

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir:
Last week there were accounts in the papers about a six-year-old boy who was hit by a train in Gastonia while riding his bicycle. While I was reading about it—how he was decapitated and his mangled body dragged for many yards down the track—another train went through Kings Mountain at about sixty or seventy miles per hour.

This morning's paper contains a story about a town in Missouri which was virtually destroyed by an explosion involving a train wreck within its city limits. One person was killed, forty injured and over 200 buildings destroyed or damaged. THE OBSERVER printed a picture of a freight car wheel which had smashed into the living room of a house four blocks distant from the explosion.

Now as I'm sure most people remember, there have been two separate train wrecks within the city limits of Kings Mountain within the past fifteen or sixteen years. Both, in fact, scattered freight cars along the tracks within the downtown business district.

In both cases, this community was fortunate that while cargo of all types was spilled around, none of it exploded, burned or spewed forth poisonous gases. At least several times a year, however, there will be stories in the news about communities somewhere in the U.S.A. which are destroyed or evacuated under just such emergency circumstances.

And while I was watching the TV news accounts last night about the explosion in Noel, Missouri, incidentally, another train came through Kings Mountain at its customary sixty or seventy miles an hour.

In fairness to the railroads, it should be pointed out that neither of the specific tragedies I mentioned above, the cases in Gastonia or Missouri, were exactly parallel to the Kings Mountain situation. But the basic situation does apply: the continued certainty of the loss of individual

lives, and the continued possibility of another train wreck which might not go as easy on the town itself.

(We hear a lot of talk about plans for remodeling the downtown business district. It would be unfortunate to have the Southern Railway Co. do it for us overnight!)
If there was one thing which was obvious to anybody who visited the site of either train wreck in Kings Mountain, it was the fact that both may well have been caused by, or at least magnified by, excessive speed. This same factor of speed is also a definite factor in one's chances of being hit—or not being hit—by passing trains.

Five or six weeks ago, I requested the town council to take steps to begin enforcing the thirty-five miles per hour speed limit on trains within our city limits. I was assured by the Mayor that the subject was being discussed with the railroad, and that hopefully results would soon be forthcoming. Last week I asked the Mayor if he'd gotten any results, and he said he'd be meeting with representatives "within the next day or so" to discuss the matter.

I'm sure it would strengthen the city's hand in dealing with the railroad if a few other citizens would express their desire to see this problem solved.

Sincerely,
Ed H. Smith
303 Battleground Avenue.

More Grover News

Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Moss and daughter, Miss Ruby Moss of Charlotte spent Monday and Tuesday in Elkin with Mr. and Mrs. Dixie Graham.

Dorriett Moss of Charlotte spent a few days with Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Moss and visited Play Sheppard.

Keith Hardin of Landrum was a recent guest of Bryrd Hardin.

Miss Betsy Shaw of Charlotte spent the weekend with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Derward Shaw.

California Visitor

Returns To San Jose

Mrs. Eddie J. Acquistapace, the former Selma Hardin of Shelby, returned Tuesday to her home in San Jose, California, after a three-week visit with Cleveland County relatives.

Mrs. Acquistapace is the sister of Mrs. Madge H. Arrowood of Kings Mountain.

Others who were house-guests of Mrs. Arrowood during the past week were Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Kee, Mr. and Mrs. O. T. Gunnells and daughter, Peggy, Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Hardin and daughter, Phyllis Anne, all of Shelby; Mr. and Mrs. Dever Moore of Blacksburg, S. C. and B. H. Hardin of Patterson Springs. Mrs. Arrowood, Mrs. Acquistapace, Mrs. Gunnells, Mrs. Kee, Mrs. Moore and Mr. Hardin are brother and sisters.

Saturday night the Moores were hosts to 30 family members at a dinner party at their home in Blacksburg honoring Mrs. Acquistapace. Mrs. Madge Arrowood and grandchildren, Jeff and Merinda, were among guests.

Tuesday afternoon the Kees, Mrs. Moore and Mrs. Arrowood took Mrs. Acquistapace to Douglas Airport in Charlotte where she boarded Delta Flight 891 to California. The local group came back to Kings Mountain for supper together and Mrs. Moore remained as overnight guest of Mrs. Arrowood.

Three Students

Register At UNC

Three area students have completed day-long pre-registration sessions at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill.

They are James Philip Sotelo, Jr., William Scott Kelly and Susan Bumgardner.

Miss Bumgardner is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. B. T. Bumgardner of the Midpines community. Sotelo is the son of Mr. and Mrs. James Sotelo of 609 Meadowbrook Road and Kelly is the son of Mr. and Mrs. William C. Kelly of 702 Woodside Drive.

Golf Lessons

Are Planned

Women and young girls eight and older who want to learn the fundamentals of golf are invited to participate in two lessons the Kings Mountain Women's Golf Association is sponsoring Tuesday and again the following Tuesday at the Country Club.

The lessons are free. Instructor will be Miss Marjorie Crisp of Grover, physical education instructor at Wake Forest University.

Tuesday's lesson begins at 10 a.m.

Lady Bird Gives Recipe For Chocolate Cake

The North Carolina Poultry Federation is pleased to furnish the homemakers of North Carolina this week by a recipe "Sweet Chocolate Cake" from Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson. This recipe has been a long time favorite of the Johnson family, and was enjoyed on the LBJ Ranch before the Johnsons moved to the White House several years ago. It continues to be a favorite dessert of the former president.

Families enjoy chocolate cake regardless of the season of the year, and in the hot summer time it can be enjoyed with your favorite cold beverage. Why not give it a try right away!

SWEET CHOCOLATE CAKE

(Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson)
1 bar (4-oz.) sweet chocolate
1/2 cup boiling water
1 cup butter
4 egg yolks, unbeaten
2 cups sugar
1 teaspoon vanilla
2 1/2 cups sifted cake flour
1 teaspoon baking soda
1 cup buttermilk
4 egg whites, stiffly beaten
1/2 teaspoon salt

Melt chocolate in boiling water. Cool. Cream butter and sugar until fluffy. Add egg yolks, one at a time, and beat well after each. Add melted chocolate and vanilla. Mix well. Sift together flour, salt, and soda. Add alternately with buttermilk to chocolate mixture; beat well. Beat until smooth. Fold in whites.

Belk

BACK-TO-SCHOOL SWINGERS

Girltown sees a great future for Scandia blue

A blue that knows no equal. Soft, quiet-spoken but light and lively. Heather-textured or plaided with creamy white and underscored with pine green. So important to the school scene, Girltown does a whole collection, each shaping the fashion news with fun and flair. Sizes 7 to 14.

- a. Bonded acrylic flare-leg pants. \$9
- b. Kodol polyester and cotton blouse; soft gathered sleeves, newsy collar. Cream white. 5.50
- c. 75% wool, 25% nylon jumper; high bodice, low pockets. \$15
- d. Wintuk® orlon acrylic classic cardigan. \$7
- e. Side-pleated wool and nylon plaid skirt. \$10



BY THE MONTH

Dividends Under All Our Great Savings Plans

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| 5 1/4% | 5% | 4 1/2% |
| BONUS SAVINGS | BONUS SAVINGS | PASSBOOK SAVINGS |
| \$10,000 Minimum \$1,000 Multiples 6 Month Term | \$5,000 Minimum \$1,000 Multiples 6 Month Term | DIVIDENDS COMPOUNDED |
| 5 1/4% Quarterly Dividends | 5% Quarterly Dividends | QUARTERLY Save Any Amount Anytime! |
| <small>(earlier withdrawals earn 4 1/2% passbook savings plan)</small> | <small>(earlier withdrawals earn 4 1/2% passbook savings plan)</small> | |

A NEW DIVIDEND MONTH BEGINS FRIDAY
DEPOSITS BY AUGUST 10 EARN FROM AUGUST 10

Home Savings & Loan Assn.

Plenty of FREE Parking Area — Drive-In Window Service