

The Kings Mountain Herald

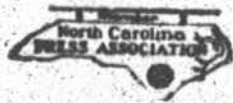
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TODAY'S BIBLE VERSE

Can a man take fire in his bosom, and his clothes not be burned? Proverbs 6:28.

States' Rights

The title of this editorial is, in a way a misleading one, for the Herald does not propose at this late date, to jump on the States' Rights bandwagon, certainly insofar as the party of Governor Strom Thurmond is concerned.

While the Herald does not agree with the good Republican magazines of the East nor some of our nearby dailies that the salvation of the South is to advance Republicanism, it does feel that there is an avenue whereby the South can put itself back into a dominant position in the Democratic party councils.

The method: abandon, throw out, or otherwise do away with the electoral college method of naming presidents.

It is outmoded, coming from a day when the great "democratic" leaders of our time used this method of electing the President as a hedge against the unwanted and as a better means of political control. Worse than that (for present day electors are very unlikely to risk the ire of the people by voting against the mandate) the electoral college means the disfranchising of thousands of voters, not only in North Carolina and the South but all over the nation.

In the recent general election, President Truman's plurality over Governor Dewey in this state was slightly more than 200,000 votes. Governor Dewey having received in excess of 158,000. This means that all voters over 158,001 who voted for Mr. Truman were disfranchised. They voted, but it really did not count. All Mr. Truman needed was 158,001.

At first glance it would appear that the GOP would oppose this needed change en masse. Not true. There are Maine and Vermont, Kansas, the Dakotas, Nebraska, and other states which vote the GOP ticket just as uniformly as the South votes the Democratic ticket. It would give these states a greater voice in the GOP convention.

The real objection would come from the so-called pivotal states like New York, California, Pennsylvania and others which, through the outmoded electoral system, carry convention weight all out of proportion to the actual majority they accord the candidates of either party.

Frequently, a 60-0 gridiron licking by an old rival is what it takes to set the alumni howling and to giving the cash for better representation on the football field. It will be interesting to see what the Republican party does in the next four years. Will its leaders still try to foist on the people something they don't want, or will they have learned their lesson and run Harold Stassen, a man whom they clipped at the convention, in spite of his obvious nation-wide popularity? Many Democrats, even in the thrill of victory, will tell you that Mr. Truman could not have beaten Stassen.

10 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

The doors of Kings Mountain's newest business, Myers' Department Store, opened this morning.
SOCIAL AND PERSONAL
Mrs. W. T. Weir entertained members of the Study club and invited guests Tuesday evening.
Mrs. L. P. Baker, Jr., was honor

Thanksgiving

Next Thursday will be Thanksgiving, and it should be a time for pause to give thanks for the successes of the past year.

The Puritan forefathers are credited with starting the holiday and George Washington made it official from the nation's standpoint.

Some may not feel they have much to be thankful for, but it is likely that this feeling has developed without a careful inventory of the facts.

Most of the world is reasonably peaceable, even though relations are strained. Thanksgiving 1949 will not be like Thanksgiving 1941-1944, when few mothers could put real heart into the day through constant fear that the next minute, or hour, or day, would bring the dreaded message of death from the War or Navy Departments.

Good things we do have. Employment is at record figures, and, though prices are high, some have shown signs of lessening and few people are without the basic necessities of life.

The reason some may not feel thankful is a failure to evaluate the "have" part, without the "wish I had" part. It is human to look on to higher levels of material wealth and well-being, and good too, for satisfaction breeds stagnation. But ambition should not cover up the gains which have been made nor dampen the thankfulness for them.

The prayer for the day should be: "Fill us with spiritual ambition in order to find a means of peace."

The Herald wishes to add its congratulations to the local Red Cross unit and its large corps of volunteer workers who were responsible for the successful first visit of the Red Cross Bloodmobile. Kings Mountain showed a much better giving record than did many of its larger neighboring cities. The donors deserve much credit for their willingness to help others, and so does Chairman Harold Hunnicutt, even though he insists he had little part in making the blood donor appeal a successful one.

The auto inspection lane will be back next week, and motorists who haven't had their cars checked should attend to the matter. While most accidents are still caused by driver error (to wit: carelessness and chance-taking) some are caused by defective mechanisms. From that standpoint, the regular inspection requirements are justifiable, though it seems once a year should be sufficient.

A best bow to Byron Keeter who will take over the reins of the Kings Mountain Kiwanis club in January. Mr. Keeter has a long record of public service in many different phases of activity, and under his leadership the Kiwanis club will certainly be in position to continue its good record of beneficial service to the community.

Items of news taken from the 1937 files of the Kings Mountain Herald.

guests at a lovely party given at the home of her sister, Mrs. Charles Campbell, Friday evening with Mrs. Ermon Martin, Miss Vick Hughes, and Mrs. Campbell as hostesses.
Mr. and Mrs. Kay Dixon of Gastonia were visitors in Kings Mountain Sunday.

martin's medicine

By Martin Harmon
(Containing bits of news, wisdom, humor, and comment. To be taken weekly. Avoid over-dosage.)

Thanksgiving, Etc.

In case you hadn't thought about it, next Thursday is Thanksgiving, and I daresay the youngsters in schools all over the country will be playing John Alden and Frisilla and thinking about turkey and cranberry sauce. While I won't be playing John Alden, I assure you that the other part will be taken care of.

Big question is whether that thinking will do any good or not. Since I am not sufficiently listed as a believer in mental telepathy, I believe that a verbal hint concerning the matter would be in order. I recommend it to all heads of households, though it would also be wise to have the price of a nice turkey hen in the hip pocket and ready for spending. For the wise little woman (is there one who isn't?) will immediately reply with something like this: "You furnish the cash and I'll do the cooking." Expecting the head of the household domestic department to buy a turkey and trimmings out of the regular budget would probably be grounds for divorce, even in South Carolina.

A glance at the calendar further indicates that Thanksgiving is marked in a bright red color like Sunday and the other holidays, and I believe this is the first time in several years the calendar printers have had the nerve to make this stand-out kind of notation on Thanksgiving. After Mr. Roosevelt decreed an earlier Thanksgiving and some states pulled the States' Right act, calendar makers were really in a dither. Though I rather agree with the 55 historians reporting in Life Magazine who listed FDR as a great President, I charge the changing of Thanksgiving business up to him as a real "bust." Again the real blame does not go to him, but to the National Retail Dry Goods association, who recommended the earlier Thanksgiving in the hope of speeding Christmas buying. They figured an extra week would not only speed and increase sales, but would also give them a pretty good idea how much carry-over stuff they needed to mark down before Santa Claus made his appearance. The funny part about it was that the Dry Goods association acted like the 80th Congress. The association, like the 80th Congress, was supposed to be representing its members, and a lot of the members weren't for the change.

But I wish Roosevelt's earlier Thanksgiving had stuck, the way it's worked out. Now we have Thanksgiving normally, as far as the calendar's concerned, but that's as far as it goes. The bigger-city merchants are trying to eliminate Thanksgiving from the scheme of things by rushing the Christmas season. I may be an old foggy but even Adele Mara (she is pretty, isn't she?) couldn't get me excited about seeing Santa Claus on November 17. When I was growing up, November was all Thanksgiving until the turkey was served. Then the merchants spent Friday after decorating for the Christmas season. Life, in a day of increasing specialization is going at too fast a pace, and I for one think it oughta be slowed down. Getting back to a normal Thanksgiving should help a little, and, as a liberal and experienced joined, I would be more than willing to pay the princely sum of 50 cents annual dues to an association devoted to returning Thanksgiving to its former place of eminence. The merchants could at least use the day to say "Thanks in advance for a big Christmas shopping season."

Dotted stuff: There are a lot of appeals currently, the T-B seal sale, library fund, Joyce X-Ray fund, etc., and after Christmas there'll be some more, the March of Dimes, Red Cross, Boy Scouts and more ... but the guy who complains about giving so much usually gets a shock about March income-tax-filing time ... all that sum he's been complaining about giving turns out to be pretty small ... it's somewhat like the fellow, and there are many, who'll spend \$25 in one evening helping to pay off the night club owner's mortgage, then screams and yelps when the church asks an additional five dollar donation for a new organ or point job ... feelings are usually mutual, I suppose ... witness a comment at the Shelby game last Friday night when a long Shelby run was called back on account of Shelby clipping: "That lousy referee must be from Kings Mountain," the Shelby partisan growled ... One reason Dr. Gallup was off-the-beam on his presidential forecast can be found right here in Kings Mountain ... The new member in the ranks of the U. S. Trotting association tried off-and-on for two years to get a

pollster here, but couldn't ... several were recommended for the job, but none accepted in time for the election ... It pays a buck an hour plus expense account (taxi or city bus) and the assignments average 10 hours work a week ... if the pollster covers the community ... This should be in the classified department but Rufe Pifer has a 36-inch band saw for sale ... it's brand new ... after the Truman victory he has no need for it ... I still wonder if the Drive-In Theatre boys on the Gastonia road are pulling the medicinal leg, but they say they've bought "winter model" speaker units which are combination heater and speaker jobs ... what will this scientific age bring up next? ... I would still settle for a good, old-fashioned Thanksgiving, with a full-month build-up, minus Old Nick ... but I guess I'm just getting old.

By Way Of Mention

Lois Beattie
Mr. Carl G. McCraw of Charlotte was a recent guest of Mr. Leo Beattie and daughter, Lois, and Mr. and Mrs. Wright Harmon.

S. N. and Mrs. Charles D. Blanton of Wilmington were recent guests of the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Clark.

Miss Ann Costner spent the week end with relatives in Cherryville.

Mr. Paul Brady of Salisbury spent Sunday with his sister, Mrs. Frank Gladden.

Mr. and Mrs. Troy Wright had as their guests Sunday Mr. and Mrs. Hobart Hipps and children of Beams Mill.

Mr. and Mrs. Coleman Stroupe and Rev. Phillips attended the Western District Missionary convention, in Gastonia Sunday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Cline had as their guests Monday Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Irvin of Statesville.

Mr. and Mrs. Dave Smith, Jr., had as their guests Sunday Mr. and Mrs. Hobart Hipps and children.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Lovelace had as their guests Sunday evening Mr. and Mrs. Erskine Sprouse and children of Gaffney.

Mesdames Coleman Stroupe, Lucie Jenkins, J. W. Phillips, Clyde Hullen-



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der, Elise Davis and Miss Gentie Connor spent Saturday in Gastonia.
Mr. and Mrs. Troy Wright had as their guest recently Mr. Carl Brady of Gastonia.

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