

Established 1889  
**The Kings Mountain Herald**  
 206 South Piedmont Ave. Kings Mountain, N. C. 28086

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TODAY'S BIBLE VERSE

For mine eyes have seen thy salvation. St. Luke 8:30.

City Has No Financial Problem — Pyle

What many citizens termed the quietest political season in years picked up steam Monday afternoon when the Gastonia Gazette was delivered in Kings Mountain and the headlines on the second front read: "Deficit In Six Accounts Puts Kings Mountain In Cash Bind, City Must Hike Taxes or Intake."

Telephones in the city offices were popping.

The Herald learned that reports have been greatly exaggerated.

Fact is, that a standard form letter sent to the city like those sent to many communities in the state was the instrument of the talk.

The letter sent to Mayor John Henry Moss on February 23 by Paul Pyles, supervisor of the accounting advisory section of the State Local Government Commission, cited a deficit of \$59,967.98 in five funds, water-sewer, electric, gas, urban beautification and community center for the 1970 fiscal year.

But, Pyles said the letter is a standard form sent to several communities in the state with appropriate figures inserted.

And he says that steps have been taken by the city board of commissioners to eliminate the deficit. He said the city "has no financial problems."

Pyles went on to speculate that he saw no reason for folks' added interest except that it's approaching election time.

Three days later after Pyles letter was received in Kings Mountain, the city board authorized a budget amendment of \$20,143.48 to cover the deficit in the water-sewer, gas and electric funds," Pyle said he was informed.

Two items of the deficit (not explained in published reports, \$11,796.38 in the urban beautification fund and \$30,163.50 in the community center fund — were covered by federal funds the city had expected to receive before the audit but which didn't arrive until June 30, the end of the fiscal year.

The Mayor told the Herald he received the report and promptly carried out the request. The board adopted an amending budget ordinance. City Clerk Joe McDaniel concurred.

McDaniel said the funds approved in the budget amendment will come from increased income from utilities.

McDaniel said the Pyles letter came as no surprise. As required by law, the city's financial statement for 1970 was published in the January 14, 1971 edition of the Herald.

The city showed an overall surplus of \$39,152.52 for the year after deficits were subtracted. The surplus funds couldn't be used to offset the deficit because these were in non-transferrable categories.

Figures supplied by the city clerk show the city is in good financial condition.

Deficits in municipal government are not uncommon in North Carolina and a spokesman for the North Carolina Local Government Commission says it's very common for them to send out letters such as the one Kings Mountain received. They review audit reports to see if anything needs to be corrected and then send out form letters to the governmental agency.

He said copies of the letter are sent only to the mayor and/or the city clerk.

The city finished last year with a cash balance of \$64,631.73 after all operating expenses had been paid.

"We're operating within our income for the current fiscal year," Mayor Moss has stated. He said the city anticipates closing the year with a cash balance.

Figures in the office of the city clerk reveal that as of February 27, revenues for the current year were 65.8 per cent of the budget amount and expenditures were 57 percent, "normal"

We'd Favor Scott's Bill

Offhand, we'd favor State Senator Ralph Scott's bill to give retired senior citizens a break on their property taxes.

Scott would grant the aged a tax-free homestead right on property used as their residence when their disposable income is less than \$3,600 annually.

It's hard to run a household on \$3,500 a year, much less pay taxes. And, when you're poor and over 60, any help is welcome.

Several states have homestead laws that aren't confined to the aged or less-endowed but Senator Scott's plan is properly based on need. For many, the \$5,000 exemption may mean the difference between self-sustenance and going on the welfare rolls.

North Carolina's General Assembly can do the people of this state a great service by passing an "open meetings" bill affecting legislative, executive, administrative and advisory bodies.

Two bills (H.B. 51 and H.B. 113 set out with that intention but have been rewritten as a committee substitute in the House Judiciary Committee. The bill is now undergoing further revision in subcommittee.

Heartly welcome to Oxford plant officials — James Rish, who comes from Atlanta, Ga. as the new controller, and William Mason, native of Canada, who has assumed work as assistant plant manager.

Since sympathy is extended to the family of James Norwood (Pete) Gamble who the Herald considered a good citizen and one we will miss. Mr. Gamble, in ill health for some time, died in Sylacauga, Ala. where he was visiting his son.

It's Clean-Up time again and everyone should cooperate with the 20-member committee aided by Boy Scout Troop 92 which is already at work on the project.

The busy scouts are policing the area in the vicinity of the intersection of U. S. 74 and West Mountain street and volunteered to maintain the area where the Girl Scout monument replica is located on a permanent basis. The Scouts have already compiled a list of abandoned cars.

Hats off to Mrs. James B. Simpson, elected president of the North Carolina Council of the International Reading Association. President-Elect Mrs. Simpson will succeed as president a former Kings Mountain teacher, Richard Culyer, now of the Reading Department of Appalachian State University.

Attention is called to the fact that the Contractor must ensure that employees and applicants for employment are not discriminated against because of their race, color, religion, sex, or national origin, and that requirements for the payment of Prevailing Wages Determined pursuant to the Davis-Bacon Act do not apply to any contract which will result from the invitation or advertisement.

The Kings Mountain Redevelopment Commission reserves the right to reject any or all Bids or to have to waive any informalities in the Bidding.

Bids must be submitted to the Kings Mountain Redevelopment Commission for a period not to exceed thirty (30) days from the date of the opening of Bids for the purpose of reviewing the Bids and investigating the qualifications of the Bidders, prior to awarding of the Contract.

KINGS MOUNTAIN REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
By J. M. Laney  
Carl F. Mauney, Chairman  
Mar. 17, 1971.

Mr. Pyle said he didn't know how our neighboring newspaper received access to the audit report (always available to the public) but that published report indicating a \$103,614 deficit in the letter he sent the mayor. Text of the letter is reprinted in a news story in this edition.

MARTIN'S MEDICINE

It's hardly likely that temperatures have been high enough to produce any old-fashioned cases of spring fever, not lethargic but pleasant uneasiness that produces yawns in profusion and make movement of any kind an undesirable activity.

But it won't be long. N. Fuller McGilli, Sr., veteran service station operator, estimated Wednesday that spring won't arrive for at least another month.

The balmy weather the past few days has invited the farmer to the garden, builders with saws in hand to building chores and golfers to the golf course.

Since the era of planting Victory Gardens a great many people have stored their tools and come to the conclusion that vegetable gardening, at least for them, doesn't pay off. Many homesteaders have come to make yard tending their gardening hobby.

And, there are many who find both pleasure and profit in the tilling of a plot, in the sowing of seed and the harvesting of vegetables or flowers.

Especially do people in the rural areas find that gardening pays off. They can keep their jars and freezers filled with diet aiding foods and enjoy fresh vegetables a major portion of the year at a cost below that of their city cousins.

At this season of the year the mellowing sun beckons us out into the open. We feel the need to limber up muscles kept inactive through the longer winter months of inside living.

Whether we are flower gardeners or vegetable gardeners, the process is pretty much the same. We respond to the call of spring by buying our fertilizer, spading up the earth and selecting and planting seed. All too soon the weeds and grass creep in. The sun is no longer mellow but hot. The handles of the tools no longer seem to fit our hands and we suddenly feel blisters and aching muscles.

At this stage will be eliminated the spring gardeners.

The ones who keep at the job and reap a harvest of vegetables will be the ones who are true gardeners.

Anyway, there is a measure of satisfaction even for a good beginning.

INVITATION FOR BIDS

The Kings Mountain Redevelopment Commission will receive sealed Bids for Demolition of buildings and structures and Site Clearance in the Central Business District Urban Renewal Area, Project No. N. C. R-84 until 2:00 P.M., on Apr. 5 1971, at P. O. Box 803 City Hall, Kings Mountain, North Carolina, at which time and place all Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

Contract Documents, including Drawings and Technical Specifications, are on file at the office of Kings Mountain Redevelopment Commission at P. O. Box 803 City Hall, Kings Mountain, North Carolina 28086.

Copies of the Contract Documents may be obtained from the Kings Mountain Redevelopment Commission. Drawings and Contract Documents are to be returned in good condition within 10 days after Bid opening.

A certified check or bank draft, payable to the order of Kings Mountain Redevelopment Commission, negotiable U. S. Government Bonds, or a satisfactory Bid Bond executed by the Bidder and an acceptable surety, in an amount equal to ten percent (10%) of the estimated cost of demolition and Site Clearance exclusive of any deductions for salvage, shall be submitted with each bid.

The successful Bidder will be required to furnish satisfactory performance and payment bond or bonds.

Attention is called to the fact that the Contractor must ensure that employees and applicants for employment are not discriminated against because of their race, color, religion, sex, or national origin, and that requirements for the payment of Prevailing Wages Determined pursuant to the Davis-Bacon Act do not apply to any contract which will result from the invitation or advertisement.

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KINGS MOUNTAIN REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
By J. M. Laney  
Carl F. Mauney, Chairman  
Mar. 17, 1971.

Emergent communication of Fairview Lodge 339 AF & AM for work in the second degree will be held Monday night at 7:30 at Masonic Hall, announced Secretary T. D. Tindall.

Soaring Ahead



HOSPITAL AND MEDICAL RATES GOING UP.

NEWS REPORT

Viewpoints of Other Editors

FROM SHIBBOLETHS TO REASONING

The expiration of the Middle East ceasefire is disappointing, but does not necessarily mean fighting will resume immediately.

Egyptian and Israeli leaders have been both quick and solicitous to render such assurances.

Nevertheless, the rejection of the ceasefire, however wax-paper thin its restraints were, increases the chances of pot shots escalating into bruising battles.

Despite the public disclaimers, there still appears to be a serious intent to continue the Jarring peace talks, or to advance by off-stage whisperers.

The Egyptians have made the great concession of agreeing to sign a peace treaty. The Israelis have acceded withdrawal can be negotiated, though without preconditions.

While the onus rests currently on Egypt for not renewing the ceasefire, both sides appear relieved not to have this moral imperative hanging over them.

The Egyptians conceive of ceasefire periods as an Israeli advantage, giving Tel Aviv more time to consolidate its "gains."

The Israelis, though they agreed to a cease-fire again, are frankly weary of one month extensions. They dislike cease-fire deadlines being used as an instrument of public pressure in diplomatic negotiations.

This time, Israel did not provide Egypt a face-saving reason for extending the cease-fire. The deadline pressure did not work.

The buildup of the impression, over the last month, that Israel was being rigid on boundary questions, is now offset by Egypt's not renewing the cease-fire.

It is important to recall that Israel has never literally said it would not withdraw from most occupied territories. Its Feb. 26 note to Dr. Jarring, now made public by an Israeli anxious that its position be understood, does state Israel's willingness to talk in terms of withdrawal, as reiterated before.

President Sadat, who publicly says he would be satisfied with nothing less than total Israeli withdrawal, has indicated in interviews he recognizes some minor changes may be forced on Egypt. The Russians have indicated this, too. In the past, though not publicly.

It is understandable in terms of homefront consumption, why Soviet and Egyptian diplomatic chess moves bespeak so loudly the desire for complete Israeli withdrawal. But it is wise to make this such an integral, public element of cease-fire deadline diplomacy?

While we see no positive elements in the expiration of the ceasefire, perhaps the lack of a cease-fire buffer will introduce some realism into negotiations.

The fixed, self-hypnotizing shibboleths to which both sides seem to hold so tenaciously — the Egyptians call the Israelis "rogant," and Israeli Foreign Minister Abba Eban describes President Sadat's cease-fire rejection as "parsimonious" — must yield to flexibility and reasoning, even if the latter cannot be sweet.

—Christian Science Monitor

MASONIC MEETING

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A NEED FOR FACTS

A healthy skepticism is the wisest response from the public to Sen Henry M. Jackson's televised warning this past weekend that the U.S.S.R. is producing and putting into place "an advanced generation" of huge, new intercontinental ballistic missiles.

We would advise a dual skepticism: toward Senator Jackson's assessment, until some hard official confirmation is available; and toward the Soviet Union, whose approach to the current Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT) is at least ambiguous.

Skepticism toward the Senator from Washington: partly, because as a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, he has close liaisons with the Pentagon, including some super-hawks; partly because the Pentagon, the nuclear arms issue, is partly because the Pentagon itself, while confirming "some new ICBM construction in the Soviet Union," added that "we are not sure exactly what it is, or what the Soviet intentions are"; and partly because the Senator from the State of Washington — home of missile-oriented Boeing Company — is conditioned politically to take an automatic hard-line position regarding the missile defense systems of the United States and the U.S.S.R.

But skepticism also toward the U.S.S.R. — to this degree, at least, we concur with Senator Jackson — because what is known is that the Soviets have leveled off their number of huge SS-9 missiles at 288 (latest revised Pentagon figure) and stopped work on 18 new SS-9 silos.

The Pentagon admits that it does not know what the present Soviet activity concerning the SS-9's is all about. The furthest it has gone is to speculate that one if several possibilities might be that it is equipping the SS-9 with MIRV (multiple independent reentry vehicle) warheads.

If this were actually the case, it would be a grave indeed that the U.S.S.R. is flagrantly using SALT as a red herring. But the case is far from proved. And a number of United States experts insist that the U.S.S.R. has nowhere near the capability in MIRV development yet to so equip the SS-9's.

Thus when Senator Jackson says publicly he is "convinced" that the U.S.S.R. is deploying "an advanced generation" of missiles, but offers no hard facts — and is not supported factually by the Pentagon — we reserve the right to remain skeptical.

While we acknowledge need for continued official skepticism regarding Soviet motives and acts, we also must beware of stirring up another wave of public hysteria, lest the hoped-for progress in the SALT talks be rendered politically unaffordable by the Senate.

—Christian Science Monitor

RADIO BROADCAST

Sunday morning worship services during the month of March are broadcast via Radio Station WKMT from First Presbyterian church.

DIXON SERVICE

Sunday morning worship services will be held Sunday at 9:30 a.m. at Dixon Presbyterian church with Rev. Robert Wilson to deliver the sermon.

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.

- Horace C. Allman, Mrs. Claude M. Arrowood, Wm. C. Bowen, Wm. M. Clack, J. R. Davis, Mrs. Clementine B. Faris, Mrs. Henry Gordon, Howard E. Green, E. W. Griffin, Mrs. Nell D. Grimes, John R. Hall, Mrs. Ruth E. Hayes, Mrs. O. O. Jackson, Mrs. Theodore A. Lockhart, Mrs. Myrtle J. Mack, Mrs. Zay Moore, Mrs. Bruce McDaniel, Mrs. Ola Mae Paisley, Mrs. Grace T. Philbeck, Mrs. Bessie P. Ramseur, Robert T. J. Ruff, Mrs. Alvenia M. Schuler, Mrs. Andrew Smith, Mrs. Charlie Tucker, Thomas W. Wells, Mrs. Campbell H. Wells, Martin L. Wilson, Master Christopher L. Woods, Homer A. Kilgore, Willie Carter, Mrs. Roy Connor, Mrs. Margaret P. Dellinger, Earnest R. Ford, Mrs. Doris T. Harris, Eugene D. Hill, Mrs. Bobby G. Lockidge

ADMITTED THURSDAY

- Napoleon Hogue, Algie K. Blanton, Mrs. Nancy A. Brown, Hubert G. Clemmons, Mrs. Ernest S. Gosey, Mrs. Emmitt E. Green, Mrs. Arrie B. Phillips, Lawyer A. Quinn, Mrs. Guy Schofield

ADMITTED FRIDAY

- Mrs. Marie H. Ramsey, Master Edward A. Sisk, Mrs. Claude C. Couth, David L. Hannah, Paul L. Ruppe, Mrs. Jacob Ed Yarbrow

ADMITTED SATURDAY

- Miss Kathy A. Carpenter, Mrs. Bobby G. Elliott, Mrs. Mary C. Pruett, Mrs. Phillip L. Myers, Mrs. Connie J. Schronce

ADMITTED SUNDAY

- Mrs. Andrew Jackson, Mrs. Elizabeth A. Giles, Will R. Howard, Mrs. Emma L. Bowen, Howard Dillingham, Mrs. Earl M. Huffman, Troy F. Laws

ADMITTED MONDAY

- Miss Karen L. Merck, Mrs. D. P. McDaniel, Boyce E. White, Mrs. Florence S. Sheppard, Mrs. Juliette U. Patterson, Mrs. Mary P. Odoms, Mrs. Talmadge W. Humphries, Wm. Donald Crawford, Wm. P. Bumgardner, Mrs. Frances G. Blanton, Mrs. Susan M. Anderson, Miss Rita G. Allen, Roy Phillips

ADMITTED TUESDAY

- Charles H. White, Jr., Mrs. Johnny R. Neal, Master Michael J. Hull, Mrs. Viola T. Graham, Mrs. Gerald L. Eaker, Mrs. Evelyn C. Courtney, Paul D. Brock, Mrs. Christine B. Moore, Mrs. Charles M. Gibson, Mrs. James L. Owens, Mrs. Joe L. Harris, John H. Caldwell

personal fortunes are no longer being accumulated.

Doubleless some citizens can quarrel with specific projects paid for by specific tax-fundations. But this fact only underscores Mr. Pifer's assessment that the voluntary institutions "bring to our national life elements of diversity, free choice, and heterodoxy."

Precious elements, indeed, an age of onrushing conformity.

—Christian Science Monitor

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