

# Kings Mountain Herald

## State And National News Condensed In Brief Form

**National**  
LEXINGTON, Jan. 2.—James Smith, 20-year-old City Flying Instructor, and his wife, 17, of Marion, were recently killed yesterday when a plane piloted by Smith struck a telephone power line and crashed about three miles from here. The plane was reported flying high above fog bank at the time of the accident.

CORPUS CHRISTI, Jan. 2.—John W. Head, 21, of near Corpus Christi, was charged yesterday by Sheriff Ray Pitts with having tapped the Corpus Christi water system several years and stolen water valued at \$200 or more for two years of his house.

CORPUS CHRISTI, Jan. 2.—In less than 24 hours after the Japanese naval attack on Pearl Harbor, the Corpus Christi Navy Yard held its first launching. Since that day the yard has launched 137 warships—over 7 tons in dual ceremonies. Rear Admiral John Jacobs, USN, commanding officer of the yard disclosed today. On several occasions, Admiral Jacobs said, four ships have hit the water within minutes of each other.

The yard has constructed ships to meet the changing needs of naval combat. Destroyers, tank landing ships, destroyer escorts, airplane carriers, fleet ships, midget torpedo ships, escort ships medium and destroyer escorts all have gone down the ways at the Charles L. Clegg yard within the last three years.

LAWRENCE, Jan. 2.—The Lawrence Kiwanis Club in weekly meeting has passed a resolution approving the recent declaration of the Secretary of State of the United States that "independence in the internal affairs of Germany and/or friendly cooperation and partitioning 'for a common defense of the principles contained in the Atlantic Charter by our country to assist in insuring that other Allies adopt a like policy."

OGDEN, Jan. 2.—W. Hance Hofmann has resigned as executive for the OPA division and will return to the practice of law in his home city. He was the state's first rationing officer under the present program.

The resignation was announced by Director T. S. Johnson, who had asked Hofmann to be released from his duties last September but agreed to continue until Jan. 1.

BALTIMORE, Jan. 2.—Creation of a State Fire Insurance Rating Bureau for evaluation of casualty and fire insurance rates is provided in a bill to be presented to the 1945 General Assembly.

The bill is patterned along lines suggested by a commission named by the legislature last summer to study needed changes in the State's fire laws.

**WHAT TO PREACH**  
**IN CHURCHES**

Rev. Walter T. Max, who is now pastor of Supply Pastor of the Lexington Church of Christ, will preach for the evening services at Southern Lutheran Church Sunday night. Max is working on his Master of Divinity degree and is specialized in foreign languages.

LONDON, Jan. 2.—David Lloyd George, Britain's greatest elder statesman who held a seat in Commons for 64 years, has been raised to an earl, receiving the highest distinction on King George VI's New Year's honor list.

The award came less than a week after Lloyd George had announced he was retiring from Commons for health reasons, and only sixteen days from his 82nd birthday.

CHUNGKING, Jan. 2.—The Chinese War Production Board is achieving results that will be known to Tokyo, Howard Cosell, deputy chief of the Donald M. Nelson mission asserted today.

Chinese-made trench mortars shells, hand mines, bayonets and even machine guns and shovels will be ready for early use in the war against Japan. Illustrative of the results obtained from exchanging technical information with the United States, China has already constructed one heating coke oven from blueprints brought from America.

VICTORIA, B. C., Jan. 2.—Two 8,000-ton former passenger liners of the Blue Funnel Line, converted to minelayers at the outbreak of war, are at nearby Esquimalt, B. C., to be converted into floating night clubs to entertain troops in the south Pacific.

The British Admiralty has ordered the work.

OGDEN, Utah, Jan. 2.—Some 50 persons died and 60 others were injured in the Sunday crash of a speeding Southern Pacific mail express and a slowly moving passenger train—both, presumably—or a fog shrouded canyon in shallow waters off Great Salt Lake.

Railroad officials believed all the bodies had been taken from the tangled wreckage of nearly a dozen cars and locomotive but workers still toiled today to clear away the debris.

It was one of the worst railroad accidents in the history of the West. A woman passenger called it "a terrible screaming collision followed by screaming, nothing shrieks of the injured."

CLEVELAND, Jan. 2.—Teri Ann Zellman, who was born in a snowbank outside St. Luke's Hospital, suffered no ill effects, hospital attendants reported today.

The mother, Mrs. Harry Zellman, fell as she started to enter the hospital yesterday. A few minutes later a motorist found the newborn baby. Hospital attendants answer countless queries with: "The baby is in an incubator. Both mother and baby are doing well."

### GAMBLE GRADUATES

Charles Gamble, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Gamble, 310 Gold street, recently graduated from the Aviation Electrician's Mate school at U. S. Naval Air Station, Jacksonville, Fla., and was promoted to Seaman First Class (ARM) in the U. S. Navy.

Entering the Navy he received pilot training at Bainbridge, Md., before being transferred to the Naval Air Technical Training Center at Jacksonville.

Gamble is now a qualified Aviation Electrician's Mate and will probably see service with a Naval Air Unit.



### Sgt. J. G. DARRACOTT MISSING IN ACTION

Sgt. J. G. Darracott, Jr., only son of Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Darracott, has been reported missing in action in the South Pacific theater of war; his parents were informed yesterday in a telegram from the War Department.

Sgt. Darracott was a graduate of the Kings Mountain High School and Davidson College and was a member of the Naval Air Forces. Sgt. Darracott was a young man of sterling character and was a popular member of the younger social set of Kings Mountain.

The message from the War Department was delivered to the family by members of the American Legion, Paul Maier and Jim Herndon.

The Herald received the communication below from the War Department yesterday morning, the same time the telegram was received in Kings Mountain:

"Our C. V. Aircraft Carrier had her nightcap on the 13th of October when the Japs paid an uninvited call on this task group, in an effort to put some 'fish' in our carriers. Six attacked, racing into the formation; none got out. But, as always, this attack gave momentary thrill and indicated once again the desperation that seems to be driving the Japs."

"The tipoff came when the lookouts spotted a Jap torpedo bomber peering over the horizon but this plane did no more than take a look. A short time later, both carrier and the Japs arrived. The planes were low, swooping, getting ready to make their deadly runs on our group, vying to get inside our screen. We, on the other hand, were waiting for them to start in. Then the show was on, as they made the turn and skipped along the water, with their eyes fastened on their primary targets, the flattops. The 'aces' started the fireworks as they cut loose while the ships inside waited for the planes to close the stage. It's a scene featuring on a carrier waiting for a torpedo plane to come in where you can get at him. In his belly, he's got a ton of explosive that he is trying to throw your way, a 'fish' that can rip your ship to pieces. But by now the carriers were set to shoot the torpedoes. And the weak carriers were impossible to try and describe what a show such as this is like. It's getting darker and the flyers are screaming and streaking with a frenzy. The whole sky is enveloped in a great pyrotechnic display. It's dazzling, but always the reminder of those deadly torpedoes keeps it on a strictly business basis. While all this was taking place, amazed Japs were trying to get a setup on our flattops, and score with a hit. Ship's gun boomed, belched and roared in an effort to drive them into the sea. The whole group maneuvered like a sinking cat to keep the planes from getting a broadside shot. Some one spotted a torpedo being fired, and then all eyes try to follow the frothing wake. But now the guns are 'on.' With a shocking suddenness, a plane bursts into flame, and like a match in a glass of water is engulfed by the sea. Six times this happens, each time greeted with a cheer that can come only from men who know the meaning of a kill. Things are layed on as football crowd in the last minute of a vicious game. Gunners get the verbal support of plane handlers, pilots and everybody who doesn't have a gun. This is kill or be hit by two thousand lbs of explosive. By now there are flames in the water all around the various ships. All is quiet again, the smoke from the anti-aircraft fire gradually dissipates, and there are no more Japs to be seen. While all this is going on, some of our fighters, who were preparing to land, have been in the center. They had grasped the situation, pulled their sticks all the way back, pointed the nose to their helmets and climbed above the show. One of the fighters, in the landing circle at the time, caught sight of a Jap Bomber and took after him in hot pursuit. Completely ignoring the possibility of being hit by our own ship's A. A., he bore into press home his attack. Flying through our own flak and trusting to recognition ability of our gunners, his fifty editoried their way into the enemy aircraft. The combination of his guns and the A. A. made for the final score. His courage and fighting instinct were certainly magnificent. It's hard to say just what ship shot down what plane. It's a team operation and all hands are pulling on a wave of lead that makes pilot claims pretty hard. It's just a good job by all hands. Our forces suffered a losses whatever, and the Pacific is a year more difficult. These plane scores, it goes without saying, we might add, a "merry Friday."

BALTIMORE, Jan. 2.—The total amount raised of the proposed campaign to repair damage to buildings and equipment of the University of Maryland by the University of Maryland students and faculty was \$10,000.

### Sgt. BARBER KILLED IN ACTION

Sgt. George David Barber, 20, only son of Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Barber, the Purple Heart, and the Good conduct Medal and a veteran of three European campaigns, was killed in action in France on December 2, the War Department has informed his parents in Charlotte. Sgt. Barber is a nephew of Otto Barber of Kings Mountain.

Sgt. Barber joined the army on December 8, 1942, while still in his teens, and at the time of his death lacked one day of having been in the service five years. He served three years in Panama, went into action overseas on Dec. 28, 1944, was stationed right up to Anzio Beach, and from there advanced to Rome and was in the action that captured that city.

Last summer he participated in the invasion of Southern France, and in this campaign received the Purple Heart and the Croix de Guerre.

He attended Bethpage and Grover High schools in Cleveland, county and was a member of the Bethlehem Baptist church. He is survived by his parents, four brothers, Roy Barber of Winston-Salem, John Beatty Barber of the Army Air Forces, now stationed in the Aleutian Islands, and Hermit and Jasper, two young brothers still at home; and three sisters, Mary Sue, Elaine, and Eunice.

### PFC. MARVIN FOSTER MISSING IN ACTION

Pfc. Marvin A. Foster, son of Mr. and Mrs. John C. Foster of the Mauney Mill village has been reported missing in action in Germany since December 11th according to a telegram received by the family from the War Department. Pfc. Foster has been a member of the U. S. Army for the past seven years and had been in the European theater of war since September. He is married and attended the Kings Mountain High School.

Pfc. Foster was a young man of excellent character and had many friends in and near Kings Mountain.

### POSTAL DIRECTOR BREATHES EASIER

The 1944 postal receipts for the last post office letter all around for the history of the Post Office according to Postmaster W. H. Shultz. The receipts for the past year totaled about \$60,000 which is just \$2,000 under the receipts for a first class Post Office. The receipts of the office have about tripled since Mr. Shultz has been Postmaster.

### IT'S TAX LISTING TIME

Tax listing, the annual job for property owners has begun in Cleveland County and Kings Mountain. Property owners are asked to file as early as possible in the month to avoid the last minute rush and possibility of forgetting to list at all which calls for a penalty.

J. R. Ellis is list-taker for New Berlin township of Cleveland and will be in Grover through Saturday and the balance of the month will be in Kings Mountain at the City Hall.

Captain G. C. O'Farrell, City List-taker, will be at the City Hall every day during the month.

Possibilities will be attached after January 21 for late listing. Last year a considerable number of taxpayers were penalized for being late.

All real estate and personal property owners are required to list and make payment between the ages of 21 and 50 are required to list the poll tax. Crop reports are required of farm owners and dogs must also be listed.

### THE WAR BONDS TOTALS \$600,750.00

Kings Mountain almost doubled its quota of bonds during the recent 6th War Bond Drive by purchasing a total of \$600,750.00 compared with the quota of \$300,000 which had been allotted. The Best Town in The State. Bond Chairman J. R. Davis was extremely well pleased with the fine response during the drive. The total of bonds to individuals (E Bonds) totaled \$135,500.

State Bonds were as follows:

First National Bank	\$100,000.00
H. B. and L. Assn.	40,000.00
Merchants Credit Union	25,750.00
Post Office	2,000.00
Total	\$600,750.00

### PROTESTED

Friends of Jack Patterson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Doris Patterson, will be interested to know that he has been promoted from the rank of corporal to sergeant. Sgt. Patterson is in the 44th Air Force and serves in a unit of the 33rd Bombardment Group.

### D. L. Saunders Buys Mountain View Hotel

#### HERNDON TO DIRECT FAIR CENSUS



P. D. Herndon has been appointed agricultural census supervisor for the bureau of census for all counties west of the Catawba river to the Tennessee line, comprising most of the counties in the 11th and 12th congressional districts. Mr. Herndon replaces J. W. Osborne, of Shelby, who resigned this place to take up the private practice of law.

Headquarters for this district will be maintained in the Agricultural building at Shelby where Mr. Herndon has already taken up offices. Training schools have been in progress for the past few weeks.

James H. Baby, of Franklin, is assistant to Mr. Herndon, and there will be ten enumerators working in this district.

The information given by farmers to the enumerators will be held strictly confidential. The 1945 census of agriculture will include all farms and ranches, all enterprises or establishments with agricultural operations. When an agricultural enterprise has three or more acres, it will be included regardless of value of product.

The census will include information on the acreage of the farm, how this acreage is divided as to production and cultivation, the number of days worked on the farm, the number of persons, 14 years old and over working on the farm, the unpaid members of the family, hired farm laborers, value of farm equipment, information on livestock operation, dairy operation, poultry operation, forestry operation and other information which will be of use to the census bureau in compiling statistics valuable to agriculture.

Mr. Herndon, who is in the cotton insurance and real estate business here will temporarily close his office in the Professional Building, until the census has been completed. Persons interested in seeing Mr. Herndon may contact him at night at his home on East King street.

### ROBERT LEE FALLS MISSING IN ACTION

Mr. and Mrs. Zeb Falls received a message from the Navy Department Tuesday saying that their son, Seaman First Class Robert Lee Falls, "missing in action" somewhere in the South Pacific area. Young Falls entered the Navy in September 1942, and received his training at Great Lakes, Seaman Falls attended the Kings Mountain High School.

### PVT. HASKELL THRIFF KILLED IN ACTION

The family of Pvt. Haskell Thriff has been notified by the War Department that he was killed in action in France on December 10th. Pvt. Thriff was the son of Mr. and Mrs. L. Z. Thriff. He was married to the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Hope and had two children.

Pvt. Thriff was a member of the Infantry and about 25 years of age. His family has the sympathy of the entire community.

### TWO AWOL Sailors Are Recaptured

Two sailors who admitted being AWOL were arrested here Monday by Officers T. V. Hill and Russell Day and lodged in the City Jail. The next morning the two went AWOL the second time and flew the "skip" by the way of a constitution in the ceiling of the jail. The two men, Leland Hancock and Donald D. Roberts had been absent since Nov. 20th. They were re-arrested Tuesday and have been turned over to naval authorities.

Two sailors, John Morris of Marion and John Clegg of Lenoir, who had been absent since November 20th, were captured in the early morning hours from the 33rd Bombardment Group. They had been absent from their posts at the 33rd Bombardment Group.

### ONE OF THE BIGGEST NEWS STORIES IN THE STATE

One of the largest real estate transactions of the year took place last week when Mr. and Mrs. D. L. Saunders purchased the Mountain View Hotel from Monroe W. K. Maysey, Arnold Kiser and D. C. Maysey for \$37,000.00. The considerations included the lot, building, and furnishings of the hotel which is a landmark of Kings Mountain.

Mr. Saunders had operated the hotel for the past 18 months along with H. D. Ward, under lease from the former owners. Mr. Saunders had recently withdrawn from the operation of the hotel. Mr. and Mrs. Ward will continue to operate the hotel until the spring, according to Mr. Saunders, who is planning then to take over operations and make some changes in the building and dining room.

The former owners bought the property several years ago when it was sold at public auction by the Norris Sisters, who operated the Mountain View for many years.

### Pfc. Roberts Presented Bronze Star Medal

Pfc. George E. Roberts, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Roberts has been presented with the bronze Star Medal according to information received here. The citation presented Pfc. Roberts along with the coveted medal reads:

"For distinguishing himself, heroic achievement in connection with military operations against an enemy of the U. S. on July 9, 1944 in France, Pfc. Roberts, a member of a squad assigned to clear hedgehogs in order to pave the way for our tanks to sweep out and destroy enemy tanks and gas positions effectively performed these duties under intense enemy fire. Despite vicious and penetrating enemy fire, Pfc. Roberts successfully fulfilled his part of his squad's mission and thus enabled our tanks to further the battalion's advance. His skill and outstanding courage under fire merit the highest praise."

### World War II Veterans Except From Hiring Restrictions

Under a recent ruling of the State Management Labor Committee and the State Manpower Priorities Committee, Veterans of World War II who hold other than dishonorable discharges given on or subsequent to Dec. 7, 1941, this exclusion does not apply to Veterans of World War I nor to persons discharged from any of the armed forces prior to Dec. 7, 1941.

For their protection, employers hiring such Veterans should comply with the following suggestions: The employer should request that the Veteran furnish a written statement that he is a Veteran of World War II, giving the date of discharge. The "Certificate of Prior Employment" may be used for this purpose by changing the wording on certificates to read, "I hereby certify that I am a Veteran. I was discharged on \_\_\_\_\_." The statement should be signed and dated and placed in the employer's files to substantiate his claim that the employee so hired is exempt from all stabilization programs and Displacement Ceiling restrictions.

### Sgt. PROCTOR AWARDED MEDAL

Sgt. William Stone Proctor, of Camp Campbell, Ky., has been awarded the Expert Infantry Medal for excellence in training and leadership. The award was recommended by his unit commander and before presentation by General Orlando Ward,