

Nine Textile Plants Adjust Wages Upward

Local News Bulletins

BATLEY RESIGNS

S. E. Batley, for the past several months a member of the Kings Mountain police force, has recently resigned his post to accept police employment elsewhere, according to an announcement by H. L. Burdette, city manager. The resignation is effective March 1, but Mr. Batley has been given a two-week vacation. No replacement has been secured, Mr. Burdette said.

HOLIDAY ON FRIDAY

Mrs. Mary B. Goforth, manager of the local USES office, announced this week that the office would be closed Friday in observance of the national holiday celebrating George Washington's birthday. The office is open Mondays through Fridays.

KIWANIS PROGRAM

Miss Dorothy Richey, Limestone college director of dramatics, will present a one-act play "Suppressed Desires" at the regular meeting of the Kings Mountain Kiwanis club Thursday night at 8:30 at the Woman's Club. The cast will include Hulda Gillice, as Stephen Brewster, an architect; Vernice Yates, as Henrietta Brewster, his wife; and Helen McMillan, as Mabel, Henrietta's sister.

LEONS MEETING

Malcolm Campbell, dean of the textile school at State college, Raleigh, will address members of the Kings Mountain Lions club and a large number of guests at the regular meeting of the organization at the Woman's Club Tuesday night at 8:30. Textile men at Kings Mountain, Grover, Cherryville and Shelby will be guests of the club, along with several textile machinery experts from other cities. Charlie Moss is chairman of the committee arranging the meeting.

IN SORORITY

Miss Frances Summers, who is a student at Marion college, Marion, Va., has been elected to membership in the Delta Beta chapter of Phi Theta Kappa Sorority. This is the national Honorary Scholastic Society for Junior colleges.

ACTIVITY PROGRAM

Schedule of Saturday's activity program, as announced by Earl Butch, recreation director, follows: 9:30-11:15, grammar school boys; 1:30-3:15, high school boys; 3:15-4:30, girls. A total of 107 participated in the activities at the high school gymnasium last Saturday.

BACK FROM SERVICE

Five more Kings Mountain men have recently been separated from the army. They are New McGill, son of Mr. and Mrs. T. P. McGill, Ed. C. L. Early, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Early, Varner Howard, who served in Europe, Leonard Abernathy, who served in Hawaii, and Barney Black, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Black.

STATE TAX AID

R. L. Armour, collector for the state department of revenue, announced this week that he would be at the City Hall here on March 1, 5, 6 and 7 to assist Kings Mountain citizens in preparing state income returns.

BANK HOLIDAY

The First National Bank will be closed Friday in observance of George Washington's birthday, a legal bank holiday, it was announced by officials of the bank this week.

LAYERS MEETING

A special business meeting of the Kings Mountain Junior Chamber of Commerce will be held Friday night at 7 o'clock at City Hall. It was announced this week by George Warr, president. Full attendance urged.

WAR DANCE TO BE HERE

The Kings Mountain chapter of the American War Dancers will give a dance at the City Hall here on Saturday night.

Local Company Will Begin City Bus Service March 1

City bus service will be inaugurated here by Kings Mountain Bus company on March 1. It was announced this week by Hal S. Plonk, manager of the company.

The company will operate under a franchise granted by the city, and will begin operation with two buses in service, operating on regular hourly schedules in the morning, and on half-hour schedules in the afternoons. The fare will be 10 cents.

Mr. Plonk said that the buses will be of the latest, most-modern type for city use, with a capacity of 29 passengers, comfortable seats of ample width, and with air-conditioning units.

He also said the firm would add additional buses and expand schedules as traffic demands, and as quickly as additional buses became available.

Terminal point will be the corner of Mountain street and Battleground avenue in front of the First National bank.

Present plan of operation calls for a shuttle service between the Margrace and Sadie mills, via the Phenix mill, with operation to begin at 5:30 a. m. on an hourly basis until 2 p. m. This service will then be operated on a half-hour schedule.

Also to be operated is a round-trip pick-up service on the Cherryville and Shelby roads, to be run six times daily, the hours coinciding with shift changes in local industrial plants. The route of this bus follows: terminal point to Canaler street, north on Canaler to Walker, east on Walker to N. Piedmont avenue, north on Piedmont to Barrett's Store, returning south on Cherryville road, by Cora Mill, to Piedmont avenue, thence via Walker street to King street, west on King to Shell service station on Shelby road, and returning by King street to Battleground avenue and to terminal point.

"We plan to give the patrons the best in comfortable equipment," Mr. Plonk said, "and schedules will be adjusted and expanded according to the needs of the patrons." Full arrival and leaving schedules are to be announced next week.

Defendant Bound Over

Jessie Thomas Bullocks, charged with breaking and entering and arson in connection with a robbery at Phenix Store sometime ago, was bound over to Superior court in preliminary hearing in city recorder's court Monday.

Janet Mitchell went to jail for 30 days on failure to pay costs for public drunkenness.

Lester L. Self was given a suspended sentence for drunken driving, on payment of a \$50 fine and costs, and Early Morning Lail, who faced the same charge, was given a 90-day term, suspended on payment of a fine of \$50 and costs. In addition, his driver's license was suspended for 12 months.

Daisy Williams, charged with violating the liquor laws, appealed the judgment of the court.

The following were assessed with the costs for drunkenness: John (Fat) Clemens, James Grier, H. B. Belk, Andrew Q. Johnson, Edward D. Fortberry and Hazel Smith.

On the same charge, Wilbur M. Benson and Rufus Woods were fined \$5 and costs and John Stevenson was fined \$10 and costs.

John B. Royster, Jr., found guilty of drinking in a public place, was taxed with the costs, and Charles Milen, found guilty of reckless driving, was fined \$25 and costs in lieu of a 60-day sentence.

PRAYER BAND

The Mountain View Prayer Band will meet Saturday night at 7 p. m. at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Carson. Sister Dullie Collins will be in charge. Public is invited.

GRASS FIRE

City firemen were summoned Friday afternoon to extinguish a grass fire near the Sadie mill. No damage was done.

Sunday Fire Destroyed Grace Church

Rev. H. E. Jones, pastor of Grace Methodist church which was almost totally destroyed by fire Sunday morning, said Wednesday that members of the church are already laying plans for the building of a new edifice which would cost \$30,000 to \$35,000.

The Sunday morning fire which razed the former structure resulted in an estimated \$20,000 loss, only one-fourth covered by insurance.

The pastor stated that the fire was thought to have started from a defective heating system. He said the church janitor had built a fire early in the morning and had returned home. He had come back to the church about 9 o'clock to find the building ablaze. A fire alarm was turned in, but city firemen found the blaze had gained too much headway to prevent near-total destruction. However, they fought the fire for three hours. Smoke was still rising from the debris late Sunday afternoon.

The furnace to the hot air heating plant did not explode, and it was thought that the fan ceased to operate causing the building to overheat and ignite.

Mr. Jones said the church had issued a request to the city's school board for use of the East school for Sunday services until a new church can be built. Though the school board has not yet granted the request, he said approval is anticipated.

Plans are being made, he said, to conduct a drive for funds for the new church through the membership, and he added that he would be glad to accept funds for the new church building.

Presbyterian Meeting To End Sunday Night

The evangelistic meeting at the First Presbyterian church has been well-attended this week, with large crowds hearing the sermons each evening at 7:30 by Rev. W. M. Currie, pastor of First Presbyterian church, Belmont.

The meeting continues through Sunday night of this week.

"The meeting is proving a real blessing," according to Rev. P. D. Patrick, the pastor. "Mr. Currie is bringing strong messages and is an unusually fine preacher. He is bringing the messages that are vitally needed."

Sermon subjects for the remainder of the week are:

Thursday: "Darkness and Light."

Friday: "The Richest Man in the World."

Sunday, Morning: "Overflowing Religion."

Evening: "Ivory Palaces."

Piedmont Rug Mill May Suspend Operation

J. E. Herndon, owner of Piedmont Rug Mill, said Wednesday that the firm may be forced to suspend operations in the near future due to inability to obtain needed materials.

The mill is now operating less than an hour daily, Mr. Herndon stated, and he said the machinery may possibly be sold or leased in order to free the building for some other type of manufacturing operation.

Principal hold-up on production is inability to obtain looper clips. Mr. Herndon said they are simply unobtainable at the OPA ceiling price of seven and one-half cents per pound. He said he understood the clips were bringing 90 cents a pound on black market sales.

Board Changes Parking Limit

The Kings Mountain city board, at their February meeting last Thursday night, set a 30-minute parking limit on a portion of the main street parking areas in the downtown business section.

Specifically, the 30-minute limit will apply to cars parked on the east (curb) side of Battleground avenue, and on the south side of Mountain street, from the corner of the First National bank to the alley adjoining the offices of Dr. J. E. Anthony.

The board also revoked the beer license of James Wade, colored, operator of Blue Moon cafe, and issued a beer license to Jodie Whisman, colored, operator of a cafe on Cherokee street.

Rites For Patterson Baby Held On Sunday

Patricia Anne Patterson, infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. O. W. Patterson, Phenix Mill No. 1, died Friday morning at 7:30.

Surviving are her parents and the following brothers and sisters, Mrs. Forrest Dixon of Spindale, Mrs. Alice Short of Kings Mountain, Mazell, Jessie Marie and Ella Faye of the home, C. D. Patterson, Odell Patterson, Herman Patterson, Boyce Patterson, O. W. Patterson, Jr., John Steve Patterson and Marshall Patterson. Also surviving are her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Burgin of Spindale and Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Patterson of Eddeyville.

Funeral services were held Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock at the Mountain View Baptist church with the pastor, Rev. Floyd Hollar, officiating.

Boy Scout Financial Campaign Underway; \$1,200 Is Sought

Kings Mountain Scouters, after an early-bird breakfast at the Woman's Club at 7:30 Wednesday morning, launched the annual campaign for funds as Kings Mountain's share in the Piedmont Council quota of \$26,000.

The Kings Mountain quota is \$1,200.

The 35-odd Scouters present heard a short talk by Henry McKelvie, Piedmont Council president, and W. K. Mauney, finance chairman announced his solicitation committee.

Initial reports Wednesday afternoon indicated that considerable progress had been made during the day. "Kings Mountain has always given strong support to the Boy Scout movement, and I do not feel that this will be any exception."

"Scouting builds good citizens, and investment in Scouting is the surest way to make for the future," Mr. Mauney said.

RED CROSS MEETING

J. E. Herndon, chairman of the 1940 Red Cross fund campaign, has called a meeting of committee to be held at the City Hall court-room Friday afternoon at 5:30. Mr. Herndon said the meeting would be held at 5:30 p. m. and attendance is optional.



CANDIDATE - Shown above is the army. They are Ned McGill, James S. Cline, attorney, who has announced his candidacy for the Democratic nomination for solicitor. Political activity in the county was very quiet during the past week but close observers predicted an upswing during the coming week.

Merchants To Elect Officers

Members of the Kings Mountain Merchants association will cast ballots during the coming week to choose officers and directors for 1940, it was announced this week.

John L. McGill and J. W. (Mike) Milam have been nominated for president. Under the arrangement, the nominee receiving the greatest number of votes will be elected president, with the runner-up to serve as vice-president.

Also nominated are eight men for four directorships, with the four nominees receiving highest number of votes to fill the offices. Nominees are: G. A. Bridges, J. G. Darracott, J. B. Keeter, B. S. Neill, Charlie Blacklock, W. G. Grantham, E. G. Lindsay and Martin Harmon.

The association members will also choose a director for the state association, with J. B. Keeter and G. A. Bridges the nominees.

Mrs. Lynwood Parton, secretary, said ballots will be mailed Thursday, with the deadline on returning of ballots March 1.

E. C. McClain served as chairman of the nominating committee.

Yates Connor Plans New Studio Here

Yates Connor, well-known Kings Mountain man, and son of Mr. and Mrs. M. L. Connor announced this week that he had rented the building on Mountain street formerly used by McGinnis Furniture company as a warehouse and would open in the near future a photographic studio.

The building is now being remodeled for the studio, and Mr. Connor said he expected to offer the citizens of Kings Mountain complete photographic service including portraits, commercial photography, copying, tinting, and kodak finishing.

He was honorably discharged from the army on December 1, after more than three years of service. During his service in the army, he was a specialist in photography.

Jaycees Held Dinner Meeting Last Friday

Members of Kings Mountain Junior Chamber of Commerce held a dinner meeting at Mountain View Hotel last Friday night, with 49 members present.

Guests of the club were Glee A. Bridges, president of the Kings Mountain Kiwanis club, and Holland Dixon, president of the Lions club.

The membership unanimously adopted a resolution urging the city to complete the construction of the high school stadium at the earliest possible moment.

Negro Group To Plan Red Cross Campaign

Some 50 negroes of rural Kings Mountain will meet at the City Hall Tuesday night at 8 o'clock to discuss organization of the rural Red Cross campaign, it was announced this week by Red Cross officials.

M. L. Campbell, vocational teacher, at Compact school is chairman of the group. Quota for the group is \$275.

Raises Became Effective Here Monday

Wage raises, which in general placed the minimum hourly rate of pay for all textile machine operators at 65 cents, became effective at the majority of Kings Mountain textile plants Monday of this week.

Officials of these plants declined to estimate the total number of employees affected by the upward revision in wages — which follows a general adoption of a 55-cent minimum wage last summer — but the nine plants employ a total of approximately 1,850 persons.

Industrial firms revising wages include Neisler Mills, Inc., at both the Margrace and Pauline plants, Sadie Mill, Bonnie Mill, Kings Mountain Manufacturing company and Mauney Mill of the Mauney Textile Interests group, Park Yarn Mill, both plants of Phenix Mills, Inc., and Cora plant of Textiles, Inc.

Z. F. Cranford, superintendent of Cora, declined comment on the revision at this plant, simply stating that "adjustments upward" had been made.

As previously stated, the revisions at the other plants establish a broad minimum of 65 cents per hour for all machine operations.

Ladd W. Hamrick, of Phenix Mills, Inc., said the wage increase for this firm would be slightly greater than 18 percent, based on prior weekly payrolls.

School Band Reorganizing

B. N. Barnes, superintendent of schools, announced this week the appointment of Joe C. Hedden as high school band director.

Mr. Hedden assumed his duties last week and is already reorganizing the high school band, Mr. Barnes said.

The band, which gained a wide reputation throughout this and adjoining states, ceased to function about one year ago when the director, Glenn Palmer, entered the armed forces and another director could not be obtained.

Mr. Hedden is a graduate of Western Carolina Teachers college and was recently discharged from the navy. He majored in music at WCTC, served one year at the USN Music school in Washington, D. C., and was a student conductor while in college. He is a native of Sylva and is the husband of the former Miss Frances Crouse, of Kings Mountain.

Kings Mountain AAA Unit Allotted \$3,741

Charles P. Weir, AAA Kings Mountain community committeeman, announced this week that a total of \$3,741.80 is available to farmers of the Kings Mountain community for soil-building practices.

Farmers may earn a portion of this sum by using lime phosphate during the current year, building terraces, making pasture improvements and by planting soil-building crops.

Mr. Weir said that farmers interested in the program should contact him immediately.

Lewis Resumes His Dental Practice Here

Dr. O. P. Lewis, well-known Kings Mountain dentist recently separated from the army dental corps resumed his practice of dentistry on Monday of this week in his offices in the First National Bank building.

In the reserve corps prior to the war, Dr. Lewis served four and one-half years in the army, including a long tour of duty in the European Theatre of Operations. When separated from the army, he held the rank of colonel.

Imperial Theatre Lists Improvements

The management of the Imperial Theatre is announcing this week improvement of the theatre's sound system and the installation of new seats.

It was also announced that the firm has purchased new sound equipment and expects to receive it in the near future. During the past few weeks, the management has done considerable redecorating of the movie house.