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The Kings Mountain Herald

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MARTIN'S MEDICINE

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

By MARTIN HARMON

Death claimed last week Mrs. Katherine Cassels Provence Falls Frazier, who in the past 16 years has signed her name Katie Falls Frazier, and whom I knew from childhood as Aunt Katie following her second marriage to my late great uncle.

Back in June 1957, Aunt Katie wrote: "Dear Martin Luther, I am sending you a few items about myself so when the end comes you will have these facts. I did appreciate the splendid article that you wrote about Dr. Falls, a grand person. I hope to see you and your family sometime. With all good wishes, fondly, Aunt Katie."

The notes about Aunt Kate had been in a cubbyhole of the desk since.

She was a woman of verve, vivacity and intellect, and, perhaps most important, of irrepressible spirit. Her notes got her born at the ancestral home of her grandparents but the year, I suspect intentionally, was omitted. Indeed, her niece, Mrs. Booth Gillespie, said Aunt Katie told her age about a year ago, but Emelyn was sufficiently shocked not to be able to remember exactly whether she was 88 or 89.

My last indirect contact with her occurred some 18 months ago in Raleigh, where a civil defense convention was in progress and I became acquainted with the civil defense director for Iredell County. Did he know Aunt Katie?

"Why I was talking to her on the telephone yesterday," he replied. The gentleman was planning to open a home for the elderly some three to four miles out of Statesville, where Aunt Katie maintained a large Victorian home at 506 Walnut street. She was projecting closing her home and moving to the new rest home and, apparently, liked the report on appointments, cost, and other details. Then, noting she no longer operated a car and could not frequently be going into the city, she inquired, "Are you going to have a beauty parlor?"

On yet another occasion, she had called to relate the sudden and early death of Don Shields, husband of Elizabeth Wimshis, the niece Aunt Katie had reared. After I gleaned the details, I asked, "Aunt Katie, how are you getting along?" Her irrepressible reply: "Martin, the old gray mare ain't what she used to be, but you got to keep your chin up!"

Aunt Katie was quite health-conscious and for good reasons: Her mother had died when she was two years old, and her first husband died in 1909 after a long bout with tuberculosis which took them to New Mexico and open air living in the desert. Of her two children born to her and Dr. Falls, one died as a child and the other did not live at birth. It's not surprising therefore that she was a devotee of the late Bernard McFadden, health enthusiast, nor that she enrolled in his spa.

She taught school in New Mexico, and both Carolinas, including the now-department school on what is now Phenix street and in what was then the Town of East Kings Mountain. Among her young pupils was Arnold Kiser. Arnold recalls that Aunt Katie invariably wore stylish shoes, with heels somewhat higher than most lady school teachers. One day Aunt Katie caught a heel on a step and off came the heel. Arnold laughed, which he recalls was a correct laugh but definitely at the wrong time. "She failed me good," Arnold remembers.

I first heard the tale in the forties, picked it up again from Pete Avery, a UNC friend now a Statesville lawyer in 1961 the day President Kennedy spoke at Chapel Hill. Bill Williams it in "Well There's Life" in Sunday's Gastonia Gazette.

I once wrote a story about Mrs. George Frazier, a fine, capable woman who had three very successful marriages.

She always bragged that she married Dr. Province of Rutherford College (the first marriage) for love, and got it.

Her second marriage was to Dr. O. S. Falls of Kings Mountain, for money; she got it. He was a millionaire.

Her third marriage was to a lawyer, George Frazier of Statesville. "For nothing," she said, "and I got it."

Her remarks were made in jest, of course, for all three of her marriages were filled with the care and devotion and abiding love that a man yearns for. She gave these and more.

This week, Mrs. George Frazier died in Statesville. She was buried yesterday.

Many people in this area remember her and mourn her loss. Amen, Bill.



SO THIS IS NEW YORK

By NORTH CALLAHAN

Older people are not the only ones concerned—with our problems of education and progress. There appears to be an increasing number of younger persons, especially educators, who are wondering what the answers are to growing delinquency. I have just talked to a student teacher in New York City and the following is the account:

"My experience at P.S. in Manhattan was both an unusual and enlightening one. Although I have taken numerous education courses, I was not in the slightest prepared for what I encountered.

My fifth grade class was made up of approximately twenty-six children (I say approximately 26 because pupils transferred in and out of both the class and the school weekly). Of the original twenty-six, one was white, five Negro and twenty Puerto Rican.

The entire problem of educating and disciplining these children in my opinion stems from the fact that they are lacking the experiences in life before kindergarten that so-called "normal" children have. Due to the language barrier, or perhaps lack of funds, or simply the uncaring attitude of the parents, these children rarely leave the slum neighborhood in which they are born.

Another factor which contributed to the lack of discipline was this particular teacher. He was an educated man and an experienced teacher but allowed the students to literally "get away with murder". . . The children would get up and walk around the room without permission to sharpen a pencil, get a drink or merely talk to a friend and were rarely if ever reprimanded. They brought in dolls and toys which they played with whenever they wanted to.

When home work was assigned, it was hardly ever done. It was never gone over or collected and so those who did do it eventually lost interest and didn't bother with future assignments. There were many instances of physical violence which had to be broken up by the teacher. Children spit on the floor, called out, turned, cursed frequently and stole from the school, the teacher and one another. Another tremendous problem was that of lying. On one occasion when the teacher was absent and a substitute took over, a child grabbed his coat and ran out the door and did not return.

Absences were frequent and varied excuses were given. Many times when the children were roaming the streets during school hours, the parents did not even know that the children were not in school. I received many notes asking the teacher to excuse the child because he had to baby-sit for younger siblings or because the parents did not feel well.

Most of the children came from broken homes, many never even knowing a father. They are often so strictly controlled at home that the school is the only place for them to let out their energy. . . . As schooling is mandatory until sixteen years of age in New York State, there is no place to send them but to the public schools.

It has been estimated that seventy per cent of a teacher's time is spent in disciplining the children, and in many of the New York public schools, I feel that this is a fair estimate.

In conclusion I would say that this is a problem which will not be solved in the foreseeable future, but perhaps at some later date through the further education of parents and teachers, and through programs like Operation Headstart, an end and a new beginning will be in sight."

The Christian Science Monitor

TODAY'S BIBLE VERSE
 Put away from thee a froward mouth, and perverse lips put far from thee. Proverbs 4:24.

Cities Need Help, But . . .

Some years ago, Frank Daniels, member of a tax study commission re-writing the state's revenue act, was belabored for being party to recommendations that cities be allowed to charge an income tax on commuters working in the cities and to permit cities to charge up to \$10 for an auto license tag.

Publisher Daniels, after noting that a 15-member body never reports minus give-and-take then defended by declaring that effort was being made to aid the cities. "Every major city in North Carolina is broke except one and it would be if it provided the services it should."

The right-to-work tax, as this newspaper labeled the proposal, and the \$10 auto tag fee proposal were defeated.

The hue-and-cry for financial relief to the cities (counties are crying too) continues today, with wealthy, fast-growing Charlotte a leader in the movement, quite obviously with good reason as demand for services out-strip growing, but insufficient, revenues.

W. J. Smith, First Union National Bank's senior vice-president, on behalf of the Charlotte Chamber of Commerce, appeared before the state's tax study commission last week with three suggestions whereby the cities could obtain relief.

Auto Inspection

As of Wednesday, mechanical auto inspection in North Carolina became mandatory.

A commentator said this week, "I guess I'm a prophet of doom, but the inspection business will last only until the next General Assembly convenes." Remembering the debacle of some years ago, this newspaper is inclined to agree.

Long waits for inspections, paucity of inspection stations (then state operation), and concurrent delay in getting re-inspection resulted in a quick demise of that effort to cut highway accident and death tolls via check of the vehicle.

Most folk who have operated machines agree that machinery, if properly treated, will do the job. Highway safety officials, including just last week chief of the Oklahoma motor vehicles department, know that human error is the chief contributor to motor vehicle mayhem.

As of last September 30, North Carolina was gaining ground on deaths by motor vehicle accident by exactly 100.

As of December 31, the Grim Reaper was equally ahead.

That is the reason the 1965 General Assembly, attempting to avoid the pitfalls of the late forties, passed yet another motor vehicle inspection law.

Few legislators had faith in the law's success. Less had faith in its continuance.

The citizens second the motions.

But with 49,000 highway accident deaths, compounded by maiming and hospitalization of many, many more, the General Assembly and the citizens will give the new inspection law a trial.

All hope, with jaundiced eye and questioning brow, that this groping in the dark will prove a bit of an answer to driver error.

1) Impose an additional one percent sales tax, refundable to the cities and counties sending the money to the revenue department.

2) Impose a tobacco tax, similarly refundable.

3) Permit cities to charge up to \$10 for auto license tags.

Cities and counties surrounding to Charlotte, Greensboro, Winston-Salem, Durham, Raleigh and other of the larger cities, which by very nature are mercantile meccas, should be adamant against proposal Number 1 on the sales tax imposition with rebate to source of payment.

Were it not for the sales tax dollars deposited in Charlotte, for most major example, by citizens of many counties and cities in both North and South Carolina, Charlotte's monthly payments of North Carolina sales tax would plummet. A fully refundable sales tax imposition would not be rebated to the real source.

North Carolina is one of two states (the other is Oregon) which does not impose a tax on tobacco, but North Carolina is the leader in manufacture of tobacco products, as well as a leading grower; of this product much-maligned by both taxing legislatures and health purveyors.

In both the tobacco tax suggestion and the \$10 auto tag proposal, the revenues would be more nearly paid directly by the potential beneficiaries.

King Cotton Again

Venerable citizens of North Carolina, more particularly those of old friendly rivals Robeson and Cleveland counties, must have felt a minor dose of Ponce de Leon's fountain of youth with the recent news report of Coker 13.

The Coker operation, stemming from a generation or three of bio-chemists and other scientists, reported recently that King Cotton perhaps has an heir in the South in the person of Coker 413, a new strain of cotton seed that will produce cotton of high tensile strength (90,000-plus pounds per square inch) and up to 1 5/16 length of staple.

Most important, of course, is that this strain has been grown in nearby York County quite successfully. Also most important is that this new-strain cotton meets the test of high speed machinery.

Once upon a time, when cotton was King, it was an annual race between Cleveland County and Robeson County for the honor of producing most cotton per annum in North Carolina. As it evolved, the honors proved empty when irrigated, flat, dry, good-for-cotton sections of California and Arizona proved to be champions in cotton growing, both in cost and ease.

South Carolina's General Assembly, on report of results, considered making mandatory the growing only of Coker 413, which may have been more practical or paternal than otherwise. Nor is there enough seed, yet.

But it is not too early to guess that a new deal may be the order of the day in the cotton business.

If cotton is nostalgia in Cleveland, Robeson and North Carolina — indeed for the Southeast — perhaps the Coker operation in cooperation with the researchers at Clemson University — will have regained for the South a certain pre-eminence it enjoyed both before and after the War Between the States.

Books Open Saturday

City registration books open Saturday for a three-week period in contemplation of the forthcoming city bond election issue whereby the voters decide:

1) Whether the city shall be empowered to issue \$1.3 million in bonds to modernize and expand its sewage treatment plant, and

2) Whether the city shall meet its overdue contractual obligations with the State Stream Sanitation committee to modernize and expand its sewage treatment system.

There's never been a piece of sewage pipe, or sewage treatment plant, which won a beauty contest.

No glamour there.

Yet sewage treatment, along with water supply and service, police and fire protection, and when public utilities couldn't supply utilities such as power, gas and phone service, are the long reasons for any corporate entity known as a municipality to exist.

Anyone who would predict a record vote total — pro or con result of no matter — would be foolhardy.

Yet the total and the result is much more important than the city's usually record-breaking biennial struggles for positions at City Hall.

The registration books, open for three weeks effective Saturday, should attract all unregistered citizens.

For newcomers, the test is North Carolina residence of one year, precinct residence of three months.

Viewpoints of Other Editors

FERVOR — SL FROTH — NO

Has the froth gone, but the fervor remains? We are speaking about American youth and its attitude toward the great social and moral problems with which the United States is grappling.

A year ago at this time college campuses were in white-hot ferment. Beards, blue jeans, and Baez were the rage.

Slowly America has awoken to the fact that this year things are quite otherwise. Surveys from campuses across the country indicate that last year's attitudes (at least the more publicized ones) are no longer either typical or widespread.

A survey conducted at the University of Wisconsin belies the dean of students says, the picture of students as "volatile, angry, unhappy creatures." An article in The New York Times magazine speaks of remake-the-world campus orators "drowning" in their own unheard exhortations. "In Boston a college dean from the Middle West and another from a New England college match notes and find that this year's freshman class is conspicuously different from its immediate predecessors, being neatly clad, shod, and shaven.

Has a reaction set in, and, if so, how strong is it and how far has it gone? Perhaps the best, and hopefulest answer comes from a journalist who has just toured a number of college campuses to weight attitudes and outlook. He found, above all among students with a strong religious outlook, an even deeper commitment to constructive social work. But he also found a disposition to carry on this work quietly, modestly, and with little interest in fanfare or publicity.

We welcome this assessment. We should find it a sad national loss were the volcanic energy of youth either capped or turned solely into selfish channels. Youth is a time of immense and idealistic enthusiasm. America and the world will be much the richer for the new and fresh outlook which young men and women bring to problems which to their elders often see old, familiar and persistent. Perhaps last year's effervescence was unavoidable. But we are happy to hear that it has turned into this year's more realistic commitment.

The Christian Science Monitor

ON IMPROVING WELFARE

To hear some people tell it, practically any public welfare problem can be solved merely by pouring in more government money. That theory, however, got a sharp jolt in New York City the other day.

The occasion was a hearing called by State Senator William Thompson, chairman of a Joint Legislative Committee on Child Care Needs. With some 300 welfare agency representatives in attendance, the committee hoped to elicit recommendations for improving child welfare work.

Committee members got suggestions all right. But instead of asking for more local, state or Federal funds, as welfare agencies might have been expected to do, the agencies requested such things as a single state agency to be responsible for coordinating and planning child welfare work; a central registry of all agencies that work with children and a central reporting system for all agency contacts with courts and police.

The idea obviously is to reduce the confusion and overlapping effort that lead to waste in present programs, a situation that is hardly limited to New York. As Chairman Thompson commented in some surprise, "Nobody wants to build anything new; they want better use of what we've got."

A sensible notion, indeed, well calculated to improve children's welfare. If widely adopted, it could do a lot for the taxpayers' welfare too.

The Wall Street Journal

VIVE EQUALITY

One by one they tumble, the traditional legal restrictions upon women which have denied them their rights in home and business.

The most recent example is the removal of a whole set of legal injustices imposed upon French

10 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

Items of news about King Mountain area people and events taken from the 195 files of the Kings Mountain Herald.

A record attendance is being predicted by officials of the Kings Mountain Merchants Association for Monday night's annual employee - employer banquet.

A near capacity crowd of approximately 150 Boy Scouts, their fathers and friends flocked to Kings Mountain Woman's club Monday night for the annual Scout-Father banquet.

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL

Mrs. W. L. Mauney entertained members of the Ace of Clubs at her home last Thursday afternoon.

The Central P-TA will hold a Founder's Day program Wednesday at 3:30 p.m. in the school auditorium.

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