



The Kings Mountain Herald

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TODAY'S BIBLE VERSE

The Lord will give strength unto his people; the Lord will bless his people with peace. Psalm 29:11.

Four Yea, One Nay

Kings Mountain district board of education voted Monday night 4 to 1 against the transfer of two Negro students, sister and brother, from Compact-Davidson high school to Central high school, in effect a continuance of the policy of de-segregation.

Dr. Phillip Padgett cast the dissenting vote, after abstaining during action on the initial petition for transfer.

The major news event -- if not for the world, certainly the South, since May 17, 1954 -- has been the matter of de-segregation.

Even the Supreme Court of the United States, was reasonable sufficiently to rule "in a reasonable time". Actually, the edict was somewhat loose, but should have been, as there is considerable difference between the thinking, for instance, of North Carolinians and Alabamians.

Dr. Padgett, who voted "nay", is quite sincere.

He feels that the pupil assignment law of North Carolina, better known as the Pearsall Plan, was designed to subvert the decision of the Supreme Court, which, many, many years ago, by Justice John Marshall, was established as the interpreter of the law of the land. Court edicts since have been supreme.

Law -- and human feelings -- must and do evolve.

The Herald agrees with Dr. Padgett in principle, if not in momentary judgment.

The question of school de-segregation, in the South and in Kings Mountain, is question of "when", not "if".

Kings Mountain, undoubtedly, is more ready for de-segregation than South Carolina, Virginia, Alabama, or Mississippi and the greater geography of Georgia, not to mention certain counties of North Carolina such as Northampton, 72 percent negro, Warren and Pender counties, 55 percent negro, and many others.

The Herald differs with Dr. Padgett only in a matter of timing, which he well understands. Item 1: Build a consolidated high school plant.

The Herald suspects that initial integration will be token. But the Herald also knows that our friends, the Negroes of Kings Mountain, know that the leadership of Kings Mountain, including those of the Negro race, are willing to be reasonably patient on a matter that tries the emotions of the impatient young and the well-indoctrinated elderly.

This editorial is a plea and admonition for reasonableness on all sides, in a situation when there should not be sides.

All of us are American citizens first, members of a particular race second.

Attorney T. H. Wyche, an attorney for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People acknowledged, following the formal hearing concerning the admission of the Davis youths, that the facts of this case were somewhat different from those of which he had been apprized.

The Herald would suggest to Attorney Wyche and the supporting arm from Shelby, H. C. Dockery, the mortician, and Rev. Beverly Robinson, that the Davis case might have been strengthened had the supporting arm been Kings Mountain.

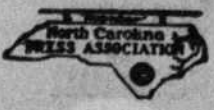
Through the years the Herald has evolved a position.

It is this:

All human beings must evolve, must learn that life is a two-way street. What is given, must be taken, and vice versa.

Congratulations to the Herald's Legionnaire friends T. A. Pollock, W. F. Stone, Sr., N. F. McGill, Sr., and Charles A. Goforth, Sr., who have qualified for long-term, round-number pins as members of American Legion.

The President of the United States is among the busiest, if not the busiest, man in the world. His long trip to see Speaker Rayburn, of Texas, was a mark of respect from which all, sometimes disrespectful of the elders, can take a worthy and needed lesson.



MARTIN'S MEDICINE

By Martin Harmon

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

Major among newspaper reporting sins is not the typographical error; as embarrassing as these can sometimes be, but the repetitious sin of assumption.

m-m

Top reporters make them, too, though not with the frequency of their juniors.

m-m

Thus by remembering to check, I saved a lulu in the editorial "Four Yea, One Nay", in the editorial columns to the left.

m-m

I had written that John Jay, first Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court, has established the court as the interpreter of federal law in light of the Constitution.

m-m

Compton's Encyclopedia, which came to me from Santa Claus when I was in the fifth grade, enlightened to this painful extent: John Jay resigned as Chief Justice to become Governor of New York, adding the statement that the Supreme Court had never amounted to anything and never would.

m-m

By contrast, Chief Justice John Marshall, the nation's fourth, of Fauquier County, Va., in the famous decision in Marbury vs. Madison, is responsible for what many Southern citizens today wish hadn't happened in May 1954, the decision of the Court which marked the beginning of the end of school segregation in the South due to race.

m-m

Again by contrast and according to Compton's, Justice Marshall, at his retirement, said he would rather have served as Chief Justice than to have been President of the United States.

m-m

Many Southerners are inclined to label the May 1954 decision the Warren decision, the former Governor of California having been named Chief Justice only in the year before by President Eisenhower. However, if I recall correctly, the vote was 9-0. I have sometimes thought Justice Warren guilty of fuzzy law, but in this instance, if fuzzy, he had plenty of company.

m-m

Justice Jay was a conservative, and in his day, would have been labeled a Republican. When learning how the navy did it during World War II at Columbia University, the chow wormed at John Jay hall.

m-m

Justice Marshall was a conservative, too, says Compton's who won the ire of Thomas Jefferson, father of the Democratic party. But Compton's says that by the twentieth century, Justice Marshall had become recognized as the greatest jurist in American history and one of the greatest in the world.

m-m

Not being a legal eagle, I'd have to ask the verdict of the professionals. J. R. Davis, Jack White, George Thomasson and Palmer Huffstetler.

m-m

Of the six members of the state probation commission with whom I served at the instance of then-Governor Hodges in 1958-59, three have been elevated. First was Judge Clifton Moore, of Burgaw, promoted to the North Carolina Supreme Court bench. Next was W. Jack Hooks, of Kenly, appointed to a Superior Court judgeship, and the presiding jurist at the recent Cutter trial.

m-m

Most recent is federal Judge L. Richardson Freyer, of Greensboro, last of President Kennedy's appointments to fill the three added judgeships voted by Congress.

m-m

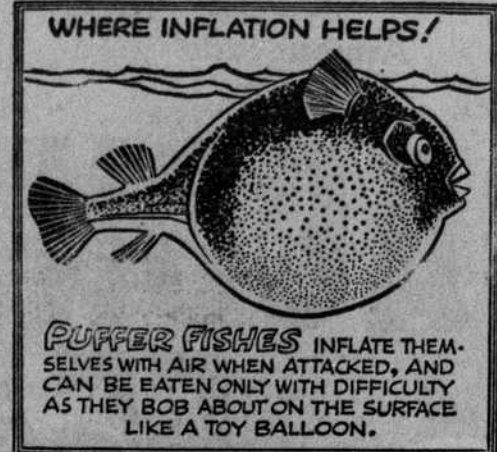
It was Judge Freyer who surprised me during a pause in a probation commission session by remarking that a murder case is easiest to try of any, from the judicial standpoint. I wonder if Judge Hooks would now agree.

m-m

Judge Freyer's Supreme Court assignment frequently took him to Wilkes County. Then, Mr. Hooks, who had served nearly 20 years as a solicitor, teased him one day with the question, "How many whiskey cases have you tried in Wilkes?" Judge Freyer laughed, "Not one." Indication was that in Wilkes whiskey is white and federal court material. Now perhaps Judge Freyer will try one.

THIS CURIOUS WORLD

By William Ferguson



PUFFER FISHES INFLATE THEMSELVES WITH AIR WHEN ATTACKED, AND CAN BE EATEN ONLY WITH DIFFICULTY AS THEY BOB ABOUT ON THE SURFACE LIKE A TOY BALLOON.

KWIZ KORNER

HOW WOULD YOU BE TRAVELING IF YOU WENT ON SHANKS' MARE?



ANSWER: You would be walking.

THE STATE OF OREGON WENT TO ONE OF HER OLDEST FAMILIES FOR A STATE FLOWER, THE OREGON GRAPE! FOSSIL LEAVES OF THE PLANT SHOW THAT IT HAS INHABITED THE REGION FOR MORE THAN 39,000,000 YEARS.

T.M. Reg. U.S. Pat. Off.

Viewpoints of Other Editors

FAIR PLAY ON VOTING

Many Americans believe only the courts can correct malodorous malapportionment in state legislatures and Congress. They agree that one citizen's vote should not weigh many times as much as another's. But they point out that the beneficiaries of this inequity have the power to continue it -- unless the courts will act to impel reform. A move to obtain such action is slated as the first business of the Supreme Court's new session.

This case comes on appeal from Tennessee. A three-man lower court held that it had no authority to order reapportionment by the Legislature. The federal Constitution and those of 45 states require reapportionment at least every 10 years. But in 1958 it was found that 23 states had failed to fulfill the requirements for periods up to 50 years. In this sense many lawmakers are lawbreakers.

Even without much active gerrymandering, shifts in population have created drastically unequal representation. Almost any American schoolboy has heard of the "rotten boroughs" which Britain dealt with more than 100 years ago, but few know much about the "hollow districts" which today repeat the evil in their own legislatures. And only slowly are Americans becoming aware of the compound unfairness of representation which results when such legislatures reshape Congress.

Ordinarily, the citizens look first to the courts for upholding constitutional provisions. But the judges are wary of entering this "political thicket." Yet courts now widely acting to safeguard Negro voting rights may logically show regard for other citizens denied fair representation. Only last year the Supreme Court upset a racial gerrymander in Alabama.

But the courts should not be the only recourse. We have confidence in the people's basic sense of fair play. When the worst abuses of taxation without fair representation are fully exposed public indignation should sweep them away. — The Christian Science Monitor.

WELL, THAT'S HOW MERMER SAYS IT

A certain amount of engineered obsolescence appears to be creeping into the dictionary trade. The Merriam-Webster Unabridged people have just announced what sounds like a capital brand-new version of their famous volume. They say that during the 27 years since the last version was launched "more new words and meanings entered the English language than in any similar period of history."

And (here's where the engineered obsolescence comes in) they have included up-to-date quotes from 14,000 "contemporary notables" to show how all these new words and meanings are properly used and meant. Among the notables cited are not only Presidents Kennedy and Eisenhower, Prime Minister Churchill, and Somerset Maugham, but also "Charles Goren, Ethel Merman, Ted Williams, Dinah Shore, and Mickey Spillane."

Actually we approve of the precision of modern usage that can be gotten across by this method. And far be it from us to suggest that Charles Goren and Dinah Shore will be forgotten by the next generation of bridge players and TV watchers. But we do think it's safe to say that the Merriam-Webster staff has assured itself of a great many necessary new (and salable) revisions for the future. Already there are people who want to know not just Ted Williams and Ethel Merman said it but how Roger Maris and Julie Andrews would. The Christian Science Monitor.

NEEDED: MORE UGLY AMERICANS

Let's set the record straight about the phrase "Ugly American." It came from a book of the same name by William J. Lederer, wherein it was used to describe a homely man who worked overtime to paint a pleasant

PROGRESS IN STORM FIGHTING

On September 8, 1900, a hurricane and tidal wave caught the eastern gulf coast of Texas unprepared, and there were some 5,000 fatalities in Galveston alone.

By 1915, when another major storm hit the area, the people of Galveston had rebuilt on higher ground and added a seawall. But communications and warning systems were rudimentary; 275 persons were killed on the island.

This week, hurricane Carla, blowing up to 175 miles per hour (the 1900 storm winds reached only 135 mph), whined through this same area. Almost all of the 17 or more fatalities were indirect rather than direct results of the hurricane.

Hundreds of human lives were saved by an extremely efficient early warning system, extensive communications, an efficient use of evacuation routes to inland shelters, and the application of unpanicked intelligence by all concerned. Nearly half a million persons left the "golden crescent" of the Gulf in a relatively orderly migration to a broader crescent inland stretching from Mexico to northern Louisiana — an arc where they found safety, food, hospitality, shelter and relief provided by private and official agencies.

The Tiros III weather satellite passed its first major test at backing up the work of radar and hurricane spotter planes. Federal and state disaster relief — perfected in many floods, droughts, and storms — moved in to give communications in the affected areas the broad kind of regional insurance needed to supplement private payments to individual policyholders.

But most important, Texans' response to Carla showed that resourceful people can be counted on to make sensible use of advances in civil defense evacuation technique. Theirs was a migration of intelligent people, not of frightened lemmings. — The Christian Science Monitor.

image of the United States in the Far East.

There was nothing ugly about his actions, his motivation or his general philosophy. The message of Lederer's book (worth reading, if you haven't already) is that we need more Ugly Americans abroad, because they do more to promote international friendship and cooperation than do the staffs of most embassies.

Unfortunately, the commotation has been twisted 180 degrees. The Ugly American, in the eyes of most people, is the fellow who leaves a bad taste in the mouths of foreigners who come into contact with him.

So if anybody calls you an Ugly American, ask first if he's read the book — then kiss him or kayo him, depending upon the answer you receive.

(P. S. That "Nation of Sheep" Lederer also wrote about doesn't have a thing to do with Australia either). — The Charlotte Observer.

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.

The Mayor's first regularly scheduled "ladies gripe session" was held Tuesday night at City Hall.

The City Parks and Recreation commission Tuesday retained the services of Charles M. Graves, parks and recreation engineer of Atlanta, Ga.

Work began this week on the annual Girl Scout financial campaign.

Social and Personal Kings Mountain is represented by a photograph of Mrs. George H. Mauney's Christmas fireplace arrangement in the 1952 edition of the North Carolina Gardener, Engagement Calendar, which the Garden Clubs of North Carolina has just issued.

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