



The Kings Mountain Herald

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TODAY'S BIBLE VERSE

And all flesh shall see the salvation of God, St. Luke 3:6.

Catching Up

The decision of the city school trustees on the so-called Stowe site for a new elementary school building is another step in catching up on needs for more space to house the city's growing school population. It might be called the first major step of recent date, for it is a much larger one in both size and money required than the previous additions to West and East schools and also bigger than the new Negro elementary school. The trustees pondered long on the decision to locate, finally deciding to build on the Stowe site rather than the so-called Fulton site.

The latter seemed less cluttered, but several arguments favored the choice made, including a closer proximity to a crowded population area and a lesser proximity to other schools.

With the new elementary building, three of the city's main elementary schools will be located in what approximates an equilateral triangle. School trustees have indicated privately they anticipate a re-districting arrangement, after the building is completed, which will enable small children to attend school without crossing the mainline Southern Railway artery and less heavily-traveled streets.

With the site chosen and the architect at work, decision on plans, letting of contracts and actual construction will come in due time. However, it will most likely be 1956 before the new plant will be available for use. Meantime, all the existing plants for white students are being operated with some make-shift classrooms and abbreviated auditoria.

It reminds again of the projection of present school population curves which, if the birth rate continues as it has, means that much more school space will have to be provided if Kings Mountain is to avoid two-shift education in the reasonably near future. A sample was provided in the short-term situation at East school, recently ended by the opening of the new addition. The practice is in vogue in many communities of North Carolina now.

While the proposed North elementary school will alleviate the space shortage only momentarily, the 12-16 new rooms will be a great help, and will be welcomed by the parents of school children, not only in the site area but community-wide.

Draft Changes

Among the controversial subjects Congress will debate in the forthcoming session will be the plan of Defense Secretary Charles E. Wilson for providing manpower to the services.

The Wilson plan has been labeled already in several different ways, from Universal Military Training to Reserve Program. Both seem to fit in degree, yet basically the plan seems merely a variation on the Selective Service theme. Its terms tend to encourage a physically fit young man to get his service hitch behind him on completion of high school, with the reward a shorter term in the reserve, first active, then inactive. Should the physically fit young man defer the initial training, he would be in the reserve force longer.

While details of the plan are many-sided and perhaps not completely unfolded, there is some logic to the proposal, considering the fact of the nation's intention to maintain more than a semblance of military strength and the fact that discharged servicemen already are in the reserve force for several years. Completion of high school is also a logical time for the young man to serve — when he is unattached and fancy-free.

Of course, the whole military business is unfortunate and frequently wasteful. Fire insurance is in the same category, until the house burns to the ground.

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.

Holiday business with Kings Mountain merchants topped all records. Sales were unusually brisk right up to the last minute Saturday night.

Social And Personal
Misses Jeanne Griffin and Marian Arthur spent yesterday in

Charlotte.

Mr. and Mrs. Haywood Allen, of Oakland, spent Christmas with relatives here.

Mrs. G. D. Hambricht, Mrs. Myron Rhine, and Miss Mary Helen Hambricht spent Christmas Day with relatives in Rock

Enter 1955

As the old year wanes, majority of Kings Mountain citizens can look back on an interesting, eventful and reasonably prosperous year, and can look ahead with hope for good days in 1955.

During 1954, unemployment scrolls were long for several months, and there were other happenings and events which it would have been nice not to have known. But the storms proved minor and were weathered and, almost uniformly, the prophets and seers of events to come exude optimism for the coming 365 days.

Booming construction is foreseen as booming even more, mining is predicted to continue its fabulous pace, and textiles are predicted to continue their snappack, begun in August. Meantime, the cost of living will remain "remarkably stable", the Secretary of the Treasury predicts. He is bulwarked by the recent statistical report which showed a six-tenths percent rise in a recent month and then only if a new '55 highway flyer were figured into the totals.

Internationally, the world prospects are for peace, in spite of the tensions and the multitude of trouble spots, and no more important prediction could come true for the world. The reasoning is that the potential antagonists do not consider themselves ready for winning a war and that the nations seeking peace will endeavor to handle any incidents with diplomatic rather than death-dealing weapons.

None can read the future with complete success, but the weight of opinion is that 1955 will be a happy and prosperous New Year, a happy thought and prospect for the farmer, the merchant, the manufacturer, the housewife, and everyone.

Local Improvements

Kings Mountain should be a better place in which to live at the end of 1955 than at its beginning.

Items:

1) By the end of 1955, Kings Mountain hospital's addition, bringing it to 50-bed capacity and into full hospital status, should be completed.

2) The city's program of public works should be nearing completion, meaning public recreation for the summer months, sewage service for many citizens now dependent on septic tank disposal, and a cessation from two summer's worry about the water supply.

3) The U. S. 29 by-pass of the community should be completed, resulting in less noise from the big truck traffic and less congestion on one of the city's principal thoroughfares.

These are among the more major projects underway.

All of them will contribute, along with the works of individuals, to make Kings Mountain a better community in which to live. And it is already among the state's better communities.

The Christmas holiday accident toll was another high figure. While the strong effort of the many agencies propagating highway safety seemed to have some effect in lowering the number of accident injuries and deaths, other types of accidents, particularly in the home, mounted over former years. Tragedies involving children — from Christmas tree fires to other similar accidents — filled the newspapers and saddened many families. Majority of them stemmed from the usual factor, human error. Down near Greenville, a newspaper reported, a driver had "straightened out a curve". His car found the tree in the path a sad landing place. Conceivably, the foot was too heavy on the throttle. A good rule for '55 is to take a measure of precaution in every activity.

Congratulations to Rev. Phillip Shore, Jr., who has been elected president of the Kings Mountain Ministerial association.

MARTIN'S MEDICINE

By Martin Harmon

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

It's time to predict and time to resolve.

m-m

It's hard to believe it, but another 365 days on the calendar have about run their course, the pages of the 1954 calendar have become wastebasket material, and the events of those days — some of them dull, some of them exciting, some of them profitable, some costly — are now relegated to history, some of the events recorded in print, some merely recorded in memory and some not even recorded at all.

m-m

Father Time is a fast man with the reaper, but as fast as he cuts, up comes another yearly cherub to offer prospects for more interesting events, fulfillment of hopes and dreams, and opportunities for accomplishment. Thus we're on the brink of 1955, bright and shiny as a newly-minted half-dollar.

m-m

While the old January 1 resolution practice is probably in vogue as much as ever, along with black-eyed peas and hog jowl for a luck-producing New Year's Day dinner, a new practice has been gaining momentum over the years and it is now customary for newspapers to print guesses by experts, actual and so-called, on the forthcoming pattern of events in the days and months ahead.

m-m

Thus Mr. Babson, on a neighboring page, sticks his neck out (for a slight fee) for the benefit and erudition of the populace on what gives for '55. It's an interesting discourse and worthy of reading. Mr. Babson is not timid, listing his guesses on about 40 subjects concerning the economy as Americans may expect it in the months to come. And Mr. Babson is just one of many. For almost all the business publications plus many family magazines and news sheets publish at this season the forecasts of economists, politicians, financiers and business tycoons.

m-m

Remembering last year, it would appear the consensus of opinion is that 1955 will start on a higher level of activity than did currently retiring 1954. Last year the predictions were not too rosy, but they were usually accompanied by "it won't be too bad a year" phrases which some construed as whistling in the dark.

m-m

The prediction currently is for a healthy first-half of activity in almost all directions.

m-m

Remembering the hindsight-better-than-foresight dictum, I present the above repertorially, without crashing the prognosticator circle.

m-m

At resolutions, I can do somewhat better, though history shows they sometimes make the ash heap mighty quickly. The custom frequently involves resolutions for change of habit or habits and that's where the ash heap gets its pile. Habit is a wonderful and terrible proposition. Were it not for habit, everything would run out-of-kilter. Folk wouldn't get to work on time, or would forget to get to work at all. It is hard to change the so-called good habits, once ingrained, just as it is seemingly impossible to change the bad ones.

m-m

Inventorying, I find a long list of habits it would be desirable to change. I could quit smoking (again), but I probably won't. I could resolve on the semi-annual dental check-up to considerable advantage, and I could resolve to firmly set bunk time at 11 p. m., all of which would make worthwhile changes in my pattern of living. But my worse habit, I think, is getting up on the wrong side of the bed — displaying an incorrigible early morning disposition which finds me snapping heatedly at any untoward noise, be it alarm clock bell, musical note from the cooking department, or conversation over the morning headlines. My yawning out time usually runs from 30 to 40 minutes.

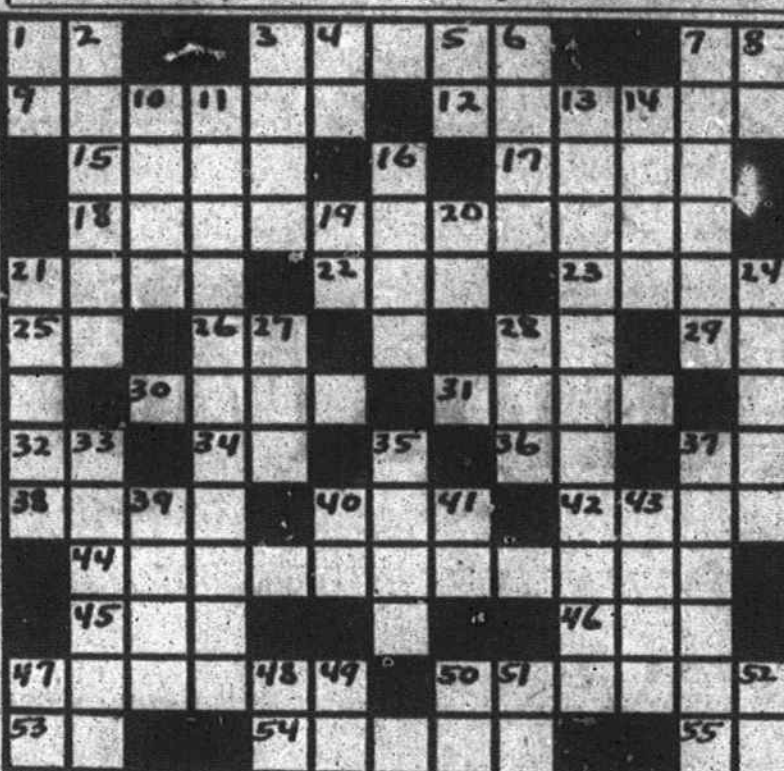
m-m

I do envy and admire the many people who awake in gay, bright spirit, full of zip and zest for the world about them and the affairs of the day. While I have improved somewhat on the yawning out, I have some distance to go.

m-m

It's not long 'til '55. Happy New Year to each and all!

CROSSWORD • • • By A. C. Gordon



ACROSS

1—Taste
7—Parent
9—Occur
12—Woollier
15—Writer
17—The best way out
18—A representative
21—Squalor
22—An inebriate
23—Admiral's measure
25—Public announcement
26—Male nickname
28—In the direction of
29—Chemical symbol for calcium
30—Birthplace of "The Bard"
31—Laden with years
32—Pretit of unity
33—Admiral's measure
36—In connection with
37—Literary Education (abbr.)

DOWN

1—Exclamation
2—Created a racket at the front door
3—Tennis chapters
4—Indefinite article
5—Belonging to
6—Danger to the sailor
7—Kind of measure
8—Unit of area
10—Author of "The Raven" (poet)
11—Persistent
12—Aware of personal contingency and freedom
14—To watch the calories
16—Very soiled
19—None
20—That thing
21—Sharp instrument
24—Makes like a mad man
27—Swedish title
28—Time past
29—Managerate
32—Tree
37—Delicate
38—Charles Lamb's pen-name
40—Musical note
42—To unravel
43—Indefinite article
47—Indefinite suffix
48—Chemical symbol for uranium
49—Three-fold cloth
51—Behold!
52—Junior's father

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

Viewpoints of Other Editors

NO OPPOSITION

Mr. Hoey told this one: Your distinguished president indicated that I had held a great many political offices, and I have. When I was 17 years of age, along the same time I was running this newspaper, I went as a delegate to a congressional convention that met over the mountains in my state. In those days, you know, we nominated the members of Congress in conventions, and at this convention the delegates were filled up with things, a good many of them, other than enthusiasm. We stayed in session all night, trying to nominate a candidate. Early morning came, sunrise, and we adjourned for breakfast. In that town close by was living a distinguished educator, Dr. R. L. Abernethy, who was then president of Rutherford College, a tall, handsome man who wore a Prince Albert coat and silk hat and presented a very impressive appearance. One delegate, half intoxicated, didn't know who he was and clapped him on the shoulder and said, "What office are you running for?" "I am a candidate for the kingdom of Heaven," said Dr. Abernethy. "Brother," said the inebriated one, "you will be elected. There is not another man in this town running against you." — *We The People*.

KISSING ROOM

A news story from Philadelphia tells us that there is at least one architect in this country who is not unmoved by romance. Of course there may be others, but this one is brave enough to declare his feelings. What this country needs, he says, is a kissing room at every airport — (and presumably railroad stations and bus terminals); where husbands and wives, or those who plan to be husbands and wives, who are about to be parted by the means of transportation, can say goodbye with proper tenderness shielded from the vulgar gaze. Apparently such a room would be properly furnished and to make the privacy complete, should be divided into booths with curtains like a voting place.

There is one major objection and one minor objection to this plan. The minor one is that it would cost considerable money. Unless the federal government could be persuaded that this was one of the things the government owed the people.

But the big objection that it is very doubtful if the kissers would use it, or whether it would decrease the amount of kissing that takes place at the gates. Imagine a fellow saying to his girl, "let's go into the kissing room." Out the window goes all spontaneity and romance.

Says the girl, "What's the matter? Ashamed to be seen kissing me?" So they would separate mad instead of sweetly sad. And the kissing room would have to have a doorman who would demand to see your ticket before going in the room to make sure this was really goodbye kissing and not just ordinary smooching. Also some method would have to be found to put time limit on goodbyes, or you would have potential travellers on the 11:30 p. m. starting to say goodbye at 6:15 p. m. The fellow has wonderful intentions, but it won't work. — *Kingsport, Tenn. Times*.

SAME OLD ACTS

All the world is a stage — and right now the show being presented is lousy. — *The Davenport Iowa Democrat*.

FORGETTING PEARL HARBOR

President Roosevelt called it "a day that will live in infamy!" Somebody even wrote a song that started off "Let's remember Pearl Harbor, as we go to meet the foe; Remember Pearl Harbor, as we did the Alamo." . . .

Despite these predictions, it is apparent that the American people, or at least the segment of the people that we come in contact with, have just about forgotten December 7, which came and went this week with no formal notice and very little notice of any kind.

We did see one friend, filling out some kind of blank that had to have a date on it, who asked, "What's the date of today?" When told that it was December 7, he muttered "By George!" and then made some comment about how the date of the Japanese attack had slipped into oblivion in 13 short years.

We went to a civic club meeting the night of December 7; no comment at all was made on the occasion, if it was an occasion.

This is, we think, for the best. Time has passed. It is best that a nation live in the present, looking to the future. Our former enemies are now assuming the status of trusted friends; some of our former allies are now, clearly, our major enemies.

Let's remember Pearl Harbor, but only as a reminder that another similar attack would be far more disastrous than that one was, even knocking out a major portion of our fleet as it did.

Let's be on guard — but let's look forward, not backward. — *Forest City Courier*.

NOT STUPID

From Charlie Craven's column in the "News and Observer" comes the story of the Raleigh man who was on his way home from a service station where he had just had a flat tire changed.

The man noticed that the car wasn't driving as it should and so he stopped to see what was the matter. He pulled off to the side of the road in front of the state mental institution which is located in Raleigh.

A quick examination of the car revealed that the mechanic who had changed the tire had failed to put the lugs back on the bolts, and the wheel was wobbling and almost off.

The man stood by the car scratching his head in puzzlement, wondering how he was going to get the car back to the service station.

As he stood there looking at the wheel and wondering what to do, an inmate and a guard from the institution came up.

"What can I do," the man asked the guard.

The guard didn't say anything, but the patient spoke up. "That's simple. Take one lug off each of the other three wheels and put on the fourth wheel, and then you can drive the car back to the service station."

The man turned to the patient in amazement.

"That's okay," said the patient, "I'm crazy, but I'm not stupid." — *Jim Parker, Chatham News*.

LOTS MORE

"There are musical notes which are inaudible to the human ear," says a scientist. We want more of this kind. — *Punch (London)*.

U. S. Dairywomen produced nine million pounds of milk in October, slightly more than a year earlier and the most for the month in 25 years of record.

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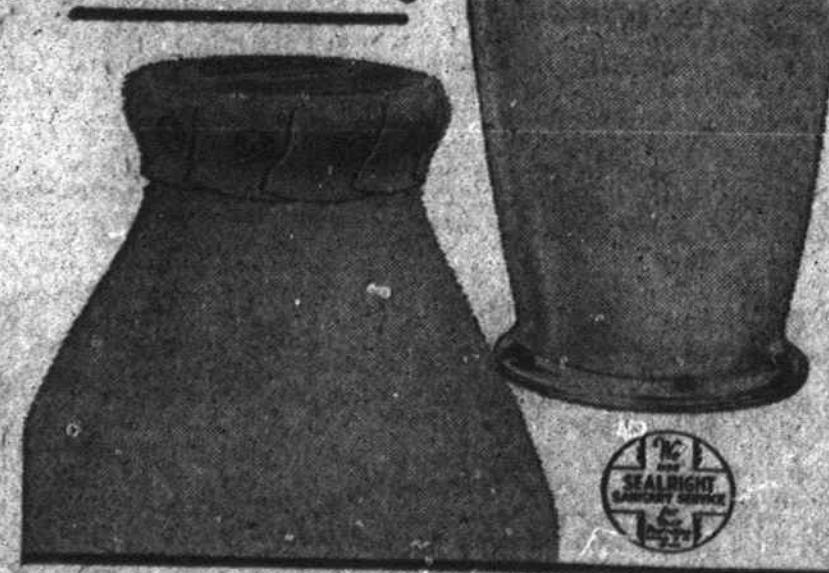
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