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The Kings Mountain Herald

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TODAY'S BIBLE VERSE

Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding. Proverbs 3:13.

Favorable Rate

The Institute of Government has recently issued a report comparing ad valorem tax rates among the state's 74 largest cities and among the 100 counties.

The report confirms the fact of Kings Mountain's low rate of 85 cents per $100 valuation. Since Cleveland County's tax base is 65 percent, the report continues, the "actual" city rate was .552. The combined rate for city and county, again the "actual" figure being used, is $1.553.

Kings Mountain ranks 61st among the 74 cities. When the county addition is made Kings Mountain ranks 47th.

Cleveland County ranked 37th among the 100 counties.

In this report, assuming the governmental agency is discharging its responsibility for services, the desirable rating would be 74 for the cities and 100 for the counties list.

That assumption would not necessarily be true.

The City of Newton ranks 74th.

Chatham County ranks 100 among the counties.

These figures are interesting.

Johnson Valedictory

At his final appearance before Congress, President Lyndon Baines Johnson made a short and at times nostalgic speech on the state of the union, said the nation has sufficient means to have a strong economy, and urged incoming President Richard Nixon to lead the nation on a continuing path of progress.

He received thunderous and sustained applause when he entered and his address won 55 bursts of applause.

It was a commendation to a man who was "one of them". He recalled his first connection with the Halls of Congress began 38 years before when he was a doorman. He first served in the House, then in the Senate, then as vice-president as presiding officer of the Senate, before his accession to the presidency.

Homage paid the retiring President Tuesday night points up as much as anything the swift variations in personal popularities.

In contrast to his speech of last spring, in which he removed himself for consideration for re-election, Mr. Johnson Tuesday night received a high accolade. Vietnam and other problems seemingly were forgotten.

Mr. Johnson leaves the office with a vast record of accomplishments, regardless of their popularity in some quarters.

Odds are that the historians, a decade or two hence, will treat his administration kindly as they usually do with so-called activist leaders.

Harold D. Crawford

The community was shocked and saddened by the accident in which Harold D. Crawford lost his life.

He was well-known throughout the whole area as a Kings Mountain businessman for many years.

Mr. Crawford was universally friendly, devoted to the work of his church, liberal with his fellowman and a prescient husband and father.

Congratulations to:

William E. (Bill) Sellers, newly installed master of Fairview Lodge AF & AM;

Palmer E. Huffstetler, newly elected corporate secretary of Carolina Freight Carriers Corporation;

Fain Hambright, elected captain of the active Grover Rescue Squad.

CAGO Long-Term

The executive committee of Cleveland Association of Governmental Officials was recommending to the full-membership at Wednesday night's meeting a two-year set of aims and employment of an administrator-researcher.

Much, as would be expected, involves the county board of commissioners. Indeed the county board is involved in all of it, including zoning of the Buffalo Creek lake area.

The other areas CAGO's executive committee support, would require money in more or less varied amounts, including adoption of fixed water and sewer policy, establishment of a county parks system, and of a county library system.

As had been said before, establishment of a county water and sewer policy is a growing need.

The investment by the county in water and sewer service to Pittsburgh Plate Glass Company ten years ago has paid handsome returns, not only from continuing - to - expand Pittsburgh, but from other industry and dwellings which have tapped those lines.

Gaston County has embarked on a modest water - sewer line investment which won't break any banks but will begin to aid the industrial development job.

Gaston appropriated $100,000 during the current fiscal year for that purpose and makes particular appropriations on a prescribed formula involving potential tax base and using city systems or water district systems as the dispenser. The formula figures to amortize cost of the lines over a ten-year period.

The CAGO executive committee was enthusiastic in adopting the proposals.

Roads Big Business

The annual tax listing period is just about half over and Tax Lister Edwin Moore doubts he has recorded the properties of 50 per cent of the township. Early listing will save time for the property owners.

The North Carolina Highway commission recently distributed a report on the 42-month accomplishments of the present commission which took office in July 1965 on appointment by Governor Dan K. Moore.

In the six-county 12th division served by Highway Commissioner W. B. Garrison, of Gastonia, produced new construction and improvements to 761 miles at a cost of $40,036,040.

State - wide expenditures totaled $410,838,649.

In Cleveland County contracts totaled $1,426,700.

Like other costs road-building costs have escalated which has seen the cost-per-mile escalate.

In 1961, construction of four-lane interstate roads in mountain areas were estimated roughly at a million dollars per mile. That is now the rough estimate for interstate-type construction in flatter lands.

With auto-truck population ever-increasing, continued emphasis on upgrading of roads, both interstate, state highways and secondaries is a must.

Badly needed improvements to NC 161 south will begin soon.

Here again cost-figures soared-some $141,000 over initial estimates.

There are some proposals for increase in the gasoline tax, from which most state-share construction funds are derived.

MARTIN'S MEDICINE

By MARTIN HARMON

It was my pleasure last week to become acquainted with Charles Shytle, of Shelby, a salesman for chemicals used by funeral homes.

m-m

He was visiting with Ollie Harris and as usual we began preparing notes on whom we mutually knew. It developed he was born and bred in Asheville, married a lady from Brevard, was later with a funeral home in Murphy.

m-m

Inquiring about Dr. George Plonk, he recalled that he, George and the Methodist preacher all settled Murphy about the same time. It was not uncommon for several weeks to be asked, "You're new in town. Are you the new preacher, doctor, or funeral home man?"

m-m

I asked if he knew my Asheville kinfolk and he did. He had a dance band in his younger days and they played frequently at the Woman's Club which my aunts later bought as the physical plant of the Plonk School.

m-m

As a former horn tooter (if never very good), it was easy to reminisce about the era of the big bands. Mr. Shytle, with both Asheville and Hendersonville meccas for big band appearances, heard virtually all of the maestros. One Hendersonville dance didn't work out too well. The fellows he was with returned to Asheville without him. He found it necessary to telephone his mother at 2 a.m. to relate he had no way home, all the buses had run, and he would book in at the Skyland Hotel, catch a bus home as quickly as he could. As it worked out, the band (Woody Herman I believe) was leaving the Skyland the same time he was and he became acquainted with several of the bandsmen.

m-m

On another occasion, Benny Goodman was in Asheville for a dance at one of the big tobacco warehouses. At the time, Mr. Shytle had a summer job with the highway department. The Goodman band was doing the Camel Caravan broadcast at the time and Shytle reasoned there would be an afternoon rehearsal. "I was praying it would rain and we'd knock off," he recalls, "and it did rain."

m-m

At that time Singer Martha Tilton was Goodman's chief lady vocalist. Then he tried to recall yet another singer who had been a Goodman star, remembered exactly how she looked, that she was native to South Dakota, but try as he did he couldn't recall her name. I remembered Helen Forrest later singing with Goodman, but the Dakotan was yet another.

m-m

I joined the Mayor Saturday afternoon for a visit with his longtime friend Marion Jackson whom I had known only casually.

He is quite an interesting personality. He and John reminisced about days gone by at Park Yarn Mill where Mr. Jackson worked for years and where John Henry grew up.

m-m

Mr. Jackson mentioned the fact he never went to school a day in his life. I remarked, after hearing his conversation, "You may have no formal schooling, but you're quite well-educated."

m-m

When he remarked he is 75 years old I was most surprised. He looks about 60.

m-m

Reginald Emory, Southern Railway trainman from Mauldin, S. C., was injured near here Friday in something of a freak accident. One train was parked in the area near WKMT and another was passing. Emory was standing between the parked train and the moving one. Whether something protruded from a car of the moving train or whether it was in the suction, Emory was catapulted into the parked train and, like a basketball, was rebounded into the moving train. Bennett Masters and John White, who answered the call for aid, felt Emory mighty lucky to be alive. Admitted to the hospital here, he was transferred to Greenville, S. C., Memorial Hospital the following day.

Batting For The Commonwealth of North Carolina

Viewpoints of Other Editors

IN ALL SEASONS

In a variety of ways, society tries to make sure that the poor are not forgotten at Christmas. But poverty is seldom seasonal, though it may grind more harshly at the Yuletide, and most men know that a once-a-year effort is not enough — and hardly commensurate with the age of affluence.

This affluence, in fact, has contributed to the persistence of poverty in our society because it tends to mask it. One finds it hard to realize that in a rich nation there can be desperately poor people. But more and more people — and nations — are realizing it.

Canada is the latest "have" country to discover the "have-nots" among its people. Just in time for the Christmas season, the Economic Council of Canada has released its annual report, in which it asserts that millions of Canadians live in chronic, grinding poverty — at least a fourth to a third of the nation's population, the council estimates.

"There is more (poverty) than our society can tolerate, more than our economy can afford, and far more than existing measures and efforts can cope with," the council says. "Its persistence, at a time when the bulk of Canadians enjoy one of the highest standards of living in the whole world, is a disgrace." The report urges the elimination of poverty as a major national goal of high priority.

All this sounds familiar. The Canadian findings resemble the 1964 report of the U. S. Council of Economic Advisers, which helped open the U. S. war on poverty. And the Canadian council recommends that our neighbor nation to the north emphasize the same goals that have been stressed in the U. S. effort — "self-help, self-development and maximum participation and involvement of the poor themselves."

Covering ground that other nations have trod before, the Canadians surely know that even the most affluent society cannot eliminate poverty overnight. This is the fifth Christmas since the plight of the poor in the United States gained the attention of the Council of Economic Advisers and, though inroads have been made, poverty remains a pressing problem in our land.

Perhaps one can find some comfort in the fact that rich nations are finally confronting the paradox of poverty in the midst of plenty and are concerned about it. But we must not be too much comforted. The ghost of Christmas future warns that, like the annual Christmas basket, mere concern is not enough. It must be translated into action — dedicated, persistent and in all seasons. — **Boston Herald Traveler.**

WHAT'S A MERE BILLION?

We wonder how many housewives will truly be impressed by Secretary of the Treasury Joseph W. Barr's figures, interesting as they were. In order to give an idea of just how much a billion dollars is, Secretary Barr hit upon the following. He said that, had a housewife begun to spend one dollar a minute, 24 hours a day, seven days a week at 3:50 a.m. Sept. 11 in the year A.D. 69, she would just have finished handing out the $1 billion.

We advise Secretary Barr that, if he wishes to reach today's housewife, he will have to do better than that. In the first place, the average housewife knows perfectly well that during the past 12 months she already has spent over a billion dollars. Not only have countless housewives groaningly made that very statement, but to almost all of them, walking out of the supermarket, that is exactly what it seems like.

Will her husband disagree with her? Not if you ask him sometime around the middle of April when his income tax returns are due. He will heartily subscribe to her plaint.

Christian Science Monitor

Ten Years Ago

Items of interest which occurred approximately ten years ago

W. K. Mauney, Kings Mountain manufacturer, and his wife, have made a gift of $300,000 to Lenoir Rhyne college for construction of a music building.

Rev. T. A. Lineberger, pastor of Macedonia Baptist church, has been elected president of the Kings Mountain Ministerial Association for the coming year.

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL

Duplicate Bridge club members met Monday afternoon at the home of Mrs. James B. Simpson. Prizes went to Mrs. Drace Peeler, high scorer, and to Mrs. George Houser, second high.

WISH ON A STAR, BUT CAUTIOUSLY

We don't mess around very much with the laws of possibility, so when our horoscope forecast reads "Be careful in personal relationships" we don't even speak to that dark-haired secretary on the third floor.

We rarely speak to her anyhow, but occasionally we do and that's as far as we trust ourselves to go.

We are, we concede, foils for the horoscope prophets. And while we realize that this is a tinplate hoax for the pep-pill trade, we invest a fair share of caution.

The trouble is, our afternoon contemporary has hired a seer (Jeane Dixon) who often contradicts our morning advisor, Carroll Righter.

Righter suggests, in his A.M. advisory, "This is a day to take chances. Be bold."

We are boldly willing. We are properly conditioned, after reading Righter, to breast the boss for the raise he promised us six years ago if we "behaved."

We have behaved reasonably well, with a few outlandish exceptions. We winked at a mini-skirted blonde on Haywood Street and we told an irate reader to "Go to the devil."

Not surprisingly, neither accepted our invitation. But, on the same day Righter was egging us on to be bold, Jeane Dixon was advising. "Slow down; you're going too fast." We hadn't realized we were speeding.

Nonetheless, Righter was wrong; we asked the boss for a raise, describing our astrological probabilities. He said no.

Asheville Citizen

WHEN IN DEVON . . .

Some of our British readers complain occasionally about those monosyllabic words which sometimes creep into our headlines — and which are strange to them. We mean words like "probe," "snarl," "gird," "jar," and "mull." We hold no special brief for this peculiar vocabulary — but we would ask our critics to spare a sympathetic thought for the headline-writers who often have only the width of a single column to squeeze in an informative or baited caption that makes sense. We must confess, too, to being comforted by a columnist in the London Sunday Times who finds the headline "Danger Junction Probe" in the Devon weekly newspaper, the Exmouth Journal, crackling aind snapping.

Devon, of course, is as English as its clotted cream. But believe it or not, the writer of that headline was an American — and he happens to be publisher and editor of the Exmouth Journal. He is in fact John F. Day, once head of CBS News in the United States.

His newspaper is 110 years old, with a circulation of 10,000-odd in a catchment area of 35,000. And, says the Sunday Times, "that's pretty good."

Mr. Day apparently makes some concessions to gain acceptance for his crackling and snapping American-style headlines. In his own words: "I don't speak unless spoken to, and I'm not projecting an image of myself. If I went at it like some smart-Alec American I'd be ridden out of town on a rail." He also keeps back numbers of the Exmouth Journal in the bath — in the office, of course, not at his home. He is able to do this, the Sunday Times explains, "because they don't take many baths at the office." But that perhaps might be the subject for another editorial.

Christian Science Monitor

HOSPITAL LOG

Mrs. Etta Absher
Mr. Walker Arrowood
Mrs. Fannie Brown
Mrs. Thomas Grier
Mr. Anthony Holden
Mrs. Mattie Melton
Mr. Bracey Moore
Mrs. J. O. Panther
Mrs. Jasper Peterson
Mrs. Campbell Phifer
Mrs. Dora Powell
Mr. Oscar Tharrington
Mrs. Grace Upchurch
Mrs. G. W. Wilson
Mr. Lorn Barkley
Jeffrey Barnett
Sharon Byers
Mrs. Jimmy Curry
Mrs. T. H. Davison
Mr. Dan Falls
Mrs. Lena Goforth
Mr. M. L. Harmon, Sr.
Mr. J. D. Hord
Mr. William Houser
Wanda Kay Hoyle
Mrs. Mack Jordan
Mrs. Nathan Kelly
Mr. Jarvis Messer
Mrs. William Morgan
Mr. David Glenn McDaniel
Mr. Thomas Rucker
Mrs. Paul Sanders
Mrs. Ida Smith
Mrs. Clara Wright

ADMITTED THURSDAY

Mr. John B. McDaniel, 113 Waco Rd., City
Mrs. Wilburn Lackey, Rt. 1, Shelby
Mrs. Leo Myers, 517 Cleveland Ave., City

ADMITTED FRIDAY

Miss Odessa Black, 510 N. 14th St., Bessemer City
Mrs. Mae Brymer, 315 E. Washington Ave., Bessemer City
Mrs. Margaret Moore, 7130 Midpines, City

ADMITTED SATURDAY

Mr. R. H. Ponder, Rt. 1, Grover
Mr. Charles F. Harry, Jr. Grover
Mrs Oscar Greene, Jr., Rt. 2 City
Mrs. Carmel Honeycutt, 707 Pine St., Forest City
Mr. Dewey Rathbone, 28 Bennett Drive, City
Mr. James Rogers, Rt. 1, City
Mr. Oscar Patterson, Box 125, City

ADMITTED SUNDAY

Mr. Harry Taylor, Rt. 2, Bessemer City
Ronald Carpenter, 108 W. Lee Ave., Bessemer City
Mr. James Staley, 810 Landing St., City
Mrs. Texia Hicks, Box 422, Bessemer City
Mr. William Peterson, 314 Waco Rd., City

ADMITTED MONDAY

Javon Smith, Rt. 1, City
Mr. William Moore, Rt. 1, City
Mr. Cecil Payseur, 212 W. Va. Ave., Bessemer City

ADMITTED TUESDAY

Mr. David Smith, Rt. 2, City
Mr. Thomas Gorden, Box 161, City
Mrs. Earl Hardin, 304 Sims St., City
Mr. Wesley Bailey, 318 E. Boston Ave., Bessemer City
Mr. William Cogdell, Rt. 2, City
Mrs. Mamie Gill, Rt. 2, City
Mrs. James Robert Champion, 504 Katherine Ave., City
Mr. Walter H. Manley, Jr., Rt. 2, City

Price Of Lead Increase Noted

HOUSTON, TEXAS — The Bunker Hill Company, a subsidiary of Gulf Resources & Chemical Corporation, today increased the price of lead from 13c to 13½c/lb. New York basis effective immediately.

A Company spokesman said the price change is necessary to maintain and, if possible, increase lead shipments to meet customer's requirements by encouraging the flow of purchased concentrates into the Bunker Hill smelter.

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