



The Kings Mountain Herald

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TODAY'S BIBLE VERSE

For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are sons of God. Romans 8:14.

The New Administration

The new city administration of Mayor Kelly Dixon begins its work with a great amount of good will and good wishes, much greater, in fact, than the 116-vote margin by which the Mayor edged veteran Glee A. Bridges.

The Herald has heard numerous citizens comment that, while they cast at least some of their votes for losers, they nevertheless feel that Mayor Dixon will work hard to overcome whatever handicaps he may have due to inexperience and that the commission, as constituted will exhibit a greater measure of give-and-take independence than has been witnessed in recent years.

The new administration inherits a quite solvent legacy, as far as city government is concerned.

Bridges Administrations III and IV, particularly, have done an excellent over-all job in giving the taxpayers the maximum for their dollars. Operational costs have been held to a minimum, with as much as possible squeezed into street improvements, water lines, increased fire-fighting equipment and other long-term capital improvements. This has been done while paring the tax rate and reducing bonded indebtedness.

It is to be anticipated, the Herald would guess, that, with five new faces, Massachusetts Mohair Plush Company will ask the new administration for what it considers unfair treatment on water rates. Campaign statements varied from the gouging charge on the one hand and that the city is losing money on it's water service on the other.

There is some question in the mind of the Herald that Kings Mountain's water cost has been analyzed. The extremists likely want their position (hip-pocket) served, rather than otherwise.

The Herald rejects the Mohair company's plea that this company means "so much" to the community's economic welfare, which it does, but then the company is here to make cash for it's stockholders.

The city has a million gallons per day spare capacity, which means that the capital obligations are incurred and must be paid, just as the taxpayers are still paying for the 1928 expenditures, and will be until 1967. On the other side of the fence is the fact that these capital expenditures have been made, and that operational costs of water are very puny, involving electricity and chemicals.

Water charges to outside industry are, at least, an argumentative matter—in the matter of cost analysis.

The commission looks quite solid: Ray W. Cline is a newcomer who will want to do what he knows to be correct.

Eugene M. Goforth is another newcomer who won on one issue—the smoke-filled room (or grocery) caucus.

T. J. (Tommy) Ellison is a veteran of the political wars, having been in action eight times since 1947, and a winner for the fifth time in this "switch" ward.

Ben H. Bridges, strongman of the commission for the past four years, won while all his conferees were losing or quitting at the three-quarter turn. While his political arrangements were as complete as one can have in a contested situation, the principal fact of his winning derives from four years of basically good performance. His mistakes were largely, on his own admission, in public relations and personality matters, rather than policy ones.

J. E. (Zip) Rhea acknowledges he paid his filing fee with little knowledge of the intricacies of vote-getting or of city governmental operation. His testimony is sufficient to the experienced, "I'm learning mighty fast."

There is no question but that the new administration will make mistakes, as all do.

The Herald's guess is that the bulk of them will be beginners' mistakes and therefore excusable.

With a solvent legacy and honest intent, this administration should be able to move Kings Mountain further toward the high road of economic, political, social and-yea, even spiritual—success and prosperity.

The Season

Maytime is the season for romance, diplomas, and holidays. It's the growing season when nature renews and promises replenishment to the depleted granaries.

It's the annual season for reminding the high school graduates that it's a day of specialization and that they should give serious thought to making arrangements for getting some more formal schooling.

Parents should be reminded, too, that not only should they plan special effort at belt-tightening, always necessary, but that some imagination might uncover some financial education aid that they didn't know existed.

Most colleges are like local governments. The accountants hold a tight hand and demand that monies appropriated for particular purposes be used for those particular purposes.

A college professor suggested some years ago, "We're scholarship rich." In fact, the bigger ones have printed digests of scholarships available to qualifying students. It explains the new concept in high school faculty arrangements, where people are being employed to marry the smart student to the available scholarship.

In other words, the doctrine of "I can't afford it," doesn't necessarily hold true. Parents who have bright youngsters, look around a little and write a few inquiring letters can find help to provide their youngsters an education.

Performance Pays

A successful home-towner came home last weekend to offer a few words of advice to the Wingate College graduating class.

Said John Bowles, president of Rexall Drug Company, to the graduates: do your job, and forget about the cash return, and that will take care of itself.

Mr. Bowles merely speaks from personal history of another American success story. His is newspaper carrier to company president. Some folk think that the age-old adages, "Nothing succeeds like success and "performance pays" are over-used and eroded.

Anybody can make the avenue in America.

Harry Truman, who didn't get the benefit of college training, became president. Two Roosevelts, both physically infirm became presidents. Abe Lincoln a poor Illinois farm boy became president. Jack Kennedy, post-generation scion of a shanty-Irish Catholic became president.

Yes, anybody can make the avenue in America, if he's willing to give full measure to take.

Very little is black or white, but death, as far as this life is concerned, is final. It is hard to lose loved ones, particularly those who are merely on the threshold of living. Douglas Marion McElwee was a bright, sweet, pretty high school youngster of 17, and her accidental death is both a personal and generic tragedy.

The Herald suggested last week that a major plus in the success of the operation of Kings Mountain hospital is the fact that the community is proud of this community service facility. The fact that more than 500 persons inspected these facilities on Sunday rather proves the point.

Beginning mistakes shouldn't be remembered too long, but, for the record, Comms Ben Bridges, Ray Cline and Tommy Ellison appeared a bit anxious in their acceptance of retiring-Mayor Glee Bridges' city manager election suggestion. The veteran Mayor was off-base in suggesting it, after six years of full-time duty, and the three members of the new administration opened themselves to the charge of rank discourtesy by taking action before their three contemporaries were sworn.

MARTIN'S MEDICINE

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

Mrs. Hilda Black Goforth was scared out of her wits about 4:15 the other morning by a ringing telephone. A telephone ring in the middle of the night always has the same effect, she said, but this time it wasn't any news of tragedy or disaster, merely a long distance call from her son, Herman Goforth, Jr., on navy duty aboard the USS Coral Sea, who was calling from the Philippine Islands.

Hilda was stuttering and uh-ing, when her practically-minded husband told her, "You'd better do some talking; it's costing \$15 per minute."

After family business was completed, Mrs. Goforth, long-time Democrat, told her son the results of the Tuesday city election.

"I want to talk to Martin Harmon," Herman, Jr., told his Mother. "He's always writing about Bethesda going Republican. What's he going to say now?"

"I can't say anything," I told Hilda, "I stand guilty as charged."

Local reactions to the mayoral result in Kings Mountain were reported in last week's column on run-off election sightlings. These reactions were echoed state-wide, particularly in Raleigh, where Senator Robert Morgan and Representative Jack Palmer had never let their legislative conferees forget that, in last November's general election, Cleveland County was a Democratic oasis in a widely Republican Piedmont desert.

Rep. Palmer reports what happened to him. He'd gone down to the dining room for breakfast Wednesday morning when Rep. C. E. Leatherman, of Lincoln, chided him about Cleveland being strongly Democratic.

"How is it," asked the Lincoln legislator, "that such a strong Democratic county can let one of it's cities elect a Republican Mayor?"

"Couldn't be," Jack pooh-poohed. "You're kidding."

Rep. Leatherman excused himself to make a purchase, bought a morning newspaper, opened it to the proper page and said to Jack, "Read!"

In yet another spot in Raleigh, the news brought this reaction: Bruce McDaniel was having breakfast in a Raleigh restaurant. He was reading the news and sipping coffee at the same time, when his eye hit the Kings Mountain election report.

"I spilled that coffee all over me," Bruce reports.

Charles Blanton, the druggist, was sufficiently impressed with Senator Sam Edvin's statement on the freedom rider business to wire the Senator congratulations. The Senator replied with a two-page treatise, a forthright and model statement for moderation. The CORE group, said the Senator, expected their chip-on-shoulder to be knocked off. The extremists who knocked it off, he said, simply played into the hands of the CORE group.

Will Mayor Kelly Dixon take on Congressman Basil White-ner again for the 11th district Congressional seat?

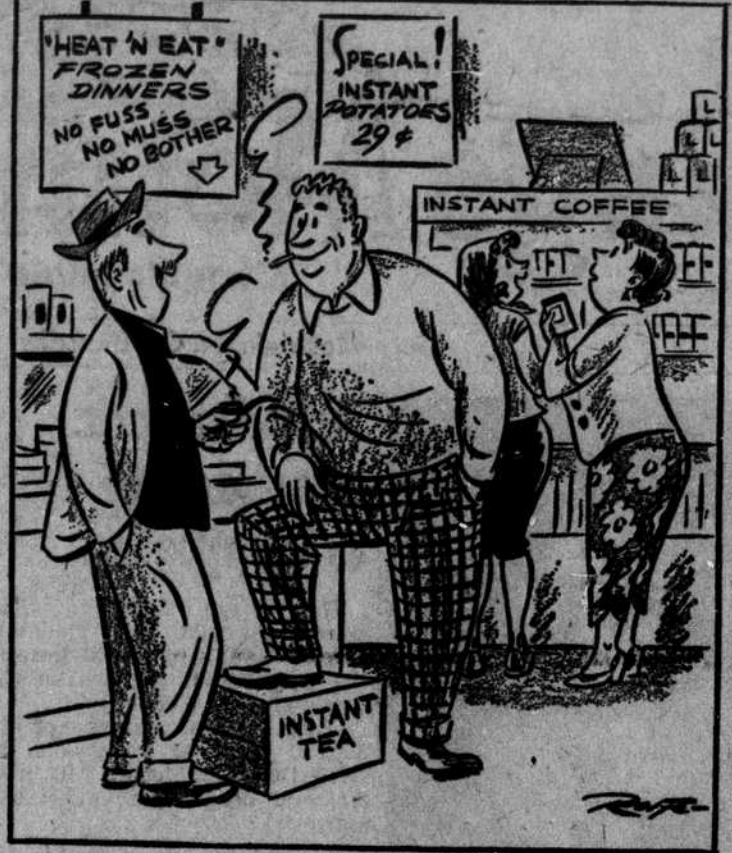
Mr. Dixon's reply, "I suspect I better try to handle the job to which I've been elected."

In line with his statement, Mayor Dixon said he plans to pass up an upcoming GOP party gathering in Washington.

Best bet, of course, is that Mr. Dixon will be a candidate, on heavy demand of GOP party leaders. He has on record a Republican success in a normally Democratic county. The GOP managers can't help but reason that with the 1960 experience, the Kings Mountain Mayor is their best bet to win a Congressional seat.

Shopping Around

By Rolfe



"When it comes to groceries things sure are turned around! My wife spends an hour looking for 'em and an instant cooking 'em!"

Viewpoints of Other Editors

SACRIFICES HITS AND MISSES

On the whole we think President Kennedy has now done well in furnishing specifications for his much-questioned demand for sacrifices. In his reply to Allicia Patterson, publisher of Newsday, he hits several targets squarely. He offers a list of specific requests which require sacrifices from one or more segments of American society—and the resistances he has encountered. Certainly he scores in his reference to cutbacks in unneeded defense projects. Also on pay-as-you-go policies on highway programs and postal services. Likewise on the unwillingness of some Americans to enter public service.

We should say that sacrifices of prejudice or money required to uphold the nation's position abroad—as in an effective foreign aid program—have also been reasonably presented by the President. In somewhat different category come administration programs which require sacrifice by one section of Americans for the benefit of another. These—such as minimum wage and welfare measures—are described by Mr. Kennedy as measures to strengthen the economy, but many citizens question their wisdom or effectiveness.

We can warmly agree that the times demand a "higher standard of excellence from every individual in his private life." But we cannot agree that the "thrust of this administration" is wholly in that direction. Mr. Kennedy mentions farm legislation. But the emphasis here has been on giving farmers a larger income. He mentions aid to education. But the administration has rejected plans which would stress local effort and limit aid to the poorer states. Instead it proposes to make all states think they are getting a gift from "Uncle Sam."

The President speaks of asking labor and management to hold down wages and prices. But his minimum wage law can give impetus to wage increases far beyond the number covered in the legislation. We have not noticed any sharp administration action to head off another round of wage rises, already started. And the major moves against price-fixing have been taken by Attorney General Rogers and by the Kefauver committee.

Mr. Kennedy rightly demands an end to outrageous feather-bedding on missile jobs. But it is not clear that means now adopted will stop dangerous delay and waste. And this demand for "sacrifice" of jurisdictional strikes comes only after Senator McClellan's spotlight nudged the White House into action.

We hope the President will increase his score on specifics. We hope he will do more to emphasize the basic necessity for individual excellence. But whether because of the unprecedented promises of the Democratic platform or because the Kennedy administration is sincerely convinced that the federal government must do a great many things for a great many people there is a deep conflict between its demands for responsibility, growth, and sacrifice from the individual and its offers of paternalistic government aid to the control of individual. — Christian Science Monitor.

FOR LOVE AND MONEY

The Indian Parliament has passed a bill outlawing the old Hindu custom of giving and accepting dowries. From now on it will be illegal for an Indian lass to try to entice her friend into a long-term alliance with anything but her own sweet self. The government apparently feels that if the parties are attracted to each other by mutual interests and basic amiability, it isn't necessary to throw in cash or goods to seal the bargain. We suppose this is a progressive step. Maybe it will make Uncle Sam think about his own for-

THE MOISTER OYSTER

"I weep for you, the Walrus said, "I deeply sympathize." With sobs and tears he sorted out . . . Those of the largest size. The time had come, the Walrus said, to talk of other things, and so a line of verse was writ that down our ages rings. And whenever strikers go on strike, as strikers often do, they should remember what he said, to whom, regarding who.

It was the sunny month of May in London—on-the-Thames, with striking dockhands all around, calling employers names. And meanwhile deep within the hold of one beleaguered ship five hundred thousand thirsty oysters hadn't had a sip; not for a week, for seven days, and now 'twas going on eight, and since they'd rung for aitch-two-oh they did not like to wait.

But on the wharves the dockers strove in labored argument, and might be chatting thuswise still, weren't not for sentiment. Ah, sentiment! more powerful than many union chiefs, ameliorates five hundred thousand oysterish griefs.

An oyster farmer, Suffolk-taught, addressed the strikers glum, with "half a million tiny lives are in the balance, chums. And then their stubbornness did yield, and hiding fearful faces (if any), they within a nance were going through their paces.

They brought the oysters up alive (no need for Walrus tears). "Twere more appropriate to jive along the histried piers! The oysters must have been so glad, their eyes you could see stars in. For now they only have to wait until the months with R's in. — The Christian Science Monitor.

'DEAR OCCUPANT'

Many mornings the principal difference between the mail box and the town dump is size. Ferreting out genuine letters among the avalanche of come-ons, condolences and spurious charities is as formidable as finding a blackberry in an acre of wooden nutmegs.

Almost daily you, and 90,000,000 others, get inside tips to get rich schemes that were hoary when the Brooklyn Bridges was a ferry run by poles. Each household and box-holder gets enough oddments in a week to open a mammoth museum to monumental unimportance.

"Occupant" implies the huckster thinks you are immobile and can't dodge his drivel. "Occupant" makes you feel the pitchman thinks you are a conquered province. But there is one consolation in all this mountain of garbage. If a town had a place big enough to store it all, there would be no worry about future fuel shortage.

The annual intake put to a match would supply the biennial fuel needs of any town. — Raleigh News & Observer.

Sign-aid dowry—especially when the wood one, after taking the money, asks for more, winks at the rival, and won't even hold hands. — The Wall Street Journal.

10 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

Items of news about Kings Mountain area people and events taken from the 1951 files of the Kings Mountain Herald.

Commencement exercises for 65 seniors begin Sunday evening at Kings Mountain high school. Joyce Biser, tenth grade student at Kings Mountain high school, and Hazel Wright, eighth grade student of Central elementary school are the winners of the First National Bank's city schools spelling contest for 1951.

Social and Personal

With club members present, Mrs. Charles Dilling entertained the Tuesday Bridge club this week at her home on East King street.

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