



Established 1889

The Kings Mountain Herald

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TODAY'S BIBLE VERSE

Honour the Lord with thy substance and with the firstfruits of all thine increase. Proverbs 3:9.

The News Is Bad

Major news events of the current week have not only been unpleasant, but plainly bad, with tragic deaths due to accident and fire.

Perhaps worse is revelation that a cache of liquor and beer, valued wholesale at \$5000, has been stolen from the sheriff's double-lock vault, if not by members of the sheriff's department, then by others wearing deputies' uniforms and driving county patrol cars.

Suppressed, while Sheriff Haywood Allen, SBI Agent John Vanderford, Shelby Police Chief Knox Hardin and others sought vainly to solve the identity of the thieves, the news finally came out, bearing out the old adage, "If two people know it, 'tain't secret long."

The Sheriff announced, at a news conference at which he reported the thefts of March 3 and 16, that he was suspending Deputies B. A. Williams and Lawrence Brown, onetime Kings Mountain citizen. While the Sheriff said he made no accusations, the inference is obvious he holds the two highly suspect.

As the matter rested Tuesday, there are some obvious conclusions:

1) A duo of Shelby patrolmen need to be trained to have more inquiring, yea, curious, if not suspicious, minds.

2) Patrolmen, accustomed to giving testimony in court, know they must be sure of identities of accused persons, or see a defense attorney tear their testimony into shreds.

3) The county school fund is minus \$5000, proceeds of sales of confiscated hooch accruing to this fund.

Nothing that much of the whiskey and beer were confiscated as long ago as October, several have inquired as to why the cache was not disposed of through regular Alcoholic Board of Control channels.

Until disproved, this newspaper assumes there is a plausible answer.

Nothing shakes the morale of a police force, a city, county or state than to find corruption in law enforcement organizations.

At the moment, the trials and tribulations of Chicago and Denver, and more recently of Atlanta, where policemen were operating a theft gang, have come to Cleveland County.

Sheriff Allen, onetime Kings Mountain citizen and policeman, has been a respected sheriff for almost 15 years. He pledges to bend every effort to bring the thieves to the bar of justice, no matter how long required.

Literacy Test Out

Cleveland is among 40 counties already informed that its 1964 election vote was insufficient in relation to population, with the result that the state's literacy test (reading a section of the state's constitution and copying it) will no longer be applicable, due to the federal civil rights law.

Cleveland, though the law was on the books, hadn't employed the literacy test for many, many years until 1963 and then on instructions from the state board of elections which, under federal government and Negro extremist group pressure, felt the letter of the law should be followed.

Cleveland ordered a long overdue new registration in the spring of '63, and it resulted in disenfranchising some citizens, White and Black, though the total was not great.

Argument continues, and will, over literacy requirements. One citizen, quoted heretofore, comments, "A person who can't read and write hasn't the basic sense to vote." Another replies, "Wait a minute. You've known many people who were smart as a briar if not lettered."

The Herald belongs to the latter school, particularly since the advent of radio and subsequently of television.

A prominent Kings Mountain citizen smiled and complied when Registrar Nell Cranford asked if he could read and write. Then he became serious, as he said, "My Mother surely is hurt about this requirement. She's always taken a keen interest in politics and has voted all her life. But she can't read or write and she won't be able to vote anymore."

The Herald's glad she, and others like her, has been re-accused the privilege and prerogative of the ballot.

Glee Actor Bridges

When ex-Mayor Glee Bridges entered the hospital, his yellow complexion confirmed for the layman the medical diagnosis of infectious hepatitis. He felt fine, he said, but dreaded most the prospect of two to four weeks of isolation. Indeed, he suggested jokingly such a long period without seeing his friends would dictate reservation of a room in his name at a mental institution.

He failed to respond to treatment and his death followed last week at the age of 71.

Glee Bridges had little formal education, yet he onetime taught school. After completing the seventh grade and with no school within traveling (walking) distance, he repeated the seventh grade twice, then was its teacher the following year.

From these humble beginnings, he became a quite successful businessman, board of education member, county commission chairman, and finally Mayor of Kings Mountain.

He was by nature an extrovert, confirmed by a wallet-ful of membership cards, from the Baptist church to the Masonic order, to fraternal organizations and veterans organizations.

He liked to fish, to hunt, and shoot, and enjoyed to the full his several roles in government.

But his favorite pastime was entertaining children, no matter the identity of their parents. His approaching red jeep was a sure sign of bubble gum on the way. They called him "Glee", just as their elders did. Two of his daughters-in-law are teachers. One informed her class Mr. Bridges had passed and asked how many knew him. All raised their hands. The other also informed her class. One little fellow said, "I know. My Mother told me. Santa Claus is dead." It was an apt reminder that Mr. Bridges enjoyed his Santa Claus role and maintained his own costume.

The flags here flew at half-mast in honor of Glee Bridges — a deserved tribute to a man who spent 23 years in public service.

Usual GOP Canards

The Herald and other newspapers would have done well perhaps to omit a paragraph in a recent Republican 10th district news release in which it was said the three GOP aspirants for the dubious distinction of losing to Congressman Basil L. Whitener agreed:

1) Mr. Whitener is a rubber stamp congressman; and
2) Mr. Whitener is the choice of party bosses.

On canard 1, the House of Representatives tally clerk has recorded Mr. Whitener's vote on as many issues as any member of the body during the nearly ten years he has served, with many against administration proposals. "The President wouldn't agree," Mr. Whitener commented.

On canard 2, Mr. Whitener must laugh, since everyone knows it's a free country and anyone and everyone wanting to pay the \$300 filing fee and add a "D" beside his name would have appeared on the ballot against him in the May Democratic primary. He can get a second and better laugh from the Republicans waxing holier-than-thou at this, only their second primary contest for Congress in many years.

The Republican party is quite wise in contriving a primary at any and all levels, prelude to greater voting strength in the general election.

As an aside, such statements remind that Bill Cobb, of Morganton, the onetime GOP chairman, is back in harness, as district chairman.

There is always partisan ammunition aplenty in fighting moot issues, and Mr. Whitener is on the record.

Chairman Cobb's speech here during the '60 campaign, except for being longer, was of the same, strident, carelessness-with-facts stripe.

MARTIN'S MEDICINE

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

By MARTIN HARMON

But what about the people?

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I met Mrs. Cecil Sanford, mother of Terry Sanford, at the Governor's Mansion in 1963. Time-Life reporters had visited her in contemplation of a story concerning her son but one question she had answered only by speculation. Where had Terry got his interest in politics? She said he never showed political inclinations in high school, guessed they were acquired and nurtured at the University of North Carolina.

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In his recently published "But What About the People?" (Harper and Row), Terry answers the question. He dedicates the book to his late father, from whom he derived his interest in politics, and to his mother, from whom he derived his interest in education.

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The title of the book comes from a Carl Sandburg poem.

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The former Governor writes well, interweaving the history of his educational program and the political work required for its adoption with interesting human interest anecdotes. The opening one concerns a Christmas-tree hunting expedition in extremely cold weather when Terry was seven. His father, older brother and he came upon a shack in the woods and saw smoke curling out the chimney. The fire builder (the shack door being the fuel) was a man named Randolph, who smelled of canned heat and wore a threadbare World War I overcoat. In mid-Depression, jobs were scarce and the man had none, though he had a big family. A son named Honey was a grade school classmate of Terry's and was what teachers referred to as being a problem pupil. He was soon a dropout and at 14 committed to a reformatory. It was the last acquaintance of Terry with the Randolphs until Terry was Governor. A lawyer was urging Terry to parole a young prisoner serving a sentence for manslaughter. As he neared the end of his plea, the lawyer remarked, "Governor, you probably know of this boy. His father was Honey Randolph, who was killed in South Carolina a few years ago."

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Terry did not note what he did about the plea for parole, but wrote that the plight of the Randolph family constituted three generations of poverty with more likely to follow. Somewhere, he reasoned, North Carolina had failed the Randolphs and many others like them. It confirmed Terry's decision to promote education.

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Even before announcing for Governor, Terry was criss-crossing the state making advance arrangements for the campaign. Addressing a small group, he expounded his education ideas and invited questions. One lady, in heckling tone and manner, asked, "Where you gonna get the money?" Irrked, Terry replied in linked tone, "From taxes." The audience applauded.

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Bert Bennett, his Winston-Salem campaign manager, and another aide were present. En route home Terry told his friends they had witnessed a new phenomena in North Carolina. Did they realize that his "from taxes" reply drew applause? Bert teased, "We know what you said, but I don't think the audience did. They thought you said 'from Texas'." Terry kept giving the same answer throughout the campaign and says he never failed to get applause, the audiences evidently appreciating his forthrightness.

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As a newsman, I pride myself on keeping abreast of current events, but until reading Terry's book, I was not completely aware of the multi-sided facets of the program Sanford put on the road to fruition, with special schools for the especially talented such as the summertime Governor's school for high school juniors, the School of Fine Arts at Winston-Salem, and increased and expanded emphasis on training of the retarded.

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He has become a nationally-known figure in the field of education. Locally-connected attestation comes from Mrs. Imogene Bridges Schenck, of Waterloo, Ia. Imogene asked Brother Glee E. Sanford's Kings Mountain campaign manager, who it was he'd helped get elected Governor. When he said Terry Sanford, she said she had heard him interviewed on NBC's "Today" program and added, "He was most impressive."

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He has been espousing education nation-wide, told me when I talked with him recently he had speaking engagements booked well into May including a return trip to Chicago, two to Boston and another to Los Angeles, among others. He made good his promise.

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Youngsters are interested in his program, too. His book reveals his televised promise to answer all letters from grade schoolers setting forth their educational ideas elicited 60,000 letters. He made good his promise.

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Bound that afternoon.

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Passport



Viewpoints of Other Editors

CAVERN CLUB A-GO-GO

In these days when governments expect to be a target of protesting youth, it could not have surprised Prime Minister Harold Wilson to be handed a petition by teenagers when he stepped from his train in Liverpool recently. But the subject of the appeal may have struck him as unusual.

The 5,000 youthful signers, all loyal Beatle fans, begged him to revive the Cavern Club, the spot which launched the "Mersey beat" heard around the world. This very a-go-go club, it seems, left it for new fields. The Beatle devotees want it reopened.

This leads us to consider the possibility of youth-demanding more such landmark preservation. Might not the discotheque buffs in France decide to petition Premier Georges Pompidou to search out the first dance record club and save it for posterity? But it could take extended investigation to locate the original hall.

And how about preserving the humble homes in Italy where the first pizza was baked? Thousands of American teenagers would like the idea. But how is Premier Aldo Moro to find the right home to preserve? The story of pizza is that an Italian mother, making bread while her children watched, rolled out some bits of dough, daubed them with spaghetti sauce, and baked them for the kids. But the story never tells which mother did this. Perhaps a statue of a typical bread-and-pizza-baking mamma would be the answer.

These difficulties show the importance of starting early to save landmarks. The 5,000 Beatle boosters may have been acting in the nick of time with their petition.

The Christian Science Monitor

AIR PILOT'S WARNING

As reduced airplane fares and jet speeds make air travel constantly more popular, the problem of assuring safety in crowded skies is becoming increasingly acute. The hazards implicit in this situation were dramatically demonstrated by the recent collision of two planes flying near this city. Now the Air Line Pilots Association has sounded an urgent warning that last month's change in Federal Aviation Agency rules governing trans-Atlantic flights increases the risk of similar tragic accidents over the ocean.

At issue here is the F.A.A. order narrowing the corridors for planes flying the Atlantic at altitudes above 28,000 feet from the former 120 nautical miles to 90 nautical miles. The motivation seems plainly the pressure of airlines that want to get more planes into the limited volume of air space available during the most popular travel times. The pilots object and have declared in a paid advertisement that their "experience clearly indicates that present navigational devices are totally inadequate" to assure safety in the narrowed zones.

Laymen are not competent to pronounce judgment on the technical issues involved. But the urgency of the pilots' word must arouse concern. The men who fly bound that afternoon.

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HELP WANTED

At first glance the statistics on unemployment in the United States, just released, are cheering. Industry is reaching for help into the ranks of the unemployed and has brought the rate of those listed as unable to get work down to 3.7 percent. This is the lowest point since the Korean war when thousands of unemployed were hired by industry.

It would seem as if the employment problem in this country were virtually solved for the present. But it is not. A quick look at the help-wanted section of any big city newspaper shows where the trouble lies. Openings are plentiful, but practically all are for the skilled and experienced, such as project engineers, computer programmers, time-keepers, and so on. Or if a skill is not demanded, education is. An advertisement for a bus girl specifies "must be high school graduate."

What the low unemployment rate does not reveal is that some areas have more jobs than people to fill them while other places don't have nearly enough to enable every man to support his family. The same day that the new low unemployment rate was announced, the Department of Commerce reported a special Los Angeles census which showed that in the Watts area and four adjacent poor sections of Los Angeles one out of every 10 male workers was unemployed.

It is encouraging that this imbalance is already calling forth plans for its remedy. President Johnson pleads for "bold new approaches" to avert a manpower shortage. He invites labor and management to join with government agencies in finding them. Secretary Wirtz, in turn, is asking for legislation that would let the Federal-State Employment Service to do more to match workers with jobs. At the same time a management-labor program to encourage the training of the unskilled and semi-skilled for the kind of jobs automation is creating.

All these proposals are moves in the right direction. They deserve support.

The Christian Science Monitor

BLOW TO EAVESDROPPING

The Federal Communications Commission has struck a blow on behalf of the citizen's right to privacy. It has issued a ruling which will prohibit anyone, other than law enforcement officers, to eavesdrop on strictly private conversations by the use of radio-transmitting devices.

The commission declared, "The right of privacy is precious and should not be sacrificed to the compelling reason." Effect of the ruling will be to make industrial spying much more difficult since it will ban the use of many of the more effective espionage devices. Violators will risk a \$500 fine for each day the offense occurs.

Although law enforcement officials are excepted from the FCC ban, they must still abide by FCC rules on the subject and also by any state eavesdropping laws. Some are bound to question whether the FCC should have made any exception for such officials. Civil liberties advocates point to government abuse of eavesdropping in the past and see the rights of citizens in jeopardy.

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Next summer, Nathan's Famous of Coney Island, the celebrated hot-dog stand, will serve, it is estimated, its 200 millionth hot dog and observe its 50th anniversary. The Coney Island Chamber of Commerce will sponsor on April 28th, a testimonial dinner in honor of Nathan Handwerker, the founder, and his wife, Ida. The venerable couple will be there in formal finery, along with their children and grandchildren. In 1916, Nathan was a \$5 a week delivery boy for a shortfront restaurant, when he took the advice of two Coney Island friends, a singing waiter named Eddie Cantor and a piano player named Jimmie Durante,

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SO THIS IS NEW YORK

By NORTH CALLAHAN

An accident took place in a suburb which may help to explain why some of our young people act as they do. A doctor was awakened at 1 a.m., he told me, by a knock at his door. There he found three young men, disheveled and bloody. Excitedly they told him their car was wrecked nearby and when the doctor went to the street to investigate, he found the vehicle upside down. It was miraculous that they were not killed. After administering first aid to the injured youths, the doctor tried to telephone their parents. The phone did not answer in any of their three homes. Finally, in order to be sure, the doctor got into his own car and with the young men, drove some ten miles to the home of one of them. After ringing the doorbell for some time, the doctor was finally greeted sleepily by the mother. She did not seem surprised about the accident; and when she told her husband about it, he would not even get out of bed to help.

A hat was passed around a certain church congregation for the purpose of taking up a collection for the visiting minister. Presently it was returned to him — stark empty. Slowly and deliberately the parson inverted the hat and shook it meaningly. Then raising his eyes to high heaven, he exclaimed fervently, "I thank thee, dear Lord, that I got my hat back from this congregation."

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Richard Gehman, the author, says that "One of the specialties of my mother's kitchen that I hated most was fried, green tomatoes, which—because she and my father loved them—she served incessantly all through each summer. After I left home for good I never ate them—but one day a few summers ago, while working in my garden, I suddenly thought about them and had an overpowering desire to eat them. I cut off a few firm green tomatoes, sliced them, dipped them in egg and then in flour seasoned with salt and pepper and basil, and fried them until they were light brown. I can't understand what was the matter with me as a child. The tomatoes made a great breakfast, along with sausages and grits."

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A retired school teacher was feeling discouraged, lonely and no longer useful. And then one day he received a letter from a former student. "The influence of your kindly wisdom," it read, "has remained with me all these years. Now, in the large business firm of which I am head, I pass on your precepts and good counsel to my employees. So you see what a lot of good you are still doing. May I take this belated opportunity to express my deep appreciation for what you have done for me and innumerable others." The old man's eyes lighted and his heart grew warmly glad.

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