



# The Kings Mountain Herald

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## TODAY'S BIBLE VERSE

For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened. St. Luke 11:10.

## Highway Report

For \$110,000 the State Highway and Public Works commission has obtained from an out-of-state engineering firm a recommendation for improving its highway system by almost \$1.5 billion dollars, the improvements to cover a decade of building of new roads, improving and widening old ones, and otherwise providing safer avenues for the growing automobile population.

The passenger car population in North Carolina has passed the million mark, with trucks upping the total figure to 1.4 million. In addition, the state is a vacation mecca, attracting much out-of-state traffic.

The matter of financing was touched on, too, with the engineering firm recommending the usual government method of getting the money — deficit financing.

The latter recommendation won't be too appealing to many North Carolinians, perhaps the majority, who deplore deficit financing in government, particularly in view of the federal government's continuing red ink operations. Even the Scott rural roads program provided the money for retiring the bond-issues by adding an extra cent per gallon to the gasoline tax. The extra penny has paid off handsomely, supplying annually more than enough to defray the principal payments and interest charges.

But there is little question about the need for great improvements to the highway system of the state, in the interest of both safety and convenience. Many new and fine roads have been built and are being built, but even so highway officials in all divisions say they're falling behind on needs. Many motorists are quick to agree.

Since the highways are a product of our political system, it is inconceivable that all of the building recommendations will be followed. However, it is good to obtain a master plan from a competent firm without the trials and tribulations of political connections and pressures. It should prove well worth the cost. And as in Kings Mountain's situation on hospital building, the fact of having the plan (and perhaps the money) will prove most beneficial should the federal government embark on the Eisenhower plan of long-term expansion of federal contributions to building of primary highways.

## Next Week's Parade

Santa Claus comes to Kings Mountain for his 1954 visit next Wednesday in what is being billed as Kings Mountain's biggest-ever Christmas-opening parade.

Indeed, the plans call for a big one, with a large number of floats, including the Carolinas Carrousel winner of Queen City Coach Company, and numerous other units, from groups, to bands, to pretty girls and fast automobiles.

But the main attraction will be Old Nicholas himself, a mighty important man these days in the vision of a great host of youthful admirers, almost bursting with excitement already and quite impatient in wondering if Christmas Day ever will arrive really.

The young folk will want to see Santa Claus and the adults won't mind either. Next Wednesday's parade should attract a record crowd.

All will be pleased to learn that the city is contracting for an anti-rat campaign. Kings Mountain grows some mammoth-size rodents and the fact that the eradicating effort is to be costless to the city is nice, too. According to Mayor Bridges, the D-Con Company guarantees it and Grady Cole can rid us of rats. Even if they are only partially successful, the campaign would be of great benefit.

## MARTIN'S MEDICINE

By Martin Harmon

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

Halbert Webb, neighbor (and friend, except for one Saturday annually), if not mentally telepathic is certainly prescient. Halbert called me last Friday. "Ha, ha," he grunted, "going down tomorrow?" No, I wasn't going, the situation at Chapel College not being as bright as in the good old days of Charlie Justice and Company, though I'd read some propaganda in the sports sheets that indicated the Big Game, Duke vs. Carolina, might be somewhat better than the last one I'd seen. Anyway, I still had the "barks" from a lousy cold, and it made the duck-out easy. Halbert wanted some extra tickets, which I didn't have, and I haven't learned yet whether the tickets were to accommodate some Duke celebrant or others of opposite leanings whom Halbert meant to embarrass.

Anyway, the Carolinas, as the old-style writers would have called them, had a sorry day, and the die-hards of my leanings who made the mistake of making the trek had a long, tedious journey home.

Not so the Dukes, who continued for the fifth year their mastery of the unloved rivals from 12 miles away, perhaps less since Governor Scott built the "Football Road." Halbert will be in high good spirits for months to come, what with Orange Bowl blossoms in the air too, and if I were his madame I would up my sights on what Santa Claus should bring, settling for nothing less than the fur coat or diamond dinner ring class. Of course, the opposite situation obtains at my house.

Wilson Griffin was at least as smart as I, A Chapel College man, too, he also had ruled out the Duke. Carolina venture for 1954. But where there is life there is hope, and, remembering the result of the Wake Forest joust, there is, at least, life, though it is possible the Carolina lads would do better to expend their energies in different directions.

Christmas is just around the next corner or two, and if the statement is a shocker for late-starters like me, just take a peek at the calendar. Total shopping days left: 19.

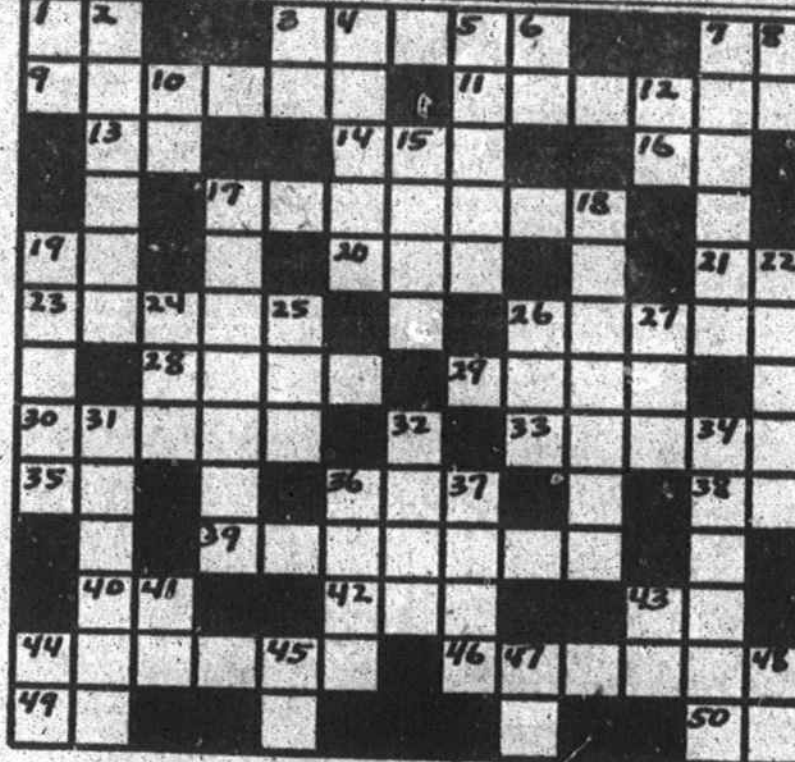
Santa Claus comes to town next week for the preliminary check-up before the main event, and 20-plus units are expected to serve as the cheery old gentleman's honor guard. The pre-Christmas arrival of Santa Claus kinda gets one in the Christmas mood, though I dare say not one parent of youngsters eight years old and less have had a chance to forget it for weeks. Uncle Sam's post-office operators across the street report already a big avalanche of mail addressed in big scrawling scripts to Santa Claus, North Pole.

Holiday Calls: I was working a bit on Thanksgiving morning, all by myself, when the telephone rang. The caller was Bertie, the Billie Mauney's maid, who was trying to reach another number. We had an interesting conversation, however, as Bertie recounted her Thanksgiving activities. To a question on what she was doing for Thanksgiving, Bertie replied, "Just cooking." But the folk were away and Bertie had plenty of help, with all the little Mauneys taking a turn with the skillet. "They loves to cook," Bertie said, and added that Sarah Frances, age seven, "can cook breakfast as good as I can." I wager it was a good Thanksgiving dinner.

Another call came from Carolyn Jonas, on Woodside Drive, to identify the Mystery Farm. Carolyn was not only correct but lucky, for her name was among those extracted from the hat in the drawing for a Joy Theatre free admission.

Notes: The hunting season is in, but, on basis of the heavy run on posted signs at the Herald, I wonder where the hunters are going to hunt. John Lewis, the Merchants association president, found a spot. He and Wood Grayson were looking for rabbits and John claims a bag of 18, though I did not see the bag and conducted no count. Grady Howard had a bad dream the other night. He said he dreamed he and I were traveling together en route to a political rally. "Now what," Grady asks, "would you and I be doing going to the same rally?" I told him one of us must have been an espionage agent. "Rains finally seem to have arrived in force. How long will it be until you begin hearing complaints in the vein of 'Will it ever stop raining?'"

## CROSSWORD \* \* \* By A. C. Gordon



**ACROSS**

- Abbreviated account
- Business items to be kept in check
- Musical note
- What every business has to show
- The fellow who always agrees with the boss (two words)
- Comparative suffix
- Body part
- Measure of area
- Persons who make contracts
- Prefix denoting two
- The color of an indebted business
- Elective Credit (abb.)
- Things added by the bookkeeper
- You must ..... your proposition
- Value
- Add the figures
- Mortgages
- Always start with a clean .....

**DOWN**

- Short for (abb.)
- Serpent
- Thoroughfare (abb.)
- Accumulated merchandise
- Spanish affirmative
- Wintry sport implement
- Merchandise announcement
- Approached
- Toward
- Plus
- Month of the year (abb.)
- A record of payment
- Roman 101
- Additional
- Used a business machine
- Chemical symbol for chlorine
- Course of commercial activity
- Preposition
- Stitcher
- Person
- Mental image
- A kind of commercial first
- Liquidated an account first
- First-of-the-month notice
- Transferred property
- Period of time
- Thoroughfare (abb.)
- Distress signal
- Man's name
- Type of writing
- To deduct from the wages
- Deals commercially (abb.)
- Business "big wheel"
- Of the same kind
- In the same place (abb.)
- Measure of area
- Prosecuting officer of a district (abb.)
- In the direction of
- Man's nickname
- Perform

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

## Viewpoints of Other Editors

### NINETEEN SEVENTY-NINE

Secretary of Commerce Weeks calls the seventy-fifth anniversary edition of the Statistical Abstract of the United States, just out, "a mirror of the vitality and the progress" of the American people.

Well, the half million or so abstracted statistics in the new tome doubtless reflect vitality; among other things they reveal there are more than three times as many people in this country as there were seventy-five years ago. How much progress the statistics represent may be more debatable. For instance, the book shows that there are now about a million more American women than American men, whereas the reverse was the case in 1879.

Also, urban population now accounts for fifty-nine per cent of the country's total, compared with a mere twenty-eight per cent when the Statistical Abstract first appeared. Ourselves slaves of the subway and sufferers from metropolitan claustrophobia, we cannot help raising an eyebrow at that particular evidence of progress.

Then there is a little statistic about the public debt. Now \$270 billion or better, it was \$2 billion seventy-five years ago. At that time, customs receipts furnished the bulk of the Government's revenue; today most of it comes from individual and corporate income taxes. Perhaps this represents progress, but one is constrained to ask, for whom? And if all this progress continues to progress, we are not sure we will enjoy looking into the Statistical Abstract's hundredth anniversary mirror. — *Wall Street Journal*.

### TREES STICK WITH YOU DESPITE THE WEATHER

While this welcome rain of the past week will doubtless have a wonderful effect on the pastures and small grains in Rutherford county, we want to comment right now on the other half of the picture — the dry spell that has been with us all summer and fall.

The drought pointed out something that everybody should know, that crops are very vulnerable when the season goes against them. So we know that some of the farmers in this area are glad to find they have one crop that doesn't suffer too much in a dry year, or even in two or three dry years.

Trees are a wonderful safeguard against the liabilities of weather. It is true that a dry year reduces the growth of these valuable farm items, and too much dry weather, over a period of years, will actually stunt them. In addition, the drought we have been experiencing (which we sincerely hope is over for a while) creates a very real danger of forest fire damage, which is the severest punishment that trees will undergo.

But trees keep on growing, even on comparatively light moisture. And they are a crop in a very real sense when they can be cut for pulpwood or for saw timber. Many a Rutherford farmer knows what it is to make a fat bank deposit from the sale of some of his timber, and most of those who have sold it are comfortably aware of a good stand still remaining on their acreage. These are also the kind of farmers who are most apt to set out seedlings to replace the mature timber that has been cut. — *Forest City Courier*.

### WE'RE 38th IN VOTING

The Greensboro Daily News takes note of another Tar Heel low ranking: We're 38th in voting. Only 52 per cent of North Carolina's eligible voters went to the polls in 1952 when Ike and Adlai were contesting for the Presidency.

The national average was 63 per cent. Southern states had the poorest voting records. Below North Carolina were Florida, Tennessee, Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas, Virginia, Georgia, South Carolina, Alabama and Mississippi. Lack of a real two-party system in most Southern areas may help explain the great lack of voting interest in the South, but it doesn't excuse the South's voting deficiency.

The usual reaction to low voting percentage is simply to deplore or ignore. Or, if there is any positive reaction, it usually takes the form of a "get out the vote" scheme thought up by a promotion-minded civic club.

Apparently the Greensboro Daily News doesn't go for schemes or slogans or fanfare to overcome our voting deficiency. "What can we do about it?" asks the News. "Exactly what we are doing about our other deficiencies — work to gain more education, knowledge and understanding which will in turn give us a larger share of the national wealth which will in turn (we hope) make us take our civic responsibility more seriously."

This appears to be a sound approach. It also ties in with our own pet opinion about voting. We have never thought as highly of "getting out the vote" as we have of increasing the knowledge and understanding of those eligible to vote. More intelligent voting is a more pressing need than simply more voting.

When North Carolina and the rest of the South succeed in increasing the "education, knowledge and understanding" of the people, not only will our voting percentage rise sharply, as the Greensboro Daily News hopes, but the intelligence of the decisions at the polls will likely be higher too. And when we reach a high level of intelligence in voting, we'll really have something to crow about. A high voting percentage alone doesn't reflect strength of democracy. — *Smithfield Herald*.

### ON WRECKS

A man can wreck his married life by foolish conduct at a summer resort, says a lecturer. Which is very true. But a lot more men wreck their lives of single blessedness at such places. — *Kingsport, Tenn., Times*.

### DISAGREEMENT

My husband thinks it is much easier to hold the toothbrush steady and shake his head, while I find it more convenient to move the brush. — *Chicago Tribune*.

### SCIENCE BAFLED

Science has conquered virtually all questions of everyday life except the matter of getting four legs of equal length on a coffee table. — *Indianapolis News*.

Butter purchases by American households rose to over 60 million pounds during a four-week period in September — representing an increase of more than five million pounds or 10 per cent over purchases in the comparable period in 1953.

## This Expectant Pop Really Hospitalized

Most fathers pace the floor before their children are born but one Kings Mountain father didn't get a chance.

Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Crawford were expecting their first child this month.

Tuesday night, Mr. Crawford became ill and was taken to the hospital for an emergency appendectomy. Mrs. Crawford was admitted to Kings Mountain hospital on Thursday, and the baby, a girl, was born Friday morning at 7 o'clock.

Mr. Crawford, who was two doors down the hall from his wife, didn't know Mrs. Crawford was in the hospital until Friday morning when she and the baby were wheeled into his room.

The couple named the baby Catherine Ann. All three were discharged on Monday.

World production of soybeans is expected to reach an alltime high in 1954, with a 735 million bushels crop forecast. Over three-fourths of the anticipated 90-million-bushel increase will come from the United States.

## Services Set At Church Of God

A mission service is to be conducted Thursday (tonight) beginning at 5 p. m. at the Church of God on E. Parker st., according to an announcement made Monday.

Rev. Kenneth B. DuPlough, missionary in South Africa, and Rev. Paul H. Watku, of Cleveland, Tennessee, will be guest speakers. Rev. DuPlough will also show pictures at the Sunday service at the Church of God.

The public is invited to attend. Rev. E. E. Salter, the pastor said.

Commercial slaughter of cattle, calves, sheep and lambs, and hogs in North Carolina during September amounted to 20 1/2 million pounds liveweight — the highest monthly total since records began in 1947.

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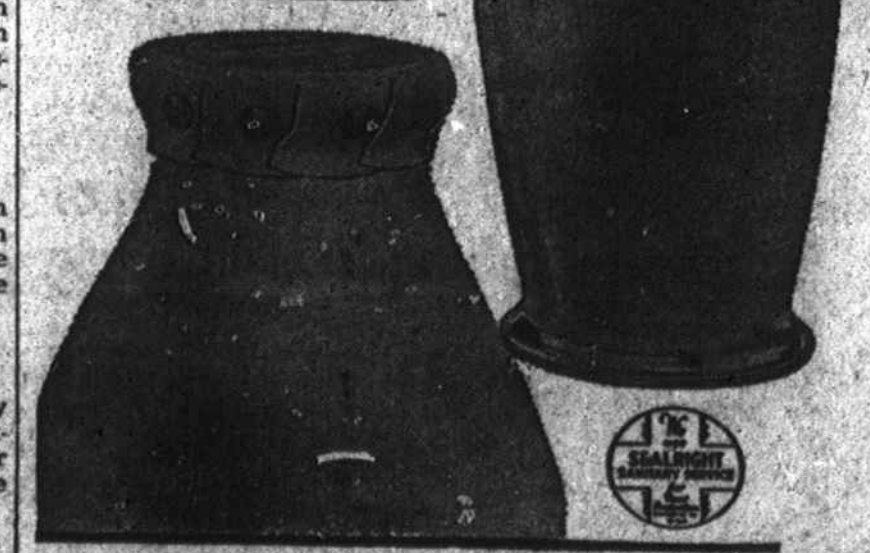
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GASTONIA

## 10 YEARS AGO Items of news about Kings Mountain area people and events THIS WEEK taken from the 1944 files of the Kings Mountain Herald.

The United War Fund for Kings Mountain and Grover has reached a total of \$6,685.33, over-subscribing its quota of \$5,000 by \$1,685.33. The citizens of Grover are to be commended on their part in subscribing \$600 for the fund, the largest amount ever subscribed in Grover for any one

drive of this kind.

**Social and Personal**  
Mrs. W. M. Gantt will entertain the Home Department of the Woman's club Friday, December 1st, 7:30 p. m. A Christmas program will be presented.

Everette Cloninger of the U. S. Navy is spending the week here

with his parents.

Miss Mabel Logan, of Washington, D. C. spent the past week with her mother, Mrs. Etta Logan.

Miss Edith Queen spent the past weekend with her parents in Marble, N. C.