The Kings Mountain Herald

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TODAY'S BIBLE VERSE

For so is the will of God, that with well doing ye may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men. I Peter 2:15.

Hardly Equitable

Tax listing officials, for years, have commented on the questionable tax listing yardstick of private personal property, with the exception of automobiles, such as furniture, television sets, lawn mowers, clothing and similar items.

Glee A. Bridges, who handled the chore for the city this year and who was close to the situation during his several terms as mayor, says he saw numerous instances where uninitiated newcomers would put down comparatively outlandish figures for these items, whereas a veteran citizen would figure his loaded wardrobe at $50 to $75.

Mercantile and industrial inventories, as well as fixtures and equipment come close to being listed by the same yardstick, as do autos, where the auto dealers' wholesale "bluebook" gives a current value by exact model.

Apparently, there would be one avenue to establish equity, by the elimination of all except automobiles in the listing requirement for individuals.

Conversely, Mr. Bridges, new president of the Chamber of Commerce, and Floyd Farris, president of the Shelby Chamber of Commerce, speculate that a fairer method would be a percentage of the value of the residence of the taxpayer - - in event the taxing authority felt it unwise to eliminate private personal property of the dog and furniture variety.

It is a plan followed in some other states.

What about the fellow who rents? The formula there would be the same percentage of the resident's annual rent, or in turn, same percentage of the value of the residence as assessed to the landlord.

Yet another questionable taxing yardstick, from both county and municipal standpoints, is the privilege license tax. These agencies (and the state, too) extract taxes on businesses, desirable and needed assets to any community and among the larger ad valorem taxpayers, for the "privilege" of doing business in the community.

Again, the worse part is the yardstick. The firm grossing $50,000 per year often pays close to the annual amount of a firm grossing a half-million.

Additionally, the privilege license tax doesn't return a great amount of revenue and is worrisome and costly to collect, particular those taxes applying to peddlers and other transients.

The other side of the coin, of course, is that taxing governmental agencies never have enough income to satisfy all demands.

However, it is incumbent on the taxing agencies to eliminate inequities where at all possible.

The city is moving to conform to Local Government Commission instruction in calling for payment gas bonds within the limits of its redemption fund. The system has done well in the profit category, as is indicated by annual reports and last month's record billings. Of course, a sizeable portion of the redemption fund accrued from the fact the city enjoyed a very low bid on installation of the distribution system. The maximum four percent premium payable on bonds called won't be unbearable, for interest for future years will be eliminated.

Friday is new-tag day for all North Carolina motorists, who must show the '62 model on their autos on pain of pain in court. The same applies to Kings Mountain car owners on their 1962 city tags.

A best bow to the newly-elected officers of the Kings Mountain high school Student Participation organization, who are: Paul Smith, president; Donnie Freeman, vice-president; and Diane Roberts, secretary.

Out On A Limb

A Shelby newsman commented on the effort of the Number 3 school area to establish its own school administrative unit, "It appears that these citizens are awakening to the fact they're out on a limb and may be in a position to be shorted on quality schooling."

Some Number 3 patrons petitioned for a separate Number 3 district, only to be told they couldn't legally get their own district.

Apparently, the so-called Cleveland County school act of 1935 doesn't provide for more than city and county units, with the Number 3 area, minus a large town or city, thereby not qualifying under the law.

At any rate, it appears that the Number 3 patrons have one of two choices: 1) vote themselves into the Shelby district, or 2) continue in the county set-up.

Thus far, Shelby district school officials haven't indicated they want the Number 3 addition, which makes strange reading, in view of the long-term dream by some that Cleveland someday will become, like Mecklenburg and New Hanover counties, a one-county school unit.

Geographically, the Number 3-Shelby district merger appears ideal. Administratively, of course, problems are always extant, but not insurmountably. From the paying-the-freight standpoint, it would appear the Fibre Industries Tax bill would be a balancing factor of considerable weight.

It is said the Shelby district envisages early space pressure in its new high school plant, but, it is presumed, this plant is expandable.

On Again

Russian Premier Khruschev continues to earn well the nickname "On Again, Off Again Finnegan".

At the moment, result of the spy sway of last weekend, the "on" button is punched, as it was shortly after President Kennedy's inauguration when two other pilots were freed.

On the personal basis, it can be taken joyfully that U-2 Pilot Powers and Student Fred Pryor are home, just as it can be assumed Colonel Rudolph Abel, the Russian cloak-and-dagger expert will be glad to see home and fireside again.

But is there any great reason for hope that the swap-offs harbinger settlements of the principal points of differences between Russia and the United States? After all, Mr. Khruschev has had plenty of "off" moments in the interim.

Some think yes, maybe, pointing to the Russian fear of increasing difficulties with her China satelite, the apparent Russian awareness that none can emerge the winner in a nuclear war, and other related factors.

History doesn't relate a long-time "on" signal from Moscow, nor does it indicate the United States should relax its demand for step-by-step mutual inspection of mutual disarmament - - should that happy day ever arrive and both nations be able to divert their energy and treasure in more desirable and peaceful directions.

It is a safe guess that virtually every organization within the Kings Mountain school district will have endorsed the forthcoming construction bond issue in advance of voting day March 10. Registration totals of last Saturday were greater than they might have been, considering the fact citizens always wax more excited over personality campaigns than about those involving brick, concrete, sewer pipe and water lines, the inanimate elections often being more important than the animate. Two Saturdays remain to register for the March 10 election, and its an all-new registration.

Congratulations to David Adams, who placed second in the county oratorical contest sponsored by the American Legion.

MARTIN'S MEDICINE

By Martin Harmon

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

The medicinal library was enhanced twice last week.

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On Tuesday, Bill Sharpe, editor of State Magazine paid call and left a copy of his "A New Geography of North Carolina, Volume III", the latest of four projected volumes, designed to include all of North Carolina's 100 counties.

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Volume III includes 26 counties, Cleveland among them, bringing to 72 the coverage of the three, with 28 projected for the final work.

m-m

Handsomely bound, the editions are printed by Edwards & Broughton, of Raleigh, with Bill's State Magazine the publisher. Bill labels his work "the first detailed description of North Carolina by counties since "Wheeler's History." Actually, the texts have already appeared in "The State Magazine", written in ex-newsman Sharpe's easy-to-read style and containing much more than the sometimes dry facts of the customarily - known geography. The book is well-illustrated, contains maps of each county, with details on both general and specific history, the county economy, and with details on incorporated communities of each.

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In the Cleveland County section is contained one of the best pictures of the late Governor-Senator Clyde Roark Hoey, I've ever seen.

m-m

In addition to the factual content on one-fourth of the state, I was particularly charmed with Bill's dedication which reads, "For E. N. Pope. They don't hardly ever make this kind anymore."

m-m

The then-projected geography of the state had the praise of former - Governors Cherry, Umstead and Hodges, and its first volumes elicited the commendations of Hugh Lefler,, one of the state's eminent professional historians, of Inglis Fletcher, the specialist in historical novels, and major echelon's of the state's press. Of the several favorable comments on the work, I find it easy to agree with all. At $6 for volume III, the Salisbury Post comment is both apt and succinct, "Bargain in painless education."

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I, too, among many, look forward to Volume IV.

m-m

The other addition is a copy of Dr. James Carpenter's study on Charles Gore, the English theologian, what I would term a "deep" work from a partial perusal. This tale doesn't concern the work itself, but the circuitous means by which Clarence Carpenter, the author's father acquired a few copies.

m-m

It was last June when Clarence cabled the publisher, Faith Press, London, for some copies, with instructions to ship to his postoffice box and bill him through First Union National. Instead of handling the order as instructed, the publisher did a little questionable file-checking, meanwhile guessing that a purchaser of a book of this type would be a relative and possibly a former customer. Upshot was that Clarence's order was shipped to a one-time Faith customer, a Rev. Mr. Carpenter, of Toronto, Canada. The Toronto minister had died, and the books went to his son, Horald Carpenter.

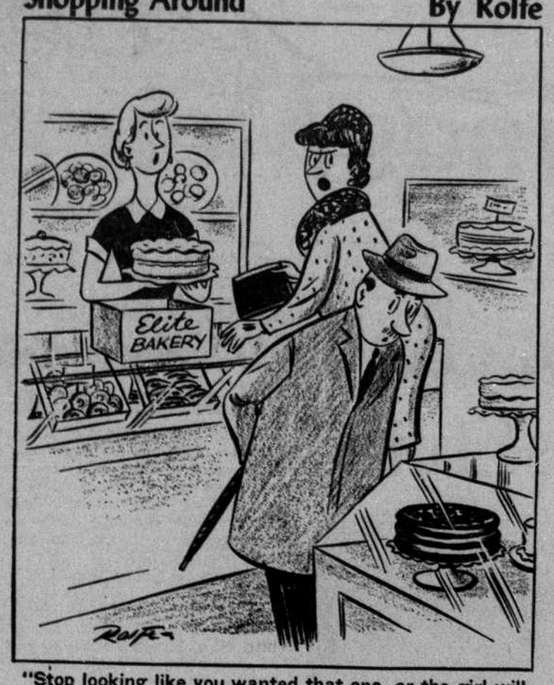
m-m

Mystified and curious, Toronto's Harold Carpenter did what Clarence terms an excellent "Royal Mountie" job in contacting him as the possible customer. A bit put-out, Clarence wrote the London publisher his displeasure. The reply: Clarence shouldn't expect him to know where Kings Mountain was, anymore than the publisher would expect Clarence to know whether Nether Wallow is in England, Scotland or Ireland. At last reports, Clarence, who finds Kings Mountain (but not Nether Wallow) listed in Webster's Gazeteer, is seeking a work on the Battle of Kings Mountain to air mail to London.

m-m

Meantime, Clarence finally got the publisher's bill, has had difficulty translating 18 pounds, 30 shillings sixpence, into American cash. From Englishman Albert Dunne; a shilling is one-twentieth of a pound, a pence one-twelveth a shilling, with the fixed pound exchange price $2.80.

Shopping Around By Rolfe



"Stop looking like you wanted that one, or the girl will think you are henpecked!"

Viewpoints of Other Editors

A SALLY FROM THE IVORY LAB

There are encouraging signs that natural scientists are groping their way toward an effective role in practical politics.

This is long overdue.

The findings, potential application, and long-term significance of the sciences often have a critical bearing on national and international decisions. Yet their influence on these decisions has been weak, if exception is made for the White House science advisers. The problem, in large part, has been due to the uncertainty of scientists generally as to what they should do.

Some have entered political debate in aid of specific causes. Their frequent neglect of objectivity has not contributed to public enlightenment.

Others have taken refuge in the fallacy that the camaraderie of international science could by itself be a path toward peace. Talks among East-West scientists and cooperative research have been poor catalysts for political negotiations.

There is growing support within the American Association for the Advancement of Science for what seems to us a more constructive approach. It is based on two self-evident propositions:

As citizens, scientists have no special political wisdom and are entitled to one vote each.

As experts, they the custodians of specialized knowledge of great public importance and have the duty to see that they fellow citizens are alerted to things they should know about and to the implications of these things.

This puts a professional onus on those who would use special knowledge as leverage for a certain course of political action. At the same time, it recognizes that international cooperation in research, as such, is politically neutral.

In this view, the most effective action scientists can take politically, is to work to build an informed public opinion.

Both formal and informal discussions at the recent AAAS meeting in Denver showed that this view is taking hold in the American scientific community. It suggests a growing political sophistican.

SOME AAAS members would go even further. It was they who issued the call for a "science of survival" reported during the Denver meeting.

They are urging scientists, wherever possible, to search out and work on scientific problems related to maintenance of peace and establishment of human well-being. The technical aspects of arms control are a case in point. They would carry the civic duty of scientists beyond that of merely informing the public as to current knowledge. They would include the generating of specific new knowledge whenever this seemed relevant.

Neither the AAAS nor the British Association for the Advancement of Science, which has also begun to think along these lines, has a coherent program for action. They are still groping. Nevertheless they seem at last to be switching the political responsibilities of natural science on to the right track. *Christian Science Monitor.*

A PROMISING FIELD OF HUMAN ENDEAVOR

According to the New York Times, the Air Force is installing a warning system in some of its bombers that informs the pilot with a recorded woman's voice that something has gone wrong with the plane.

The system is called VIPS — voice interceptor priority system — and experiments have shown that not only does a pilot respond with a good deal more alacrity to the VIPS than to a red-light warning system, but he responds with particular vigor when the VIP's voice is a woman's three seconds reaction time for a female VIPS as opposed to about fifteen for a red light is the telling statistic.

When something goes wrong with the plane Miss VIPS come through over the plane's intercom coolly calling the pilot's attention to such current events as "Your right wing is falling off, your right wing is falling off, your right. . . ."

Here is a magnificent field of human endeavor barely scratched, it seems, by humans. At the moment, in addition to VIPS, we have the recorded messages in the telephone system that tell you what time it is, pray for you, answer another person's telephone, and point out acidly that you have reached a wrong number. There have been experiments with sleep - learning, a method of installing facts into the heads of youth by means of a recording repeating "1066", the Battle of Hastings," and similar flash news quietly under the pillow.

These are mere preliminaries. World events could be shaped and molded with the recorded message. A tender Slavis voice murmuring persuasively "You will wake up feeling benevolent, kindly, tractable, understanding, perceptive . . ." under Mr. Khrushchev's pilow at night could work wonders.

A recording of Bobby Kennedy's voice saying in level tones, "Watch your step, you're on pretty thin ice, watch your step," sneaked to within earshot of Jimmy Hoffa might produce startling results in the Teamsters' Union.

You can also get pocket tape recorders now. You park your car, set the recorder, go into a shop, and eleven minutes later the recorder warns, "Feed the parking meter, one minute to go . . . feed the parking meter, fifty seconds to go . . . feed the. . . ."

Visualize a young couple preparing for a trip by car. Wife has recorded a list of things they must take. The car is loaded, husband starts the motor, wife starts the tape recorder: "Shirts, skirts, blouses, underwear, toothbrushes, socks, baby bottle, two dozen diapers, safety pins, powder, pacifier. . . ."

"Oh my God, we forgot the baby!"

You can take this from here yourself. — *Chapel Hill Weekly.*

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.

Annual employer - employee banquet of the Kings Mountain Merchants Association will be held Monday night at Masonic Hall.

Kings Mountain and No. 4 Township raised a total of $4,805.73 in the annual March of Dimes fund campaign for infantile paralysis, according to initial report of Jack White, township chairman.

Social and Personal

The Valentine motif was carried out in the decorations and refreshments by Mrs. Johnny Kerns on Tuesday night when she and Mr. Kerns were hosts to members of the Kings of Hearts.

Mrs. J. L. McGill and Mrs. Clark Broward of Charlotte attended the State District Garden club meeting in Chapel Hill last weekend.

Nowhere Fast

By Paul K. Ausley, Th.D.

Minister First Presbyterian Church

"The gate is narrow and the way is hard, that leads to life, and those who find it are few." Matthew 7:14.

One night two young couples were discussing the days they had spent in the establishment of their homes. All the matters of mutual interest to the two young couples were on the docket for discussion — finding a home, having a family, balancing the budget, providing financial security, all the dreams they hoped the future would bring forth. It was one of those sessions when you take down your hair, open up your heart, and talk straight. At last one of the four said, "We are about where we were when we started some years ago. When we make progress on one hand we seem to be confronted with mounting difficulties in another area." He concluded his pessimism with the words, "We don't seem to be getting anywhere fast."

I

What this young man was sensing in the magnitude of the task before him and his limited abilities to measure up to that task, is no isolated experience. In fact, it is the unanimous testimony of all of us. Jesus came to the same conclusion: "The gate is narrow and the way is hard, that leads to life, and those who find it are few."

Science, which has seemed to be confronted by no obstacle as it marched into the unknown to discover a cure-all for every difficulty, would not seem to accept the verdict of this young man about the requirements of life. Yet ponder these words of Madame Curie as she stands, robed in honor, before the Academy of Science in Paris: "No one of us can do much: each of us can perhaps catch some gleam of knowledge which added together shall bring nearer man's dream of truth. It is by these small candles in our darkness that we see little by little the outline of the dream and that great plan which shapes the universe."

An empire builder would seem to be the last to come to the modest conclusion that life's responsibilities are too vast for our powers. Cecil Rhodes, who staked out a world in the Black Continent, came to his final hours unsatisfied with his work and cried out in famous last words: "So little done — so much to do!"

By the time one becomes a sophomore in High School, he understands that there is no royal road to learning. Truth is a most exacting mistress. She will not yield her treasures without the disciplines of constant application and honest toil. Before the lawyer, the doctor, the engineer or the minister can rightfully hang out his shingle and go to work, he must accomplish four years of high school training, go on to four years of college instruction and complete at least three years of postgraduate study. We must give ourselves to obtain knowledge.

The Christian experience is uphill going. It's tough too. Christianity, is no pill that one may take in an easy gulp — and forever after have all of it. Kierkegard, the Danish theologian, said to our generation, "Choose the Christian way. It is the only way of life. But remember as you choose it, that it won't be easy. Christianity is difficult." It asks the impossible. It asks us to have faith in the impossible — like Abraham trusting God's promise of blessing for his seed at the very instant God called upon him to slay his only son Isaac. It asks us to say, "I will" where reason stops. That is what faith is — the miracle which sweeps us on where the mind cannot go. It begets belief where we do not see. It asks us to do the impossible — calling upon us to make Christianity live amid the brute facts of the market place. More than these, we are to ask other people to share this impossible Faith! Our easy-going Christianity, needs Kierkegard's shot-in-the-arm stimulus and challenge. It's hard to be a Christian. "The gate is narrow and the way is hard, that leads to life, and those who find it are few."

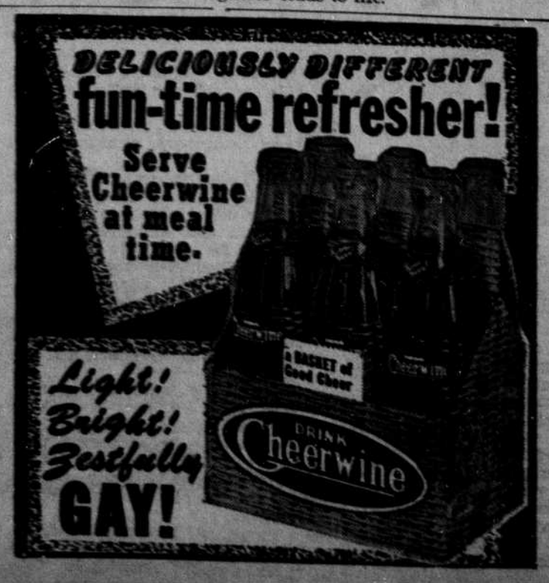
Consider with me now that this painstakingly slow process of achievement is as it ought to be. Often we do not seem to be getting anywhere fast because real growth is so slow that it is imperceptible. The elements of stability and permanence are not achieved overnight.

For yet one other reason, life cannot give at one time all of its gifts to men: because the overall pattern of life is too vast, too glorious and too prophetic for any of us to see it entirely Consider the confusion involved if Jesus had made his appearance in the second chapter of Genesis rather than in the second chapter of Luke. There was a whole nation — yes, a whole world — which needed to be prepared for that revelation. It was a long, slow, agonizing process. Those who saw far ahead, cried out, "O Lord how long? But before the consummation, a people must first be turned from the many gods of their neighbors to the one God, the Lord of Hosts. There must be the molding of these motley twelve tribes into a nation of spiritually sensitive people, to whom God could reveal himself at last in his Son. Everything for a thousand years had been shaping up for this happy occasion when God would walk down the stairs from heaven to Bethlehem with the baby Jesus in his arms and lay him on the bosom of a waiting world. It is a truth we are not prepared to receive in Genesis. It dawns upon us gradually.

God is still doing his business with us this way. God has yet more light and truth ready to break forth from his holy Word. But God must slow up his revealing at times, lest we get more than we can handle. God dare not reveal his full hand - the future is too bright, too glorious for us to understand. He gives it to us bit by bit, as we are prepared to understand it.

There can be no revelation - signed, sealed, stamped and delivered: I believe that "God kept talking after his book had gone to press." These tragic days in which we live are one evidence that God is desperately trying to show somthing to our world - through the discoveries of science, but we cannot see! Right now we are wondering how mankind will respond to the knowledge of outer space. I find comfort in the fact that it can be historically demonstrated that we have been permitted to grasp new knowledge only when we were prepared in a measure to receive it. A great gasp of fear must have accompanied the advent of fire. Men saw the whole world going up in smoke. But God made sure that the structure of the universe was fireproof before he permitted us to play around with matches. All knowledge comes slowly and with agony.

What lies ahead men can only conjecture. Paul understood well that the future was too glorious to be comprehended. "Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither hath it entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him." God is revealing them unto us by His Spirit. In every age men fumbling with the circumstances and necessities of life have not understood how God could bring these things to pass. They ask, with Nicodemus, "How can these things be?" Still God's great plans unfold as life continues.

I would want you to see the faith which gives me hope in these crucial days. Take that long view. Evil has its day. Only the blind refuse to concede that. Evil surges forward with bounding leaps. Good seems restrained, inhibited, limited, thwarted. But cast an eye over the long sweep of God's history and see mankind moving forward. "Here a little, there a little." A few cases enter by the narrow gate, a limited number of ideals come up the hard way, yet these all are the integral parts of that great plan which shapes the future.

Progress is uphill business. That is why we do not seem to be getting anywhere fast. All good things take a long time even when God is working at them. When discouraged we need to remember that "the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life."