The Kings Mountain Herald



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THREE MONTHS-75e

Ivan Weaver

TODAY'S BIBLE VERSE

And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their sins. St. Matthew 1:21

Christmas

On Monday, the world celebrates Christmas, the birth of the Prince of Peace, and the celebration this year will be the most sober one the world has known since Christmas 1944.

On that Christmas, Allied troops were trapped in the Battle of the Bulge, their supplies low and their air support grounded by bad weather. It was the last big effort of the German army to prevent defeat. Even then, the end for the Hitler regime had already begun, and the worry and anxiety concerning the troops in Europe was an individual situation, Regardless of the outcome of that battle, the Allies were going to win the war.

This Christmas will be another of anxiety. Already, American troops are in battle in a undeclared war which started out to be a police action. The situation is not an individual one but an international one, with none knowing what the future holds. Will it be all-out war? Will the United States again be able to outstrip aggressor nations in production and tactics? Many people are already resigned to the fact that the world is again on the verge of war. Their question it, "When?" The answers mean as much around the globe, in Germany, then Europe, which would be the point of immediate attack, in the Middle East, also a focal point of possible attack, and virtually all over the world.

It is an unfortunate and tragic commentary on mankind that such a situation exists. Yet it does exist, and history reveals that passiveness, appeasement and turning the other cheek does not check power-hungry individuals and groups who believe in taking by force what they cannot get by other means.

How long will it be until historians can record a Christmas season marked by good will between all people and nations, as they customarily can between families and nearby friends? There seems no plausible answer.

The tenor of the letter of E. A. Hughes. director of motor passenger transport for the North Carolina Utilities Commission indicates that he was not aware of the physical arrangements, in respect to traffic, of the area around the Morrison building which was proposed for a bus station. Mr. Hughes, it will be recalled, approved for a bus station in the Mc-Mackin building on West King street over the objections of the city board, which contended the site was too far from the center of the community. By closing the station, the bus operators admitted that the city was right. Mr. Hughes was right as far as the physical facilities were concerned, but, as in the recent instance, did not take into consideration the many factors which must be satisfactory if a station is to be operated to the convenience of the full community. It appears that the city should seek a formal hearing before the commission on the bus station matter at the earliest possible date.

Unquestionably, the address here on January 23 of E. Z. Jones, state defence director, will be heard with interest, and with much more interest than it would have been received two months ago. Mr. Jones is expected to outline plans for civilian defense operations, and these suggestions come at a time when there is less feeling in this nation than ever before that the great ocean boundaries preclude enemy attack on the United States mainland.

Our congratulations to Rev. P. D. Patrick, who has been elected president of the Kings Mountain Ministerial association for the coming year.

The Emergency

President Truman was most impressive in his address to the nation last Friday night, in which he informed the people what the government expects to do in the next few months toward increasing the military establishment and the production of planes, tanks, guns and other implements of war.

His voice indicated his deep awareness of the crisis at hand for it was most sober and most humble.

Few are likely to snipe at his declaration that a national emergency exists, and principal criticism voiced of the address is that the President and his government are not yet going far enough in enacting controls over the economy. These question the desirability of partial economic controls, feeling that partial controls will not get the job done.

Prices have been escalating rapidly since the outbreak of the Korean War, in the usual vicious spiral. While the first rash of price increases was hardly justified, later increases were. It is primertype economics that increased costs raise the price of the product.

There are going to be less automobiles and other civilian-use products which require steel. There will be labor shortages. Yet few are complaining. They feel that the time has come for action.

President Truman's address certainly reflected the majority of opinion in this nation today, and he was never more correct than when he said the success or failure of the re-armament program depends on the willingness of individual Americans to make the necessary sacrifices. It means less luxuries, more taxes, and hard work for the individual citizen.

The people of America have never led down in time of stress. Nor will they this time.

The increase in telephone rates will take a bigger bite out of Kings Mountain pockets, but, effective January 1st, it will be possible for all telephone subscribers to call Shelby and Grover without charge. On the completion of certain equipment installations, it will be possible to call Bessemer City without charge. Obviously, the upward trend of prices after the outbreak of the Korean war strengthened the request of Southern Bell for price increases, though the request was filed prior to June 25th. The North Carolina Utilities commission is yet to rule on a supplementary request. None likes to have to pay more, but most telephone subscribers, once in the habit of using the telephone, will agree that have the service is worth the price, even at increased rates.

The suggestion of the ministers of the city that each citizen make a daily prayer for peace seems quite in order. Most people do not pray enough, but there are few, at some time in their existence, who do not find themselves in situations which are completely beyond human control. It appears that world affairs have reached that stage. As the ministers suggest, "Let Us All Pray".

The annual audit of local school funds, published last week, emphasizes among other things that public education is big business. While the surplus balance was listed in excess of \$711,000, it is doubted that the four plants of the city system could be replaced for anything near that figure. The schools are important assets, both capitally and functionally, and the citizens should never treat their schools in niggardly fashion. At the same time, they should receive full value for money spent, and the audit report indicates they are getting it.

YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

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

Kings Mountain, The Best last Friday afternoon. Town In The State, lived up to Mrs. M. L. Plonk entertained J. C. Smathers. its reputation during the recent members of the Thursday after- Ladd Hamrick, Jr., D. F. Hord, Red Cross Roll Call, Kings Moun- noon Book Club and a few in- Jr., J. C. Bridges, Hal Olive, Jones tain citizens were asked to con- vited guests at her home last Fortune, and John Hicks, stutribute \$2,500 in the annual call week. to raise funds for the Red Cross Members of the Study Club have arrived home for the holfand for welfare work here.

and William Herndon, pupils of J. R. Davis on Mountain Street, the Christmas holidays Martha Mrs. J. E. Herndon, rendered a Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Patterson Lou Mauney, Clara Plonk, Jacprogram of music at the home of and Miss Dorothy Patterson queline Rawles, Edgar Cooper, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Summers spent Surday in Charlotte where and Dick Baker.

and a number of edditional days.

they were guests of Mr. and Mrs.

dents at Wake Forest College

Misses Virginia and Frances guests were entertained Tuesday The following students of Le-Summers, Frank Summers, Jr., afternoon at the home of Mrs. noir Rhyne College are home for

martin's medicine

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

It's Christmas

The Christmas season has definitely arrived the best I can tell and the Christmas spirit is definitely in evidence in the countenances of almost everyone. Of course, the youngsters have been evidencing the Christmas-spirit for weeks, and there is a real question whether some of them can wait the remaining three days for Old Nick to make his trip down the respective chimneys.

Older folk somehow don't get charged up until the lastminute, probably because they're mighty busy most of the time and have the habit of putting first things first. Christmas doesn't become the "firstest" until about 10 days before the date, then everyone suddenly awakens to the fact that Christmas is almost here and charges around in high gear, (or "drive" as the hydramatic boys would say) completing shopping lists and doing the other necessary tasks of the Christmas season.

Naturally, there are some exceptions to the rule, and I have had occasion to turn green with envy on several occasions when someone would remark. "I'm all ready."

In the barber shop the other day, I asked the routine question of Baxter Wright and he replied with calm and equanimity that he was all set. The answer was almost too calm. I asked, "Baxter are you telling me the truth or a black lie?" It was the latter. Men just don't get ready for Christmas early.

Last week we had extra good reason to know that the Christmas season had definitely arrived here at the Herald. We had been coasting along in fine manner, with little in the way of troubles, when our annual Christmas-season mechanical ailments began. There hasn't been a Christmas in six that some machine didn't act up with the extra strain of Christmas business, and this year proved to be no exception. The press sounded like it was going to fly apart and locating the trouble required enough time to make the paper come out several hours over schedule.. But it wouldn't have been Christmas around here without it and we probably wouldn't have had our Yule conference with Machinist Bill Simpson. Most folks wouldn't think our conferences very important, but to us, at the moment the Simpson-Herald conferences are more important than anything Mr. Truman and could cook up.

The Herald reported last Friday that the Christmas buying rush would get underway on Friday, and evidently the prediction was borne out. It was hard to find a parking space Friday afternoon, and one mer-chant remarked, "People must have quit doing much shopping before the last minute." I suppose there are several reasons for this, among them the fact that goods are plentiful again and most people figure they won't be disappointed by waiting. Another would be the requirement for amassing the necessary wherewithal with which to buy. Both are reasonable reasons.

I suppose almost everyone has managed to get his per-sonal letter off to Santa Claus. One fellow remarked that the heavy mail toward the North Pole was the reason the train-men took a few days off.

There are several big requests the community might ask, among them a bus station, a revamped sewage disposal system, an improved ball yard, and a recreation center. If 1951 could bring even a start on these needs, Kings Mountain would be in much better shape for future Christmases and might even be in position to tell Santa Claus to take care of the other little boys and girls for a few seasons.

The weather, too, has contributed to the influx of the Christmas spirit. With several weeks of nippish weather in the background, Kings Mountain can appreciate more fully the snow scenes on the Christmas cards. And, of course, it's just possible a little snow could fall to make a real white Christmas. I don't remember too many white Christmass. too many white Christmases but snow does add something

to the enjoyment of the season.

I-c

There are only three shopping days left, I better purchase a supply of Hopalong Cassidy hats, belts and guns before Old Nick exercises his priority and takes 'em all Man

CROSSWCRD . . By A. C. Gordon

Flora and Fauna

Lamprey A kind of fruit made

DOWN

41—Measure of length 43—Greek letter 44—Plural pronoun 46—Was situated 46—Trailing Vine (abbrev.) 49—Apprehends 52—Lieutenant (abbrev.) 53—Final 55—Lampres ACROSS 1-Popular garden 1—Popular garden vegetable 6—Unpopular prairle animal 11—Above 12—Egg cells 13—Dry 14—Part of verb "to be" 15—Noun suffix 16—Male domestic animal 17—Correlative of "or" (abbrev.) 18—Annoys 20—A kind of European apple tree

into a popula 58-A tree (pl.) 59-Pertaining to apple tree

22—Lawful

24—To gratify

26—Roman num 27-Only this, and nothing

-American birds -To state -Prefix denoting more
29—Past
30—Powner English royal
family
32—Syllable applied to
sixth musical note.
33—Situated in the middle
35—Mechanical mea.

"down"

4-An orchid-like flower

5-Art of growing plants

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

Other Editor's Viewpoints

A LOVED CUSTOM

(Bladen Journal)

by Louis Prang, lithographer and or quarter) has shrunk in about craftsman of Roxbury, Mass., in that proportion since 1940. In ad-1875 and it has been interesting dition, he would owe six cents to watch the different designs interest, taking a rate of 6 per that have become popular down cent for 10 years (and not comhe years.

Over 25,000 different designs year and the traditional Christ. cents to spare. But if they were mas symbols are always the 10-cent root beers, the poor felmost popular.

For instance, the motifs are science. holly and poinsettia, winter scenes, bold Merry Christmas

mendous upsurge in the popularity of truly reverent Christmas bought with the \$5 thencards, Historically, Christmas cards carrying scenes reflecting the true spirit of the Holy Season were not introduced until many years after the first card was created. And for a long time, the so-called religious Christmas greetings were used by a limited number. But card printers tell us over 300 million religious greetings have been produced for the 1950 deluge. It is also worth noting that

some of the Christmas cards of top." recent years have bordered on the fantastic, such as new cards with sound effects, movable gadgets and special construction to permit hanging on Christmas

In the span of a single lifetime, Christmas cards have developed from an immigrant's dream to one of the nation's most universal and well beloved Christmas customs.

PAID IN FULL? (Christian Science Monitor)

In York, Nebraska, a druggist received an anonymous letter containing 25 cents. The writer said he had ordered two root beers about 10 years ago and shipped out without paying. Here is something of an intri-

cate problem for the arithmetic class. Assuming that the drinks

consumed were nickel root beers the patron now would owe the druggist 17 cents instead of 10 The first American Christmas cents, since the puschasing powcards were offered to the public er of the dollar (or nickle, dime pounding).

19-Well-known American insect of the grass-hopper family
21-Large American animal of the cat family (pl.)
23-Legendary Spaniah hero

hero 25—Man's nickname 28—Rodent 30—Chemical symbol for

31—Ruminant Orders
(abbrev.)
33—Popular trailing shrub
plant
34—Inside
36—Prefix denoting two
37—A kind of hunting dog
42—Elliptical
43—Masculine title
45—Thoroughfare
(abbrev.)
47—Juice of a certain
plant used as tonic
49—Consumed
50—College degree
51—Southern Steamships
(abbrev.)

tantalum 31-Ruminant Orders

On this basis the culprit has were created for public use this paid his debt in full with two low, whether he realizes it or not, still has something on his con-

This class now will turn to the titles, Christmas candles and question of whether the thrifty many with Santa Claus, himself. young man who deposited \$5 at We note there has been a tre- buy as good a hat with the proupound interest in 1930 can ceeds now as he could have

Santa's Requests

Santa Claus still gets letters from youngsters with the same cherished requests-bicycles and dolls. But last year a child wanted a live cow. He told a department store Santa

Another kid wanted a new daddy because hers was "wearing out on

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