



# 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., 28088 under Act of Congress of March 3, 1873.

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### TODAY'S BIBLE VERSE

God is a Spirit; and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth. St. John 4:24.

### Oh, No!

Some late illustrious Cleveland County citizens must be swirling in their graves, e.g., Governor-Ambassador O. Max Gardner, Governor-Senator Clyde Roark Hoey, Judges Jim and Yates Webb, House Speaker Odus M. Mull, Senator Lee B. Weathers, to mention a few.

The Shelby district board of education has put the rapier to that interesting pastime old tainted politics. No more, decrees the board of education, shall Shelby school-sponsored groups appear at political rallies and no more shall public schools be available for political speakings and other outings.

It's all o.k., the board indicated, to join the festivities AFTER the election, provided, of course, the board of education, superintendent and school principal agree.

It was not too surprising to see Charlotte - Mecklenburg acting in such manner, particularly when the figure was Democratic Candidate Hubert Humphrey. Of course, the Charlotte-Mecklenburgers, the majority long gone to the Republican faith, might have remembered that it was also Vice-President Hubert Humphrey.

### Tainted politics.

Well, it should be pointed out that Dr. A. Craig Phillips, new superintendent of public instruction, just happened to be elected to office after leading several in a political primary.

Add one more: Shelby Superintendent of Schools Malcolm Brown is regarded as one of the more astute politicians in Cleveland County.

Are the schools to teach truth or ostrich policy? To deny the fact of politics — because it is controversial — is to deny a prime fact of life and, like the ostrich, put one's head in the sand when umbrage threatens.

The Herald would remind its Shelby friends and other like-minded of Governor Alf Landon's reply to Eric Sevareid's query on whether, in view of his landslide defeat by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1936, if he regretted having been a candidate.

Mr. Landon replied, "Oh, no! You see very few people have the honor even to have been a candidate for president."

The Herald would also remind that school property is public property and that it, being taxpayer paid, should be made available to any responsible group for any responsible purpose with a lone restriction: that the event does not interfere with school functions, and there may be some important exceptions here.

The young folk in Charlotte would have learned quite a lot more from a 30-minute talk by Vice-President-Candidate Humphrey (or Vice-President-Candidate Nixon) than from several days in the classroom.

Those Kings Mountain horn-tooters of 1936 will never forget the exciting primary-eve rally in Shelby for gubernatorial candidate Clyde R. Hoey. These bandsmen were there, as they should have been, and will never forget it.

### Safety For School

How many of the half-dozen recommendations of the West School Parent-Teacher Association safety committee can or will be implemented is not known, perhaps all of them.

However, one of them appears quite questionable, the one which would make traffic on Waterson street one-way north between 8 and 9 a.m. and 2 to 4 p.m.

Traffic flow is important initially, but one-way situations are bad enough when they are maintained on a 24-hour, year-around basis. To set a one-way situation for three hours per day, five days a week, nine months per year would find many habit-prone drivers bustin' through and saying, "Ooop, I goofed."

The other recommendations seem reasonable enough. Indeed the one-side parking might well be extended the full length of the street to considerable advantage.

### Ward 6

Annexation to the city of a large area to the southwest dictates the creation of a sixth ward.

Initially, with an estimated population of 450 to 500 voters may be the smallest, population-wise, in the city. However, a residential development is already on the drawing boards and, with building space scarce in other parts of the city, will likely be among the fastest growing sections during the next few years.

Political implications largely concern the office of mayor.

Under present arrangement, the mayor is the non-voting sixth wheel, except in event of a tie. This could occur only if a member or members were absent or if a member or members abstained from voting.

In one way, the addition of a sixth member tends to give the mayor slightly added power, in event of 3-3 votes by commissioners.

Looked at from the opposite side, addition of a sixth member increases the chances of a mayor's being put on the spot.

Actually, there haven't been many even split votes since the 1951-53 Still Administration.

The decision to retain present boundaries of the 30-year-old five wards is a simple answer to the question of Ward 6 enfranchisement when there is need for speedy legislative action to implement the enfranchisement.

A General Assembly bill has been introduced, or will be, to provide that local agencies of government be permitted to do their own precinct-arranging without having to get legislative action.

Whether the bill passes or not, the next administration will have two years in which to study the matter of changing ward boundary lines.

Since everybody votes for everybody in the Kings Mountain set-up, every commissioner is everybody's commissioner and every constituent is every commissioner's constituent.

### Bonds Sold High?

The late Governor-Senator Clyde R. Hoey, no wild-eyed liberal, had a logical answer to critics of the rising national debt and weaved it into virtually every speech of the many he made.

"Worry not," said Mr. Hoey, "for we're only paying two percent interest for the money. We used to pay six percent. We can owe three times the money for the same cost."

Those days are not today.

Thus Kings Mountain, rated an "A" risk by Moody's Investor's Service, will pay average interest on its 37-year, \$3 million water bond issue of 5.28 percent.

But listen to this. The City of Greensboro, rated a "AA" risk, will pay 5.1074 percent on its 39-year, \$6.5 million issue which, North Carolina National Bank, manager of both successful-bidding syndicates, says will return the highest tax-free yield on any "AA" North Carolina bonds issued since the Civil War.

The higher-than-desired interest rate did not mess up Kings Mountain's water wagon.

W. E. Easterling, recently-retired secretary of the Local Government Commission, required that Kings Mountain figure its bond amortization schedule on basis of 5.25 percent interest.

And that figuring was just 20 months ago.

A prescient prophet, this Mr. Easterling.

## MARTIN'S MEDICINE

By MARTIN HARMON

Putting together a property package involving two, four or five owners has never been one of life's easier chores and the problems multiply several-fold as each additional owner is added.

m-m

Thus with the Buffalo Creek lake area, even though the owners are quite aware that a city has power of eminent domain and cannot be prevented from acquiring the property needed. Conversely, however, anybody with such power, with any sense of brotherly love at all, endeavors to avoid use of the power of condemnation, a word with dirty connotations in any language.

m-m

Actually acquiring the property, whether by negotiation or otherwise, is the frosting on the cake, so to speak, with several cooks having slaved over hot ovens previously.

m-m

Many were involved in the Buffalo kitchen, trampling through the creek bed in the prior work necessary before land could be acquired.

m-m

Col. W. K. Dickson, the engineer, and Mayor John Henry Moss were among the earliest to traverse the 1618-acre area. Col. Dickson, a veteran of both World War I and II, is seventies, looks early sixties, and acts fifties. Says the Mayor, "Don't challenge the Colonel to a walking contest. You'll lose." I've sampled, though not in such degree, but I believe.

m-m

Frank Hoyle, of Cherryville, the registered appraiser, was in early, too. Frank was reared on the upper reaches of Muddy Fork Creek, knew the terrain from boyhood rabbit-hunting days. He says he managed pretty well, though his stamina didn't match that on those boyhood hunts. "I never dreamed," he remarked, "that the creek I hunted would become a lake."

m-m

Clyde Fesperman, of Shelby, was chief surveyor, with Sawyer & Robinson, of Gastonia, aiding him. Also in tow most of the time were Buck Johnson or Dennis Fox of the engineering firm. Fox relates, "There had been no surveys in the past 20 years and most of the area hadn't been surveyed since the turn of the century. We were forced to work on compass bearings. The oaks, pines and big sones were gone." Fox reported the most major variance the line separating the properties of Ambrose and John D. Cline. The variance was 300 feet, not too much of itself, but the line ran 3000 feet to make the variance 900,000 square feet, or 20-plus acres. The surveyors, made at least eight surveys on that line.

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A. A. Sargent, vice-president of the site negotiating firm, described the surveying problem "as difficult an area as in my experience". His background: from college to retirement age site negotiation work for American Telephone and Telegraph, since with Coates Field Service. Among Coates' regular clients are Duke Power Company, Georgia Power & Light, Transcontinental Gas Pipeline, Plantation Pipeline and many others.

m-m

Coates' field representative here is Vernon Cheatwood. Vernon reported for his Kings Mountain duty last July 1 and has been a Kings Mountain resident since. Folk in the lake area with whom he has been negotiating have appended to him a couple of nicknames, "The Lake Man" and "Kingfish". Citing as an example of the tedious detail required in obtaining property with a 60-year clear title, he said 22 signatures were required on a deed for a 1.15 acre tract. "Those folk were spread out everywhere," he said, "from Delaware to Ohio."

m-m

Vernon had remarked weeks earlier: "These Kings Mountain folk are the friendliest I've ever known and their wives the best cooks. I go to talk buying their property and they invite me to stay for dinner. Only trouble is that some of 'em just don't want to sell."

m-m

My father was born in a house on the West bank of Whiteoak creek. After the lake is built, I shall have to become an aquanaut or acquire a Sealab if I'm ever to see his birthplace again. Maybe Cousin Frank Harmon will help me alleviate my sadness by making me a blood-kin price on a lakeside lot.

### A Sower Went Forth To Sow



Henry McCarm

### Viewpoints of Other Editors

#### POST OFFICE POLITICS

It has long been apparent that one major problem with the Post Office has been an excess of politics. So President Nixon's decision to end patronage appointments of postmasters and rural mail carriers is surely a step in the right direction.

Some of these people are extremely able. The determining factor in the appointments, however, has not been ability but past service to the party that happens to hold the White House. In the circumstances, it's not surprising that many postmasters and rural mail carriers have contributed to the steady deterioration of the nation's postal service. There is a chance that Congress could block Mr. Nixon's move to place the jobs under Civil Service; it could refuse to end the Senate's power to accept or reject the postal appointments. But the lawmakers might find such action a bit hard to explain back home, where growing numbers of their constituents are wondering why it takes so infernally long to get a letter from here to there.

Civil Service selection of key personnel could have the important side advantage of improving postal worker morale. Postal employees, many of whom have complained of the "dead-end" aspect of the service, at least will know that they have a fair chance to advance to postmaster jobs themselves.

In any case, the decision is no more than a first step. Postal unions, coddled by Congress, impede efforts to make the service more efficient, and many legislators jealously guard their power to play around with postal wages and rates. In this connection the Kappel Commission's proposal for a semi-independent postal corporation, or some variant of it, may be the answer.

Playing politics with the Post Office may be fun for some lawmakers, but solid steps to improve service to the public could, in the end, prove to be the best politics of all.

The Wall Street Journal

#### 'DeGUSTIBUS...

Is something better, if it doesn't taste better? Like cheese, for instance. In "The Supper of the Lamb," Robert Capon writes: "I have fed too many teenagers to have illusions. Given a choice between cheese, for example, they will skirt the Pont l'Eveque... the Triple Creme, and head with unerring aim for the pre-packaged process slices."

As a confirmed "good" cheese lover, we were about to express whole-hearted agreement with Mr. Capon's unvoiced shudder, when we remembered the example of the slum children on the farm and the Chinese gourmet. We all recall the story of how children from the city, given a farm vacation, complained of the tastelessness of fresh eggs. Just like their better-off peers who prefer process cheese, we were about to say. But then we thought ourselves of the Chinese, perhaps the world's most sensitive cooks and eaters, and their predilection for 100-year-old eggs. Does this or doesn't it show that the slum children (hence the process cheese eaters) have the finer palate?

Of course, we do not ask this question seriously. But, on the other hand, we would find it hard to disprove the thesis. We prefer to go on eating Pont l'Eveque and let someone else wrestle with this question.

Christian Science Monitor

#### PICKING A CAMPUS

The high school graduate who has the brains and the money may still have difficulty finding a college or university to suit his vision of his future. It is of national interest, therefore, that two seniors at Massachusetts Institute of Technology have perfected a scheme for computerizing college selection.

Their system, "Select," has been sold to a leading publisher, Harcourt, Brace & World. It is designed to match a student's aptitudes and preferences with some two million items of data from 3,000 U. S. colleges and universities and come up with a list of institutions best fitted to his choice.

This may sound superfluous to readers who remember when a student selected his college by proximity, or tradition, or foot-

ball scores. But today's young people are bound neither by geography nor old school ties.

Oregon ranks high in the opinion of students who venture beyond state boundaries. A recent compilation by the U. S. Office of Education indicated that in 1963 more than 6,000 Oregon residents left the state to attend college, but that more than 9,000 came to Oregon from elsewhere to get a higher education.

Incidentally, the "Select" computer considers living conditions — climate, population density, etc. — which recommend going to college in Oregon.

The Oregonian

X-ray film used annually by the Veterans Administration would cover 230,000 acres.

### Ten Years Ago

Items of interest which occurred approximately ten years ago

The first week in March was a busy one at City Hall as no less than six citizens posted their filing fees, thereby specified their formal intention to seek public office.

Rev. George T. Moore will be installed as pastor of Resurrection Lutheran church at Sunday morning worship services at 11 o'clock.

### SOCIAL AND PERSONAL

Sixty men of the community will take part in a Womanless Wedding May 13-14 sponsored by the Woman's club. Mrs. Charles Carpenter is general chairman and Mrs. Fred Withers, director. Other members of the committee are Mrs. Grady Howard, Mrs. Wilson Griffin, Mrs. Charles Blanton, Mrs. Norman McGill, Mrs. John Cheshire, and Mrs. Paul Nolan.

### TURNING BACK THE CLOCK

Baseball executives are given to wondering why their self-styled National Pastime seems to be losing out to professional football. That wasn't the way things were a half century or so ago, when baseball had the fans largely to itself.

In trying to improve their situation, though, the bosses appear dead set against choosing a strong commissioner who, conceivably, might lead them to better things. All of them seem to want to go on doing things in their individual, uncoordinated ways.

In the matter of compensating employees, too, they evidently feel that the players are lucky to get whatever is offered. With the player now threatening to walk out to support their demand for better pensions, one official comments: "I hope the players do strike. . . Maybe if they do, it will get the guys who don't want to play out of the game and give jobs to those who appreciate the big leagues."

The official view, then, appears to be that those who run the business of baseball should do pretty much as they please, with no effective regulation — by themselves or anyone else. And their employees ought to be thankful that the bosses let them work.

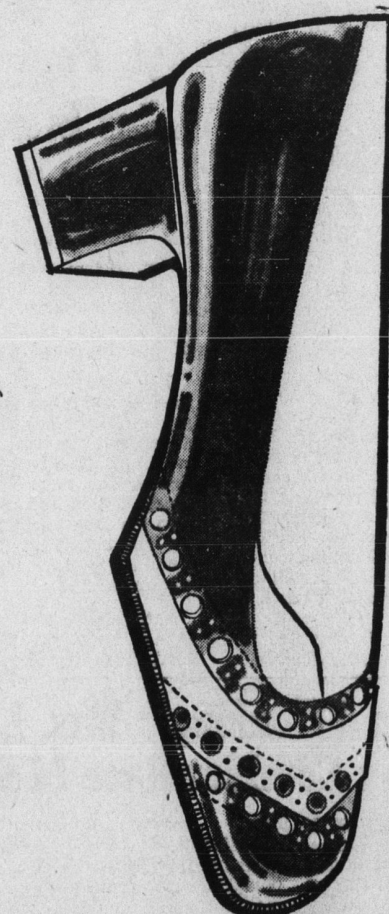
That, of course, is largely the way many businessmen operated a half century or so ago. But somehow we can't help thinking that baseball's ills require remedies more rational than merely turning back the clock.

Wall Street Journal

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