



The Kings Mountain Herald

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EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT

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

MECHANICAL DEPARTMENT

Eugene Matthews Horace Walker David Weathers Ivan Weaver*
Charles Miller Paul Jackson
(*Member of Armed Forces)

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TODAY'S BIBLE VERSE

And Moab shall be destroyed from being a people, because he hath magnified himself against the Lord. Jeremiah 49:48.

Thanksgiving Day

The United States pauses once again today to celebrate the holiday established many centuries ago by the Pilgrims, who found themselves relatively prosperous compared to the previous months when they crossed the ocean, landed on rocky soil, and faced the hostile Indians.

Their first Thanksgiving Day was a day of thankfulness for the blessings that had been given them.

Now a national holiday, Thanksgiving Day is still the day for formal statements of appreciation for the blessings of the past season.

Each has his troubles, each his problems, but few, if they seek, cannot find a long list of blessings.

Americans have been particularly blessed over the years since Thanksgiving began.

The nation has become the most prosperous on the face of the globe. It has withstood the divisive threats of war, the differences of particular groups, and has progressed in almost all avenues of accomplishment. Meantime, it has retained the basic freedoms which the Pilgrims sought when they emigrated to an unknown wilderness, the right to worship as they pleased, to speak freely without fear of reprisal, and the many other basic freedoms subsequently guaranteed by the constitution and the Bill of Rights.

It is right that Americans should pause to remember, at their church, at family dinners, at other gatherings, the blessings they have been given and to thank the Great Provider for them.

Restrictions Off

While all citizens are glad that the restrictions on water consumption have been rescinded and that it is now possible to wash a car or douse a thirsty shrub with a hose, some surprise was expressed last Thursday at the seemingly sudden relaxation of restrictions.

The area had received some rain, but no real gully-washers. In fact, a member of the board of commissioners, Water Commissioner Grantham, had remarked to a Herald staffer only a day previously that the rainfall had been insufficient to materially enhance the city's water supply.

Next day, the restrictions were lifted. The onset of the rainy season may have begun and all of water-short Kings Mountain and the Piedmont area hopes it has. Certainly none will wish the city administration the bad fortune of losing its gamble and therefore forced to reimpose restrictions.

The Herald hopes, by the time this appears in print, that the clouds will have opened with many inches of rainfall. But last Friday afternoon's fire alarm brought immediate conjecture on what would occur if a very big, water-consuming fire occurred.

Meantime, commendation is deserved by the city water customers, who cooperated exceptionally with the city edict to lower water consumption. The pumpage figures quickly dropped to a minimum figure and stayed there.

Sometimes people deplore the super-cautions, but super-caution is an ideal trait for the hunter. Every hunting season the news reports list fatal accidents from "unloaded" guns, from accidentally fired guns with defective safety catches, and from numerous other similar causes. Super-caution should be the byword of the hunter.

Congratulations to Aubrey Mauney, re-elected district representative to the executive committee of the North Carolina Lutheran Brotherhood, and to George Thomason, elected secretary of the county bar association.

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.

Kings Mountain stores will be open all day next Wednesday until after Christmas, according to the Kings Mountain Merchants' association. This arrangement has been made for the convenience of shoppers for the holiday season. Aubrey Mauney and W. K. Mauney were elected to the Executive Committee of the Lutheran Brotherhood of North Carolina at the annual meeting held Tuesday in Salisbury.

Social and Personal

Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Keeter were hosts at a buffet supper at their home last Friday as a courtesy

to the Keeter's Department Store force.

Mr. and Mrs. Cyrus Falls left this week for Dunedin, Florida where they will spend the winter.

Mrs. James D. Mercer left Sunday for Glen Alpine, where she has accepted a position there in the Glen Alpine schools.

MARTIN'S MEDICINE

By Martin Harmon

Ingredients: bits of news, wisdom, humor, and common sense. Directions: Take socially, if possible, but avoid over-dosage.

Thursday is Thanksgiving Day, sometimes known as Turkey Day, and indeed many a bold will have run afoul of the chopping block before the roasters and ovens do their handsome duty for sumptuous Thanksgiving dinners.

m-m

Like America, and the world, many curious and wondrous events and inventions have come to mankind since the Pilgrims held their first Thanksgiving Day feast slightly inland from Plymouth Rock. The Pilgrims predated the subsequent New Englanders who thought some of their neighbors were witches. Thus it would be a sure bet that the eyes of Bashful John Alden, Captain Standish, and the pretty maid Priscilla would have opened wide if someone had had the temerity to predict that someday it would be possible to turn a button and see a church service across the country 3,000 miles away, that by dialing a number it would be possible to talk for the same or greater distance, and that a machine operated by harnessed lightning would milk the cow to provide the cream that topped the Thanksgiving Day dessert. The timorous prophet would indeed have appeared a wild-minded witch.

m-m

Even the traditional turkey, which the Pilgrim obtained from the woods around his log cabin, has come a long way in these centuries, though unfortunately for poor Tom the Gobbler his fate is the same, a date with the hatchet and a trip down the red lane to the waiting tummy.

m-m

It has not been many years ago that turkey was a state occasion, and frequently for Christmas, but not anything approaching an everyday affair. But what has happened in the past decade? Farmers have turned to raising turkeys by the tens of thousands and, though the fowl is considered a bit hard to grow, growers have been quite successful to the point that prices no longer require a long-term savings plan or bank loan to relieve the butcher of a nice dressed-and-drawn, ready-to-cook bird.

m-m

I have had turkey four or five times in the past few weeks, for example, though Thanksgiving is just arriving. I am not complaining, as the bird eats mighty well when it's properly cooked. However, if the roasting process has been prematurely ended, turkey can taste something like the old aged rooster, hardly fit for ground chicken salad.

m-m

Another original Thanksgiving tradition is church-going and it retains its place high on the list of Thanksgiving Day activities, as it should. Churches arrange special programs, eat-in meetings, song services and other events, and Thanksgiving would not be Thanksgiving without them.

m-m

Hunting on Thanksgiving Day undoubtedly dates back to the Pilgrims, too, though the emphasis was somewhat different in those days. Sorry aim would have been hard on the cook in those days. Today, it merely disappoints the sportsman.

m-m

Relative newcomer to the Thanksgiving Day traditions is football, day of rivalry renewals for many collegiate institutions. This tradition is probably not more than 60-70 years old, and even some of the onetime touted Turkey Day gridiron affairs have succumbed under the pressure of bigtime football and coaches' desire for a full week between battles. As a youngster, I remember the famous Thanksgiving Day traditionals, Wake Forest, Davidson and Virginia—North Carolina, but these two have long since disappeared from the Turkey Day list.

m-m

Back to the turkey, there is the tradition of the wishbone rite, in which two feasters pull the wishbone for the right to make a wish. Folklore has it that the wish of the winner will come true.

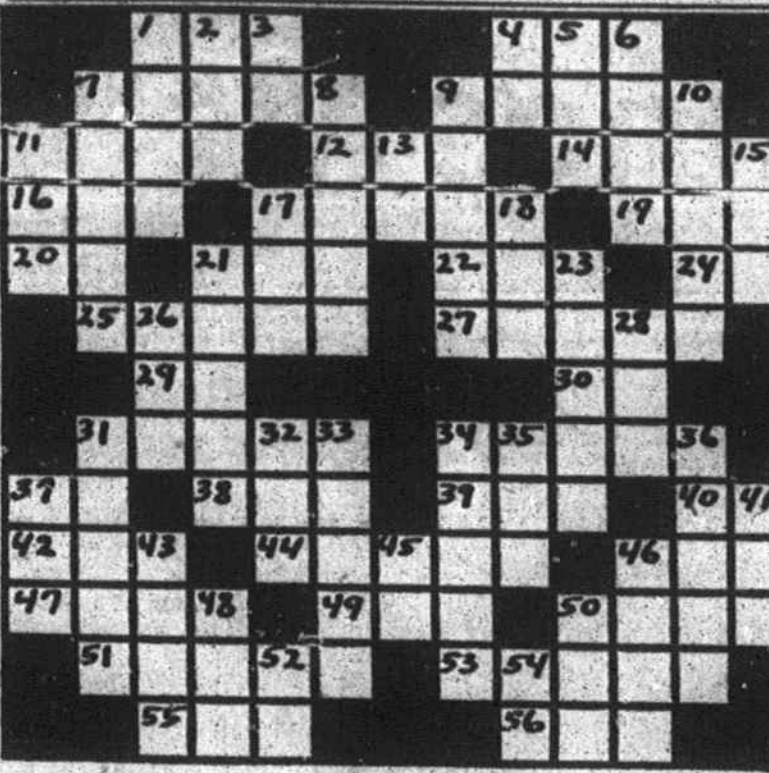
m-m

For what should successful wishbone jousting wish? That depends on the wisher. A young damsel might wish for The Question, a young swain for the affirmative answer.

m-m

But all will want to wish for peace, prosperity, happiness, and friendliness with their neighbors for the coming days, months, and seasons.

CROSSWORD By A. C. Gordon



Generalities

ACROSS

1—One who excels
2—Meat
3—To do
4—South American parrot
5—Public combination
6—South American city
7—Lever
8—Male name
9—Hawaiian wreath
10—Pronoun
11—Circle portion
12—Lamprey
13—Perform
14—Mechanical man
15—Pump
16—Drum
17—Element
18—Discard
19—College degree
20—Being legal action against
21—Close friend

DOWN

1—Extent of space
2—Scouting place
3—Plater's measure
4—Enunciation
5—Perform
6—To rule
7—More facilities
8—To rule
9—Modern history
10—Unseasoned vegetation
11—Obscure

13—Pronoun
14—Self (Spanish)
15—Affirmative vote
16—Snorter
17—To be indebted
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54—To be indebted
55—To be indebted

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

Viewpoints of Other Editors

SAD EXCEPTION

Everybody's getting into the act — the squalid drama of Western North Carolina and the absentee ballot racket.

The Citizen regrets to say that it scarcely blames those who are inquisitive. Among them is the House Campaign Investigating Committee, which has sent an agent into the 9th Congressional District to look into alleged ballot irregularities.

True, the House committee is to some extent partisan, for it is headed and staffed in part by Republicans. Yet we believe the committee will be circumspect in its investigation. Absentee balloting clearly has got out of hand in half a dozen Western counties, to say nothing of the 9th District. Peddling of these ballots is not only a violation of State law but is prohibited by Federal statute and carries a heavy penalty.

The least that may be said for the issuance of large numbers of absentee ballots in certain Western counties is that some of them go legitimately to persons who are living temporarily in other states or are serving in the armed forces. Lack of job opportunity has compelled many persons in the Westernmost counties to emigrate to Northern industrial cities, but they keep their citizenship in North Carolina.

When that is said, however, all justification vanishes. The 1,200 absentee ballots issued in Macon County, for example, represent between one-sixth and one-fifth of the electorate. It is inconceivable that so large a population of any county could be absent or incapacitated on election day.

The situation in the embattled 9th District of course bears close scrutiny not alone by a congressional committee but also by State and local authorities. The net effect of complaints and charges in this district and in the counties to the West is a black mark on the good name of North Carolina.

Who among us Tar Heels wants to brag that North Carolina has furnished the only complaint to date about election irregularities which has been filed with the House Campaign Investigating Committee? To all intents we're the exception, not the rule, and a sad one. — Asheville Citizen

POLICEWOMEN DON'T WINK

Most policewomen are probably more soft hearted than they seem, willing to wink at many minor infractions of the law. Wise women rarely wink at anything or anybody, especially the policewomen of Lubbock, Texas.

The city of Lubbock is equipped with 1,100 parking meters, devices for controlling the parking problem and raising municipal revenue. It is reported that the take from the meters has increased 400 per cent since women took over the meter beat, slightly over a year ago.

This does not necessarily mean that women are more law-abiding than men, since it is likely that more women than men park cars on the streets of Lubbock. It does suggest that women are tougher than men when it comes to keeping other people in line with law. — The Philadelphia Bulletin

THE NEW ARMY

Each mother should appreciate the Army's new decision to be rougher with the troops, since it will mean that the other soldiers are finally going to get the same treatment her son writes home about. — Columbia, Ga. Star

EXTENDING THE TOURIST SEASON

Much has been said and little has been done about extending the tourist season in Transylvania and adjoining counties.

However, the Waynesville Mountain strongly points out editorially this week that one area in Western North Carolina, Fontana Village, is doing something about it and the results are amazing.

That's right, Fontana Village is proving the idea that the tourist season cannot be extended beyond Labor Day not only wrong, but is proving that the month of October is an extremely profitable month, to say nothing of the extra business in September.

Our neighboring paper points out that officials of Fontana found that by putting a little extra promotion back of their fall business, they are now finding it is becoming one of the most profitable seasons of the year. Of course it is not as big as August, but the extra business is paying off big dividends for the cost of promotion.

A national program is being started to encourage industry to stagger vacations throughout the year, rather than lump them in July and August. This plan will give more business in the late fall, and early spring months.

Fontana is finding that constant promoting, and providing the visitors with something to do, is paying off in dollars and cents in proportions which several years ago was believed impossible.

The "rocking chair" tourist is almost a thing of the past. That era, passed with the coming of the automobile.

Today, there are thousands of travelers on the road every day of the year, and it is those places that are going after that travel, catering to their wishes, and their needs that are reaping the harvest.

We have something to offer them. The world's most beautiful coloring right here in our Pisgah National Forest, ideal climate, and probably most important of all, friendly people who are most generous with Southern hospitality. — Transylvania Times

IN DEFENSE OF GOSSIP

"Small towns have more gossip because it's more fun watching a game when you know the players," so said one S. C. Barry. A lot of stinging remarks about small town gossip are just plain jealousy. In a little town you know what's going on, good and bad, most of the time. In our larger cities, you know a little of what is going on part of the time. The city dweller seems lost and out of touch with the world when he goes to a small city and finds everyone so well informed. You don't have to be very sharp to put something over in a big town but you have to get up mighty early to pull the same thing in a small, grass roots city. Kinda burns the big bugs up to discover that the local citizenry (yokels to them) have figured them out so quickly.

So, even gossip, bad as it usually is, has its good points. Before you vent your wrath on a wagging tongue stop and think It's a mighty good feeling to know you live in a place where you know what is going on and the neighbors know you and what you're doing even though, at times, you wish they had a little more time to take care of their own business and a lot less time to run yours. We'll bet that you wouldn't have it any other way. — Okefenokee (Week) Valley Mirror

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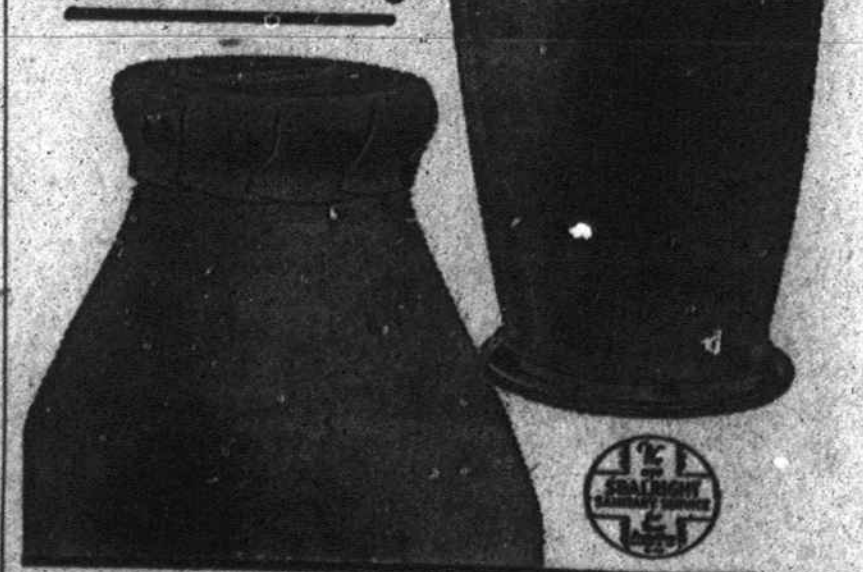
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