

Editorial Mirror

United Fund At Work

A good portion of local contributions to the United Fund Drive are put to work right here in Kings Mountain. The 1971-1972 appeal will kick off in Kings Mountain on October 19th, with a budget of \$34,500.

Just one of a dozen non-profit organizations benefitting from these funds is the Girl Scouts of America, for which \$4,500 has been approved this year.

During the year 1970-71, the Girl Scout Program has continued to strengthen and grow in the city of Kings Mountain. It is the only organized recreational program especially for girls in this area. There are three hundred persons actively involved at the present time. There are forty volunteer adults working as troop leaders or committee members for the twelve troops in the city. These leaders are charged with the task of inspiring girls with the highest ideals of character, conduct, patriotism, and service.

There are 259 girls participating in troop activities here. As troops resumed regular meetings this fall, there has been an increase in membership, making it necessary to organize at least two new troops. The current neighborhood chairman who is responsible for organizing and co-ordinating troop activities is Mrs. Barbara DeVane. Kings Mountain belongs to the Pioneer Girl Scout Council which encompasses a four county area with headquarters in Gastonia. The Girl Scouts, and other deserving organizations, benefit from your contributions to the United Fund.

Fire Time

Fire Prevention Week, which reminds us cooler weather means accidental fire and resulting death and financial loss for many, is the week of October 3rd through the 9th. Ever since the famous Chicago fire, exactly a century ago on October 8th, 1871, the danger of fires has been stressed by fire departments and others at this time of year. In recent years the National Fire Protection Association has sponsored Fire Prevention Week the anniversary week of the Chicago fire.

Last year 12,300 Americans lost their lives in fires and the cost was over 2.65 billion dollars. About a fourth of the deaths from fires were those of children, often unable to help themselves.

This is, then, the time of year to check gas lines and pipes, furnaces, chimneys, electric wiring and appliances, etc.

Exit Look

Following the 1969 failure of Saturday Evening Post, recently revived as a quarterly, Collier's and other slicks, Look Magazine recently ceased publication because of financial losses totaling more than ten million dollars in thirty months.

The main causes of difficulties were television competition and sharply higher postal rates. The general purpose entertainment magazine, with no special field, has been especially hard hit by television. A question the Look failure leaves unanswered is how well Life, the only magazine left in this class, will do over the long run. It's certain to pick up circulation and advertising revenue in the short run. (Gardner Cowles, board chairman of Look, predicted the country would support Life and that it would do well, in his announcement that Look was closing.)

The Postal Service has proposed to increase magazine rates by 142 per cent over the next five years. This would have pushed Look's mailing costs up from \$4-million to \$10-million and was a factor in the board decision to cease publication. Mailing costs, of course, have already risen in the last year or two.

The end of Look raises further grave doubts about the wisdom of the congressional decision to turn the Post Office Department into a private corporation which would pay its own way. One of the finest and most beneficial government services to the average citizen for generations has been federally-subsidized postal service. With the government spending billions on just about everything else, low-cost mailing of newspapers, magazines and books, in the public interest as educational and informative, should not be the target of federal retrenchment.

Newman & Jessel

Not long ago television newsman Edwin Newman rudely ejected George Jessel from the "Today Show" because Jessel was referring to the New York Times and Washington Post as "Pravda." Immediately afterward network officials backed Newman up but that didn't satisfy Congressman William Harsha (R-O) who wondered why newspapers which themselves criticize sharply and print stolen secrets are so immune from criticism.

Harsha appealed to the FCC, whose chairman, Dean Burch, refused to intervene. Burch's obviously lame reasoning (or excuse) was that Jessel's remarks were "verging" into "possible" libel.

When almost every other guest on some of the night shows ridicule or defame the Vice President, and sometimes the President, and when newspapers have almost unlimited rights to make incisive comparisons, it's odd and illogical that newspapers must be so carefully protected, so much so that a guest offering his own opinions is rudely censored because he might be "verging" into "possible" libel.

What it really boils down to is that when liberals deliver questionable verbal blows any effort to censor their militancy is labeled shocking and universally damned by the self-righteous. When a conservative is rudely shut up, the same liberal voices unoffended, offer weak rationalizations as justification.

REFLECTIONS by Rodney Dodson



The Bicycle Boom!

With more and more Americans becoming health conscious, the bicycle has become a respectable means of recreational travel for adults.

Many bicycle shops are selling the adult models faster than they can order them. I was fortunate enough to purchase mine last year before the craze hit this area. I enjoyed it so much I bought my wife one, and we spent many hours riding this summer, and for the first time really noticing things along the way. It's surprising how far you can travel without tiring.

If everyone rode a bike on those short, around town trips, think what it would do to the traffic problem, and pollution, not to mention the condition of our bodies.

Of course our dependence on the automobile makes it impractical to do much bike riding. There are no lanes or streets set aside for two-wheelers, and no parking facilities. To ride a bicycle on the street with autos, you're risking life and limb.

Some of the larger cities are responding to the problem with bikeways, streets restricted to bikes only. I hope this is a growing trend. As with any new idea, there are bound to be skeptics. I ran into a classic example one day this summer.

I had just got home from work, and needed to go to the store down the street for some groceries, so I jumped on my bike. I met two little boys. One exclaims: "A grown man on a bike..." "How unusual!" the other chimed sarcastically.

COULD HAVE A ROBBERY
Lee McIntyre at First Citizens Bank Was somewhat



John Kilgo

For Governor?

I am giving serious consideration to running for Governor of North Carolina in next year's primary.

For the past few months I have been secretly touring the State to get a line on what the people are thinking. I can tell you that while I don't have a foothold in every county, I have a toehold in some of them.

I was in Onslow County on a political trip just the other day. (I went there to try to get a speeding ticket fixed and failed.) I stopped a man on the street, introduced myself and told him I was thinking of running for Governor. His reply: "I'm not voting for anyone who has been mentioned, and that includes you."

That indicates to me that I'm now running even with the four Democratic candidates and they've been at it for years and I just started. I had not hoped to be in this position until after Easter.

It has been said of me that I'm independently poor. That is true. But while I do not have an airplane or a helicopter I have been promised the use of a 1961 Volkswagen bus.

If elected, I promise to do the following things: I will represent the rich man. While the poor has more champions than Wheaties, no other candidate for Governor has offered to do anything for the rich. I will see to it that the rich get a piece of the action.

Along that line, I will open the Governor's Mansion for the Debutante Ball, if they promise not make fun of me.

Higher Education: I will ask the 170 members of our legislature and Bob Scott, all of whom have a plan to restructure higher education, to drop their plans in a hat. I will then blindfold Lindsey Warren Jr. and have him draw one and we'll use that plan. The winner will also get two free tickets to the Carolina-Duke football game.

Soft-drink tax: I will remove the soft-drink tax and put it on drinking water. This will guarantee that every man, woman and child, no matter how poor they are, will pay their fair share.

School busing: There will be no more of this. Taking a page from the children on Young's Cove Road near Asheville, all children will be given ponies to ride to school.

Law and Order: I'm completely against crime.

Gasoline Tax: Only those people driving foreign made cars will be required to pay this tax. Patriotism will not be dead in my administration.

Secret Meetings: All government meetings will be open, except to those reporters who by their very nature are obnoxious and cynical.

Legislative Sessions: I will ask the Institute of Government to come up with a plan whereby it won't be necessary for the legislature to meet as a group.

Consumerism: I will ask the Attorney General to propose ways that big business can be protected from the little man.

Patronage: I pledge to the voters that I will make use of the talents of Skipper, Bobby, Pat and Hugh. Just so long as they know who's the boss.

Crystal Ball Department: Bob Morgan has already said that he would run for Governor in the Democratic primary next spring. I'll bet you that Skipper Bowles and Pat Taylor will make their formal announcements before the Oct. 26th session of the legislature. Look for one to come as early as next week, the other in mid-October. Hugh Morton, if he runs, will also be forced into an early announcement.

At the Down East Jamboree at Atlantic Beach last weekend, the gubernatorial candidates set up suites to greet visitors. Skipper Bowles showed them some North Carolina Hospitality. He served lemonade and North Carolina ham biscuits.

If the vote were held today, liquor-by-the-drink would pass in Mecklenburg County by a wide margin. The issue is closer in Moore County. But a lot can happen between and and November.

Would every legislator who does NOT have a plan for restructuring higher education please stand up. . . Now that Bob Morgan says he'll run for Governor, it's definite that Sen. Hector McGeachy of Fayetteville will run for attorney general in the Democratic primary.

Commissioner of Agriculture Jim Graham sends along a note, saying he definitely will run for reelection. Furthermore, Graham adds: "I'm one politician who knows what I'm running for." And how about that.

Candidates for lieutenant governor--most of them are still unannounced--have a problem. They don't want their formal announcements to conflict with the gubernatorial announcements that will be forthcoming. It can be said, however, that Wilson attorney Jim Hunt and House Speaker Phil Gowin are on the verge of announcing. I suspect Roy Sowers will be along with his announcement very soon also.

One man opposed to liquor-by-the-drink in Charlotte says he knows liquor is here, he knows people are going to drink it, but he adds: "I don't want to help make it respectable."

Nobody talks about it much, but Gov. Bob Scott is expected to do what he can to help Pat Taylor during the upcoming gubernatorial campaign. . . One politician had a poll taken and it showed that 63 percent of the people in North Carolina felt the issue of higher education should be studied for two years and restructured in 1973. Be that as it may, a compromise will definitely be reached in that war.

BEST OF PRESS

Can't Remember
An old-timer says there are three signs of old age. One is the loss of memory and he can't remember the other two.
-Record, Columbia, S.C.

This Week's Definition
A pedestrian is a fellow whose wife beats him to the garage.
-Antenna, Great Lakes, Ill.

Fact!
Don't find fault . . . Find a remedy. Anybody can complain.
-Pathfinder, Fort Wayne.

Good Old Days?
If Patrick Henry thought taxation without representation was bad, he should see it with representation.
-Outpost, Key West.

Sad But True
A woman never really makes a fool of a man. She just directs the performance.
-W.O.W. Magazine.

Digestable
You will not get indigestion if you swallow your pride now and then.
-Front Line, Cedar Rapids.

Tough
Giving up smoking isn't enough; it's giving up bragging about it that's tough.
-Borescope, Pocatello.

NEWS VIEWS

Russell G. Oswald, New York Correction Commissioner:

"The armed rebellion of the type we have faced (at Attica) threatens the destruction of our free society."

James Conlan, General Motors sales manager:
"The consumer doesn't just want satisfaction today . . . she wants vengeance!"

Richard Nixon, President:
"We shall take all the steps needed to see that America is not again afflicted by the virus of runaway inflation."

U. Thant, U.N. Secretary General, on retirement plans:
"This is indeed the last Staff Day in which I shall participate."

John B. Connally, Treasury Secretary:
"The United States has no intention of devaluing the dollar by raising the price of gold."

Frontier

FOOD NOTES

By Gene Cox - Historian, Kings Mtn, Military Park

Centennial Celebration Oct. 10th

Almost as soon as the Battle of Kings Mountain was over people recognized the American Victory as something special. It wasn't long before they started calling this battle "The turning point of the American Revolution."

There have been a number of celebrations commemorating the battle. This October 10th, the park will have the one hundred and ninety first celebration at 3:00 P.M. at the Park amphitheatre. We would like to invite everyone to attend.

Many citizens of the Kings Mountain Area may remember the Sesqui-Centennial Celebration when President Hoover spoke. This celebration was perhaps the most famous of the celebrations. One of the earliest and perhaps the first was when Dr. William McLean met with friends and relatives of the men who fought at Kings Mountain to re-inter the scattered bones and to commemorate the victory. He also erected one of the earliest battleground markers in the nation at the common grave of Major William Chronicle, Captain John Mattocks, William Rabb and John Boyd. This marker still stands but it has been so ravaged by time and vandals that in 1909 the Kings Mountain Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, erected a duplicate monument. The park has on file part of the speech Dr. McLean gave.

The next celebration was held in 1855 where companies of Militia from North and South Carolina and Virginia camped on the battleground for several days. About 15,000 people attended this celebration.

Months of preparation preceded the Centennial Celebration in 1880. Prior to the celebration an organization was formed which was the start of the present Kings Mountain National Military Park. The organization was called the Kings Mountain Battleground Association who purchased from private owners thirty nine and one-half acres of land comprising the battleground. Interestingly enough, it was in 1872 that the first National Park land in the world was set aside which is the present Yellowstone Park in Wyoming. The records haven't been consulted as to where Kings Mountain ranks, but it is among the first of the early parks. In 1972, the Centennial year of the first park, celebrations are being planned throughout the National Park System. A World Conference is also scheduled at Yellowstone. In 1909, another celebration took place when the second monument on the battlefield was dedicated. Something new was added when a demonstration of the original battle was given by seven companies of National Guards. The 1930 celebration had approximately 75,000 people in attendance and this was the last big celebration.

However, for the past several years, members of local chapters of the Daughters of the American Revolution have sponsored with the National Park Service ceremonies on the Sunday nearest the anniversary date of the battle. Don't forget the celebration coming on October 10th.



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