



The Kings Mountain Herald

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TODAY'S BIBLE VERSE

Keep thy heart with all diligence, for out of it are the issues of life. Proverbs 4:23

A Fable...

In January the editor of a North Dakota weekly newspaper sat at his desk and produced an editorial commenting on the trend of life in America.

The product of Merle Lofgren, who published "The Corson County News", was thought worthy of repetition in the "Congressional Record" and there it appeared on February 3.

It was entitled, "The Old Story of the Little Red Hen."

"There is a growing acceptance in the United States of the idea that there should be a guaranteed national income. People who do not earn an amount determined to be needed to maintain a reasonable standard of living will get a check from the government to make up the difference between what they earn and what somebody thinks they should have. There are those who believe this program can work and we can still have a free enterprise system and maintain a society of ambitious people. "Washington, our nation's capital, is, of course, not the only source of fables.

"Consider one of the fables of Aesop of ancient Greece. It has survived for these many years because of its appeal to reason and common sense—another quality one sometimes cannot attach to the fables coming out of Washington.

"Here is Aesop's fable with a little updating and our apologies to the good Greek.

"Once upon a time there was a Little Red Hen who scratched about and uncovered some grains of wheat. She called her barnyard neighbors and said, "If we work together and plant this wheat, we will have some fine bread to eat. Who will help me plant the wheat?"

"Not I," said the Cow, "Not I," said the Duck. "Guaranteed annual bread," said the Goose.

"Then I will," said the Little Red Hen—and she did.

"When it came time to grind the flour, "Not I," said the Cow. "I'd lose my unemployment compensation," said the Duck.

"When it came time to make the bread, "But that's overtime for me," said the Cow. "I'm a dropout and never learned how," said the Duck. "I'd lose my welfare benefits," said the Pig. "If I'm the only one helping it's discrimination," said the Goose.

"Then I will," said the Little Red Hen—and she did. She baked five loaves of fine bread and held them up for her neighbors to see.

"I want some," said the Cow. "I want some," said the Duck. "I want some," said the Pig. "I demand my share," said the Goose.

"No," said the Little Red Hen. "I can rest for a while and eat the five loaves myself."

"Excess profits," cried the Cow. "Capitalistic leech," screamed the Goose. "Equal rights," grunted the Pig. And they hurriedly painted picket signs and marched around the Little Red Hen singing, "We shall overcome," and they did.

For when the Farmer came to investigate the commotion he said, "You must not be greedy, Little Red Hen. Look at the oppressed Cow. Look at the underprivileged Pig. Look at the less fortunate Goose. You are guilty of making second-class citizens of them."

"But-but I earned the bread," said the Little Red Hen.

"Exactly," said the wise Farmer. "That is the wonderful free enterprise system: anybody can earn as much as he wants. You should be happy to have this freedom. In other barnyards you would have to give all five loaves to the Farmer. Here you give four loaves to your suffering neighbors."

"And they lived happily ever after, including the Little Red Hen who smiled and smiled and clucked "I am grateful, I am grateful." But her neighbors wondered why she never baked any more bread."

A Good Report

Schools Teaching Consultant Howard Bryant is elated on school opening "with no problems" in Kings Mountain, and analysis of the school population figures shows estimated attendance up from last year by 100 students, from 4,264.

Of the increase, 60 are kindergarten students, first year the public schools have operated a kindergarten. It is a pilot program by the state department of public instruction and Kings Mountain is the only system in the program.

"Everything is running smoothly", said Mr. Bryant.

This is good news, indeed, in the face that never has North Carolina faced such a new school year. Only 35 of 152 public school districts appeared to be in complete compliance with all federal school desegregation requirements. Thirty-six districts were directly involved in federal court orders as September approached.

Each local school board, with the help of legal counsel and other support, must make its own decisions on compliance. And the problems are complex and many. The decisions, whether made eventually by the school boards or the federal courts, will affect directly the education of thousands of children, black and white.

The 4,264 school children in the Kings Mountain district system are part of a total of 1.2 million children to be educated in the public schools.

Public education today should be a total, coordinated, community responsibility. It is everybody's business.

Read It Again

Biblical students will confirm that re-reading of the Bible, whether for the first, or 50th time, reveals insight of truth which has been missed in previous reading.

The same is true of the Constitution of the United States, this amazing generic document which is the legal base for this nation's being.

Colonel Frederick Hambright Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, is asking all citizens to re-read the Constitution during Constitution Week next week, September 17-23.

The Constitution of the United States of America gives us the foundation for a free, prosperous, and independent life for every citizen, but each generation, in time, must work for and claim it, otherwise, through carelessness or indifference, the rights and liberties we have enjoyed may vanish.

Congratulations to Terry Glass, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Glass, tapped as VFW Post 9811 Poppy Girl and best wishes as she enters district competition.

Make your plans now to attend the November 21 and 22 show of the Gaston Coin Club to be held at the Kings Mountain Community Center. The two-day event is expected to attract a minimum of 3,500 persons. Over \$1 million in coins and currency is expected to be on exhibit. Non-competitive events will feature two of the outstanding collections in the country. G. G. (Tom) Sawyer is bringing his fabulous collection of paper money, including the \$10,000 bill, and from Lexington, Bill Floyd will show his prize winning coins.

Draw your check now to the Kings Mountain United Fund Campaign, a worthy campaign for funds for 11 agencies. Goal of the Kings Mountain effort is \$35,000 and local agencies which benefit include the Kings Mountain Ministerial Association's Helping Hand Fund, the American Red Cross, the Girl Scouts, the Kings Mountain high school Band and Chorus, the Boy Scouts and Cleveland County Rescue Squad.

Season football tickets to home football games are on sale at the high school, which reminds that Friday night is the opener with the Mountaineers of Kings Mountain versus the Trojans of Chase high school.

WHOS TO BLAME?

R. Sargent Shriver was right when he said that it was the adult world which should bear much of the blame for youth's present troubles. Speaking of his 16-year-old son's having been caught in a marijuana raid, the former ambassador to France and head of the Peace Corps, said that he was willing to accept "a disproportionate share of the blame" for the prevailing social atmosphere.

If more grown-ups, parents, national leaders, public figures would make such an admission to themselves, and act upon it, the problems, perils, and temptations facing youth today would be greatly reduced.

One of the most short-sighted and fruitless of adult activities is to sit back and exclaim how awful youth has become, how it runs wild, how it lacks respect for its elders, how it questions society's traditional values, and so forth. Eld would do much better to ask itself how the conditions arose which either permitted or encouraged any segment of youth to act as it does. But for many that question would be too embarrassing to face.

But let us look at the facts, ask the questions, and see what we find. Was it youth which permitted a gradual breakdown in parental authority as more and more parents thrashed witlessly about and failed to give their children the moral and intellectual guidance the wise discipline, the practical love which the young both wish for and need? Was it youth which increasingly turned from moral and spiritual values in the rampage for material possessions? Was it youth which permitted public entertainment (television, literature, movies, the theater) to degenerate into libertinage? Was it youth which failed to tackle adequately the problems of race injustice, economic inequality, the environment's pollution? Was it youth which again and again went to bloody war? Was it really youth which invented permissiveness?

Of course, the answer to every one of those questions is a categorical nay. This does not mean that youth did not unwisely and heedlessly seize upon the opportunities for wrong and silly actions which their elders gave them. They did. But as these columns have pointed out before, young folks will ever test their elders' reactions, to see how much they can get away with. It is up to men and women of wider experience not only to set right example but to have the good sense to see where poor example leads. In this, grown-ups have, as a whole, fallen woefully short.

It is the generation in power which sets the tone for society, which establishes life's ideals. Youth merely follows. It is high time for the former to set the kind of example it wishes youth to follow.

—Christian Science Monitor

PARACHUTES FOR SHIPS

Parachutes allow man to float gently down from the upper reaches of the atmosphere. Eilowing silk flares out behind some supersonic jets to slow their landings. Dragsters use them to brake. Astronauts complete the last leg of their round trip in space swinging below a canopy of cloth. Now the Japanese have added another use — stopping giant ships.

The big supertankers that Japanese shipyards produce are hard to stop in a hurry, even with the screws turning, full speed in reverse. But if large parachutes are tossed over the side into the water, these ships can stop in about half the time.

So promising have the experiments been that chutes may become standard safety equipment for these vessels in the future. And "Geronimo" may become a nautical term.

—Milwaukee Journal

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Thanks, I'll Handle Him Myself



Viewpoints of Other Editors

FAIR JOURNALISM

Newspapers, like all the other communications media, like politicians, public figures, and countless individuals today find themselves under ceaseless and ruthless pressure to "commit" themselves. They are urged to be either conservative or liberal or radical. They are told they must crusade for this ideology or that. They are told that the day of evenhanded, judicious, open-minded handling of news events is past.

We have never agreed with this viewpoint. This newspaper remains convinced that today, crucial need for a calm, unprejudiced examination of facts, for an unweighed, unbiased presentation of news. This does not mean a refusal to make judgments, to weigh the good against the bad, to take a firm and

forthright editorial stand on behalf of whatever will advance the physical, intellectual, social and moral well-being of all or any portion of mankind. But it does mean avoiding the kind of hysteria which is so widespread today, and which all too often leads to shallow, unsound conclusions and fallible concepts.

It is thus, with what we hope will be pardonable gratification, that we note The Christian Science Monitor's standing in a recent poll conducted by the Copley Newspapers' Seminar magazine among its 1,800 professional journalistic subscribers. The Monitor was judged to lead all other American newspapers on the poll's "fairness" scale. Furthermore, the poll indicated that the Monitor is judged to hew fairly close to the middle-of-the-road in regard to ideological outlook.

In these days of tension, of fear, of uncertainty, of great complexity, all newspapers are frequently attacked. This newspaper is no exception. This reader will believe it is too "liberal"; that reader will find it too conservative. Some will find it too harsh in its judgments; others that it is not harsh enough. Its efforts are often misinterpreted. An article which aims merely at being instructive, an editorial which seeks to present a judiciously balanced assessment of facts, a cartoon which has no intention of wounding but merely hopes to be amusing, all these can be, and sometimes are misread.

Yet it is immensely heartening that efforts to be evenhanded yet forthright, thorough yet selective, are recognized and appreciated. If one thing has become clear, it is that neither wis-

NO LICENSE TO BORE

Although Senate Majority Leader Mike Mansfield himself requested and was given TV network time to reply to a broadcast by President Nixon, he is right in saying that "equal time" demands are getting out of hand. I may even be said that the situation is getting ridiculous.

Although television is a product of recent times, presidents have properly used all the public media available — newspapers, magazines, radio — to present the facts and their own views about them to the American people. Presidents usually are perceptive in separating their purely political pitches from their addresses on national and international affairs. They do not ask the media to give them free space and time for campaign talks. These are customarily paid for, in the case of television time, by the national committees of the political parties. Newspapers carry news that is newsworthy in such addresses. But reports on national policies are another matter. A partisan, political response to a statement by the President doesn't qualify properly for equal time.

The television networks and radio have been generous in allowing opposition leaders time to counteract the positions taken by presidents. But here are a lot of self-appointed spokesmen clamoring for equal time who cannot be and should not be accommodated. Maybe these appeal to some viewers as better than summer reruns of old programs and movies, but one doubts the audience is very large or very interested. The audience ratings of Sen. Mansfield's and Larry O'Brien's TV rebuttal appearances must have been on the low side. Fair is fair, but networks haven't a license to bore the people and don't like to do it at their own expense.

—The Oregonian

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dom nor justice can exist unless they are founded on equity and fairness. The immense problems which face the United States and which so urgently require wise, and just action, cannot be solved unless they are looked at from an unbiased, unweighed, open-minded point of view. It is the obligation of this newspaper to do its best to supply his view. This is one commitment which it gladly assumes.

—Christian Science Monitor

SPECIAL SHOWING

STARTS THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

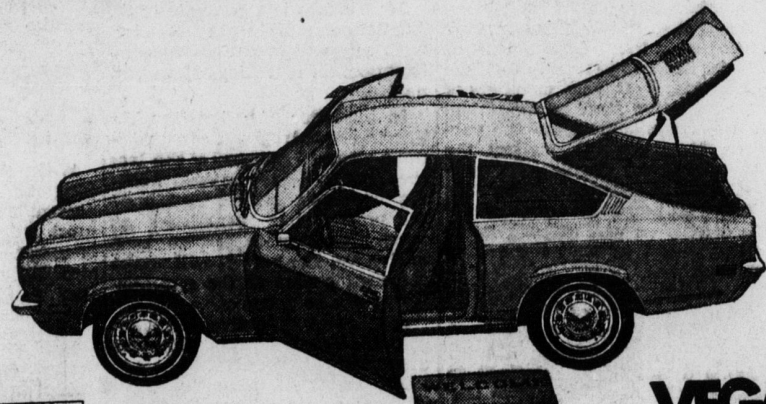
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