

Established 1889

# The Kings Mountain Herald

206 South Piedmont Ave. Kings Mountain, N. C. 28086

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.

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TODAY'S BIBLE VERSE

What will ye? shall I come unto you with a rod, or in love, and in the spirit of meekness?  
1 Corinthians 4:21

"Treat Us Alike"

The legislative committee of the North Carolina Bankers Association has told the banking committees of the North Carolina General Assembly, "Treat us like you treat other corporations."

The banking group was talking about taxes.

The state's banking industry came in for criticism after a study commission, by a lone vote, took itself out of business without filing the report and recommendation which it was charged to compile.

At principal issue is the fact that banks, under present law, are exempt from personal property taxes. From the standpoint of cities, districts (school, water, etc.), and counties, the banks, unlike other corporations, are getting a free ride. Banks pay local ad valorem taxes on their real property, but not on their assets, typewriters, adding machines, computers, water fountains, and other similar facilities as other corporations do.

The banks, it develops, are quite cognizant of this fact and don't like it. "But," say the banks, "we're paying plenty of taxes, indeed, more than our share to the extent of about \$400,000 per year." In lieu of state income and franchise, and local personal property taxes, the banks pay an excise tax of six percent (once 4.5 percent).

Herein lies the joker in the deck.

The state gets all the money and keeps it. There are no rebates to the local governments.

The federal government ruled a couple of years ago that banks could be treated as other corporations.

The banks think it fair to pay more at the local level and less to the state and they argue more about the principle of getting treated by the same yardstick than about the \$400,000 the banking industry estimates it would save by the tax change it requests.

The General Assembly should honor this request which would put an estimated \$500,000 per year into the coffers of the local agencies of government, many of which, like Cleveland County, are hard-pressed for funds and have nowhere to turn for revenue except the fully-loaded ad valorem property tax.

Popular Event

The Kings Mountain Kiwanis club's annual talent show has developed into one of the community's most popular events.

Already the young folks are honing their talents to participate in the current one, which will be the fourth.

Joe Neisler, Jr., chairman, has announced that profits from Number 14 will be given the Woman's Club and Community Center and earmarked for air-conditioning.

For 13 years, the schools, which, after all, supply the talent, have received the growing largess of profits from this event. Tennis courts, a sidewalk to the high school, Gamble Memorial Stadium are among the prior beneficiaries.

It is a most popular event, beneficial to the community and to the youthful competitors as well.

There's another week to get errand leaves to the curb for free pick-up by the city. This annual service will end on February 26.

Ambulance Service

Ward Ambulance Service in Gastonia has, in effect, been served an eviction notice of 30 days duration.

It was somewhat hard to understand, when a funeral home was ready, willing and able to offer this service, at a time when most funeral homes have quit the business and left it to the volunteer life-saving crews and/or set up a county ambulance service.

Fact is that this is a quite dead-weight service, for whoever offers it.

As one former funeral home employee remarked, "When you rush an accident victim to the hospital, it's hardly the time to tell him, or them, you want your money."

Additional fact is that ambulance equipment is expensive, as custom tailoring is, and depreciation is fast.

Mr. Ward apparently feels, as does Ollie Harris here, that certain services to the community should be given, whether or not they put deficits on the books.

Gaston County Chairman Grier Beam said, in explanation, that Mr. Ward's continuance in the business of ambulance service made responsibility of providing the service dual and added that Gaston is spending \$180,000 annually to provide the service. He doesn't want the county expenditure to produce irresponsibility, as Mr. Ward himself has charged.

Mr. Beam's point can be seen, but a fellow willing to continue a money-losing service must be admired.

And if anyone wanted to test the case in the courts it is reasonable to conclude that the Gaston eviction notice is a considerable abridgement of free enterprise.

Best Bows

Congratulations are in order to: Lee McIntyre, newly elected president of the Kings Mountain Chamber of Commerce.

Bill Grissom, newly elected president of the Kings Mountain Merchants association.

Dr. John C. McGill, newly elected president of Kings Mountain Savings and Loan association.

Joe Laney, newly elected president of the Kings Mountain Rotary club.

Devere R. Smith, promoted by Foote Mineral Company to its top financial planning position in its minerals and chemicals division.

Ricky Hinnant, grade and District II winner, and Doug Sincos and Karen Hinton, grade winners of the history essay contest sponsored by Daughters of the American Revolution.

Taking Vote Away

The United States Supreme Court confounded the populace when it ruled one-man-one-vote the law of the land.

Longtime arrangements were thrown out the window. Former U. S. Representative Basil L. Whitener said he believed he was the "most redistricted man in the House." Others, U. S. Representative Jim Brophy included, might challenge the use of the superlative.

State Senator J. Ollie Harris is appalled at the attack on democracy within this state in other directions.

"Appoint judges by a bar commission? Allow imposition of a sales tax without a vote of the people? What are they trying to do? Take our vote away from us?"

These questions answer themselves. One-man-one-vote is far less important than these other methods of denying to the individual citizen.

MARTIN'S MEDICINE

By MARTIN HARMON

Me, too . . . and forgive the grammar.

m-m

David Baily, Herald graduate now reporting for the Charlotte Observer, interviewed some of the standees queued in a long line on T-Day, the recent Monday, these standees having waited the final day to purchase 1971 license plates. Non-display after midnight Monday meant the family bus had to be parked or a trip to court and payment of fine would be risked.

m-m

David quoted one lady, already in line for two hours, "I'm stupid, stupid stupid! I didn't need to put it off but I did."

m-m

I had the same feeling, awakening Monday morning with the unhappy thought that an unnecessary wasted day was ahead. As it happened, I had to drop my wife off at Bethware school so decided I would invest in the line at Shelby. The line looked long and it was approaching noon. One fellow behind me offered this unhappy contribution: "He may close up for lunch at noon. Fact is, I've had him close the door in my face." "Oh, no," I wailed, envisioning an extra hour of heel-cooling.

m-m

It was on the verge of noon as I neared the door. There was the sign which plainly gave the hours: nine to noon and one to five. But he didn't close, and the watch showed the wait had not been nearly as long as it had seemed. In twenty-five minutes I had swapped cash for plate and was homeward bound.

m-m

I stopped at Otis Falls and asked him to put on the tags (I'd had the Kings Mountain motel for weeks) and he said, "I wished I'd known you were going. I've got to get three myself." Son Ricky would be dispatched when school let out.

m-m

I learned later that Ricky went to Gastonia. In contrast to the long line of the morning, late-arriving Ricky had quite clear sailing. Only one late-buyer, a lady, was ahead of him.

m-m

While I was on my trek Monday, George W. Mauney had paid call and was informed there was serious question as to when I would return. George came by again Tuesday afternoon when I was out on advertising calls. I phoned George Tuesday evening and apologized for missing him.

m-m

George laughed. "They told me where you were Monday. I dropped in Tuesday to learn if you'd ever returned."

m-m

Some years ago, my wife had a rumpus bag stolen which also included her wallet. There wasn't much cash in it, but her driver's license was and so was the tag card to her car. The duplicate driver's license was 50 cents and quickly obtained, but some complications developed on the tag card.

m-m

Tracy McGinnis told me the information required and the fee for a duplicate and I promptly wrote the motor vehicles department. A few days later, the department returned my check and enclosed a form, which, a cursory glance revealed, required the same information I had already supplied. I was busy and tossed the form on the desk. It promptly was covered with the other hand-dated-later memorabilia which arrives with each incoming mail. Suddenly it was December. Shucks, says I, the new tag card will be here, and I won't bother.

m-m

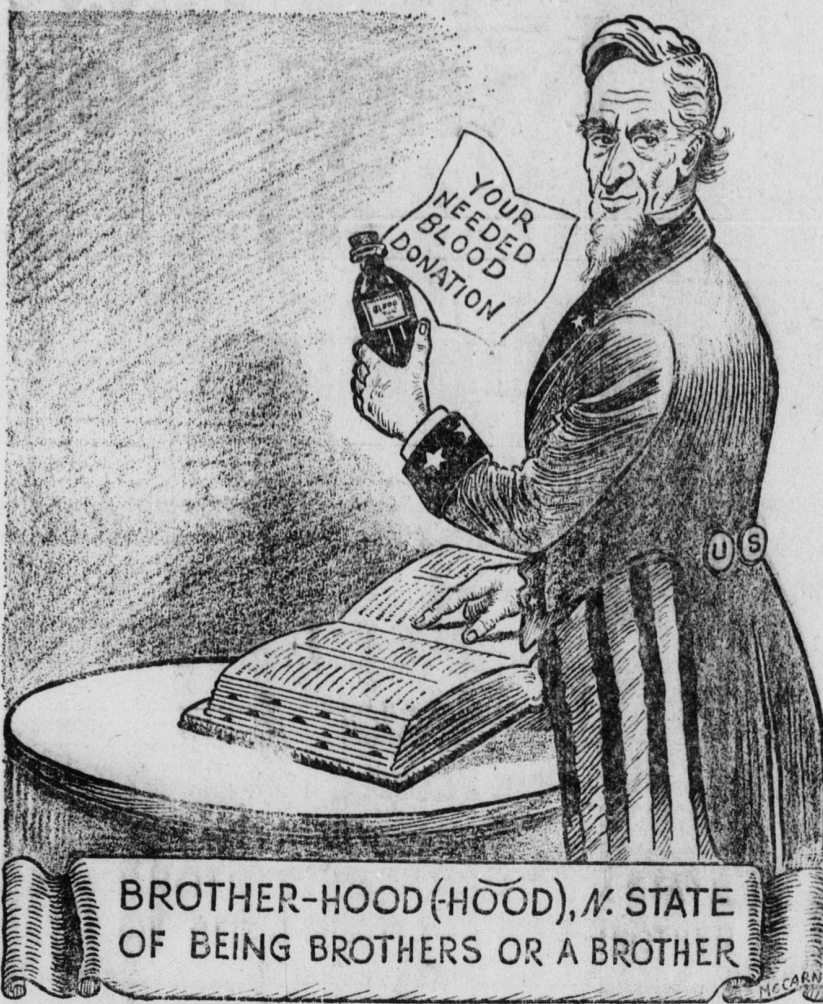
In a few days, the tag card for my car arrived, but hers didn't . . . and didn't and didn't. The department form better get another look. Ah, ha. There had been one omission in my letter—my signature had not been notarized. That rapidly expiring tag card the department files was in the suspense file and would remain suspended forever, if I didn't cut the form.

m-m

There have been no problems in that direction since, but I vow and declare I'll not be a last-day tag buyer again.

m-m

There have been no problems in that direction since, but I vow and declare I'll not be a last-day tag buyer again.



Viewpoints of Other Editors

POPULATION MUST KEY REPRESENTATION STUDY

Democrats are seeking to assure that each part of Cleveland County has representation on the Board of County Commissioners. That is a worthwhile area of exploration. It has been only a few years since commissioners did represent districts, and Democrats have endorsed a return to that concept. Voting, in primaries and in general elections, would still be all county voters on all commissioners, but each commissioner would have to represent a certain part of the county. His allegiances would be primarily to the county, since his votes come from all over it, but each section would be assured it is represented.

It is likely that such residency districts would not have to meet the strict one-man, one-vote court dictum, but it would be a serious mistake not to utilize population density instead of geography as a basis for drawing such districts. Breaking down the 1970 population of the county, the perfectly drawn district would be one of 14,511 persons, since there are five districts to be divided among 72,556 persons. Without attempting to make the districts exactly co-equal in population, here is one way in which township lines could be heven to and still basically allot commissioners by population:

Township 6, which includes Shelby, has 29,384 residents, qualifying it for two resident commissioners. Township 4, which includes Grover and Kings Mountain, has 14,897 persons, qualifying it for one resident commissioner. That leaves two commissioners to be allotted among all the rest of the county. A quick addition will show that Townships 1, 2 (Boiling Springs), and 7 (Lattimore) would equal about 14,000 persons, qualifying them for one commissioner, while Townships 5, 8, 9, 10 and 11 would total about 14,000 persons, also qualifying them for one commissioner. These might not meet the court requirements for being co-equal, but they would be sufficiently close especially when exactness has not been required in such circumstances.

This is one suggestion, and it should be noted that nothing has been done at this point to warrant a guessing game on how the district lines would be drawn. Still, the principle involved is what we are getting out: Drawing residency districts should as closely as possible parallel population densities, not geography. Any other method would surely bring about a court challenge that could set the whole quagmire aflame once again. Even the Democrats, although committed to the principle of residency districts, will not make a formal suggestion until the procedure for change is tied down.

There are, of course, pluses and minuses to any change such as has been suggested. There will, in fact, have to be considerable study and work done before any change should be made. All the pros and all the cons will have to be laid on the table and examined minutely. Perhaps no change is warranted, and perhaps no change is possible, but the fact is that someone — in this case, the executive committee of the county Democratic party — is suggesting a study to determine the facts. We support the idea of commission representation throughout the county; the only question is whether this can best be assured by good candi-

HISTORY WITH A GRAIN OF SALT

History has been described as the lie agreed upon, with a great deal depending on who is doing the agreeing. It has also been said that a lie in history is a much greater sin than a lie in common discourse as it is likely to be more lasting and more generally known. Which rather tends to support the statement of Henry Ford, made in the witness box when he was suing the "Chicago Tribune" for libel in 1919, that "history is bunk."

History may not be entirely bunk, but that it is not always what it appears to be is emphasized once again by a discovery by American scientists that a mummified body in the Cairo Museum, thought for hundreds of years to be that of the daughter of an ancient Egyptian queen, was actually that of an adolescent baboon. The scientists are to make X-rays of about 40 other mummies in the museum to see whether there are any more surprises.

Coming nearer to home, it has been said that when Sir Winston Churchill was writing his history of World War II, he sent his draft of description of the battle for Crete to various people who had taken part, including General Kippenberger, of New Zealand. When "Kip" read Churchill's estimate that 4,000 Germans had been drowned in the attempted seaborne invasion of Crete, he is said to have suggested that it was probably a very much smaller figure. What other authorities' estimates were is not known, but Sir Winston stuck to his guns and

WOMEN AND THE FRENCH ACADEMY

Mrs. Francoise Parturier scored at least a moral victory when she sought admission to one of France's most solidly entrenched masculine strongholds — the French Academy.

That historic institution is composed of 40 men renowned for their literary and cultural achievements and widely known by the majestic title of "the immortals." Mrs. Parturier, author, journalist, and women's rights advocate, entered her candidature in the recent election to fill the seat previously occupied by historian Jerome Carcopino.

Of course, she knew that she had no chance of being elected. The fact that she received one vote was probably more than she had dared to hope for and a tribute to her courage for trying. (The seat went to Roger Caillois, a high official at UNESCO and author of a number of books on poetry and social myths.)

Mrs. Parturier's goal was to show that there is no reason why the academy should be monopolized by men, when French women have made — and are making — a considerable and significant contribution to their country's literature.

Women are not barred from France's coveted literary awards such as the Prix Goncourt. If the 40 seats in the academy are to be filled on literary and intellectual merit, surely there are women who would qualify.

Christian Science Monitor

his history records that about 4,000 Germans died. The New Zealand official war history says 324.

Thus, with the best will in the world, historians may differ on matters of detail, and it doesn't really matter a great deal. So long as the broad issue is truthfully presented, so long as the credit for victory is properly attributed and the blame for failure is laid at the right door, the detail is not unduly important and becomes less so as time goes on.

Much of the falsification of history which undoubtedly has occurred has been due to a desire by people important in their time to remain important in the eyes of future generations. The pharaohs, it is said, frequently changed the hieroglyphics, the pictorial writing of their time, to take credit for the achievements of their ancestors. Macaulay wrote of "history, abounding with kings thirty feet high and reigns thirty thousand years long" in depreciation of the tendency for things of the past to take on an exaggerated significance.

Thus, he who would read history must allow for human frailties both in those who made it and those who recorded it, and must try to penetrate the blurring effect of time to distinguish what was real from what wash ephemeral and of little consequence. When it is considered difficult it is to apply this measure to what is happening in our own time, however, historians may be excused if the picture they present of the past is sometimes a little indistinct around the edges.

The Evening Star, (Dunedin, N. Z.)

BACK TO SENATE

State Senator J. Ollie Harris, hospitalized in Raleigh with a heavy case of influenza last Thursday night, was discharged from Rex hospital Monday morning and returned to his senatorial duties Monday night.

KINGS MOUNTAIN

Hospital Log

VISITING HOURS  
Daily 10:30 to 11:30 A.M.  
3 to 4 P.M. and 7 to 8 P.M.

- Mrs. Samuel E. King
- Angela Adams
- Horace Allman
- Mrs. Claude Arrowood
- Geo. Borders
- Daniel F. Bridges
- Burman Bryant
- Mrs. Love Carroll
- Wm. M. Clark
- Samm I Cook
- J. D. Davis
- Mrs. James Dellinger
- James Gamble
- Ellerbe Griffin
- Mrs. Mary Frances Harlowe
- Mrs. Annie H. Havner
- Mrs. Charlie Hendren
- Mrs. Lela Houser
- Mrs. O. O. Jackson
- Mrs. Tim K. Jones
- Mrs. Jesse Milling
- Will A. Mullinax
- E. May Plonk
- Mrs. Ray Price
- Mrs. Bessie P. Ransour
- Mrs. Alvenia Schuler
- Anderson Smarr
- Trudie Waters
- Mrs. Minnie Webb
- Otto Welsher
- Christopher Woods
- Horace Darby

ADMITTED THURSDAY

- Mrs. Carl Dougan
- 214 N. Vance St., Gastonia
- Mrs. Roy Conner
- 300 York Rd., City
- Mrs. James Mauney
- Rt. 4, Gastonia
- Mrs. Arthur Ward
- Route 1, City

ADMITTED FRIDAY

- Frank Webster
- Route 2, City
- Mrs. Mel E. Huldener
- 811 N. Gantt St., City
- Mrs. John C. Johnson
- 106 W. King St., City
- Mrs. John W. Oates
- Route 3, City

ADMITTED SATURDAY

- Mrs. Dular Higginbotham
- Route 2, City
- Mrs. Eva H. Price
- 915 Sharon Drive, City
- Mrs. Thurman Green
- Route 3, City
- Mrs. Robt. N. Keenum
- 1102 Spencer Ave., Gastonia
- Mrs. L. L. Ramsey
- 110 Benfield Road, City
- Mrs. James F. Young
- Route 1, Bessemer City

ADMITTED SUNDAY

- Joseph Goforth
- 205 S. Piedmont Ave., City
- Eslo E. White
- Route 3, City
- Mrs. Floyd D. Grigg
- Route 1, Bessemer City
- Mrs. Lee F. Black, Jr.
- 101 York St., Clover
- Willie Hambricht
- 505 Landing St., City
- Mrs. Richard Yarbroch
- 1200 Westover, City
- Mrs. Rives Hayes
- Route 3, City
- Mrs. Goe. R. Barber
- P. O. Box 103, City
- Patricia Izzard
- Route 2, Bessemer City
- Mrs. Walter Kuykenhall
- 825 Myrtle School Rd., Gast.
- Shufford Packett
- 1904 Flint Lane, Gastonia
- John Parker
- Route 1, City
- Mrs. Ernest F. Shipton
- Route 4, Smyrna, S. C.

ADMITTED TUESDAY

- Mrs. Eddie O. Norris
- 4221 Grier St., Gastonia
- Mrs. Arde's Anthony
- Route 1, Dallas
- Mrs. Frances B. West
- Box 628, City
- Clarence Byrd, Jr.
- Route 2, City
- Mrs. John Gladden
- 320 Wilson Terrace, City
- C. M. Lovelace
- 307 Silver St., City
- Mrs. Wayne D. Bess
- Address
- Faul W. Brown
- Route 1, City
- Mrs. Charles Huffstidler
- 1309 Sunshine Cr., Gastonia

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