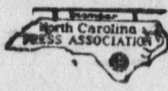




The Kings Mountain Herald

Established 1889



A weekly newspaper devoted to the promotion of the general welfare and published for the enlightenment, entertainment and benefit of the citizens of Kings Mountain and its vicinity, published every Thursday by the Herald Publishing House. Entered as second class matter at the post office at Kings Mountain, N. C., 28086 under Act of Congress of March 3, 1873.

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TODAY'S BIBLE VERSE

Open thy mouth, judge righteously, and plead the cause of the poor and needy. Proverbs 31:9.

Fluoridation Decided

"Is fluoride in short supply? Did I read that some city recently had trouble in keeping an adequate supply due to lack of a contract?"

The questioner was City Commissioner Ray Cline, who had just made the motion which passed unanimously to fluoridate the city supply when the new treatment plant comes on stream. None volunteered an answer.

Odds are, of course, that the supply, if momentarily short will be quickly increased.

The city commission wasted no time in demonstrating good faith in its pledge to honor the informational referendum result which, by 429 to 235, was recorded in favor of a fluoridated water supply. It was done in rapid-fire order: the vote was read and ordered ratified and the implementation motion followed immediately.

The Jaycee leaders and their members were pleased at the victory but disappointed at the vote turn-out which aggregated only about 18 percent of the registered total of about 3800. Some, philosophizing a bit, suggested the failure of Americans to exercise their prerogative to vote could, someday be the nation's undoing.

All too true.

Conversely, as far as the fluoridation vote itself was concerned, it is axiomatic in USA-style politics that the voters get much excited about personality elections, much less so about issues such as fluoridation, bond issues, and other inanimate questions. The Jaycees can also take some comfort, comparing vote totals of 1957 and 1959 on the same issue, that the prior two informational polls were held on regular election days when personality clashes were also being settled.

Garbage Disposal

As the population grows, the problem of garbage disposal grows with it.

Kings Mountain only recently graduated to the land-fill method of garbage disposal, whereby garbage is literally plowed under, eliminating the air polluting burning familiar to less sophisticated garbage disposal.

But for larger cities such as Charlotte, landfill is on the verge of becoming inadequate as refuse volume escalates.

Recently, Southern Railway has advanced an innovative proposal which is a major extension of a home garbage disposal device a housewife was talking about recently. In the home model machine, the garbage is shredded and compressed into a small cellophane, miniscule, and no real disposal problem.

Southern Railway advances the idea of the same machine operating in a rail car specially designed for the purpose. Garbage would be picked up, in say, Charlotte, processed en route, and dumped into ravines up track, offering the twin benefits of reclaiming land and disposing of garbage in something distantly kin to the landfill method.

A few days later a British scientist offered yet another means of garbage disposal: treat garbage chemically, get rid of the garbage and get ethyl alcohol as a by-product.

Cleveland County at the moment is noting the old-fashioned and illegal garbage dumps, where people just dump.

Ways and means of clean-up are justifiably being sought.

The rats around a garbage dump are king size.

Hearty congratulations to the 12 recent inductees of the Kings Mountain high school chapter of the National Honor society.

Very Same Thing

Max Hamrick, a Cleveland County public servant for 29 years, first as assistant clerk of Superior Court, then as county auditor and tax supervisor, and finally as acting county manager was honored Wednesday night by the Cleveland Association of Governmental officials.

It was a proper honor.

Max Hamrick, in his years of service, became a most well-informed and clear-thinking public official. He understood fiscal responsibility, debt service and its requirements, reasonable limitations thereon and is probably more responsible than any other one man in Cleveland County in the past three decades for the solid fiscal position and credit rating the county enjoys.

In his acceptance remarks, Mr. Hamrick summated the years at the county courthouse and added, "If I were to do it over again, I'd do the very same thing."

It's a statement — and a situation — of which all can be envious. Mr. Hamrick enjoyed his work, a good formula for doing the good job.

Best wishes go to him in his new activity which he laughingly describes as "inactivity".

Businessman's Turn

Many were surprised when the city's initial application for a grant for Central Business re-development was honored.

They were surprised and somewhat disbelieving when regional officials of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, in view of increased costs since the application was made, invited a re-application involving more than a half-million dollars.

Surprise waxed open-mouthed when the re-application was approved in the amount of \$1,600,000.

Joe Laney, director of the Redevelopment commission, has been smiling ever since.

"Some folk have been looking at me as if they wondered when and/or if the central business project would ever get off the ground," Mr. Laney noted.

"Now," he added, "it's my turn to look at them."

Preliminary plans are similar, though far more expensive in scope and area, to the cooperative mall effort engendered a few seasons ago. That plan received an unusual degree of support from those who would pay the cost, but not 100 percent support which is required in any cooperative effort.

But the \$1,600,000 grant, of itself, does not assure success of the project. There are still requirements of the citizens in the effected areas: some property owners will have to upgrade; some others will find it necessary to find new quarters, as their buildings are razed; cooperatively they must solve the problems of parking areas and others in which the federal government will not participate.

Leaders in the project know that a major job of work is in store, but they are equally confident that, with hard work and a measure of imagination, the venerable Central Business district can become a shopping area mecca rather than a traffic-clogged hodge-podge.

The death of Mrs. Elvira Foust Plonk removes from among us a long-time citizen, gentle of nature, sympathetic to the trials and tribulations of all. She was a churchwoman of the old school, dutiful, loyal, always ready to accept any assigned chore. A daughter, replying to a commendation of her children in their solicitude of their mother's needs, expressed well her mother's make-up when she said, "She was so easy to be nice to."

MARTIN'S MEDICINE

As I approached my home early Tuesday evening, I saw a strange machine parked in the front yard. "What's going on?" I asked myself and brushed the over-grown driveway bush as I entered.

m-m

The machine was balanced on a green GI gasoline can and there were 1) two moth-eaten two by sixes and 2) two pieces of plywood about four feet square and bolted together. There was also a two-foot stump of limb that I took for oak or poplar.

m-m

Has my friend Howell Stroupe, the Cherryville landscaper, been trimming trees? I could locate no evidence. My wife arrived at this time and she was equally mystified, and decided to inquire of our neighbor, Mrs. Burgin Falls. No help here. Mrs. Falls had gone across street to visit Estelle Ware and there was no machine. When Mrs. Falls returned home there was a machine, but at the curb-line (if we had a curb), not in the yard. Anne and I finally agreed that the machine was being towed and the hitch broke, the trucker borrowing our yard until he could return and reclaim the machine.

m-m

About 4 o'clock Wednesday afternoon my wife called and was quite plainly upset. Ole Howell Stroupe had done cut down two of our trees. No use crying over spilt milk, she said but allowed she was going to call him and cuss him out anyway for cutting them without forewarning.

m-m

The background of the sad event began a dozen years ago. Howell planted some trees with the concurrent statement that the two inherited from Drace and Louise were woods trees and would not be long-lived. As he planted a couple adjacent he said, "We'll leave 'em for shade until these saplings grow up." Well, the saplings Howell planted have grown and our old friends are no longer, other than firewood candidates.

m-m

Anne did call, indeed.

m-m

Howell reminded that he had told her years ago these oldsters would eventually have to go. He said the roots were drinking up all the nutrient in the yard to the detriment of the new trees and that the old fellows were virtually dead anyway. Additionally, the old ones were causing the new ones to grow in a beeline into the electric wires. "You'll be glad that I did," was sum and substance of Howell's remarks.

m-m

Howell, a member of the Gaston County board of education, switched gears into that interesting subject and advanced some interesting ideas. Kindergarten is no good, says Howell, unless the mother's are also taught. His idea: have mama attend at least three or four classes during the session. Howell also thinks secondary schooling would not be ill-served if the present fourth and eighth grades were eliminated and a 10-year program substituted.

m-m

He ardently opposed the initial plan whereby Cherryville and Bessemer City high schools would be abandoned and a new consolidated plant built mid-way between the two cities. He and his supporters have won the first round as this plan has been deferred, at least, until the decennial census report is completed.

m-m

Howell is hardly illiterate. He won a degree from N. C. State in 1940, meanwhile starring on the gridiron for the Wolfpack in the second half of the thirties.

m-m

But our house is bound to seem a little topless for a time.

m-m

City Commissioner Tommy Ellison has been the boiler man at Grace Methodist church since the new church was built. One cold morning last week he was summoned by the pastor who found no response to his turn-up of the thermostat. Tommy went into the boiler room, opened the door and whoosh the flame burned Tommy's right hand badly and gave his eyebrows and temples a quick singe.

m-m

While Tommy was telling me about the incident another friend came up. He laughed about the singe, said the barbers once said singes would make the hair grow. Quipped Tommy: "In that case, I'd better go back for another treatment."

Valentine Greetings



Henry McCarron

Viewpoints of Other Editors

WHAT ARE POLICEMEN MADE OF?

Don't credit me with this mongrel prose; it has many parents; at least 420,000 of them: Policemen.

A policeman is a composite of what all men are, a mingling of saint and sinner, dust and deity. Culled statistics wave the fan over the stinkers, underscore instances of dishonesty and brutality because they are "news." What that really means is that they are exceptional, unusual, not commonplace.

Buried under the froth is the fact: Less than one-half of 1 percent of policemen misfit that uniform.

That's a better average than you'd find among clergymen. What is a policeman made of? He, of all men, is at once the most needed and the most unwanted.

He's a strangely nameless creature who is "sir" to his face and "fuzz" behind his back. He must be such a diplomat that he can settle differences between individuals so that each will think he won.

If he hurries, he's careless; if he conceals, he's a sneak; if he's pleasant, he's a flirt; if he's not, he's a grouch.

He must make in an instant decisions which would require months for a lawyer.

But... If he hurries, he's careless; if he conceals, he's a sneak; if he's pleasant, he's a flirt; if he's not, he's a grouch.

He must be able to start breathing, stop bleeding, tie splints and, above all, be sure the victim goes home without a limp.

Or expect to be sued. The police officer must know every gun, draw on the run, and hit where it doesn't hurt.

He must be able to whip two men twice his size and half his age without damaging his uniform and without being "brutal."

If you hit him, he's a coward; if he hits you, he's a bully. A policeman must know everything—and not tell.

He must know where all the sin is—and not partake. The policeman must, from a single human hair, be able to describe the crime, the weapon and the criminal—and tell you where the criminal is hiding.

If he catches the criminal, he's lucky; if he doesn't, he's a dunce. If he gets promoted, he has political pull; if he doesn't, he's a dullard.

The policeman must chase bum leads to a dead end, stake out 10 nights to tag one witness who saw it happen—but refuses to remember.

He runs files and writes reports until his eyes ache to build a case against some felon who'll get dealt out by a shameless shamus or an "honorable" who isn't.

The policeman must be a minister, a social worker, a diplomat, a tough guy, and a gentleman. And of course he'll have to be a genius.

For he'll have to feed a family on a policeman's salary.

—Paul Harvey in FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin

KIWANIS PROGRAM
Ralph Carlson, of Shelby, and Dr. R. E. Carothers, of Gastonia, will speak on the Boy Scout movement at the Thursday night meeting of the Kiwanis club, at 6:45 at the Woman's Club.

TO UNDERSTAND NIGERIA

There is little reason, today, to reprove Washington for its Nigerian policy over the months. One can strongly urge speed in succoring the starving and fair treatment and forgiveness for the Ibo rebels. But Americans will have understanding for the complex issues involved, when they remember the confusions and heartaches of their own Civil War and its aftermath.

Nigeria, a fledgling nation of diverse tribes and religions, is not the long-established concern that the United States was in 1861. But it is a nation and, as its leaders say with some vehemence, is entitled to freedom from foreign interference. Other countries, the United Nations and relief agencies can make urgent suggestions, offer counsel, place transport and relief food at Nigeria's disposal. But they cannot interfere, under international law. The United States remembers with what trepidation it watched the serious advocacy, in France and Britain, of recognition of the Confederacy in 1861-64.

The American South, which went through desperate postwar years of bankruptcy and carpet-bagging, will understand the woes of loosely federated Nigeria as it seeks to rebuild, restore oil production, disband undisciplined soldiers and readmit the Ibo. Those who saw the photos of Niberial's General Gowon embracing Biafra's Colonel Effiong and wondered how permanent was this symbolic act will remember that in the American Civil War it was, besides President Lincoln, the military generals who were the most likely to forget and restore.

There was General Grant's lenient terms at the Appomattox surrender. There was General Lee's quick rejection, earlier the same day, of a trusted aide's suggestion that the Confederate soldiers take to the hills and wage guerrilla warfare. Revenge sentiments and despair lasted through decades, but this Civil War produced no secret armies retreating hatreds and feuds a gain and again down the century. General Sherman, scorched-earth marcher "from Atlanta to the sea," was another advocate of a very lenient peace.

Says Bruce Catton in his moving prose ("Never Call Retreat"; Pocket Books): "See when he left Appomattox... a paroled soldier without an army... rode straight into legend, and he took his people with him. The legend became a saving grace. The cause that had failed became the Lost Cause, larger than life, taking on color and romance as the years passed, remembered with pride and heartache but never again leading to bloodshed. Civil wars have had worse endings than this."

Christian Science Monitor

"HELPING HAND" REPORT
During the months of December and January the Kings Mountain Ministerial Association "Helping Hand" Fund aided 93 needy families. Rev. Edward Chrisco reported.

ANNUAL MEETING
Annual meeting of Kings Mountain Business Development, Inc., will be held at the office of Home Savings & Loan Association Tuesday morning at 10 o'clock. Annual reports of officers will be made and the stockholders will elect six directors.

HEMLINE BAROMETER

The fashion industry thinks it must go to the midi to maximize profits in the coming year. Not only are the high fashion houses of Paris and Rome dropping hemlines to a compromise point between the mini and maxi in the new lines, but the big American buyers and manufacturers are already setting their schedules to phase in the midsize style.

Economic reasons for the promotion are easy to find. Last year the production of women's coats fell 10 percent and the production of dresses 6 percent. The mini trend, which could make its way upward by hemming and snipping of an existing wardrobe, combined with inflation-tightened budgets, hurt the trade. The midi style, if it catches on as most clothing experts seem to think it must, could start the replacement of whole new wardrobes.

The Wall Street Journal, in a study of the mid's mercantile and fashion implications, notes that hemlines follow basic business cycles. They rise in good times and fall in bad. Thus, the recession which economists say America is undergoing, should favor the mid trend.

We hesitate to add our own forecasts about the hemline barometer. But we'd guess the clothes who figure 40 percent of next fall's trade will be of mid's stock may be too optimistic. We base this on the basic strength of the economy, of course—not on any understanding of women's thinking about clothes.

Christian Science Monitor

Letter To Editor

Dear Editor
The Jan. 29 issue carried the announcement that Mr. Ollie Harris will not be a candidate for reelection a county coroner. This sorta' makes you feel sad when you read this sort of announcements for several reasons. First of all, Mr. Harris has

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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.

- Horace Allman
- Mary T. Baker
- Charlie Benton
- Barbara Blanton
- Michelle Bolin
- Jacob Bowen
- Christine Branch
- Clarence Bratton
- Edgar Cooper
- Edward Evans
- Arthur Huffstetler
- Sidney Huffstetler
- Marion Jackson
- Cora Laughter
- Robert Mills
- Sallie Moore
- Lona Morrison
- Helen Moss
- Mamie D. Panther
- Dora Powell
- Betty Ruth Berry
- Brenda A. Curry
- Russell E. Ellis
- Jean Maggie Jenkins
- Eunice B. Toney
- Audrey W. Putnam
- Ida K. Rollins
- Eller F. Rushing
- William Stone
- Eunice Wallace
- Janie Ward
- Otis Whisnant
- Martin Wilson, Sr.

Admitted Thursday
Merle Houser Beatty
Cora G. Falls
Addie G. Turner

Admitted Friday
Juanita A. Davis Lowery
Nellie Ruth Smith Crisp
Betty Stone Debruler
Doris Ruth Martin
Martha S. Dye
Betty T. Moore
Linda G. Short
John P. Tignor

Admitted Saturday
Eller-Lou B. Meredith
Lottie Mae Richards
Katherine S. Lunsford

Admitted Sunday
Bobby Gene Smith, Jr.
Ruth M. Bell
Ellen M. Stephens
Janice H. Ledford
Barbara Ann Towery

Admitted Monday
Bertie C. Stewart
Carvel P. Morrow
Johnnie H. Martin
Myrtle M. Goforth
Freida C. Watterson
Clyde C. Bundy
Paul Hartsoe
Hillis W. Ramseur
Pearl P. Shaw

Admitted Tuesday
George R. Lynch
Mamie C. Lynch
Billy M. Bagwell
Margaret Collins
Dennis L. Detter
Dan Falls
Annie A. Farris
Monty M. Harbin
Judy S. Johnson
William Norman King
Carolyn B. McGill
Billy A. Wilson

served the people of Cleveland County for these past 24 years, which has made him one of the outstanding public figures of this state. This post can be filled with other good men, but where will you find one that has become one of Kings Mountain's best. I'm sure you good people of Kings Mountain and Cleveland County, in the event he decides to seek other public office, are ready to support him all the way down the line.

I have considered Mr. Harris a close personal friend for a number of years as I am sure most of you folks do.

So if he decides he can be of service to the people of Kings Mountain and Cleveland County, I'm confident he will continue to serve you with service that will be honest and above reproach.

T. C. Harrill
Charlotte, N. C.

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