

Editorial **Mirror**

**Relief Of Congestion**

Aside from any aesthetic benefits, one of the primary blessings of the redevelopment of the Kings Mountain central business district will have to be the improved traffic flow that will occur.

Traffic on Mountain Street is obnoxious, creating a center of congestion unfitting a city the size of Kings Mountain. Joe Laney, Director of the Redevelopment Commission, points out that the Central Business District Redevelopment Program, when completed, will eliminate parking on Mountain Street, and possibly create a 3-lane situation.

Plans also call for the creation of considerable off-street parking, and the widening of Gold Street.

This, plus the lessening of traffic on King Street when the by-pass is completed, should greatly improve the downtown traffic problem.

It's difficult to visualize such dramatic changes in the appearance of our city, as those proposed in this program, but unless the people of Kings Mountain are doomed to drive on streets designed for the T-Model, it's reality becomes a necessity.

**Tough Decision**

Speculation about John Henry Moss's political future is mounting.

Recent articles in area newspapers have attached even more interest to the question.

The 46-year-old mayor of Kings Mountain admits that he has been approached by many people active in the Democratic Party to run for the 10th district Congressional seat next year.

The mayor says he appreciates the interest and is giving it consideration. "But at the present time," he says he "is a full-time Mayor with a number of major projects underway."

The significant thing, Moss emphasized, is that he was considered by a number of democrats for the race.

It remains to be seen how seriously the Mayor is considering a Congressional race, but when a man is asked by members of his party to run for Congress, it isn't a decision he'll take lightly.

**CURRENT EDITORIALS**

**Billy Says**

Billy Graham recently told a California audience young people are turning to the Jesus revolution, to religion, which may replace sex and drugs as the main theme of rock music.

Graham thus joins President Nixon in adopting the militants' word—revolution—as a desirable motivation, or public relations word. One hopes Graham is right, that young people are turning from some of their less worthy fads, though statistics do not yet indicate it.

The likelihood is that no revolution is in prospect. Much of the youth revolution of the sixties is tapering off, fortunately. Much of the women's lib movement has been overplayed. The danger from political and minority militants is less.

Every young generation has had its frustrations and fads. What made the latest youth movement different was Vietnam war resentment (and fear) and television, which magnified practically every stunt, demonstration and disturbance, and legitimate black grievances identified with the much-talked revolution.

The traditional theme of do unto others, unselfishness, love and forgiveness, is still the best guideline for young and old, if individuals would live wholesome, productive lives and help others. This Jesus taught, as did others before him, and youth inevitably recognize this historical fact over, after or above the pleasure fads of the day, in time.

**Romania**

For some years now Romania has dared follow a somewhat independent course in eastern Europe, though careful in newspaper articles and official pronouncements to pay proper homage to Moscow and the Communist movement.

Of late that policy has included the establishment of friendly relations with Communist China and the United States, including certain gestures and exchanges which have displeased Russia.

The world has wondered whether Romania can get away with what Czechoslovakia tried, to a degree at least. Until now Nicolae Ceausescu and his government have done so. But a few days ago official Hungarian publications launched a heavy attack on Romania's "deviations." Other signs have been noted—that Moscow is applying pressure to bring Romania into line.

Yet Romania remains independent to a surprising degree, following in the footsteps of Yugoslavia more than in those of Czechoslovakia. And if she can successfully retain her own identity and independence, this is certain to prove an eventual light of hope to Hungary, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, East Germany and Poland. Poland, in fact, is already moving toward greater independence.

The western world did little to support the Prague regime of Alexander Dubcek when Russia and Warsaw bloc powers overran Czechoslovakia with military force; the major western nations should make it clear they now support Romania's growing independence in every way possible short of military intervention.



PECULIARITIES OF THE AMERICAN WAY

**NEWS REPORT FROM WASHINGTON**

**The Democrats—Leadership Problems—House Divided—The Senate—**

Washington, D.C.—Democrats face next year's presidential election with divided leadership. In Congress House leadership is split and in the Senate some Democrats complain the upper body's Democratic leaders are not forceful enough.

Larry O'Brien has made a gallant effort to bring the party together on the national headquarters level, has partially succeeded, but there are many candidates, each pulling in his own direction, and indirectly, working against other candidates.

In the House Speaker Carl Albert seems to enjoy the backing of most Democrats in a split with Majority Leader Hale Boggs. The Louisiana Democrat's blunt attack on J. Edgar Hoover was too much for the veteran Speaker. They had disagreed earlier on selection of a Whip—Thomas O'Neill Jr. of Boston was the compromise choice.

In the Senate Senator Mike Mansfield is a popular Majority Leader but fellow Democrats sometimes complain he is too chivalrous, too non-committal to be a forceful leader. Some also feel Ted Kennedy was more of a news-maker and drawing card than Senator Robert Byrd of West Virginia—who replaced him as Whip in January.

Democratic leadership, then, is in relative disarray as the 1972 election draws nearer. Senator Ed Muskie of Maine has successfully seized Hubert Humphrey's position as recognized leader of the party—with many Democrats. Even when defeated recent nominees like Adlai Stevenson remained very much the titular leader of the party.

Humphrey ran a good race in 1968, almost winning an upset victory, and millions were spent building his image and familiarizing him with voters across the nation. While Muskie

made a good impression, also, he needs more selling in a party without money.

Despite various efforts across the nation, some of which had been successful, the Democrats have managed to pay little more than interest on their huge debt in the past two years and face the 1972 campaign needing to collect eight or nine million dollars to pay off debts before financing next year's race.

Despite all these handicaps many Democrats are optimistic, because they see President Nixon in trouble, in Vietnam and on the domestic economic scene. But if Nixon, by 1972, has improved his record in those two fields, Democratic optimism might not be justified. While the Democrats have millions more party members, they lack unity and funds—would put them in a much stronger position.

**John Kilgo**

**Rhyme Wants Action On No Fault Insurance**

Rep. Jack Rhyme of Gaston County tells me in an interview that he plans to make every effort to bring up the controversial question of no-fault automobile insurance at the special session of the legislature which convenes on Oct. 26.

Rhyme is one of seven Tar Heel legislators who just returned from the National Legislative Conference in Minneapolis and their chief aim was to learn more about no-fault insurance. "A federal official made it more than clear to us," Rhyme said, "that Congress will pass legislation making it mandatory for states to adopt some kind of no-fault law within one year after Congress votes on the matter. Since we don't meet but once every two years, this would leave North Carolina out in the cold, maybe subject to adopting a federal law that wouldn't be exactly what we wanted or needed."

Rhyme says he has written Gov. Bob Scott, urging him to see to it that no-fault insurance is brought up at the special session. He says the Governor has not answered his letter.

"I had spoken to the Governor about this possibility during the waning days of the legislature," Rhyme said, "and he told me he didn't want anything to come up that would complicate his plan for restructuring higher education. The fact about the matter is that not many people are interested in the higher education issue and 95 per cent of the people in North Carolina are worried about automobile insurance."

Rhyme says if there is no other recourse, he will stand on the floor of the House and ask that the rules be suspended to allow the legislature to deal with no-fault automobile insurance.

"The people expect us to take action in this field," Rep. Rhyme said, "and if we muff it, we'll answer for it at the polls. I believe the higher education matter will be resolved before we ever get to Raleigh. Certainly after we dispose of that, we could take up automobile insurance."

The legislature did not adopt no-fault insurance in its last session, but asked a committee to study the matter and report back to the 1973 session.

Rhyme says the Tar Heel legislators cannot wait until 1973. Both Lt. Gov. Paty Taylor and House Speaker Phil Godwin said in an interview with me several weeks ago that one of the biggest disappointments they had with the last session was the inability of the legislature to deal more effectively with liability insurance.

At the National Legislative Conference in Minneapolis, the Tar Heel delegation had an opportunity to hear from Rep. Edward J. Dever Jr. of Massachusetts, who wrote that state's no-fault insurance plan that went into effect the first of this year.

"We looked at several automobile insurance proposals," Dever said, "and determined that we had to adopt a no-fault law. We had a 15 per cent insurance premium reduction when the law went into effect and I'll be disappointed if it doesn't go down another 30 or 40 per cent next year."

Rep. Dever also pointed out that the federal government "was going to get into the act" if states didn't move on their own to bring down the price of automobile insurance premiums. "Most people just want to get their car repaired," Dever said, "and before we passed no-fault, they were having a very hard time getting their money from the insurance companies. We also found in Massachusetts that the safe drivers were subsidizing the people who had accidents."

Dever said that Massachusetts is finding out that 90 per cent of the automobile accidents fall into the category of no-fault and have no reason to end up in court.

"And we have had no complaints from lawyers that we took away their constitutional right to sue," Dever, a lawyer himself, said. "We also find that the public is highly pleased. They get their medical bills taken care of and they get their economic loss straightened out without having to go to court and wait two or three years."

Dever said his state has found out that no-fault insurance gives the citizens of Massachusetts quick coverage and they can still sue for serious injury.

Meanwhile, Rep. Rhyme of Gaston says the matter of automobile insurance is a pressing concern in North Carolina and he adds: "I intend to do everything in my power to see to it that the issue is brought up, discussed and voted on at the special session in October."

**REFLECTIONS**

by Rodney Dodson



In this column last week, an obscure reference was made to the Mirror's entry in the upcoming Mountaineer Days Parade, and a request for a girl to ride in our official entry car.

The response was more than we had expected. We appreciate the inquiries, and our selection will be announced shortly.

Tommy King's target practice came in handy last week. He was crossing the creek at the police firing range when he was stopped cold in his tracks by the sight before him. There it lay, a big moccasin. Tommy says he has a natural fear of snakes, and his heart jumped to his throat. He aimed his rifle, firing several shots at the snake, he stopped him. Luckily he was armed!

**WASHINGTON NOTES**

**FLAGS FLY AT NIGHT**  
President Nixon has issued a proclamation permitting the 50 state flags of the United States encircling the Washington Monument to be flown at night. Previously the flags, symbolizing the "enduring federal union," had been displayed only in the daytime.

**KENNEDY ON AMA**  
Senator Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass), has accused President Nixon and the American Medical Association of forming "a marriage of convenience" opposed to meaningful reform of the nation's health care system.

**NEW JOBS**  
President Nixon has signed into law legislation designed to create up to 200,000 new jobs for some of the 5.5 million unemployed Americans. Veterans who served in Indochina or Korea since 1964 will be given special consideration.

**MEANY & WAGE-PRICE**  
George Meany, president of the A.F.L.-C.I.O., stated recently that the imposition of direct controls on wages and prices appeared to be the only solution to the problem of halting inflation in the American economy.

**Letters Welcome**

The Mirror welcomes letters from our readers on any subject.

All letters for publication should be addressed to the Editor and signed by the writer.

**Frontier**

**FOOTNOTES**

By: William E. Cox, Historian-Kings Mountain Military Park

This is the first of a series of articles on various incidents concerning the history of this area. The intent is not to give a complete history or complete story in each article but rather a glimpse of life as it was almost 200 years ago. Most of the material will be related to the Kings Mountain Battle. Items that appear may or may not be documented. Every effort will be made to document articles but there are many legends, folk stories, etc. that have a basis of fact but have not or cannot be proven. Even though we like to be positive in our statements we cannot because of the amount of research involved. Most of the articles will be from the park files which are fairly accurate. Often as we read our histories we find ourselves looking at the footnotes and wondering why didn't the author write more about this or that. This is what we propose to do, hence the name "Frontier Footnotes". One last comment before we get into today's article. If you have topics that you would like to see discussed that go back to the period of the Revolutionary War, drop us a line in care of this paper. Also, if you have questions about certain items, etc. perhaps we can devote a column to answering questions.

The Cleveland County of today was carved from a much larger area. During the Revolution the records show that those soldiers living in the Kings Mountain area listed their home county as Lincoln. In the course of these articles mention will be made as far as possible, of as many of those from Lincoln County as are known.

One fellow that is typical of the American Patriots is Samuel Espey who died in what is now Cleveland County in 1838. He moved from Pennsylvania to North Carolina with his father in 1770. During the American Revolution the British were trying to get the Indians to make war on the frontier settlements.

To meet this threat Samuel volunteered in 1776 as a Corporal under Captain Peter Carpenter's command to serve as a ranger against the Cherokees. He served for one month at Fort McFadden where the Rutherford Court House is now located. His company was then released from duty subject to recall. In August they were told to meet at the home of Moses Moores who lived 6 miles from Lincolnton. Here they were placed under the command of Colonel William Graham. They met marched to Pleasant Gardens, near Marion, where they met General Rutherford and his larger army. Thus began Rutherford's famed campaign against the Cherokee Nation. This must have been a difficult journey for they had to cross the Blue Ridge Mountains and they ranged up and down the Tennessee River. It was two and a half years later before Espey joined the army again. But this is the way the armies were made up in the Carolinas during the American Revolution. A man may serve for 3 months or 3 years or at least until the threat of danger was gone. This time Espey served under Captain Barton in the militia of North Carolina in the service of the United States. Instead of Indians he was now chasing British Tories.

led by Ambrose Mills. His next service wasn't until a year later in 1780 when he entered the Militia and was elected Captain. His men served under Colonel William Graham and General Charles McDowell who ordered them to serve as rangers. Captain Espey's men spent some time at Cherokee Ford on the Broad River before marching to Cedar Springs, S.C. where they were engaged in battle with the British regulars and Tories. Capt. Espey continued in the ranger service until the Battle of Kings Mountain. While encamped at Shire's Ferry they received word to march to the Cowpens to meet with Campbell, Shelby, Sevier and Cleveland. They arrived on October 6. That night and the next morning was spent marching to Kings Mountain. In this battle he was shot in the right elbow. Because of his wound in April of 1781 he was discharged.

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**Brief, Very Brief**  
Kiesinger resigns as Christian Democrat head.  
Carriers in Tonkin Gulf still launching bombers.  
Russian's book reissued, minus criticism of Stalin.  
U.S. testing TV surveillance for Suez Canal use.  
Burger says Court was unanimous on Times.



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