

Holy Larceny!!!

Holy larceny!
Someone stole the Babe from the Manger.

Mrs. Carl Childers, said someone walked away with a ceramic figure representing the baby Jesus from the manger in a Nativity Scene at the south station.

The decorated station is near the nursery at KM Hospital.

Mrs. Childers said she worked on the ceramic figures and decor for a year and the scene had not been up for very long before the missing "Babe" was discovered.

"I know a lot of people leave Christ out of Christmas," Mrs. Childers said, "but this is the first time I ever heard of anyone stealing the Babe from the Manger."

Special Projects Tonight

A couple of special Christmas programs are on tap for tonight, sponsored by the Kings Mountain Lions and Kiwanis Clubs.

At 6 p. m. the Lions Club members will meet at B&B Food Store on S. Battleground Ave. to collect food baskets, which will be distributed to the blind in the community.

At 6:45 p. m. the Kiwanis will meet at the Kings Mountain Woman's Club on E. Mountain St. and from there set out to sing Christmas carols for the widows of former Kiwanians.

Both are annual Christmas projects.

Robbed In Sadie Mill Lot

Christmas cash he planned to use for Christmas presents for his family was stolen from a Sadie Mill employe early Thursday by an attacker who robbed him in the parking lot of the mill, according to Kings Mountain Police Department.

William Bright 48, of Gaffney, S. C., first shift employe, told KMPD he was attacked and robbed of between \$2,800 and \$2,500 in Christmas savings about 4:15 a. m. as he started to work.

Bright told officers that he had drawn out his Christmas savings from a bank and planned to go Christmas shopping Thursday afternoon after he finished his shift at the mill. He said he was attacked by a man who struck him several times in the head and face with the butt of a pistol and took his wallet.

Bright was treated at Kings Mountain Hospital and released, the police report stated.

Captain Jackie Barrett, Sgt. Bob Hayes and Ptl. James Camp are continuing investigation into the robbery.



Photo By Tom McIntyre

GOING UNDERGROUND - John Williams, plant contract supervisor for Southern Bell, oversees the installation of conduits for phone lines along S. Railroad Ave. in the central business district. The line will run south to Mauney Hosiery Mill, bore under the railroad tracks and tie in with underground line installations running from Grover to Kings Mountain.

Phone Lines Going Underground Here

Southern Bell is going underground.

No, the utility company isn't turning into a terrorist group. But the company is literally going underground with phone lines in the central business district of Kings Mountain.

The construction runs from the intersection of W. Mountain St. and S. Railroad Ave. (at Nation Chevrolet site), south to Mauney Hosiery Mill to connect with similar construction from Grover to Kings Mountain.

John Wilson, plant contract supervisor for Southern Bell, said, "At the mill we will bore under the Southern Railroad tracks and run on to a manhole on Battleground. There we are supposed to tie in with the lines coming from Grover."

The Bell construction will be used immediately to remove overhead phone lines in the central business district. The conduits, according to Wilson, also allow for expansion of lines and phone service as called for in the future.

The general contract for trenching, installation of conduits and filling and repaving the street is handled by Fitton and Pittman Construction Co.

Wilson said repaving should be completed by the end of this week.



Photo By Tom McIntyre

SOUNDS OF CHRISTMAS - Last Thursday this group of Kings Mountain City Schools educators, aides, administrators (and even custodial employes) entertained the KM Rotary Club with a program of

popular music and a medley of Christmas seasonal favorites. As one teacher said, "we don't have a name for the group. We just get together and sing for the fun of it."

Police Await Barnes Death Autopsy Results

Was Debra Barnes murdered?
As the Mirror-Herald went to press late Monday evening the results of an autopsy by the state medical examiner at Chapel Hill had not been returned.

Cleveland County Coroner Bennett Masters sent the body of the 23-year old Kings Mountain woman to Chapel Hill Saturday. According to investigating officers, Lt. C. A. (Gus) Huffstetler and Deputy Bobby Putnam of the sheriff's department and SBI Agent Jim Woodard, there were marks on the neck of the dead woman.

Miss Barnes, whose address is listed as 911 First St., reportedly left home around noon last Friday with a male companion. Her partially clad

body was discovered about 11:45 a. m. Saturday by Nelson Evans, a truck driver.

Lt. Huffstetler said the body was lying face down in a ditch beside an unpaved road off Oak Grove Rd., about three miles west of Kings Mountain. Police said the body was clad in jeans, socks and shoes and that a turtle-neck sweater, jacket and several pairs of women's hosiery were scattered on top of the body.

Police said Miss Barnes was employed by BVD and had worked at The Joy Theatre in Kings Mountain.

No arrests have been made and police are withholding the name of

the male companion who called for Miss Barnes and drove away with her on Friday. The investigation continues with the assistance of SBI Agent Woodard as more friends and acquaintances of the dead woman are questioned.

Funeral services will be held today at 3:30 p. m. in the Harris Funeral Home Chapel by the Rev. George Leigh and Rev. Ansel Center. Burial will be in Mountain Rest Cemetery.

Surviving are her mother, Mrs. Beatrice Laws Barnes of the home; two brothers, Arnold and Gary Barnes; one half-brother, Richard Laws, all of the home.

Industry Employes Have Paid Christmas Vacation

With few exceptions, most Kings Mountain industrial employes will begin a week's Christmas vacation tomorrow, and with pay.

Some industrial firms are also presenting gifts to employes in the form of certificates for hams and turkeys. At least one plant is already on holiday, Phenix Plant of Burlington Industries, which began a week's vacation Monday.

Longest holiday will be observed by employes of Mauney Hosiery Mills who will vacation from Thursday, Dec. 23, until Jan. 3.

Shortest holiday will be observed by Spectrum and Neisco Mills where the vacation period is Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and Sunday. Bonuses will be paid to Spectrum employes on Thursday and gift certificates will be presented, said a spokesman, at Margrace and Pauline Plants of Neisco, gift certificates will be presented on each shift Wednesday.

Employees of Phenix Plant began a week's vacation Monday. Christmas cash in the form of bonuses were presented to employes, based on length of service. The traditional Christmas party was held Sunday afternoon at the Community Center and treats and gifts were distributed by Santa Claus.

Mauney Hosiery Mills paid holiday bonuses, also based on longevity.

Holiday for Mauney Mills employes began Friday when bonuses

were paid employes at the close of the work day.

Employees of BVD Sportswear begin the holiday at 10 p. m. on December 23, returning to work on January 4 at 10 p. m. Bonuses and gift certificates will be presented.

Employees of Cleveland Hosiery, Gay Hosiery, Can-Do Hosiery, Lyntex Hosiery, L&L, and Ideal Hosiery will enjoy a long vacation from Thursday until January 2. Bonuses will be presented to employes, based on length of service.

Duplex International will close for the holidays on Friday, resuming plant operations on December 27. The plant will also close on New Year's Day, reopening on January 3. Employees will enjoy a Christmas

dinner on each shift Thursday and Christmas gifts will be presented.

Kings Mountain Knitwear will close at end of the first shift on Wednesday, resuming operations with the third shift on December 28. Bonuses and gifts will be presented to all employes on Wednesday.

Kings Yarn will close at end of second shift Wednesday, reopening with the third shift December 28. Bonuses and Christmas gifts will be presented at a plant party Wednesday.

Sadie Mill employes will enjoy a holiday beginning next Thursday morning and reopening with the first shift on next Wednesday morning. Bonuses and Christmas gifts will be presented.

Toys For Tots Plan Announced

The Kings Mountain Ministerial Association has assigned pastors to man the Toys For Tots headquarters on S. Cherokee St. Thursday and Friday.

The ministers will be on duty to handle the area needy who come by with their certified cards to collect toys for their children's Christmas.

Thurs., Dec. 23: 8-10 a. m., Rev. J. C. Goare & Rev. L. D. Scruggs; 10 a. m.-noon, Rev. Frank Shirley & Rev. Edward Wright; 1-3 p. m., Rev. Russell Hinton & Rev. Robert Boggan; 3-5 p. m., Rev. Clyde Bearden & Rev. Bill Daniel.

Fri., Dec. 24: 9-10 a. m., Rev. Carlee Bost & Rev. D. H. Lutz; 10 a. m.-noon, Rev. Gary Bryant & Rev. Mal Schuman; 1-3 p. m., Dr. Charles Edwards & Rev. Fred Wells; 3-5 p. m., Rev. Leroy Cox & Rev. George Sherrill.

Cards were distributed to the pastors at the last association meeting and only persons certified by the pastors are eligible to receive toys.

The ministerial association works in conjunction with the Kings Mountain Fire Department annually in this project. The firemen collect and repair donated toys and the ministers handle the distribution.

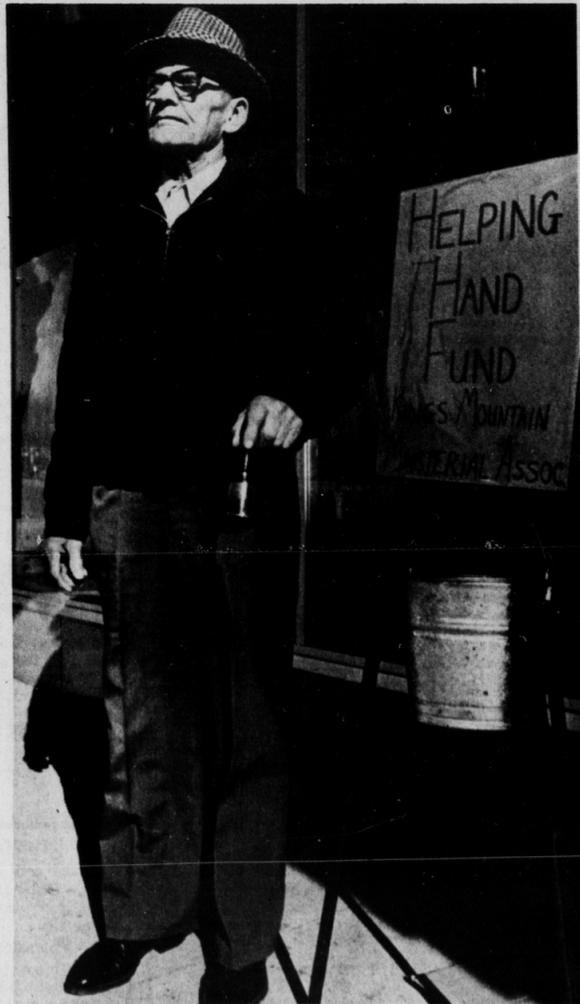


Photo By Tom McIntyre

REAL BELL-RINGER - Grier Sipes a member of First Baptist Church, rings the bell on S. Battleground Ave. for the KM Ministerial Association's Helping Hand Fund. The program is to raise funds for fuel, food and clothing for local and area needy will conclude at 7 p. m. Fri., Dec. 24. Sipes is one of the many volunteers manning three stands throughout the city.