

The Kings Mountain Herald

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TODAY'S BIBLE VERSE

Comfort your hearts, and establish you in every good word and work. II Thessalonians 2:17.

Schools In 1960

The nation is observing American Education Week, considering the amount of investment the nation makes in education, the number of people collaborating to provide instruction, and the number of youthful crania seeking to absorb instruction, would make these November days more worthy of comment than some of the "weeks" Americans are prone to observe.

America and Americans owe much of their success to education, and a perusal of the biographies of early American leaders will show that education did not come easily and was expensive to obtain. Indeed, every school child gets an early lesson in the studying Abraham Lincoln did by the light of an open fire, and that wasn't long over a century ago.

North Carolina got its big educational push in 1900 and its educational facilities and caliber of instruction have been on the road up ever since.

As recently as in 1911, the Cleveland County board of education issued a proud year-end report. The value of its rural school property had reached the astounding figure of \$29,000, including 83 schools, only one of which remained of log construction.

Today, \$29,000 might build three rooms, if the specifications aren't too complicated, and the bidders rather hungry.

Education is big business in North Carolina today and it continues to attract the considerable interest of a majority of North Carolinians.

There are good reasons: an educated citizen is a better citizen, earning more for himself and producing more. In a competitive world, where the stakes, many think, are freedom versus slavery, education may mean the difference between freedom and subjugation.

The term education, as it applies in Kings Mountain and much of North Carolina, means public education, and few associated with education would argue that the schools were better in an earlier day. They weren't.

Teachers are better trained, breadth of curriculum is greater, and teaching tools are more varied and in greater supply. One reason the schools are doing a better job is that today's parents are better-educated than they were 30 and 40 years ago.

Attention is being called to the duties of lay citizens to the schools.

There are several. Parents of school children should lend parental discipline to that of the teachers. Criticism should be constructive rather than destructive. Citizens should not be niggardly in providing funds for needed facilities.

World Freedom

The freedom won by the struggling American colonies from Great Britain in 1781 has sparked a continuing revolution around the world which continues to be evidenced in the emergence of new nations.

The once-popular imperialism of nations, as marked by colonialism, is waning by leaps and bounds. The demise of colonialism began after World War I, but has been accelerated vastly since the end of World War II.

On the whole, if the experience of the United States is a criterion, the movement is good in the long run.

But there are examples at the moment which make it appear that nationalism is winning in some areas years, if not decades, too soon. Certainly this is true of the strife of the Congo, and in many other areas it is to be considered. And who would argue that Cuba's history, since local autonomy was attained, has been a model for self-determination in government?

Apparently, in dealing with many of these nations, others have a choice of dealing with and supporting governments which major in corruption or taking an alternate chance of dealing with revolutionaries who seldom think they can stop their killing, once the coup becomes successful.

Dealing with these emerging nations poses a major problem for the free world in a cold war.

Two Changes Needed

It is hoped that a change or two in voting arrangements will be made before another election, certainly before another quadrennial election involving the presidency.

One is local.

The law of North Carolina requires that a person, to qualify to be a voting citizen, must, in addition to being 21, literate, sane, unconvicted of a felony, etc., have resided in North Carolina for one year and within the precinct for 30 days.

Certainly there were some citizens, continuously of the United States, who had moved to North Carolina during late 1959 and the forepart of 1960, who were disfranchised on Tuesday due to the one-year requirement in the statute.

Some (depending on the laws of the state from which they removed) were able to vote in that state as an absentee, though, when they moved here, they established permanent residence in North Carolina. Others could not.

The more ardent of the let's-get-out-the-vote contingent might jump to the quick conclusion that the federal Congress should pass a voting law taking care of the moving about business, and likely the group would include some just-as-ardent states rightists, until their second thought hit.

Such an effort would create a filibuster from the South to end all filibusters. Indeed, successful passage of a federal voting law of this type might include all that the states rights Congressmen have been fighting for years.

But the North Carolina General Assembly could handle the matter come February.

Since the "local" part of the law refers only to the precinct, it would seem that North Carolina could change its voting requirements to United States residence of a year, retaining the 30-day within precinct requirement, or, at least, reduce state-required residence to 90 days.

Another change a majority of citizens would like to see is a change in the electoral college arrangement whereby, theoretically, either of the presidential tickets, by a 50-vote margin, could have swept all of the 50 states on Tuesday, and, whereby in actuality, every voter for the loser on Tuesday lost his vote.

The electoral college arrangement is a throwback to olden days when there were more parties with more strength and at a time when a good portion of the thinking of political leaders was that the average citizen was just that and not to be completely entrusted with all the final decisions. A sample of this is the fact that it hasn't been too many years that North Carolina citizens have been choosing their Senators directly.

Unanimity on this proposal should not be expected. First, each set of party leaders would do some careful analyzing to see how they might be effected next time around the voting horn. The Republicans, by registrations the minority party, might see this change as too big a boost to the enemy. Too, the GOP might not look forward with enjoyment to the heavy Democratic margins of the once-solid South being added to the national totals, and the Democrats might take a similar view regarding some of the mid-Western states.

Sure to be opposed would be those still dreaming of deadlocks within the electoral college, bulwarked by third party efforts, independent electors and otherwise, with a chance of throwing the choice into the laps of members of the House of Representatives.

But all these complaints would be lodged by system-figurers for victory. The average voter is now sane enough and literate enough to cast his own vote and to have it counted.

It's not too late to make a donation to Kings Mountain United Fund.

MARTIN'S MEDICINE

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

Few will be sorry that Tuesday's election is history, even the losers, who must have been glad to see the short-of-sleep nights and long hard-working days past.

One mark of the 1960 campaign is that it will go down likely, as one of the more humorless in history.

The party presidential stand-bearers were of the serious brand, and their sometime efforts at lampooning and levity were half-hearted and out-of-character. Perhaps this was a seasoned plan. With both candidates mere juveniles, as political ages go, it is likely they both guarded themselves against joking as too youthful.

Even the off-color jokes in the un-printable category didn't get the boisterous laughter of others in previous campaigns.

The printable ones were worse. Sample: Had you heard that the Vatican is to be moved to Texas? Answer: The Pope wants to roam on the range.

Oddball situations did develop, and many of them occurred in family splits. It wasn't unusual to find wife and husband parting in twain during the campaign, where children were involved, there were many more splits.

As usual, the forthright youngsters could and did report some split situations that father and mother, would have preferred not to advertise.

One lad was asked his presidential preference. He replied, "Kennedy." The questioner suggested that his father must have instructed him. "Oh, no," the lad responded, "he claims to be an Independent, but he ain't nothing but a Republican."

Another parent had a son who was active as a Teen-Age Democrat. It was the night of the Shelby rally, and the son, who'd been working with friends on placards and banners for the evening show excitedly reported to his father, "We're going to a rally."

Father replied, "I don't know why you say 'we'. You've got a part on a program at the church tonight." The lad thought a minute, then brightened, "I believe I just forgot that."

This didn't suit the father, who reminded his son that when he accepted a responsibility he must discharge it, which was a worthy lesson indeed. It was later, during supper, that the boy suddenly addressed his father with a serious question, "Dad, are you a Republican?"

His father laughed, "No, I'm a Democrat, and I take it you are, too. Why?"

The boy had two reasons he considered excellent. His school friends were Democrats and, after all, Nixon was going to make 'em go to school year-round!

Some folk didn't let politics bother 'em at all. A football coach, during political season, was asked whether he thought a Friday night debate would pare attendance at his football game. He is quoted as asking, "What debate?" The questioner continued, "Between the candidates." The coach again, "What candidates?"

The best lesson I had during the campaign was derived in boning up for a talk on the "Mechanics of Voting" to be made to Mrs. Jay Patterson's seventh grade. Voting seems very simple, but it requires better than 100 pages of small type to print the North Carolina laws relating to voting. A citizen or election official talking liberties with the law can be called on to explain it to the judge, and the penalties provided are hardly painless, either to the pocketbook or corpus.

To keep the people awake, I suggest an 'Enemy-of-the-Month'



Viewpoints of Other Editors

WHAT PRICE 'PRESTIGE'?
American "prestige" — which suggests an international popularity contest — may not be the highest it has ever been.

However, those who continue to say that it is at an all-time low are stabbing the United States in the back.

For instance, Pravda devoted nearly two columns of its Monday edition in Moscow quoting a television statement by Sen. John Kennedy and a speech by Adlai Stevenson, made in Durham, saying American prestige is at a new low.

Pravda also seized upon Stevenson's statement at Duke University that the Communist world "looks more dynamic and we look static."

We do not think the facts about our international relations should be denied the American people, but there should be every effort to give them a true picture and not one distorted for political reasons.

The thing we fear is that some of the Soviet Union's propaganda is beginning to take effect on political leaders in America. We can understand poorly informed people overseas falling for the Communists' supremacy line, but not our own citizens.

All of us must remember that our information efforts overseas are restricted to truth. The Communists can exaggerate and distort to suit their devious purposes.

There is a very real question, too, as to what constitutes "prestige," or whether it is the most important thing in the world struggle. Adherence to principle, and strength coupled with concern for freedom and peace — these are the lasting things.

As a world leader, we may go through periods of unpopularity when we have to make tough decisions. Elected officials, school teachers and business executives have all experienced this temporary rejection.

In the final analysis, however, the test of those decisions lies in whether the decider is following a course that he believes to be right and just.

We must remember, too, that all crucial foreign policy decisions in recent years have been made with the knowledge that our enemies possess nuclear weapons.

This has ruled out hasty and precipitous action in many world crises, but it has also taken us to the brink of conflict when we've had to take a firm stand. We may have lost "prestige" on both counts, but we have kept the peace and largely contained the enemy.

The conducting of foreign relations in a day when both sides in the Cold War are armed to the teeth with nuclear bombs is a ticklish business. No matter which political party is in power, it is not likely to find all of its decisions popular either at home or abroad.

Those who treat this solemn responsibility as a political pawn are tampering not only with our prestige but with our chances of eventually winning the struggle against communism. — Shelby Star

THE TRIP DOWNTOWN GETS TEDIOUS

It has been our observation, more and more pronounced as the years continue and traffic increases, there's nothing like the drive to work to spoil a morning mood.

It's not just the number of cars in the 8:30 lanes, though the number is substantial. It isn't solely the slow pace of movement in the bottleneck areas. The trouble is drivers.

There's the man who darts in and out with no apparent concern for the public safety and boundless confidence in the public restraint.

Or the woman whose car always chokes when the light (at long last) turns green. The non-signallers, the wrong signallers, the creepers, the cut-

COMING TO TERMS WITH PROGRESS

Some of the biggest labor news of the past two weeks has made only minor or local headlines.

The most far-reaching event was the relatively little heralded agreement of railroad management and railroad operating brotherhoods for a nationwide study of the difficult work rules or "featherbedding" issue by a tripartite commission. The commission, consisting of five members each from employers, employees, and the public, will be appointed by President Eisenhower to make recommendations by December 1961.

On the West Coast the International Longshoremen's Union and the Pacific Maritime Association have signed an agreement under which the ship and pier owners will pay \$5 million a year into a dock workers' benefit fund and in return will receive a free hand to introduce container shipments and other labor-saving methods on the waterfront. The money will support wage-continuation for displaced workers and encourage retirement by sweetening pension and disability funds.

In another industry the International Ladies Garment Workers Union announced that the nation's makers of women's clothes had agreed to set up a fund which early next year will provide severance and unemployment payments to workers who lose their jobs through business failures on the part of employers.

All these moves have in them an element of adjustment to mechanical progress, automation or obsolescence — of working out fairness to human beings in the face of longer train runs, heavier loading winches or the casualties of fashion.

The costly steel strike of 1959 showed that work rules are not easily revised at the bargaining table — hence a continuing study in that industry. The collapse of the recent General Electric strike showed a worker willingness to accept an initially generous offer, especially in the presence of a potential buyers' strike. The example of the widespread benefits of the United Mine Workers' welfare fund, paid for by a royalty on coal tonnage however mined, provides labor a strong impetus to make peace with progress. — The Christian Science Monitor.

They defy philosophy.

But the major irritant on our motorist list is the fellow who cruises into the left-turn lane of a narrowing street and then drives straight ahead, defying the rush of straight-ahead traffic. Or the guy who chooses the straight-ahead lane and blithely turns left.

It takes, we've always been led to believe, all kinds. That even supports our morning conviction that some kinds ought to stay home. — Asheville Citizen-Times.

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.

Kings Mountain citizens went to the polls Tuesday for the general election, but not very strongly. A total vote in the two Kings Mountain and Bellwether precincts was 667, a total of 21 less than voters in the last off-presidential year general election in 1946.

Some 53 Cleveland County men have been ordered to report Monday for pre-induction physical examination at the Charlotte examination center.

Social and Personal

Miss Irene Allen and Mrs. D. W. Blanton were hostesses to the Junior Women's Club on Monday evening at the Woman's Club.

Mrs. N. F. McGill entertained the members of the Twin Table Bridge club at her home Tuesday night.

Leaves Are Falling....

They collect on roofs and in gutters, and constitute a real fire menace unless kept cleaned away. Be careful, in burning leaves and trash, and be sure you have adequate insurance against fire loss.

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W K M T SOMETHING NEW!

Yes there is something new in town! W K M T has a new schedule of programs and brand new programming too. All day, every day Jonas Bridges, Don Curtis, Ray Eddy, Ed Whitehead and Grady Queen, the W K M T music-makers, bring you a balance of music, news, time, temperature, sports, weather, and shopping information — all especially keyed to this area. Why don't you tune W K M T everyday and see how you like the new programming.

1220 ON THE RADIO
KINGS MOUNTAIN, N. C.

Telephone Talk

by FLOYD FARRIS
Your Telephone Manager

YOU'LL FIND NEW FUN in telephoning when you use the little and lovely Princess phone. This royal addition to our telephone family is perfect for any room in your home. Keep it in mind for that extra-special Christmas gift, too. So practical... it lights up when you lift the receiver. Let this light-hearted gift add an extra warm glow on any gift occasion.

UNIVERSAL MESSAGE. The Yellow Pages emblem with Chinese characters replacing conventional English words is a familiar sight in San Francisco's Chinatown. The translation? It says, of course, "Find it fast in the Yellow Pages."

HERE'S A HANDY TIP—Don't leave your calls hanging in mid-air. If you have a wall phone, you need not let the receiver dangle by the cord while you leave the phone for a moment during a conversation. There's a notch on top for "parking" the receiver. Take a look at the illustration and you'll see just how it's done.

FOR TELEVISION'S FINEST musical entertainment, tune in to the Bell Telephone Hour shows. These one-hour delights can be seen every other Friday night—NBC network. Check your newspaper for time and channel.