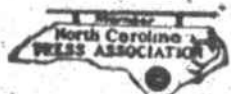


# The Kings Mountain Herald

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 Friday by the Herald Publishing House.

Entered as second class matter at the postoffice at Kings Mountain, N. C., under Act of Congress of March 3, 1873.

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### TODAY'S BIBLE VERSE

A wholesome tongue is a tree of life: but perverseness therein is a breach in the spirit. Proverbs 15:4.

### Full Consideration

Needless to say, the Herald hopes that Highway Commissioner Joseph Graham's promise to give "fullest consideration" to requests to hard-surface the Lake Montonia Road will result in paving of this much-traveled strip of road.

This strip is short but it is painful to travel at about any season of the year. In summer, the dust boils up thick and heavy, and in the winter, the road is truly "mud row."

Traffic on this road is heavier in the summer months, but it also carries a large amount of traffic in the winter, including 10 trips weekly for the school bus which operates on that road.

The above is a prelude to commenting on the interesting discussion between local citizens, Commissioner Graham and staff.

The Commissioner was worried about the impact of rising prices on highway construction in the state, for road-building thus far has been benefited by bids which, generally, have been lower than highway department estimates. This meant more miles of road for the same cash outlay. With a reversal in the trend, it is easy to see why the highway officials are bothered. Obviously, they want to build as many miles of improved roads as possible.

The Commissioner also remarked that preliminary work is underway, leading to a survey for widening of the eight-mile stretch of U. S. 74 to Gastonia. According to Mr. Graham, the anticipated additional two-lane strip, which will make a four-lane boulevard, will parallel the present two-lane road, and will run either north or south of the present roadbed, depending on which location is most feasible from the twin viewpoints of engineering ease and financial savings.

Roadwise, the Kings Mountain area has been behind, and the Herald trusts that the projects discussed with Mr. Graham will be placed on the working agenda.

### Getting Poorer

If one would believe the taxable valuation figures, Kings Mountain is getting poorer as the years pass.

Taxable valuation for 1950 totaled only \$5,501,078, a drop of \$83,827 from 1949, and an even greater drop from the previous year.

It's a reminder that the present method of assessing properties isn't very accurate, or equitable, for certainly Kings Mountain citizens showed property increases during the two years just past, even though the books don't show it.

The comparison of figures is quite interesting, and shows that there has been a "creeping" gain in realty values, again hardly indicative of the actual amount of construction that has been going on.

Another interesting figure is that for motor vehicle listings, about the only category, incidentally, which is listed accurately and equitably year after year. Motor vehicles are listed by the "blue book," which means that wholesale market values at the time of listing are used. It is, of course, interesting to note that Kings Mountain citizens owned motor vehicles worth \$593,102 in January of 1950. That is a sizeable amount of rolling stock.

Obvious conclusion to the valuation business is that the county is long overdue on the business of revaluing its properties. But that statement had been made so frequently, from so many quarters, and without result, that it appears the same trend will continue.

Actually, it makes not a great amount of difference that the city appears to be getting poorer, though it poses some headaches for city officials with budget problems. The most unfortunate aspect of the situation is that some property owners are being penalized in comparison to their neighbors.

### 10 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

Items of news taken from the 1940 files of the Kings Mountain Herald.

Kings Mountain Lions were evening Lion Mike Milam told of given a first hand report of the trip to the Cuban Capitol; trip four members made to the Tom Pulton reported on the International Convention in Havana, "day-life" while on the island, George Mauney gave a detailed following the supper in the account of the night life during Woman's Club building Tuesday their stay in Cuba, and Jimmy Burns told of the return trip to The Best Town in The State. Mr. and Mrs. W. K. Crook were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Mauney at Lake Waccamaw during the past weekend.

### martin's medicine

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

### Gas

One of the principal developments of the machine age is the use of gas, in one form or another, and there are some several kinds.

Most popular and customary thought which pops in the mind when one mentions gas is gasoline, the fuel which propels automobiles down the highway at speeds over and above the call of safety. Use of this fuel to propel motors has increased by leaps and bounds over the years since the first horseless carriages came into being, and now it is used for the airplane, tractors, and heavy equipment of all kinds. It once was said that an army traveled on its stomach, meaning that unless there was sufficient food, an army was no good. While the statement still stands, the importance of gasoline to an army is almost as important as food. Mobility is the key, and many a fighting unit during World War II found it necessary to stop and wait until gasoline supplies caught up with it.

Importance of gasoline to this community will be noted in the announcement of taxable valuations for 1950, when Kings Mountain citizens listed nearly \$600,000 worth of motor vehicles. They wouldn't be worth a dime if gasoline wasn't available.

But there are many kinds of gas man has put to use. There is the relatively inactive neon gas which lights the fancy signs on stores and business houses, there is manufactured gas used for cooking and heating, and, of course, natural gas, which is much in the news these days, what with the natural gas pipe line heading rapidly toward New York, and with several different companies fighting to determine which one shall serve what territory.

It would be amiss not to mention another kind of gas that has been in use since time immemorial. This is the kind of gas which is known as "wind," "hot air," and any of several other apt titles. "Gas" specialists are to be found at any and all times, as the pages of history duly record.

But the natural gas business was the original impetus for this piece, due to the medicinal department's recent touting of a couple of hours on the broadcast of an Atlanta gas engineer. His name was Hall and he was most enthusiastic about the gas business. I happened into City Hall when Engineer Hall was "broadcasting" to Manley Fuller, the new city administrator. Actually, the engineer was explaining to Mr. Fuller the advantages which would come to Kings Mountain should the city take on the job of natural gas distribution. In turn, the engineer was trying to sell his firm for a surveying job.

The discussion was most interesting to me, for I know absolutely nothing about natural gas, except that I've heard of it blowing up and therefore always mentally noted that I'd continue to do my cooking with electricity. However, a gas enthusiast will quickly tell you that your fears are silly and that use of gas is not only cheap and clean, but also safe. I believe the engineer said that natural gas is non-poisonous, thus will not asphyxiate those careless folk who leave a unit valve open in a closed room.

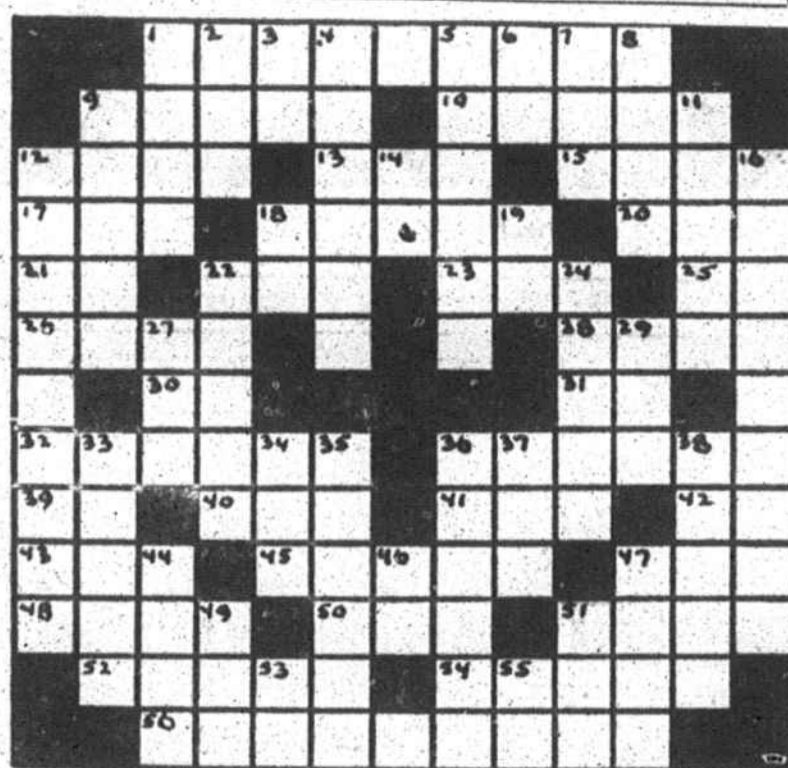
Mr. Hall said he'd been checking on use of gas in cities getting the service for many years and that the first major use of the fuel was for heating. Gas is supposed to be much cleaner than other fuels. Later on folks start using gas for almost everything, for cooking, for heating water and for running refrigerators.

Within the near future, Mr. Hall expects to talk with the city board concerning possible use of gas in Kings Mountain, with the idea that the city would do the distributing job, just as it does electric power. I asked him to estimate in round figures what the cost of a gas distribution system would be and he thought about \$375,000 for a city the size of Kings Mountain.

Many local folk, we understand, are already gas enthusiasts, for several have spoken about the hope that Kings Mountain will be served off the pipe line now being run. It has an interesting angle from the city's standpoint, for it is possible that distribution of gas here would slow the rate of increase in use of power. Some think the city should distribute all the utilities.

Gas is interesting, but I'm not sure I'm ready as yet to swap off electricity for it. Of course the department couldn't operate at all without the "hot air" type.

### CROSSWORD By A. C. Gordon



- ACROSS**
- 1—Plant mechanics
  - 9—To lift off superfluous branches or shoots
  - 10—A contrivance
  - 11—Roman numeral
  - 12—Contentment
  - 13—Educated Agricultural Bureau (abbrev.)
  - 14—Minted plants
  - 15—Meadow
  - 21—An authorized doctor's assistant (abbrev.)
  - 22—Female deer
  - 23—Grassland
  - 25—Two things of a kind (abbrev.)
  - 26—Vessel for heating liquids
  - 28—Kind of harrow
  - 30—Old Ivy (abbrev.)
  - 31—United Irs (abbrev.)
  - 32—Mushrooms
  - 34—Flowers of Holland
  - 35—Preposition
  - 40—Young Aster Enterprises (abbrev.)
  - 41—To soak flat
  - 42—A plural suffix
  - 43—To augment
  - 45—To scatter seeds again
- In the Garden**
- 47—Personal pronoun
  - 48—A cultivated lilacaceous plant
  - 50—Moisture on the plants
  - 51—Furnishes with strength
  - 52—To elevate
  - 54—Each, without exception
  - 56—Common yellow flower
- DOWN**
- 1—To dig about in the garden
  - 2—Abbreviation for a month
  - 3—Registered Nurse (abbrev.)
  - 4—Wield the spade
  - 5—Type of literature (pl.)
  - 6—Comparative suffix
  - 7—Edge
  - 8—Important agent of plant growth
  - 9—A young tree, shrub, or herb
  - 11—Scottish turnip
  - 12—A kind of plant that lives from year to year
  - 14—Roman numeral
  - 16—This flower was named for a mythological youth who fell in love with his own reflection
  - 18—Mythological maiden
  - 19—Compass direction
  - 22—The flower that "never tells"
  - 24—Mature being
  - 25—Corrective of neither
  - 29—Roman numeral
  - 31—Below
  - 34—Listening device
  - 35—Germinated flowers
  - 36—Gardening implement
  - 37—Union of Educated Waitresses (abbrev.)
  - 38—Genus of plants of the crowfoot family
  - 44—Lifeless
  - 46—Compass direction
  - 47—Spun wool
  - 49—Knowledge of Internal Agriculture (abbrev.)
  - 51—Form of the Latin "mine"
  - 53—Chemical symbol for stannum
  - 55—Roman numeral

See The Want Ad Section For This Week's Completed Puzzle

### Other Editor's Viewpoints

#### OPPORTUNITY ON THE FARM (Forest City Courier)

Senator Clinton P. Anderson, of New Mexico, a former Secretary of Agriculture tells college graduates that they will have no shortage of opportunity on the nation's farms where there exists a great field for practical endeavor.

This is an interesting statement because many persons have been under the impression that agricultural activity fails to present opportunities sufficient to attract the younger generation. While there are exceptions in Rutherford county and all over the nation, the general impression is that the farmer has a hard life, beset by the perils of weather and with not much promise of a competency in connection with financial rewards.

It is encouraging to hear the opinion of Mr. Anderson. It tends to confirm the belief that agriculture, like other economic enterprises, offers improving rewards for intelligent, hard-working and industrious individuals.

#### NOT TRUE AMERICANISM (Bladen Journal)

It is not difficult to conceive of what manner of patriotism possesses people in this country who will strike and threaten to strike when such action is bound to retard the war efforts of the United States when we have men fighting and dying on the battle fronts. Surely it is a brand of patriotism that would not stand up under an acid test.

Recently there was a strike of needed workers in Alaska, a strategic point, while war raged in Korea. Then there was another strike of workers at the atomic plant operated by our govern-

ment, and at a time when full production should be maintained. Other strikes are threatened by meat plant workers, railroad workers and other transportation fields. Few things are more important in time of war than a smooth operation of the transportation systems of the nation.

We have always thought there was a better plan for settling labor-capital disputes than calling a strike that would affect the economy and well-being of all the people of the nation, even in time of peace, and surely a better plan should be found in time of war. We cannot help but wonder what would happen in Russia if any group attempted to strike and delay the military efforts in that country. But this is a democracy, which gives freedoms that no other form of government gives its subjects—freedoms that many Americans seem not to fully appreciate.

Surely there should be no strikes that are calculated to thwart our efforts to suppress Communism and its threatened spread over the earth. There is no true Americanism shown by any group that would hinder the United Nations, including the United States, during the present crises. At least, that's our belief.

One person is being killed every 10 hours in North Carolina in a highway accident, one person is being injured every 47 minutes and a highway accident is occurring every 25 minutes, according to the North Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles.

One-fourth of the highway accidents in North Carolina involve farmers and their families. The North Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles says that a highway accident can wipe out a farmer's profit for the entire year.

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