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The Kings Mountain Herald

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TODAY'S BIBLE VERSE

Hearken to me, ye that follow after righteousness, ye that seek the Lord: look unto the rock whence ye are hewn, and to the hole of the pit whence ye are digged. Isaiah 51:1.

Between Hard Place And Rock

Some years ago a city official and a few citizens were talking about a necessity to upgrade the caliber of law enforcement.

One of the group suggested that the city would do well to take advantage of the Institute of Government's training course by enrolling a group of officers each session.

"Oh," the city official replied, "there's only one officer on the force with the educational qualifications to enroll and he's been."

Happily, this situation has been considerably improved in the intervening years.

Unhappily, education and training, per se, are insufficient to assure that an officer, particularly the chief, will not periodically receive, justifiably or not, enough criticism from enough sources to find his resignation mandatory.

The pressures on a chief of police are tremendous, for the simple reason that he is dealing with people and people who are in trouble. These people have kinfolk. Often the kin, moreso than those in the "soup", harbor resentments.

Perhaps more important is the very human failing in human nature which regards the law as applicable to some, but not to others.

Much of the problem in this area stems from continuing efforts of legislative bodies to legislate morals. For example, there are undoubtedly "dry" voters who drink "wet". And there is serious question if the fact of illegality ever prevented a poker player from holding a hand when he wished and had the cash to raise and call the bet.

Of the many criticisms of the department under the six-year administration among the more frequently heard was the fact many of the crimes (breaking and entering, larceny, and others of the more heinous) remain in the unsolved file.

As for Chief Sanders, it can be related that many of his more ardent critics acknowledge he discharged the responsibilities of this office — between a hard place and a rock — as well as many and better than some.

Month For History

February is National History month and well it might be.

President Lincoln's birthday has just been celebrated and Thursday is the anniversary of the birth of George Washington, general, surveyor, planter, president and acknowledged "father of the country".

Many folk decry the study of "old dates".

One of those, through grade school and the Military Academy at West Point, was General and President Dwight D. Eisenhower. Unfortunately, "old dates" were the specialties of the teachers young Ike disenjoyed.

But a general under whom he was serving changed all that. The general had a large library, the great portion of it on the subject of history. He suggested that Captain Eisenhower might learn much of benefit from a particular work. Eisenhower was fascinated with what he learned and became a history buff.

History is not dull, if the historian is not dull, and the lessons from yesterdays, trials, tribulations, successes, and failures, can be invaluable to those who learn the lessons.

Sample: Much of Sir Winston Spencer Churchill's six-volume history of World War II is as fascinating as horse opera or Agent 007's exploits. The only difference is that the Churchill events are fact.

Broyhill Vs. Whitener

It did not require a computer to determine quickly that the new eighth-county tenth district, pitting two incumbent United States Representatives against each other, indicated a horse race, particularly when the outlook was for a November '68 contest between two proven vote-getters.

Representative Basil L. Whitener, Democrat of Gaston, and Representative James T. Broyhill, Republican of Caldwell, are.

Both are young enough to eject energy, and old enough to indicate maturity.

Only Gaston and Cleveland are considered solidly Democratic counties.

Avery is solidly Republican, while Catawba, Caldwell, Alexander, and Watauga have the "leans" to the GOP side.

Burke is a "close" county, more often with the "leans" in the Democratic column.

Of course, the mass of votes is Gaston-Cleveland.

But Caldwell voters turn out. Population is about 50,000, says Rep. Broyhill, yet about 19,500 votes were logged in the 1966 general election — just about 6,000 more than Cleveland with 20,000 more souls cast in the same election.

Caldwell may prove a major battleground and could be the key to the election. In his first bid in 1962, Mr. Broyhill only scored a 2,000 margin over Rep. Hugh Alexander. He has improved his totals biennially since, lapping Robert Bingham by about 2 to 1 in 1966, against less well-known opponents. Again, however, Mr. Broyhill faces a United States Congressman, and it is reasonable guess that Mr. Broyhill will not attain such a majority at home against Mr. Whitener.

A trump card of Mr. Whitener will be his seniority which has escalated him to a more important role in the House of Representatives each time he returns to office.

Mr. Whitener has served the counties in his district well, and he has served six of the eight.

Mr. Broyhill enjoys the same reputation and has served three of the eight.

Against Manager Plan

On paper, the city manager system makes sense: a person trained in the workings of government and city management is the ideal person to manage a municipality.

But paper theories often are kin to statistics: figures don't lie, but liars figure.

Belmont Mayor Jack Rhyne, apparently, has learned this fact through experience and so stated this week.

"Local government is the only government left that people have a direct voice in," he was quoted by Bill Fuller, of the Charlotte Observer. "The city manager form of government is a step away from this."

Mayor Rhyne added he believes elected officials are more responsible to the people's wishes, demands and complaints.

It makes sense.

The fellow elected must return to the citizens, if he wishes to remain in office. Most fully realize this fact of political life. Those who don't fail to be returned.

It is not uncommon to a ticket leader of one season to trail it the next.

Kings Mountain's experience with the manager form of government confirms Mayor Rhyne's judgment.

In the 13 years Kings Mountain has enjoyed the services of a paid mayor, fully responsible for the administrative duties of the city, the city has shown a great period of progress.

MARTIN'S MEDICINE

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

BY MARTIN HARMON

Old home week

m-m

State Magazine had a quiz on the history of the Confederate States of America in a recent issue. The quiz had been administered to a large number of citizens in various age groups, from grade school to adult. Rating of 16 or more of success in answering the 20 questions rated the test-taker as a "real Southerner." The next category was "moderate Southerner", the third as "fair Southerner". A person who answered correctly no more than seven of the 20 was rated "no Southerner at all".

m-m

I found myself a true devotee of the "Stars and Bars", scoring correctly on 18.

m-m

With the North Carolina basketball team riding high at third in the national rankings and only one loss having been recorded, everyone knows that I (also Charlie Blanton, Wilson Griffin, Howard Lutz, Dr. George Plonk, Reagan Harper, Josh Hinant, Johnny Ross, etc., etc.) matriculated at Chapel Hill.

m-m

Imagine my shock, particularly in the wake of my just-discovered loyalty to Lee and his legions, to read in the morning gazette that a great-great-grandson of General Ulysses Simpson Grant is 1) vice-president of the UNC student body and 2) aspires, in this 100th anniversary of Grant's election as President, to be president of the student body, with elections scheduled in April. Worse still, the youth, is more Yankee than Grant, as Grant was from Ohio. This boy, Jed Deitz, is from Syracuse, N. Y.!

m-m

I hope to be in Chapel Hill this week and hope to have the chance to meet the young man, even if the War Between the States, sub, has only been ceased about 103 years.

m-m

One of the candidates (nine to date) for the five district judgeships is a former Kings Mountain resident. When Bill Mason, Belmont's George Thomasson, dropped by to give us his announcement, he didn't get to do much picketing. I was only seven when Bill went to Davidson in '27, but I remembered this lanky beanpole, who was a member of the famous football team that fought Asheville to a tie for the state championship. He played center for the Davidson Wildcats and remembers particularly a rough game in '29, when Davidson invaded the Army at West Point. The always-gritty 'Cats had a rough time of it with All-American Morrell and Red Cagle.

m-m

Bill recalled among his high school classmates Plato (Tater) Goforth, Coman and Lucille Cansler Falls, Ruth McGinnis Caveny and others. He shares birthdays (June 22, 1909) with Buck Dilling, the Eastern Airlines pilot.

m-m

Reminiscing continued in the shop, when he met Paul Jackson. Bill remembers quite well Paul's father John, major domo of the Mountain View hotel. The John Mason family, had a bit of difficulty finding a house, resided at the hotel until they bought the now-gone residence on S. Battleground which was next-door neighbor to the William Plonk home. The Masons, like many others, continued to be Sunday dinner customers at the well-laden table of the Misses Norris.

m-m

Getting in from peddling about 6 p.m., Monday, I found awaiting me former citizen Phillip Elam, now of Mars Hill. Phillip has a cattle crop on the projected site of the sewage treatment plant, wondered when and if he'd find it necessary to find a new pasture when construction starts. He'd already visited Ted Ledford to buy a bag of one of his food favorites, raw peanuts, and inquired about many friends. His mother resides with him. Phillip was a key witness in the elections board investigations which stripped Zeno Ponder of his state senate seat, spent a whole day on the witness stand.

m-m

Phillip was a witness again, but in a slightly different situation. He advises: VASCO works.

Greatest Military Man of His Time



— WHO BECAME THE FIRST GREAT PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

Henry McCarrn

Viewpoints of Other Editors

NO, VIRGINIA, THERE IS NO SANTA CLAUS

Doubtless it was inevitable. Still, mark it down with regret that the State of Virginia is abandoning its pay-as-you-go fiscal policy to which it has clung for more than 40 years.

It was in the mid-1920s, when the late Harry Flood Byrd Sr. was elected governor, that the Old Dominion adopted the principle of pay-as-you-go. The immediate issue, then, was how to get Virginia out of the mud; its roads, both primary and secondary, were miserable. Governor Byrd insisted on proceeding with a huge road-building program without getting Virginia into debt. And succeeding administrations pursued the policy not only on roads but also on education, public health and just about everything else.

Plainly, however, the 1960s are not the 1920s. As Governor Mills E. Godwin noted in his message to the State's General Assembly recently, Virginia's citizens are "restless with change, impatient with things as they once were." Like the citizens of other states they are demanding more services of all kinds, and the costs of services are increasing faster than revenues.

There is no Santa Claus, in Washington or anywhere else, to whom Virginia or other similarly hard-pressed states can turn for treasury-bolstering sacks full of money. Washington, indeed, is in part responsible for some of the Old Dominion's problems; for instance, to set up a medicare program bringing Virginia into conformity with Federal law, the state must raise its welfare budget by 40%, matching \$34.6 million in Federal funds with some \$20 million in new funds of its own.

In any case, Governor Godwin apparently is convinced that Virginians are unwilling to tax themselves now for the current services that their legislators approve. So he's breaking precedent by asking for more than \$70 million in general revenue bonds. These bonds, will of course, have to be paid off with future taxes; the total tax burden over a period of time probably is increased, not reduced, by this form of procrastination.

Perhaps pay-as-you-go isn't always a good idea for states; true emergencies can demand borrowing. But once it's abandoned as general policy, as other states have learned full well, there is no turning back. The Old Dominion is marking the end of an era.

—The Wall Street Journal

RELUCTANT FAREWELL

Mme Gres has dropped her skirts as low as three inches below the kneecap. Cardin is skimming the top of the calf. Balmain is two inches below the knee. Chanel never went for minis. Norman Norell has dropped skirts to within 10 inches of the floor.

All this means that the mini skirt is on the way out. The fashion designers have spoken.

The impact will not hit Charlotte this year, probably. This is the only bright spot.

There is no such thing as a homely knee. There are merely some knees that are more magnificent than others. Rounded, dimpled, thoroughly delightful.

They will not be on view much longer, slack. Enjoy, enjoy. The hour is late. —The Charlotte News

OLD NAMES FOR NEW BABIES

Many people must appreciate the volunteer service of John W. Leaver of Cranmore, Ruislip, Middlesex, who once again has compiled a list of the preceding year's most popular names for British children. He gets his data from the birth notices in The Times (London) and proclaims the "top ten" in a letter to his favorite newspaper.

His list of girls' first names this year is reassuring. Just plain old-fashioned Sarah in first place, the once-unfashionable Emma in second, and—in third—the quaint Lucy. When both first and middle names were counted, the top three were Jane, Mary, and Elizabeth.

NOSTRADAMUS IN PETTICOATS

We shall not be so churlish as to suggest that the comic page of our favorite afternoon paper is just the place for the daily occultisms of Washington's Nostradamus in petticoats, Miss Jeanne Dixon.

But fanciers of hunches, dreams, vibrations, sensitive antennae, newt's eyes, wartcures, horoscopes and all that should take due note that Miss Dixon's prophecies for 1968 are out.

Miss Dixon, it seems, has been feeling those vibrations again; and when Miss Dixon vibrates the world feels a tremor, especially the city of Chicago, which her vibrations mark as the site of "the worst race riot of all—directed and financed by Russia." (Chicago and Moscow papers please copy.)

In fact, Miss Dixon seems peculiarly subject at the moment to gloomy vibrations, running just a bit to the Republican side; though she cleverly conceals from us the name of the GOP nominee. Thus, "the brilliant Sen. Eugene McCarthy is being used as a play of the ultra-liberal forces within the country" (it took vibrations to learn that?) and Miss Dixon "gets a dark cloud with strings that lead backward." (Could it be his hair, and if so does some fell Delilah have hold of it? Ouch!)

But there is some joy in Democraticville: The vibrations are "steady" for Hubert H. Humphrey—he always was a steady vibrator—but on the other hand (gulp) "Governor Reagan looms heavily in the political future of the country because he is a man of destiny." Let us tell you, we almost stomped our foot when Miss Dixon went on to say that the dollar will be under assault again this year, and "this is a Soviet-De Gaulle conspiracy." But politics, there is something reassuring in the continuing popularity of the plain old Sarahs and Emmas and Andrews.

Whether or not there is a relationship of Christian names to politics, there is something reassuring in the continuing popularity of the plain old Sarahs and Emmas and Andrews.

—The Christian Science Monitor

10 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

Items of news about Kings Mountain area people and events taken from the 1957 files of the Kings Mountain Herald.

Kings Mountain citizens will join with others throughout the nation Friday in the observance of World Day of Prayer.

West School P-TA's Founder's Night program will be held Wednesday night at 8 p.m. in the school auditorium.

Social and Personal

Mr. and Mrs. James Jonas were hosts to the Young Adult Class of Grace Methodist church at a regular class meeting on Monday, February 17th.

Harold Hunicutt, civil defense official, will present the program at the Tuesday night meeting of the International Affairs Department of the Kings Mountain Woman's club.

Donna Lynn McDaniel, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clyde McDaniel, celebrated her first birthday Tuesday.

All no-nonsense names showing no cinema star influence.

Boys' first names indicated the same conservative trend: James came first, Andrew second, Simon third. Of course Mr. Leaver's list was made from paid birth notices in The Times and the names are those given by families who can afford such notices. But there is no evidence that the appellations reflect political views. The parents of a child given the substantial old name of Samantha listed her in a recent notice as "8 pounds of joy for Liberal parents."

George Washington died the other day. Not the original one of course, but George Lafayette Washington, who traced his family to two brothers of the first president. The latter George was 75 years of age when he died in Pennsylvania, the original one being only 67 when he passed away 169 years ago.

—The Christian Science Monitor

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