

Established 1889

The Kings Mountain Herald

North Carolina Press Association

A weekly newspaper devoted to the promotion of the general welfare and published for the enlightenment, entertainment and benefit of the citizens of Kings Mountain and its vicinity, published every Thursday by the Herald Publishing House.
Entered as second class matter at the post office at Kings Mountain, N. C., 28086 under Act of Congress of March 3, 1873.

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MARTIN'S MEDICINE

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

In the more than 40 years I've been going to Boyce Memorial Associate Reformed Presbyterian church, I and my fellow parishioners have had a mere four pastors.

m-m

My first memory, since toddling along to church with my father, is the late Dr. J. M. Garrison, a strong preacher, an able, God-fearing and God-preaching man, who, church folklore has it, didn't necessarily feel his parishioners ever needed a vacation from the pews, even if he did, briefly each year, from the pulpit.

m-m

When I got old enough to know him, Dr. Garrison was in his second pastorate here, which, of itself, speaks well of his ability and the high regard his parishioners felt for him.

m-m

Well they might. When the Depression hit, Dr. Garrison invited the church to pare his pay.

m-m

Dr. Garrison did the teaching in winter-time Saturday afternoon classes in preparing us youngsters for membership in the church. This was hard duty on the students in the days when my interests were geared to full Saturday afternoons at the movie house, with the screen serving heroics by such ride-'em, rope-'em experts as Ken Maynard, Hoot Gibson, and Buck Jones, not to mention the latest chapters of "The Indians Are Coming," and other ten and twelve-chapter serial thrillers.

m-m

Then, on church-joining Sunday, when Dr. Garrison failed to read my name, I stood up and said, "You forgot me." He smiled and replied, "Come on down."

m-m

Dr. Garrison's successor was Dr. William Moore Boyce, a man of keen intellect, whom I was not as well benefited to know as closely, due to the inroads of college and subsequent out-of-Kings Mountain work.

m-m

His successor was Dr. Robert Neil Baird, the incumbent when I returned to Kings Mountain, a good pastor, able minister, and fine friend, felled at untimely age by illness, first to retirement, then to death.

m-m

The other of my pastors I've known best is Dr. William Laurens (Bill) Pressly, shortly to vacate his position as dean of Kings Mountain ministers after nearly 18 years in Boyce Memorial service.

m-m

Dr. Pressly tells me, "We've usually seen eye-to-eye". Certainly that is true from my viewpoint. I have never heard him preach that I did not leave with nuggets of truth. The same goes for short personal conversations. Indeed, the conversations with him have customarily been not only short, but too short.

m-m

A man of wit, Dr. Pressly enjoys a good yarn and spins one. Only recently, he gave me a new twist to the old joke about ministers praying for light over calls to new charges. The particular pastor, he related, strode into the manse and told his wife they were moving to a larger church, at increased stipend. The wife asked, "Aren't you going to pray over it?" "Sure," he replied. "You pack while I pray"

m-m

Dr. Pressly recalls a visit several years ago to Coddie Creek ARP church, where he is to become pastor, at which I was present, along with Mariott Phifer and several others from here. During dinner, a stranger looked in the direction of the Kings Mountain group and asked his neighbor, "Is that him?" Dr. Pressly says "I didn't know whether they meant you, or me, or another one of us." Then he heard, "Yeah, that's him."

m-m

"Say", asks the guy addressing Dr. Pressly, are you on the Synod apportionment committee?" Dr. Pressly was. Uphot was that the fellow wanted his church's apportionment cut and supported the plea by the contribution was 20 percent of the budget. Dr. Pressly replied, "Yes, our church would like to get its apportionment cut, too. Ours is 30 percent of the total budget."

m-m

Needless to say, there was no further conversation in that direction. A man of few words, Dr. Pressly, and to the point. I'm jealous of the Coddie Creek folk.

"She's new around here, ain't she?"



HOPE YOU BOYS WILL KEEP IT CLEAN!

Henry McCann

The Veterans Corner

EDITOR'S NOTE: Below are authoritative answers by the Veterans Administration to some of the many current questions from former servicemen and their families: Further information on veterans benefits may be obtained at any VA office.

Q—I have a policy loan on my World War II life insurance policy. Can payments on this loan be made in any amount, or are there restrictions?

A—The only restriction is that the payment be at least five dollars. Any payment of five dollars or more is acceptable.

Q—I have been receiving \$75 compensation because of my son's death in service. Has this rate been increased lately?

A—A new law provides graduated rates to parents, depending upon their other income which must be estimated and reported each year. Rates have been increased about 10 percent.

Q—Will the VA let me know who is listed as beneficiary in my government life insurance?

A—Yes, the VA will give you that information upon request. However, if you are not sure who the beneficiaries are, it is preferable to make a new designation the way you want it now. This will cancel all previous designations.

Gavin, The Liberal

Political definitions are hard to hinge down and vary, state by state. A broadly-speaking Kings Mountain man, who spends much time in New York, has been quoted as saying that New York's governor and United States senators, Rockefeller, Javits and Keating, are "more communistic than Khrushchev". He didn't mean they are Communists at all, but that they are much more left-of-center than many Americans and virtually all Tar Heels.

Thus, in New York, those North Carolina "liberals" who have attained high office, such as the late Senator W. Kerr Scott and Governor Terry Sanford, would be regarded as rather staid conservatives.

Yet, in North Carolina, from his posture thus far, Robert L. Gavin, the Republican candidate for governor, thus far has adopted the posture of a comparatively liberal candidate. Indeed, his statements to date have embodied major portions of the proposals of the so-called liberal Democratic candidate for governor, Richardson Preyer, who lost.

Mr. Gavin wants a road bond issue and favors cutting the school teaching load in the elementary grades. He favors a state minimum wage of one dollar per hour. Over the weekend, Mr. Gavin charged North Carolina had been selling new industry on North Carolina largely on grounds of cheap labor. Gavin also thinks state jobs unfilled for long periods are not needed.

Meantime, the Democratic nominee, Dan Moore, hedged on the road bond business and on the minimum wage. Perhaps, in the days preceding November 3, he will become more succinct on these and other issues.

At any rate, it is an interesting development that finds the GOP candidate for governor a North Carolina "liberal" and the Democratic candidate, thus far at least, rather more to the "right".

State School Bonds

On November 3, North Carolinians not only will record their choices for presidential electors, for governor and other state officers, but also will vote for or against the issuance of \$100 million in school construction bonds.

Only a few times in the past has the state put its financial ear into school buildings, the General Assembly being content to limit state support operational funds, which, generally, supplies about four of five dollars the schools spend, other than for real estate and buildings.

Decision of the legislature to approve the upcoming school bond issue for consideration of the voters came in the closing days of the 1963 session and stemmed from the fact that many counties were sadly in arrears in providing needed buildings for burgeoning school populations. An additional fact was that some of the poorer counties apparently had little chance or financial ability to catch up.

Cleveland County citizens, if they vote wisely from their own interests, will support this bond proposal. The county unit is an estimated \$3 million behind on immediate construction needs. Shelby unit has several overcrowded plants and insufficient money in view to alleviate these pains. Kings Mountain unit, momentarily perhaps in better position than the others, is squeezing out its high school plant through husbanded cash balances, its \$1.1 million bond issue, and anticipated income for capital outlay in 1965.

The Kings Mountain district is to receive, on the Assembly-approved formula some \$376,000, a sum which would, local school officials agree, take the district out of the financial woods.

Cries of pain as a result of the recent county tax bills continue to be heard. Yet there is no prospect of surcease with building needs still at the forefront.

The beauty of the state bond issue is that the state's tax schedules can accommodate the \$100 million school bond issue with increasing taxes—impossible at the local level, as recent tax bills conclusively prove.

"Knee - Jerk" Reactions

There has been popularized the connotation "knee-jerk liberal", undoubtedly created by some reporter who had a brush with a college course in psychology and went through the knee-jerk tests for proper motor reactions. In the sense of the "knee-jerk liberal", the term means that a person has an automatic, built-in, largely un-thinking reaction to about any and all given situations. His reactions are innately pre-disposed.

There is, it is charged, some "knee-jerk" reactors in Cleveland County, specifically, Shelby folk and Kings Mountain folk. The latter group supposedly react as "knee-jerk red-headed stepchildren" when the word Shelby occurs, and, conversely, the Shelby folk react as "knee-jerk nyet (no) sayers" when Kings Mountain seeks a bit of consideration in county matters.

Many Kings Mountain citizens will agree to the charge against them, withal adding "with continuing good cause", but few Shelby folk admit to the charge against them.

Mayor Glee A. Bridges, it is indicated, is a devotee to the Kings Mountain redheaded stepchild thinking.

Latest case in point, the Mayor, with heavy support, thinks, is the decision to close the Kings Mountain branch of the county welfare office, which the Shelby Daily Star labels a "minor administrative adjustment".

There are many others in the course of history since Kings Mountain, once divided between Cleveland and Gaston counties, cast its lot with Cleveland in 1915.

Items:

Few rural roads were paved in this area before the Kerr Scott administration, in contrast to the long hard-surfaced Shelby area roads.

Kings Mountain will send its first legislator to the General Assembly next February since 1927.

The Kings Mountain Hospital history is dotted with many instances in which its small surplus treasure was being sought for the benefit of the Shelby unit of the county hospital system.

Hospital-wise, it is further fact that supportive interest in the bond issue for renovating and adding to Shelby hospital piled to the point of opposition in many quarters when provision for Kings Mountain hospital expansion funds was included.

The proposed closing of the Kings Mountain branch of the employment service never excited much support in Shelby. It was closed.

Now the welfare branch office is to be closed, too.

The Shelby Star says, "Remember the intangibles."
Is there else remaining to remember?

Businessman Clyde Whetstone's lusty and successful yell about removal of a parking space in front of his service station has even louder overtones. Mr. Whetstone's personal problem produced by the now-removed "no parking" sign was quite obvious. But his personal problem is magnified many times in Kings Mountain. The city's streets were laid out in days when the wagon population wasn't even a problem and when there was no anticipation of the mass of automotive horsepower to be accommodated, in motion or otherwise. This growing problem which has produced lucrative parking lot and parking garage businesses in the bigger cities, has brought parking meters to Kings Mountain, provided a few monthly rental parking lots, and increased real estate costs for those newer firms aware of the problem. It is to be hoped that the city land use survey report, now being conducted by the special city commission and Department of Conservation and Development, will provide some sound ideas for alleviating this problem.

Congratulations to James S. Forrest, winner of an academic scholarship at North Carolina State for the coming year.

Viewpoints of Other Editors

LIVING MEMORIAL

The good that men do may oft be interred with their bones; but sometimes it is remembered, and gratefully, at least by its beneficiaries. At any rate, it is heart-rending to find an instance of such remembrance—and a richly deserved one, too. At the Pine Ridge, South Dakota, Indian Reservation, the Felix S. Cohen Memorial Home for the Elderly was dedicated. A joint undertaking by the Oglala Sioux Tribe of South Dakota which contributed the land, the United States Public Housing Administration which financed the construction and the Pine Ridge Settlement House which will furnish and subsidize the home through public subscriptions, this is the first housing for elderly residents on an Indian Reservation and the first to be built by all-Indian labor.

Much of Felix Cohen's life

— was a free and generous and loving gift to the Oglala Tribe—and indeed, to Indians generally. An attorney devoted to their interests in private practice and during his 15-year tenure in the Interior Department, he drafted the Indian Reorganization Act and worked with tribal councils on constitutions, by-laws and regulations that gave them self-government for the first time in American history. The naming of the Memorial Home in his honor is a tribute not alone to him personally but also in a way to all those unsung Government workers who labor selflessly for the minority rights which are indispensable to a true democracy.

The Washington Post

A BOON FOR THE ARTS

After nine years' study, the Federal Copyright Office has introduced in Congress a bill to modernize the 1909 U. S. Copyright Law. It was high time. Not only in tax matters, but in their very income itself, writers, artists and composers have long been an object of discrimination.

The present law gives a writer

exclusive rights to his works for 28 years. He may renew for another 28, but after 56 years, anyone may copy his work without permission or payment. The proposed revision would extend the period to include the author's life plus 50 years.

The revision would also increase

royalty payments to composers for recordings, and remove an exemption now given to jukebox operators. This last may arouse controversy, but all opponents of cacophony will endorse it.

In one respect, however, the

bill seems to open to question. It would permit exceptions, if they are "in the public interest," to the present rule that no government publication may be copyrighted. This could violate the principle that government publications are the public's property, and could prevent free access to public information at the whim of a department head. This section should bear close scrutiny. Boston Globe

PARIS IN AUGUST

April in Paris is for the songwriters. Paris in August is what the most of the rest of us remember. This is the month when Parisians are expected to evacuate their glorious city before a barbarian invasion, leaving only a rear guard of restaurateurs, antique and souvenir shopkeepers, taxi drivers.

Nowadays, as already reported on this page, the evacuation is less general than it used to be. More Parisians are discovering what the tourist sees in Paris in August, and staying for a share of the view.

This, to be sure, has to include masses of tourists glowering at one another at their sidewalk tables at the Cafe de la Paix or Fouquet's. Probably the tourists look no better to Parisians than to one another.

But the red and yellow blooms in the sun-flooded Tuilleries delight the Parisian and his tourist-equivalent alike. A lakeside walk in the Bois de Boulogne in the evening charitably disguises the quiet tourist from the quiet native—or rather, makes no disguise necessary.

The visitor from overseas may make his own special discoveries in Paris in August. One is that some of the tourists in the French capital are themselves French!

When he has got used to this idea he begins to find these people as interesting as the other sights he came to see. They too, taking their French holidays, are part of Paris in August.

NO TYKES IN SPIKES PLEASE

Pretty maids all in a row are one of the pleasures of summertime, but it seems to us that the presarios of beauty are going a bit far in incorporating a contest for 5-10 year olds in the Miss Universe Pageant at Miami.

The little girls were turned out like their elders in make-up, bathing suits and spike heels. They were primped and coiffured.

But somewhere along the line the charm was lost. This was none of the appeal of innocence that tugs a father's heart when his child first comes forth dolled up in mommy's clothes. The parents and producers at Miami apparently did their best, or worst, to make the little girls look like the big girls, thereby erasing some of the best years in a girl's young life.

Why not just let them grow up the old, slow way?

Portland Oregonian

10 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

Items of news about Kings Mountain area people and events taken from the 1954 files of the Kings Mountain Herald.

Rev. E. E. Saff, of Morehead City, has accepted the pastorate of the Kings Mountain Church of God and began his duties Sunday. He and his family moved into the parsonage on Thursday.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT
Members of the Magnolia Garden Club met Friday afternoon at the home of Mrs. Martin Harmon and heard an address by R. D. Bowser, interior decorator for the Stafford House, in Charlotte.
Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Bridges spent Sunday in Asheville.

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