

The Kings Mountain Herald

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TODAY'S BIBLE VERSE

In him was life, and the life was the light of men. St. John 1:4.

Telephone Service

There was little detail in the recent resolution by the city board of commissioners in which the city fathers plan to seek better telephone service for the community.

It was not stated what was meant by "better" or "improved", but, in view of the personalities involved and statements of the past, it can be assumed that the effort will be directed toward obtaining dial service.

Already, telephone company officials have told Kings Mountain folk that dial service is eventually to be inaugurated, but they have always refused to even indicate a date more accurately than "a few years." It has also been indicated that Kings Mountain will be among the last cities in Southern Bell's North Carolina operation to become dial-equipped, due to the fact of ample space in the present exchange.

This paper hasn't previously been too excited about obtaining dial service, figuring fairly good service is now provided, and having been informed by citizens of dial-equipped communities that dial has its operating troubles, too. Dial does eliminate human error, which is constantly charged, sometimes unreasonably, to the hard-working telephone operators. The telephone operator has long been a favorite whipping girl of irate mothers, hen-pecked husbands, and over-wrought executives.

But the number of telephones continues to mount here, and, with rural additions, now tops 2,000. It means that many four-digit numbers are in the books, and this newspaper had occasion to call a number, fairly recently, which went something like this: 1172-L-J-3. Needless to say, the operator had to get a couple of repeats when the number didn't answer immediately. She couldn't remember that long digit.

Indeed, it does seem about time for Southern Bell to come through with a modern dial exchange.

The First National Bank spent several dollars last week in purchasing a full-page advertisement in this newspaper to remind Kings Mountain citizens that their own home-town stores could fill almost any Christmas stocking not only to the brim, but with gifts that please, and at cheaper prices. It was a nice gesture by the bank to its neighbors, the merchants, and the contentions were eternally true. Incidentally, the advertisement was bought, not sold.

Plan to attend the many Christmas programs being presented at the churches of the community. There's no better way to get imbued with the spirit of Christmas than in hearing the lovely Christmas music and in listening to the re-telling of the Christmas story.

Buy a city tag, send in a check for Christmas seals, make a donation to the band fund, leave a can or two of food-stuff for the Jaycee Christmas cheer baskets. Plenty to do in December, and all of it should be done.

Clarence Carpenter is doing a good job of collecting city taxes, his recent report to the city commissioners shows. That's as it should be, for unpaid tax bills not only short the city of needed funds, but are unfair to the vast majority of citizens who pay their bills when they come due.

10 YEARS AGO Items of news about Kings Mountain area people and events THIS WEEK taken from the 1943 files of the Kings Mountain Herald.

Members of the Lions Club will meet this evening in Mountain View Hotel for their annual Christmas program. Lions Charles Moss and Charles Stowe will be in charge of the program which begins at 7:30.

Kings Mountain stores to accommodate Santa Claus shoppers will begin staying open until 6:30 p. m. Monday according to announcement by H. L. Ruth, Merchants Association president.

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL
Members of the Senior Woman's club met for their initial quarterly dinner meeting in the Woman's clubhouse Friday night.

MARTIN'S MEDICINE

By Martin Harmon
Ingredients: Bits of souls, wisdom, humor, and common sense.
Directions: Take weekly, if possible, but avoid overdosage.

I could call this piece "Report on Abstinence", or "One Year Without the Weed—Mostly", and, needless to say, occasioned by the recent furore over the discovery that Old Demon Nicotine, or the tar in the Nicotine weed, CAN produce cancer of the lungs.

The report is duck soup for a sidewalk medicine man like myself, harrassed as I am by the previously advertised and aforementioned cessation from years of fume and smoke.

While I have occasionally broken the pledge, have run afoul of the comfortable looking pictures in the advertisements, consumption of cigarettes and related tobacco products in this department has nose-dived worse than the stock market in the 1929 crash.

The little memory book of accounts reveals the purchase of only one pack of those tasty, mighty fine tobaccos in the past year, and I threw it away after two or three stilted puffs. Otherwise, I occasionally succumb to inselge glitter, rather than taste and enjoyment, and light a big, black cigar. Like a pipe, a cigar has intrigued me since my first effort at six years of age, but I've never mastered the art. Sometimes, on a good day, I can handle one without any trouble, but if I ever have the temerity to light up two in a row, I am quickly feeling less well than normal. It's the same with a pipe, or was the last time I tried one, except you add a burned, charred tongue.

But this piece started out to be a treatise on the advantages, if any, of eliminating the weed from the daily diet, and I can summarize them quickly.

For a lightweight, one immediate benefit was increase in weight, five pounds almost overnight, and about 15 over-all. Another was an improved relaxation factor, after about three weeks of squirming under the check-rein of will power. Sitting and listening to an after-dinner speech and the preacher became more enjoyable. In other words, it was easier to sit still.

Item 3 on the improvement list was elimination of the morning cough. After previously postponing the roll-out-of-bed smoke to a second-cup-of-coffee schedule, I found that the accompanying cough advanced its schedule, too. When I quit the weed, the cough quit, too.

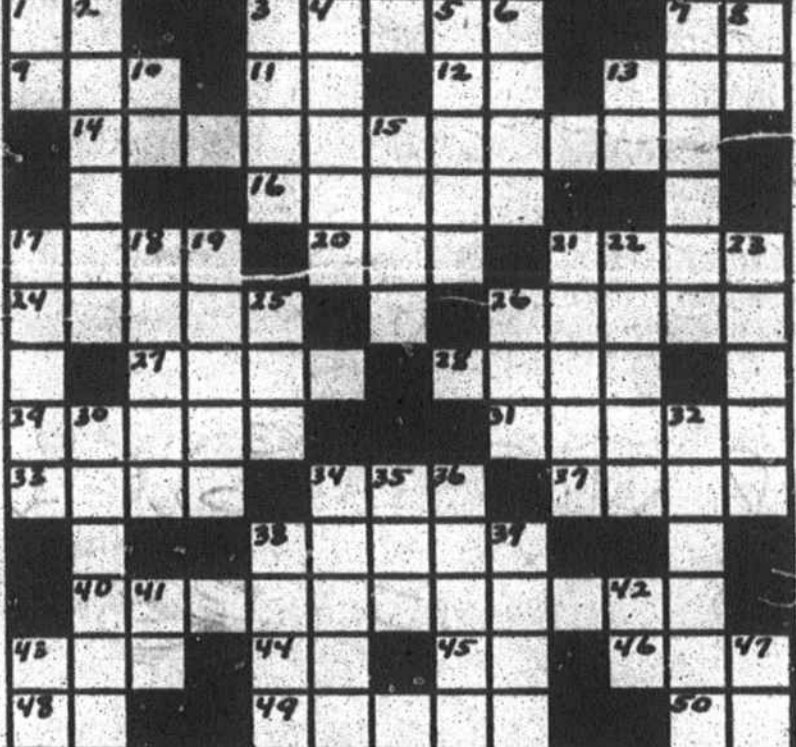
Those are the principal benefits. Any supposed improvement in the financial situation the average smoker puffs away is questionable. I have kept no accurate records, and realize that the price of foodstuffs has declined somewhat, but I am sure that the decline has in no wise compensated for the increase in fuel intake resulting from the smoking surcease.

Results of the medical reports on the smoking business had some immediate effects. A lot of people who had a guilty complex about the smoking business took the pledge again. One invertebrate cigarmaker in town (not Charlie Warlick) has quit, and a salesman told me last week three womenfolk in one family had been scared off the cigarette. Meantime, the prices of shares of stock in Liggett, Reynolds, American, and the other plummeted to new low figures for the year, though they bounced somewhat when they hit bottom. And the presidents of the several companies yelled in alarm that the medical reports said only that smoking CAN cause lung cancer. Out of the many cases of cancer, how many are of the lungs? There were many other arguments against the contention by two medicines. One not mentioned I learned from some local merchants who constantly battle the rat populace with guns, gas, poison and all other weapons: at their command. One said gas was particularly effective because most of the rats have tuberculosis. Everyone knows no tubercular patient smokes, at least, not for long. But it's funny to see the tobacco companies caught in their own mesh, for each has been claiming for years the only "safe" cigarette, as opposed to the competitor's evil brand.

Come to think of it, people who set age records are always attributing their longevity to a comfortable pipe, but I cannot recall one bragging on the life-giving powers of cigarettes.

The furore does remind of a friend's comment a few years back, after they'd buried a man

CROSSWORD By A. C. Gordon



- ACROSS**
- 1—Preposition
 - 3—Sound of mirth
 - 7—Sloth
 - 9—Peds dipping three
 - 11—Comparative suffix
 - 12—College degree
 - 13—Insect
 - 14—Modelling
 - 15—Uplift
 - 17—To check
 - 20—Skill
 - 21—Attend
 - 24—Autumn bloomer
 - 26—Property attachment
 - 27—Pudic part
 - 28—Close friends
 - 29—Musical combinations
 - 31—Very much favored
 - 33—Wanders
 - 34—Taste
 - 37—Medical suffix denoting a condition
- DOWN**
- 1—Western U.S. state (abb.)
 - 2—Impress
 - 3—Malign expression
 - 4—Arrangement
 - 5—Allowed matter on land
 - 6—in this place
 - 7—Fishes
 - 8—Pronoun
 - 10—Preposition
 - 13—Indefinite article
 - 15—Famous American jockey
 - 18—Oscuous element
 - 19—Comes into contact with
 - 21—Greeting
 - 22—Alleviate
 - 23—Small depression
 - 28—Legal thing
 - 32—Musical note (abb.)
 - 36—Plant
 - 38—Infant guardian
 - 39—Sailing vessel
 - 40—Business of John
 - 41—Religious feast
 - 42—Thoroughfare (abb.)
 - 43—Musical note (abb.)
 - 47—Continent (abb.)

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

Viewpoints of Other Editors

FREE, AT THE GAS STATION

Your car may be winterized, but that is not sufficient preparation to operate it in North Carolina after next month.

Between now and the end of the month every Tar Heel car owner and driver ought to do two things.

1. Get a copy of the booklet on the Motor Vehicle Responsibility Law, which goes into effect January 1, from a filling station.

2. Check to be sure that you carry enough liability insurance on your car to cover claims up to \$11,000.

The reason for the first step is that this booklet tells what you must do, and heretofore did not have to do, if you are involved in an auto accident.

The reason for the second step is that if you are in an accident, and do not carry liability insurance, you may end up with no driver's license and a big debt.

Furthermore if, after January 1 someone driving your uninsured car get involved in an accident, both of you may find yourselves without driving privileges.

If you are the operator of a car involved in an accident in which someone was killed or injured, or there was total property damage to an apparent extent of \$100, you will have to do the following:

1. Immediately report the accident to a policeman, patrolman or sheriff.

2. Within 24 hours make a written report on the Department of Motor Vehicles form that you can obtain from a policeman, patrolman or sheriff.

The operator of every car involved in the accident, whether or not he was responsible for the accident, must make these two reports. If a claim results from the accident, and your liability insurance is in order, your worries are over, as far as this law is concerned. If however, you don't carry insurance, you may have to post security requirements which could be as high as \$11,000, within 60 days — else lose your driver's license. Of course you won't have to raise that money if other parties in the accident, or the courts, oblige you from liability.

This law is an important part of North Carolina's highway safety program. It is much better than the law it will replace, Motor Vehicles Commissioner Ed Scheidt, who explained the law over the radio last night, and the petroleum distributors and gasoline station operators who are passing out the booklets, are all co-operating nicely to help you, the motorist, learn about this law. — Charlotte News.

License Examiners Approved 38,789

RALEIGH — Driver license examiners of the State Department of Motor Vehicles approved 38,789 applications in November including renewals, duplicates and learners' permits.

They disapproved 9,757 applications during the month mainly because of applicants' failure to pass the rules-of-the-road test. The examiners collected fees in the amount of \$73,754.50.

GOOD SENATORS DON'T

A prominent member of the United States Senate is fond of saying, as he did to a New Jersey audience a couple of nights ago, "You don't go skunk-hunting in striped trousers and a tall hat while waving a lace handkerchief". This picturesquely and typically irrelevant remark may or may not satisfy his listeners, but it may also raise some questions in their minds about other things you don't—or shouldn't—do.

You don't trifle with your country's security for purposes of self-glorification. You don't ignore the Constitution, specifically the First Amendment, in order to intimidate your opponents. You don't attempt to destroy reputations with groundless insinuations to score a political point, whether the victim is a candidate for high office of the opposing party or a nominee to high office of your own party. You don't prove yourself willing and eager to undermine the foundations of your Government's foreign policy by the most unrestrained and violent attack on our strongest and oldest allies. You don't attempt to wreck your country's propaganda program by holding a public carnival, especially when you know that needed reforms are being carefully and meticulously studied without fanfare by some of your most able colleagues. You don't aid the Communists to erode your country's well-deserved reputation as the strong-hold of liberal democracy by doing everything in your power to make it appear to be a citadel of anti-liberalism, anti-intellectualism and reaction.

You don't publicize classified military documents in order to make a headline. You don't ignore your responsibilities as a public official by promoting mistrust, suspicion and disunity among your fellow-citizens. You don't forget that our beloved country will remain the hope of the free world, which is the only kind of world worth living in, as long as its people remain true to the liberal, democratic principles on which this Republic was founded. — New York Times.

TRADE WITH HOME MERCHANTS

Again the Christmas shopping season has arrived in Lincoln, and again local merchants are ready for it. Which again brings this newspaper's reminder: "Trade at home."

In today's edition, and others to come, will be found hundreds of advertised values, and in the stores are many more.

In local stores can be found the same Christmas goods, with the "name" labels, and at the right prices for the shoppers pocket-book that shoppers sometimes go hundreds of miles to "big city" stores to buy. It's still a puzzle to us, why some people will go out of town looking for merchandise, when they can find the same item on the shelves or racks of the hometown merchant's store.

Also, had you thought of your hometown merchant in this light? They're friendly and progressive, public-spirited, and support all movements for the betterment of the general public of the city and county. They pay taxes and employ local people. They have the best selections of Christmas merchandise they could obtain for their patrons' benefit. And they appreciate the business of their home town and county friends. So, again, why not "trade at home." — Lincoln Times.

DR. D. M. MORRISON
EYES EXAMINED GLASSES FITTED
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EVENINGS BY APPOINTMENT
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I am building some homes on Rhodes Avenue. Small down payments and these payments cheaper than rent. Financing down payment easy, quick, simple. Your equity in auto, vacant lot, other property, or what do you have?
E. T. Plott, Builder
York Rd. Phone 874
O-8-ttn

Get ahead of the Christmas Crowd
Make your Long Distance Calls EARLY
Long Distance telephone lines will be crowded on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day in spite of the many new circuits we've added.
We'll be doing our best to put all calls through promptly, but there will be some unavoidable delays. So whenever possible, it's a good idea to make your calls before Christmas Eve or after Christmas Day.
And, remember, you save time when you call by number
MERRY CHRISTMAS and best wishes for the New Year
THE TELEPHONE POLS
SOUTHERN BELL TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH COMPANY
— The Herald \$2.50 Per Year —