

Established 1889

The Kings Mountain Herald

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TODAY'S BIBLE VERSE

For sake the foolish, and live; and go in the way of understanding. Proverbs 9:6.

The Re-Match

At the Herald, the advance announcements of U. S. Representative Jim Broyhill and ex-U. S. Representative Basil Whitener arrived in the same mail—one day before they both made it official by depositing the \$425 filing fee with the State Board of Elections.

Forced into a race against each other by U. S. Supreme Court-ordered redistricting (engendered by a test case brought by a former Shelbiana Lawyer Renn Drum, Jr.), Broyhill carried six of the eight counties of the 10th district and won by a margin of 15,516 votes.

Both made some inferential remarks in their campaign kick-off statements which indicate the areas in which the battle for a House seat will be sought.

Broyhill's statement was short, but long enough to point out that the enemy Democrats have held a majority in both branches of the Congress for some years and that today's troubles accrue to them, including, of course, Whitener, who served for 12 years (1957-69).

Whitener's prepared address, delivered to some 400 well-wishers in Gastonia Wednesday morning, included condemnations of high interest rates, falling house-building, continued inflation, and charges that the Republican administration in the White House has been quite unsuccessful in its efforts to combat crime and racial disorders and in getting anywhere in the Vietnam war. With his references to 345 out-of-district contributors and advertising agency shenanigans, not to mention his Great Depression background, Whitener rather plainly was attempting to establish himself as the "pore boy" against the Broyhill Furniture complex millions.

Perhaps he was between the devil and the deep blue sea, but the Herald thought one major 1968 campaign mistake of Whitener was his unwillingness to embrace the top of the ticket in the persons Hubert Humphrey and Edward Muskie.

Meantime, Broyhill went down the line for Nixon-Agnew, without a how-do-you-do to the Wallace crowd.

This time there are no such side (shows?) issues.

Herald readers have teased in the past about use of an old cliché, but it must apply here: It'll be interesting to watch.

High Auto Insurance

High auto insurance, both liability and collision, is a continuing subject in many states of the auto-crowded nation and particularly in North Carolina.

The Commissioner of Insurance is hearing witnesses on problems and a charge that appears to be valid is the rapidity with which companies cancel policies in order, say the complainers to get policy holders (liability) into the assigned risk, higher rate category.

One witness had had no accident history, but when he sought to permit his two teenage sons to chauffeur autos, his company cancelled. Another refused to accept his application with an "I don't have to take your business if I don't want it." Another finally accepted the policy at a high rate.

Autos have escalated in price as have repairs, accounting for mounting collision rates.

Bodily and property damage cost more, too, as do court costs and legal fees arising from ever-continuing accidents.

But in North Carolina the trend seems to have started with compulsory liability insurance.

Would a hard new look at this section of the General Statutes be a worthy assignment for the 1971 General Assembly?

Very Kind Remark

Dave Gillespie, associate editor of the Charlotte Observer, made some very kind remarks about Cleveland County on the recent address here on the occasion of the annual change of command in the leadership of the County Organization of Governmental Officials and, more particularly, to honor recently-retired Max Hamrick.

Mr. Gillespie, former editor of the Shelby Daily Star, said he once told Cleveland, in effect, to model on Charlotte and Mecklenburg. Now, he added, he's reversed his field and tells them to model on us.

While the remarks may have been a bit expansive, there is some truth therein, and, as usual, a reason: from the standpoint of the City of Shelby and the City of Kings Mountain, both are blessed with profit-making utilities in the persons of electric power and natural gas. Both sell these utilities at favorable rates, but the profits enable both to maintain a low property tax rate.

Charlotte is not so blessed. Until the voters of Mecklenburg approved the extra one cent sales tax, the property tax was the principal base from which both county and city operated. The bills were getting more excruciating by the year. Then-Mayor Stan Brookshire remarked to Mayor John Henry Moss, shortly before the sales tax election, "If it doesn't pass, I frankly don't know what we'll do."

This happy situation here accrues to our governmental forefathers of former and more recent days, plus promotion of the use of these utilities and good service today.

It was a pleasure to have Editor Dave Gillespie in our midst again and we very much appreciate his compliments.

Occupational Education

Some years ago, W. K. Mauney, Jr., offered the board of education some equipment for use in offering a course in knitting men's socks.

The board declined with thanks and regrets. There was no place to house the machinery.

Since that time, before consolidation of the area into the Kings Mountain school district, the building of Kings Mountain High School's present plant, and expanded attention at state level to occupational (once vocational) education, the KMHS offering of courses in skills has expanded to 14.

Last week's presentation and summation of this valuable program in the Herald was most informative to the Herald itself and, it is to be assumed, to school patrons.

Best Bows

Congratulations to: Aubrey Mauney, honored by Holy Trinity Lutheran church, Chapel Hill, for his services in raising funds and giving of his own in making possible this church as director of the North Carolina University Lutheran church fund begun in 1943. The church was built in 1946. Coincidentally, on the evening it honored Mr. Mauney, officials burned a mortgage note for \$46,000.

Charles D. Blanton, Kings Mountain druggist, named to the legislative committee of the National Association of Retail Druggists.

Lee McIntyre and Gene Francis, elevated to assistant vice-presidents by First Citizens Bank & Trust Company.

Chuck Easley, Kings Mountain High School athlete of the year, a three-sport performer who maintains a 93.5 scholastic average.

For the menfolk about town, it won't seem right not having Don Bennix pop his felt cloth in providing their shoes a bright, shiny new look. Don Bennix shined countless numbers during many years. Several years ago, when he had a cancer cut out of his larynx, he was left speechless. He taught himself to use a battery-powered voice box and never lost his spirit of friendliness and good humor.

MARTIN'S MEDICINE

Money market break?
m-m
Treasury notes sold for a bit less last week.

On Tuesday of this week, Kings Mountain Public Housing Authority received bids on six-month notes in the amount of \$2,033,000. In contrast to last September's low bid of 5.59 percent for \$1,377,000, which attracted only five bids, Tuesday's offering got a low bid of 4.74 percent and ten bids were received.

Actually, there were eleven bids, Wachovia Bank & Trust Company placing two. At 12:23 p.m. Tuesday, Wachovia telegraphed a bid of 4.99 percent. Just seven minutes later, Wachovia dispatched another telegram. This time the bid was 4.79 percent.

The money market is fast.
m-m
Six month interest saving between the low bid of last fall and Tuesday's \$8640.25.

A cobbler's children have no shoes, 'tis said.
m-m

I'd been meaning to change the ribbon on my venerable Royal typewriter for several weeks. The "black" side was pack-marked with holes and the "red" side (I use all black-ribbons) was wearing thin. On busy pressdays, the matter became a necessity when the refuse from the exhausted ribbon proved cause of a sticky "y" key. The letter "e" is supposed to be the most used in writing the English language, but the "y" is gaining in the race.

Dirt is the cause of much travail. Some years ago a back-shop machine was acting balky. Much checking in all directions proved to no avail for nothing seemed to be wrong. Then I noticed some metal shavings on various parts. "Let's try cleaning 'er," I suggested, and shortly the machine was performing in apple pie order.

An interesting report from the Veterans' Administration arrived yesterday concerning the efforts of the Administration to determine whether many widows of Civil War veterans were receiving a 50 a month extra benefit, provided those who require the regular aid and attendance of another person.

As a result of interviews by the VA 437 Civil War widows receive the allowance compared to 110 before.

The United States provided for payments to disabled Union veterans and widows in 1891-92. In his inaugural address, March 4, 1865, President Lincoln said, "Let us strive ... to care for his who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow and his orphan. . . ." No mention of which side.

But the Johnny Rebs weren't added to the compensation and pension roll until 1958.

Widows of the Johnny Rebs today comprise 51 percent of the pensioners who range in age to 107.

Insurance mortality tables show womenfolk live longer than men and the Cleveland County special census figures of 1966 indicated the same as the average age of women in the county was a year older.

But same may not apply to those worthies born in the yonder side.

The last Union veteran, Albert Woolson, of Duluth, Minn., died in 1956 at 109. The Confederates won that phase of the war for the last Confederate was at Walter W. Williams, of Houston, Texas, aged to be 117, departing this vale of tears shortly before Christmas 1959.

Virtually every painter in town is at labor putting color in the neighborhood facilities building. We take it the maulers will be attracted to the mallard green and the youngsters will be satisfied with nothing less than lollipop.

"Take Away His Passport!"



Viewpoints of Other Editors

THE HEART OF THE MATTER

Helen Leighty is a school teacher in Fort Pierce, Fla. In a recent letter to the Christian Science Monitor, she wrote:

"If the Supreme Court told you there must be as many Negroes as whites in your employ by January, that you must fill the jobs without regard for qualification, what would your reactions be? I'm sure you would say it is impossible to operate a business with untrained personnel."

"It is impossible to operate a school on the same basis. In our town the Negro children in the eighth grade might be able to function on a fourth-grade level. Many of them cannot read at all."

"As desirable as integration seems to those outside the classroom, may I say it is completely impractical on a large scale if there is going to be any learning going on."

"If the teacher has students of a similar background and learning capacity, progress can be made. If he has too great a diversity of intellects with which to work, he cannot succeed."

Miss Leighty, it seems to us, has touched the heart of the integration problem plaguing most of the schools in the country, including those in Chapel Hill.

Unless you buy the idea that black and white simply will not mix, any more than oil and water—an idea that we reject entirely—there has to be something other than skin color that has changed our public school system into little more than a holding action in which students are aged out instead of being educated.

Imagine, if you can, a child with a fourth-grade capability trying to operate on an eighth-grade level, and then project this gap all the way through high school. Any student trapped in such an absurdity is bound to feel frustrated, resentful, and cheated. When students are academically lost and as a result cannot be interested, much less stimulated, disciplinary problems inevitably result. The whole process of teaching and learning begins to crumble and then those students who are capable and eager to learn feel equally frustrated, resentful, and cheated. And teachers, unable to teach effectively, perhaps feel most frustrated of all, as witness Miss Leighty.

Ability grouping is not the answer, since that would bring about segregation within a school. Neither can a teacher aim at the fast, the slow, or the average without neglecting, and thereby losing, a considerable number of students. There might be some future in team teaching, if the public would not be bogged at the cost and confusion of three teachers per class, and HEW would not rule that Negro students sitting in one corner of a classroom constituted de facto segregation.

We don't have the answer. Neither does Miss Leighty and neither does the Christian Science Monitor. Maybe no one does. But it ought to be helpful, if not hopeful, just to recognize what the real problem is.

—Chapel Hill Weekly

ONCE MORE, HOUSING!

Can the United States succeed, finally, in bringing about a giant housing breakthrough? Or to put it expansively, can George Romney and his Department of Housing and Urban Development, and big business, and the construction unions, and state and local officials, and the country's financial institutions working together—build the housing that America so urgently needs?

If the United States cannot do this, it should hide its head in shame. The Russians, the British, build housing massively. But America, home of assembly line production is still building housing at a World War II rate. Which is no achievement at all—less than 1.5 million units a year.

Mr. Romney has enthusiasm. He has behind him his accomplishment in building up American Motors. He has slogans. What's been the trouble in the past?

The industry is totally fragmented. Big business doesn't turn out housing the way it rolls steel or builds motorcars. Building codes and restrictive labor practices and exorbitant construction wages hobble housing. Land costs keep kiting up. And the country's tight money policy makes every kind of financing outrageously costly.

So Mr. Romney has developed what he calls Operation Breakthrough. The idea is to eliminate the restraints and promote factory production of housing. The aim is to appeal to the vision of private enterprise, to the big companies and the best architects to contribute demonstration projects. Twenty private producers will erect some 2,000 units of industrialized housing on 10 sites all over the United States. By 1971, tenants will have moved in and federal experts will evaluate the projects, giving official seals of approval.

The end goal is to demonstrate that a firm market does exist for what might be called "industrialized" housing. Unless the combination of public and private efforts embraced in Operation Breakthrough succeeds, a massive, wholly governmental drive is surely in the offing. The housing shortage is that desperate.

In 1968 Congress set a goal of 26 million new units, six million to be for low and moderate income families. But in 1969 the construction rate stumbled to a new low. Now Mr. Romney, armed with carrot and stick, some money and plenty of publicity, will attempt anew to get cracking on housing. He believes that the housing demand could vastly stimulate the American economy in this final third of the twentieth century. He also knows that a failure to solve the housing shortage could spell severe political hazard.

—Christian Science Monitor

CITIES SHOWING WAY

Once again, Kings Mountain and Shelby are showing the way in their respective fashions to the rest of North Carolina. As we have said in the past, these two municipalities have about as much going for them as any other cities. Their progressiveness and their innovativeness have stood them in good stead. The latest instances are only examples of this trend, but they are good ones. In Kings Mountain, it is the pace-setting idea of getting young people deeply involved in the workings of city government; in Shelby, it was its ability to overcome

adversity and sell its water bonds at a surprisingly low rate.

The Kings Mountain effort of appointing young people to boards and agencies of the city goes far beyond the one-day efforts of young people in various seats of government. All too often, this is the only effort made by cities to involve young people in the day-to-day, sometimes dreary, sometimes exciting governmental functions. In Kings Mountain, the stated intent is to allow the young people full voting memberships on non-statutory boards and to give them a voice, if not a vote, on boards set up by law. These can be exciting additions to city government, as well as giving young people an outlet to the city and in inside view of government that they may have never seen. The program is one which could easily be mimicked elsewhere, for the good of all.

The Shelby effort was in finding the right time to sell its bonds, thanks to the rather brilliant efforts of the Local Government Commission which looks intently at the bond market and makes recommendations to local governments in North Carolina. But it was not all in choosing a time, since it was Shelby's credit rating which played a good part in assuring the lowest possible price for bonds. If there be any doubt about Shelby's self-made good fortune, Lenoir sold \$750,000 of water and sewer bonds the same day for 5.6 per cent interest and Henderson County sold \$300,000 in school construction bonds for 5.75 per cent. Shelby managed less than 5.41 per cent. Although we have said it before, we think in this instance that a vote of confidence in Shelby government is timely once again.

Looking from here at some of the messes in which other cities find themselves, we can be proud of both Shelby and Kings Mountain. This is not to say they are perfect, for there is much left to be done. Perhaps the amount left is more than the amount done, but a start has been made. Neither are other municipalities excluded, but these two cities

KINGS MOUNTAIN Hospital Log VISITING HOURS 3 to 4 p.m. and 7 to 8 p.m. Daily 10:30 To 11:30 a.m.

- Mrs. Maray T. Baker
 - Russell E. Ellis
 - Edward Evans
 - Mrs. Mary E. Gladden
 - Mrs. James E. Hill
 - Mrs. Mamie D. Panther
 - Bilth May Plonk
 - Mrs. Dora C. Powell
 - Mrs. Audrey W. Putnam
 - William F. Stone, Sr.
 - Mrs. Eunice N. Wallace
 - George R. Walls
 - Horace C. Allman
 - Mrs. Isaac C. Berry
 - Mrs. Frank L. Blanton
 - Margaret L. Collins
 - Mrs. Jimmy P. Curry
 - Dan Falls
 - Paul P. Hartsoe
 - Judy B. Hoffman
 - Sidney D. Huffstetler
 - Mrs. Thurman H. Jenkins
 - Mrs. Charles L. Ledford
 - Johnnie H. Martin
 - Mrs. Jack Moss
 - Mrs. Joseph C. McGill
 - Judge D. Phillips
 - Mrs. Charlie F. Shaw
 - Otis Whisnant
 - Martin L. Wilson, Sr.
 - Mrs. Marvin E. Wright
 - Dennis L. Deter
- Admitted Thursday**
 Martin W. Leigh
 Mrs. Maggie J. Lindsay
 Mrs. Furman Lutz
 Furman W. Lutz
 Charles E. Bowen
 Luther D. Joy
- Admitted Friday**
 William M. Froneberger
 Mrs. Violet F. Foster
 Mrs. Bobby Perkins
- Admitted Saturday**
 Mrs. Geneva S. Carroll
 George E. Ballew
 Mrs. William H. Lynn
 Mrs. Wray Plonk
 Mrs. John Tignor
 Ronnie G. Webber
- Admitted Sunday**
 Mrs. Ila C. Slayton
 Mrs. Charles I. Hüllender
 Richard S. Lemmon, Sr.
 Billy E. Barrett
 Barbara Ann Byers
 Mrs. Phillip Armstrong
 Mrs. Bertha Mae Ellison
 Tilman B. Goforth
 Mrs. Judson Morton
- Admitted Monday**
 James O. Barber
 Mrs. Cora L. Rhyne
 Mrs. Gerald W. Rikard
 Alfred L. Canipe
 Lina Michaela Milling
- Admitted Tuesday**
 Mrs. Elvin E. Brown, Jr.
 Mrs. Joseph Lee III
 Arthur Hamrick
 Barbara Ann Byers
 Les Goins, Jr.
 John William Oates
 Manliest L. Wray
 Donna Lyn Hardee

THE STAMP WAR

The conflict between East and West Germany has turned to a new subject — stamps. And it's somewhere between funny, infuriating and sad.

The West Germans issued a stamp picturing the Brandenburg gate in Berlin—an old landmark, but also the entry into Communist East Berlin.

East German postal officials refused to deliver mail bearing those stamps and sent them all back to West Berlin.

Now West German postal employees are putting other stamps on the letters so they can ultimately be delivered.

Never mind feeling sorry for the people who have to lick all those stamps. Consider that with all the efforts being made at détente — relaxing of tensions — if a postage stamp can cause trouble, how do they expect to work out solutions to really important issues. —Tulsa Tribune

We have made recent contributions that deserve comment. We'd like to think that the progress made here will rub off on each of us.

—Shelby Daily Star

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