



The Kings Mountain Herald

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EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT

Martin Harmon Editor-Publisher
David Baity Advertising Salesman and Bookkeeper
Miss Elizabeth Stewart Circulation Manager and Society Editor
Neale Patrick Sports Editor

MECHANICAL DEPARTMENT

Eugene Matthews Horse Walker Wade Hartsoe, Jr.
Paul Jackson Monte Hunter

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TODAY'S BIBLE VERSE

Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he. Proverbs 29:18.

The Zoning Matter

More people (and there would be a plurality of women) have made themselves miserable, even to the point of illness, by worrying about and trying to manage their neighbors' property.

It is quite natural for the ladyfolk to be proud of their homes. This pride is the reason that Kings Mountain and other communities get reputations for real estate beauty and symmetry.

Pride in home ownership, cleanliness and beauty has given birth to zoning, a relatively new concept in government when compared to the adoption of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States.

Certain lessons of these two masterful documents are sometimes forgotten and should not be.

This nation was founded on the cornerstone of private property rights and the zoning law, in effect, is a controversy of that basic cornerstone. Harry Truman, ex-President, is hated by conservatives and labeled an ultra-liberal. Yet he said he would kick off any sit-downers he didn't want on his property. He realized the inherent right (in the democratic, republican United States) of private property.

The Fulton Administration fathered Kings Mountain's zoning law, in full knowledge that the city was already heavily commingled between business and residences and between residences and industrial plants. The zoning law was enacted on the better-late-than-never theory.

This original act has been amended only by spot re-zoning, more usually where the re-zoning requests were uncontested.

All members of the present Bridges Administration and many citizens know that some planned major re-zoning of the city is long overdue. But re-zoning is a political hot potato and, with other matters continually pressing, the city commission has left the hard re-zoning chore on the futuristic agenda.

The request by Boyce Memorial Associate Reformed Presbyterian church for re-zoning of about one-third of its church plant site for business (the two-thirds was originally zoned for business) is one of the thorniest zoning hot potatoes any city commission has faced. The request of the church, with about 300 active members, is opposed by almost all the citizens who reside in the 100-block of North Piedmont avenue.

Certainly the ARP members appreciate the position of the opposing citizens. Most of these homes are in the \$30,000-up class and it is natural for these citizens to seek to protect their valuable residences.

Majority of the ARP members, however, feel that the opponents of the zoning change aren't being very charitable to the ARP position. The ARP majority knows that the modern super market is a good neighbor. Refuse is contained completely within the super market in a refuse room. A key to this room is given to the city sanitary department. Additionally, the outside premises and parking area are kept close to spotlessly clean.

Some of the opponents and some of the ARP minority decry a church's going, in effect, into business. Perhaps it is a departure from conservative ARP policy. The majority reasons it this way: Ten or fifteen years hence, when the investment debt is liquidated, it will be possible for Boyce Memorial ARP church to send to college any church child who can't pay college expenses, to maintain more missionaries in Mexico and Pakistan, to help even more to develop the summer assembly grounds and Dunlap Orphanage, and to pay its pastors better.

The Herald agrees with the ARP majority position, urges the city commission to rezone the contested 58 feet on North Piedmont avenue, and sincerely asks the friends of the 100-block on North Piedmont avenue to consider, at least, the reasoning of the ARP majority.

As Of Now

Political predictions are always hazardous. Herald reporters have interviewed all of the four candidates for the Democratic nomination for governor. Each, asked to assess his position in the race, has replied he'll be first, an obvious improbability.

The title of this editorial comment is also apropos. The situation of today can change overnight.

As of now, the Herald believes the order of finish in the gubernatorial sweepstakes will be Terry Sanford to win going away, John Larkins to finish a somewhat distant second, Malcolm Seawell to show at the third spot, and Dr. Beverly Lake to finish fourth. There's one difference between political horse races and those run by horses. In horse races, owners of first, second and third placers collect cash. In political races, all the trophies go to the winner.

The Herald is solidly in favor of Mr. Sanford and recognizes that the wish can easily father the thought. But the Herald has some logic behind its current assessment. Over the weekend, the Northampton County News published the results of its recent survey of North Carolina editors. The question asked was not which candidate the particular editor favored for governor, but what was the editorial assessment of the thinking in his community. The result of this poll showed Mr. Sanford to have three votes to a combined total of one over all his opponents.

The Herald thinks Mr. Sanford the outstanding candidate, but also feels North Carolina will be in safe hands should Mr. Larkins or Mr. Seawell be successful on May 28.

Should Mr. Sanford stump his toe and fail to make the second primary, the Herald would support Mr. Larkins. Both these gentlemen fielded some hot political questions posed by the Herald to the Herald's complete satisfaction. Mr. Seawell was equally frank. Dr. Lake danced.

The Herald's principal opposition to Mr. Seawell is the fact he did not announce his candidacy, apparently, until given the go-ahead by Governor Luther Hodges, sometimes referred to as "Sir Luther" or as "Ole Hodge".

Make no mistake. The Herald feels that history will record Governor Hodges as another of North Carolina's great governors. There are many accomplishments by Governor Hodges but two alone are sufficient: 1) the Governor's highly successful industry-seeking, and 2) the Pearsall plan, sired and sold by Luther Hodges and, thus far, an effective answer to the Supreme Court's order to desegregate the public schools and, thus far, a preventive to the head-cracking of Little Rock, Ark., Clinton, Tenn., and other southern cities.

Conversely, Luther Hodges has been Governor for six years. The Herald feels Mr. Seawell a bit too closely tied to Governor Hodges and thinks it time for a change of pitchers. Some say Malcolm Seawell will wear no other man's collar. Yet the rule of politics is that a man pays his debts, and Malcolm Seawell is a Presbyterian gentleman who undoubtedly pays his debts, both monetary and political.

Dr. Lake would turn the clock back 95 years. He won't spell out how he intends to turn that clock back, which labels him a political opportunist who hopes to ride into the Governor's Mansion on the wave of the old white supremacy, damyankee appeal.

These are the "why's" of the Herald's 1960 thinking on the gubernatorial race.

Sign It

Almost all people decry the anonymous note and the so-called poison pen letter. A person or persons not willing to sign their names to their statements usually have a bill of goods to sell and the goods, just as usually, can be kin to stale butter, too-old eggs and preconceived, rigid ideas.

Such was the case in the advertisement appearing in the Shelby Star last Friday and placed by "Citizens For Improvement to Rural Schools."

There were some very questionable statements of fact in this particular advertisement, in addition to its general short-sightedness.

The Herald will not accept for publication advertisements on the school merger or any other issue unless signed by at least one person.

The Herald has learned who placed the particular Star advertisement, will be glad to tell anyone who asks.

MARTIN'S MEDICINE

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

The phone rang about noon last Saturday and the caller was Roy Wilder, publicist for Governor Candidate Terry Sanford. He wanted me to join Bob Gately of United Press International and Gene Roberts, of the Raleigh News and Observer for a "Meet the Press" television interview.

Said Roy, "There are no strings attached. Terry doesn't want the questions in advance and you can ask him anything you wish. Throw the barbed ones, curved ones and sliders. The rougher the better. But I have one request. Don't let there be any lag time. We're paying for the show and it costs a lot of money."

A WBTV advertising man told me later how much. The hours of 8 to 10 in the evening are considered tops, with repeated more audience than any other time in the telecasting day. The cost: \$300 per minute, or just \$4500 for the 15-minute "Meet the Press" program. The program was taped and at this writing I have not been informed which night it will be telecast.

I have some minor reputation for ability to throw the barbed questions and one of my three was really rough. I had been informed about two years ago that Terry had double-crossed the late Bill Umstead in the 1952 gubernatorial campaign. Terry, my informant had said, was Cumberland County campaign manager for Mr. Umstead. In fact, my informant said Terry fronted for Umstead, but with his other hand was boosting Judge Hubert Olive.

The tale had worried me ever since and I was determined to ask Terry about it. Certainly, the Kings Mountain Herald wants no double-dealer in the Governor's Mansion. The facts of the tale didn't square one iota with my previous dealings with Terry, yet my informant had never led me down the wrong path either. I decided here was the chance to get my answer, before God and everybody who sees the TV program. We're the story true, then Terry should not be Governor. Were it a libel it should be labeled as such. I knew it had already hurt him in some quarters.

Terry grinned broadly, said he was happy to answer. In the first place, he replied, he managed no Cumberland campaign in 1952 except Terry Sanford's. Terry himself was a candidate for the State Senate, had opposition, and said he was doing 99 percent of his politicking for himself. He was merely a voter in other races. Though he did not say it on television he told me later he had been approached by the Olive forces and proffered the job of state campaign manager. Though complimented, he declined because of his long friendship and association with Mr. Umstead and other members of the Umstead family. Terry's personal campaigning was effective. He won by about 4 to 1.

He was more charitable to my informant than I might have been. "No," he said, "John's just remembering incorrectly. He must have had a similar situation in another county. Judge Heman Clark was Cumberland manager for Umstead."

I was quite relieved. In fact, it felt like a ton of bricks had been removed from my shoulders.

Another interesting sidelight was a bit of Herald history supplied by Reporter Roberts. His father, he said, almost owned the Kings Mountain Herald at one time. After the Herald went bankrupt in the depression thirties, G. G. Page, the veteran editor (1913-29), bid in the property at the bankruptcy sale to protect his mortgage. Gene's father, who lived at Goldsboro, came here to see the property and Gene remembers that he went to the point of making a small cash deposit to bind the transaction. This did not suit Gene's mother. She liked Goldsboro and did not want to leave. Mr. Roberts was a friend of Haywood Lynch, also from Goldsboro, and told him about the property. Haywood came, looked and leased, with an option to buy the Herald, which he subsequently executed. Mr. Roberts bought a weekly paper at Goldsboro which was soon to be ill-fated. The Goldsboro News-Argus, a daily then under the ownership of Talbot Patrick, gutted the Roberts weekly with cut-throat competitive practices. The weekly went bankrupt. Meantime, Haywood quickly turned the Herald into a money-maker, if not a mint.

That's the way the ball bounces. If there's any moral to the tale, it's the fact that senti-

"Shouldn't We All Start Paddling?"



Viewpoints of Other Editors

LET WASHINGTON KEEP TALKING ABOUT ETHICS

When Paul Douglas went to the U. S. Senate from Illinois in 1949, he adopted his now-famed \$250 rule to cover gifts or hospitality from friends or would-be friends.

If a gift or a meal cost more than \$2.50, Douglas rejected it. Made it easier at Christmas, he said.

His rigid ethical code was not observed by others. There were mink coats and deep freezes during the Harry Vaughan tenure as aide to President Truman, vicuna coats and expensive rugs during the Sherman Adams reign as aide to President Eisenhower.

More recently, FCC Chairman John Doerfer got in a jam when he flew to Florida and back in a private plane belonging to broadcaster George Storer and was a guest on Storer's luxury yacht, "Lazy Girl". Doerfer quit under pressure.

A few days ago, Sen. William Proxmire of Wisconsin told the House subcommittee investigating the FCC that Congress ought to pass a law similar to a Wisconsin statute forbidding legislators to accept even a cigar or a martini from a lobbyist.

Now Rep. Peter Mack of Illinois, a member of the subcommittee, has gone Proxmire one better.

"If its more than a cigarette or a soft drink, don't take it," he suggested to the new FCC chairman, Frederick W. Ford.

We are not so naive as to believe that Douglas's \$250 rule, Proxmire's "cigar or martini" limit, or Mack's "cigarette or soft drink" suggestion will ever be enforced by law or observed by custom. Human nature is pretty much the same all over and it has yet to develop strong resistance to temptation.

But if the boys in Washington will just keep talking about ethics, the subject will at least be kept alive. That'll give our government officials something to worry about and, the folks back home something to beef about, both being traditional ingredients in the recipe for democracy. — Charlotte Observer.

OUR PROBLEMS

Crime costs this nation some \$22 billion a year — and "In the last 10 years something has happened to the American public that is worse than communism. A new kind of crime is sweeping the nation. People claim it's all right to be a little bit of a thief, to do a little wrong."

That indictment comes from a real authority — Juvenile Judge Gilliam of Denver. Naturally enough, he is particularly concerned about juvenile delinquency which, it is forecast, will double in the next 10 years. He says: "The belief seems to be 'Never get sore about anything. Don't fight the racketeer; you'd just get hurt.'"

"I ask boys why they stole, and they answered 'I didn't want to be a square.'"

"Can you imagine a great American who would say 'I didn't want to be chicken'?"

"Thomas Jefferson and George Washington were angry Americans."

What we are confronted with is a great gnawing moral problem. To quote Judge Gilliam once more, "We'll have delinquency as long as we have people who don't care, sloppy homes, people who excuse wrong-doing, poorly-trained teachers, filthy magazines and violent television programs."

And this problem is everybody's problem. — Stanley News & Press.

ment is expensive. Since the ladyfolk are inclined to be somewhat more sentimental than men, particularly where home and real estate is concerned, the average man should decline to accept the advice of his spouse in matters of business.

Even Oscar Myers used to tell his wife not to be bothering about burying him immediately when he succumbs. "Sell this business first," he would say, "then call Ollie Harris."

IT RESTS WITH THE VOTERS

Heavy registration has assured a healthy vote in the school consolidation election May 14.

At that time, patrons of the Grover, Bethware, Compact and Park Grace schools will decide whether to become a part of the Kings Mountain Administrative Unit.

There is little reason for anyone living in these districts to be uninformed on the issues. A series of meetings have been held in which county and Kings Mountain school administrations have freely answered the questions of the voters.

It boils down to deciding whether they will cast their lot in the immediate future with Kings Mountain or the county schools.

Kings Mountain promises a new high school conveniently located for the district in the future, and also holds out the promise of representation on its school board for the other localities.

It would temporarily consolidate high school pupils in Kings Mountain's present facilities next fall.

The county, on the other hand, promises a new high school conveniently located for No. 3, Grover and Bethware in the future. It would temporarily consolidate at No. 3 next fall.

Good advice has been given all those who are concerned about the future of their children. They are asked to vote their convictions in the matter, but asked not to let their differences rupture friendships in their communities.

We feel that the voters are now well acquainted with the facts. This was essential if an intelligent ballot was to be cast in the May 14 election. And, certainly, we are pleased that both sides of the picture have been so thoroughly presented.

In a sense, both sides have had ample opportunity to "sell" their propositions to the voters.

Regardless of which way the election goes, no one has a right to claim foul or seek to find a scapegoat.

The only way this matter could have been resolved without precipitating debate was by presenting only one side of the coin to the voters.

They have heard both sides, and the choice is now theirs alone. — The Shelby Daily Star.

BLOW YOUR TOP AND LIVE LONGER

Blowing your top when you get mad is real good for your blood pressure, according to Dr. Donald Oken, a Chicago psychiatrist.

After studying 10 psychiatric patients, Dr. Oken wrote in the current issue of the American Medical Association's Archives of general psychiatry, "Persons who inhibit anger will have a higher blood pressure than those who more freely express the anger. Hypertension may be the result of chronically inhibited angry feelings."

So the next time the neighbor's dog digs up your front lawn, do not try to see the dog's or the neighbor's side of it, yell your head off. And feel great! — Chapel Hill Weekly.

10 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

Items of news about Kings Mountain area people and events taken from the 1950 files of the Kings Mountain Herald.

Jan. Cash, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David E. Cash, was crowned May Queen at the annual May Day program presented at the high school Tuesday night.

Kings Mountain registrars spent a busy day last Saturday, as they opened new books for the May 27th Democratic primary.

Social and Personal
The Junior Woman's Club met Monday night in the clubhouse with Mrs. W. B. Logan and Miss Lula Mae Teague, hostesses.

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