

'Soon' will come on Thanksgiving week

After three years of publishing one issue weekly The Mirror-Herald will begin publishing two issues each week.

The move has been talked about since General Publishing came to Kings Mountain in August of 1973. When GP purchased The Mirror we were asked by countless local citizens, merchants and businessmen how long would it be before Kings Mountain had a newspaper published more than once each week.

Our stock answer was "soon, we hope."
"Soon" comes Thanksgiving week. Our readers will receive their papers on Monday and Wednesday of that week because of the post office holiday closing schedule. Normally The Mirror-Herald is published on Wednesday evening for mailing and street distribution on Thursday morning. Since Thanksgiving always falls on a Thursday we must mail out a day earlier.

The following week we go back to a normal routine and publish on Monday evening for Tuesday morning and Wednesday evening for Thursday. New deadlines for ads and news had to be set to accommodate this schedule. The question of why such early deadlines has often been asked. It is simply a matter of logistics. The Mirror-Herald maintains business and editorial offices on S. Piedmont Ave. in Kings Mountain. We have type-setting and pasteup facilities here, also, but our printing is done in Belmont at General Publishing Company's main offices. We are given deadlines by the printers we must observe. Besides The Mirror-Herald, GP publishes three other company-owned newspapers — The Bessemer City Record, The Belmont Banner and Mount Holly News. GP also publishes The Cherryville Eagle and The Charlotte Post, plus a dozen other independent newspapers and tabloids.

General Publishing has made great progress since coming to Kings Mountain a little over three years ago. During the first year of operation of The Mirror news coverage, advertising clientel and circulation were increased greatly. One year after purchasing The Mirror, General Publishing purchased The Herald and combined the two for a single Thursday publication.

Now, twice weekly.
Last week attorney Tim Harris, who is constructing offices in downtown Kings Mountain, said he felt Kings Mountain is on the verge of a growth explosion. That comment is one we say amen to. It may sound like rah-rah, hometown talk, but it's what we truly believe. No matter how much talk is heard to the contrary, we believe that the majority of KMers feel the same way.

Play, gypsies... but do it somewhere else

For all of you over 30, remember the images of romantic adventure conjured in literature and movies about those devil-may-care nomads known as gypsies?

The mere mention of the name brings to mind pictures of dashing and handsome men with flashing smiles and a golden earring dangling from a single lobe. And pictures of exotically beautiful women with fiery tempers and swirling skirts.

Images of Ray Milland and Hedy Lamarr cavorting about a campfire, their shadows playing across the faces of intricately carved and painted wagons, are called to mind.

It can be traumatic when brought face to face with romantic legend. After last Monday, if anyone at city hall had had any notions of romance and adventure about the gypsies — they don't have it anymore.

Into this neat, well-ordered mini-society came a howling, screaming, Spanish-shouting band of the dirtiest, nastiest, grungiest human flotsam and jetsam anyone ever laid eyes on.

They came, not in colorful horse-drawn wagons, but beatup old jalopies, seven or eight to a jalopy. They were suspects in a Rutherford County robbery.

The local long arms of the law were alert and hauled them in. The convenience store operators from our neighboring county managed to recover all of the money taken in the common law robbery and the Rutherford County D. A. decided justice would be better served if he dropped the charges against the eleven men and women under arrest for the crime.

Justice would be better served if the entire gypsy band was escorted to the county line with a little friendly advice to head back in the direction from which they came.

Justice would be better served in this manner than by placing the arrestees in the pokey and allowing the rest of the gypsies to set up camp in the county and running the risk of having everything not nailed down stolen.

The Rutherford County D. A. is probably hard put to see justice served in such a classic manner on many occasions.

The gypsy whirlwind only lasted a short while and the valuables removed were minimal — a cup of coffee and a bar or two of chocolate. But the damage to the romance and dashing imagery of the cult was horrendous.

Pity poor Commissioner Bill Grissom. He may never recover. Now he knows that beneath that grimy gypsy breast beats the heart of a natural-born rip off artist.

Sigh.
Play, gypsies, play. But do it somewhere else.

LOOKING BACK

Architect-engineers for the projected John Gamble Stadium at Kings Mountain High School were authorized Tuesday to complete revision of plans designed to pare construction costs and to invite bids as quickly as possible.

Revival services are underway at Patterson Grove Baptist Church, Rev. Richard Plyler has announced.

Richard K. McMackin, Kings Mountain native, has been promoted to assistant secretary of Wachovia Bank and Trust Co. of Winston-Salem.

Kings Mountain broke a six game losing streak here Friday by defeating Belmont's Red Raiders 14-0 in a key Southwest Conference football game. The win was first Mountaineer victory since Sept. 17, when the locals won a 13-6 decision over Cherryville.

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL

Anne Trott, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Trott, was recently pledged to Epsilon Alpha Chapter of Sigma Kappa at Lenoir Rhyne College where she is a freshman.

Jane Morris, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. O. Morris, has been selected Miss Hi Miss for Kings Mountain High School for 1965.

KINGS MOUNTAIN MIRROR-HERALD

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First Tar Heel secession talk was heard in Shelby

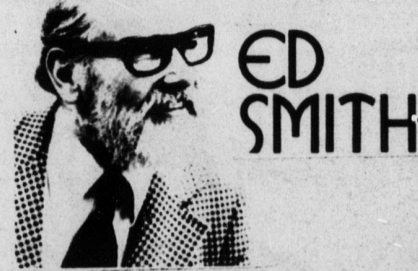
The first meeting held in North Carolina to urge the state's secession from the Union was held in Cleveland County on November 12, 1860.

An overflow crowd attended the county-wide meeting at the courthouse in Shelby. Inflamed by the election of Abraham Lincoln as President and the fast pace of events that followed, one after another of the deep South states announced their intentions to quit the Union to join a new "Confederacy."

A week later a similar meeting was held in Wilmington, quickly followed by others in various parts of the state. On November 19 the General Assembly would convene in Raleigh with the question of what course the state should follow being uppermost in everyone's mind.

Sentiment in the state was far from unanimous, however, and North Carolina would not quit the Union until open hostilities began at Fort Sumter in April of 1861.

One of the most famous duels in North Carolina history was fought on November 5, 1827.



Robert B. Vance, a former U. S. Congressman, was mortally wounded by his successor in office, Samuel P. Carson.

Vance was an uncle of the man who would become perhaps North Carolina's most famous Governor, Zebulon B. Vance.

Carson would later move to Texas and become an important figure in that state's early history. And it is interesting to note that in the duel with Vance, Carson's second was a man who would become a legend in

Texas' fight for independence — Davy Crockett.

On November 8, 1787, a young law student named Andrew Jackson was admitted to the Rowan County Bar in Salisbury.

Jackson had studied law for the preceding two years under Spruce Mackay, a Salisbury attorney.

On November 7, 1833, in a state-wide referendum, the voters of North Carolina repealed the 18th Amendment to the U. S. Constitution, thus helping end the "Noble Experiment" of Prohibition, making the sale of liquor legal once more in this state.

On November 13, 1833, what was described as "a splendid display of shooting meteors" occurred in the skies over the eastern seaboard.

The celestial fireworks caused widespread alarm in this state with thousands of people fearing the end of the world had come.

Richard Caswell, first Governor of the independent state of North Carolina, died on November 10, 1789.

Caswell had been a brigadier general in North Carolina forces during the Revolution and a hero at the Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge.

The state's first General Assembly elected him Governor in 1776. He served six one-year terms between 1776-87. Caswell shares with Luther Hodges the record for the longest total length of service as the state's chief executive — 74 months.

Caswell also served as a delegate to the U. S. Constitutional Convention, and as a state senator.

Born on November 9, 1810, Thomas Bragg, pre-Civil War governor — 1853-59 — and Confederate Cabinet member.

Died November 9, 1924, William W. Kitchen, North Carolina Governor from 1909-18.

On November 8, 1718 a number of pirates were hanged in Charleston, S. C. Most had been members of the crew of Captain Stede Bonnet on The Royal James, which operated off the Carolinas coast.

Capt. Bonnet himself was hanged two days later and buried along with his men in the saltwater marshes below the high tide level.

What's your opinion?

The Mirror-Herald welcomes letters from readers expressing your opinions on any subject you choose, or rebutting any editorial opinion we express.

All letters must be signed by writer with address included. Unsigned letters will not be published.

Address all correspondence for this page to Reader Dialogue, Mirror-Herald, P. O. Drawer 752, Kings Mountain, N. C., 28086.

Hey, Grissom! Wanna RC to go with that gypsy MOON-pie?"



Is there an author in the house?

But, I was only 21. What did I know about love and little children and animals?

Besides, all the manuals I ever read on the subject said write about the things you know. At 21 I figured I knew a lot about sin, sex and sadism in the south.

Obviously, I didn't know as much as I figured.

I never finished the novel.

But I left my hero and heroine in a good place, though. At a house party in the snow-covered mountains. My Hero, Ben, had just had a rather nasty confrontation with a wealthy simp named Brad.

"You two acted like strange cats," said the heroine.

"Yeah. He was the strangest cat I ever met," Ben said.

They toasted with their champagne glasses and drank.

Probably they have sclerosis of the liver by now.

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Actually, the first time I ever took pencil in hand to jot down a story I was 14-years old. What I really did was detail a dream I had had the night before. The character was called Hardrock. He was a western gun-slinger who rides in to this ranch one day and takes up with the family. A small rancher, Hardrock's friend is being put upon by a big rancher.

When I was 16-years old I saw my story done as a film. The movie was titled "Shane" and it starred Alan Ladd.

I was upset and looking for someone to sue. The next time I set out with the definite idea to complete a short story I was 18. A member of the student body at a military school at the time I wrote the story to enter in the English class short story contest.

"How could you write such filthy words?" asked the English instructor.

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Read the classics. Read the great authors. That's the advice given the budding writer.

So, you read Shakespeare. What did he write about?

Sin, sex and sadism.

I wonder if his English instructor asked him how he could write about such things?

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TOM MCINTYRE

About 10 years ago I closed myself up in a small room at home and began to write a second novel. This one dealt with high level politics and espionage.

I did maybe a third of the novel, then tossed it on the shelf. A couple of years later I dug out the pages and fashioned a film script. I rewrote that bloody thing four times.

Four years ago I dug out the script and wrote a novel from it. Yes, Virginia. I finished a novel.

Boom! William Morris Agency is interested. They want to read it. They read it. Boom! They're no longer interested.

"You have The President of the United States involved in underhanded dealings," said the agent. "No one would ever believe that."

When Watergate came to light and Nixon resigned I turned my house upside down looking for that agent's phone number. I wanted to gloat.

Finally, a little more than two years ago I finally got an agent interested. He said this thing has all kinds of possibilities... a series of novels with the same character... a high budget motion picture...

I haven't heard from the agent in a year and a half.

(Sigh).
Am I discouraged? No! A thousand times no!

I have decided to lay in a supply of cigarettes and a hundred pounds of coffee, sit me down and write The Great American Novel.

I'm gonna do that as soon as I can find out what The Great American Novel is.