



The Kings Mountain Herald

Established 1889

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.

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TODAY'S BIBLE VERSE

That, according as it is written, He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord. I Corinthians 1:31

Otis Cleo Falls, Sr.

Two days after his father's heart attack, Otis Falls, Jr., was entering the hospital. Talking momentarily with a friend he stopped short and said, "I don't believe I should go in now. He told me to bring some fruit for the nurses and staff and I forgot it." He returned shortly with the fruit, reported later the first question his father asked was, "Did you bring the fruit?"

That incident was typical of Otis Falls, who exhibited throughout his life a regard for others ahead of himself.

Mr. Falls was whole-hearted in all of his activities, whether at work or at play. During the recent snow, he served patrons until the wee hours, was back on scene less than three hours later.

He was a charter member of Kings Mountain's volunteer fire department and for many years was assistant chief.

He enjoyed hunting and fishing and was a master at both.

He was a superb story-teller. Many tired friends dropped in to visit at his place of business and left refreshed.

He was a cornfield philosopher with his feet firmly planted on solid ground.

He was a loyal husband, father, grandfather and churchman.

His passing is a considerable loss to the Kings Mountain community and to a great host of friends elsewhere.

Motel Good News

Back in the thirties, a community effort was launched for the building of a motel, for the old clapboard Mountain View, famed for its cuisine far and near, was creaky with age.

But as far as the movement for a hotel got was an architect's sketch of the hotel dream, printed in this newspaper.

Announcement of a Gastonia group that it projects immediate building of 76 units of a projected 288-unit motel with top accommodations is good news—long-awaited and long-needed—for Kings Mountain.

Foreswearing Politicians?

Our neighbors and conferees of the newspapering trade at the Shelby Daily Star have, in three consecutive editorials this week, appeared to foreswear politicians:

1) Management of the county must be entrusted to a trained administrator (though he is employed and can be discharged by elected officials).

2) Political candidates must not be allowed to contaminate schools by their campaign fulminations (though some will be elected and will look with favor, or otherwise, with schools requests for funds).

3) The State Bureau of Investigation must be placed above politics (though the SBI is the responsibility of the elected attorney general of the state).

If the Shelby editors are referring to efforts to eliminate nit-picking, peanut politics, it is easy to agree. But the tenor of tar-and-feathering the politician because he has the temerity to offer for office is a far and cry from the democratic-republican scheme of operations. It smacks of the administrator calling the signals of the boss — for which the boss is responsible and must answer to the electorate.

And in Cleveland County, too, which produced the Webbs, the Mulls, O. Max Gardner and Clyde Hoey!

There is a heritage of politics in Cleveland County.

Timing Is Right

Some years ago, when the General Assembly passed the law whereby cities could extend their boundaries without vote of the people in the area annexed there was immediate speculation here as to when the city would "move out."

There wasn't much speculation, merely a bit of figuring, at City Hall. At the time the city could not afford a major expansion. The same law required city's expanding limits over objections of property owners to have money or borrowing authority in hand to provide all normal and regular services to the annexed areas within two years.

Tuesday night's presentation of petitions for a major extension of the city limits to the southwest, totaling 425 acres, three major industries, and 109 homes, finds the city in best position ever to provide regular services, most of them immediately, to the new citizens.

Items:

1) The long-continuing sewage disposal problem (the system was condemned some 20 years ago) is being handled. Sewage service to the southwest area involves not-too-expensive lateral line laying.

2) The recurring water problem is on the way to being managed. From a position of having to say, "We don't have that much water", the city will be in a position of desiring water customers.

3) The low city tax rate is being buttressed by new industry and construction within the present city limits and will have its taxable base increased with the requested annexation.

These are some of the benefits which will accrue to the property owners joining the city:

- 1) Improved police protection.
- 2) Improved fire protection.
- 3) Lower fire insurance rates.
- 4) Garbage collection service. (Current fee from non-city collectors is \$36 per year).
- 5) Elimination of differentials for outside-of-city sewage and water service.
- 6) Ability to obtain curb-and-gutter and sidewalk at low cost.

On face and fact, the southwest city limits extension appears quite good business for both parties, the annexed and the city.

Thanksgiving

It is axiomatic that all have much for which to be thankful.

Stated in the vernacular, the man with no shoes felt most sorry for himself — until he saw the man who had no feet.

Woodrow Wilson Wyke

The sudden death of Woodrow Wilson Wyke, veteran state highway commission engineer, who had been 12th division engineer since 1961, shocked his many friends throughout the district.

Mr. Wyke was a capable engineer and an effective administrator.

He accepted the occasional collusionation from irate property owners associated with his work with equanimity.

Just a week before his death he was talking with this newspaper about right-of-way problems and philosophized, "It seems no matter how good the project looks, some folk get battle marks in their eyes when right-of-way is mentioned."

His death, at 55, is a loss to the highway department, to this district, as it is to his family and many friends.

Congratulations to Carl F. Wilson, newly installed chef de gare of Voitures 1180 and 1416, 40 and 8.

MARTIN'S MEDICINE

By MARTIN HARMON

I am one of those interested, but not very active, genealogists on family history. However, at opportunity, I try to gather what I can, and recently at the hand of Mrs. J. Calvin Plonk of Hickory, I have a quite interesting report.

m-m

It was written by Miss Martha (Mattie) Plonk, my great aunt, date unknown, but Aunt Mattie, in the story, chided herself for not becoming interested in recording family forebears and their activities before she did.

m-m

That is not unusual. Mrs. Cal Plonk, who accompanied her late husband on many family fact-seeking expeditions, says she didn't become interested until after her husband's death. Mrs. Frank Summers recalls she was bored to tears while taking her father, W. Andrew Mauney, to "all those graveyards".

m-m

It reminds that I recently met Robert Calhoun, of Conway, S. C., and suggested, with his surname, he should be from upstate and Pickens County where John C. Calhoun, the South Carolina statesman settled. He laughed. His sister, he said, had been doing some research for a paper on John and "kept running into stuff she didn't like". She decided to forget the paper.

m-m

Some years ago I was talking about some family tidbit I had gleaned with the late Miss Carley Ware. She teased, "You might not want to dig too deeply. You might learn something you don't want to know." I replied that I was not squeamish, was really as interested in the oddballs (and what made them tick) as in the compliants.

m-m

Aunt Mattie's report not only details great-great grandfather Joseph Plonk's 100th birthday gathering, but straightens the record on which of the three Grandfather "J's" came where in the lineage line, of which I am sixth generation.

m-m

My great-great-grandfather was Jacob Plonk, Indian fighter and Revolutionary War soldier. He served for three months in the Robert Alexander company in 1776 during the Cherokee Indian uprising. He subsequently served in Captain George Taylor's company then in 1781 under Captain William Moore in Colonel Phifer's regiment. It is not clear whether Captain Taylor was fighting the Indians or Tories. It is noted Jacob Plonk, from Tryon county, was allowed pensions for his military services.

m-m

It was personally interesting to note that Joseph Plonk's birthday was May 7, which meant that he pre-dated me just 132 years and one day, having been born in 1788.

m-m

His hundredth birthday celebration (held five days early) attracted some 600 kin and friend, Aunt Mattie reports. The old gentleman couldn't walk, result of a broken hip, but "he can talk — his mind is remarkable". Seated by his side was a sister, Mrs. Sallie Plonk Weaver, then age 104. Among the kin present was my great-grandfather John Jonas Plonk, my Grandfather William Lafayette Plonk and the four of his ten children who had arrived by that date: Ida, John Oates, Clarence Sloan and Eunice (my Mother), a quarter-year short of age three.

m-m

My Mother recalls that Great-Grandpa John Jonas was a dedicated purveyor of the kissing kinsman and was bow-legged to the point it was said he couldn't hold a pig between his legs.

m-m

It's easy to understand why just about all neighbors are kin, if distant. Jacob, the Indian fighter, moved to Lincoln county and married Christina Kiser. Joseph's wife was Barbara Rudisill. A few more family names mentioned Aderholdt, Crouse, Quickle, Cressamore, Killian, Fronebarger — not to mention, Oates, Espey, Sloan, Reed, Means Hays, Mitchell, Ware, McGill Dickey, and Weir (now Ware in some families).

m-m

At Joseph's birthday party the young folk played tap-rings, whatever that is.

Be Thankful. We Still Have Them.



Viewpoints of Other Editors

MR. NIXON'S CHALLENGE

President-Elect Richard M. Nixon and the American people face a colossal challenge. It is to heal the bitter rancors, the perilous tensions and the divided loyalties which have marked this extraordinary political year. Only thus can the United States be successfully led by the incoming president and continue to meet and master the many and crucial problems facing the nation.

It is hopeful that one of the strongest traditions in American political life is the readiness of the American people, however they may have voted, to rally rally around the winner, give him their goodwill and thus provide him an opportunity to show what he can do. It is an equally strong and healthy tradition that, once elected, a president-elect considers himself primarily the leader of all the people, not merely of those who chose him. These two characteristics of American political life, if adhered to, can launch the Nixon administration upon a favorable wave, even though he is one of only a handful of minority chief executives in American history.

One of the strongest factors in Mr. Nixon's favor is that he more nearly reflects the overall mood of America than would either of the other two candidates. The Nixon and Wallace votes together constituted a solid majority for a conservative tendency. And while it would be wrong to interpret this as a mandate for reaction, it is true that a bigger proportion of the American people will find themselves comfortable with Mr. Nixon's outlook than they would have with Hubert Humphrey's.

It is therefore up to Mr. Nixon and his advisers to understand carefully just what this conservative mood means. It does not mean an end to seeking solutions to grave national problems. It does not mean a wish for a do-nothing regime. What it means is that the nation has shown a weariness and a lack of trust in some of the policies and many of the methods which have marked the outgoing administration.

Mr. Nixon won for two reasons. One was the respect which so many millions of voters showed for his positive program. The other was the feeling among many that what is needed is a fresh start on the formidable problems facing America and the world.

The combined Nixon-Wallace vote reflected a deep unease and dissatisfaction with many things: with the conduct of the war, with the failure to make greater progress in the cities, with crime, with racial tension, with disorderliness. We are convinced that the nation wishes that these problems be faced squarely and settled constructively. Mr. Humphrey's defeat stemmed from a widespread conviction that the old team could not do this.

While it is good that the vote for George Wallace was no larger than it was (and was smaller than at one time looked for), his showing was nonetheless a grim warning of how close many Americans are to accepting the thesis that only drastic right-wing action can solve national problems. This increases the necessity for Richard Nixon to demonstrate that such problems can be settled both democratically and constructively.

Outwardly, the fact that the

Ten Years Ago

Items of interest which occurred approximately ten years ago

Clarence Stasavich, perennially successful Lenoir Rhyme college football coach, will be the featured speaker of the annual Kings Mountain Lions club football banquet on December 9th.

Dr. Paul K. Ausley will be installed as pastor of First Presbyterian church at Sunday morning worship services at the church.

Social and Personal

Love Valley Baptist church provided the setting Wednesday afternoon at 5 o'clock for the wedding of Miss Harriett Joyce Redding and John Oates Van Dyke.

Miss Shirley Falls, whose wedding to Darrell Austin takes place December 28th, was honored Friday at a bridal party given by Mrs. H. R. Jordan, Mrs. Gene Austin and Mrs. Richard Hartsell.

LESSON FOR LEARNING

Back in the early summer egg prices were at depressed levels. So the house agriculture committee held hearings for the purpose of deciding whether or not an egg-marketing order would be necessary to stave off disaster. The nation-wide order was also to apply to laying hens and chicks.

Those who opposed the marketing order convinced the agriculture committee that another marketing order would only bring on more red tape and more bureaucracy with little improvement in the price of eggs.

The ag committee dropped the idea. Since the hearing the price of eggs has climbed steadily with some price reaction fairly recently although prices are still higher than a year ago. Prices are expected to be significantly higher this fall and early winter.

Instead of depending on government, egg producers cut back replacements to three million fewer than a year ago. Prices averaged a nickel a dozen higher in September than the first half year.

When we contrast this with the depressed prices in other price-supported commodities, we think there may be a lesson to be learned here. — Prairie Farmer.

next president will be a Republican, whereas both houses of Congress will be Democratic, could make things difficult for both the White House and Congress. But it need not. The incoming Congress will itself be more conservative than either that of 1967 or 1965. Thus at many points there will be affinity of outlook at the White House and on Capitol Hill. Richard Nixon will have no greater challenge than to preserve and build on this closeness of outlook.

The President-Elect has repeatedly promised the nation a businesslike administration based on sound but forward-looking principles. Nothing is more needed today. It is being merely realistic to note that the years ahead will be filled with the gravest problems, both national and international. They can best be solved through enlightened hard-headedness. Mr. Nixon has promised this. We wish him well in the mammoth job he has inherited. — Christian Science Monitor.

FLOWERY GREETINGS

It's a custom that is nonexistent in the Anglo-Saxon world. Nor do we remember ever seeing it or hearing of it among the Latin nations of Europe. But it is not infrequent in Germany. And it seems to be the rule among the Communist lands of Eastern Europe. We refer to the practice of hard, tough, unemotional men exchanging posies when they meet.

This is called to mind by a recent Associated Press photograph. It shows a no-nonsense Soviet colonel being greeted by an equally no-nonsense East German Communist official in the town of Ebersbach. The East German is handing the Russian a nosegay. And while the picture is not clear on this point, it looks as if the Soviet officer were about to hand one back in return.

At first glance the scene is incongruous in the extreme. Not to put too fine a point on it, each of the officials has the look of a two-fisted bruiser. What, one might ask, would a bouquet mean to either? Yet might this not be a short-sighted view? Is there not some spark of hope when even the toughest of totalitarians are brought, from time to time, face to face with such gentle beauty? We think so. In fact, we think the practice has more than a little to commend it. — Christian Science Monitor

CREDIBILITY IN GOVERNMENT

"Americans have always taken pride in their individual and national credibility. We have recognized that men and nations can be no better than their word. . . . The crisis of credibility in our government has grown steadily worse. . . . one of the first tasks of the new Administration will be to restore the public's confidence in its government. This can only be accomplished by leveling with the American people, whether the news of the moment is good or bad. The people must have the truth and not bureaucratic gobbledeygook." — Fort Dodge, Iowa, Messenger.

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ADMITTED WEDNESDAY

Mrs. Fannie Furse
Mr. M. L. Harmon, Sr.
Mrs. Auquilla Huffstetter
Mrs. Prudy Huggins
Mrs. Mamie Jackson
Mrs. Homer Kilgore
Mr. Hobart Metcalf
Mrs. Maggie McClain
Mrs. Arthur Patterson
Mr. Earl Rhyne
Mr. Dorus Smith
Mrs. Bessie Wilson
Mr. Seth Wilson
Mrs. James Champion
Miss Nancy Childers
Mrs. Bynum Cook
Elizabeth Filch
Mrs. Carl Frazier
Mr. Carl Freeman
Mr. Thomas Hill
Mr. J. D. Hord
Mr. William Houser
Mrs. Sidney Huffstetter
Mrs. Mack Jordan
Mrs. William Louis
Mr. John Logan
Mrs. Florence Lynn
Mr. John Lynn
Mrs. Sandra Moore
Mrs. Anza McClain
Mr. Charles Putnam
Mrs. Paul Sanders
Mrs. Reba Shields
Mrs. Ido Smith
Vickie Turner
Mr. Judson Whistnant
Mrs. Clara Wright

ADMITTED THURSDAY

Mr. Sedley Hunter, 405 Baker St.
Mrs. Valdis Mezezers, Rt. 1, Dallas, N. C.
Mrs. William McClain
Mrs. Lalor Williamson, Bessemer City

ADMITTED FRIDAY

Mr. William Peterson, 34 Waco Rd.
Mrs. Carrie Price, Grover
Miss Freidu Bowen, Rt. 1, Grover
Mr. Mial Putnam, Jr., Rt. 1, Grover
Mrs. Richard Yarbrough, Rt. 2, Bessemer City

ADMITTED SATURDAY

Mr. Nathaniel Alexander, 411 Belvedere Circle
Mrs. Samuel Howard, Jr. 411 W. King St.
Mr. David Lawing, 113 Cleveland Ave.
Miss Judy Moses, Rt. 2, Bessemer City
Mrs. James Painter, 609 Farland Ave., Gastonia
Mrs. Charlie Powell, 602 1/2 Pine Bluff St.

ADMITTED SUNDAY

Mrs. Robert Burchfield, 714 Lakeview St., Gastonia
Mrs. David Herndon, Jr., Grover
Mrs. Louis Philbeck, 112 Hillcrest Dr., Bessemer City

ADMITTED MONDAY

Mr. Jethro Grigg, 208 Elizabeth Rd., Shelby
Kim Moss, 610 Meadowbrook Rd.
Mrs. James White, Rt. 1
Mrs. Childs Wood, 114 Venus St., Gastonia
Mrs. Grier Blackburn, Rt. 1, Grover
Mrs. Dot Sigman
Arthove Keller, Linville, N. C.
Mrs. Ernest Gosey, 408 Cansler St.

ADMITTED TUESDAY

Mrs. Ardlist Byers, Rt. 1, Grover
Mr. James Moss, 610 Meadowbrook
Mr. Curtis Hambricht, Rt. 1, Grover
Hoyt Darby, 301 S. 13th St., Bessemer City
Mr. Foley Cobb, 215 S. Piedmont Ave.
Mrs. Cleatus Cleary, 808 Cleveland Ave.
Mr. Wesley Bailey, 318 E. Boston Ave., Bessemer City