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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.



TODAY'S BIBLE VERSE
For unto you is born this day, in the city of David, a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. St. Luke 2:11.

King Winter officially arrived Friday, but folks around here would say his fifth column agents were already here long before and had complete control.

Kings Mountain is to be congratulated on its response to the "Gifts For Yanks Who Gave" campaign. The appeal for gifts for hospitalized veterans could not have gone unanswered here. Congratulations also to Chairman Harry Page and his committee who did much work to obtain successful results.

Big Bill

Figures announced last week by Chief of Police W. C. Timmons on the city's law-breaking bill for the months of October and November should not have been too surprising in view of the long court dockets which have been reported weekly.

It would have been easy to say "crime bill," but that term would not have been completely correct, for many of the infractions were traffic violations, and, if we are correct, a traffic violator is not considered a criminal.

Many more, however, came under the crime category.

FBI Chief J. Edgar Hoover, who long ago predicted that the United States had a crime wave coming, recently informed the nation that the wave had arrived.

From the tabulations, it would appear that Kings Mountain is getting its share.

Effective law enforcement is one means of stamping out crime, yet law enforcement by officers is only the end-point of the business. They can be much more successful if the public will demand that crime and other mal-doing is stamped out.

Too many people wink at infractions until they themselves are victimized.

The news that C. L. Early had suffered a severe heart attack came as a considerable shock to many of his friends who did not know that he was in any way ill. The Herald wishes for him a speedy return to health.

Christmas, a time when the spirit of the Golden Rule is evidenced throughout the world, should be a good time to make a mental note of the forthcoming Victory Clothing Campaign, and to make plans to send clothing to the freezing peoples of Europe. Getting up on a cold morning is bad enough. Imagine getting up, but have not fire to furnish heat, with no warm clothes to wear. The city should respond handsomely at this opportunity to build international good will.

The Congress finally passed, in somewhat emasculated form, the bill allowing the President to reorganize government agencies. Considerably credited with obtaining its passage was Lindsay Warren, former North Carolina Congressman and now Comptroller-General. In fact, it was Mr. Warren's idea to start with. President Truman now has an opportunity to wield the knife and cut out a lot of red tape and overlapping agencies. To do it will require much courage, for it is not easy to pare political plums. However, if he does do a good paring job, he will gain the praise of the vast majority of the nation, which is fed up with governmental bungling. Pulling in the belt on government will be a move to the right. But this will please most people who would like to see the nation's policies veer slightly in that direction from its left-of-center position.

Projects to set up a fund whereby high school athletes who suffer injuries on the playing field may be cared for should be supported to the limit. It is completely without the pale of thought that a youngster should break a leg or arm or shoulder playing high school football and that he should then be forgotten. But that is the condition that has existed here.

Highway Warning

The chief of the state highway patrol and local officials are warning drivers to operate their vehicles carefully, and this warning should be taken for what it's worth.

The accident list has pyramided in the past few weeks, aided and abetted by the bad weather.

Highways are again crowded, and when you add ice to passing on the hill and around the curve, you've got a highway accident that may result in death.

spoil it for yourselves and others. Either start in time, or plan to be a few minutes late.

The New Year

In a few days, young 1946, clad in his first birthday clothes will be putting in appearance, and Old Man 1945 will be bowing out. New Year's resolutions are frequently made in jest, but there are some that could be made by all citizens which would mean a better community by the time the youngster has grown old and bent this time next year.

A community-wide resolution to put aside prejudice in 1946 would result in quite a change in this community.

A few other suggestions:
A greater consciousness of the needs of the community and an acceptance of responsibility for filling those needs.

A deeper interest in public affairs of state and nation.

More work.
A willingness to give as well as take.

More and more people are getting disgusted with the Pearl Harbor investigation. Average comment heard on the street here, especially by ex-servicemen, is that the whole business should be dropped, Admiral Kimmel and General Short re-instated, and given their pay which has been withheld since their suspension. The investigation has become nothing but a smear campaign and a political football.

Gastonia aldermen have given the green light to the business of zoning the city. Kings Mountain, smaller than Gastonia, would have a much easier job of it. And something should be done about it immediately. The more a city "jests grows," the more hap-hazard it becomes. A man would never think of building a house that way. Why a city?

Our congratulations to Robert Neill who was selected for the all-star conference football team. The fact that the team's winning record this year was somewhat shy adds to the honor which the Kings Mountain player has received.

10 Years Ago

THIS WEEK

Items of news taken from the 1935 files of the Kings Mountain Herald

The Children's prayer for a "White Christmas" was answered here Sunday when snow began to fall about noon. This was the first snow of any size since 1932.

Congressman A. L. Bulwinkle of Gastonia addressed the members of the Men's club at their supper meeting here last Thursday evening. Joe Neisler and Grady King were in charge of the program.

The old rule that fire comes "three in a row" for the local fire-fighters held true again last week. The first of the three fires was at the home of Charlie Littlejohn, and the second at the house opposite the First Baptist church on Piedmont avenue. The third was at the home of Mrs. Will Everhart on West Mountain street. All three fires were caused by sparks falling on the roofs. Very little damage was done.

Early Sunday morning after the freezing night before, a man was seen hanging in a limp form over the overhead bridge on Railroad avenue. The police were immediately notified but upon investigation by the police department it was found that a colored man with too much so called liquid Christmas spirits had become sick. Before the police arrived he had vanished for parts unknown.

Hon. Clyde B. Hoey, of Shelby, candidate for Governor of North Carolina, was the principal speaker at a dinner in the Woman's Club building Saturday evening given by the Kings Mountain Manufacturing company, the Bonnie Cotton Mills Co., and the Mauney Mills, Inc., in honor of J. B. Mauney, retired business man of Kings Mountain.

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL

Miss Ruth Jenkins of Washington, D. C., is spending the holidays with her parents in Kings Mountain.

Red Davis is spending the Christmas holidays with relatives in Lockhart, Pa.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Thomson and little daughter, Frances Ann, are spending the holidays in Kings Mountain.

Jacob Cooper, son of Dr. and Mrs. E. C. Cooper, is recovering from an appendicitis operation in the Charlotte Sanitarium.
Miss Grace Hamrick, who teaches in Number 1 township, is spending the holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Hamrick.

Martin's Medicine

(Containing the best known, most powerful, and most effective medicine weekly. Avoid over-dosage.)
By Martin Harmon

Christmas Porridge

It's the Christmas season. Fact is, it's almost Christmas Day, which means all the last-minute shoppers will be milling around in an effort to find some gifts. From the rate I've been going, I'll probably be at least one in that rush, and will probably be the one that gets left holding the bag. But like the teachers, preachers, and others who follow the old doctrine "Do as I say do, not as I do," my preachments to shop early have had no effect on me.

c-p

But Christmas wouldn't be Christmas without the hustle and bustle, for there's something about the crowds and the rush that kinda infuse you with the Christmas spirit. Incidentally, it hasn't been too many years ago, when there wasn't too much hustle and bustle. I can remember sitting in a parked auto down on Battleground avenue with some more young folks (back when), bemoaning the seeming deadness of our fair city. And it was dead. The only Christmas flavor about was the street lights.

c-p

Now there was a reason for all that. Pocketbooks were dry. The mills didn't have to shut down for Christmas holidays. They were already running on short time.

c-p

But it's different this Christmas, thankfully.

c-p

It seems that the request of city authorities to keep fire-cracker shooting out of the business district is meeting with a good response. I've heard only three so far. (One of 'em was a little too close.) But there's no place for firecrackers at Christmas anyway. It just isn't the noise-making season. This appeal should be listened to if for no more reason than the conditioning of servicemen to hit the dirt when they hear a loud bang or the screech of a rocket. It's actually happened here already. A fire-cracker exploded close to one combat veteran, and it so unnerved him he couldn't eat for a number of hours.

c-p

And besides that the dratted things are dangerous. Don't ever recall letting one explode in my hand, but many have that unfortunate experience. Shall never forget Santa Claus' pistol when I was five. He brought me a box of six two-inchers. Of course, I was too young to fire them, but I did enjoy the noise. My father took me out on the back porch to shoot them for me. The first was a dud. Undaunted, my father lit the fuse on Number 2, but something went wrong and the first thing I know there was a loud pop and my father was doing an Indian war dance and holding his finger. That ended fire-crackers around my house for several years. By the way, do you remember when it was unsafe to get in the business section on Christmas due to exploding stuff?

c-p

Browsing through the old files the other night, I picked up the following item in the Herald of August 18, 1921 under the headline "Hello, Boys!" "The male population of the town recently increased at the rate of one a day. Following is the order of arrivals: Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Crook, Sunday, a son; to Mr. and Mrs. Campbell Phifer, Monday, a son; to Mr. and Mrs. Dickey, Tuesday, a son; to Mr. and Mrs. Troy Carpenter, Wednesday, a son. A boy a day to keep the Germans away." I assume that those August 1921 arrivals were Cecil Crook, Marriott Phifer, Jimmy Dickey, and Charis Carpenter. Incidentally, they all saw service, and Sgt. Phifer is yet overseas. How prophetic was the writer of that little item! At this Christmas, all hope that no similar prophecy will ever again be fulfilled.

c-p

Holly sprigs: The members of the Stag club which is giving its annual Christmas season dance Wednesday night for the first time since 1941 have been singularly fortunate. Almost all were in the service, and, if the records are straight, the only casualties were George Falls and Bobby Suber, prisoners of war, now happily removed from the casualty list — the papers report no Christmas spirit in London or Paris due to shortage of gift items, but of necessities of life — which reminds that Uncle Sam was never really pinched, though he perhaps would have been by now — this time last year you were watching at your radios getting the latest on the Battle of the Bulge — but enough — to all who take the weekly medicine a very Merry Christmas, and a Happy 1946.

is Number 1 township, is spending the holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Hamrick.

Xmas for Refugees

Switzerland "help" Christmas last year for the 20,000 refugee children who were being cared for within her borders as Europe celebrated its sixth wartime Christmas.

From France and Belgium, from Holland, Italy, Hungary, Poland, Czechoslovakia, and far distant Greece they had come—many of them orphans, many children without a country—traversing Europe by



Toys for refugee tots.

ants, Red Cross workers, Wehrmacht guards, and older children they arrived on foot, herded in cattle cars, traveling in groups.

A fraction of the millions of innocent victims of World War II, these refugee children were supposed to remain only two or three months so as to give other youngsters a chance to recuperate in neutral Switzerland. But in many cases, repatriation was delayed—parents were scattered or dead; battles still raged in areas whence the children had come, so they were allowed to remain and Switzerland, crowding them to her bosom, welcomed many, many others.

Christmas Medley

Christmas was once abolished by an act of parliament in England. That was in 1644 when the Puritans under Oliver Cromwell governed the realm. The Puritans' disbelief in holiday enjoyments was so intense that parliament ordered Christmas to be observed as a strict fast day. No roast beef, no plum pudding, no wassail were permitted.

Although turkey is the essential feature of Christmas dinner today, the bird was unknown in England in the 16th century. Introduced from America, it came into its present popularity in the early 1700s.

In several states of the Union there is a definite law forbidding anyone from interfering with a child's belief in Santa Claus.

Some European peoples have a superstition — dating from ancient times — that animals take on the power of speech at Christmas time.

Lewis Carroll wrote his famous book, "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland," as a Christmas gift for a little girl who was the daughter of one of his friends.

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