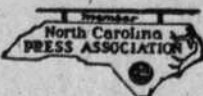




# The Kings Mountain Herald

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 vicinity, published every Thursday by the Herald Publishing House.

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### TODAY'S BIBLE VERSE

Be not hasty in thy spirit to be angry; for anger resteth in the bosom of fools. Proverbs 7:9.

### Interesting Figures

While too many figures sometimes make dull reading to many, there are several interesting ones in the recent report of city officials on tax valuation, total levy, and pre-payments.

Among them:

1) Realty values on the tax roll increased during a 12-month period ending last January 1 by \$138,000.

2) Motor vehicle values on the city books declined \$31,000 but still aggregated a good-sized \$800,000.

3) More than half the current year's tax levy has already been paid.

Since 1955 has been a bigger building year than 1954 (the recession year), it is normal to assume that the total of realty values will increase for this year by even more than the \$138,000.

And the shakeout in automobile values, which began in 1953, should be over for two reasons. "Blue book" wholesale values are probably at their foreseeable low and 1955 has been a big car-buying year, here as elsewhere. Newer models will go on the books for 1956. It is a safe guess that at least 400 new cars have been bought by Kings Mountain citizens during the present year and more will be bought as the new models begin to appear, beginning next week.

Thus the aggregate indication is that Kings Mountain's total tax valuation for 1956 will rise, probably past the \$10 million figure, ending a two-year period in which the total valuation figure has been virtually static. The same situation will undoubtedly obtain for Cleveland County.

If this occurs, it will mean a slight easing of pressure on both the city and county commissioners to escalate tax rates. Both units of government have, within the past two years, upped their bonded indebtedness to provide new and expanded public facilities, thereby adding large fixed costs — for bond retirement and interest — to the annual budget requirements.

The trend of tax figures also indicate a more important fact, that the community is continuing to grow on a solid foundation, and that a good portion of the citizens are sufficiently careful of their financial affairs to be able to pay their tax bills, not only on time, but ahead of time.

### School Space Needs

Fifth day enrollment figures at the six city schools showed a population gain over the comparable day of 1954 of 72. It does not seem a considerable gain until viewed in the light of required classroom space.

The present teaching load in North Carolina schools is 30 pupils per teacher. This does not mean that a teacher may not have more than 30 pupils, as many do, but that is the formula on which teachers are allotted to the schools.

Seventy-two pupils spells out to two-plus additionally required classrooms, and already many make-shift arrangements have been made to house the pupils and to avoid two-shift schooling.

School folk think the new north plant, a 14-room elementary school, will be ready by opening day 1956.

At the current rate of school enrollment increase, the city schools will be back in the same ditch in six years. It is a matter not only for the school officials to think about, but all citizens, too.

Congratulations to Arnold Lee Jackson, Kings Mountain native, who has already been promoted to manager of Fieldcrest Mills' synthetic fibre plant at Spray.

Our congratulations to S. C. Ratterree, elder citizen, who recently attained his ninety birthday.

### 10 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

Items of news about Kings Mountain area people and events taken from the 1945 files of the Kings Mountain Herald.

Lt. Humes Houston, of Kings Mountain, has been awarded the bronze star medal for heroic achievement in connection with military operations in Germany, according to a copy of the citation accompanying the award recently received here.

Social and Personal  
The WMS of Boyce Memorial ARP church entertained at a silver tea in the educational building last Thursday evening.

Mrs. J. S. Norman was hostess at the monthly meeting of the Thursday Afternoon Book club at her home last week.

Charles Moss, Jr., has returned to State College, Raleigh, to resume his studies.

## MARTIN'S MEDICINE

By Martin Harmon

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

At City Hall the other morning as I was gathering the latest facts and figures, one of the auditors with A. M. Pullen Company moved over to inquire of Gene Mitcham about certain records and his voice came out with notable accent.

m-m

I listened a little, then curiously inquired, "Are you Scot or English?", mentally reasoning that, were he Scot, Dave Rae and he could have an old home week get-together.

m-m

"Ha!", he accented.

m-m

I was right much off base. He repeated his name a couple of times at least, but I still don't have it. At any rate, I got the "Hungarian" report. This long, spare, lank drink-of-water came from Hungary in 1938. Was he a refugee from the Hitlerian onslaught? Either I did not ask or understand the answer. He was not Jewish, one good reason for taking a powder in the Hitler heyday.

m-m

He wanted to know if I knew whether General Sloan lives in Asheville, as he had heard, for he wants to look him up. I didn't, though I was able to say that Asheville does very well on the business of making itself available to retired generals. At least, MacArthur's ex-chief of staff lives on Asheville's Charlotte street. Had he heard it, General Sloan probably lives there.

m-m

In civilian status, the auditing Hungarian friend wants to have a confab with General Sloan, whom the Hungarian lists as "the only general I ever cussed out."

m-m

The Hungarian was serving in the 88th army something-or-other during World War II and moving out some wounded GI's under fire. The situation was getting a little over-loaded, and the Hungarian auditor turned to the helmeted, combat-attired guy closest and barked, "Why in heck don't you lend a hand?" The guy did. The next look our auditing friend took revealed the bronze star of generalship on the lapel of the fatigue outfit.

m-m

His face took on a nice crimson hue and he stuttered out apologies, receiving a relieving laugh for a reply.

m-m

"He was a good Joe," the Hungarian says, and I'd like to see him again.

m-m

Gene Mitcham says the auditor learned to speak English via records, which, mayhap, accounts for his strange accent, indeed a combination of British preciseness and Scot burr.

m-m

Languages are quite interesting, but I have little adeptness for them. School study of Latin and French produced a minor reading ability, but no conversational fluency, even though exposed in French-speaking French Morocco. One trouble: the French all spoke English better than most of the Americans spoke French and delighted in practicing on the Anglo-American acquaintances. I do remember one telephone number which, written out, read like this: "A douze quatre-vingt six". In English: "A 1286". The English is a bit simpler. And Arabic is out-of-this world. I never even mastered the word for "bread" which sounded like it might be spelled "harobs", with the first syllable a cough and the accented last soundings like "rubs".

m-m

With the world internationalizing, through traffic, trade, and growing closeness due to jet-age speeds, knowledge of languages will become more and more important. A linguist should become more and more necessary to the scheme of world movement. Education shifts and shifts. There had been a movement away from the old-fashioned "straight A. B." to more specific training in the sciences and trades. Does the new era portend a re-make of the cultural, now become practical? Perhaps only in degree. And, of course, the cultural-practical will perhaps foreshadow the coming of the earth-wide language.

m-m

If you and I probably don't see the day, will today's preschoolers?

m-m

In ten years this 600 mile per hour speed in the ozone won't excite the newspaper and television editors. It'll be commonplace to have breakfast in New York, lunch in London or Paris, and dinner back home in New York.



### Viewpoints of Other Editors

#### CUTTING TAXES "FOOLHARDY"

Perhaps the most disturbing information which has come out of Washington in the past ten days was contained last week in a news story about the possibility of balancing the federal budget this year.

Part of a paragraph in this story was as follows:

"Legislative leaders in both parties have begun to talk enthusiastically about cutting taxes in advance of next year's general elections."

The federal debt at the present time stands at about \$280 billion, an obligation that is burdensome to the nation and will continue to be a threat to our economic structure so long as no effort is made to reduce it. Yet we have "legislative leaders" who are more concerned with outcome of the 1956 elections than they are with the economic stability of the government.

The observation is often made that we need statesmen in Washington rather than politicians, and here is a clear instance that confirms the observation.

It is true that Senator Byrd, head of the Senate Finance Committee, has cautioned against any "foolhardy" or premature action. But the Senator's influence is not strong enough to check the actions of election-wise politicians.

All of us would welcome tax reductions, but to cut taxes drastically would make it impossible to begin to reduce the government's debt.

It seems to us imperative that a schedule of regular debt retirement should be included in the federal budget. If it is good business for an individual to live within his income, this rule certainly applies to the government of that individual. — Stanly News & Press.

#### "MINT," NOT GREEN

For many years Senator Matthew M. Neely of West Virginia, who is quite an individualist on matters of personal taste, was about the only man ever seen in Washington in green clothes.

Senator Neely, it appears has lots of company this year and it is predicted that green clothes for men will be even more popular next year. An official of the Clothing Manufacturers association explains the change this way.

"We have never been able to sell green clothes to men. This year we have been calling them mint. They're the same color, but they have been going over great."

Maybe it is about time for men to stop laughing at women's fashions. — Raleigh News and Observer.

The delivery boy from the fish-monger's presented his package to the maid with the simple announcement, "It's C. O. D."

The girl bristled up and replied, "You needn't spell it out for me — and, besides, the mistress ordered haddock." — Montreal Star.

#### ONE ON THE DOCTOR

The best cure for insomnia, says a doctor, is to sleep with all the bedroom windows open. This is one of the few sleeping drafts that can be obtained without a doctor's prescription. — Humorist.

#### LOOKS LIKE A LONG TIME

So long as the average citizen lets the possession of considerable money determine a person's importance, the country will have crooks, racketeers and gangsters. — Lake Mills (Towa) Graphic.

#### UNFAIR TO THE ANTS

A talking picture of an ant hill is to be produced this year. One more illusion will go its way when we can listen to ants wasting a lot of time in idle gossip. — New York Sun.

#### ALL OF THEM

"There are 12 types of drunks," says a police official. We know them well. They range from obnoxious to obnoxious. — Cincinnati Enquirer.

#### EDUCATION PAYS BIG DIVIDENDS

Inasmuch as school enrollment got under way today in the Elkin school system, and will begin within days at some of the neighboring schools, this seems like a good time to mention some of the findings of the U. S. Department of Labor's Wage and Hour Division and its bearing upon the wage-earning power of those who did and did not complete school.

Frank Muench, who is acting regional director of the Wage and Hour Division of the Department of Labor, urges teenagers who have quit school to return to high school this fall. He points out the result of a 1950 census, which showed that a return to high school will mean thousands of dollars to the average youngster. One of the findings of the 1950 census was that men over 24 who had completed eight years of grade school received an average annual income of \$2,533. Those who had graduated from high school, however, averaged \$3,285 a year, an increase of over \$700.

Moreover, the same study showed that those who had four years of college received an average annual wage of \$4,407. This is an increase of about \$1,500 over the average annual earnings of men over 24, who only had eight years of grade school.

It was also pointed out that the cash value of finishing the last year of high school, measured over a period of 40 working years, resulted in earnings of about \$15,000 for men and \$20,000 for women.

We are all too familiar with the success stories of many business men who did not finish school. Their achievements are remarkable, and these men are sometimes the community's leading businessmen and best citizens. However, these are the exception rather than the rule. They do not change statistics.

#### MOSS AND WEEDS IN THE COURTS

Federal Judge John J. Parker again urges lawyers and judges to do something to rid the courts of the moss and weeds that sprout from almost every avenue of court procedure.

He says some cases take four years to reach trial. A layman would say other cases take longer than that. Nearly every movement associated with the courts is subjected to delay, tedium, postponement, and setbacks.

The parties to a case grow old or die before they can reach the witness stand. The cumbersomeness of court procedures wears out judges and lawyers alike.

In many courts delay has become a habit and is so ingrained in all hands that a speed-up is regarded with suspicion.

In some cases delay is justified in order that tempers and prejudices may have time to cool off.

But such cases are fairly rare. Most of the more commonplace and routine cases could be disposed of without delay if custom and habit did not interfere.

The crowded condition of many dockets has become scandalous, and grows worse instead of better.

Judge Parker points out that such conditions cause loss of respect for the courts and for the law.

When such a state of mind is reached, it is high time for reform. The Rip Van Winkles should no longer be relied upon to make it. Forward-looking lawyers should make the changes before exasperated legislation comes in. — From Chapel Hill News Leader

#### THE REASON

A college president says students have changed very little in the past 30 years. This is why parents who have sons or daughters in college worry. — Life

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