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The Kings Mountain Herald

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TODAY'S BIBLE VERSE

Walk in wisdom toward them that are without, redeeming in time. 1 Thessalonians 4:5.

Moore For Tax Cut

Governor Dan Moore said last weekend he will recommend a tax cut when he presents his budget message to the 1967 General Assembly in February.

His statement came as the Advisory Budget Commission completed its biennial chore of preparing recommendations on spending for the two years beginning next July 1.

However, the Governor declined details, either as to eliminating specific taxes or reducing specific schedules, nor did he mention amounts.

State Treasurer Edwin Gill weeks ago predicted a \$150 million surplus for the current biennium and the Governor upped his surplus sights to \$200 million.

Surely, it would appear, if taxes are ever to be pared in North Carolina, surplus season is the proper time.

The Governor's statement did not suit many groups, most notably the educators who already were seeking the whole of the projected \$150 million surplus, nor some of the financially hard-pressed cities and counties, who see the state as the Moses required to lead them to a better financial land. It can be expected that other state agencies also look with disfavor on any proposed tax reduction.

As North Carolina grows, its appropriation bill increases yearly via a built-in set-up. Department heads and administrators present two budget requests labeled "A" and "B". The "A" request details funds required to maintain services "as are", including merit pay increases for employees. The "B" budget request is what is regarded as

desirable, to enable expansion of functions and services.

Customarily, the final appropriation bill totals some figure between minimal "A" and maximal "B".

Surpluses, the Governor may learn, as a Gaston representative expressed following the surplus-laden 1947 session, may be harder to contend with than potential deficit, for the simple reason that virtually all departments and their promoters want to dip into the till.

As recently as 1963, Governor Terry Sanford suggested a minuscule tax reduction, in the form of increase of personal income tax exemptions for children (now only \$200). But the recommendation was lost in the shuffle for funds and quietly died.

Governor Moore's proposals, whatever they may be, could meet the same fate.

Two deciding factors will be 1) popularity of the particular parings he recommends and 2) popularity of the particular proposals with members of the General Assembly. On the other side of the coin will be the lobbying heft of those groups drooling for a big bite of the indicated surplus.

One factor favoring the Governor's recommendations: it's pretty hard to argue against any kind of tax cut in a time when tax trends are up, not down.

Last major cut in taxes in North Carolina was in 1941, when Governor Broughton twisted legislative arms and won approval of his campaign pledge, removal of the sales tax from the home table.

Question Is When

Federal Bureau of Public Roads confirmed in detail over the weekend the Wednesday statement to the Herald of R. W. McGowan, assistant chief engineer of the North Carolina Highway & Public Works Commission that federal road building allocations to the states are being cut back.

North Carolina, in the fiscal year starting next July 1, will receive slightly more than \$40 million, over \$11 million less than anticipated.

Engineer McGowan said there have already been two cut-backs in the current fiscal year, which he labeled as one of the prime reasons the U. S. 74 bypass (thruway) Kings Mountain project is not proceeding to fruition. The cut-backs from the federal treasury, it was announced from Washington, represent

a part of the recently mounted effort of the Johnson Administration to pare domestic expenditures in the interest of prosecuting the Vietnamese war.

Under federal road-aid law, Interstate highway construction costs qualify for 90 percent federal aid, while other federally-marked roads are 50-50 shared. U. S. 74 is in the 50-50 category.

According to Engineer McGowan, building of the U. S. 74 strip here is and has been no question of "if" since the commission "proceed" action of last January, but remains a question of "when".

Meantime, the traffic continues to increase on U. S. 74 and the Kings Mountain bottleneck continues to be one of the major ones between the point of U. S. 74 origin at Wilmington and the mountains to the west.

Worthy Project

A Duke professor duo will conduct a research project, paid for by the Richardson Foundation, in an effort to determine what other tests, other than high school grades and aptitude (college board) tests, might be used by admission boards in admitting students to college.

With prosperity has come increasing enrollments at virtually every school of higher learning in the land and comparative difficulty for some students to gain admission.

The rigidity with which admission boards apply the twin tests of college board scores and high school grades has been properly criticized as insufficient means of determining who should have the benefit of college training and who shouldn't.

Leading critic of the current system is Edwin S. Lanier, now North Carolina's Commissioner of Insurance, but for many years the student aid boss at the Chapel Hill branch of the University of North Carolina. Out of long experience, Mr. Lanier attacks the current system on grounds that "grades aren't everything" and that aptitude in harmonizing with others play a great part in learning and subsequent doing in the business of making a living and qualifying as good citizens.

The research project at Duke is good news.

Christmas is less than four weeks distant.

Highway death and accident tolls continue to increase as the most dangerous season of the year approaches.

MARTIN'S MEDICINE

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

By MARTIN HARMON

At precisely 11 o'clock Tuesday morning, I was visiting with Yates Harbison at Winn-Dixie for Yates' regular weekly perusal of the Winn-Dixie advertising copy, and Green Stamp coupons.

Suddenly, there was a clang-clang-clang, and Yates reached to the adjoining counter to push the button to "off" on an alarm clock.

"What goes on?" I teased. "You mean you have to keep an alarm clock around to keep your folk awake?"

"Oh, no," Yates replied. "We've always wide-awake. It's a matter of scientific efficiency. We log the number of customers who have been in the store each hour on the hour. I enter the number on a chart, then determine how many clerks, stock men, cashiers and bag boys we need at any particular time during the week."

"Smart operation," I complimented.

"You bet," says Yates, adding, "now understand this. If you ever come in this store and find us short-handed, it's not our fault. It's yours. You simply came at the wrong hour on the wrong day."

Mrs. William Lawrence Plonk says she counts on Husband Bill to attend to details and to keep her posted thereupon. Thus, when Bill recently told her she'd better get her driver's license renewed, on pains of being without a license, Marguerite left the three little ones with Bill and hid to the patrol office — examination station on U. S. 74.

After she successfully passed the test, the examiner inquired, "Did the department write you a special letter to come in?"

No, the department hadn't.

"Well," the examiner continued, "come back over in about 11 months. Your license doesn't expire until then."

Marguerite had no regrets. "It was worth a free afternoon," she commented.

Several weeks ago Elizabeth Plonk Mercer, "on duty" with Lt. Col. Jim with the army in Germany, was at a reception given by the mayor of Wurtzburg. The wife of the 3rd Division chief of staff, (she calls Charlotte home), had been packing for home shores and, while examining a stack of old music, had found a program of the Battle of Kings Mountain sesqui-centennial of 1930. It was at the reception, Lib was handed the program.

Lib writes: "I had a terrible time holding it and not being able to look at it. I did not know that so many people from New York and other cities had such a part in the celebration. Frankly, I only remember people fainting and being brought into our house. They were all over the rooftop and the fence in the front of the house was completely torn down. The reviewing stand was directly across the street on Mr. S. C. Ratterree's lawn."

As Lib suggests, 'tis a small world, indeed.

In the mail from Bob McDaniel, ex-Kings Mountaineer and former historian at Kings Mountain National Military Park comes a subscription renewal.

Bob's postscript: "Kings Mountain has certainly been saddened by many untimely deaths."

Kings Mountain certainly has during this waning year Anno Domini 1966.

Did the Governor Say Food Tax?

TAKE OFF N.C. FOOD TAX!
SAY.. YOU REALLY DO
BELIEVE IN SANTA CLAUS!



Viewpoints of Other Editors

SLIPS AND BLOOPERS

Anybody could get a little mixed up if he were asked to deal out millions to save the beautiful and historic spots of the United States. So we cannot be too hard on federal officials if they occasionally goof in their current vast cultural effort.

We were not too shocked to learn of that trouble on Cape Cod some weeks ago when misguided official tree planters sought to "landscape" the curved sand slopes of a bare dune. We were, however, glad of the outcome. So convincing were the protests of local people who wanted their dunes as nature that the planters apparently curtailed their operations.

A slightly different kind of problem has arisen in a small New Hampshire city, Washington, Mass. designated "a barn near Lebanon, N. H." as a historic monument. Under new legislation money would be available for its preservation, but unfortunately neither the mayor, the city manager, nor even the community's old-timers can think of any local barn worthy of a bronze plaque. They have almost given up the search.

Could it be that some other Lebanon was meant? Perhaps one in Pennsylvania, that state of beautiful old Dutch barns.

We don't want to seem critical of the government in mentioning these little slips. In a country as big as the United States, where you can have 17 Lebanons in as many states, the wonder is that these embarrassing episodes are so rare. — The Christian Science Monitor.

TO NINTH PLACE

If William Shakespeare were on television, the odds are that his option would not be renewed. As a result of a scholastic poll at Columbia University, it has been shown that Bill has slipped badly. He has, in fact, been leaped by John Steinbeck of Grapes of Wrath fame. Shakespeare now is indeed occupying ninth place, just about where you would expect to find the New York Mets. He shares this spot in a tie with F. Scott Fitzgerald whose works seemed to be coming back into public esteem in recent years.

English authors seemed to be dealt with rather harshly by these college students. Also plummeting with Shakespeare were Charles Dickens, H. G. Wells and George Bernard Shaw. Also cast into outer darkness were such famed authors as Mark Twain, Jane Austen, Plato, D. H. Lawrence, Eugene O'Neill and a chap called simply Homer.

The new favorites, besides Steinbeck, were Albert Camus, Ernest Hemingway, J. D. Salinger, James Joyce, Sinclair Lewis and Feodor Dostoyevsky. One might find a common denominator here if he searched hard enough. The only question is, How durable are the newcomers going to be? Will Steinbeck be top dog in 1967? Will Shakespeare still top the list 20 years hence? We doubt it. And we also doubt that Bill Shakespeare will be permanently in ninth place. He has too much stuff on the ball. And succeeding literary fans, as in the past are going to see it. This is just a bad year, Bill. — The Hartford (Conn.) Courant.

PROBLEMS AT UN

The UN, which some people have called "man's" best hope for peace," is beset these days with many problems.

There's a shortage of space at the New York headquarters. They could build more rooms at the same location, but some want, instead, to move the whole shebang to some other country because, among other things, the cost of living is so high in the USA.

There's the money problem: insufficient funds for all the peace-seeking and peace-keeping activities. The USSR and France won't pay their back dues unless the US will pay some more advance dues. The US isn't sure it will pay all current dues unless the UN first pays back some it has already borrowed. And some member countries can't pay their dues until the UN gets enough in the bank so that they can borrow from it.

Then, there's the problem of being ignored. After going to all the trouble to pass a resolution condemning South Africa and declaring South Africa should no longer be ruled by the condemned South Africa, the UN finds that not only does South Africa ignore the resolution, but so also does nearly everyone who helped pass it.

Also, there's the problem of finding a safe place to practice peace-making. Vietnam is too dangerous. Places like Hungary and Tibet are out of bounds. Those congenial little countries generally known as the African bloc have been trying to get Great Britain to go to war against Rhodesia. That's a possibility.

But Southwest Africa seems the "best hope" in a situation which looks increasingly hopeless. Compared to New York that should be something of a low rent area, bringing down the cost of living. From there the UN peace-keepers could conveniently launch their own war against Rhodesia and not have to rely upon the reluctant Britons. We're sure South Africa wouldn't ignore that resolution then, and might even provide some more peace-keeping practice.

As for money, once set up in a place all its own, the UN could do as Uncle Sam does — just print what is needed.

And, if the UN moves out of New York, the child-mayor of that city might have enough office space to house all his new hooligans. — Lincoln Times-News

10 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

Items of news about Kings Mountain area people and events taken from the 1956 files of the Kings Mountain Herald.

An estimated 5,000 persons jammed Kings Mountain Wednesday afternoon for the Kings Mountain Merchant Association's annual Christmas opening parade.

Miss Shirley Falls will be presented in her senior organ recital by the Greensboro College School of Music next Wednesday at 8 o'clock in Odell Auditorium in Greensboro.

Social and Personal
Betty Jeanne Plonk, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wray A. Plonk, has been selected to represent Kings Mountain in the state DAR Chapter DAX in the state DAR Good Citizen contest.

SO THIS IS NEW YORK

By NORTH CALLAHAN

Parties can be risky as well as colorful, I noticed as Amy Vanderbilt hovered over the inviting food table at a recent one on Park Avenue. She was selecting her calories with care, she told me, and it was a good example for all of us weight watchers.

The genial Miss Vanderbilt who has organized, in addition to her myriad activities, the Select Arts Society which enables people to purchase good books and paintings without leaving their homes, is fond of parties but knows well what they can do to the waistline and time schedule. This one in the elegant home of F. Bryan Williams, was given by James F. Fox in honor of the heads of Unipron, which I learned is an international public relations organization with headquarters in Brussels and representatives in major European cities who coordinate their services. One minute I would be standing beside Christopher Maude - Roxby from London, the next, Margaret Lathbury from Rome. One guest with a copious beard resembled the well-publicized Commander Whitehead, whom he had met, he told me. This individual turned out to be Paul Jenkins, an artist whose paintings sell for thousands of dollars each and he admitted he looked 60 although being only 43. But fortunately at this gay gathering, everyone seemed young, Jim Fox especially.

Suave headwaiter at the Hotel Pierre here is George Sargent who is equally as outgoing with unknown customers as he is with some of the regulars who frequent the Cafe such as John Weismuller. George is proud of the fact that his is the only supper room in New York City where people can dance even before it gets dark, to refreshingly smooth music. Two other favorite customers of his are Jack Wrather and Bonita Granville who have been married to each other much longer than most Hollywood personalities. Jack hails from Tyler, Texas and well remembers that city, a "place of oil and roses."

For three hundred years a small patch of land in New York Harbor has stood as the military symbol of protection for this, the greatest shipping port in the world. It is Governors Island and is so named because the early Dutch governors of New Netherlands made it their headquarters. Housewives carried milk across the narrow strip of water to Brooklyn — it could be waded then — so now this is known as Buttermilk Channel. For many years, this island was military headquarters for this area until recently when this was changed and now it has become a Coast Guard installation. I was stationed on Governors Island during World War II and found it an interesting post, even though most of us wanted to go overseas before we did. My commanding officer was Colonel LeRoy W. Yarborough, father of General William P. Yarborough, who was at Fort Bragg, North Carolina for a time as head of the Special Troops. The young general found the thriving city of nearby Fayetteville as hospitable as his father did Governors Island, in his leadership of the Green Berets.

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