

The Kings Mountain Herald
Established 1889

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EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT

Martin Harmon Editor-Publisher
Dick Woodward Sports Editor
Miss Elizabeth Stewart Circulation Manager and Society Editor
Miss Libby Bunch Clerk

MECHANICAL DEPARTMENT

Paul Jackson Allen Myers Monte Hunter
Douglas Houser Russell C. Parrish Norman Camp

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TODAY'S BIBLE VERSE
For evildoers shall be cut off; but those that wait upon the Lord, they shall inherit the earth.
Psalm 37:9

Machines and Politics

Through the history of American politics the word "machine" has often-times been a dirty word, and with reason. In its extreme use the word has implied the rawest kind of political corruption, including kick-backs, rank favoritism to friends, harassment of enemies, and, generally, use of the public treasury for the private gain of the few.

The leader of that type of machine frequently earned the title of "Boss". Thus history records Boss Tweed, Boss Crump, Boss Hague and many more. Louisiana's Huey Long was the "King-fish." Jim Curley, of Boston, dominated Massachusetts politics for many years. These are just a few.

It is also a common practice for campaigners to label competitors as "machine" candidates.

All depends, of course, on whether the choice of labels is correct, whether the word should be "machine," or merely "organization." Pity the poor candidate which lacks an organization, for he will consistently be relegated to also - ran category. Seldom does a candidate win when he is solely the so-called "candidate of the people."

Machine charges are already flowing in the campaign for the Democratic nomination for governor, Judge Richardson Preyer is labeled by competitors the candidate of the "Sanford-Bennett machine." Governor Sanford laughs off the charge with the reminder a governor seldom, if ever, enjoys an eight - hour workday. Bert L. Bennett resigned as state chairman of the Democrats before endorsing the Preyer candidacy.

Another implication of the "machine" charge is one of longevity in power, hardly applicable to the reputed Sanford-Bennett group.

It all means another quadrennial gubernatorial campaign is underway. It will be informative and exciting, but it is safe to assume that North Carolina will survive it, as it has those of the past.

A New Bill

Changes in the federal tax laws last year mean that majority of savings and loan associations will be enjoying the dubious pleasures of paying federal income tax for the first time.

While the formula is different from general corporations, there will still be a sizeable tax bite for these associations which, in North Carolina at least, had the status of mutual tax exempt home-building associations.

There were several reasons for the change.

Banks, competing for funds, felt the tax laws put them in a poor and unfair competitive position. Another reason was the fact that, in contrast to North Carolina, laws governing savings and loan associations are quite different. Some associations in other states are virtually privately owned, rather than mutually as in this state.

A Kings Mountain savings and loan association official views the tax change as a requirement to change somewhat the operating format of the associations. Where emphasis formerly was on increase of assets, emphasis now, he says, will switch to net earnings, much as private businesses emphasize.

Savings and loan associations render valuable functions to those they serve, both as interest - paying savings depositories and as lending agents for improvement of real estate, largely in the residential category.

Another Expansion

Carolina Throwing Company is a comparatively new Kings Mountain industrial citizen and is one of the community's fastest growing.

Its major 1963 expansion was only recently completed before another was underway.

The firm puts the "stretch" into man-made yarns. The product is used for a myriad number of end products and Carolina Throwing is one of a not too great group of manufacturers producing these yarns.

It can be correctly assumed that the company's success has been due to particular attention to quality production through correct and imaginative management procedures.

Warning Signals

The community will be pleased that the president of Southern Railway Company has informed Mayor Glee A. Bridges that early consideration to the safety problem at the Gold street rail crossing will be given.

It is one of the most dangerous rail crossings within the confines of Kings Mountain due to 1) heavy traffic and 2) shortness of approaches from both Battleground avenue and from Railroad avenue.

Warning signals as used at the neighboring Mountain street crossing would be beneficial, though likely the minimal safety effort that can be effected short of closing the crossing, which, in view of its heavy use, would pose traffic congestion problems for all other crossings and elevate them to a higher point in the danger department.

There is no substitute for the "stop, look, and listen" dictum when crossing a railroad (or entering a main thoroughfare).

The long-term answer to minimizing the danger at this and other crossings would be construction of underpasses (or overpasses where terrain dictates) to pare traffic over rail crossings. Here the indication would be for expenditure of large sums of treasure.

Such projects require expert planning, as well as cash, and are never attainable on an over-night basis. However, with population of both autos and people growing, it is conceivable that underpass projects should get the attention of the several agencies which have a stake in the safety problem.

Heady Report

It is a safe guess that vast majority of the members of the Kings Mountain Chamber of Commerce were pleasantly surprised at the annual membership meeting when retiring President J. Wilson Crawford summated the work of the organization during the past year.

The review of the community's industrial growth during the 12 months was impressive. While much of it had been publicized, the summation made a longer list than most had realized.

Mr. Crawford stated that continuance of the rate of growth of 1963 would mean that Kings Mountain's population would double in a matter of eight years, a rather heady thought.

Much of the community's 1963 progress was due to the efforts of the Chamber of Commerce, in collaboration with the city administration, as well as numerous individuals.

The 1963 record is indicative of what can be accomplished through the leadership of a well-functioning Chamber of Commerce, an organization that brings together all segments of a community for the general welfare.

Congratulations are due Mr. Crawford for a most successful administration, and to Bob Maner, his newly elected successor.

Heart Fund

The Kings Mountain area has been especially generous in recent years in answering the annual appeal for donations to the Heart Fund. This generosity shows a growing awareness on the part of citizens to the fact that heart disease, in its various forms, is near the top in the list of fatal physical illness.

The answer to these medical problems, as others, lies in research. Proof is available in the vast strides made in this direction within the past few years, and these strides will continue only as research funds are supplied.

Medical men today regard their confreres of a century ago as in the medical dark ages, guess that, a century hence, doctors of the future will think the same of this era.

Liberal contributions to the heart fund are indicated to insure that happy situation.

Some items of business for quick handling: tax listing, paying 1963 tax bills, and purchasing motor vehicle licenses. Penalties are prescribed for the laggards.

Congratulations to Corbett Nicholson, re-elected captain of the Cleveland County Life-Saving and Rescue Squad, and to the other newly elected officers.

MARTIN'S MEDICINE
By MARTIN HARMON
Ingredients: bits of news, wisdom, humor, and comments.
Directions: Take weekly, if possible, but avoid overdosage.

George Thomasson, the attorney, secretary of the county elections board and son-in-law of Mrs. J. H. Arthur, registrar for the West Kings Mountain voting precinct, suggests that the Herald try to get across to citizens the fact that in county elections there are only two voting precincts, West Kings Mountain, now located at the National Guard Armory, and East Kings Mountain, at City Hall courtroom.

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In contrast, for city elections there are five voting precincts.

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It has long been and likely will continue to be a point of confusion that in North Carolina there are two sets of election books. City registration does not qualify the voter for participation in county elections and vice versa. This situation apparently is not true in some other states, where one registration qualifies for all elections.

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Jack Hauser, ex of New York city, tells me that, when a citizen registers, he is given a registration card which he must sign at the time of issue. When he visits the polling place, he must produce his card and sign the pollbook, the signature being scrutinized by the election officials to be sure the card-holder and voter are one and the same person.

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I have done no checking, but it is possible 1964 could be a record year for number of elections in Cleveland County. Already there has been one election, the January 14th one on state constitution amendments. On February 29, there will be held the county-wide bond election for hospital construction. There will follow the biennial primaries in May and, with five already in the field for the Democratic nomination for governor, three considered leading contenders, most folk are betting a run-off primary will be required in June. Judge Preyer, of course, predicted Saturday he would get a majority in May, and it is safe to assume similar predictions will come from the other contenders.

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After that sequence of elections is completed there will follow the November general election. At some time during the year, on authorization of the General Assembly, the Governor will call a state-wide bond election for \$100 millions for school construction. Most think the Governor, in the interest of saving money for the state and its 100 counties, will set the date of this election on the same day as the general election. But he is not required to.

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Another election in the offing is a possible county - wide decision on legal liquor. There is hardly a question that those desiring the ABC vote will have any difficulty obtaining the necessary 2800-plus signatures of bona fide citizens. Indeed, one petition, one of the supporters of this special election reports, bore the signature of some 3,000 citizens, when an error was discovered in the way the petition was drawn. This one was sent to the waste basket and a new and correctly drawn petition will be circulated.

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Yet another election could be held, though it would not be county - wide. The county district schools may re-offer a proposal for school construction funds, though no announcement concerning it has been made.

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That's right much voting for one calendar year.

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Mayor Glee A. Bridges and Hobart Dye were among the caravanners to Greensboro for the Preyer rally last Saturday. Not only did Mayor Bridges provide a police escort through Kings Mountain, but alerted Kannapolis officers and towel city officers did the same.

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Grandfather Glee, an experienced hand at the business, did a brief baby-sitting chore for Mrs. Preyer. The younger children of five) were getting a bit tired and one was beginning to snuffle. Glee tended the least one while Mrs. Preyer attended the other.

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As Mayor Glee regards his role as that of official greeter to all persons of prominence, including all candidates. He attended the rally as the official representative of the city and plans equal treatment to the others.

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To the suggestion that Candidate Preyer apparently made a good speech, Glee replied, "Yes he did. And more than that, he didn't drag it out. That suited me fine." I take it Glee belongs to the cult which agree with the preacher who noted, "I never figured I saved many souls after 30 minutes in the pulpit."



ATTACK ON POVERTY STARTS HERE!

Viewpoints of Other Editors

VACANCIES

For anyone who has had to listen to the neighbors through the high-fidelity walls of some new low-cost apartments, the latest federal housing experiment will have special meaning. A number of more serious advantages could also flow from the plan to help more needy families make use of vacant existing buildings rather than new publicly constructed ones.

Under this plan, which has already been successfully tried on a small scale, families would pay what they can in rent. The government would make up the difference between this and an economically appropriate rental. To protect all concerned—and this shows a sensitivity to morale as well as an awareness of possible abuses—the federal government would pay subsidies to local housing authorities. The authorities would lease or buy available properties, and the tenants would deal directly with them.

It is expected that 15,000 slum families would be helped under the experiment this year, in addition to those placed in the 35,000 new public dwellings usually built annually. The net cost in using the old housing is estimated to be less.

For many families the result would be a move from slums to middle-class neighborhoods. Taken from an atmosphere in which poverty seems to breed poverty, they might find themselves responding to improved conditions with progress out of proportion to the dollars-and-cents investment. At least it would seem such an approach is worth trying. We hope the Congress will give every consideration to this kind of fresh thinking on continuing problems when the proposal comes before it soon as one of President Johnson's anti-poverty measures.

Though Americans are becoming more aware of the poverty in their midst, there are other more acutely distressed countries in which their help is needed—and not just through foreign aid. In Colombia, for example, various agencies are working with the labor unions to provide cooperative low-cost dwellings for their workers. One problem is transporting materials to remote areas, which the individual cannot afford; another is an economic situation that makes banks reluctant to give workers long-term mortgages. And the project faces delay through lack of Americans with co-op experience and other qualifications necessary to help get it moving.

This is one of those situations, multiplied endlessly in which the qualified man faces the choice of staying comfortably where he is, or absenting himself from felicity awhile, going forth into that harsh world which for many is no less harsh now than it was when Shakespeare wrote about it.

The Christian Science Monitor

THE CEREAL BOX POTENTIAL

With all that wheat going to the Russians, we hope someone is sending them a few American breakfast cereal boxes. Somehow these boxes seem to have bigger and bigger outsides and smaller and smaller insides. They would make the wheat go a long way.

As for palatability, statistics show, or ought to, that four out of five small children prefer cereal to steak if the cereal box is left on the table. We're working on a theory that if the pictures and words and free offers on the box are interesting enough, it doesn't matter what is inside it.

Of course, at tables of two or more children, there must be an equal number of interesting boxes, or a single box must be placed at the proper angle for viewing by all.

However it is the box itself, so wide, so thin, not the children, which should be exported first. Back of the hula hoop warehouse there must be one full of Buck Rogers boxes from 25 years ago, when the American comics were so timid as to put Buck and his spaceships in the 25th century. That would give the Russians a laugh right there.

But would they be amused when they sent in the box top and a ruble in stamps and found that their full-size disintegrator ray gun, arriving by return mail three weeks later, was made of cardboard.

With the present day boxes it seems children have to send in more money and fewer box fragments. But they have to wait just as long, even if plastic has taken the place of cardboard in the free premiums field.

What brought all this to mind is that one cerealmaker has paused in appealing to the naked greed of youngsters. Its offer was that, for every box bit turned in, it would make a contribution to the needy. We hope the Russians, well knowing that charity begins abroad, will applaud with us this new example of enlightened capitalism.

The Christian Science Monitor

lived here for a single week can tell you that the law prohibiting their sale is a farce.

Pistols as well as rifles can be bought in any pawnshop or sporting goods store, and at a good many department stores, with no difficulty at all. The law to the contrary simply is ignored.

We salute the Monitor's effort but we warn it that if South Carolina is a valid example the problem is greater than it thinks. The Greenville News (Greenville, S. C.)

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All Agree About Life

MARION D. DuBOSE, JR.
Pastor,
Kings Mountain Baptist Church

We often have been told the world is divided between the "haves" and the "have-nots". This is a reference especially to the possessions or lack of the material goods of life. There are some things, however, which all men possess, wherever they live and whatever their circumstances. Most important is life itself.

Life is wonderful, full of marvels and miracles and always astonishing and exciting to us!

Life also is meaningful. Ancient poets and modern scientists agree that all life—from the most minute microscopic form to the planets that wheel through space—is full of plan and purpose.

This world of ours forever is giving us evidences of unity and order. Growth and maturity in life are according to plan. This world is a cosmos, not a chaos. Nothing occurs accidentally.

Life is meaningful and the more we study life through the great approaches offered through the sciences the more certain we become that behind the orderliness of life in an Almighty Mind. When circumstances become confused we know the explanation is not to be found within the elemental fabric of our universe but rather in the tinkering by man in the order of life.

The late William Temple, Archbishop of Canterbury, wrote: "The fundamental facts about man are two: he is made in the image of God, and this image is, so to speak, stamped upon an animal nature. Between these two there is a constant tension resulting in perpetual tragedy."

When God fashioned His world He looked upon it, the Bible tells us, and saw that it was good. The creation gave to our universe a perfect character. Then what happened? Man, created in the image of His Creator but possessing a free will, disturbed this perfection. He sinned! Sin brought chaos into an otherwise harmonious universe.

The perfection of the universe can be restored only when men will fully surrender their lesser purposes to the greater purposes of the Eternal, Jesus Christ, who shared both the nature of humanity and divinity, is the Guide who shows us how mortal men may know and follow the will of our Heavenly Father, in Him we detect the perfection of God and through Him we may achieve God's wonderful purposes for our lives.

The scientist Kepler spoke of thinking God's thought after Him. That is a commendable way of expressing a life of devotion to God. When we think His thoughts we recognize our creatureliness. Then we rely on Him alone who can bring from the conclusion of our lives the kind of plan and purpose which God built into the fundamental structure of His universe.

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