



# The Kings Mountain Herald

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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 Thursday by the Herald Publishing House.

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### TODAY'S BIBLE VERSE

Woe unto the world because of offences! for it must needs be that offences come; but woe to that man by whom the offence cometh! St. Matthew 18:7.

## Water Crisis

Like the two great wars, Kings Mountain's 1953 and 1954 water crises could well bear the designations Water Crisis I and II, if we mark off the sequence prior to 1929.

The supply is at a very low level with estimated reserves — barring a great rainfall total — at less than a month's restricted supply, and the auxiliary supplies tapped for the first time last autumn have already been in service this year, when the drought seems even worse.

Thus the city board of commissioners was wise in the action to require water conservation. When there is a crisis, strong measures are required. The good of all is at stake, and it means that all should be saving in their water consumption.

The city administration made it a misdemeanor to use water for 1) car-washing, 2) watering of lawns, and flowers, 3) wetting down of coal, and 4) any other unnecessary use.

There are many ways to save water in individual households merely by turning off the spigot during cooking, dish-washing, tooth-brushing and similar operations, which would save a great amount of water in the aggregate.

The recurring crisis points anew to the city's long-term water problem, though, of course, the immediate dilemma is getting by until rains arrive in quantity.

With the consumption going ever upward, due to population increase, increased use by industry, and the spread of air-conditioning as a commercial and residential commodity, the shortage points anew to the basic inadequacy of Kings Mountain's present sources of water for five, ten and fifteen years hence.

The Herald has no intention to rehash today the question of the advisability of utilizing the Davidson Creek source, except to remind that the stream is a small one and — in dry periods — will furnish only a little water. Again, the question of water supply is one of source, not of dams and reservoirs, the latter being short-run adjuncts to any water supply system. Perhaps the Davidson Creek reservoir, which will first come to major usefulness next summer, will justify its cost merely for use between 1955 and the year — which obviously can't be too far away — when the city embarks to Buffalo, or preferably Broad River, for a major source of supply to end for the foreseeable future these recurring water shortages which are not only inconvenient to all citizens but costly as well. The car-washing loss to service stations is no small item, and continuing dry weather could mean curtailment on some major payrolls which help to sustain the Kings Mountain economy.

The Bethware Community Fair opened yesterday and is hitting full stride today. Pay a visit to the Bethware School Grounds during the weekend, and support this community enterprise. Smart fair-goers will make arrangements to have supper at the Bethware cafeteria, as those who have eaten some of the delicious food there will be quick to recall. Bethware Fair is a fine community prelude to the annual Cleveland County Fair, opening next Tuesday, and our guess is that many of the Bethware agricultural entries, covering Number 4 Township, will cop a full share of the honors at the county event.

The Wall Street Journal put a big headline on a news story last Friday reporting the first gain in unemployment compensation claims in several weeks — quite natural, since many laid-off employees had experienced the painful situation of having benefit periods expire. September 1 was a new eligible date in North Carolina, and, it is presumed, in other parts of the nation. In Kings Mountain, however, the claim-filing trend is down, signalling an upturn from the textile recession which began about two months ago.

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

Schools will open Monday morning at 8:30 after being delayed two weeks due to the polio epidemic.  
Byron Keeter, Kings Mountain merchant, has been named chairman of the United War Fund for Number Four Township. The drive will be conducted during the

month of October.  
Social and Personal  
Misses Mary Ann Crouse and Helen Ramsey were hostesses at five tables of bridge and three tables of rook, entertaining at the Woman's Club last Wednesday night.  
The Colonel Frederick Ham-

bright chapter, DAR, met at the home of Mrs. H. T. Fulton Wednesday afternoon.  
Mrs. Lloyd Watson and three children, of Boone, are visiting relatives in Kings Mountain.  
Mrs. Evon Houser, of Dallas has been visiting at the home of Mrs. W. K. Mauney.

## MARTIN'S MEDICINE

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

The North Carolina Press Association and University of North Carolina co-sponsored the third annual news and feature writer's conference at Chapel Hill Saturday and a great number of the state's working press was present for the sessions, which included panel and forum discussions on how to write better of each.

The session differed from the regular Press association conventions and the Mid-Winter Press Institute which customarily attract the high brass of the newspapers of the state — the publishers and business managers, who keep a keen eye peeled, as they must, on the balance sheets, advertising content, and circulation figures.

The folk at Chapel Hill Saturday were the men and women — and the average age would be in the low area — who bring the bulk of the news to North Carolina citizens, either via daily gazette, or weekly and semi-weekly journal. They are the folk in the slot, covering the beats, writing the headlines, digging up the feature material, writing the obituaries, covering the tea, speaking, meetings, and all the events close to the heart-beat of North Carolinians.

There were young girls with husbands, young girls without husbands, young men still single and young men experiencing the newness of fatherhood, with just a sprinkling of some older folk about. Among them were Kays Gary, Charlotte Observer, one of the Shelby Daily Star, Jay Jenkins and Ray Lowery, also Star graduates and now of the Raleigh News & Observer, Julian Scheer, Charlotte News bright boy, and hosts of others.

I sat next to Gary at the supper session (half a barbecued chicken, with delicious trimmings) and Kays' opinion is that the Jonas-Sedberry affair in the tenth congressional district will be a rather close donnybrook, with Jonas holding a slight edge as of now. And Jay Huskins, self-styled publisher-editor-errand boy of the Statesville Daily Record-Landmark, thought that Congressman Hugh Alexander (D) will withstand the heavy onslaught Bill Stevens (R) is making in the ninth district. Jay says the main plea, of both is party-line, with Stevens running on the "Ike-Needs-Me" theme, and Alexander on the plea that the Democrats need him to be able to organize the House via a Democratic majority. Since both are favorite of industrialists prominent in the district, Jay figures their votes on matters in the upcoming Congress would differ only on the initial vote to organize the House.

But the meeting's piece de resistance, outside of the conversational spoptalk, was the Saturday night address of James H. Street, the author and short story writer, who delighted the working newfolk with interesting anecdotes out of a long background of newspapering and writing. Street, who went to work for the Arkansas Gazette when he was 14, and who subsequently was a short-time Baptist minister, got his big break, he said, from an against-orders feature he did in the late twenties. A mid-west railroad was abandoning a 60-year-old run from Memphis to New Orleans, a train Street had watched pass all his boyhood. The feature attracted the attention of the Associated Press boss, and he was made. A short time later, another feature took him to William Randolph Hearst, where he was well-paid but quit on the "journalist's code of honor. He couldn't stomach the Hearst editing and taboos.

Among the Street suggestions on feature writing were: Look for features in the so-called straight news and make features out of the future rather than the historic past. He also advised the working press to concentrate less on money and more on the story.

Trip notes: Bypasses are wonderful, it now being possible to make the Chapel Hill trek with only Gastonia and Charlotte intervening, on a good road (Take U. S. 49 to Asheville) all the way. The trip was also good for a car wash. Chapel Hill having no shortage. The Catawba was the only river or creek en route that seemed to be up to normal levels. Hugh Morton, the Grandfather Mountain owner-promoter-secretary clerk, reported a good season. He also consumed an interesting breakfast Sunday morning, including eggs and bacon (eaten first because he likes eggs hot), cantaloupe, cereal, blueberry muffins and leaf coffee. Miriam Rabb, of the State News

## CROSSWORD By A. C. Gordon

15x15 crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-31 in starting squares.

- ACROSS: 1-Founder of psychoanalysis, 2-Inventor of dynamite, 3-Public announcement, 4-American linguist, 5-Mystic Sanskrit word, 6-Exclamation, 7-British naval family, 8-Parrot, 9-Famed American composer, 10-Asian river, rich in ancient lore, 11-Crossed symbol for erbium, 12-Printer's measure, 13-Roman numeral, 14-Hebrew author of "The Clavier and the Harp", 15-Famed German composer, 16-Man's nickname, 17-Preceded, 18-Discovered by Columbus (abb.), 19-A couple (abb.), 20-Fruit denoting, 21-Musical note, 22-Popular British sport, 23-Exclamation, 24-Coincidence, 25-Famed courtier, 26-Scottish-born pianist, 27-Song, 28-Famed American playwright (rose), 29-Printer's measure, 30-Fish egg, 31-Man's nickname, 32-Parasitic spot, 33-Type of car, 34-Ancient sun god, 35-A king who resigned, 36-Well-known Italian poet, 37-Sung retreats, 38-Dominating Italian family of the late 15th century, 39-Chemical symbol for ammonium, 40-Ancient Greek poet, 41-Political announcement, 42-Curious inflector of, 43-Republican elephant and Democratic mule (poss.), 44-Exclamation, 45-Yes, 46-Coincidence, 47-Old Indian (abb.), 48-Czech letter, 49-Rothschilds, 50-Middle name of Texas author, 51-Pronoun, 52-Auditory organ, 53-Combination, 54-Ancient Babylonian god, 55-Pronoun, 56-Ancient Egyptian ruler, 57-Combination, 58-Maltrreated, 59-Brother fairy tale writers, 60-Chemical symbol for silver, 61-Exclamation, 62-Cleopatra's river (poss.), 63-Meanure of area, 64-Distance, 65-Chemical symbol for calcium, 66-Ancient Greek poet, 67-Mythological maiden changed into a heifer (abb.), 68-United Anthropologists, 69-District Attorney

## Viewpoints of Other Editors

### THE ROW PROVES THE NEED FOR VOTING MACHINES

Election rows don't add strength to democracy. The longer these rows are drawn out the more people are inclined to become disgusted with the ways of politics. There are legal rights involved, of course. Sheriff Henry has his and former Sheriff Denning has his. And each has sympathizers in the current wrangling over recounts. But the deeper this controversy becomes imbedded in legal issues not easily grasped by laymen, the more the people become unsympathetic with both sides.

Perhaps this is not the way of democracy. Perhaps the people should be slow to pass judgment on the two antagonists. Each antagonist feels he has rights that deserve protection, and no doubt each feels that his is a fight to uphold the integrity of elections. But the bald reality is that public opinion looks upon the Henry Denning squabble with increasing disgust, not being convinced that either side has its cause clothed in sanctity.

The Herald doesn't intend to take a stand editorially for either Sheriff Henry or former Sheriff Denning. But we do have a pair of hopes to express.

Hope No. 1 is simply that justice will prevail — speedily — as this election dispute moves through the courts.

Hope No. 2 is that the people of the county, spurred by their impatience with the on and on wrangling, will demand that the county expire without delay the feasibility of using voting machines in the elections of future years. As long as human beings are involved in elections, dishonest elections will remain possible. But voting machines, where they have been tried, have reduced the opportunities for dishonesty by eliminating the chance of stuffing ballot boxes, and by doing away with the "long count" and the accompanying confusion in the tabulation and reporting of returns.

It is reasonable to conclude that had Johnston County used voting machines in all its precincts on May 23, the Democrats would long ago have had a nominee for sheriff. As things are, the folks are beginning to wonder if we will have a nominee declared in time for the fast-approaching November election. — *Smithfield Herald.*

### HOW TO BECOME A PUBLIC SPEAKER

Has training for public speaking been neglected in our schools? Or should courses in public speaking be required in schools? The editor of the Stanly News and Press thinks the answer to both queries is "Yes." He says so in his editorial comment last week. He reasons that 95 percent of persons who make public speeches show no aptitude at platform manners; also, he cites the case of one of his county's 4-H youngsters winning speaking honors in a statewide contest because the young man had taken Bureau was bragging on the "54 performance of "Sword of Gideon", and, regretting the Military park is in South Carolina, was interested in the folklore which holds that the line is crooked because the surveyors mapped it in the direction of the nearest hooch still.

### LET'S CONSERVE WATER

Transylvania and other sections of the Western Carolinas are experiencing dry times, and the streams and rivers are at a low point. The Davidson river is said to be lower than it was last year, when the county had one of its driest summers in history.

Here in Brevard the water supply at the present time is ample, ample, that is, if everybody will conserve.

The mayor has asked that citizens refrain from washing cars, watering lawns and gardens, etc. Brevard uses over a million gallons per day, and during dry spells this is about the amount of the intake. If the dry weather should continue indefinitely, the situation could become acute and create a serious hazard in case of a fire.

For the protection of our town and the general welfare of our citizenry, let's use that water sparingly at all times, and remember, a leaky faucet can waste hundreds of gallons in no time at all. — *Transylvania Times.*

### PERFECT HOSTESS

A lady was telling us recently that she had spent a most delightful afternoon with Mrs. Abec. "I can't remember when I enjoyed myself more," the lady said. "Mrs. Abec is a perfect hostess." "Wishing to do our good deed for the day, we relayed the compliment to Mrs. Abec. She sighed retrospectively. "I'm so glad she did," Mrs. Abec smiled as she spoke. Then she added: "For two solid hours, without interruption, my guest talked about herself and her possessions.....

all of which were at a 100 per cent valuation." But weren't you a bit bored?" we couldn't resist asking. Mrs. Abec took a deep breath. "My dear, every time I thought I couldn't take one more sentence, I forced myself to remember that the first duty to a guest was to see that they were enjoying themselves." She hesitated and then with a smile said: "Well, I guess I was successful." — *Waynesville Mountaineer.*

training in public speaking. From these facts, he infers that courses in public speaking would make good platform orators out of all of us.

We agree with the Albemarle editor that no less than 95 percent of "persons who make speeches in public" know little about the platform art. Also, from what we know about 4-H clubbers and their activities, we'd say his fellow Stanly Countian earned all the honors he got at Raleigh.

But, no amount of courses in schools or training in platform manners will make a speaker out of 99 per cent of the 95 per cent the Albemarle editor was writing about. The trouble, as we have it diagnosed, is that those who can't make public speeches had nothing to say when they "arose to their feet."

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