

The Kings Mountain Herald

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TODAY'S BIBLE VERSE

Recompense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men. Romans 12:17.

Peace Corps Working

The peace corps, both as to actual work of its members and toward end-point result, is working.

Congressman Basil L. Whitener said as much on a civic club rostrum here a few weeks ago, and, recently, Time Magazine, after sending its reporters to many of the spots where the peace corps members are working, gave on-scene reports confirming the Congressman's earlier contention.

Incidentally, the peace corps plan initially was among the more maligned of the Kenredy Administration ideas, and the unfortunate loss of a note home by one of the young ladies working in Ghana caused much more attention than it was proved to deserve.

Joining the peace corps was one of the chores the President has suggested, in line with his campaign and inaugural challenges to Americans to ask themselves, "What can I do for America?"

The doing is much for those in the peace corps. They work for a pittance of cash, live as the native live, and are spread over the globe from Africa to the Philippines and stations between. Their activities range from helping plant fields to instruction in personal and public health, digging irrigation ditches and a variety of other menial tasks.

It would be hard to convince World War II service veterans that people aren't basically the same world over; less educated, yes; less prosperous, yes; hungry, yes; more subject to local superstitions, yes; with different moral codes, yes. But they have the same needs, the same basic drives, and the same human feelings as humans anywhere.

The practical aims of the peace corps efforts are two: 1) to help the peoples of under-developed, uneducated nations help themselves; and 2) to make friends for the United States. The ideological aim, of course, is to deter Communist inroads through political aid, rather than raucous propaganda of questionable truth.

An empty stomach is a fertile field for selling about any promise of betterment, as can be attested by Castro's success in Cuba and in many other spots around the globe. Of course, after the coup is over and the dictator in control, it's too late for the populace to have second thoughts.

Congressman Whitener is no friend of the nation's continuing foreign aid program, on basis of its high cost and concurrently questionable results. He said it was rather easy to vote to invest \$20 millions in a program that promised real hope of providing what he contends billions in foreign aid have failed to provide.

Life's Transiency

Kings Mountain has logged recently more than its share of sudden and tragic death.

Pritchard W. Ferguson, a business executive of 57, apparently in best of health, died the next day.

A brother of a Kings Mountain man, 49, who had observed a silver anniversary with his company, suffocated to death that night.

A nine-year-old Kings Mountain youngster drowned when the thin ice on a pond failed to bear his weight.

The wreck totals continue to take an unhappy toll.

Few there are, who have attained even juvenile age, who haven't had their brushes with sudden fatality.

When the hand of the Master beckons, there's no delay.

Our sympathies to these families and their friends.

Congratulations to Neil O. Johnson, of Foote Mineral Company, who is chairman of the Carolinas section of the Southeast region of the American Institute of Mining, Metallurgical and Petroleum Engineers.

Letters Welcome

The Herald has long known that letters to the editor are among the better-read features of any newspaper and, similarly, has regretted the paucity thereof in its columns, as in majority of community newspapers.

There is a reason, of course. The readers of a community newspaper, or a great portion of them, are acquainted personally with the editors. If a particular position doesn't suit, they most often are content with giving the editors a piece of their minds in person.

This is unfortunate, for the other readers seldom get the benefit of their opinions.

Case in point are the recent letters the Herald has published from Wayne Forsythe, a bright young member of the Lithium Corporation of America team, transplanted Pennsylvanian, who has evinced an interest in governmental issues, both afield and locally.

The Herald does not agree with Mr. Forsythe on some of his complaints, but both appreciates his interest and respects his right to whatever opinions he might formulate. State laws differ, and there are policies extant in other states (and conversely) which are not legal in North Carolina. For instance, another citizen of ten years residence still has difficulty understanding why, when a family is needy, emergency food and other basic needs can't be obtained at City Hall, as is true in other states in which he has lived. The reason: in North Carolina, public welfare is a county function, not one of the municipality.

At any rate, the Herald wishes more citizens would take pen (typewriter would be preferable) in hand and write the paper about matters at issue.

The rules are simple: 1) Don't make letters too long, as space limitations could require cutting; 2) do not include libelous material, which will be consigned to File 13, more familiarly known as the nearest waste-basket.

An Entrepreneur

Kidd Brewer is a well-known North Carolina personage.

Since his football days at Duke, when he was a jarring fullback, Brewer has been in a variety of activities, from football coaching to selling insurance, seeking public office (lieutenant-governor), and even writing a political gossip column which he sells to papers throughout the state. Mr. Brewer is, by all accounts, an entrepreneur, a French word Americans have borrowed to mean "business operator."

At the moment, he faces some serious charges of being the middle man in a pay-off deal on certain state business, which might be condoned in some states where political morality is hard to find, or under the bossism of the big cities, but not in North Carolina.

The fact that the Governor and several agencies investigated and made their findings available to the State Bureau of Investigation is serious for Mr. Brewer and his brother-in-law, Robert Burch, the highway commission employee. However, a man is innocent until proved guilty.

Initial reports, for instance, indicated two Spartanburg, S. C. city councilmen were guilty of accepting bribes, but a jury exonerated them.

Now's the time to list taxes, for those who want to save time. It's historic that most folk are last-minute men, creating a last-minute rush that causes long waits to accomplish the job. And both failure to list and late-listing causes penalties to accrue. Does anyone want to pay more taxes? That's the effect of penalties.

It is with regret that his friends learned of the impending departure of Charles Woodward, St. Matthew's Lutheran minister of music, who will go to Wilmington next month to accept a similar position.

MARTIN'S MEDICINE

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

The first time I ever heard of contact lenses as a substitute for old-fashioned spectacles was some years ago, when Jake Early, then with the Washington Senators, was having trouble seeing Bob Feller's fast ball when Jake was trying to hit it (or was it Dutch Leonard's fluttering knuckler) which Jake was trying to catch?)

At any rate, I recall that Jake didn't have too much success wearing the little pieces of glass which are superimposed on the eyeballs.

The other night I was chatting with Wood Jackson, a veteran of contact lens duty for several years. We were talking about the lens business and I suggested that considerable improvements had been made in this phase of sight aid in the past few years.

"Yes, definitely," said Wood. "You'll notice my eyes appear quite blue. That's because I replaced the transparent contacts I wore for four years with these blue ones. I find they give me much better vision than I had with the transparent ones. When I'm working under a white light, the blue really makes it stand out."

Wood was unblest with cataracts, had the usual corrective operations. He found he had good vision after the operations, but that his angle of vision wasn't up to par.

His ophthalmologist, Charlotte's Dr. Lynberris, was talking to him one day and suggested he should try contact lenses. "How much?" Wood asked. "A hundred bucks," replied the doctor.

"Wh-w!" whewed Wood, figuring himself sufficiently in hock for eye trouble already.

The doctor told him that, if his vision weren't improved by contacts, the cost would be nothing. Wood says now the contacts would have been cheap at \$10,000.

Are contacts hard to become accustomed to, like false teeth, toupees, hearing aids and other aids to damaged senses and physical properties? Wood laughed, "It's largely a matter of making up one's mind and thereby having sufficient determination."

The doctor told Wood there were many folk who became somewhat angered when they asked for contact lenses and found them un-recommended. These folk didn't like the declination, but, the doctor added, the patients in this category mainly wish them to enhance their looks. They wouldn't have the real need for them and would lack the determination to wear 'em. They'd run me out of town, he suggested.

It reminds of the answer to a query Dr. Lynberris gave to a father when the ophthalmologist spoke at a civic club here. The father had asked the advisability of contact lenses for his daughter. Dr. Lynberris replied with a question of his own, "Is she married?" The father replied that his daughter was not only married but had a child. Dr. Lynberris laughed, "She shouldn't waste her money for she'd never learn to wear them."

Dr. Nathan Reed, the Kings Mountain optometrist, says that glaucoma is among the more difficult diseases of the eyes to diagnose, falling in the go-and-come category, much like the rattling auto which refuses to rattle in the presence of a mechanic. Not too long ago, Nate had a patient who obviously had trouble and Nate suspected glaucoma. He referred her to an ophthalmologist, who found nothing. Two weeks later, the patient returned to Nate, who found his original suspicions still extant, and referred. This time the symptoms were present for the specialist. The pressure in the eye was 80, compared to about 20 in the normal eye. Initial treatment is one of several chemical solutions which shrink the eyeball and relieve the pressure. Subsequently, there are operative techniques which arrest the condition.

Glaucoma is a tricky and insidious eye disease. Vision once lost can't be regained. That's why frequent eye examinations are advisable for the 20/20 seers and even for the super-sighted like Ted Williams, the great home run hitter.

Who's for contacts ... or tri-focals?

Shopping Around By Rolfe



"These say 'made in Japan.' Were they made by real Japanese Indians?"

Viewpoints of Other Editors

RELIEF A LA NEWBURGH

A New York State judge, in an opinion which may be appealed, has held that only one of 13 requirements laid down for recipients of welfare payments in Newburgh, N. Y., is valid under state law. This is that able-bodied persons on the relief rolls must report once a month for review of their cases.

Among items disallowed in the Newburgh city council's resolution are these: Able-bodied men were to report for 40 hours of work a week. No family relief allowance should exceed the pay of the lowest-paid city employee with similar responsibilities. Except for the aged, blind or disabled, aid should be limited to three months in a year. Unwed mothers were to be notified that any further illegitimate births would disqualify them for assistance.

The court decision, supporting objections by the State Welfare Department, may be a rebuff to the Newburgh plan; or it may indicate to substantial numbers of voters that certain state laws and federal regulations in the field of relief should be revised.

Certainly the introduction of work relief where it can be effectively organized makes sense. Vocational training and good case work, though initially expensive, can save money in the long run by getting people off the relief rolls. How to discourage illegitimacy without penalizing the child more than the parent is not a problem for snap solutions. And while there have been relief frauds, they hardly call for replacement of the social worker by a police approach.

The issues that have been sharpened at Newburgh will be more satisfactorily solved by close, factual legislative and administrative study than by political emotion. — *The Christian Science Monitor*.

LET THE SEDENTARY TAKE HEED

What's so soft about softball? It is, we submit, a valid question. Softball is the sport that causes the most injuries in the United States.

It's not merely that "softballs" are as hard as a bride's day-old biscuits, but because many who play it are not in good physical shape.

A Fourth of July office picnic is the ideal opportunity for an accountant or sales manager to break a leg. Quite a large number of them take advantage of the opportunity in a pick-up softball game while the goodies are being spread.

This gives us something to think about when we are appalled over serious and fatal injuries suffered in schoolboy football. According to Dr. Howard Rusk, associate editor of the New York Times, some 30 injuries in these two categories occurred in 1961.

The granite-like helmets worn by the players are suspected as a primary cause of the worst injuries. Many coaches prefer a return to the softer, more resilient helmet.

But Dr. Rusk says there is general agreement among doctors that youngsters participating in organized, supervised sports at the nation's 30,000 junior and senior high schools and 1,900 junior and senior colleges run fewer risks than those engaged in unsupervised play.

For example, he cites the high rate of serious or fatal injuries in the non-supervised use of commercially operated trampolines.

The moral seems to be that if you've got to play something at a picnic, you'd better make it the ukulele. — *The Charlotte Observer*.

TAR HEELS SET

Tar Heel farmers, businessmen, educators and professional agricultural workers are invited to attend the 15th annual Southern Farm Forum to be held January 18-19 in New Orleans.

The forum provides a medium for public discussion of important farm problems affecting the South. It will be held in the Roosevelt Hotel. "New Life for Southern Agriculture" is the theme for the 1962 meeting.

Three panel discussions make up the major part of the forum program. Trends in southern agriculture will be viewed from the aspects of tenure and size of farming units, marketing, farming systems and land, labor and capital.

A second panel will discuss the question, "Should production of agricultural products be brought in line with demand by market prices or by production control programs?"

A panel will debate the pros and cons of government price regulations of milk and other foods as they affect southern agriculture.

A luncheon on Thursday, January 18, will feature Dr. Watrous H. Irons, president of the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas as speaker. His topic will be "The Dangers of Inflation to the Economy of Our Country."

Registration for the forum will begin at 8:30 a. m., January 18. No registration fee will be charged.

TIME FOR OPTIMISM

It's unlikely that many people will mourn the passing of old 1961. As years go, it was a grim one, but pretty run of the mill. That is not to say it was uneventful.

It had its proper share of international crises, domestic problems, memorable sports events, scientific advances, laughter and sorrow — perhaps more of some things and less of others. But on the whole, we are glad to be off with the old and on with the new.

We are fickle, we humans. Only 12 months ago we were welcoming the new year of 1961 with high hopes and great expectations. Now, it is 1962 that is the magic symbol of our desires and dreams.

Yet we carry something of the old year, and all the old years, with us, besides the memories of happiness we knew or the lesson of mistakes we made. We carry with us a sense of the continuity of life, which gives life purpose and meaning.

This continuity is not just of our own little selves but of the nation, the world and the race. It is just to the extent which we identify our individual lives with this greater continuity that our own lives acquire value and worthwhileness.

We know that in the coming year we have to make do and revise and compromise and eventually accept what we get from 1962. But being human, we cannot begin it with anything less than the biggest dreams or aims at anything less than complete successes.

That is why we celebrate the New Year. — *The Shelby Star*.

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 Junior Woman's club will begin Monday a used clothing collection for the benefit of the city's needy.

Carl G. McCraw, Kings Mountain native, was elected president of the Union National Bank of Charlotte Tuesday.

Social and Personal Mrs. J. H. Artur was hostess Tuesday night to members of the Entre-Nous Bridge club entertaining at a luncheon.

Mrs. David Neill was hostess Tuesday night to members of the Queen of Clubs.

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Telephone Talk

by FLOYD FARRIS
Your Telephone Manager



SINCE THIS is the first "Talk" column of the new year, it is a very appropriate time for me to express my wish that 1962 will be a most happy and prosperous one for all of you.

The next twelve months should be most challenging and exciting in the telephone business. Many new developments are scheduled in the field of communications.

I guess the most talked about thing around the telephone office these days is space communications. This whole new endeavor will consist of putting satellites into space and relaying telephone calls and television signals to places throughout the world. Just imagine picking up your telephone and your call being beamed thousands of miles into space and returned to its destination on earth in just seconds.

Actually satellite communications is nothing more than a natural extension of our present system. It will be needed to meet the growing demand for telephone services, especially on overseas calls which are increasing at the rate of about twenty percent per year.

In the spring of this year the Bell System satellite, Telstar, which will give us much valuable information on establishing an active satellite communications network will be launched. Many more experiments will follow as we get more active in this new adventure — space communications.

This new concept in communications will mean much to all of us in another way. The United States has a clear lead in space communications, but in order to keep this lead we must keep moving ahead vigorously. We pledge to do our part.

Incidentally, if you have a group or club that would like to hear more about our plans in space, we would be happy to give a program on this subject. Just give us a call at the Business Office and we will work out the arrangements.