

Letters To The Editor

To: All Churches, Civic Organizations and Managements
 Subject: Douglas Byers Fund
 The Kings Mountain Improvement Association is soliciting help in securing money to help finance the schooling of Douglas Byers. We have therefore set up a DOUGLAS BYERS FUND with this intent.

Douglas is a deserving freshman at Gardner Webb College, but his career will be terminated if he does not receive some assistance. Though an ambitious young man, circumstances beyond his control have contributed to this need.

Any donation should be made payable to The Douglas Byers Fund and sent to "United Communities Improvement Assoc. Inc. Kings Mt. Improvement Assoc. Chapter; 511 N. Waterson St., Kings Mtn., N.C. before January 15, 1972.

For further information contact Mrs. Kathleen Wilson 739-4257. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully yours,
 Mrs. Kathleen Wilson, President
 Kings Mountain Improvement Association



The 92nd Congress

If one were to draw a balance sheet on the 92nd Congress, it would show that the President did surprisingly well with the Democratic-controlled 92nd Congress in its first year.

One reason is that Mr. Nixon adopted many programs espoused by the Democrats—unbalanced budget, wage-price controls, lower taxes, etc.—to stimulate the economy. Another reason is that some Dixie Democrats support the President's middle-road philosophy.

Mr. Nixon, of course, saw the House again pass his welfare reform bill only to have the Senate Finance Committee roadblock it; it may pass the upper body in 1972. Revenue sharing failed to pass in 1971 but is widely expected to be enacted in 1972. There were other White House goals not met, and the President also vetoed several Democratic bills including one concerning day care centers for children and accelerated public service employment. On the ecology front, Congress did little except to kill the supersonic transport plane, probably a mistake.

The President managed to retain control of foreign policy despite Democratic efforts to put a time limit on American involvement in Vietnam and to curb operations in Laos. In general, the President had his way on most of the issues which were considered absolutely vital at the White House.

The New Dollar

Americans will learn to live with a new dollar in 1972, less valuable abroad and perhaps on its way out as the accepted measurement of other currencies. The recent international agreement among the world's most affluent countries, which President Nixon hailed as the most significant international economic agreement in history, has been called a humiliation for America by Pravda, but that is not, of course, a fair analysis.

The agreement, which amounts to a devaluation of the dollar by about 12 per cent (considering both the dollar's devaluing and the upvaluing of other currencies), reflects an admission by Washington that the dollar is overvalued. But this has resulted, in part, from the dollar's role as a standard measurement, other countries devaluing against it in recent years—pushing its value even higher.

Excessive foreign expenditures and unbalanced budgets at home have also been at fault, as the supply of dollars rose to an overabundance in many world capitals.

When President Nixon ended the convertibility of the dollar into gold, he admitted these developments over the years had unhinged the dollar. He threatened the stability of the entire western monetary system by ending the dollar's convertibility and imposing a ten per cent import surcharge because the security of values was threatened, as well as an international trade war. The result is that countries which had long dragged their feet became willing to compromise. And that compromise might now enable the U. S. to balance its international payments.

This is, however, an uncertain prospect. Only the next few years will reveal whether the remedy was strong enough to cure the American financial ailment.

Minibikes

The growth of the minibike industry has been rapid in recent years and today over 600,000 are sold annually. Thousands of youngsters received minis under the Christmas tree recently. Sales are expected to continue increasing.

Because they are not designed for use on streets and highways (where they are legally barred) federal motor vehicle standards do not apply to minibikes. Thus they often come without adequate safety features—with poor brakes, poor handling, poor springs and shocks (or none), poor lights, exposed exhausts which can burn, etc.

And, invariably, some find their way onto streets, illegally. To counter this growing menace to safety and children's lives (dozens of children were killed on minis in 1971), the Product Safety Bureau of the Food and Drug Administration is now formulating safety standards for minibike manufacturers, plans to bar unsafe minibikes from sale. But the major responsibility for safety lies with parents, for minibike owners are usually children from eight years old up.

Minibikes often attain speeds of 25 m.p.h. (more on hills). The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration has asked parents to better meet their moral responsibility.



Everything On His Mind Except Real Solutions



Morton Says He's Picked Up Many Morgan Supporters

Democratic gubernatorial candidate Hugh Morton says he believes he has picked up most of Bob Morgan's supporters in the East.

"I'm still putting together our organization," Morton said. "Some first-class people have signed on with us and I'm more encouraged than ever."

Morton says he will run another state-wide poll about the middle of January.

"We wanted to give the Bob Morgan situation time to settle down," he said, "and believe me, it's not settled down yet."

Don't write Republican Jim Gardner out of the Governor's race, just because he shut down his Raleigh office, Gardner loves the element of surprise. People close to Gardner still insist that he's going to run.

Politico Wallace Hyde of Asheville, who supported Terry Sanford in '60 and Richardson Preyer in '64, was in Bob Morgan's corner this year. Now that Morgan is out of the Governor's race, Hyde has jumped on the Skipper Bowles bandwagon. Some people say, however, that Hyde hurt himself in the mountains when he went against Dan Moore in 1964.

Interest Rates

The Cost of Living Council recently announced it will not impose controls on interest rates at this time, though it is seeking voluntary restraints.

The Council says interest rates have declined considerably since their peak in mid-1970 and that adequate financing is now available to Americans at good rates.

That really isn't true in many parts of the nation. Chairman Wright Patman of the House Banking and Currency Committee (D-Tex) is closer to the truth in protesting the decision, high small loan rates, revolving credit rates, home mortgages of 8 per cent and higher, with additional charges, etc.

Patman says interest rates are not coming down appreciably for the consumer, though banks borrowing from bigger banks have enjoyed prime-rate relief. Many have not passed the savings along to the consumer, which the Council should demand if there are to be no controls on interest rates.

Mecklenburg and Cabarrus counties are now in one state senatorial district which is allowed four seats in the Upper Chamber. Cabarrus Democrats say they understood that Seat 4 would belong to them. But Charlotte broadcast executive Cy Bahakel has announced for that seat and some of the folks in Cabarrus are most unhappy about it. Meanwhile, Mecklenburg Republicans are trying to make the most of the situation. They say they want Seat 4 to belong to Cabarrus and are trying to get Rep. Jimmy Johnson of Concord to run against Bahakel.

A White House poll of North Carolina indicated that Congressman James Brothill would have made the strongest Republican candidate for U.S. Senate, followed closely by Jim Gardner. When the Cleveland Browns lost to the Baltimore Colts last Sunday, Cleveland Mayor Ralph Perk lost a wager to his Baltimore counterpart. The stakes? 20 pounds of polish sausage. I think I would have preferred a gift certificate.

State YDC President Charles Winberry's term in office is up in January and you can look for him to get involved with one of the gubernatorial candidates at that time.

Jim Beatty's announcement for Congress from the 9th District will come within a week or 10 days. For those of you who have asked, the only possible way that Bob Morgan would get in the U.S. Senate race next year would be if B. Everett Jordan decided not to run and for Nick Galifianakis to withdraw. That's how serious Morgan is about running again for attorney general.

LIVING COSTS CLIMB

The Bureau of Labor Statistics has reported the Consumer Price Index advanced by two-tenths of one per cent in November, the same rate as October, as the freeze kept the rate of inflation under rein.

Experience Experience is knowing a lot of things you shouldn't do.



"I think that's what they mean by women's LIP!"

reflections

by Rodney Dodson



A few weeks ago in our Mirror Asks feature, we asked a few people at random what they thought about the proposed Kings Mountain By-Pass. The answers happened to favor the thoroughfare, and we received some static from the anti forces. One lady even called in and suggested that we were paid off by such wanting the by-pass. NO such luck!

The irony of all this is that now I find that my house (which I'm leasing) may be right in the path of the superhighway.

With all due respect to the State Highway Department, I'll start worrying when I see the heavy equipment coming!

A conversation with the President - A CBS Special Sunday night conducted by Dan Rather, was a candid unedited hour of discussion with the Chief Executive.

Watching the show, a couple of things became apparent. One, I came to the conclusion that Nixon will be hard to defeat in November. He answered his questions very carefully.

While I don't fully approve of the way he's handling the job, I see no giants among his declared opponents.

Another thing became apparent during the show. The media can stoop to a surprising low in an attempt to embarrass or discredit someone when they deem it necessary.

One question directed to the President about a statement he had made, apparently taken out of context, was a case in point.

So They Say

American women are the best-yessed women in the world.

-Punch.

Sharing

I know a girl who doesn't care for a man's company—unless he owns it.

-Times, Chicago.

Good Advice

The best way to break a bad habit is to drop it.

-Spotlight, San Diego.

Date Bait

Landing a man is like catching fish, you have to wiggle the bait a little.

-Tiger, U.S.S. Barry.

You Don't Say

It's hard to believe that America was founded to avoid taxation.

-Courant, Hartford.

So They Say

A long time ago, "the good old days" were called "these trying times."

-Record, Columbia, S.C.

NEWS VIEWS

Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister of Israel: "If war breaks out again, we will have to be prepared for it."

James Hoffa, after release from prison: "Anyone who tells you prison's not tough just isn't telling the truth."

William P. Rogers, Secretary of State: "We are going to continue the President's policy of supporting the South Vietnamese in Cambodia."

Kurt Waldheim, new Secretary General of the U.N.: "The world organization is at a crossroad and its future depends on restoring its financial solvency."

Strom Thurmond, Senator (R-SC): "Hospital and medical costs have become a growing concern of everyone in our society."

Mr. Rather referred to an article quoting the president, and asked him what he meant by the statement "black people are different."

The President patiently explained that he was talking about the fact that black people are still sometimes treated differently in areas of society such as in the field of employment, etc.

There are enough pertinent issues at hand without a National network having to resort to such meaningless, tricky questions.

I've developed a strong aversion to cats. Maybe it's the way they lurk around in the dark, or bow their backs when frightened. Besides, I think they carry disease...

My latest confrontation with the felines was a week or so ago when two of the beasts, who have made my place a home away from home, tore into my garbage (there were fish scraps inside) and scat-

tered what they didn't eat all over my carport.

Now, invariably, I can turn on my porch light at certain times of the night, and see one or both of these cats creeping around.

I've considered putting up some more fence, but they could go around it, and I wouldn't want to do anything violent.

I had chased them out of the yard a few nights ago and gone to bed when I began to hear this whining, screeching noise outside the bedroom window.

When I looked out I saw both of these cats perched menacingly in a tree in my back yard. I was too bewildered at that point to be annoyed, and sat there for about 15 minutes watching them.

Hopefully, someone reading this is a lover of cats and would like to make a good home for these two.

Frontier Food Notes

By Gene Cox - Historian, Kings Mtn. Military Park

Frontier Women

Women played an important part in the American Revolution and there are many stories to testify to their bravery. It is hard for us to comprehend the difficulties experienced by the women on the frontier. Today's story happened before the American Revolution when the Virginia settlers were taking precautions against possible Indian raids. However, this story testifies to the bravery of the pioneer women.

In the early morning of July 8, 1775, William Ingles had left his cabin to work in the fields. Colonel James Patton was visiting the Ingles and he stayed in the cabin along with three other men who had not left for the fields. Ingles began to hear screams and gunfire from the cluster of homes in the clearing. He rushed home and saw a band of marauding Shawnee assaulting the cabins. As he approached, he realized the force was too large to oppose. Most of the settlers were killed or wounded and some were captured. Among the captured was Mrs. Ingles who was expecting their third child. This attack occurred at Draper Meadows which isn't too far from Roanoke, Virginia.

After the attack, the Indians began the march back to their town north of the Ohio River. On the third night after the raid, Mrs. Ingles gave birth to a little girl. Knowing that she and the child would be killed if she were unable to continue with the Indians, she insisted on going on the next day and she did - on a horse and carrying her baby in her arms. After many weeks with the Indians, she and the baby had been brought by a band of French and Indian hunters and saltmakers to what is now Boone County, Kentucky. Mrs. Ingles often conferred with another woman captive on how to escape. Their opportunity came one day at the salt lick while the warriors were away hunting. The young mother realized it was impossible to take her baby, only 3 months old, on a journey of several hundred miles through the wilderness. The decision was a difficult one to make. She finally made up her mind. She placed the baby in a bark cradle, tucked a blanket tenderly about it, kissed it and then turned away. This was only the beginning of her hardships. The two women lived on nuts, roots, berries and tender bark during their escape. They traveled for forty days through the forest before reaching civilization and safety. This incident is not typical, however, it does give us insight into the difficult decisions our forefathers were faced with from day to day and they always arose to the challenge.

Sunday School Lessons

Our Compassionate Christ

International Sunday School Lesson for Jan. 9, 1972. LESSON TEXT: Luke 5:27 - 32; 7:11 - 23, 36 - 50; 10:25 - 37. Our lesson for today lies in the Book of Luke. A gifted and brilliant writer, Luke records at length Christ's compassionate concern for all mankind.

Christ the Savior, was ever the challenger of the prevailing religious and social prejudices that existed in His day and time; the bringer of hope to the under-privileged and down-trodden, to the despised and the outcast. He was the champion of the needy, and the rebuker of the oppressor.

The spiritual and redemptive mission of our Lord was woven like a golden thread through the fabric of His total Person.

There is little doubt that he was regarded as somewhat of a radical in His day and time, for the boundaries of class distinction were sharply drawn in Biblical days. The Pharisees and Scribes were educated men devoted to observance of the religious laws of their time, whereas publicans and tax collectors were virtually relegated to the level of untouchables. Christ demonstrated, however, that He felt the Pharisees gave too much importance to the letter of the law, and too little to the thought behind it. In Christ's mission spiritual commitment was more meaningful than mere lip service and strict observance of ritual acts. Christ firmly believed in going where He was most needed, and this was His stance when criticized. "They that are whole need not a physician; but they that are sick... I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance." (Luke 5: verses 31 and 32.)

The superiority manifested by the Pharisees came in for severe rebuke from our Lord. He did not hesitate to say that their attitude was judgmental, rather than redemptive, and He put them to shame many times, for He viewed spiritual integrity in a far different light from that of His critics.

Christ's compassion extended to all mankind... it was not reserved only for those who followed His doctrines. The woman whose only son was raised from the dead and restored to her was not of the Christian faith! Christ's heart was moved with pity for her sorrow and His response to her need was instinctive. No conditions of service were demanded in return for the boy's renewed lease on life, for this was not Christ's way. Christ was merely demonstrating, by example, that compassion must, of necessity, involve itself in the hapless plight of others.

Christ's compassion showed itself again in the humane and tender treatment he accorded the sinning woman in the house of Simon, the Pharisee. Repentance was offered and accepted with all the gentleness of Spirit that His followers had come to love and respect. Any sincere Christian is, of necessity, constrained to accept Christ's attitudes as his own. It is easy for us to pity someone we do not particularly like, and to feel compassion for those who are dear to us. The true test of our personal worth, however, lies in our ability to feel compassion for all man... as He did. (These comments are based on outlines of the International Sunday School Lessons, copyrighted by the International Council of Religious Education, and used by permission.)

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