

**Established 1889**  
**The Kings Mountain Herald**  
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**TODAY'S BIBLE VERSE**  
*It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord, and to sing praises unto thy name, O most High.*  
 Psalm 91:1

**Students Work And Attend School**

Like Grandpa and Dad many of today's students must work to go to school. But assistance is being offered these students in an on-the-job training program enacted by the U. S. Congress in the Vocational Education Amendments of 1968. The Amendments provide financial assistance through part-time employment to students in need of earnings to begin or continue vocational programs.

According to Dr. Charles Law, Director of the Division of Occupational Education with the State education agency, the Vocational Education Amendments emphasize three main aspects of vocational programs. One aspect of the Amendments provides funds for expanding on-the-job training related to a student's course of study. Money is also appropriated for developing new programs of cooperative education, 17 of which began this year in North Carolina. A third emphasis, the work-study program, is being implemented in all 152 school systems in the State, said Law.

Funds under the work-study aspect of the program are used to compensate students employed and to develop and administer the program. A student may work a maximum of 15 hours per week while enrolled in a vocational program, but employment is limited to public, non-profit establishments under this part of the program, added Law.

Allotment of funds to local school systems for the work-study program is based on the percentage of the 15-21-year-old population, the number of dropouts, the rate of unemployment, and the median income of the area. Each local unit must match 20% of the funds to the federal government's 80%. The total allocation for Cleveland County is \$864, for Kings Mountain for 1970-71 is \$351 for Shelby for 1970-71 is \$307 as compared to the State total of \$93,633, a minimum of the total cost of the program.

**A Time To Laugh**

Joel Wells, editor of "Critic" magazine suggested recently that Americans are in danger of losing their ability to think clearly and positively unless they regain their sense of humor. Mr. Wells said humor is losing out to computers, to forms, to charge cards and traffic jams, to hatred, bigotry, and commercialism to rampant technology and frightening change. He insisted that humor was especially needed in times of unnerving tensions.

We would agree wholeheartedly with Mr. Wells.

Abraham Lincoln is said to have remarked one time that he would surely die if he could not laugh.

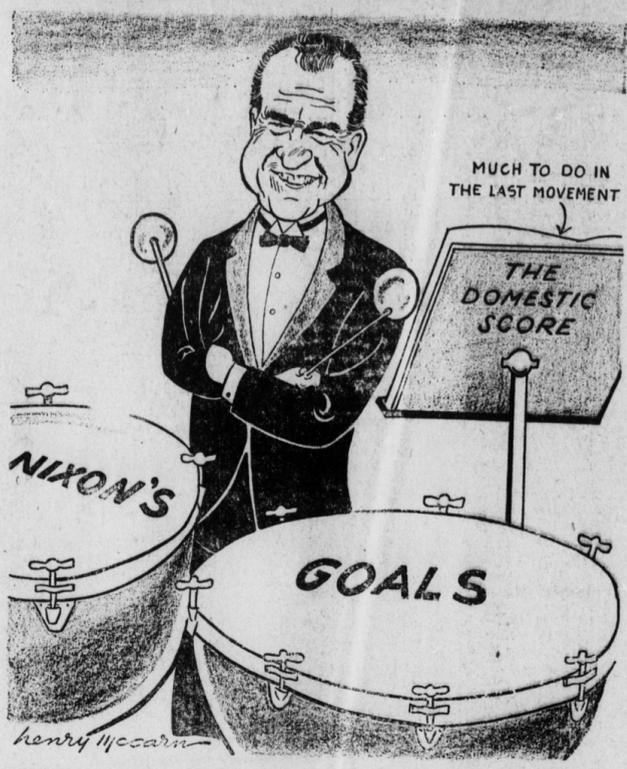
Once upon a time visitors to this country were envious of American friendliness, optimism, generosity and good humor. Today we have long, gray faces with deep frowns and turned-down mouths which sneer at the slightest provocation.

Laughter reminds us that we are human and humor can make an intolerable place much better for everyone. "What is funny about us," theologian Reinhold Niebuhr once observed, "is we take ourselves too seriously."

**A Superstition**

Many folk have superstitions of one kind or another. If a black cat walks across one's path he can expect dire happenings. Another does not walk under a ladder. Two people must not "split a pole", each passing the pole on the same side. A baseball player on a hitting streak must not change bats, may not wash his sweat shirt. And how many fear Friday the Thirteenth? The Herald admits to none of these, but to another. When traffic safety ratings are compiled, the Herald fears for the future for those "safest" cities. Perhaps the superstition is unfounded, as the others seem to be. But, somehow, it seems to be flirting with destiny to brag on fate.

**Halfway Through His First Movement**



**Viewpoints of Other Editors**

**THE VIRTUES OF CONFUSION**

There seems at least a chance that Congress will make such a mess of the pending trade legislation that nothing at all will emerge. In that case, confusion surely will have its virtues.

President Nixon of course bears initial responsibility for the measure. While campaigning for office in 1968 he portrayed himself as a devoted friend of free trade—except. Except for textiles, which he somehow concluded must be covered by mandatory import quotas unless Japan would agree to "voluntary" curbs.

Well, in the inflated economy of the past couple of years textiles are far from the hot breath of import competition. And why worry about fighting competition if you can get the Government to curb it for you?

The Japanese play their own roles in the sorry tale. For a long time they have seemed to think that free trade was fine for everyone but them, and only in the past year or two have they begun to lower barriers to their own markets. When Japanese and U. S. negotiators failed to agree on voluntary quotas, Japan's entire trade attitude made it easier to whip up Congressional backing for mandatory curbs.

So the scene shifts to the House Ways and Means Committee, where Chairman Wilbur Mills and the members labored long and hard to produce a bill. Some 70 industries, in addition to textiles, were pleading for mandatory quotas, and it was perhaps an achievement of sorts that Mr. Mills and his colleagues added only shoes to textiles.

The achievement was hardly without its flaws, however. Although Mr. Mills held off those quota-hungry industries, he did give them a consolation prize: If a certain category of imports reached a specified level, Mr. Nixon would have to restrict them — unless he decided such curbs were not in the national interest. The pressure that would bear on the President in such a circumstance is awesome to contemplate.

And that's not all. The oil industry is tired of fighting the battle to preserve its import quotas, which have helped to inflate domestic prices, so it got the Ways and Means Committee to specify that the quota system can't be dropped or traded for a tariff setup.

The House went along with all of this, but over on the other side of the Capitol even stranger things were happening in the Senate Finance Committee.

If you're worried that a bill may not pass, what do you do about it? Well, you're a U. S. Congressman you tie the bill to a measure that no legislator with an interest in his own political survival can lightly vote against. So the Finance Committee tied its version of the quota bill to a measure designed to raise Social Security benefits.

Legislative opposition, however, looks stronger than it does. The weeks of the freer trade advocates, the Finance Committee has been pruning the bill a bit. It knocked out tax incentives for exporters; some lawmakers think the administration has underestimated the program's cost. And that provision that could have led to imports curbs in almost any industry has been toughened a lot: To win restrictions an industry would have to show it had been damaged by past tariff cuts, as is the case under present

**BRAKING THE FREEWAY**

A lot of people have assumed that the battle between the freeways and the rapid transit systems had been won—by mass transit. But every now and then, in the city which was once envisioned as the transport pacesetter — Washington, D. C. — Congress fails to note the public temper, and balks.

Just lately, Congress has delayed again in appropriating some of the money it has pledged as part of the "interstate compact" to build a subway, embracing the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia. This is no way to run a railroad, or finance a subway!

Freeways generally are running into increasing public opposition. They bring noise and pollution to every neighborhood they cross. And they destroy homes—often poor folk's homes. Right now, according to the federal highway administration, real citizen opposition is blocking about \$4 billion worth of super-highways — 100 miles in 12 urban areas. The Supreme Court will hear arguments on a case arising in Memphis on January 11.

The United States' remarkable new Interstate Highway System encompasses 31,000 miles, built since 1956. Another 11,000 miles is in the planning or building stage. The total cost — a hefty \$41.7 billion. So long as these great roads stretched through rural areas, opposition was negligible. But in its latest phase the highway system is cutting through cities and suburbs. Citizen revolts have flared in San Francisco, New York, Boston, Washington, Cleveland, Hartford, Baltimore, and elsewhere.

Surely it is time, then, to heed the public concern ahead of the highway lobby. And to continue transferring the federal emphasis from the freeways to the development of efficient, modern mass transit systems. It might even be a very smart idea to allow the Highway Trust Fund (fed by oil, gasoline, and tire taxes) to be tapped to help finance subways and other public transit systems.

To be sure, most subway systems now are losing money. But most of them are also antiquated, inefficient, and don't run where the population has gone.

It is time to change the priorities.

Not all of the changes are to the good, however. The Finance Committee also voted to keep the so-called American Selling Price system, under which duties on some products are based on prices of American goods—not the prices of the goods involved.

This blatantly protectionist gambit so irritates foreign nations that, in the Kennedy Round at Geneva, they agreed to substantial tariff concessions to the U. S. If ASP is removed, the House, recognizing a good deal when it saw one, voted to accept the offer, but the Senate committee now has rejected it.

The upshot of all of this is that, Christmas rapidly nears, the House and Senate bills are greatly different. If the Senate finally approves the measure in anything like its present form, House and Senate conferees will face quite a task in trying to reach some sort of compromise.

**THE PRESIDENT AND MISS SWEET**

We wish that President Nixon and Debra Jean Sweet had had the time to sit down and chat with each other for an hour. Each had many important things to say to the other. Each could have learned much from the other.

When Miss Sweet told the President, at a White House award ceremony, that she found it hard to believe in his sincerity until he had gotten America out of Vietnam, she was doubtless saying what large numbers of young Americans feel. The fact that youth, with its wonderful idealism, often underestimates the complexity and difficulty of great national and international moves, only made it to the more desirable that she, as a kind of unofficial spokesman for youthful feeling, receive a heartfelt explanation from the President.

On his side President Nixon, like any other individual, needs to know better what is burning close to the heart of America's magnificent youth. These columns have supported and continue to support President Nixon's phased withdrawal from Vietnam as the best compromise in an inconceivably difficult situation. But we do feel that no opportunity should be lost to explain this course to the many who doubt its wisdom and acceptability. A heartfelt chat between a president carrying the burden of the world and a young woman carrying the burden of youth could have served this end.

**PLAIN AND SIMPLE FOOD FOR THOUGHT**

Here is some plain and simple food for thought for 1971 that some kind soul passed along to us:

- Best Day — Today.
- Greatest Thought — God.
- Greatest Puzzle — Life.
- Greatest Mystery — Death.
- Best Work — What you like.
- Greatest Mistake — Giving up.
- Greatest Need — Common Sense.
- Most Ridiculous Asset — Pride.
- Best Town — Where you succeed.
- Most Dangerous Person — The liar.
- Most Expensive Indulgency — Hate.
- Greatest Stumbling Block — Egotism.
- Greatest Invention Of The Devil — War.
- Most Disagreeable Person — The complainer.
- Best Teacher — One who makes you want to learn.
- Greatest Bore — One who will not come to the point.
- Greatest Trouble Maker — One who talks too much.
- Biggest Fool — The boy who will not go to school.
- Cleverest May — One who does what he thinks is right.
- Worst Bankrupt — The soul that has lost its enthusiasm.
- Greatest Comfort — Knowledge that you have done your work well.
- Greatest And Most Wonderful Thing — Bar None — In All The World — Love.

Mooreville Tribune  
 The Christian Science Monitor

**LOG HOSPITAL**

- Arthur Allen
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- Mrs. Geo. E. Barrett
- J. R. Bell
- Mrs. Lucille S. Blanton
- Jackie C. Clayton
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- Mrs. Marnie Kennedy
- Mrs. Horace Kilgore
- Clifford Lively
- Mrs. Hugh Ormand
- Mrs. Guy Schofield

**CASE OF THE HIJACKED GUNS**

Supporters of what might loosely be termed unilateral disarmament took to the streets here the other morning, but they were not exactly exponents of non-violence; their "demonstration" indicates the need for deterrents.

What happened was that three armed bandits held up a truck on a busy Manhattan street and escaped with its costly cargo—800 crates of .38-caliber revolvers, factory-new, worth some \$120,000. No guards were riding the truck. Presumably the guns were unloaded but there is plenty of ammunition for an official inquiry. As this newspaper has already ascertained, there is no adequate law specifying security precautions — such as armed guards — in the shipment of firearms to and through this city.

Whether these measures should be the responsibility of the manufacturer, the police or the dealer — perhaps all should contribute — is a matter that local legislators have an obligation to explore. Police Commissioner Murphy, who was appealing recently for national handgun controls, could help significantly. By any definition, a shipment of handguns is dangerous cargo, demanding rigid regulation.

New York Post

**A NEW STYLE**

"The quick brown fox jumped over the lazy dog's back."

It isn't a very profound statement, but it has its uses. Within a single sentence, of no great length, it contains every letter of the alphabet. To spell it out on the typewriter or printer permits a fast check on the condition of all the characters.

But there's a new one making the rounds: "A quick movement of the enemy would jeopardize six gunboats."

Ah, how times change! One must put aside simple pastoral things and become martial, even in testing a machine.

Chattanooga Times

**PROTECTION FOR AHMED**

Public opinion and conservationists have marked up a victory in the case of Ahmed, Kenya's most famous elephant.

Reputedly one of the oldest, if not the oldest elephant in Kenya's forests, Ahmed has swept, curving tusks that almost grasp the ground as he lumbers along. He is star of a film, soon to be released, called "The African Elephant."

A few weeks back a European television report said two American hunters were planning a safari to bag Ahmed for his tusks. Immediately friends of Ahmed called for a postcard protest campaign, and more than 5,000 cards were mailed to President Kenyatta, pleading for action to save the pachyderm.

Result: a special presidential order that Ahmed "under no circumstances be hunted or harassed by any person."

Thus the big tusker has become a kind of national monument, a symbol of man's growing appreciation for what is great and noble and worth conserving in nature.

—Christian Science Monitor

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 Mrs. Emma Wright  
 Bryson Wilson  
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 Hoyt C. Patton

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 Mr. J. R. Davis, 146 W. Mtn. St. City

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 Mrs. Harry Potat, Rt. 1 Box 359A, Bessemer City

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 Mrs. Willis Leach, 402 N. Grover St., Gastonia

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 Fred Thornburg, 601 W. King St., City

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**LUTHERAN SERVICE**

Sacrament of Holy Communion will be observed Sunday morning at 11 o'clock at St. Matthew's Lutheran church. Rev. Charles Easley will give the sermon topic, "Spotlight On Youth."

**HOSPITALIZED**

Fred Thornburg, city fireman and Foote Mineral Company employee, is a patient in the Kings Mountain hospital where he was admitted Saturday night for treatment of pneumonia.

**MARTIN'S MEDICINE**

By MARTIN HARMON

As the 1971 General Assembly convenes next week at noon on January 13, the members will be sworn to serve the state for the 129th time. Lieutenant-Governor Pat Taylor will convene the Senate, Secretary of State Thad Eure, the House of Representatives.

This and other helpful information comes from Mr. Eure, who has been Secretary of State about as long as I can remember matters political, in a "Facts Memorandum" on the upcoming General Assembly.

Some of the facts are rather revealing, among them that the "Women's Liberation" movement didn't "take" too well in North Carolina General Assembly politics. Only two women will be among the 170 members of the Assembly, both in the 120-member House. (Divided equally, this should assure each plenty of male attention.) Did the ladyfolk get defeated, or were they not interested in this type of women's liberation? Record for lady members was six in 1965.

It will be the fifth regular session in the beautiful legislative building which accommodated first the 1963 session during the Terry Sanford administration.

Then-Senator Robert Morgan of Cleveland was a member of the commission which built this handsome structure. Those unhappy with the cost promptly labeled it the "Teahouse of the August Moon," after a movie of the same name, and it does, indeed, identify with the proclivities of the architect, Edward Durrell Stone, who has provided other handsome "teahouses" throughout the nation.

Senator Claude Currie, of Durham, 80, is both the oldest member of the body, oldest in point of tenure, beginning his 14th term. Charlotte's Jim Vogler is beginning his 14th term in the House, but, on the age point, bows to fellow Mecklenburger Ernest L. Hicks, who, at 78, is the House's oldest member.

Babies of the Assembly will be Senator Phillip J. Kirk, Jr., of Rowan, 26, and Representative Charles H. Taylor, 29, of Transylvania.

The 1933 session is the record-holder for processing and enacting most bills: 2456 introduced, 1470 made law. This session convened before the first inauguration of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, and is known as the "sales tax" assembly. It was the "Great Depression." It was the 1935 session that considered the state's role in implementing state-federal programs spawned by FDR. Promise was the sales tax was a temporary one and it was a major issue in the heated Hoey-MacDonald Democratic primary of 1936. But as early as 1940, the last major attack on the sales

tax was a muted one. Winner J. Melville Broughton promised to get the sales tax off the home table. He won and delivered, whipping the General Assembly into line by dangling appointment carrots until the Broughton plank became law.

But the 1969 session was the longest, totaling 143 legislative days and 169 calendar days.

Of particular interest to newspaper and other communications folk, as well as to constituents, are the duplicated surnames among the lawmakers. Proper identification is of interest to lawmakers, too. Whether ever or never (and I have not inquired) Senator Morgan of Harnett embarrassed Senator Morgan of Cleveland, or vice versa, with their respective homelike, or ditto Senator White of Lenoir and Senator White of Cleveland.

There'll be no problem in the Senate this session as there are no duplicate surnames. But there are seven duos in the House: Brown, Farmer, Jernigan, Ramsey, Rountree, and Johnston. To add to the Johnston problem is Representative Johnson of Cabarrus. The Smith name in this body is a trio—from Guilford, Iredell and Orange.

This General Assembly may operate under two Constitutions. It will be sworn under the old Constitution of 1868. If it stays in session after June 30, it will operate under the new Constitution adopted by the voters on November 3, and effective on July 1, 1971.

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