



The Kings Mountain Herald

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TODAY'S BIBLE VERSE

Moreover, it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful. 1 Corinthians 4:2.

No Shock

If anyone fell over from shock on the news of the United States Supreme Court's decision reported Monday on legality of the public accommodations section of the 1964 civil rights act it is surprising.

In decisions on two cases the Supreme Court affirmed legality of the 1964 act.

While it is customary (as the Court did) to rule on a case on basis of the particular facts, it is safe to assume that the rulings 1) will dissuade future court actions and appeals in related cases and 2) will encourage compliance with the act in these directions.

In the instance of the Atlanta motel, located near an interstate highway, 75 percent of its temporary tenants were non-Georgians. In the instance of the Birmingham restaurant, the bulk of its supplies came from out-of-state. The power of Congress to regulate interstate commerce was used by the Court as reason for certifying the judgment of the Congress.

There has long been legal question as to whether a person or corporation could choose his customers, provided the would-be customers met the cash test. Can a merchant decide who shall buy a pair of pants, or a newspaper or radio station who can buy its space or time — provided, of course, he meets the firm's credit tests or provides the long green on the barrel-head? None of these wished to deny these sales.

The bars have been up where the character of the business had social overtones.

The civil rights story has been THE news story of the South, perhaps of the nation, since the Supreme Court decision of 1954 which ordered desegregation of public schools.

It was quite apparent then that, though the Court specified "within reasonable time", the question was "when" not "if".

Monday's decision is plain; "when" is now.

Those shocked by the decision compared to the fabled ostrich who in face of unpleasantness allegedly buries his head in the sand.

Taxes To Eliminate

While the work and conversation of almost all General Assemblies include myriad items, the major ones are appropriations and revenues, the two quite interrelated.

Under the North Carolina Constitution, the cash must come in before it can be paid out. Should revenues fall short of estimates, the Governor is directed to pare expenditures accordingly.

Seldom are taxes removed, unless replaced by new ones.

In Depression '33, North Carolina swapped the state property tax for the sales tax. In 1941, the state was prosperous enough to forswear (with aid of Governor Broughton's arm-twisting) of the home table food sales tax. In 1957, the sales tax was expanded to include many items (building materials, job printing) formerly considered strictly wholesale and exempt. Meantime, there was a small wholesale sales tax of one-twentieth of one percent on a few specified items.

In 1961, the sales tax returned to the home table, but the General Assembly eliminated the wholesale sales tax, largely because it returned very little cash and was regarded as unprofitable from the revenue standpoint.

One item of the wholesale sales tax the General Assembly forgot was the wholesaler's license tax, \$10 per year, which had been enacted as a reference point for collecting wholesale sales tax. Nobody thought about it in 1963 and it is still extant.

It is worthy of removal.

Another tax the state would do well to eliminate is the poll tax, charged by most counties and some cities — though the poll tax has long been divorced from its name and original purpose. It has been many years since paying a poll tax was pre-requisite to voting in North Carolina.

The City of Kings Mountain ceased levying the poll tax on the grounds of practicality. Its revenue return was nowhere commensurate with the troubles connected with collecting it.

Handsome Gift

Many were skeptical of the effort to raise \$80,000 by public subscription to afford the school system a new, modern and adequate football stadium.

They had reason, looking both at the amount and at past history, in which raising of large sums from gifts had been limited largely to the building of churches.

Then came last week's announcement that several Mauney plants and their officials have pledged gifts of \$20,000 for the proposed Gamble Stadium, a munificent gift and a quarter of the minimal goal.

The Mauney group, as one citizen remarked, has certainly done its part in assuring a needed area asset.

He added, "If we don't succeed, it's our fault."

Nor does he think the community will fail.

Happy Birthday

Superior Stone Company, an important Kings Mountain industrial citizen for 23 years, is celebrating its 25th birthday.

When it opened its Kings Mountain operation, Kings Mountain, like the nation, was out of the Depression, but not too far out. There was still an undue incidence of unemployment and wages were minimal.

The Superior opening provided needed employment for many.

Obviously, since Superior is a miner, her locating here can be labeled an "act of God". Had not her product been here, she would not have come.

But Superior has been and continues to be a responsible industrial citizen, always willing to shoulder her load — and more — in community matters as well as in company operations.

Congratulations are in order on Superior's silver anniversary along with best wishes for many future and equally happy ones.

Buy items for Christmas: a fruit cake from a Lion, a Christmas tree from a Jaycee.

Teague Philosophy

Eddie Teague, head coach of The Citadel, provided some worthy philosophy to the Kings Mountain football squad last week at the annual Lions Club football banquet that is equally as worthy for any and all.

He did not claim originality as he delineated a friend's contention that the population includes three groups: 1) the winners, 2) the shoulder-shruggers, and 3) the losers.

Mr. Teague assigned ten percent each at the bottom and top of the scale, with 80 percent in the vast shoulder-shrugging group. The winners show imagination, determination, and react well to crisis, while the losers are Alibi licks, propping on excuses and blaming others for failure.

He held out hope for the shoulder-shruggers who mend their fateful attitudes and realize they, too, can be winners by the same formula.

It was good advice.

Connected with football, too, is the nation's major candidate for "winner of the year". Honored at the Football Hall of Fame banquet recently was the high school youth who made all-conference. He was determined to play football — in spite of loss of both legs — and he did.

Best bows to the high school football honorees: Richard Gold, most valuable; Lyn Cheshire, best blocker; Pat Hord, most improved; Pat Murphy, top leader; and George Plonk, top scholar.

MARTIN'S MEDICINE

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

Superior Stone Company has just published a handsome report in celebration of its 25th anniversary. The 52-page booklet makes liberal use of color as well as photographs of company employees, past and present, and summarizes the firm's history in interesting fashion.

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During the quarter century, the report relates, Superior has quarried, processed to exact customer specifications, and sold more than 130 million tons of rock to meet construction needs throughout the Southeast. If the 130 million ton figure is unimaginable, it would be enough crushed stone to fill a freight train 24,500 miles long (isn't the earth's circumference 25,000 miles?), or to pave a concrete road, 24 feet wide and nine inches thick 25,000 long. Additionally, Superior has sold 20 million more tons as sales agent for other quarries.

m-m

The cover of the booklet features a beautiful photograph of Superior's first quarry, called Red Hill, near Charlottesville, Va., a mountain-side operation. The quarry was opened to supply Southern Railway. Superior's first major customer, the Southern requiring stone ballast for its main line Washington-Charlotte track. That is particularly interesting as, during the course of its 25 years of growth, Superior has been one of Southern's major shippers.

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Kings Mountain's limestone quarry, now known in company lingo as "Kings Mountain Number 1", was the company's second plant, to be followed by operations in Cumberland county and Harnett county.

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Today's company operations map is dotted heavily over North Carolina, from westernmost Hickory to easternmost Belgrade, stretches north-south to Danville, Va., and Augusta, Ga.

m-m

"Kings Mountain Number 1", opened in 1941, has produced more crushed limestone than any other Superior quarry. "Kings Mountain Number 2", built in 1959, crushes stone from Superior's neighbor, Foote Mineral Company, the lithium producer, limestone being a by-product of the Foote mining operation.

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Superior's Kings Mountain pit covers more than 45 acres, is 250 feet deep and a mile long. How deep does the rock bed go? All the way to China?

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Kings Mountain Manager Jay Powell is successor to Jim Arthur, now retired, and to Carl Mayes, general superintendent of the Western division and a company director. The report mentions Carl's upcoming retirement, which comes as a surprise as I had not realized Carl to be anywhere near retirement age.

m-m

W. R. (Red) Herndon, of Kings Mountain, superintends the Pineville and Gaston operations, while Don Winchester, son of Sam Winchester, of Kings Mountain, superintends the big Bakers Quarry near Monroe. Another son, Robert Winchester, is in charge of the Asheboro operation.

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In the section on shipping, Clyde and Jim Kerns are pictured, and it is noted that Superior contracts its Kings Mountain and Augusta trucking requirements to them.

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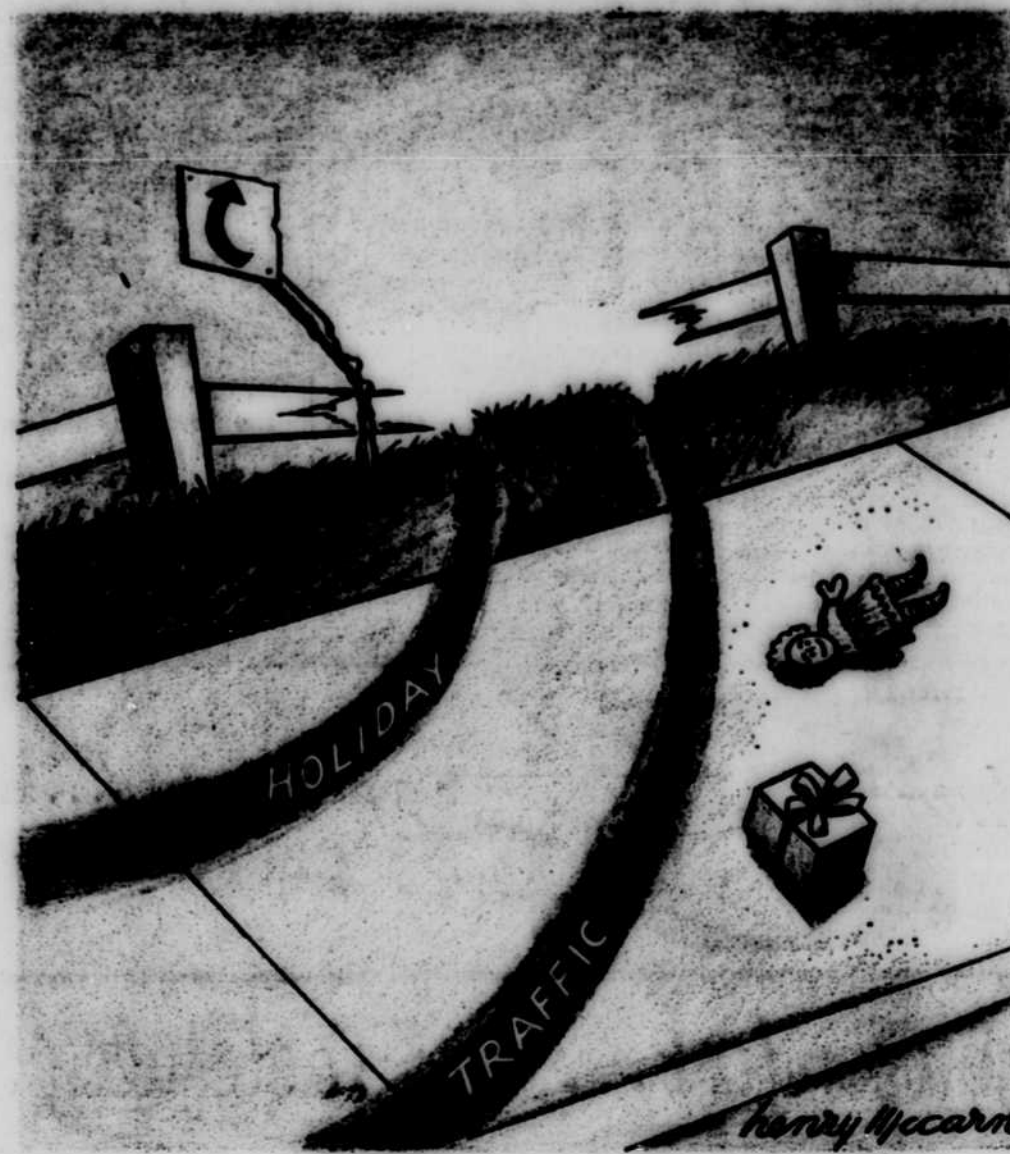
Most laymen, I take it, would think rock rock, but not to the professional. The "booklet" pictures merely eight "numbers" or types of the many crushings Superior produces.

Superior president is Trent Ragland, Jr., a friend of long standing. Over his signature he states appreciation to the employees, customers, suppliers, friends and neighbors who have enabled Superior to grow. Merged some years ago with American Marietta Company, a subsequent merger with the Martin Company was effected to form Martin Marietta Corporation. The big Martin complex made the Martin bomber for World War II use, now is involved in the space program and many others. Indeed, a back cover relates that the booklet itself was printed with Sinclair & Valentine inks, Sinclair & Valentine being a Martin Marietta division.

m-m

President Ragland enclosed his card with the book and on it is the note "no acknowledgment necessary or expected". Superior's contribution to Kings Mountain's welfare in 23 years of its 25 deserves more than a little acknowledgment.

Silent Night



Viewpoints of Other Editors

NEED SOLOMON'S WISDOM

One program connected with motor vehicles in North Carolina that has had a few smooth moments is the compulsory auto liability insurance program into effect was never intended to please everybody concerned — and it certainly hasn't.

The latest squabble has to do with "assigned risk" rates. Insurance Commissioner Ed Lanier reveals that he is being "clobbered over the head" by insurance companies for a rate increase in assigned risk auto liability insurance. He said he has been getting a large number of complaints of cancellation of policies "without obvious reason" in the last few weeks.

Lanier intimated that the insurance companies were conceding to dramatize their desire for a rate boost. This may or may not be the case, but the insurance companies have been complaining about the program which they insist is causing them to lose money.

A rate increase was sought last year but it was denied by Lanier. Under the state's compulsory insurance law motorists unable to buy insurance on the regular market are assigned as risks to insurance companies. These cost the motorists more, but the companies insist they are losing money nonetheless.

Vestal Lemmon of Chicago, general manager of the National Association of Independent Insurers, has again criticized the compulsory program. Last week he asked for abandonment of the compulsory plan in favor of "uninsured motorist" coverage.

Lemmon presented figures showing that, nationwide, only 39 per cent of motorists have assigned risk insurance. This contrasts with a percentage of 15-20 percent in North Carolina, he pointed out. These figures were questioned by Lanier.

If the state of North Carolina is to continue its compulsory liability insurance program it is going to have to work out something satisfactory with the insurance companies involved and the motoring public. The insurance firms do have a great deal at stake in the program, and for them to continue to lose money, if that is the case, is not fair.

On the other hand, the motoring public would like to see the line drawn on the premium rates. It, too, feels it is already paying sufficient rates. Ed Lanier, the commissioner, has a thankless task. He is an able administrator, employing as much diplomacy as any man can. But it appears that Lanier is going to require all the wisdom of Solomon to come up with a solution to this issue that will be satisfactory to all hands.

TEENAGERS IN BOSTON

Teenagers in Boston prefer to keep to themselves and have no wish to speak to their elders. — Letter in (a Boston newspaper). Teenagers in Boston are shockers.

With manners both haughty and odd. For the Beat, there, speaks only to Rockers. And the Rocker speaks only to Mod.

Christopher Hollis, in The Spectator, (London)

LOBSTERS ARE YOU KIDDING?

Here in New England, where tradition clings like burdock in your kid sister's long hair, we have always held that Thanksgiving was established by the Pilgrims of Plymouth in 1621, and that on that occasion their stomachs were with good turkey lined.

Here in New England, mind you. We insist on this distinction because a heresy being propounded by the state of Maine shows that Maine has seceded from the brotherhood. The Department of Economic Development (press agents, you can't fool us — and probably city slickers) in Augusta claims that the Popham colonists, who settled in Maine 13 years earlier than the Pilgrims, when Plymouth Rock was just another pebble on the beach, were the original Thanksgiving hosts. According to this tale their guests were the Abnaki Indians, and lobsters were the fare. Ugh! Not the Indian word, but the Yankee expletive.

Now, Fellas, this wouldn't be a pitch to sell Maine lobsters, would it? Because if it is, we like the way the Irishman put it better. Asked if they have lobsters in the old country, he said "Shure, and the rivers is red with'em!" Straight and to the point, and not stepping on anyone else's toes. Because when they hear of this in Plymouth, you men of Maine had best run... No, Augusta, don't apologize. We New Englanders are deeply hurt at this attempt to snatch the turkey from the table. Do lobsters have wishbones? Do lobsters have a succulent part that goes over the fence last?... Can a lobster say "Gobble, gobble, gobble?"

Sure, lobster is fine.... But not on Thanksgiving. Hartford Courant

10 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

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

First Baptist church is completing arrangements to purchase adjoining property on S. Piedmont Avenue including purchase of the Kings Mountain Herald building, owned by the Herald, and adjacent lot, owned by D. C. Mauney.

Rev. H. Gordon Weekly, pastor of First Baptist church for the past 30 months, resigned that pastorate on Sunday to accept the pastorate of Providence Baptist church, Charlotte.

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL Duplicate Bridge club members met Monday afternoon at the home of Mrs. Fred Plonk.

The YWA of Temple Baptist church held their December meeting Tuesday night at the home of Jayne Yarbrough.

Bethlehem Church Is Focal Point

Americans who dream of a white Christmas with Santa Claus popping down the chimney to the tune of "Jingle Bells" can thank assorted winters and posts and the northern climate. Christmas in the land of Christ's birth, however, is another matter. What is Christmas like in Bethlehem?

There's generally no snow, for one thing, for winters are mild in the Judean Hills around Bethlehem, reports World Book Encyclopedia. No Santa Claus listens to children's pleas, for he's an American invention based on a European saint. And there's probably no decorated Christmas tree in the village square; that custom originated in Germany.

Instead, the focal point of Christmas in Bethlehem is the Church of St. Mary of the Nativity, supposedly built over the spot where Jesus was born. Here pilgrims from all over the world gather on Christmas Eve. First there is carol singing in the square facing the church. Then all enter for the solemn midnight mass. After the service, an image of Christ is carried in a procession down into the grotto, and is placed in a manger where it lies until January 6, the Feast of the Epiphany.

After this ceremony, some may wander into the fields outside the town, where perhaps shepherds long ago heard the news of the birth of Christ.

All this takes place, of course, on the eve of December 25. But that's not the end of Christmas in Bethlehem. For the Eastern Orthodox churches celebrate the holiday on January 6, and the Armenians observe it on January 18, which is January 6 according to the old style, or Julian calendar.

Holiday Fires . . .

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Dear friends,

A writer suggests that we sit down at Thanksgiving time and list the things we have to be thankful for. If everyone would do this, we believe there would be more happiness and much less complaint.

We are especially thankful for our friends...we are also thankful for the many kindnesses that have come to us during the past year.

May your Thanksgiving be a happy one!

Sincerely,

J. Allen Harris

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