



Established 1889

## The Kings Mountain Herald

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.

### EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT

Martin Harmon ..... Editor-Publisher  
Gary Stewart ..... Sports Editor  
Miss Elizabeth Stewart ..... Circulation Manager and Society Editor  
Miss Lynda Hardin ..... Clerk

### MECHANICAL DEPARTMENT

Bobby Bolin ..... Dave Weathers ..... Allen Myers  
Paul Jackson ..... Dave Weathers, Jr.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES PAYABLE IN ADVANCE — BY MAIL, ANYWHERE  
ONE YEAR .. \$3.50 SIX MONTHS .. \$2.00 THREE MONTHS .. \$1.25  
PLUS NORTH CAROLINA SALES TAX

TELEPHONE NUMBER — 739-5441

### TODAY'S BIBLE VERSE

Brethren, let every man, wherein he is called, therein abide with God. — I Corinthians 7:24

### Life-Giving Water

Recently a lady called the Herald and, in course of transacting her business, mourned the icy rain of that particular day. The reply from the Herald end of the line: "We need rain."

We did and do.

Rather forcible confirmation has come with the estimates of water availability in the City of Kings Mountain reservoirs. W. K. Dickson, the city's veteran consulting engineer, spelled out the growing problem in professional terms in his recent report which has dictated city commission approval with sizeable watershed most closely adjacent—Buffalo Creek.

As of last week, the city's auxiliary supply, Davidson Lake, was lapping at the third lowest of four intake valves and Engineer Dickson would credit the remainder at no more than 12 million gallons. Due to the rains, the York Road (main) reservoir was rising slightly, and was being augmented by pumpage from the Old Gold Mine shaft, east of York Road, as well as from Davidson Lake.

In short: Kings Mountain is fortunate that today is in December, with normal winter rains and snow ahead, rather than May 1, traditional beginning of the long, hot, and sometimes dry summer. Last summer was a dry one, with less than normal rainfall.

In recommending the current water program, Engineer Dickson reminded the commission that his 1966 advice is merely up-dated as to cost and design from the same advice he gave before the Davidson Lake was built. "You've got all the mileage you're going to get out of the supply system you have," he declared.

Meantime, usage of water increases.

The issue of whether to employ the short-term approach taken, or whether then to tap Buffalo Creek, was hotly and sometimes acrimoniously fought.

Who was right in 1953-54?

A dozen years later cases can be made for both opinions.

Short-term proponents were fearful of the financial strain the major project would produce and perhaps rightly, with the city's annual gross less than a half-million dollars. Conversely, sufficient water should have accelerated the city's industrial, commercial and residential growth and construction costs in the mid-fifties were far below construction costs today.

There is no longer need to beg the old question, as D-Day not only nears, but is at hand.

The city is taking all steps to assure its two reservoirs are spilling over by next May 1. The new two-million gallon storage tank is expected to go into service by March 1, raising to 2,800,000 gallons storage capacity for treated water. The Gold Mine shaft is being pumped, not only to augment current supply, but to determine how much this underground source might be expected to provide if needed next summer. And the city fathers are praying for a wet winter. That's about all that can be done for the short term.

Meantime, the commission has moved with dispatch to obtain water in quantity for the years ahead.

All citizens interested — through philosophy, business interest, or otherwise — should attend the public hearing at City Hall December 27 after which the city commission will determine whether it will endeavor to embark on a public housing project for Kings Mountain.

A cordial welcome, when he arrives January 2, to Joseph R. Smith, newly elected secretary-treasurer of Kings Mountain Savings & Loan Association.

## MARTIN'S MEDICINE

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

By MARTIN HARMON

I recently had some Christmas-season coincidences.

m-m

At the luncheon of the Shelby Board of Realtors last week, I sat adjacent to Richard Lyons, of Columbia committee, is someone via his work on the District of the Washington (D. C.) Post on scene to write a feature on Representative Basil L. Whitener, times labeled "Assistant Mayor of Washington." Had Lyons known my friend Frank Holman, of the New York News? He had. The morning mail had just brought my once-a-year communication from Frank, now in New York, the annual Christmas greeting.

m-m

Later that cold day, I was at Storch's and remarked to Henderson Herndon about the outside frigidly. "Yeah," Henderson agreed, "but how cold do you think you'd be on that swinging bridge at Grandfather Mountain?" The morning mail had also produced Christmas greetings from Hugh Morton, Grandfather Mountain's owner.

m-m

At supper, I mentioned to my wife having chatted at the luncheon with Senator-elect Marshall Rauch. Last Easter, Marshall had favored me with a package of his Satin-Sheen Easter novelties. Anne paused little as she said, "Oh, I wish I had some of his Christmas decorations. I hear they're great." In next morning's mail was a handsome package of Satin-Sheen novelties in Christmas motif.

m-m

Marshall was still getting telephone orders from all over the nation. His Pyramid Mills at Bessemer City majors in quick delivery via air express. The express company gathers shipments at the mill door by truck, flies the shipments to city of destination, where another truck transports the shipments to the purchaser. Time of delivery is telephoned to Pyramid by the air hauler.

m-m

Senator-elect Rauch is a North Carolinian first because he matriculated at Duke as a basketball whiz kid, secondly by choice Service in World War II with Uncle Sam prevented his graduating. "At that time I was only interested in basketball," Marshall recalls. "Now I wish I'd been more interested in academics."

m-m

It wasn't exactly a Christmas gift, but Hunter Patterson was recently depositing a \$1000 check which City Commissioner Seimore Biddix, representative of Pilot Life Insurance Company, had delivered. Mr. Patterson grinned as he inscribed the deposit. "They didn't expect to write this check to me," he said, "but I fooled 'em."

m-m

Just fifty years before Mr. Patterson had bought a \$1000 life insurance policy on which he'd dutifully paid a \$2.50 monthly premium since. The terms called for the policy to endow when Mr. Hunter attained the age of 55, which Mr. Patterson had done.

m-m

One of the recent Saturday night movies on the TV talkbox was "White Christmas," starring Bing Crosby, Danny Kaye, Janet Leigh, Mitzi Gaynor and Dean Jagger. I had seen it before seasons ago, but enjoyed it as much as if I hadn't. As one reviewer opined: it had Crosby and Kaye and loads of Irving Berlin music and had to be good. It is more: a musical with sharp dialogue and pace.

m-m

I was late hearing Berlin's "White Christmas," which first aired the 1942 Christmas parade, but I caught up in February '42 in Casablanca, French Morocco, at the venerable King George V Hotel, where navy personnel were billeted. A young ensign named Levin had just arrived from stateside and played "White Christmas" constantly on the piano in the lobby. It developed "White Christmas" was the only number he could play.

m-m

"White Christmas" is far and away the all-time leader of secular Christmas songs, Crosby's recording alone having sold 41 million records, not to mention additional records dished by other singers.

m-m

Am I right? The Christmas cards still get prettier every year.

m-m

Merry Christmas.



## Viewpoints of Other Editors

### OVERLOOKED

In their zeal to purge China of every thing remotely "Western" from men's suits to coiffured hair, the rampaging Red Guards have overlooked the most pervasive Western influence of all.

This is the philosophy conceived in the West by a Westerner (who had only contempt for the primitive East) and designed to be applied to technologically advanced Western society—Marxism.

Ironically, it is in the very name of this alien ideology that the dogmatic Chinese teen-agers are carrying out their excesses. Maybe one of these days they will wake up to the contradiction.

Such an event could result in a really interesting revolution. From The St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

### NO TRAVEL TAX

Secretary of the Treasury Henry H. Fowler has made it plain in recent days that he is unsympathetic to a head tax on Americans traveling abroad and to other attempts to discourage foreign travel. His position is sound and deserves support.

It is true that if all Americans stayed at home the balance of payments deficit would disappear. But measures to discourage the movement of persons are as isolationist and backward as are tariffs on the movement of goods. A slow but positive approach is to encourage more Europeans to travel in this country, which the Government and the travel industry are now doing—New York Times.

### SASSAMANESH

We haven't run upon an opportunity—or an Indian—to check the pronunciation. Probably most folks wouldn't know they were eating that anyway...even if we said it right. There's a certain imagination-stirring charm in "sassa-ma-nesh," though, that makes "cranberries" sound pretty uninspired. Struck by obvious derivation of, say, blueberry, we tracked the elusive cran. One dictionary suggested that the word might be a corruption of the German kranenber, which sounds as likely an explanation as any. But that, as it well may, USDA says that this year's crop is a big one—1.6 million barrels (or 160 million pounds if your thinking runs to pounds) big. Which is about 8 percent bigger than the biggest ever harvested 'til now—which was last year's. The little red fruit's new-found versatility makes this bumper crop welcome news for everyone—including sassamanesh growers—News England Farm Finance News.

### 10 YEARS AGO

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

The city board of commissioners upped base power rate schedules for large commercial users by approximately 40 percent at a special session Wednesday afternoon.

**SOCIAL AND PERSONAL**  
Mr. and Mrs. A. Hunter Patterson have issued invitations to friends to attend a Thursday night reception honoring them on their 50th wedding anniversary. Ten members of the Study club went to Charlotte Tuesday night to hear the "Singing Christmas Tree."

### WOMEN WARRIORS

Many arguments are given for not assigning women to combat duty. They can be heard now that draft and voluntary enlistment systems are under discussion. Most of them are statements of the obvious.

But one that we have never heard before was advanced at a recent conference by Margaret Mead, anthropologist and author of authoritative books about primitive people. Dr. Mead was for opening more army posts to women but held they should not be given field assignments because they fight too fiercely. "Men have such nice rules, like not fighting on Christmas," she added.

We wonder what prompted Dr. Mead to classify her sex as fierce warriors. Was she thinking about Boadicea, the Anglian queen who led a revolt against Roman oppressors in the first century A.D.? The lady was a great fighter; she sacked three cities before the enemy crushed her army. A battalion of Boadiceas might be too formidable for a commander to handle.

Or perhaps Dr. Mead had Joan of Arc in mind. The Maid must have hurt the pride of many a French officer when she challenged their lack of aggressive action, led troops, and defeated the English at Patay. History does not call her fierce, but her actions could not be termed gentle.

Perhaps America today could use an occasional Boadicea or Joan, but we think it would get far value from its enlisted volunteers to work on more delicate missions. Women always have shown great skill in achieving their ends through diplomacy. The Army could well make use of this talent.

The Christian Science Monitor.

### NAMES OF NUMBERS

It seems that a professor of psychology heard that some of us have been complaining (1) about all the long numbers we have to try to remember (only our army serial number is indelibly impressed) and (2) about becoming a mere number in the great mathematical society. Seeing his opportunity to ease our lot, he worked out a solution which he, with the appropriate professorial flair, denominated the Dodecalogue.

We tried putting the system into practice. Social Security number 860-44-5757 becomes Romeno Koko Lapalapa. Our phone number comes out Sokola Rogedodo, ext. Hasohaha.

After giving the system a fair trial, we decided to return to the prosaic numeral. For all who took grade school music, it's a bit confusing to encounter some of the syllables of the diatonic scale (do, fa, so, la) but not the others.

In a society where numbers really count, we'll continue to go by the numbers — Christian Science Monitor.

### SYMBOLS OF CHRISTMAS

Christmas for some is symbolized by "the briskly burning yule log," or so one New York City television station has concluded. It has announced plans to cancel three hours of regularly scheduled programs and commercials on Christmas Eve to bring its viewers an uninterrupted crackling fire. The view will be accompanied by traditional carols.

Although the artificiality of the family gathered around the television set rather than the hearth itself leaves us cold, we are inclined to approve of the experiment, given the fact that most of the potential viewers have no fireside of their own. Even though they will be unable to smell the burning logs, feel their warmth, and in the case of most, enjoy the color of the flames, the imagination can work wonders.

The Christmas tree, which has become a meaningful symbol for many, continues the trend toward the artificial and synthetic. The industry prefers to call plastic, foam, or aluminum trees "permanent." Despite the fact that sprays on the market guarantee to reproduce a natural pine aroma for the permanent (artificial) tree, we somehow retain a preference for the thing itself.

Some symbols of Christmas are rather more in accord with its original purpose than others. Judging by a recent issue of one liquor industry publication, millions have come to identify the season primarily with the produce of this industry. Noting "all the buying urges that accompany the Christmas season," the trade journal states that it "looks like a boom Christmas if we ever saw one."

While Christmas for some may mean one hectic round of purchasing and partying, we trust that for others it will symbolize the peace "which passeth all understanding."

Christian Science Monitor.

## SO THIS IS NEW YORK

By NORTH CALLAHAN

A father here happened to see in the mail a book addressed to his teenage son. It was a publisher in California and it was found to be a volume of sexual fifth high-illustrated but masquerading under the head of something about human anatomy. After careful examination of the book, the father, who is broad-minded, came to the definite conclusion that it was pornography and was certainly meant to arouse rather than inform. He thereupon sent it to the postal inspector who looked it over and agreed with the parent. "We will check into it, but it is doubtful if anything can be done," the inspector replied. "The recent decisions of the Supreme Court have tied our hands. This California publisher and that is the worst state for sending pornography through the mails—probably knows just where he stands legally. I recall when we made a raid on a Brooklyn smut shop, that we found people busily mailing out junk, but they had a complete legal library in his office, with files on every case of importance on record regarding pornography. He just stood there and laughed at us."

Horace Greeley, famous editor in New York, once received a letter from a woman stating that her church was in distressing financial straits. The congregation had tried chickensuppers, grab-bags, box socials, everything. Would Mr. Greeley be kind enough to suggest some new idea to keep the struggling church from disbanding. The editor replied: "Try religion."

In the atmosphere of politics and diplomacy, it is not easy to keep a clear perspective of what is actually happening in a military way in Vietnam. So it is enlightening to evaluate the statement of a high army officer in Washington: "The growing number of prisoners captured, the rise in the number of defectors from communism are impressive. This may be significant in reflecting growing disillusionment. The enemy has been living in abject misery for the past year, harassed night and day from the air and driven from one sanctuary to another by ground pressure. Certainly the losses of thousands of tons of rice and the vast quantities of salt which have been over-run and captured have been serious blows to the communist military forces which depend on local sources for these staples."

There was a time when middle age was considered to be anything from 40 on, but with the lengthening of the life span in some age groups, others have been very little affected — near some of the rest of us, appears optimistic when he considers himself to be middle-aged. Even so, he makes some encouraging remarks for those who have passed the half-century mark: "Middle age is such a marvelous time of one's life. There is the infinite delight of not having to hurry. You no longer your life hastening around the corner for something which is never there. The awful tensions and fears you have as a young man disappear. The apprehensive years are behind you. You have a much clearer view of what it is all."

Here and There: Benjamin Franklin said, "There is no little enemy."...and Frank Lloyd Wright commented, "Give me the luxuries of life and I will willingly do without the necessities."...John Steinbeck, when he sent his 19-year-old son off to war in any good wars.

## KEEP YOUR RADIO DIAL SET AT

# 1220

# WKMT

## Kings Mountain, N. C.

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

Fine entertainment in between