly elected officers and directors of the Kings Mountain Lions club. Mr. Harris, in succeeding to one of the community's more responsible civic positions, has the equipment to assure the club one of its more prosperous years.

Our best wishes to C. J. Gault, Sr., who has retired after 60 work-filled years. All would quickly agree that Mr. Gault has earned a rest. Best guess, though, is that the habit of work holds the upper hand and that his retirement will be more official than actual.

Best bows are in order to Dr. W. P. Gerberding, E. E. Marlowe, and B. T. Wright, Sr., who have just been appointed to membership on the city recreation commission. New ideas take a long time to sell due to more factors than mere newness, though that one, sometimes, is a major one. At any rate, public recreation has been advocated by a gradually growing group here for almost a decade now, and one of these days the idea will produce major, and desired, results.

Elizabeth Plonk, a member of the graduating class at Lenior Rhyne college, spent the week end with her folks in Kings Mountain.

Mr. and Mrs. B. A. Murray had as guests Friday a former pastor, Rev. F. R. Barber and Mrs. Barber of Marion, N. C.

Messrs. C. J. Gault and C. J. Gault, Jr. are in New York City where they are visiting Pfc. Robert E. Gault who is stationed with the armed forces near there.

10 YEARS AGO Items of news about Kings Mountain area people and events THIS WEEK taken from the 1943 files of the Kings Mountain Herald.

Total sales made on Poppy Day in Kings Mountain Saturday amounted to \$65.85, according to report of American Legion Auxiliary officials.

Social And Personal

A wedding of much interest in Kings Mountain was that of Miss Rosalie Bennet Polk of Rockingham, N. C., and Corporal Samuel Robert Suber, Jr. of Kings Mountain, which took place Thursday evening, May 20 at 8 o'clock in the Camp Kilmer chapel in New Brunswick, N. J.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles W. Huldender are announcing this week the marriage of their daughter, Jennie Frances, to Sgt. George M. Gasky which was solemnized on May 5 in Gulfport, Miss.

Mrs. Garland E. Still was hostess at six tables of bridge, entertainment at her home on Piedmont avenue last Thursday evening.

Mrs. V. C. Schley of Wilmington spent the weekend with Mrs. Grady King.

Viewpoints of Other Editors

MUST WE FEAR THE "CONTROVERSIAL"

SMITHFIELD HERALD

American books used on foreign information programs are hereafter not to be written by "Communists, fellow travellers, or persons who might be considered controversial."

This strange decree comes from the State Department at Washington which is asking book publishers who submit books for these purposes to certify that they are clean of such influences.

Thus is one more nail being driven into the coffin of freedom.

If this official trend is maintained we can look forward to the time when an American citizen will be a kind of neuter, blank in the head and carrying a vacuum where knowledge and judgment are ordinarily expected.

The United States was born amid controversy, rebellion, and defiance of constituted authority. The government of George III was objectionable to the founding fathers, and their spokesman questioned it and denounced it without stint although thousands of people on both sides of the Atlantic revered it as good and sound if not sacred.

The republic set up by feeble colonies in the latter part of the 18th century has passed through many storms and stresses, and has weathered a thousand controversies and a million differences of opinion, without being overthrown. Are we now so afraid of Communist opinion and doctrine that we must take fright at controversy lest it lead into Communism?

The State Department used to be regarded as one of the solidest government institutions. But here lately it seems to be suffering from nerves as indicated by a tendency toward nightmares and a temptation to see hobgoblins on dark nights. What has become of the Uncle Sam who used to be pictured as a fearless figure with asquare jaw.

Final census ginnings for the 1952 season indicate a North Carolina cotton crop of 569,000 bales of 500 pounds gross weight, compared with 542,000 bales in 1951, and 181,000 in 1950.

NORTH CAROLINA CLEVELAND COUNTY IN THE SUPERIOR COURT

Flore Allen, Plaintiff vs. Elmer Maynard Allen, Defendant

NOTICE

The defendant above named will take notice that an action as above entitled has been commenced in the Superior Court of Cleveland County, North Carolina, wherein the plaintiff seeks a divorce from the defendant; that said defendant will also take notice that he is required to appear at the Clerk of Court's Office at Shelby, North Carolina, within twenty (20) days after the 29th day of June, 1953 and answer or demur to the complaint now on file in the Clerk's Office, or the plaintiff will apply to the court for the relief demanded in said complaint. . . . This 29th day of May, 1953. E. A. Houser, Jr. Clerk Superior Court 6-4-25-H

Appointment Without Politics

THE CHATHAM NEWS

Sound-thinking North Carolinians are applauding Governor Umstead's appointment of Ed Scheidt, former FBI man as Commissioner of Motor Vehicles. They are applauding the appointment on several counts but more particularly because it could mean an end to politics in this vastly important state agency.

As an FBI man with a long record of outstanding service, Mr. Scheidt surely has learned how to keep politics out of the administration of an important job.

Few agencies in government have had as clean a record as the FBI when it comes to getting along with whatever political party is in control.

Even the most amateur of observers will have discerned in the past, the political maneuvering that has been a part of the motor vehicles picture. In the first place, the commissioner's job is one of the choicest plums that falls to the Governor to hand out, often as a reward for political support.

In recent years the job has been a political "hot spot". Governor W. Kerr Scott's retention of Chatham's Landon Rosser as a holdover from the Cherry administration caused many people to forecast an end to politics.

Governor Scott subsequently fired Rosser because of differences in last year's primary campaign even though it was generally conceded that Colonel Rosser had done a creditable job. L. R. Fisher succeeded Rosser with Governor Umstead subsequently exercising his prerogative to replace him.

In appointing Ed Scheidt it is difficult to see what political implications there could be in such a course. Mr. Scheidt has been out of North Carolina for a number of years — adding to his stature as an able law enforcement officer. He surely cannot be a member of any "ring" or "clique" that could prove valuable in political contests that loom in the future.

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