

# And speaking of mix-ups.....

Don't tell us Kings Mountain isn't widely known . . .

Last week a call came in to the Kings Mountain Post Office. A clerk answered to find it was a long distance call from somewhere in Nebraska.

"Could you tell me the number of the mining operation there?" the caller asked.

"Yes ma'am. I'll look up the number for you," said the postal clerk.

"It's the Pocohantas Coal Mine," the caller said.

"You've got the wrong Kings Mountain," the postal clerk said.

"The wrong one? I didn't know there was but one Kings Mountain. This is the only one we ever heard of," the caller said.

The clerk confided that while local folk would prefer to think so, that there really is at least two others on the map. One in Tennessee is spelled exactly like the historical city and the other, in Virginia, has a slight variation.

"Well, how did you know I had the wrong city?" the caller asked.

"We don't mine coal here," the clerk answered. "Just rock."

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Speaking of mix-ups . . .

I have discovered there is more than one Tom McIntyre residing in Gaston County. I found this out years ago when some gent called me collect from Pennsylvania to chew me out for firing his sister.

In the first place I didn't accept the collect call because the only folks I know of in Pennsylvania are the members of the second family of my grandfather Thomas McIntyre — and I do not know any of those people.

In the second place I was not then nor have I ever been a third shift supervisor at Firestone Mill in Gastonia.

While working at The Gazette I met another Tom McIntyre. He was an older man who lived down around Ranlo. We had a nice



TOM MCINTYRE

visit and figured out that the bank had been mixing up our deposits.

Before this one left he wanted to know if I would fix a parking ticket for him. I said no.

Now, there seems to be yet another Tom McIntyre in Gaston County and this one is a bowler. I get his calls from guys wanting to know if the bowling game is still on. I tell them yes and I will meet them on the third alley at the usual time.

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And the phenomenon continues . . .

While making a visit to Los Angeles a couple of years back to hand in a finished script I met an actor named Robert Phillips. He has appeared as one of the guards in "The Dirty Dozen" and usually is the bad guy in hundreds of TV shows.

I wondered why he was so anxious to tell me all about himself. He was under the impression I was the Tom McIntyre who wrote an entertainment column for a daily newspaper in San Francisco.

I told him he was mistaken, but I was happy to hear the McIntyres of this world are doing so well. The actor immediately lost interest in further dialogue between the two of us.

And it has also come to my attention that out there in Chicago or some big city in the midwest there is still another Tom McIntyre who also works for a large daily newspaper.

It causes me to wonder two things: First, are all of us related? and two, why is there such a lack of imagination in naming the McIntyre off-spring?

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And the capper is that the name McIntyre comes from the name MacDonald of the Scottish Clan.

This bit of "Roots" trivia came from an older gent I know in Mount Holly. His name is Beatty and he said that his family's name also came from the MacDonald Clan of Scotland.

He also said that no matter how many variations in spelling one encounters, that they all came from the same bloodline.

So, all the McIntyres, MacEntires, McIntires and Beattys, Beatties, Baitys are related somewhere back up the line.

Well, I'll be a monkey's uncle.

And according to Darwin, just the opposite of that is the case.

Maybe that's why I like bananas so much. H'mmmm.

## A most important date in history

April 12, 1776, is one of the most important dates in North Carolina history. It is one of the two dates emblazoned on the State Flag.

On this date the North Carolina Provincial Congress adopted the Halifax Resolves. Included was a resolution empowering the state's delegates to the Continental Congress in Philadelphia to vote in favor of independence from Great Britain, should that issue come before Congress.

North Carolina was thus the first state to go on record in favor of independence. A few



ED SMITH

### EDITORIAL OPINION



## Congratulations, Mr. Postmaster

Congratulations are in order for Mr. Fred Weaver. The Kings Mountain native is our new postmaster, replacing Charles Alexander who retired last summer.

Changes in postal policy made it possible for Weaver to be considered for the lifetime job. Prior to the changes the job of postmaster was a big favor paid to someone in the community by a congressman. It was politically oriented all the way.

Weaver began his postal career in 1962 as a temporary substitute. Under Postmaster Alexander Weaver was elevated to supervisor of postal operation, which meant he ran the operation for all mail service at the Kings Mountain Post Office under the direction of the postmaster.

We feel the selection committee made a wise decision in naming Weaver. He is a native of the community and is well-known and highly thought of by his fellow citizens. This is very important in operating successfully the vital postal business.

We are sure that the other four postal employees who came from other areas were just as qualified to handle the top job, but we doubt if they would have had the built-in knack Weaver has for dealing with the local public.

So, The Mirror-Herald adds its congratulations to those of all Kings Mountians to you, Mr. Postmaster.

### Are you insured?

## Planning a yard sale?

The growing popularity of yard sales in the South brings up a question often overlooked when planning a spring yard sale: are you properly insured?

A ruinous lawsuit could dispose of much more than unwanted items discovered in spring cleaning if the homeowner conducting the sale does not have the proper liability insurance coverage, the Insurance Information Institute points out.

It is unwise for the prospective yard merchant to assume that his homeowners policy will cover all losses and liability claims arising from any activity on his property. The facts surrounding the sale determine whether or not the homeowners policy provides liability coverage, according to the Institute.

In cases involving an occasional yard sale in which the policyholder sells his own property, the yard salesman generally can

rely upon his homeowners policy for liability coverage since the policy extends liability coverage to situations which are related to normal, nonbusiness residential activities. The occasional yard sale is usually considered an activity related to home life and not to a business pursuit.

If the yard sale became a regular profit-making activity, however, the homeowner policy would not apply. The individual in that case should purchase the necessary general liability insurance to cover a business pursuit. People who regularly make and sell craft items, for example, probably would not be covered under the homeowners policy.

Neighborhood yard sales may not be covered if the homeowner receives a substantial sum from the sale. If, however, the activity is for the benefit of a charity, and if the person conducting the sale receives no income, then the event may still be covered by the homeowners policy.



weeks later, however, Virginia passed an even stronger resolution, one which not merely "allowed" its delegates to vote in favor of freedom, but one which definitely "instructed" them to do so.

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Zebulon B. Vance, the most famous of all North Carolina governors, died on April 14, 1894, while serving as a U. S. Senator.

Born in a Buncombe County log cabin in 1830, Vance's . . . "unexcelled gifts of wit and stump-speaking oratory forever rendered him to the populace in a way that no other public figure has matched in the state's history."

Vance, a Democrat, served two — split-terms as Governor, but ironically finished neither. Elected in mid-war in 1862, he was an excellent Civil War governor, but was arrested and jailed with other Southern leaders before the end of his term. (Vance said that his two main jobs as Governor during the war had been to fight the Yankees and fuss with Jeff Davis, over internal affairs of the Confederacy.) His selection in 1877 signalled the end of Reconstruction in this state, but he was elected U. S. Senator (by the legislature) before the end of his term. Thus, though his abilities are undoubted, Vance's reputation as governor is based more on sentiment than achievement in office.

If a homeowner plans to host a profit-making sale for a particular organization, the best suggestion is to inquire about the liability coverage of the sponsoring organization. A church organization is likely to be covered under a policy held by the church while other groups may not have such a policy.

The liability coverage found in the homeowners policy does not apply at a flea market in which people rent a booth or lot on someone else's property to sell their wares. The Institute recommends that the liability coverage of the owner of the flea market be checked.

A good tip for anyone planning any type of yard sale, the Institute suggests, is to consult his or her insurance agent about insurance coverage. It's also a good idea to check with local authorities about licensing and tax laws.

On April 9, 1865, Robert E. Lee surrendered his Army of Northern Virginia to Union General U. S. Grant. Many people mistakenly believe the entire Civil War ended at Appomattox Courthouse, but Lee's surrender actually involved only his own troops. In practical terms, it did spell the end of the entire war, but other Southern forces continued fighting until a later date.

On April 12-13, 1865, Confederate President Jefferson Davis and his Cabinet, in flight from Richmond after Lee's surrender, held two meetings in a railroad boxcar in Greensboro. Davis also slept and ate in the car. Union General Sherman had threatened to burn the home of anyone who gave shelter to the fleeing Confederate leader, and many Tar Heel citizens now feared to assist him. Former Governor John M. Morehead offered the use of his estate, Bland Wood, but Davis refused to jeopardize it by accepting.

Continuing his flight south, Davis and his party spent the night of the 16th in a pine grove near Lexington. The next night, however, he stayed at the Barringer home in Concord.

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On April 14, in Washington, Vice President Andrew Johnson had taken the oath of office as 17th President of the United States, following the death of Abraham Lincoln. Johnson had been born in Raleigh in 1808, but left the state as a runaway tailor's apprentice at the age of 17, fearing arrest for a juvenile prank.

Largely self-educated, Johnson had worked his way up through Tennessee politics to the office of U. S. Senator. During the war, as an anti-slavery Democrat, he

had sided with the North. Chosen as Lincoln's running mate on a fusion ticket in 1864, he found himself President after 41 days in office!



### Poet's Corner

#### THE TOUCH OF APRIL

(c) 1978

April is in the garden  
With magic in her touch,  
The suffering forget the pain  
The lame thorns down the crutch.

The fragrance is overwhelming

The fragrance is overwhelming  
Causing an ecstatic state,  
It happens every time  
Wistaria purples the gate.

April is in the garden  
What a joy to be alive,  
To feel the thrill of seeing  
Mother earth again revive.

Birds singing in the dogwood  
Blue Violets in a ring,  
April has the magic touch  
To turn a pauper into a King

VIVIAN STEWART BILTCLIFFE

### Is it important?

## Home inventory

The best way to determine whether you need a household inventory is to take a little test.

Close your eyes.

Now, try to describe accurately everything in your home. Give the model numbers, year of purchase, approximate cost, replacement value, and serial numbers.

Hard to do, isn't it? But in the event of a major loss such as a fire, the Insurance Information Institute says you may be asked to do just that.

By taking an inventory of your personal property now, the job will be much easier when the time comes to settle an insurance claim.

The Insurance Information Institute offers the following guidelines to aid in inventory preparation:

- Take the inventory one room at a time. Don't forget the garage, attic, closets, and the contents of drawers. Have someone double-check.

- Include the model, make, date of purchase, cost, serial number, and any special features of each item.

- Keep receipts for major purchases.
- Photograph valuables such as fine art that are unique or hard to describe.

- Keep receipts, the list and photos in a safety deposit box. Also give a copy of the list to your agent or broker.
- Update the inventory yearly.

#### WHY TAKE AN INVENTORY?

- To remind yourself about items that might be easily overlooked.

- To locate special or unusual items such as money, jewelry, antiques, and coin or stamp collections that are not fully insured because of policy limits.

- To make sure your coverage keeps up

with the value of your personal property. — To prove your claim in the event of a loss, and help speed the payment of the claim.

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