

**Jake Early To Play First Base For Team**

Jake Early, Kings Mountain's representative in major league baseball, will play first base on a team, composed entirely of major leaguers, that is scheduled to begin a barnstorming tour in the Carolinas now that the regular 'Big Top' show is over.

Buddy Lewis, a Gastonia boy who has played eight seasons with the Washington Senators, has assembled as major league team composed of all North and South Carolina boys, with the exception of Bill Johnson, Yankee third baseman, who is a Georgian. With the close of the major's season on Sunday, Sept. 29, these players departed for North Carolina to open a two-week barnstorming tour.

Besides Lewis, the Washington Senators on the ball club are Outfielder Al Coan, Catchers Jake Early and Al Evans, and Pitcher Ray Scarborough. The Chicago White Sox send three members of their club to Lewis' team, notably Taft Wright and Ralph Hodgins, outfielders, and Joe Hayes, pitcher. From the famous New York Yankees come Catcher Aaron Robinson, the Bombers' greatest find since DiMaggio, Pitcher Tommy Byrne of Wake Forest fame, and Third Baseman Bill Johnson. The Pittsburgh Pirates contribute shortstop Jimmy Brown, and the Brooklyn Dodgers if they aren't in the World Series, donate Pitcher Rube Melton, strapping right-hander.

Lewis and Melton are from Gastonia; Coan, Mineral Springs; Early, Kings Mountain; Evans, Rocky Mount; Scarborough, Burlington; Wright, Lumberton; Hodgins, Greensboro; Hayes, Columbia; Robinson, Winklesham; Johnson, Jamesville; and Johnson, the state of Georgia.

There's nothing to be desired on the major leaguers' pitching staff with three good right-handers like Scarborough, Hayes, and Melton, while Lefty Tommy Byrne is no slouch. Hayes is the Chicago twirler who out-duelled Bob Feller on three occasions this season.

The probable starting lineup for the barnstormers will be, as follows:

Coan, Washington, rf; Lewis, Washington, 2b; Johnson, Yankees, 3b; Wright, Chicago, cf; Robinson, Yankees, c; Hodgins, Chicago, lf; Brown, Pirates, ss; and Early, Washington, 1b.

**SOIL CONSERVATION NEWS**

By Joe N. Craver and W. I. Shope  
G. P. Cooper, Route 3, Shelby, has an excellent stand of alfalfa which he seeded prior to the recent rains. He will also seed some permanent pasture this fall. The seeding of these two soil conserving crops is a part of the soil conservation farm plan Mr. Cooper worked out with the Broad River soil conservation district, earlier in the year.

Rastus Dixon, Route 3, Kings Mountain, has prepared a seed bed and applied lime and fertilizer to a meadow strip which he will seed to a mixture of orchard grass and Ladino clover. Mr. Dixon says: "I have observed meadow strips in action and I show it will take care of my terrace water and at the same time, give a good hay or grazing crop on the same area where would be gullies without the protection of Grasses."

One of the best wildlife field border plantings is on the farm of A.S. Kiser, Route 3, Kings Mountain. This planting was established in 1942 and has proven its value in erosion control and wildlife food and protection. Ed Hamrick of Beams Mill community and Yates Brooks of Route 4, Shelby also have excellent wildlife field borders.

Thomas L. Dedmon of Ross community recently unloaded his second serial of Mascot lime which will be used in the treatment of his established pasture acreage and on land which he will seed to pasture this fall. He says: "I am working to increase my pasture from its present acreage of 55 to 100 acres in pasture grasses."

Wayne Bess of near Archdale Dairy has seeded three acres to permanent pasture. He also has three acres of Hopedale sericea which he will use for hay and temporary grazing during the following grazing season.

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**NEGRO NEWS**

By Mrs. Jessie G. Costner

The Cleveland County Negro Fair is in progress this week. Kings Mountain school children will be admitted to the fair free Friday.

Charles W. Roberts was a visitor in Charlotte Monday. M. L. Campbell of Candler street, returned from the Gaffney hospital last Wednesday. He is able to be out after having undergone an operation.

Early Sunday morning, Mrs. Katie Brooks passed at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Lillie Mae Whitworth near the Ricks Place. Mrs. Brooks was the widow of the late Isaac Brooks of Bessemer City. She is survived by four sons and two daughters. The funeral is to be held Tuesday afternoon from Mt. Pleasant Baptist church, Bessemer City, of which the Rev. W. M. Murry is pastor.

The Home Economics Department of Davidson School, under the supervision of Miss Sabines, gave a social at the school last Friday evening.

Rev. S. T. Gillespie, pastor of Bethesda Baptist church, preached at St. James Baptist church, Bessemer City, Sunday night, in interest of a drive for the Oxford Colored Orphanage.

Willie Winstead, a Negro 4-H club boy of Person County, made 3 times as much corn as his father this year. The only difference was shallow cultivation and T-20 hybrid seed.

**'Dive Bomber' Crash Features Kochman Show**

Charlotte. — The "Dive Bomber" crash, regarded by experts as one of the most dangerous stunts ever attempted is one of the featured acts in the World Famous Jack Kochman Hell Drivers show, which makes its appearance at the Southern States Fair on Wennesray, Oct. 9 at 2 p.m.

In the "Dive Bomb" crash, one of Kochman's Hell Drivers circles the track in an old stock sedan, races up an elevated runway to a height of 12 feet plunging through steeple to reach an altitude of 20 feet to hurdle a large greyhound bus, after which he comes crashing into the side of a parked automobile.

Just which member of the 20 man troupe will be selected to perform this hazardous event has not been determined. In many instances the

drivers hold a conference on the track before the event takes place and decide among themselves whose turn it will be, to take the leap. Track conditions, the type of car to be used and a number of other conditions are all taken into consideration.

When the stunt was first instituted by Promoter Kochman, the Hell Drivers nose dived their cars from the end of an elevated rampway as they crashed into parked machines. Now, however, they travel at a much higher rate of speed to hurdle the greyhound bus. Each jump must be timed perfectly to prevent serious injury. If the car falls short, it may land into the side of the bus. Too much speed would make the car nose dive into the tract at a point beyond the parked car, thus endangering the life of the driver. Precision, a cool head, timeliness, are all factors that must be known and practiced.

Twenty eight action packed events that last for full two hours of hair raising events complete the Hell Drivers program.

Billy Harley and Marie Beeson of Richmond county were blue ribbon winners at the 4-H Poultry sale at Asheboro.

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**"I would like to tell you why Increased Rates on Telephones are Necessary"**

Today, more than ever before, North Carolina needs adequate, dependable telephone service, and it is our purpose to provide it. We are now furnishing more service to North Carolinians than at any other time in our history.

Both local and long distance calls have reached an all time high for this state and more and more people want telephones. Since the first of the year, we have installed 36,000 new telephones. But we still have 23,000 orders on hand. Our study of the state's growth indicates that the demand for more service from present as well as new customers will continue to increase.

In order to keep up, we must enlarge our facilities and hire more people, regardless of the fact that construction costs and wages have risen tremendously.

The cost of erecting buildings is up 75 to 100 per cent. The cost of providing telephone facilities is up 45 to 60 per cent, and telephone materials 15 to 25 per cent.

Total payroll costs have increased 196 per cent since 1941. Wages in North Carolina have been raised \$2,311,415 within the past 12 months. This was in keeping with national policies and trends and to assure competent personnel to provide adequate service. We now have 4,300 Southern Bell people in North Carolina. Wages account for about two-thirds of our operating costs.

Although the cost of everything we do to provide service keeps going up, your telephone rates have remained unchanged for many years. Because of this, the amount of money we are paying out is increasing faster than the amount we are taking in, despite a record volume of business. Since 1941, the costs of providing service in North Carolina have climbed 102 per cent, while revenues have increased only 76 per cent.

The rapid advance of costs in comparison with revenues has caused our rate of earnings to go down. In 1941, the Company was earning 5.56 per cent on the amount of money

invested in the state. Today our earning rate is only 2.71 per cent. This rate reflects the latest wage increases and does not include any possible tax refund that may be available this year only on 1944 federal income taxes. *Southern Bell's earnings are today the lowest in history.*

Nevertheless, the Company is going ahead with a huge expansion program. We are preparing to spend about \$40,000,000 in the next five years on construction work to improve and expand telephone service in North Carolina. We must proceed with this construction work, despite high costs, in order to meet demands for service.

We need improved earnings if we are to meet the increased costs of providing service, and if we are to obtain, on reasonable terms, the capital funds necessary to improve and expand our service.

That is the reason we have asked authority to raise rates on business telephones and to charge 5 cents more on most long distance calls within the state.

Current costs indicate a need for greater increases in rates than we are asking. But we hope our operating experience under the new rates will prove them sufficient. Since residence local charges are to remain unchanged, the increased income under the new rates would amount to only 7 per cent of our total North Carolina revenues. In face of the continuously rising costs of providing service, this is moderate.

The State of North Carolina is now in a period of its greatest growth and expansion, a growth that will bring the state more prosperity than it has ever known. Good and effective telephone service is essential to this progress and the Telephone Company must be in a position to supply it.

We believe, therefore, that our request for increased rates is sound and in the public interest.

*E. H. Wasson*  
Carolinian Manager

**SOUTHERN BELL TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH COMPANY INCORPORATED**

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