

*The Kings Mountain Mirror*

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*Letters*

Dear Editor:

I have been keeping up with the Frontier Footnotes that have been appearing in your paper for the past several weeks and have enjoyed them very much, but to my disappointment the other day it was not there. However, in your next edition there it was. Keep up the good work. We like to read about our town of Kings Mountain even if we don't say so.

Sincerely,  
D.M. Blanton**The Good Things**

The greatest mistake of most television writers and producers (and some politicians and publications) is over-emphasis on the shocking, criminal and immoral. It seems that ninety-nine of every hundred network programs deal with the ugly, or a form of evil. So, too, do news commentators concentrate on bad news.

The producers are attempting to use shock, horror, and sensationalism to attract the maximum number of viewers—to sell sponsors' products. But the truth is that life includes many more good things than bad and millions of Americans are tired of seeing the bad dramatized every day. Why not a few inspirational stories about simple souls living good lives and doing fine things, helping their fellow men?

Why not programs about the many instances of brotherhood and love and helpfulness, which are all around? The American public desperately needs to see examples of good deeds and inspirational and encouraging behavior on television. The nation needs unity and encouragement, not a diet of hate, crime and violence—which influences the simple minded and young.

The nation and the world need to be reminded of the many good things about America—and there are many—not the bad things, of which, of course, there are some. This does not suggest anyone hide our country's problems. It means television and the press should not ignore so many of the wonderful things about America, its citizens and its democracy. For telling about them will encourage positive, uplifting thoughts, rather than the reverse.

**Nude Theatre**

In Stockholm recently six theatergoers got into the act by appearing for "Oh! Calcutta!" in the nude. (The cast performs in the nude.) The producer, not wanting competition, had the three couples thrown out.

Nudity has been the vehicle through which recent producers have made much money, nudity being the only attraction in many of today's

talent-less films.

None object to nude animals. If the present trend continues, in time human nudity—whether on the stage or elsewhere—may not be objectionable. There's nothing

immoral per se in nudity. But it unquestionably distracts one's eyes, and thoughts—especially if she's a cute thing.

**Frontier****FOOD NOTES**

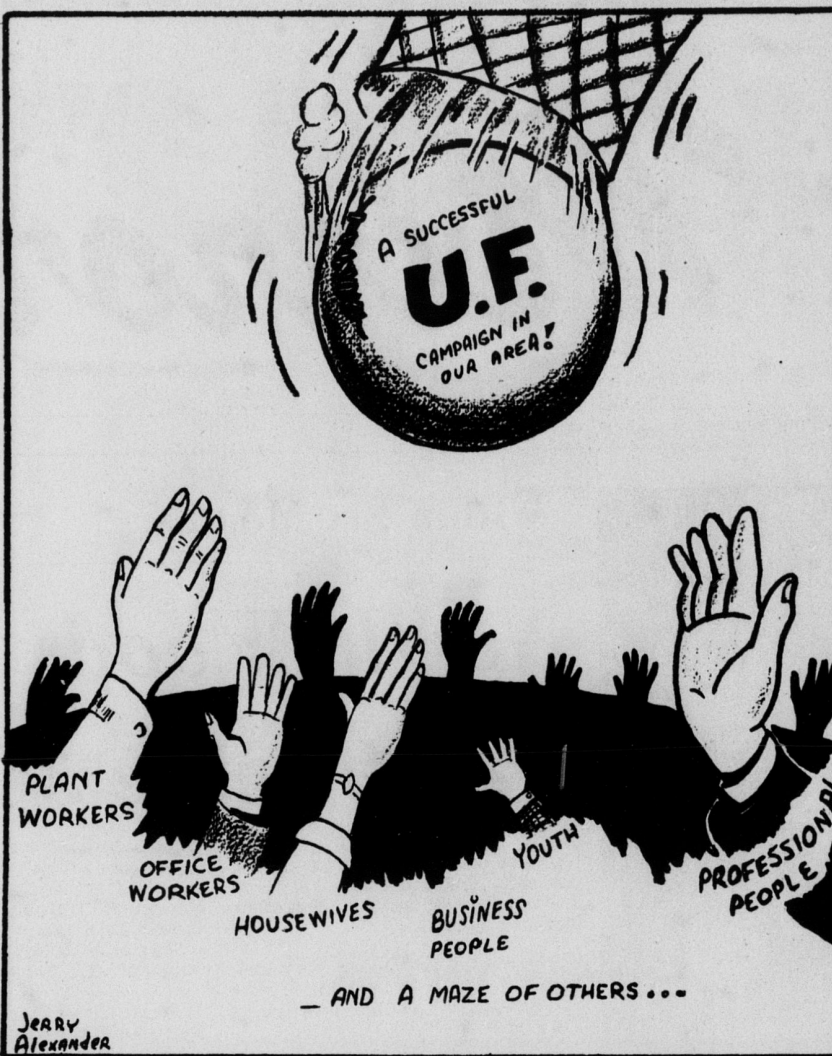
By Gene Cox - Historian, Kings Mtn. Military Park

**Irony of Ignorance**

In this day and age of modern medicine we often forget that not too long ago people grasped to anything that might have curative powers.

After the Revolution, Philadelphia was a rich city of 40,000 inhabitants. No one noticed or cared when a man on the waterfront came down with a violent fever, turned a suspicious yellow, and died in a stupor. By mid-August the whole city seemed to be dying; hardly a street or alley lacked its corpse. The citizens pursued every wild expedient that promised escape from contagion. The disease was blamed on "Noxious Miasma", an evil air caused by rotting matter, stagnant swamps or the breath of infected patients. The public-minded citizens lighted fires on every street corner to burn the miasma away. A committee of doctors announced that fires were dangerous and probably ineffectual. They suggested burning gunpowder instead. So the citizens, in the spirit of saving the city, got their muskets down from the wall and spent the evening shooting at the miasma out of the window. So many passersby were wounded that the mayor had to stop this "cure".

People stayed in their houses behind locked doors, and as tobacco smoke was supposed to counteract miasma, women and children smoked cigars all day long. Many, putting their faith in garlic, chewed it continually or kept it in their shoes. Adults spent their time whitewashing their rooms, starting over again the instant they had finished, while their children followed them round, sprinkling vinegar and lighting gunpowder. No one had time to slap the mosquitoes that buzzed gaily through the smell of vinegar and powder, for no one knew that mosquitoes were the actual carriers of yellow fever.

**REQUIRES MANY HANDS TO DROP IT THROUGH THE NET!****If Schools Can't Afford Football - Do Without!**BY JOHN KILGO  
KQ SYNDICATE

"If high schools can't afford it, they shouldn't have a football program at all."

The speaker is Dr. Carl Blythe, chairman of the Department of Physical Education at UNC Chapel Hill. Dr. Blythe heads a pilot study, financed by a federal grant, which looks into high school football injuries. He and his staff are in the fourth year of working with 43 North Carolina high schools, observing very closely the football programs at those schools. Dr. Blythe ranks as one of the nation's foremost authorities on football injuries and their causes.

"Some high schools in North Carolina have excellent football equipment, the very best," Dr. Blythe says. "Some others are playing with equipment that is 25 years old."

It takes a lot of money to finance a high school football program. It costs more than \$150 to equip one player. The State gives no money for public school athletics. The athletic programs are financed by gate receipts and like the rest of society, some of the schools are wealthy, some are living below the poverty level.

"I have been saying for years that the state should step in and help financially in the area of athletics," Dr. Blythe says. "I don't get any where when I say this. The present law in North Carolina forbids this but the law could be changed. Some schools in North Carolina just don't have enough money to properly equip their football players."

In Dr. Blythe's study, he and/or his staff visit each of the 43 schools at least once a week. They talk by telephone to the schools almost once a day. They're looking closely

at equipment, playing facilities and training programs. "In those communities where interest in high school football is high, we usually find that those schools play with good equipment and have decent facilities," Dr. Blythe says.

But in some communities, the fields have rocks and holes in them, the equipment is bad. Football, in the best of conditions, is a tough game.

Dr. Blythe and his staff are also looking at training and teaching procedures used by coaches in the 43 schools. They will be recommending some changes.

"We've got to try to take the head out of football to the extent that it's possible," he says. "A lot of coaches are teaching these young kids to block with their forehead... stick it in the other player's number. Some coaches say face masks are cheap, but many of these young players are not developed enough to use the head that much and it could lead to a broken neck. We need to teach shoulder blocking."

Dr. Blythe is not down on high school football. He says the sport is not becoming dangerous; it might even be safer than it was several years ago. But some changes are needed.

Attention has been focused on football in North Carolina this year. North Carolina player Bill Arnold died after suffering a heart stroke in practice. Charlotte Garinger High School player Phil Hughton died after his spinal cord was severed in an early season game.

As far as training goes, the game has changed drastically in recent years. There is more specialization, more coaches and the players get more work in practice. It used to be that the first string

would run several plays and rest while the second string took over. But now players work in groups.

"I would say, Dr. Blythe said 'that college football players today work harder in 20 or 30 minutes than they used to in two hours. Everything is highly organized and there is virtually no wasted time in a football practice.'"

At the end of this year, Dr. Blythe's committee will make recommendations about equipment, facilities, and training and teaching procedures.

But already he has seen enough to say: "The state should help foot the bill for athletics."

**Kennedy's Shot-The Reaction-Mills And Muskie? Arms Agreement-**

Washington, D.C.—Senator Edward Kennedy fired a surprisingly sharp broadside at Protestant Ulster recently, which embittered both England and Ulster and American Protestants; his proposal was a surprise because it was based on what so many feel were misconceptions, if not prejudice, or both.

Kennedy called for a withdrawal of British troops from Northern Ireland; this is, of course, exactly what the I.R.A. wants—the illegal revolutionary army carrying on a campaign of murder and terror in Protestant Ireland.

Sixty members of Parliament reacted to Kennedy's proposal by signing a motion deploring his "unfortunate outburst." Prime Minister Brian Faulkner, in Northern Ireland, reacted more strongly. He accused Kennedy of playing American politics with the lives of Ulster's people. He noted also that for fifty years free elections have shown the overwhelming majority in Ulster wish to remain part of the United Kingdom. The current terror campaign, he said, was not the work of the people of Northern Ireland but guerrillas from Ireland attempting to force Protestant Ireland into union with, and domination by, a more populous Catholic nation.

The question in Washington is whether Kennedy needs to play for Catholic votes, being a Catholic, meanwhile alienating so many Protestants, which the late John Kennedy always avoided doing.

The suspicion grows that Wilbur Mills, chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, may be in line for a place on the Democratic ticket with Senator Edmund Muskie of Maine—should the Senator win his party's top nomination. Muskie realizes the fact that President Nixon is strong in the South.

After something of a lull in his political activity, Mills is again making it known he would accept the nomination for President. As a candidate from Arkansas, of course, he has no chance. But Muskie, like John Kennedy in 1960, might want a Southerner on the ticket. After all, that strategy won for Kennedy. Lyndon Johnson carried most of the South for him as the second-place nominee. And Muskie, not a glamor-boy himself, might not want a glamor-boy on the ticket with him. Mills is instead capable, respected and experienced. He is a man to whom Muskie or any other Democratic candidate would entrust the Presidency, in an emergency.

There is now no chance for a major nuclear arms agreement between the Soviet Union and the United States by the end of the year—the President's hope six months ago. Instead, Mr. Nixon is reportedly hoping to finalize such an agreement before his trip to Moscow next May and make some form of ceremonial announcement in Moscow.

Winton M. Blount, Postmaster General, on France and drugs:

"It would be no loss to stop trading with France altogether. The price is our young people."

**REFLECTIONS**

by Rodney Dodson

**Rattler's Tale**

I love the outdoors and related activities - especially camping - but one deterrent to my being a hiking enthusiast is a strong aversion to snakes - anykind of snakes! I'm amazed at anyone who can remain calm in the face of one.

I listened intently when Matt Pouchak told me how he and his sons, Jason and Hilary, captured a timber rattler over the weekend, without really trying.

They were hiking along the Kings Mountain ridge at the base of the mountain on the way to the National Park, one of their favorite hiking places.

Their dog smelled something, then they heard the rattler sound its deadly warning. They spotted it at the base of a rock ledge, about 15 feet away!

They used a 6-foot pole with a forked end to pin down the snake, then placed a loop over

its head. When prodded by the stick, the snake excreted its poisonous venom onto the ground.

With the loop securely on the rattler's head, the father and sons then carried it to the car and took it home.

Mr. Pouchak reports that the rattler is a whopping 44 inches long and approximately 2 and one half inches in diameter.

The captivated reptile is now resting quietly in a secure place at the Pouchak home until they can find a place for it at a museum.

Mr. Pouchak says he and the boys do a lot of hiking and are really not afraid of snakes, this being their first experience with a poisonous one.

It's always interesting to watch a parade. The homecoming parade Friday was no exception.

There was an anxious moment when the tractor pulling the DECA float lunged - almost turning over a bench full of girls.

The most ill-at-ease participant in the parade had to be the bulldog (Burns Mascot) on the Health club float, who was facing a girl with a huge simulated hypo needle.

There were the usual horses (no parade is complete without horses for some reason) and motorcycles are also becoming main stays of any parade. Do we have a motorcycle club in Kings Mountain, or were those free-lance riders?

**Best Of Press**

Just Rockin'

Worry is like a rocking chair; it gives you something to do but it doesn't get you anywhere.

-Executives' Digest.

**Sunday School**  
Lessons**God Sustains His Creation**

International Sunday School Lesson for Nov. 7, 1971. LESSON TEXT: Psalm 104:15-17; Colossians 1:15-17.

The object of our lesson for today is to help persons recognize the benefits mankind obtains from the providential love of God, for God not only created the universe -- He made man the axis around which it revolves.

And in His foresight, He went one step further, recognizing that man needed food and drink and shelter to sustain the God-given life that was in him. Therefore there came into being the forests, the rivers, the trees, the plants, the birds of the air, the fish of the sea, and the animals of the fields and the forests.

Psalm 104, indeed, is a peon of praise for the goodness of the Lord, and it freely recognizes the stability of the universe in relation to its creator. And the wonderful thing is that the dependability of God remains constant, despite the havoc wreaked in the world by sinning man!

God's covenant with "every living creature" is fulfilled by the rain that guarantees a fruitful earth to support both man and beast in the nourishment of their bodies; the light of the sun that we may see, the velvet of night that we may rest. He has supplied both confidence and incentive for man's laborings, and solace in faith for his soul! How sad it is, therefore, that we threaten our very existence when we pollute our human surroundings, furnished by God for our sustenance!

This all-embracing provision for mankind, set forth in God's Covenant, was used extensively by the apostles in their exhortations to the people of their times to turn away from

their idols and worship, instead, the one true and living God.

Certainly the most redemptive appeal the Christian doctrine holds for mankind is the atoning love of God as exhibited in the Person and advent on earth of Jesus Christ, the Saviour, in that through His death, man might

live in absoluteness. God and Christ are one, united in body and spirit, and in the creation of the caring for, mankind!

Surely this era of space exploration in which we live today, must only serve to increase our awe of God's fabulous creation! Truly, those brave men who are risking their lives to further our space program and our understanding of the wonders of the universe must have felt the touch of God as they looked down on earth and beheld what His hands have wrought! It is no wonder that some among them felt moved to recreate the majestic words of Genesis for us earth-bound mortals, as they moved in places hitherto unseen by mortal eyes!

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