



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.

Amazing Growth

Poor Richard, the Almanack man, would hardly have believed it possible. Of course, he was born in 1706.

Some modernists would hardly have believed it just a few years ago.

Thomas A. Tate, in his report to Home Savings & Loan Association shareholders at the Tuesday annual meeting, noted that the savings & loan industry in the United States has grown into a \$200 billion industry, since Benjamin Franklin founded it a couple of centuries ago.

Franklin, the philosopher, was practicing what he preached (a penny saved is a penny made), when he organized what has come to be known as the first savings & loan association.

There have been some changes in modus operandi since Franklin's day. Franklin would have not understood the term optional savings, and he would have been aghast at the size of state and federal tax bills. But the basic format is the same.

A savings & loan association has two functions: providing construction funds to borrowers and paying dividends to savers.

It has not been too many years ago that Home Savings & Loan association logged its first million in assets. The total topped \$15 million at the close of 1971. It was a few years later that Kings Mountain Savings & Loan association logged its first million dollars. This association's end-of-1971 report, published in today's Herald, shows over \$7 million in assets.

The combined total of the two association's assets represents over \$23 million. Thus the combination of loan pay-offs from borrowers and the influx of savings provides a sizeable total of funds available for loan to home builders and buyers.

It is a happy situation, and a healthy one.

The Hanoi Ploy

The withdrawal of United States troops from Viet Nam, with complement to be reduced to 131,000 by February 1 (from a peak of 550,000) has done more to reduce the Viet Nam war as a burning issue and invitation to violent demonstrations than any other item.

The promise of the President is that the figure will be down to 70,000 by May 1.

One burning issue remains and that is repatriation of United States prisoners of North Viet Nam, a total estimated as slightly over 1000 and small in relation to the total of soldiers, sailors and marines involved in the conflict, but very large in the minds and hearts of the families, friends, and indeed of the nation.

President Nixon told the nation Tuesday night of this nation's continuing efforts to resolve the conflict and to obtain a peace "by settlement".

Release of the prisoners was, is and will be a cornerstone of United States unalterable demands, said Mr. Nixon.

Another is that an international group conduct elections to establish a new government in South Vietnam.

It is safe to guess this provision is one of the unacceptable to the Hanoi regime and to the Viet Cong.

Initial reaction to the United States proposals is out-of-hand rejection.

Will Hanoi relent?

Will the President's visit to China bring pressure to bear from this Hanoi ally?

Will . . . ?

There remains the inscrutable Oriental mind, to which Occidentals find themselves unable to fathom.

It might be remembered there are still some hawks about who would break out the atomic bombs to force a decision, a la Japan, 1945.

Sanford Boomlet

A student movement has been launched to get the name of Terry Sanford, former governor and president of Duke University, on the May 6 Democratic primary ballot in North Carolina.

Newspapers have made considerable comment, seeking the overtones, but Mr. Sanford was laid up with a bad back over the weekend and has thus far stood mute.

The overtones are interesting.

There are, at last counting, ten avowed candidates for the Democratic nomination for president. The candidates and their management contingents pick and choose primaries as a man picks his way across a river full of ice floes. The candidates want to be sure of their footing.

In North Carolina, Governor Bob Scott is the campaign manager for Senator Muskie, of Maine, and there is no surety of what other of the ten will put their names on the ballot.

Senator Hubert Humphrey, the standard-bearer in 1968, has made it plain. If Mr. Sanford's name is on the ballot, Mr. Humphrey's won't be. The further background here is that Mr. Humphrey's chief succor in North Carolina four years ago was one Terry Sanford. It was a too little, too late situation and the result found Mr. Humphrey trailing third to Richard Nixon and George Wallace.

If Mr. Sanford's name does appear on the ballot, it will undoubtedly create consternation in the Muskie camp. A victory for Sanford, considered likely, or even a close second, could propel Mr. Sanford into an enviable spot as a vice-presidential nominee (or tapee), depending on who of the aspiring Democrats wins the nomination.

Unless he disavows it, the college crowd should have no trouble rounding up the required 10,000 signatures of registered voters to put the Sanford name on the May 6 list.

Deadlines: 1971 tax payment day, before added penalty of three-quarters of one percent, is Monday. Final day for listing taxes is February 3; and, oh yes, those new blue-and-white 1972 auto tags must be displayed on February 16.

Gardner Runs Again

Jim Gardner, who sent U. S. Representative Harold Cooley home to pasture in 1966, then breathed down the neck of Bob Scott in the 1968 governor's race, is again taking the plunge for a trip to the Governor's Mansion.

In 1968, the Rocky Mount businessman, first knocked off Jack Stickleby, of Charlotte, in the first Republican primary of any indicated moment in years.

Reporters are saying Gardner ran Scott a "close" race.

They should add the phrase "for North Carolina".

Scott defeated Gardner by more than 84,000 votes, which, in some other states, would have been labeled a landslide victory.

Assuming the vote was an even 84,000-vote majority, it can be further assumed that Mr. Gardner would have won had he been able to switch just 42,001 of those votes, which of itself would take some doing.

He foresees his errors of 1968, presumably off-again-on-again-Finnegan play at the Republican National convention. He did not indicate he would vary his tactics in charging the Democrats with everything in the book — from reckless driving to downright stealing.

It is to be hoped the votes, in their good judgment, will keep Mr. Gardner in the hamburger business.

MARTIN'S MEDICINE

By MARTIN HARMON

Dr. Paul Ausley asked me Monday what I thought of the boomlet to put Terry Sanford on the presidential primary ballot for president. I was forced to reply with the oldie (and embarrassing one for a newspaperman): "All I know is what I read in the newspapers."

m-m

I was reminded, however, of a personal incident in 1958. For at least four or five quadrennium, Edwin Gill, the veteran state treasurer (running again), was prominently mentioned as a candidate for governor, as he was being mentioned at the time I spoke to him in the drug store of the Sir Walter Hotel in Raleigh. After greeting him and identifying myself, I asked, "Mr. Gill are you going to run for governor?" Mr. Gill spent fifteen minutes explaining why two years before the voting was too early to decide. Then he said he had to catch a bus to Asheville for a speech-making engagement that evening. It was then I learned Mr. Gill didn't drive a car. At any rate, he picked up his bag and reached the door, only to turn about and address me, "Mr. Harmon, thanks for asking me."

m-m

In show business, the old saying is, "Say anything about me you wish, good or bad, but don't quit talking." The politician hardly goes that far, but he does appreciate the talk.

m-m

In his earlier years, Mr. Gill would have had powerful support for any office. He apprenticed as personal secretary to Governor O. Max Gardner, then served as revenue commissioner before becoming state treasurer. I have wondered why he never offered for the governorship. Not because he didn't drive a car, because governors don't drive while they're in office. Perhaps it was because he was a bachelor.

m-m

As far as I know, Nick Smith, Republican candidate for attorney-general, is the first Kings Mountain native to offer for statewide office, though his older brother Ed sought the GOP nomination for Congress. Frankly, Nick's picture in the Herald last week is not up-to-date as the last time he was here he was wearing a beard — a neat perhaps of his part-time teaching of anthropology. At any rate, Brother Ed has got into the beard act, logged his first month Wednesday, claims to no itching and to real posture at awaking in the morning and relishing the fact he won't have to take the time to shave.

m-m

I was interested in the week-end press coverage of the women's gear-up in Charlotte last weekend for the upcoming week-end's North Carolina Women's Caucus at Duke University. My interest stems from the fact that Martha Clappitt McKay of Chapel Hill, and temporary chairman of the Caucus, is a personal friend from college days.

m-m

Mrs. McKay got into politics as a college girl, continued in the pro league, was heavy in the Sanford-for-Governor breezes, became Democratic National committee woman and continues active. She was quoted as saying in Charlotte she wasn't promoting women's liberation but women's power. I don't know what her dentist husband thinks of such statements but dare say he won't follow the dentist's dictum and open his mouth a little wider.

m-m

That might be a pretty good clambake to attend. All the gubernatorial candidates are to be on the women's griddle and it's a safe wager candidates for lesser offices will be on the grounds singing "Women's Power, Forever".

m-m

Governor Bob Scott has got the message. This week he named North Carolina's second-in-history lady Superior Court judge, Mrs. Mildred Wells. The first was Judge Essie Sharpe, now one of the seven members of the Supreme Court of the state, and highly recommended among the lady judges of the nation for the United States Supreme Court.

m-m

In view of history, Queen Elizabeth, Marie Antoinette, Josephine, Carrie Nation, and Sally Rand, it would appear the lady-folk need worry little about liberation, never about power.

Viewpoints of Other Editors

CAIN AND A-L, 1972

On a again capital punishment is up for public consideration, this time through the courts, with arguments being fought out on constitutional rather than moral or religious grounds.

The Supreme Court of New Jersey has just ruled capital punishment unconstitutional, as written in that state laws, because a defendant charged with murder can either pose a trial by jury—subjecting himself to execution if found guilty of first degree murder—or plead in effect a plea of guilty, and assure a life sentence. The court found this process contrary to the Fifth Amendment which guarantees freedom from the need to incriminate oneself.

The court action automatically exempted the electric chair. Their sentences will be reduced to life imprisonment. Across the country, however, 670 other men and seven women in 34 states are awaiting ruling by the Supreme Court of the United States on the same issue.

The arguments in the highest court are being fought on grounds that the rights of four condemned men are being infringed under the 8th Amendment, which forbids "cruel and unusual punishment." In their deliberations, the justices will have to consider whether the framers of the constitution included capital punishment as "cruel and unusual punishment"; and, if so, when American society has evolved to a point where the taking of one man's life by society in retribution for murder, rape or other crimes of violence would be "cruel and unusual."

The justices rule capital punishment unconstitutional, the United States will have joined a growing list of nations which consider themselves too civilized to resort to death as an instrument of the law. Society will be left to search out better, higher and more humane means both of dealing with criminal violence and protecting itself from that violence.

Should the court decide otherwise, then the whole issue is left wide open, and with it a host of questions. Primary among these is what action to take about the 670 condemned prisoners who now sit in death-row cells. Pending this case, there has not been an execution since June, 1967. To launch out into a program of executing 670 individual human lives after four years of moratorium on the ultimate punishment is unthinkable.

The onus then must pass back to the legislative branch of government. There, perhaps, is where it more properly belongs. But it has been demonstrated over the years that the states, with their widely different laws and application of law (13 states have already abolished a capital punishment), cannot come up with even-handed justice on this matter.

There is much to be said for action on the federal level, should such action be necessary, and perhaps the most direct answer lies in a constitutional amendment. This newspaper has, over the years, argued that the death penalty reverts to animal instinct, is brutal and brutalizing, and not tolerable in a civilized society.

Even in the face of such senseless sporadic horrors as the Manson multiple-murders in California, we cannot accept the argument that official murder is justified by wanton murder. Nor is the deterrent argument a valid one. Crime statistics in states having capital punishment show as many or more murders than in those states without such penalties.

Within its undisputable greatness, there is in American society an equally undisputable streak of violence—not confined to crime, but also evident on the highways, the radio-television airwaves, and even in its sports arenas. Violence, wherever it appears, is antisocial and must be stopped. The place to begin is in those areas clearly subject to reform. Surely the foundational system of courts and the law which they administer are such a place. —The Christian Science Monitor.

TAX LAWS MISUSED

Gov. Bob Scott's implied charge that the Internal Revenue Service investigation of his 1968 campaign financing is politically motivated sounds entirely plausible. The tax laws seem to be put to political use all too often these days.

This is not to prejudice the investigation of the Scott campaign, or to suggest that there should not be such an investigation, if there is, in the IRS' words, "reason to believe" that wrongdoing might be uncovered. If there is "reason to believe" something is amiss, then the IRS most certainly should be out enforcing the law.

The problem is that there is reason to believe that the enthusiasm with which certain matters are investigated is not unrelated to political considerations. The IRS in Washington, for example,

has admitted that it has a special seven-man unit that specializes in gathering information on extremist political groups of both left-wing and right-wing coloration. There are also indications that religious groups whose ministries involve social action are subject to investigation.

The IRS is not alone in using tax law to accomplish broader ends. A clear example is the denial of tax-exempt status to certain private schools deemed guilty of racial discrimination. And a recent court ruling, if upheld, will require a similar policy toward certain discriminatory fraternal groups.

There are several dangers in this application of tax law. The principal one is that the law will come to be used as a weapon to regulate behavior that the government cannot, or does want to, regulate directly. Knowing that a certain kind of behavior, legal in itself, is likely to produce confrontations with the tax people has what is known as a chilling effect on citizens and groups. Because the tax laws reach to every corner of the national life—virtually everything is either taxed or tax exempt—there is little that officials cannot chill and tax law becomes an "unusually broad cover for official meddling."

A second danger involves the threat posed to the tax system itself by politically motivated enforcement of the laws. If people come to believe that some politicians or groups are singled out for investigation because of one kind of politics, and conversely that other groups are excused from investigation because of different politics, the tax system will have lost more of the public confidence it needs to work efficiently.

It is probable that any investigation of political financing will be laid to political motives by someone. But the charge need not gain significant acceptance if the general enforcement of the tax law inspires confidence in the neutrality of the men in charge.—Charlotte News.

WISDOM OF THE FROG

Scheduled to come up soon in Congress is House consideration of the water antipollution bill that passed the Senate 86 to 0 last November.

That legislation was of landmark caliber. It set up an interim goal of federal water quality standards until 1981, and a second-phase goal of eliminating all discharge of pollutants into navigable waterways by 1985. In recognition of the heavy cost burden this would impose on municipalities which have been dumping raw sewage, the Senate authorized \$14 billion of federal money over the next four years. These funds would pay 70 per cent of the cost of building municipal sewage treatment plants.

Industry, however, which must bear an even greater burden in cleaning up its water-polluting habits, which it has come to regard as inherent rights over the years, is fighting hard to scuttle the legislation. The House of Representatives is the scene of this battle, and the White House has come down on the side of those who would hamstring the law. (However, White House attitudes on this score may be about the change, Maurice Stans, who is about to resign as Secretary of Commerce to take over Mr. Nixon's reelection campaign funding program, has been the loudest opponent of the water bill. Rumor has it that he will be replaced by Peter Peterson, assistant to the president on international economic affairs who may not feel the need to use environmental issues as has Mr. Stans to solidify his credentials with the business community).

The argument, as always, centers on economics, and White House officials have floated an estimate of \$100 billion over the next five years. In a trillion-dollar economy, that would amount to 2 per cent annually.

This figure, however, is suspect. And one source for suspecting it is none other than Dr. Paul McCracken, until recently President Nixon's chief economic adviser. Word is being leaked of a study, headed by Dr. McCracken, of the costs of going all out to clean up the national environment. His estimate is that such a program would depress the GNP by only 0.5 per cent to 0.7 per cent a year, between 1972 and 1976. And in the 11 major industries studied, it would raise prices by less than 0.5 per cent annually.

Doubtless there will be reams of data arguing cost estimates from both sides of this issue as the House debate wears on. The danger here is that the vital issue—that of having the environment for the future as against exploiting it destructively for monetary gain—will be buried in numbers. As the legislators are besieged by claims and counter-claims, it is to be hoped that they might listen with their inner ear to an Indian proverb, quoted recently in this newspaper:

"The frog does not drink up the pond in which he lives." —The Christian Science Monitor.

SCIENCE, A LAUGHING MATTER

For most scientists, science is no laughing matter. Some, however, can find a chuckle or two from their own work and the work of their colleagues.

At the recent American Association for the Advancement of Science meeting in Philadelphia, a special symposium was held on humor in science.

The session ranged from the serious — meanings of various types of humor—to the ludicrous. The latter was illustrated by Dr. Alex Kohn, director of Israel's Biological Institute of Ness Zivna, who brought down the house by reading from some actual scientific papers.

His scientific colleagues were convulsed with laughter when he discussed (read, he swore) on the "effective of the Human Hand for Squeezing Food." The report concluded that the effectiveness varied according to the hand doing the squeezing and the food being squeezed.

Joel Kirschbaum, of the Squibb Institute, New Brunswick, N. J., read a spoof-paper on "Lycanthropy Induced by Irradiation," explaining deadpan that he had discovered how to turn man into wolf by the light of the moon. His experimental volunteers, he insisted, grew hair and developed "ravenous appetites" upon exposure to dollops of moonlight.

Organizer of the session was Dr. James McConnel, a psychology professor from the University of Michigan. "Wouldn't it be something," he said, "if someone who didn't realize that these papers are spoofs came in and thought this was a regular scientific meeting? They might not know the difference."

Indeed, one scientist, already fatigued from three days of meetings, shouted from the rear of the room: "There is no difference!"—Gastonia Gazette.

Letter To Editor

SPEND MONEY AT HOME

Dear Sir:

I believe our great government take more interest in our internal affairs and less interest in our Outer Affairs; such as having war with Vietnam and other foreign countries. The money which is being used should be diverted to the use of our internal affairs here at home, as it is very much needed here, especially in building up our defenses in such a way that no foreign nation could ever pierce them. I do not believe anyone in the great United States can end the present or any other foreign war, but I do believe they could bring an immediate end to the U. S. participation in this or any other foreign war and this is what I think should happen. William McKinley, after becoming involved in the Spanish-American war, said that we should "Get out and stay out of all foreign wars and entanglements in any way, shape or form. This is my opinion on the way it should be. At the same time we could be diverting this uselessly spent money to our own needs and defenses here at home and also save many American lives.

In other words, America should do more here at home to americanize our America.

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