

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 wicinity, published every Thursday 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

EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT

Martin Harmon Editor-Publisher Charles T. Garpenter, Jr. Sports, Circulation, News Miss Elizabeth Stewart Society Mrs. Thomas Meacham Bookkeeping, News MECHANICAL DEPARTMENT

David Weathers . Ivan Weaver* Eugene Matthews Horace Walker Charles Miller Paul Jackson

> (*Member of Armed Forces) TELEPHONE NUMBERS-167 or 283

SUBSCRIPTION RATES PAYABLE IN ADVANCE

ONE YEAR-\$2.50

SIX MONTHS-\$1.40

BY MAIL ANYWHERE

TODAY'S BIBLE VERSE

And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulations worketh patience Romans 5:3.

Business Outlook

With half of 1954 now ready for the history books, there is a rash of reviewing of the first six months' activity in industry and commerce coupled with the inevitable guesses projected into the fu-

Roger Babson, the economist who established his reputation for able economic phrophecy by predicting the 1929 crash, published a detailed look see ahead, and, generally, thinks the pace of business for the remainder of 1954 will not be bad. Important to Kings Mountain, he notes that soit goods have continued to move in high unit volume, though frequently at sacrifice prices for both manufacturer and merchant. Inventories moving out make room for new goods. Further indications that there should be improvement in textiles in forthcoming months are slight firming of prices in recent weeks for some classes of goods.

Money is "easy", in contrast to the initial hard money policy of the Eisenhower administration on its inauguration. Interest rates have been cut heavily by the banks of large cities in order to keep money in the hands of interest-payers, and insurance companies, with their large cash holdings, have become real "peddlers" of cash.

Construction is heavy throughout the nation, and has been the backbone of the economy during the first six months of the year. It is evident in Kings Mountain, as a tour of the area will quickly show. It includes residential construction, commercial and industrial building, and public works by city, school, state agencies. Construction means payrolls and payrolls mean customers for cars, window curtains, apparel, good food and all the many aids to a high standard of living.

If the textile industry emerges from its recession which started early this year, Kings Mountain will be a prosperous community during the last half of

Is Southern Bell practicing the old governmental trick of asking for much more than it expects in order to assure receipt of what it really wants? As the Utilities Commission considers the Bell appeal on the 1953 rate increase. Southern Bell has filed request to raise its rates even more. Few telephone subscribers will know how, nor care, to analyze the technical matter of rate of return on Southern Bell's invested capital, but they are sure they don't want to see their phone bills hiked. In Kings Mountain, where many people are chomping at the bit for dial service, the company can well expect more pressure for the more modern installation.

Dividends paid yesterday by Kings Mountain's two building and loan associations on savings shares for the halfyear totaled more than \$36,000, which adds up to a nice twice-yearly payroll in its own right. Some of the money will be ploughed back into savings of one kind or another, while some of it will enter the local stream of commerce. The savings totals of Kings Mountain citizens continue to grow, reminding once again that regular, systematic saving is the only way most folk can accumulate surplus funds. And that's the way a majority of the shareholders of the two building and loan institutions have amassed their funds.

Congratulations are in order to C. D. Blanton, Kings Mountain druggist, recently elected second vice-president of the North Carolina Pharmaceutical association for 1955-56, an elevation from his present position of third vice president.

Thursday, July 1st, is deadline day for getting the full two percent discount on 1954 city tax bills.

THREE MONTHS-75c

The City Budget At first glance the city's 1954-55 bud get appeared alarming to some citizens, who looked with more than a little unhappiness at the total and the eleven percent increase over the estimate for the year just ending. It followed the news of a 40-cent increase in the tax rate, approximating 30 percent over last

It would be good if the city would publish, when the budget is finally adopted, its breakdown sheets on department disbursements, for a clearer picture would be available to the taxpayers on where the money is going, and it would also diminish some of the cries of anguish.

The Herald cocked the eye at the large increase in police department appropriation over the estimate for last year. But a check of the breakdown indicates that the \$48,000 appropriated, against a request for more than \$53,000, is not "fatty" after all. Major portion, of course, will go for officer pay at a maximum of \$250 per month. With 14 officers on the force a year's payroll would be about \$42,000. The force could be cut, but the officers now are on duty eight hours daily, six days per week. In addition, they are subject to call for special duty - in event of emergency, funeral, or other need - on their off-day. Some officers are not yet at the top pay scale, but regular increments are provided for longevity each six months. Actually, the police budget increases only slightly over the actual expenditures of the department during the year just closed, indicating the 1953-54 estimate was unreal-

There should be no complaint over the \$5,000 increase in estimates of expenditures for water and sewer operations, basic services of the city which are greatly needed in many areas. Some bond money is available for these needed line extensions, but plant construction will claim the major share of the available borrowings. And were it not for the available bond money, the puny planned expenditures for capital equipment would be subject to criticism.

On its estimates of income, the city may be slightly pessimistic on some items. Powell Street aid should return perhaps \$1,000 to \$2,000 more than the \$27,000 anticipated, and the \$75 expectation from parking space rentals will be more than double that figure. However, these are quite minor additions, in relation to the total of \$472,431.

One spot which looks shy is the anticipated revenue from street assessments at \$2,500. Of course, property owners assessed for streets who don't mind the interest payments can take up to three years to pay the assessments, but surely, with some considerable street-paving mapped and other assessments on the books, the receipts from this category will be increased over the estimate.

At any rate, a budget is primarily a work sheet and is subject to forced change, either by uncontrollable situations such as less collections than anticipated, acts of God (e. g., last year's water shortage), and similar events.

The city's books for the year ending yesterday will show some red ink, the city clerk reports. It is not wise for a governing board to cut estimate figures too recklessly. However, the administering should be handled with a tight hand on the reins.

A cordial welcome to the community to Dr. James M. Lane, today joining Dr. Paul E. Hendricks, the hard working Kings Mountain physician, in the general practice of medicine. The arrival of two additional general practitioners will materially enhance the availability of medical service, reducing the average number of citizens per doctor in the area served by Kings Mountain medical men to 1,500 plus, estimating an area population in excess of 11,000 persons.

YEARS AGO Items of news about Kings Mountain area people and events THIS WEEK taken from the 1944 files of the Kings Mountain Herald.

Dr. W. S. Rankin, director of July 4th, according to report of ing his 50th birthday. About fifty the Duke Endowment of Char- J. G. Darracott, president of the guests attended. lotte, painted a gloomy picture of Kings Mountain Merchants Asso-

the success of a hospital for Kings ciation. Social and Personal Mountain at the Kiwanis meeting last Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. James Thompson and son, Jimmy, of Bradenton, Glee A. Bridges was host at a Fla., are spending the week with Most Kings Mountain stores stag supper Tuesday evening at Mrs. Thompson's parents, Mr. and and business houses will be closed his home on Gold street celebrat. Mrs. E. J. Stewart.

MARTIN'S MEDICINE

By Martin Harmon Ingredients: bits of news, wisdom, humor, and comment. Directions: Take weekly, if possible, but avoid

Sunday will be the 178th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, commemorating the day when a group of idealistic men in short britches and powdered wigs affixed their names to a rebellious document declaring themselves and the people they represented to be free and independent of Great Britain, at that time the most powerful empire on the known face of the globe.

It had never crossed my mind before, but the step was a dangerous one for more reasons than the fact of fighting. Had

the colonists lost the war, as was imminent until the Battle of Kings Mountain four years and more later, each of the signers may well have lost his life as a traitor.

Thomas Jefferson, John Hancock, and the other signers must have known the possible result when they signed their n nes. It was a life-or-death step, bred out of many incidents and events in which the mother country treated her American subjects like red-headed stepchildren.

Equally as important for the generations of ancestors today s the fact that the ideals of these men have been met in the continuing history of the nation. The gradual evolvement of the dignity of the individual and his freedom to do as his con-science dictates, has been enhanced by the years. There are still those who seek to abridge freedom, amend it, apply it to special situations only, but they are in the minority and few of this kind of thinking hold public positions of responsibility.

But this piece was not meant for serious philosophizing.

Not too many years ago the fact of Independence Day's arrival on the Sabbath would have been a source of great disappointment to the great majority of young folk the nation over, and many older ones as well. Independence Day was one of great celebration, with flags flying not only from every public building and store front, but from almost every home as well. The flags were of convenient sizes, from huge replicas of Betsy Ross' handiwork to tiny ones suitable for waving

Independence Day usually was a work day for the politician, almost every office-holder orating in the sun in bombastic tones. Community picnics and barbecues, preceded by contests of skill and dexterity such as catching the greased pig, pole climbing, foot racing and horse racing were the order of the day. Some communities still practice the city-wide celebrations, employing variations of the old forms of celebrity, including fireworks and popping firecrackers. In my day, when a Yankee moved South, a disturbing custom for his thinking was the presence of popping firecrackers at Christmastime, and their absence on July 4th.

m-m Of course, my memory doesn't stretch quite as far back as the big celebrations, but, as a child, I remember my specialsized Fourth of July flag, and I remember, too, the big family reunions at Uncle Charlie Harmon's home in the Beulah community, with loads of rich food, horseback rides in the pasture, and, when Frank Harmon's dam hadn't washed out, a birthday-suit dip in the delicious waters of a creek which was making its way to Buffalo.

Baseball of some kind is a long-term July 4th feature, and it was here in the days when the Margrace team was cavorting successfully in semi-pro circles with Zeb Plonk catching, Skinny Jenkins at second base, Coman Falls, Red Ormand, Bill Huffstetler and others lacing enemy pitching.

One big July 4th celebration I remember was a mammoth barbecue for employees of the Dilling mill, on July 4th, of 1929, at what is now Karyae Park, I believe. I had looked forward to the day with keen anticipation, and pitched horseshoe, ate barbecue, and drank soda pop with the complete abandonment and enjoyment known only to the youngster.

Don Blanton, the pharmacist, was reminiscing nostalgically for the old-time celebrations the other day, and wondering if some revival of them couldn't be arranged. Today, Independence Day means holiday, golf course, trip to the beach, drive through the mountains, or puttering around in the garden or at odd household chores. Perhaps times have dictated the change, but many long for the good old days when celebra-tions on Independence Day caused major travel only for the kin and friend who had left

The Passing Scene



by Lepper

"It's getting to be kind of a little game with Fred—so far, he's been hit by Connecticut, Vermont, New York and Oklahoma drivers!"

Viewpoints of Other Editors

SENATOR ERVIN

In Senator Sam Ervin do we

have a "conservative" or a "liber-

al" or a "middle-of-the-roader" in

Most North Carolina editors

have put the "conservative" label

on the new Senator, though some

vin is not so conservative as Mr.

So-and-So or Mr. Such-and-Such.

well-known conservatives of the

Old Guard, A few editors have

Between-to the left of Politician

"A" but to the right of Politician

What do the folks who know

"In a county which favored

Umstead's opponent in the guber-

present Administration achieved

"The unanimity of rejoicing ov-

er his appointment to the Senate

or forced respect for ability. It

tonians as an unaffected friend

appointment, suits the home folks

all right. They know he is a mid-

dle-of-the-roader, being neither a

ed reactionary. If pressed for a

need for cataloguing him. They've

just had the feeling that because

of his love of people the human

race has nothing to fear from

Sam Ervin." -Smithfield Hearld

JUST ABOUT SHOT

reader's comment on that A. P

"In Grand Rapids, Mich.,

grandfather and grandson were

watching a jungle show on tele-

vision when a tiger appeared on

the screen, Grandpa grabbed his

grandson's B-B gun, fired, and

ruined the set. He said he didn't

"Never mind the gun; what

about grandpa?" - The Asheville

know the gun was loaded."

Writes the reader:

story that read:

We feel impelled to relay i

Sam Ervin best think o thim?

Washington?

WAR MAY BE NEARER | HOME TOWN VIEW OF Ten young men from Stanly

The Travelers Sarely Service

county left last Thursday for the induction center, and it is our understanding that the number going into the services each month will be stepped up considerably in the near future.

At the same time, quite a few young men are being released from the services each month, so have hastened to say that Mr. Erit is difficult to determine whether the size of our armed forces is being increased to any great ex-

Certain columnists have been made Senator Ervin a Mr. Insaying in recent days that this country may be at war within a matter of weeks, and it is known that our military leaders, are recommending that we take a hand in the situation in Indo-China. It Listen to this from the Morganwould appear to us that perhaps ton News-Herald, the new Senawe have waited too long to inter- tor's home town paper:

Our leaders are facing a most critical time in the nation's his natorial race and which rejected tory. The continent of Asia can his earlier senatorial appointee swallow up ten million of our men in the May primary, there's not quickly, and we can make little a man to be found but who will impression on that vast area. The lagree that the Governor demonpeople of this country know this, strated unsurpassed wisdom in and any military move now would the selection of Sam Ervin and be far from popular. The Republeels that by that act alone the eat deal of time characterizing the struggle in Ko- its highest measure of success. rea as "Truman's War", and now they are confronted with a need to undertake an "Elsenhower didn't come from an impersonal War" in southeast Asia,

No one knows what Russia has a much warmer, friendlier would do in case our sea and air basis in the nature of the man forces struck in Indo-China, yet himself, Sam Ervin loves people, it is pretty generally known that and they know it. His neighborinterceptor planes in strategic liness and ready wit mix well points along our northern border, with a heavy sprinkling of paand in Alaska are manned 24 tience to endear him to Morganhours a day.

More than anything else in who has never gotten too big to these critical days, we need unity listen to their most trifling trouin Washington, with Republicans bles. . . . exerting the leadership which "In this atmosphere of small they assumed when the country town neighborliness, there has sent Eisenhower to the White been no need to try to classify House, and with the Democrats Judge Sam Ervin's political offering the experience which views, and the current label of they gained through twenty years "conservative-liberal" (or vicein directing the nation's affairs. versa), tagged on him since his

hearts and minds of millions of citizens will sweep the Republicans out of Congressional con- wild-eyed radical nor a mossback trol this fall unless President Eisenhower takes complete charge of his administration or unless ably consider him a little right some terrible fate overtakes us of center, whatever that may before the November elections, mean, but they never had felt the making such a "sweep" unnecessary. - Stanly News & Press

THEY SHOULD SEE OURS The American Mosquito Control Association meeting in Atlantic City, which has long had the reputation of being the unofficial mosquito capital of America, had been told that Northern mosquitoes are larger but Southern members of the race are more nu-

The Florida mosquite is cited as an example of Southern specimens inferior in size to their Northern cousins.

Nothing is said of South Carolina mosquitoes, and apparently the authorities have not made full and thorough investigation of the species in this State. We do not claim to be a mosquitologist, but we do recall after a storm on the coast seeing mosquitoes around Columbia that would rival a humming bird for size. - The Columbia (S.) State

PARTY LINE

We have often wondered why telephone companies designate a single telephone circuit connecting several subscribers with the exchange as a "party line." Now we know.

A party is defined as: "A company or association of persons, as for social enjoyment." Yep, some of the subscribers on a party line certainly derive social enjoyment and bring into being association of persons by this very means.— Marion Progress

home firesides and wouldn't have missed the home celebra-tion for any manner of incon-

Put your best looks forward!

You'll always appear to your best advantage when your clothes are skillfully dry-cleaned by our thorough (but gentle) methods. Colors retain that like-new sparkle and depth . . . all of the original richness of the texture is preserved. The result looks so much like brand-new clothes that only your budget can tell the difference! Salute Fall with a completely renewed and refreshed wardrobe. Look like a million

WEAVER'S CLEANERS

Phone 910 • 310 N. Piedmont Ave.



The way kids pick up grime in summer you really need a super-duper laundry to keep clothes clean and fresh! Try our efficient service-prompt, careful and budget-wisel Enjoy your own vacation from washdays!

DRIVE CAREFULLY

PROTECT OUR CHILDREN

NOTICE: We Will Be Closed July 5-10 — Reopening July 12 We Will Appreciate Your Cooperation

PHONE 1151

Finger Laundry

IS A BETTER BUY THAN

Sunrise Dairy **DIAL 6354**

EVER PAY A BILL TWICE?

A cancelled check is convincing proof of payment ... a legal receipt and a record of money spent. You'll find a checking account here a wonderful time-saver. Safer, too, to pay by chack (money can be lost or

FIRST NATIONAL BANK