



The Kings Mountain Herald

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TODAY'S BIBLE VERSE

As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in Him. Colossians 2:6.

Electric Cities Clobbered

Kings Mountain, neighboring Shelby and Gastonia, and 70 other power-distributing or "electric" cities and towns in North Carolina, serving 750,000 customers, got clobbered in their efforts to be included fairly in the legislation concerning power distribution in North Carolina.

There was never any real question on how the voting would proceed in the House of Representatives, where Rural Electric Cooperatives, parties with the power-generating, power-selling public utilities to the advance agreement, held sway.

The chance for electric cities was in the Senate. Battle Number 1 was lost in the Senate Finance committee by vote of 11-10 on a motion to report the REA public utility agreement favorably. Shelby City Commissioner Les Roark, told members of the Kings Mountain Lions club last week the committee chairman envisioned a very close vote, used a power company lobbyist as page to summon on the double a senator who was favorable to the REA-Utility agreement. He came as summoned and cast the deciding vote.

The final loss was on the Senate floor. Senator Ed Kemp, of High Point, offered an amendment to give cities power to obtain distribution lines of areas annexed to city limits. This motion failed by 27 to 14.

Why did the 73 municipalities lose? As usual the answer is a combination of reasons:

- 1) A 2-to-1 imbalance between the beginning with long-warring enemies REA and the Utilities bed-fellows, if strange ones, at the behest of Governor Dan K. Moore.
- 2) The usually effective work of the hard-working lobbyists for the Utilities and REA.
- 3) The declination of Governor Moore to accede, in the minutest degree, to the plea of the 73 cities.
- 4) Charge by ascerbic, but respected, Senator Ralph Scott, that the electric cities had been gouging their citizens for years and now were facing judgment day.

Senator Scott slandered the City of Kings Mountain, where power rates compare favorably with Duke Power Company's retail schedules in all categories and are cheaper in some others. Shelby's Mr. Roark, acknowledging that Shelby's rates are slightly higher than Kings Mountain's, declares Shelby was slandered, too.

Knowing the Ralph Scott candor, it would be amiss not to wonder if his generic charge is correct in some instances, as he mistakenly applied it, news accounts related, to all 73.

If the Scott charge is even partially true, here is a key reason the 73 cities failed to generate the political steam merited by their 750,000 citizen-customers.

But the most important reason is Governor Moore's declination to protect the interests of a large segment of North Carolinians. As a beginning governor, Governor Moore's position would have been honored — as indeed it was.

Meantime, it is presumed the electric cities will seek to re-open the case in 1967.

If some municipal sellers are gouging, they should get their houses in order, else the 1965 legislation, which will tend to stifle city expansion by slowing the growth rate of profit-making power sales, will remain on the books.

And some are reminding city fathers of this area they may have been somewhat hasty in declining the proffer of power by the Federal Power Commission from the Hartwell Dam hydro plant. In this instance, principal objection was that the FPC had an onerous contract clause whereby it could dictate rate schedules. But the principal reason was that the cities had enjoyed long and pleasant association with their suppliers, largely Duke Power Company and Carolina Power and Light Company.

In the recent instance, Duke and Carolina (no athletic wars here), showed very short memories of the action favoring them, and shunting aside federal power.

Regretted Losses

St. Matthew's Lutheran church recently had the unfortunate and regrettable situation of two funerals for its members on the same afternoon.

Death removed from the church and from this community two fine gentlemen in the persons of Dr. Ernest Jenkins Hoffman, 86, and Junius Ernest Aderholdt, 83.

Less well-known here was Dr. Hoffman, who retired to Kings Mountain after many years as a research chemist for the United States Department of Agriculture. He went to high school at the now extinct Gaston Female college, then to Davidson college, and won his doctorate in chemistry at John Hopkins university. It was only a few days prior to his passing that a neighbor commented on what a fine man the courtly Dr. Hoffman was. It was a judgment shared by all who knew him.

Mr. Aderholdt was another gentleman of what some might term the "old school". Those who visited the Aderholdt home through the years realized on crossing the threshold for the first time that they had never been in a more friendly, hospitable home. For many years a Kings Mountain grocer, Mr. Aderholdt was respected as an industrious citizen, loyal to his family, his church and legions of friends, a practitioner of the Lutheran faith he embraced.

Senator Johnston

Senator Olin D. Johnston was a defier of traditions. With the exception of the civil rights issue, the South Carolina farm boy was initially and to his death a liberal, in an area where the successful course usually was in another direction.

In a way, he could be called the "comeback kid". A candidate can survive a defeat and return to win. Yet a second defeat dictates his demise to political limbo. In the course of his long career, as South Carolina legislator, twice her governor, and subsequently United States Senator, he continually maintained his relations with the grass roots folk.

In 1962, many conjectured that the Senator would lose his seat to popular Governor Fritz Hollings, or, if not, to 2) Republican W. D. Workman in the autumn. The results made Hollings and Workman appear to be small boys as the Senator rode to landslide primary and general election victories.

He was a man of stature and his death leaves a considerable void in the ranks of not only the Southern delegation, but also in the 100-member United States Senate. President Johnson's visit to Columbia was not only a gesture of friendship, but one of respect.

October Date

Kings Mountain has been honored by Charlotte Radio Station WBT by being tapped for one of six cities to compete for the station's annual Community Pride Award.

As Chamber of Commerce President J. Ollie Harris comments, "It's an honor even to compete. But we want to win!"

Since the initial announcement, the Chamber of Commerce has been notified that WBT staffers will come to Kings Mountain in October. Format calls for three advance visits, for tours of the community and recorded interviews with city officials and community leaders. On the fourth visit, WBT will broadcast its program from Kings Mountain, featuring the interviews and reporting this community's assets.

Needless to say, Kings Mountain has worthy competitors in Newton and Lenoir in North Carolina, and Lancaster, Chester and Clover in South Carolina.

Only two Saturdays remain to register for the May 11 city and board of education elections. While majority of citizens are registered, result of the new registration of 1963, there are new citizens not yet qualified to vote. There's an old saying: if you don't vote, you have no right to complain, if governmental matters irk.

MARTIN'S MEDICINE

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

I am indebted to Percy Dilling for this week's medicinal concoction, and, in process, the magazine Argosy has gained a new reader.

Percy had left a message with my wife which she did not completely understand. Percy had told her, "Tell Lute there's a story in the December Argosy called 'I Want to Get Back to My Little Grass Shack'; it's got a bunch of girly pictures with it and J. L. Settlemyre is the author." Percy had suggested that she perhaps didn't know Jake Settlemyre, but she knew him by reputation, as well as by some of his portraits she had seen, among them the striking one of Mrs. W. K. Mauney, Jr. It was the "girly" business that had Anne mystified.

Percy proved a quite correct reporter. One of the headlines read, "If you ever find yourself with five wives and eighteen goats too many, Lee Steelemyre can tell you how to handle the situation." Jim Bama's illustration showed four beautiful full-breasted Negresses, nude from waist up, ministering to a reclining American, who looks much like Jake Settlemyre. A photograph pictures Jake with Jeannette, termed the glamour girl of his harem, sweet 16, and requiring "no Maidenform bra to keep her figure in shape."

Now many folk about Kings Mountain know full well that Jake married a Miss Suggs, a school teacher and they have at least four youngsters, including twins, that Jake manages the Rock Hill, S. C., nature museum, and that there have been no reports of any estrangement.

Jake, literally, acquired five wives, 18 goats, a little grass shack, water gourd and knife while on a hunting expedition in Central Africa in 1961.

Jake's group, which included Maurice Stans, President Eisenhower's budget director, was hunting for the giant eland and demalique. These sent me to the dictionary to learn that both are African antelopes. But Jake got excited when a male lion, accompanied by two lionesses, came within shooting distance.

He was determined to slay a lion and took the chance of felling him, though his bullets were hard-nosed, the soft-nose variety being recommended for lion hunting. He felled him, then was preparing to defend against the lady lions, who were expected to charge. But they went into the brush.

Returning to the native village, Jake found himself the center of attention of the villagers, and the object of almost hysterical laughter from his safari mates. Why so much fuss about killing a lion?

That particular king of beasts, a few days before, had mauled and killed one of the tribe's leading citizens. By tribal law, the men who killed the killer was accorded all the victim's possessions, the aforementioned five wives (the youngest was 12), goats, etc.

How to get rid of them posed a problem, too. He could sell money to buy them, and tribal them, but no tribesman had the law dictated sold wives remained in the possession of the seller until the full account was paid.

Nor could he give them away, or proffer them too cheaply, for that would reflect on the wives. There followed a process of barter, in which Jake traded his five wives for 12 goats, bringing the goat total to 30. It struck him suddenly that all his goats were white, and he passed the word he wanted black goats and would trade on a 6 to 1 basis.

With his herd down to five blacks, he ceremoniously presented one to each of his ex-wives, and was back almost to the point he started from.

He kept the water gourd and knife, as tokens of his tribal citizenship. He jests in conclusion, "Anytime my wife threatens to step out of line, I remind her... that all I need is my ticket money and a little extra to buy back my five wives. For I still own that hut, and I can still go back."

Jake Settlemyre is a many-talented man. As a Boy Scout he was an expert taxidermist, studied art in Paris. His mother, Mrs. J. Lee Settlemyre, Sr., lives at 204 W. King street.

He's L-Lapping Me!



Viewpoints of Other Editors

SEARCH FOR TRUTH

King Charles I is said to have laid down 12 rules for statecraft. Two of the more important were: "touch no state matters" and "reveal no secrets." We have more than a suspicion that Congress believes that the Executive Branch of the United States has taken King Charles' rulings to heart. For Congress is still scolding over the secrecy which surrounds so many White House and special government agency records.

In fact, the House of Representatives' Government Information Subcommittee has just held a week's hearings on a federal public records bill. The purpose of the bill, similar to that of a bill passed by the Senate a year ago, would be to require every agency to "make all its records promptly available to any person." The only exceptions to this rule would be certain records in whose secrecy there is general agreement.

Leading the fight for light, is Rep. John E. Moss of Calif. He and his committee have been pounding on bureaucratic doors, safes, cabinets, and briefcases for a number of years and now hope that they are within sight of their goal. This is not, however, by any means certain. The agencies are fighting back with the cunning accumulated over many years of evading congressional questions. "Unwise" and "unconstitutional" are two of the words most frequently hurled at the congressional effort to be let in on more government secrets.

Admittedly there are dangers in letting too many persons know too many Washington secrets. Congressmen have newspapermen and sometimes things leak out. The writer of this editorial remembers when he first went to the Monitor's Washington bureau, a quarter-century ago, being told by its congressional correspondent Richard Strout how a congressman he knew used to punctuate his talks with newspapermen with the comments "this has leaked" or "this hasn't leaked."

On the other hand, we believe that it is far more dangerous for the national weal if Congress and the public are kept in the dark. We have yet to hear that democracy thrives on lack of information.

COLD STEEL FOR RED LEATHER

Steel has long been a point of controversy between Britain's two main parties. Labor nationalized the steel industry in its postwar period of change. Upon returning to power the Conservatives promptly freed virtually all the nationalized portion of the industry. Now that Labor is back in power, it speaks of a re-nationalization.

But this is not Labor's only innovation in the matter of steel. Far more startling—in a land as tradition-minded as Britain—is Labor's substitution of a steel budget box for the traditional leather one carried by all Chancellors of the Exchequer since Gladstone's day. Traditionally brought out only on Budget Day, the battered, old, red leather box is used to keep the government's tax secrets from prying eyes.

We hope that the substitution of steel for leather does not mean that London now believes that the budget situation is so explosive that a stronger material is needed to hold it.

PEDAGUESE

Gobbledygook, the art of say- obscurely in many long words what is best said simply in a few short ones, continues to steal across the land in a self-important fog. Business executives don't start anything; they "initiate action." They don't feel the market's pulse; they "trend" it. To the social worker, people in a slum aren't poor; they're disadvantaged.

The Army doesn't buy showers for the use of laborers who spill rocket fuel on themselves; it buys "rocket propellant personnel neutralizers." A four star general isn't gloomy about matters, like the rest of us; he has "a low confidence factor."

For grade A, top drawer, superbly incomprehensible prose, however, the educators remain unchallenged. James S. LeSueur has gathered some of the foggiest gems into a book entitled "Guide to Pegaguese."

He offers this example: Child X, who is "producing minimally for his peer group," is an "under-achiever." His "grade achievement under the multiple track plan reflects his predisposition to those factors frequently associated with late bloomers lacking the development key of meaningful motivation and without the felt need to effectuate the tasks involved in the learning process." Apparently he isn't a "deliberator-abstractor."

Roughly translated from the pedagogue, this means that Child X is doing rather poorly compared with others in his age group. It isn't that he's stupid; apparently he just isn't interested in learning.

Perhaps his teacher speaks pedagogue.

Milwaukee Journal

TEST

The test of character for a woman is whether she can let the telephone ring and ring and go unanswered.

The Charleston News and Courier

10 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

Items of news about King Mountain area people and events taken from the 195 files of the Kings Mountain Herald.

Three more citizens became candidates for city offices during the past week, assuring contests for the City Hall elective offices. The new candidates are Ralph R. Carrigan, Luther Bennett and R. Coleman Stroupe.

The Junior Woman's club will conduct a house-to-house canvass Friday night to solicit funds for the 1955 Cancer Drive now underway in Kings Mountain. Dr. James M. Lane, for the past 10 months associated with Dr. Paul E. Hendricks in the general practice of medicine, has been ordered to report for active duty with the Air Force Medical Corps on Sunday.

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL
Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Plonk observed their golden wedding anniversary at open house Wednesday afternoon at their home. The couple was married 50 years ago on April 20, 1915.

Miss Evelyn Cline will present her Junior voice recital at Guilford College Friday night.

Speaking Out

By GEORGE T. MOORE, President Kings Mountain Ministerial Assn.

Anniversaries are supposed to have some value, if providing nothing more than nostalgic memories. If all were observed these would be both sad and pleasant memories. It would be better if something of greater value could be gleaned from such observances.

For several years we've been reminded of war centennials, particularly celebrations (which

is hardly the proper word) of the Civil War anniversary. A dred years is a long time to remember, unless we have learned a lesson.

This past week the centennial of Lincoln's death was brought to our attention. That's a painful memory, especially since a much more recent assassination showed that it could happen again. It seems that our society, in its way of doing things, has a long way to go.

Another president's death was also in the news last week. Just 20 years ago President Roosevelt died at Warm Springs, Georgia. It was, indeed, a time of crisis as the war effort passed into other hands.

That reminder took me back to a Pacific island my war. The sniper, as close as the nearest sniper's bullet, was Japan, pictured as a sadistic, evil foe. Today that enemy is a friend and the war memories, with the hatred, grow dim. It would appear that we did learn something from that conflict, in both Asia and Europe.

I wonder how much we've really learned from that war which split North and South. In many areas the wounds are still raw. Some of the causes and injustices are yet in the process of being corrected. Hatreds still linger on in cowardly night riders, hid behind white sheets.

Another anniversary made the headlines this past Sunday. We call it Easter, with all Christendom celebrating the Resurrection of Christ. That, in itself, is a pleasant, happy memory. Our beautiful churches and personal finery are expressive of the annual festive mood.

However, one can't help but be disturbed by the apparent shallowness which rather hard to cover up, even with Easter lilies. It started a long time ago. The Eastern and Western branches of the Christian Church split some 900 years ago. Why? They couldn't agree on the date for celebrating Easter.

Today's divisions of Church bodies and denominations isn't very good commentary on the Easter message. Neither is the failure to recognize the rights of other races of minority groups, within or without the Church. What's it worth if we fail to live up to what we profess to believe.

What's the value of an anniversary? It can be of great value. It can be the reminder of a love which transformed life for you. It can be the painful view of a mistake once made. In any situation it can provide the resolve that tomorrow, and next year, the best will be in control, and not the worst.

HARRIS Funeral Home

KINGS MOUNTAIN, NORTH CAROLINA

Dear friends:

Do you know that the funeral director is under heavy penalty if he fails to conform with certain state regulations? We have always been glad to cooperate with the authorities in these matters because we realize the importance of the regulations.

Each death is reported on a standard form. This information is used statistically, to indicate the development and control of disease. The welfare of the public is thus served.

Respectfully,

J. Ollie Harris

MEMBER BY INVITATION NATIONAL SELECTED MORTICIANS

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W K M T

Kings Mountain, N. C.

News & Weather every hour on the hour. Weather every hour on the half hour.

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