

# City Is Digging Out From Huge Monday Snowfall

## Phillips Is Elected Scout District Head

### Local News Bulletins

#### JAYCEE MEETING

Regular meeting of the Kings Mountain Junior Chamber of Commerce will be held Tuesday night at 7 o'clock at the Woman's Club, according to an announcement by Ned McGill, secretary.

#### CITY TAG SALES

City auto license tag sales totaled 821 Wednesday. The total compares with 847 sold during 1947. The city said this week it had found that it could not impose a \$5 fine on late buyers, due to inclusion of the auto license tags on the privilege license schedule. However, late buyers will be assessed the customary privilege license percentage penalty of five per cent per month, it was stated.

#### COUNTY JURY NOTICE

Garland M. Roberts, clerk of Cleveland Recorder's court, yesterday asked all persons summoned to serve as jurors, state or defense witnesses, to please report for court on Tuesday, February 17. The February 10th session was canceled due to the snow, and Mr. Roberts said new summonses were not being issued—again due to the bad weather and virtual impossibility of the roads.

#### \$150 SHORT

Kings Mountain's March of Dimes drive was only \$150 short of its \$2,000 quota Thursday morning. Chairman B. N. Barnes reported, as he issued an appeal for "just a few more gifts."

#### WILL HARMON DIES

Will Harmon, 77, former Kings Mountain citizen and well-known painter, died Wednesday morning at 10:30 at his home in Palm Harbor, Fla. Information received here was that Mr. Harmon died suddenly of a heart attack while conversing with friends. Funeral was to be held at Palm Harbor Thursday.

## Week Of Prayer To Be Observed

A week of prayer and self-denial for Missions will be observed by the Women of the Church of St. Matthew's Lutheran church, beginning Monday evening, Feb. 16, at 7:30 p. m. in the church. The following are the hours and leaders for the meetings:

Monday, 7:30 p. m., Mrs. Paul McGinnis.  
Tuesday, 7:30 p. m., Mrs. Doris Whitesides.  
Wednesday 7:30 p. m., Mrs. Clarence Plonk, Jr.  
Thursday, 7:30 p. m., Mrs. M. L. Harmon.  
Friday, 3:30 p. m., Mrs. E. A. Shenk

## Southern Bell Expands Quarters

Offices of the Southern Bell Telephone company here were moved to the first floor of the Fulton Building on Monday.

In taking over the additional space, it was announced that the offices of Mrs. Myrtle McDaniel, local exchange manager, and of Carl Blanton, service manager, will be on the first floor, in the quarters formerly occupied by Harris Funeral Home, while all switchboards will remain on the second floor.

Entrance to the office is on Cherokee street, and customers who have service problems or who wish to pay telephone bills are requested to take note of the change.

## Building Permits Totaled \$445,450

Building permits issued by the City of Kings Mountain in 1947 totaled \$445,450, City Clerk S. A. Crouse reported to the city board Tuesday night.

While figures on past years were not immediately available, it was thought that the 1947 total was a record.

Rev. J. W. Phillips, pastor of First Wesleyan Methodist church, was named chairman of the Kings Mountain District, Boy Scouts of America, at the annual banquet held at the Woman's club Tuesday evening. Some 181 scouts and scouters attended the banquet.

O. W. Myers will serve as vice-chairman and Paul Mauney as treasurer. Aubrey Mauney and J. E. Huneycutt were elected commissioners.

Dr. Phil Elliott, president of Gardner-Webb college at Boiling Springs, was the speaker for the occasion, which was attended by some 64 Scouts. Grover troop number one led in attendance with 13 of 18 Scouts present. Troop 3 had 13 present also, but has a larger enrollment than the Grover troop.

"The tragedy of our time is the attitude that allows things that are not good to exist in America, not the fact that they exist," Dr. Elliott said in his stirring message. "We need more human excellence, more of the right kind of human beings, to save us from the disaster we face. Humans are the chief fear of today, not the power (atomic energy) we have discovered. Religion and her beautiful twin daughters, democracy and education, are the means to human excellence and to the solution of our problems that will lead us through the right door, the door we have opened by discovery of atomic energy."

Dr. Elliott was introduced by R. M. Schiele, director of the Piedmont Council, of Gastonia. Mr. Schiele pointed out that the FBI discovered that Communists believe that the strongest organization fighting communism in America is the Boy Scouts. Both organizations lead youth, he said, but Scouts are led to the good side, to become better citizens.

W. L. Plonk, retiring chairman of the Kings Mountain district, was master of ceremonies.

Included on the program was a first aid demonstration conducted (Cont'd on page eight)

## Citizens Urged To Feed Birds

Feed all birds!

That's the appeal made this week to all citizens by Sam Davis, president of the Kings Mountain Sportsmans Wildlife club, local organization whose goal is restoration of wildlife in the Kings Mountain area.

All birds are experiencing a hard winter, with their feeding ground under a blanket of snow and ice and with no letup as far as the weather man is concerned.

Every home can help the situation by leaving feed where birds can get to it. Farmers can be especially helpful by leaving some grain scattered near their barns so that game birds may have a feeding ground.

Mr. Davis pointed out that it is both unlawful and inhumane to kill birds and other animals when snow is on the ground and they are defenseless.

KMSWC officials announced this week that a meeting was to have been held but was postponed due to the weather and condition of the roads around Kings Mountain.

George Keesee, District 8 commissioner of the Wildlife Resources Commission, from Gastonia, will be present at the next meeting. Plans will be announced soon, it was added.

## Food Prices Here Show Reaction To Week's Commodity Price Drops

The Kings Mountain housewife, as those throughout the country, got a break this week as the commodity markets hit the downgrade, resulting in a general drop in food prices for the first time since the OPA was lifted, and before.

While the drop was not yet too great, majority felt there was more to come and that the inflationary spiral was finally rolling back a little.

One merchant who had supplied his advertising copy a day in advance of usual schedule said several of his advertised prices were now too high.

As a rule food chains were getting price drops earlier than others for two reasons: (1) anticipation of replacing inventories at lesser prices; (2) the weather kept many job-

## Water And Light Record Falls Again

Water, light and power consumption in Kings Mountain broke the record again in January.

According to records in the office of City Clerk S. A. Crouse, the total billing on February 1 was \$12,859.74, to top the billing for December.

The figure represents the following consumption: water, 9,088,000 gallons; lights, 166,809 kilowatts; power, 91,588 kilowatts. Billing February 1, 1947, was \$10,308.57.

The following comparison of figures on water and light billing indicates the growth and expansion of Kings Mountain during the past 10 years:

January 1, 1938—\$2,124.10.  
January 1, 1943—\$6,377.91.  
January 1, 1948—\$12,401.87.

## City Board In Regular Meeting

The city board of commissioners met in regular February session at the City Hall Tuesday night and took the following actions:

(1) Voted to enter into an agreement with Charles and David Cash for use of their lot on Railroad avenue for a free city parking lot (in anticipation of installation of parking meters);

(2) Voted to hire Clarence E. Carpenter, who has been serving as city tax lister, as radio operator-clerk for the police department at a salary of \$150.00 per month;

(3) Released from the tax books \$1,286.45 dating from 1938-47 for taxes listed erroneously, poll taxes charged servicemen during the war, etc.

(4) At Mayor H. Tom Fulton's suggestion, cut his salary to the statutory minimum of \$50 per month.

The board also heard regular first-of-the-month reports, agreed to take over 115 light customers in the Phenix Mill village on March 1, and took steps to supply water to the Phenix Mill.

E. C. Brandon, Jr., new city engineer, was present for the meeting and told the board, "Work is my purpose. There is much to be done, though this city is not in as bad shape as I'd say, are the majority of cities in North Carolina."

Fred W. Plonk, on behalf of the directors of the Country Club, appeared before the board with a report for repair to Rosewood Lane. The board agreed to survey the situation and to render aid which might be available in the way of scraping and grading.

In the parking lot matter, the board will agree to pay property taxes on the Cash Brothers lot in return for its use. Mayor Fulton told the board he anticipated an early and favorable reply to the city's request to Southern Railroad for permission to install parking meters along its right-of-way.

The long list of old tax bills released included several charged to persons deceased. Majority of the releases were for less than \$5.00 and were either poll taxes or small amounts on personal property, regarded as uncollectible. Men in service during World War II were exempted from poll taxes.

Mayor Fulton, who has been receiving a salary of \$200 per month since the resignation of Former City Manager H. L. Burdette, told the board that in view of the engagement of the city engineer he felt his salary should be reduced.

The board voted to retain Mr. Carpenter as radio operator at the suggestion of Mayor Fulton to free (Cont'd on page eight)

## City Is To Observe World Day Of Prayer

Kings Mountain will join with citizens across the world Friday at noon in observance of annual World Day of Prayer in services at Central Methodist church, sponsored and arranged by the Kings Mountain Council of Churchwomen, an inter-denominational organization representing all churches of the community.

Theme of this year's observance is "The Lord's Prayer—the Prayer Universal." Mrs. Otto Hehn is program chairman and the following will take part in the one-hour program:

Mrs. E. A. Shenk, leader, Shirley Falls, Mrs. George Kennedy, Billie Allen, Mrs. O. W. Myers, Mrs. Minnie McFadden, Mrs. L. L. Benson, Mrs. E. W. Griffin, Mrs. Pinkie Lee Randall, Mrs. Billie Weir, Mrs. Garland Still, Mrs. Herman Goforth and Mrs. C. B. Bobbitt.

Prayers will be said by Rev. J. G. Winkler and Mrs. P. D. Patrick, and B. S. Peeler, jr., will sing "The Lord's Prayer" and "Bread of the World."

Majority of business firms in the city will close for the service. A large attendance at the service is anticipated.

## Beer Vote Group Sets Deadlines

The steering committee leading the drive to obtain a vote on the question of legalized beer and wine in the county has set February 29 as a deadline for obtaining signatures of sufficient petitioners to call an election, it was announced this week.

In addition the committee is requesting a preliminary progress report on February 22.

These dates were set by the committee at a session called by Rev. W. P. Biggerstaff at Bethel Baptist church Saturday night.

Meantime, in Kings Mountain, ministers and lay leaders were beginning to circulate the petitions, and some progress in the signing job was reported.

According to law, 15 percent of the registered voters in the last county election (1946) are required before the elections can call a vote on the question. It was pointed out by the steering committee that only registered voters should sign the petition, since other names would not count.

Rev. Mr. Biggerstaff is chairman of the committee, while Marvin Blanton is co-chairman.

Committees named include: Finance—B. G. Beason, chairman; E. M. Smith, Dr. W. A. Kale, Rev. E. A. Lamb, and Rev. L. C. Pinix. Program—Dr. D. L. Stubbs, chairman; E. H. Nicholson, Rev. W. L. Pressly, Rev. C. C. Crow, and John P. Crawley. Publicity—Rev. J. B. Brock, chairman, Rev. W. W. Harris, Rev. R. L. Bass, Rev. Laming Roberts, and Mrs. B. Austell.

Rev. Mr. Brock, who reported details of the recent steering committee meeting, said the group had resolved to "set in motion and push in all earnestness the circulation of a petition into every voting precinct of the county."

Mr. Brock said that signed petitions should be sent to Chairman Biggerstaff, Dr. W. A. Kale, or to the office of the Shelby First Baptist church.

## Merchants' Banquet Ducats To Go On Sale

Tickets for the annual employer-employee banquet of the Kings Mountain Merchants Association will go on sale Monday, it was announced yesterday by Secretary Ned McGill, who is requesting all member firms to determine by that date the number of tickets they will require.

The tickets will be on sale at \$1.50 each, and maximum capacity is 200. In past years, many firms have made reservations for their full personnel.

The event, also the association's annual banquet, is scheduled for Tuesday night, February 24, at the Woman's Club. The Gay Nineties Quartet of Charlotte will furnish an entertainment program. Other program details will be announced next week, according to Hilton Ruth, chairman of the arrangements committee.

**MASONIC MEETING**  
Fairview Lodge, No. 339, A. F. & A. M., will hold a special communication in the Masonic Hall at 7:30 Monday night, Feb. 16. At this time the third degree will be conferred.



**FIRST CANDIDATE**—Griffin P. Smith, of Shelby, prominent for many years in county veterans' affairs, became the first official candidate for a Cleveland County office when he paid his filing fee for register of deeds on Thursday.

## Smith Announces For Register

Griffin P. Smith, of Shelby, announced Thursday his candidacy for register of deeds of Cleveland county, subject to the May Democratic primary.

Born and reared in the Double Shoals community of Cleveland county, Mr. Smith served in the army in World War I. After his discharge, he taught in the Cleveland County Schools for a year and then moved to Shelby, where he has since resided. For 12 years he was connected with Campbell's Department Store, and entered the grocery business in 1932, operating his own business until late 1947, when he sold it.

A former commander of the Shelby American Legion post, he has long been active in county veterans' affairs, having served as service officer of the Shelby post for seven years and advocated the employment of a county service officer. He is a past Legion department vice-commander, a past official of the North Carolina 40 & 8, is an active Lion, and is a member of the Cleveland County Executives Club, the Shelby Merchants association, and Shelby Lodge 1709, B. P. O. Elks.

Mrs. Smith before marriage was Miss Loan Mae Metcalfe of the Zion community. They have one son, G. P. Smith, jr., an Ensign in the Navy on active duty with the Mediterranean fleet.

## Citizens Asked To Clear Mail Box Path

City postal officials yesterday requested all citizens who receive their mail on rural routes to clear a path to their boxes so that rural mail carriers may get to them without trouble and thereby save time in making deliveries.

City dwellers were also asked to clear their walks so city mail carriers may have less trouble getting to the mail box.

"We are urging citizens to aid the mail carriers by clearing a path to their boxes in order that mail may be delivered faster during inclement weather and we feel certain that all persons will cooperate with us in this endeavor," George Hord, assistant postmaster of the Kings Mountain postoffice, said yesterday.

## Kiwanians To Present Valentine Square Dance Friday Night At 8

"Don't mind the weather. Come out to the square dance and have an evening's fun."

That's the word of the Kings Mountain Kiwanis club, which is presenting a Valentine Square Dance Friday night at 8 o'clock at the high school gymnasium.

"If you dance through a couple of callin's you're sure to warm up," a Kiwanis spokesman added.

The Valentine Dance will be the first in the popular series presented by the civic organization since

## Fuel Dealers Slightly More Optimistic

Old Man Weather did it again over the weekend, and this time he did it in such fashion that he sent older residents of Kings Mountain scurrying back into the memory box for wintry comparisons.

The heavy snowfall which began early Monday morning kept falling in blizzard proportions until early Tuesday morning, with the result that from eight to a dozen inches of the white fluff was reported.

With the third snow of the season, all were sure that 1948 was the worse winter since 1936, and some contended that it compared with the winter of 1918.

The cold, bitter weather was not the only result.

While not at a standstill, business was slowed to a minimum, and only the hardier souls braved the highways. Those who had chains—sell-

## Fuel Situation

"Conserve and we should be able to tide over the emergency."

This was the word of Kings Mountain fuel dealers Thursday morning, as some slight improvement in the fuel situation was reported.

Oil dealers I. G. Patterson and Fred W. Plonk received two additional cars of the grey market fuel for a total of 20,000 more gallons, and quotas from regular sources are due for the last 10 days of the month.

Coal dealer Claude Hambright reported dribbling shipments of coal which had relieved the strain, but he was rationing deliveries in half-tons. He said Thursday morning that reports from Roanoke, Va., were that production and coal movement was still far below normal and would continue short until the weather breaks.

But optimism was the word—with conservation on the part of users, and hope for a weather break.

ing on the black market (if a black market could be found)—managed (Cont'd on page eight)

## Band Concert Set For Thursday

The Kings Mountain school band will play its first formal concert of the current year at the high school auditorium next Thursday evening, February 19th, at 8 o'clock.

The concert, a feature of band emphasis week, being observed next week, will be free, and a large attendance is expected to attend. Immediately following the concert, a meeting of the Band-Parent Association will be held to map plans for spring activities.

Director Joe Hedden has announced that the concert program will include, among other selections, the four contest numbers being played by Class C bands this year. They are Sigmund Romberg's overture, "The Student Prince," Olavi Doi's "Ponce de Leon Overture" and "The Triumph of Ishtar" and John Phillip Sousa's "March El Capitan."

The Kings Mountain band, reorganized last year after a wartime lapse, advances to Class C competition this year after capturing top honors for marching and playing in contests held at Lincoln and Greensboro last April.

E. C. McClain, band publicity director, urged a full attendance at next Thursday night's concert.

"The band members and Director Hedden have been working hard to perfect this special band week program," he said. "They deserve the support of the whole community, and the auditorium should be filled to overflowing for this concert."

## Kiwanians To Present Valentine Square Dance Friday Night At 8

Christmas, when a record attendance enjoyed the evening's entertainment.

The Hamrick Music-Makers, of Shelby, will again be on hand to furnish the music, and J. E. Huneycutt and Ray Smith will alternate at the calling duties.

Admission will be 60 cents per person, tax included.

"It's a recreation event for the whole family," a club committee-man said, "for young and old."