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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. Entered as second class matter at the post office at Kings Mountain, N. C. 28086 under Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

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TODAY'S BIBLE VERSE

My son, attend unto my wisdom, and bow thine ear to my understanding; Proverbs 5:1

The Budget Squeeze (s)

Budget-making time from bottom to top and top to bottom is always a strenuous one for governmental personnel. In North Carolina, the state constitution requires the state itself and subsidiary agencies of government, counties, districts and municipalities, to adopt a balanced budget.

Or what that governing authorities think will be in balance 12 months away.

The result has been pretty good government in this state, certainly in the area of fiscal responsibility. The Tar Heel budget-makers customarily become quite conservative at this season of the year. They would be rather foolish to embarrass themselves.

Of course, the federal government is noisily out by such restrictions. Some fiscal conservative in the federal establishment dreamed up the debt ceiling device, which, for the most part, has been ineffective. If the financial situation becomes binding, the way out has been the quite simple ploy of raising the ceiling limit by Congress.

Most cities and counties in North Carolina have had stringent financial conditions for many years, as their principal revenue has been derived from ad valorem taxes. Seventy-three North Carolina cities sell electricity at a profit, some, like Kings Mountain and Shelby, show a profit on natural gas distribution. These, where systems have been regularly upgraded to keep pace with demand, have managed their fiscal affairs very well and without continued heavy increase in revenue demand from the ad valorem taxpayer.

But the squeeze is now on for these, due to the increases in rates from utility suppliers, who found themselves squeezed too.

Recently, it has been detailed here the problem of the city's natural gas supplier who found wildcaters going a-broad in increasing numbers due to ceilings (now lifted to an important degree) on the price of gas at the well-head.

Duke Power Company just instituted another price increase that will add an estimated \$75,000 or more to the city's cost during the year starting July 1. Gas cost is expected to rise again soon.

Prior increases have been absorbed, at least in part, due to increasing sales volume of these utilities. But it begins to appear that the point of no return has about been reached. In the area of gas, large residential users are turning to all-electric homes in increasing numbers, for there is no immediate prospect of more gas. There was a heating oil shortage in many areas before the sun began to take over the job again and prospects are not bright for next winter.

Presumably the city and its neighbors in the same fields will find it necessary to pass on the recent and projected increases to its customers. Much-maligned water, never a pro-maker, the only apparent exception, will cost the city a little more, too, salaries and wages, chemical supplies, power. But the water system's big capital expenditure, other comparatively small line extension is virtually complete and its debt service carrying cost (bond interest) is declining annually with debt maturity.

Colombo Proposal

Now that individual school district financing is no more in North Carolina, Cleveland County Schools Superintendent Vincent Colombo offers the suggestion that prior debts of the three districts (Shelby, County, Kings Mountain) be removed for re-paying purposes district financing and consolidated with the regular county debt service schedule. About anything is possible if one is at it hard enough, but there are difficulties in devising a new

Quarantine Pain

A dog fancier and lifetime owner favored the Herald this week with some extracts from the General Statutes of North Carolina relating to dogs. Summarized the statutes state:

1) A board of county commissioners is authorized to appoint a dog warden, or wardens, providing pay out of proceeds from the county dog tax. If that revenue is insufficient, the general fund may be tapped. Any surplus from the dog tax is earmarked for a dog damage fund.

2) The dog warden has the power of arrest and is responsible for enforcement pertaining to ownership and control of dogs. In the absence of a rabies control officer, the dog warden is the rabies control officer.

3) When a dog warden is appointed, the county commission is required to provide a dog pound, with dogs impounded kept for a reasonable period of time to give owners a chance to claim them.

4) Dogs must wear collars bearing names and addresses of their owners. Dog owners are to be provided metal tags for their pets when the dogs are listed for taxes.

The Herald's dog fancier friend (George H. Mauney) read the section entitled "Listed Dogs Protected" with considerable interest.

The section reads: "Any person who shall steal any dog which has been listed for taxation as herein provided shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and fined or imprisoned, in the discretion of the court, and any person who shall kill any dog the property of another after the same has been listed as herein provided shall be liable to the owner in damages for the value of the dog."

Mr. Mauney thinks the city, minus the services of a pound, is on treacherous legal liability grounds in its vendetta on dogs, cats and other four-legged unleashed animals.

The Herald agrees, wonders if the city commission might not wisely order cease-and-desist until better arrangements are made.

Second The Motion

Ollie Harris' comment on "last straw for poor John Doe" seems quite valid.

Suggestion that the highway patrol be withdrawn from such duties as directing traffic for football games may make sense to the budget-makers and budget-expenders, but hardly to the taxpayer.

It is the nature of some to skimp on services under the guise of economy. Yet service is the government employee's excuse-for-being in the first place.

As for traffic direction duties, the North Carolina state highway patrolman is perhaps the best traffic-duty man in the state for the twin reasons that he is trained for the job and quickly gets loads of experience.

Mr. Harris notes that John Doe pays plenty of taxes, whether he is of major or minor means—sales tax on food, clothes, and even, in absentia, on his funeral casket, property taxes, top gas tax in the nation, etc.

Amen. Mr. Harris' motion is hereby seconded.

Under the district financing special law (applying to Cleveland and nine other counties), it was possible for a willing district to move ahead with construction and other capital needs. The law should not have been repealed. Meantime, Cleveland County has followed the fair practice of allocating general levy funds (about half the county tax bill) on a per capita student basis. The principal question about the proposed change is: Why?

MARTIN'S MEDICINE

By MARTIN HARMON

"Any excitement in your department?" I asked Fireman C. D. Ware.

"No, not particularly," he replied, adding, "There was a call yesterday that there was a fire at Davidson Park swimming pool."

"What? You mean a fire at the swimming hole? Is that possible?" I asked.

"Not likely," Red replied. "I guess maybe the pumps used to re-filter the water could over-heat. I wasn't on duty, but they knew this report was wrong. The caller said the boiler had blown. There isn't any boiler."

In fact, the firemen checked out the report anyway, which, as thought, proved to be a false alarm. No fire.

There was a valid call recently which seems about as insane. This alarm was "fire in the well." There are obviously fires in some wells, such as oil wells and gas wells, but don't believe this section is blessed with any of that kind. The only kind I know of are wells that provide water.

In the particularly instance, the well was on the back porch of an old house, with some slabs and debris piled around the well. The debris was on fire for sure. Jester in the deck: The odor of kerosene or gasoline was unmistakable. Somebody had set the well on fire.

Like every other city or town, Kings Mountain has had some spectacular fires. Among the first ones I remember was a fire at Elmer Lumber Company, at its present location, and one about the same era in what is now Storch's Warehouse, at the time the P. D. Herndon Wholesale Grocery. The late Lacy C. Parsons was the city's jack-of-all-trades at the time, superintendent of about everything in a day when the title meant running the job. Mr. Parsons shinned up a pole to cut the electric wire. He did but got a pretty stinging electrical tinkle.

No Kings Mountain fire history (this is not an attempt) would be complete without resume of the November 1932 fire which left Central school building with nothing standing in the non-auditorium part except the walls. The firefighters saved the auditorium. After three days free from school, split schedules were arranged at East and Junior was back to the books. Ten months later the high school students and elementary models assigned there were back at the same old locale—but in a new building.

I covered in Albemarle about three o'clock one cold morning a train fire, filed copy on it the next morning to the Charlotte News in time to meet the News' deadline.

Among the first fires I remember after returning here to the Herald was the G. D. Hambricht barn. A more recent rough one was the fire in the building occupied by Saunders Cleaners and Stowe Radio & TV Repair.

Fire is terrible on land, worse at sea and in the air. The Skipper of the old USS Lexington got low marks from his confederates of the navy of the time and historians since for, his carrier afloat, abandoning ship too hastily. A firefighting team was sent back aboard, but by then it was too late.

One shouldn't write about disaster perhaps. As I was completing this column, the fire alarm rang. A check revealed a Kings Mountain crew was headed to Lithium Corporation at Bessemer City to help fight a fire caused by an explosion. It was a false alarm, Fireman Red McKee said at 11:45 p.m.

Kathryn Owens On Honor Roll

Kathryn Lina Owens of Kings Mountain is among the more than three hundred students are listed on the spring semester academic honor roll at Wingate College. To win a place on the honor roll a Wingate student must earn at least a 3.3 (4.0 is possible) grade point average in all academic work attempted. The student must also carry a full course load of at least 15 academic hours, and receive a minimum grade of C in every subject.

Viewpoints of Other Editors

MORE POLITICAL SPYING

They're calling it a "mini-Watergate" in Chicago where Mayor Daley's Democratic machine is feeling earth tremors as political-espionage allegations are leveled at a friend and former law partner of the Mayor. He is Chief Criminal Court Judge Joseph A. Power, the subject of an expected inquiry into charges of misconduct in the wake of a complaint by the Chicago Council of Lawyers, whose president states:

"Newspaper allegations that Judge Power authorized and supervised spying on the Black Panthers and other groups (later presiding over proceedings of the Black Panther case), if true, would mean the violations of at least six canons of judicial ethics and the Illinois constitution."

Judge Power hams denied participation in spying operations, but a public accustomed to official denials is likely to demand further information even while suspending judgment until the full facts are known.

There is a question whether any "Watergate" can be considered "mini" when possible subversion of the judicial process is involved. Judge Power is alleged to have supervised a surveillance agent and investigator who is said to have produced false witnesses in the investigation of the killing of two Black Panthers during a 1969 police raid in which the Panthers maintained they had not fired a shot.

Once again the truth is proving elusive. Once again the very men responsible for seeking it out are the subject of questions about concealing it. The thread of hope in it all is that no authority appears to be so entrenched that it cannot be called to account by the American public.

The Christian Science Monitor

AN OPEN LETTER TO THE SCHOOL BOARD

I am writing you in behalf of my daughter and other students who would be affected by this rule. I have read the rules and I understand the intent of them, however, it seems to me that under rule number 4, which includes unusual circumstances my daughters case would fit into this category. In order to bring you up to date, Patricia was absent 17 days during the second semester due to personal illness. If you would check her previous records as well as her current grades I believe that you will find that she has been a conscientious student and achieves average and above average grades with good attendance. She has made up all the work which the teachers required as instructed. We have submitted doctor's excuses or other excuses stating that all absences were due to illness. Another thought on the complete set of rules is that rather than decreasing absences you are promoting drop-outs.

I have had conferences with the teachers, principal, Mr. Jones, Mr. Mauney and a committee from the School Board and now I am appealing to you the School Board itself, to deal with this as an individual and unusual situation caused by illness, which should be considered excusable and give my daughter the grades that she has earned rather than failing grades.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Howard McKee

Dear Editor:

Let me take this opportunity to express my thanks and appreciation to the Councilmen and Mr. Bridges for trying to do something about the dog problem of the City. However, I realize they can only do what the citizens help them to do. As a taxpayer I feel the taxes we pay for fire and police protection are very little (I do not suggest they increase them though). It is true that if one owns more than one home he pays more taxes which gives the occupant protection as well as the proprietor.

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL EUROPEAN SALARIES

More has been revealed recently than just the dollar between the United States and West Europe.

According to a report in Business Week, after the two devaluations and Europe's own inflation spurt, Europe's executives suddenly find themselves earning as much or more than their American counterparts. A marketing director in France or Germany, for instance, in a middle-sized metalworking company, would draw from \$1,000 to \$1,700 more than the \$29,500 he would earn in America.

This drawing to a par in earnings between European and American executives is significant. It shows that in the competition for management talent, not just in a share of the market or in product quality, the Europeans are striding forward.

But more important it suggests that the greater unwillingness in Europe to give ground on economic bargaining is based on a more pervasive strength than had been imagined. After all, it takes a cool executive to stare down a man who's making more than he does.

Christian Science Monitor

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor:

I am enclosing a copy of a letter which I have written to the Kings Mountain School Board. My daughter is a good student and she is not a goof-off for she likes to make good grades. She is not a disturber or a riot inciter as she is shy and quiet. If she were uninterested in school and took no thought of her future then I would have no concern. It appears to me that illnesses are usually excusable. They have not answered too my satisfaction why the teachers have the right to fail her under these circumstances. This matter will be discussed at a board meeting in Kings Mountain, June 18. At this writing I don't have a figure on how many drop-outs it has caused.

All Parents and Students Attention: If you are against the absentee rule in the Kings Mountain School System, where you will fail a subject or as many as four or five for 15 days absent during a semester and the absences are excusable by a doctor, then be at the Kings Mountain School Board Meeting on June 18 at 7:30 p.m. on W. Parker St. Your child or grandchild may be the one it will affect in the future if this rule is not changed. How would you feel if you had been making A's and B's then come up with a F on your report card, just for being out sick, then made a back work book test, and exams then fail you. It is not fair. Come and support me in this issue and let's get it changed.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Howard McKee

Hospital Log

Sharon Delee Burchfield
Hubert G. Clemons
Mrs. Julia Condy
Mrs. Espy P. Cooke
William Jake England
Mrs. Lillian Mae Ford
Ranson D. Goforth
Mrs. Jesse W. Hord
Mrs. Bertha K. Hullender
John Lewis, Jr.
Robert A. Lewis
Mrs. Ora D. Mauney
Mrs. Pearl G. Moore
Walter M. Moorhead
Odie Phillips
Mr. Manuel A. Moss,
Forest C. Sipe
Joe H. Stamey
Mrs. J. H. Thomson
Robert P. Whitesides
Mrs. Clem V. Wright
Mrs. Cordie P. Brookshire
Rev. Roy J. Hannagan
Tommy J. Stephens
Mrs. William C. Baker
James E. Castles
Mrs. Ollie B. Beatty
Mrs. James T. Grant
Mrs. Paul L. Ruppe

ADMITTED TUESDAY

Mrs. Robert E. Breakfield, Rt. 4, Box 238, city.
Oscar Joe Ramey, 103 S. 8th St., B. C.
Mrs. Caroline C. Parker, Rt. 4, Box 444, city.
Mrs. Leroy Webster, Rt. 6, Box 726, Gastonia.

ADMITTED FRIDAY

Mrs. Fred M. Arrowood, 392 W. Washington Ave., B. C.
Adam P. McDaniel, 403 Cherry St., city.
Mrs. Thomas A. Reynolds, Rt. 2, Box 656, city.
Richard H. Wallace, General Delivery, Bowling Green, S. C.
Jerry E. Burton, 1615 Shelby Road, city.
Mrs. Ida K. Rollins, P. O. Box 2y3, city.
Mrs. Beulah F. Jackson, 105 N. Goforth St., city.

ADMITTED SATURDAY

Mrs. Willie A. McGinnis, 1350 Midpines, city.
Charles Eugene Wright, Jr., 904 Hens, city.
ADMITTED SUNDAY
Mary I. Almond, 611 Ivy St., Gastonia.
Warren C. Ellison, 607 Linwood Rd., city.
Darrell Duane Goins, Herndon's Trailer Park, Na. 10 city.
Keith F. Ramsey, Jr., 622 E. Gold St., city.
Mrs. James B. Strain, Rt. 1, Box 191A, York.
Mrs. David S. Van Dyke, Rt. 4, Box 338, city.
Eloise Dale Green, Rt. 4, Box 149, city.
Mrs. Lonie J. Spriggs, Rt. 1, Mrs. Chalmers McIntosh, 317 Dilling, city.
Mrs. James F. Messick, 803 Third St., city.
Mrs. Elsie S. McGill, 404 Bethel St., Clover.
Mrs. Edwin V. Bryan, 314 Blackburn St., York.
ADMITTED MONDAY
Fannie Belle Hullett, 824 1st

the car). Then we have the problem of the Air rifles—Are we safe in our own home when the neighbor's child pumps his gun and shoots into the house? Dogs, Bikes, Rifles.—The Councilmen have much to do with our City taxes.
Thank You,
A Tax Payer

The Shelby Junior Charity League's 1973 Debutante Ball was a glittering climax to a week of fun and gaiety. At the Ball on Saturday night, June 9th, 86 young ladies bowed to Western North Carolina Society.

On behalf of the Shelby Junior Charity League, we wish to express to you and the Editors of your papers our appreciation for the fine publicity given our Debutante Ball. We realize that such generous coverage contributes greatly to the success of our endeavors and we are most grateful for your support of our work in this way.

Sincerely yours,
Mrs. William E. Campbell
Chairman
Publicity Committee

ADMITTED TUESDAY

Roy L. Pearson, 803 Katherine Ave., city.
Robert L. Lancaster, 1661 Buckingham Avenue, Gastonia.
Mrs. Bobby Joe Capps, General Delivery, B. C.
Arthur N. Mauney, Box 22 Silver Dollar Trailer Pk. city.
Mr. Monroe Porter, Rt. 1, Box 208, Grover.
Mrs. Lucille S. Brown, 404 Tate Terrace, City.
John H. Beam, 112 Wells St., City.
Janet Charlene Thomas, 323 E. Georgia Avenue, B. C.
Marvin E. Cash, P. O. Box 624 city.
Mrs. Betty Lee Armstrong, 307 S. Holland St., Dallas.
Mrs. Danny Ray Martin, Rt. 1 White & Jenkins Road, B. C.

Birth Announcements

Mr. and Mrs. Wilston D. Gregg, Rt. 4, Box 409, announce the birth of a son, Wednesday, June 6, Kings Mountain hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam P. Welch, 4 Wells St., Ex't, announce the birth of a daughter, Wednesday, June 6, Kings Mountain hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Keith F. Ramsey, 622 E. Gold St., announce the birth of a son, Thursday, June 7, Kings Mountain hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hancy, 305 Dover Drive, Bessemer City, announce the birth of a daughter, Thursday, June 7, Kings Mountain hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. James H. Boheler 107 McGinnis St., announce the birth of a daughter, Saturday, June 9, Kings Mountain hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. John W. Marlow, Box 102, Kiser Rr., Dallas, announce the birth of a daughter, Sunday, June 10, Kings Mountain hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack George Lowe, Jr., 2512 Penny Park Drive Gastonia, announce the birth of a daughter, June 10, Sunday, Kings Mountain hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. James M. Higgins, Box 1008, Bessemer City, announce the birth of a son, Tuesday, June 12, Kings Mountain hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Lee Armstrong, 307 South Holland Street Dallas, announce the birth of a daughter, June 12, Kings Mountain hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Danny Ray Martin, Route 1, White & Jenkins Road, Bessemer City, announce the birth of a daughter, Wednesday, June 13, Kings Mountain hospital.

FAIRVIEW LODGE

Emergent communication of Fairview Lodge 339 AF&M for work in the third degree will be held Saturday morning at 4 a.m. at Masonic Hall. Country-style breakfast will be served, announces George E. Bowen, Master, and Thomas D. Tindall, Secretary.

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