

The Kings Mountain Herald

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TODAY'S BIBLE VERSE

Through wisdom is an house builded; and by understanding is it established. Proverbs 24:3.

Postal Changes

Changes effective January 1 in mailing regulations governing parcel post have already proved inconvenient to some Kings Mountain business firms.

Because Kings Mountain's postoffice is one of first-class rating, smaller-size and lighter-weight limits governing parcel post mailings are now in effect. Were Kings Mountain's postoffice of lower classification, larger packages could be mailed.

As it happens, Kings Mountain postoffice only recently returned to first-class status, the status being adjudged on basis of postal receipts during a calendar year.

Under the parcel post curtailment, it is quite likely, local postal officials think, that 1952 receipts will drop and that the postoffice will then return to second-class status. During the following year, if the current regulations hold, larger packages could be accepted.

What reason was assigned by the authors of the new postal regulations are not fully known, though it is assumed that cost of handling might be one of them. The lobbying division of the trucking and railway express companies also conceivably can be credited with doing for their firms a good job of work.

On the latter point, few would have a quarrel, for it is a fact that postal handling of large parcels constitutes government competition with free enterprise, which many deplore.

However, the double standard arrangements seems quite silly, just as does the ten percent surcharge, which will now be assessed if a person buys as many as 50 postal cards. He can buy 49 posts for 98 cents. But 50 postal cards will cost him \$1.10.

The fact of postal rate increases is quite understandable to anyone. But the variable parcel post regulations and the postal card surcharge indicate the author of these changes must have had a bad dream.

Our best wishes to Mrs. John L. Lewis, the new secretary of the Kings Mountain Merchants Association. The duties and responsibilities of this position are considerable and their proper discharge not only benefits the members of the association, but the community as well. One desirable aim of the association should always be ways and means of bringing more consumers into the community to satisfy their buying needs. Unquestionably, many individual merchants have personal ideas on the subject and they do not want them patented. Some of these ideas would be more fruitful if promoted jointly by a full group, rather than one individual. Many merchants feel a minimum of three or four city-wide trade promotions should be conducted each year. The dates should be set well in advance, for considerable planning on the part of individual firms participating is necessary if the full benefits of the work is to be obtained.

As the Kings Mountain Kiwanis Club begins a New Year with a new group of officers at the helm, it would be amiss to fail to note that the Kiwanis Club Year of 1951 was a prosperous, active one. Full credit is due L. E. Abbott, retiring president, and his hard working directors and club members.

Brandon Hodges, state treasurer, has announced his candidacy for reelection. By the announcement he eliminates himself from the potential field of gubernatorial candidates, which, to date, still includes only one major candidate, W. B. Umstead, of Durham. Trial balloons for sundry and several potentials have as yet failed to generate enough fire to smoke out additional aspirants, and time is fleeting.

10 YEARS AGO Items of news about Kings Mountain area people and events THIS WEEK taken from the 1942 files of the Kings Mountain Herald.

The first air raid signal ever to be sounded in Kings Mountain will blast forth Saturday at noon according to C. E. Neisser, Local Air Raid Warden. Messers R. C. Gold and Elmo Bridges have purchased from Glee Bridges and David Hamrick their hardware store in Bessemer City. Social and Personal Awedding of wide social interest throughout the Carolinas was that of Miss Elizabeth Neill and Jack Bernard Fortune, both of this place, the ceremony taking place on Tuesday afternoon at 4:30 o'clock at Central Methodist Church with the pastor, Rev. J. G. Winkley officiating. Mrs. Hunter, Hudson entertained member of the Fortune-Neill bridal party at a cake cutting at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Fortune on Gold St. following the rehearsal last Wednesday night. Mr. and Mrs. O. W. Myers entertained the seventeen members of the Myers Department Store staff at abuffet supper at their home on Piedmont Ave. during the holidays. Mr. W. A. Ware was complimented on the occasion of his 80th birthday when his daughter, Mrs. J.ohn McGill entertained at dinner in his honor at her home on Gold St.

MARTIN'S MEDICINE By Martin Harmon. Ingredients: bits of news, wisdom, humor, and common sense. Directions: Take weekly, if possible, but avoid overdosage.

Statement Time

The kind of statement referred to in the title of this piece is not the ordinary, run-of-the-mill monthly kind, commonly known as an invitation to pay, though, I am sure, with Christmas just past, the sum total of such statements passing through the postal windows and presented in person set some kind of high record.

The kind I refer to is the annual variety, which sets forth in detail what income came from where and how much, if any of it, was left after the monthly type of statements received a response.

Annual statements can look very pretty, or they can look downright mean. The latter brand is much harder to prepare than the former kind, for just about everyone. Even the stenographers have to switch the button to the red side of the typewriter ribbon, and the operators and managers have to prepare appended statements as to the "why's" and "wherefores" of the glaring use of red.

There is something funny about boards of directors. The only color they like at all is black, and the more the merrier. A board of directors, happy after a prosperous, black-ink year, can be mighty sour by the time another year and another report rolls around.

So it goes.

They say its an ill wind that blows none any good. Thus we have the income tax wind. Unquestionably many small business men never bothered to assess their previous operations along the fine toothcomb of an annual statement before Uncle Sam began taking such a heavy bite. Now the statement has become a pre-requisite. It is quite conceivable that the change brought shocks in many directions. Some must have found themselves surprised that they had made any profit at all, and others that they hadn't. Yes, for better or worse, Uncle Sam has made bookkeepers out of all of us.

An integral part of a statement is the division called inventory. Taking inventory is quite popular at this season of the year, beginning January 1, and herein lies one of the big keys to black or red ink, along with those other integral ones: cash-on-hand, cash-in-bank, etc. Like everything else, most business men want just enough inventory, not too little nor too much, though it is somewhat hard to define how much is too little or how much is too much. Generally speaking, most retail merchants wouldn't mind finding themselves plumb sold out on the morning of December 26 for their big selling season, is just ended. On the other hand, if they're sold down low, they'll get excited, man the telephone and order out some more stuff pronto.

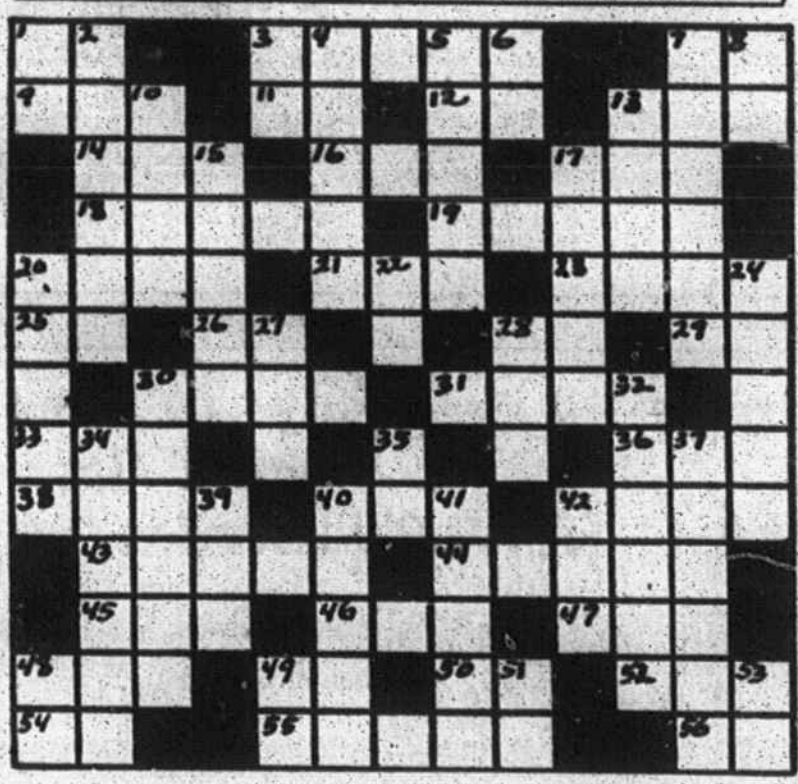
The physical job of "taking inventory" is a detailed one and a task which most persons indicate they would like to leave to someone else. The most successful method, I am told, is a two-person team arrangement, with one to count and one to write-down. I am glad I do not have the inventory taking job in a hardware or five-and-dime store. Just how all those bolts and nuts are counted, I don't know. Maybe the hardware boys count bolts and nuts to go to sleep, rather than sheep.

Charlie Blalock employed extra help last week to take his inventory, his young daughter, Frieda, and her friend Miss Joyce Dixon, when Charlie indicated the many-small-item sardine and canned fish department was the starting point, he almost had a strike on his hands.

There are all kinds of statements, of course, and the large manufacturing companies spend quite a large sum annually in publishing their statements after they are compiled. There are several reasons for making a nice, fancy job of the annual accounting. The statements go to stockholders, to banks (where it is always good business to be on cordial terms with the loanin' man), to various and sundry other individuals and institutions. As Burlington Mills' public relations director John Harden says, it's always good business to put one's best foot forward, be it the foot of man, woman, child or corporate person.

Women should be better inventory-takers and statement-makers than men, for they get a lot of practice. As any hus-

CROSSWORD By A. C. Gordon



- ACROSS: 1-Musical sign for 'very soft'; 2-Domestic cleaner-upper; 3-Ancient sun god; 4-Floor shampoo; 11-Spanish affirmative; 12-Kind of house current; 13-This comes with corn; 14-Kitchen dripper; 15-Fruit stone; 16-Snake; 17-Aromatic seed for brewing; 18-Essential part of the starry; 21-Negative; 22-Profile; 23-Exclamation; 24-Prefix meaning 'good; advantageous'; 25-Man's nickname; 26-Thoroughfare (abbrev); 30-Queries; 31-Famous clean-up-the-kitchen dish; 32-Cooking utensil; 33-Exit; 34-Settles down.

Viewpoints of Other Editors

FOLLOWING ONE RULE BELMONT BANNER

As we start to embark on a new year we can easily make our own life of others more pleasant by following one simple rule. Yes, a simple rule but one that has been proven and handed down to us for generations. True, it is a hard rule, for many and one that not all of us have been able to follow. Yet there are people who follow it and those people lead a grand life. A life full of everything that many of us seek, including happiness and contentment. The rule is the "Golden Rule." We all know it but we can't all follow it—do unto others as you would have them do unto you.

The Golden Rule covers a great deal of territory. Frankly it is an almost impossibility for a mortal to follow it during these days and times. He can't follow it because the basic training necessary to build an individual into such a character is just not being taught in the homes today as it should be. Your father, and my father, set up the basic principles to make it easy to follow the Golden Rule had we carried out that training when we left from under the wings of his, and our mother's protection and guidance.

Christmas has past. Just frankly speaking we wonder how many War Bonds we would have to give away as prizes if we had offered one for every family who knelt in prayer, as a group, on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day. Kneel and offered thanks to God for what we have in the way of freedom, material items and just being alive with our loved ones. Our assumption is that it would not have taken a wealthy man to buy the Bonds in this community, and we feel that ours is a better community than most any other in the United States.

The trouble today is that no one is satisfied. All of us, or at least the great majority of us are living better than we have ever before. We have more comforts, we have less tiring duties and jobs than our fathers had. We have better medical facilities. In fact everything is better. Yet we are prone to complain, prone to find fault if everything is not entirely to our liking or convenience. We forget past hardships and we are definitely not thankful enough that we are better off than any other people in the entire world. Let's try to follow the Golden Rule for the coming year. Let's try to quit making complaints about shortcomings and "short-ages" that we would like to have and be thankful for what we do have. There is certainly no family in this community that is not better off, than a family in some other community in this world. Be thankful, be grateful to God for what is ours during the 1952 and we will be a happier people and happier community.

A POLIO REMINDER VALDESE NEWS

Once again it comes time for thinking about polio in Burke county. It's rather pointless to outline the entire drive and all that to the people of Valdese. All of you are familiar with the word polio, its results, and the annual campaign conducted each January toward raising the necessary funds for supporting the county chapter of the National Infantile Paralysis Foundation.

The outlook this year is grave—simply that. If the trend of polio occurrences holds true, 1952 will be another severe year. Support you give toward the drive will make it less a catastrophe. Just keep that in mind—and remember too that you or your family may be stricken this year.

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What Extra Service Means At King's For more than 28 years, Kings Mountain automobile owners have been getting extra service at G. W. King's Garage. This extra service takes many forms. But the extra service we want to remind motorists of today is one we consider highly important. Most motorists are not mechanics, and when they bring in their car they say, "It doesn't run right. Find out what's wrong and fix it." This means our mechanics must take the car out on the road and give it a driving test. Nothing unusual about that, of course, but the unusual part is the \$40,000 LIABILITY INSURANCE POLICY which covers your automobile and its owner while it's being road-tested. In other words, should accident occur, G. W. KING'S GARAGE HAS PLENTY OF INSURANCE PROTECTION on YOUR automotive investment.

FOR EXTRA SERVICE IT'S G. W. KING'S GARAGE PHONE 60

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