



# The Kings Mountain Herald

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### TODAY'S BIBLE VERSE

He that hath ears to hear, let him hear. St. Matthew 11:15.

### Pollution Battle

Battle or war?  
State health departments and the federal government have been slowly, but surely, closing the door on problems of stream and river pollution. There remains a long way to go.

In the instance of North Carolina, however, the vise has tightened on industries and municipalities to clean up. It requires long years of selling before laws with teeth were adopted. Kings Mountain's out-moded system was condemned time and time again. But when the citizens voted the money to modernize the system, Kings Mountain was under the gun.

In the thirties, however, Smithfield, 30 miles downstream, was using the same river for drinking water. Raleigh was polluting with sewage. Smithfield went to court and Raleigh was ordered to cease and desist. In good faith, Raleigh's city fathers went to the people to get the money to do the job. But the voters said "nay" resoundingly. It was some years later before Raleigh got the wherewithal to clean up.

Industrial waste, say the experts, is much more unmanageable than human waste.

The new war gaining popularity is against air pollution. Los Angeles smog is perhaps the nation's more glaring example, but the larger and more populated the city the greater the problem.

A North Carolina "anti-smoke" ordinance becomes effective July 1. Details reported in the press make this ordinance appear a bit complicated. Old dirty black smoke won't pass, but gray smoke will get by. And there are dispensatory provisions for late firms and institutions showing good faith toward compliance.

If the navy was right in World War II, the new air pollution law might be a boon to those forced to comply.

When a ship's stacks were belching forth smoke, there was a prompt signal from the convey commodore to correct it. Translated, the signal said, "You're wasting fuel and attracting enemy submarines."

### The Tax Yardstick

North Carolina believes its tax yardsticks should be fair, whether for ad valorem taxes at the local level or otherwise.

The Supreme Court long ago ruled free taxes at the local level, as an entitlement to new industry, illegal, simple and logical grounds being older industrial citizens would thereby be penalized.

Some states, among them neighboring South Carolina, permits free taxes on decision of local governing bodies. South Carolina allows up to ten years.

There currently is a bit of a hassle in neighboring York County between Bowater Paper Company and the county on the matter of property revaluation. Bowater says York County can't up Bowater's valuation and has sought relief in the courts.

It can be guessed that South Carolina is moving in the direction of North Carolina where counties are now required to revalue property for ad valorem property purposes at eight year intervals.

The point, of course, is the yardstick, which must not be 36 inches for one and 30 (or 42) for another.

Cleveland County, which embarked on a regular revaluation plan long before the mandatory provision, has been wise in employing firms which are specialists in the field of property valuations.

If York County's yardstick is a solid 36 inches, Bowater likely has a weak case.

Kill two birds with one stone: list your property for taxes and buy a city auto tag. The auto tags are bigger this time, easy to identify, still cost a dollar.

### A Long Session

Ollie Harris, Clyde Nolan and Bud Spangler represented Cleveland County Democrats at the Tuesday session in which recommendations were adopted for revitalizing the party which some think have grown a bit fat through long years of success.

Aim of the special body named by the Governor and other party leaders was to broaden the party's base by attracting youthful voters and ethnic groups.

Mr. Harris reports the session began at 10 a.m., lasted until 5 p.m.

There were two principal areas of difference: the question of whether precinct chairmen and county chairmen would be limited to two terms of two years each.

Precinct chairmen were not limited, the Cleveland delegation voting with the majority (of nine). The county chairmen are limited (Cleveland in minority) both presuming the recommendations are ratified.

On the touchy question of party loyalty, the recommendation was to set up a grievance committee at the state level.

The voting question for youths under the legal majority age of 21 was not resolved.

The Governor, new party chairman and retiring chairman differed on whether the voting age should be 20, 19 or 18.

In this instance it would appear that, whatever age is decided upon, it should change the age of majority—if he can vote at 18 or 20 he should be able to own an auto or manage a piece of real estate.

### Sylvanus Arthur Crouse

Arthur Crouse was among Kings Mountain's favorite folk.

Mild of manner and friendly in disposition, Mr. Crouse, at 82, had lived for many years here and had rendered his community and his county much service.

His active service in government included tenures as deputy register of deeds and as Kings Mountain city clerk. In private work, he was a very effective life insurance salesman. His low-pitch sales dictum was that, for most people, a consistent program of life insurance purchase would, in the latter years, find the insurance investor in much better financial condition than his neighbor who sought to build an estate by his own devices. His customers with graying hair and aging policies know Mr. Crouse spoke the truth.

Mr. Crouse was a loyalist — to his family, his friends, the Lutheran church and the Democratic party.

### Some Misimpressions

Thomas W. Harper, executive director of the low-rent housing project, says he is finding some misimpressions about the upcoming rental of 150 units now being constructed.

Sample items:

1) One man hadn't applied because he thought his family of eight too big to qualify.

2) One man with his family of four applied. At \$5300 annual income he makes too much to qualify.

3) A lady with five children applied even though she understood the law required that every other dwelling be occupied by a white family and the neighboring dwelling by a Negro.

Among the 150 units there are everything from so-called no-bedroom units to five-bedroom units.

As was remarked at Tuesday night's director's meeting, assignments, to be made on a formula based on size of family versus income, will be made to qualified applicants on basis of what (size of residence required) is where.

## MARTIN'S MEDICINE

Though not quite complete, the neighborhood facilities building is already being used — as a school for police officers and fire fighters.

m-m

Thirty-five men from Kings Mountain, Shelby and Lincoln County began two weeks ago a 36-hour course in advanced criminal investigation with John Boyd, former SBI officer and now in the department of community colleges, Western Piedmont college as instructor.

m-m

Tuesday night the full Kings Mountain fire-fighting squad of 21 men began a fire-fighting course under the tutelage of Lt. T. E. Gardner, of the Charlotte fire department.

m-m

And the brass are at their studies, too. Chief of Police Tom McDevitt, and Sergeants Bob Hayes, Jackie Barrett and David Corn, are doing an 120-hour stint in police supervision and management at Gaston College — a course worth a quarter of college credits.

m-m

Only problem at the neighborhood facilities building is that it's been a little muddy. With the melting snow the students have literally been wading to class.

m-m

Kings Mountain Public Housing Authority this week made a contribution in excess of \$43,000 to the city for the neighborhood facilities building. All low-rent housing projects carry a provision for a community center building. In Atlanta over the two years Housing and Urban Development officials said it was "desirable" to obtain additional contributions from private sources if possible to provide more commodious quarters with more varied facilities. Or, said the HUD folk, housing authorities are permitted to contribute to a larger facility providing desired services. When the neighborhood facilities grant was made, the proper course became obvious.

m-m

This facility will be one of Kings Mountain's best constructed buildings and from the size of the steel I saw for reinforcing the concrete slab on the second floor, is undoubtedly, Kings Mountain's surest bomb shelters.

m-m

Sometime ago the late Mr. Arthur Crouse and I were talking about the fact of too many counties in North Carolina with the relegation of the horse to the show ring. He recalled that the Kings Mountain area in 1901 had the opportunity of carving itself into a county, but the area leadership didn't want it.

m-m

I was particularly interested in last week's story listing the 32 Kings Mountain mayors who have guided the community for night unto 96 years. I had never known that my great-grandfather, A. V. Falls, was a Kings Mountain mayor. He served twice in the eighties, lived in what is now the Catholic church manse which, at that time stood on the corner where the church, erected in 1898, now stands. I mentioned that fact to the late Father Hill shortly after he came here on a particularly cold day. The priest quipped, "I wish he had it back." The high-ceilinged houses get a bit airish in winter.

m-m

Nor did I know a great uncle, R. S. Plonk was twice mayor. Nor that the Editor H. P. Allison was a mayor.

m-m

Mr. Allison was in and out of Kings Mountain newspapers for a period spanning about 15 to 16 years and Mr. Plonk founded in 1900 the Kings Mountain Democrat. It being axiomatic that newspapermen candidates run third of three or fourth of four, depending on number of candidates, it should be explained perhaps that both Mr. Allison and Mr. Plonk's mayoral careers preceded their journalistic ones.

m-m

I was telling Malcolm Brown, the Shelby School superintendent, about the county board of education's proud 1911 plant report, all \$29,000 worth and only one log building still in use. He countered with a report from old records of the Shelby school budget for salaries in 1906. It figured to \$2200. The teachers averaged \$25 per month, the superintendent a princely \$50.

### BROADCAST

Sunday morning worship services during the month of January are being broadcast via Radio Station WKMT from First Presbyterian church.

## Breathing Down Our Necks



Henry McCann

## Viewpoints of Other Editors

### AWAY TO SMOG CONTROL

Bully for California. It is keeping things stirred up in the smog control field. Gov. Ronald Reagan says he will divert some highway funds in his 1970-71 budget to smog control. These funds have been sacredly segregated for highway construction and maintenance, there and in most other states, including Wisconsin. Reagan told a conference on the changing environment that motor vehicles pump tons of hydrocarbons and carbon monoxide into the environment, so why should not part of the motor vehicle taxes be used to conquer smog. Why not, indeed?

The auto industry and its bed-fellow, the highway construction industry, won't like such diversion of funds, preferring more freeways for more cars. But the burden would be light compared to one that California almost voted last summer, to ban all internal combustion engines in cars by 1975. This passed the senate but failed in an assembly committee.

California's antimog laws are the toughest in the nation, and have led the way to smog control devices on cars, now also required federally. Business West reports that Californians want auto pollutants cut to zero, but the timing depends on research being done on antipollution devices. N-w standards could cost Detroit — and car buyers — more money. The auto industry must accept more responsibility for cleaner air. Lee Iacocca, a president of Ford Motor Co., recently conceded that automakers are "playing under new rules." He was realistic when he added: "And for the first time the rules are being written to a large extent outside the industry." —Milwaukee Journal.

### NYEWN NEWS

By now we all know that when we hear a radio or television announcer refer to nyews, he's talking about news — noos, as those of us who constitute the mass of the untrained public call it. We have no objection to nyews. We're willing to concede that the somewhat uppity pronunciation is probably correct, and assume that that's the way it's taught in the announcer schools. We still bristle a bit, however, when we hear the 12 o'clock broadcast referred to as the nyewn nyews. —Minneapolis Star.

### THE FIFTH COLUMN DONS A BEARD

Evangelist Billy Graham made a 20-minute talk at the Miami Hollywood Rock Festival last Sunday and admitted to newsmen he sometimes attends such gatherings in a false mustache and a beard so he can get a better idea of what's going on. It's a picture we'd like to see, because somehow we just can't. Billy in a beard? But the idea is interesting. If the Reverend Dr. Graham is out there among the hipped-up hippies and the turned-on teenyboppers with his fake facial foliage so he can get their message before giving them his, what can we look for next? All the young revolutionaries ought to be warned. The Establishment is working from within. —Asheville Citizen.

### CALLING POLICE

New York's introduction of a well publicized emergency number for calling a patrol car has, according to a police spokesman there, "destroyed the knowledge barrier and it has destroyed what might be called the inhibition barrier." The public has learned how to reach police, but in so doing has forgotten (if ever it knew) that the emergency number should be used only in emergencies.

This spokesman is not complaining. "A police department has to think about serving people rather than its own convenience," he says. True enough, but it is no service to the people to have emergency phone lines clogged by trivial calls ("We don't have enough heat") and by irrelevant calls ("How can I get a divorce?"), or to have taxpayers paying the salaries of thousands of policemen to cope with the consequences of the collapse of "the inhibition barrier."

New York police are now publicizing their non-emergency phone numbers, a sensible and needed defense. They should also try to teach a public that has learned how to reach the police fast not to invoke frivolously the attentions of a police system that incurs heavy expenses just telling people thousands of times a day that they have called a wrong number. —Chicago Tribune.

### BRING BACK JOY

Could it be that there is something in the moon's environment that causes happiness?

It does seem so, judging by the behavior of astronauts Peter Conrad and Alan Bean. They sounded exuberant as they went about their work during their first excursion into the most hostile surroundings.

The dangers they are exposed to were brought home when the television camera was knocked out by one brief, inadvertent exposure to the direct rays of the sun.

But this did nothing to daunt the good spirits of Conrad and Bean. Instead, while this world listened, they continued to chatter, whistle and sing as they went about the business of making man's second exploration of the moon.

Making their cheerfulness all the more impressive to the earth-bound is, one suddenly realizes, that it is so unusual. There is, or at least seems to be, relatively little smiling, let alone audible expressions of joy, in the workaday world. Even at play, adults, if not children, seem beset by a certain bitterness.

These are, to be sure, serious times. But the world could use some of the spirit of joy that Conrad and Bean displayed at work on the moon. —Milwaukee Sentinel.

### KIWANIS PROGRAM

Gary Adamson, Kinder Manufacturing Company general manager, will address members of the Kiwanis club at Thursday night's meeting at 6:30 at the Woman's Club.

### LUTHERAN TOPIC

Rev. Charles Easley will use the sermon topic, "A Spirit, A Mission, A Ministry" at Sunday morning worship services at 11 o'clock at St. Matthew's Lutheran church.

## KINGS MOUNTAIN Hospital Log

VISITING HOURS  
3 to 4 p.m. and 7 to 8 p.m.  
Daily 10:30 To 11:30 a.m.

Mrs. Mary T. Baker  
Jake Monroe Black  
Mrs. Pearl W. Blanton  
Mrs. Docia C. Case  
Mrs. Flossie S. Cloninger  
Fannie Gordon  
Mrs. Floyd F. Herndon  
Mrs. James A. Hill  
Arthur W. Huffstetler  
Roger Lewis  
Mrs. Grace T. Philbeck  
Mrs. Etta B. Bennett  
Mrs. Frank Lee Blanton  
Mrs. Hurley W. Brooks  
Ora Grayson Brown  
Mrs. Josephine M. Davis  
Mrs. Mollie M. Goforth  
Mrs. George Gordon  
Mrs. David Hannah  
Mrs. John G. Hill  
Sidney Dulin Huffstetler  
William Keith Huffstetler, Jr.  
Mrs. Margaret L. Humphries  
Elliott M. Johnson  
Mrs. Coral H. Laughter  
Robert L. Mills  
Robert Smith  
Clarence Warren  
Martin Luther Wilson, Sr.

### Admitted Friday

Mrs. Vernon G. Grant  
Henderson W. Herndon  
Mrs. Thomas W. Smith  
Mrs. William G. Waldrop  
Mrs. Warren H. Chastain

### Admitted Saturday

Clarence Bratton  
Bruman Coley Bryant  
Mrs. Cleve Moore

### Admitted Sunday

Hubert G. Clemmons  
Mrs. Hazel P. Chandler  
Samuel H. Houston  
Mrs. Hunter Cobb  
Samuel O. Jimson  
Mrs. Thelma H. Morgan  
John Lee Philbeck  
Mrs. Thomas Proctor

### Admitted Monday

Mrs. James A. Hill  
Mrs. Mary Jane Primrose  
Mrs. George N. Carroll, Jr.  
Mrs. Jimmy P. Curry  
Paul Preston Harlow  
Eugene David Hill  
Mrs. Earl Meray  
Mrs. Harold D. Peterson

### Admitted Tuesday

Jerry Keith Camp  
Gloria M. Meeks  
James Andrew Moss  
Samuel Bruce Spencer

## Fire Chassis Bids Received

Award of contract for a fire apparatus chassis was delayed by the city commission Tuesday until bids could be reviewed by Sherman Pickard of the N. C. League of Municipalities who prepared the specifications for the chassis.

The board received bids from Dixon Chevrolet, Inc. which bid \$12,120, and Southwell Motor, Co. which bid \$13,520.

In other action, the board authorized the advertisement for public hearing for adoption of assessment rolls for improvements on Ford street, Woodlawn avenue, Gaston street, North Tracy street, Waco road and Woodside Drive.

## Good Home Wanted For These Puppies

Folks at Elmer Lumber Company are seeking a good home for a litter of puppies.

If you qualify, visit the firm and pick up your choice.

The pets are free on first come first served basis.

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