Population
City Limits 7,206
Trading Area 15,000
(1945 Ration Board Figures)

Kings Mountain Herald

16 Pages Today

VOL. 62 NO. 50 | Sixty-Second Year | Kings Mountain, N. C., Thursday, December 13, 1951 | Established 1889 | PRICE FIVE CENTS

Commissioners' Agenda Long, Varied On Monday

Local News Bulletins

BUILDING PERMIT

A building permit was issued Monday at City Hall to Tom S. Henry to construct a residence on Landing street at an estimated cost of $4,000.

SELLERS PROMOTED

Bobby K. Sellers of the U. S. Air Force now stationed at Pope Field, has recently been promoted to Sergeant. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. George Sellers, route 1, Kings Mountain.

PARKING MONEY

A total of $166.87 was collected from the city's parking meters for the week ending Wednesday according to an announcement of city clerk, Joe Hendrick.

MRS. HUNTER ILL

Mrs. C. F. Hunter, former citizen of Kings Mountain, mother of Mrs. L. C. Parsons, suffered a stroke at her home in Charlotte Saturday morning. Her condition was reported much improved Wednesday morning.

CHORUS ON RADIO

The Kings Mountain high school mixed chorus, under the direction of W. Howard Coble, will present a half-hour program over Radio Station WOHS Shelby on Monday afternoon beginning at 2:30.

JAYCEES MEETING

The members of the Junior Chamber of Commerce will have their Christmas program at their meeting Tuesday night at 7 o'clock in the Masonic Dining hall. Announcement was made by Jack White, program chairman.

ATTEND MEETING

Rev. W. L. Pressly, pastor, John L. McGill, elder, and Marriott D. Phifer, deacon, represented Boyce Memorial ARP church at the special meeting of First Presbytery in Charlotte Tuesday. Principal business at the meeting was action on the petition of two Charlotte churches to be released to join the Mecklenburg Presbytery, Presbyterian Church, U. S. The petitions were granted.

Band, Chorus To Give Program

The Kings Mountain band and high school mixed chorus will be presented in a joint Christmas Festival Tuesday evening, at 7:30 in the high school auditorium.

The mixed chorus will present "The Song of Christmas," the story of the Nativity as told in Christmas songs, carols, and Biblical verses. This is a Fred Waring choral arrangement by Roy Ringwald, for soloists, narator, and mixed chorus, with organ accompaniment.

The band will play a medley of Christmas songs and other seasonal selections.

The two music organizations will also be featured in two works by Handel.

There will be no admission charge, but a free will offering will be taken to help defray the expenses of production.

Joint announcement of the program was made by W. Howard Cobie, chorus director, and Joe Hedden, band director.

Benson Has Bullet Removed From Knee

L. L. Benson, well-known Kings Mountain citizen, underwent an operation at Kings Mountain hospital last Thursday for removal of a .32-calibre bullet from his knee.

The bullet was a 45-year-old souvenir which Mr. Benson had carried around with him since he was a young man. It resulted from an accident in which a pistol Mr. Benson was cleaning accidentally fired. The bullet lodged in his knee and had not caused him particular difficulty or pain until recently.

Dr. Craig Jones performed the operation. Mr. Benson's condition was reported satisfactory Tuesday afternoon.

Keeter, Plonk, Abbott Named On Plans Body

The city board of commissioners considered a wide variety of business at the regular December meeting Monday night, ranging from delinquencies in purchase of privilege licenses to blue laws.

It appointed three members to the city planning board, including J. Byron Keeter, chairman, L. E. Abbott and Hal S. Plonk, and will appoint two additional members after receiving recommendations from the three men named.

It ordered a crackdown on business firms which fail to purchase privilege licenses by ordering them closed, if licenses are not purchased by January 1, but eliminated one source of grievance by defining the $15 license fee on elecrical appliances to mean "heavy appliances."

The board took no action on the blue law matter, after statement by several commissioners that the Kings Mountain Ministerial association hoped to obtain cooperation of firms now doing business on Sundays to close during church hours.

At the instance of Commissioner James Layton, the board instructed M. K. Fuller to "do what he deemed necessary" to improve City Stadium. Including in the recommendations are sodding of the banks with grass and improving the drainage of the playing area.

The board appointed Acting Chief of Police S. R. (Pep) Davidson chief of police by a vote of 4 to 1. Commissioner Olland Pearson cast the "no" vote. It voted to raise his salary by $20 to $255 per month, and approved $10 per month salary raises for Robert Wright, water plant operator, Frank Blanton and Harry Wilson, linemen, and a $25 per month raise to Tommy Owens, office clerk. Blanton and Wilson will draw $210 monthly, Wright $200 and Owens $175. The board voted an extra two-week's pay to Chief Davidson in lieu of a vacation he did not take.

The board voted to issue salary checks to city employees on Saturday before Christmas, to give each employee a gift of five dollars for Christmas, and to close the city office for a Christmas holiday on December 24 and 25.

It accepted street deeds from W. A. Williams, for a street in Davidson Heights, and from R. H. and Sallie Hord and from Florence and H. C. Roberts for a 30-foot road on Ganft street.

The board, on advice of its attorney, J. R. Davis, agreed to leave the matter of operation of a dog pound to the county.

Tom Moore, representing Slater Brothers, asked consideration of installation of an eight-inch water line to serve this company's plant, in order that a sprinkler system might be installed. The board promised investigation of the request.

E. A. Harrill appeared before the board to question a 95,000 gallon jump in the Kings Mountain Laundry water consumption during November, and C. L. Black made a similar complaint concerning the water billing for his residence. Both were promised a

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City Tags Arrive, On Sale Monday

Joe Hendrick, city clerk, reported this week the arrival of city auto tags for 1952 and announced that they would be on sale Monday at the customary fee of one dollar.

The tags have white numerals on a deep red background, coinciding in color with the North Carolina vehicle license plates.

Deadline for purchase of the tags without penalty is January 31, 1952.

John Patterson's Rites Conducted

Funeral services for John Lynch Paterson, 41, of route two, were held Wednesday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock from David's Chapel Baptist church.

Rev W. L. McSwain and Rev. Spurgeon Scruggs officiated and interment was in Sunset cemetery, Shelby.

Mr. Patterson died at Shelby hospital Tuesday at 2:30 a.m. after an illness of only one week.

He had been an employee of Lily Mills in Shelby for the past 25 years and was a member of David's Chapel church.

Surviviors include his wife, Mrs. Alda McSwain Patterson, his mother, Mrs. Lee Black Wright, a son John Otis Patterson, and a daughter, Dorothy Ann Patterson, all of Kings Mountain; three brothers, Floyd Patterson, of Shelby, and Howard and Everett Patterson, of Kings Mountain; and a sister, Mrs. Garland Bowen, of Kings Mountain.

Dawkins Girl Struck By Auto

Marilyn Guynetha Dawkins, Negro, 11, received minor injuries when she was hit by a car Tuesday afternoon in the open zone along the rail tracks near the intersection of Battleground avenue and East Gold street.

According to the report of investigating officers, Ed Martin and B. F. Sessoms, the vehicle, driven by William Matthew Clack, was moving south and made a right turn in the zone and into the sun, Mrs. Clack said he failed to see the child on bicycle.

Mr. Clack agreed to pay doctor bill and have the bicycle repaired, police said.

Will Briggs Hit By Auto

Will Briggs, Negro, remained in a critical condition at Shelby hospital Tuesday after being struck by an auto Sunday night at the intersection of King street and Railroad avenue.

The vehicle, driven by David Starnes, was making a left turn when it accidentally hit Briggs who was walking across the street, according to the Kings Mountain police officers report.

Jaycees Report Good Cooperation On Aid-To-Needy Yule Promotion

With the effort reported as "going good," Jaycees reminded citizens this week of the city-wide drive to collect food for Kings Mountain's most needy families for Christmas.

The Junior Chamber of Commerce, in cooperation with most Kings Mountain grocery firms, last week launched the collection with the theme, "Buy a Can, Leave a Can!"

"Merry Christmas Baskets" have been set up in cooperating stores and citizens are being asked to remember the needy this Christmas when doing food shopping and leave something to be distributed to the indigent families.

Jaycee committees have been appointed to collect and distribute the baskets to families listed by the Red Cross and other welfare agencies in time for preparation of Christmas meals.

Fred A. (Pete) McDaniel, Jr., is chairman of the club's Christmas activities program. Dr. L. T. Anderson and J. T. McGinnis are in charge of advertising and collection committees and Luco Falls, Paul Walker, Yates Harbison and Fred Wright, Jr., head packaging and distribution groups.

Chairman McDaniel said yesterday that he was pleased with progress of the drive to date and that he anticipated much more giving to the drive as Christmas day approaches.

Baskets at Plonk Brothers Grocery were reported this weeks as probably being the "most-filled" during the initial stages of the drive. Patrons and clerks at the participating firms are reportedly highly interested in the project and expect over-flowing baskets before the drive closes on Saturday, December 22nd.

"When grocery shopping this Christmas season, remember the needy families of the city and Buy a Can, Leave a Can!" Chairman McDaniel urged.

Cast Announced By Choral Group For "Bethlehem"

The Kings Mountain Choral society will present the three-part pageant "Bethlehem", by J. H. Maunder, Sunday evening at 8 o'clock at the high school auditorium.

Soloists will be Mrs. Juanita McSwain Warren, Lt. Robert Warren, Burlie Peeler, Jr., I. B. Goforth, Jr., Mrs. Virginia Leopard and Miss Emelyn Gillespie.

The pageant is under the direction of W. Howard Coble, with Mrs. Aubrey Mauney as accompanist at the organ. Mrs. W. L. Pressly is director of pantomime, and Mrs. Pete McDaniel is in charge of make-up.

The three-part pageant will include: 1) The Shepherd's Gifts; 2) the Kings Gifts; and 3) Our Gift.

Characters of the pantomine are: Mary, Mrs. Dan Finger; Joseph, Dan Finger; Angel, Mrs. Henry Neisler; Shepherd Boy, Phillip Padgett, Jr.; Shepherds, Rev. J. H. Brendall, Rev. T. L. Cashwell and Rev. J. W. Phillips; Wise Men, Rev. W. P. Gerberding, David Neill and Hal Plonk; Servants of Wise Men Eugene Roberts, Halbert Webb, J. G. Darracott, Dick Webb, C. E. Warlick and Rev. W. L. Pressly; Pilgrims of Today, Mrs. J. N. Gamble, Mrs. W. L. McMackin, Mrs. J. H. Brendall, Rev. P. D. Patrick, W. Faison Barnes, Mrs. Gene Steffy, Patty and Kenny Steffy, Mrs. John Gamble, James Pressly, James Allen Pressly, Phillip Chambley, Douglas Burton, Harold Hunnicutt, Sam Stallings and Billie Mabry.

Members of the 35-member Choral Society are: Burlie Peeler, Jr., president; Robert Osborne, vice-president; Bernice Harrison, secretary; Mrs. Virginia Leopard, treasurer; and Hazel Armstrong, Suzanne Arrowood, Mrs. Herman Campbell, Evelyn Cline, Dolores Davidson, Mrs. Vance Daniel, Mrs. Delbert Dixon, Winifred Fulton, Dot Fulton, Emelyn Gillespie, Pat Henderson, Mary Mallard, Mrs. Gene Mitchem, Mrs. Dean McDaniel, Carletty McDaniel, Mrs. Phillip Padgett, Mary Ann Rice, Mrs. W. O. Ruddock, Francis Sisk, Mrs. Paul Smyre, Pat Smyre, Melba Tindall, Mrs. Juanita Warren, Delbert Dixon, Eugene Gladden, I. B. Goforth, Jr., David Mauney, Gene Mitchem, Reginald Murray, service for a large segment of

The pageant will be a union service for a large segbent of the community, many churches having canceled evening services on Sunday evening.

Phenix To Pay $11,000 Bonus

Christmas bonuses totaling $11,000 are being paid this year to employees of Phenix Plant, a unit of Burlington Mills, it was announced today by Superintendent J. T. Lathem, who also released plans for the plant's annual Christmas party to be held December 16, 1951.

Despite the poor year experienced by the textile industry generally, the company is happy to be able to pay Christmas bonuses again this year, Mr. Lathem said.

On company-wide basis, Burlington Mills will pay out approximately $767,000 to its production employees.

The annual Christmas party for children of employees at the Phenix Plant will be held Sunday at 2 o'clock in the Joy Theatre. Gifts will be given to children ten years of age and under, following a brief Christmas program.

Plant holidays will be observed beginning at the end of the second shift on Saturday December 22, and ending with operations being resumed at the beginning of the third shift on Wednesday December 26.

Award Honors Ruth's Father

The late W. M. Ruth, father of Hilton Ruth, of Kings Mountain, was honored at last Saturday's Third Annual Pythian Bowl football game.

A trophy was given in his honor to the player voted the outstanding player of the game by visiting sports reporters.

The late Mr. Ruth, known as "Uncle Billy," was an ardent Salisbury sports fan and for many years was very active in the work of the Knights of Pythias, according to a news account appearing in the Salisbury Post.

Officials of the Pythian Bowl promotion said the trophy award would be continued in future years.

PRESIDENT — Rev. T. L. Cashwell, Jr., pastor of First Baptist church, has been elected, president of the Kings Mountain Ministerial association for 1952.

Pastors Elect T. L. Cashwell

Rev. T. L. Cashwell, Jr., pastor of First Baptist church, was elected president of the Kings Mountain Ministerial association for 1952 at the regular December meeting of the organization Monday morning.

Mr. Cashwell will succeed Rev. P. D. Patrick, pastor of First Presbyterian church.

Other officers elected are: Rev. Y. H. Carter, pastor of Second Wesleyan church, vice-president; Rev. Vance Daniel, pastor of Resurrection Lutheran church, secretary - treasurer; and Rev. W. L. Pressly, Boyce Memorial ARP pastor, Rev. Mr. Patrick and Rev. G. G. Easom, pastor of the Church of God, members of the program committee.

The nominating committee included Mr. Patrick, Rev. J. H. Brendall, Central Methodist pastor, and Rev. J. W. Philips, First Wesleyan pastor. This committee also reported that the annual community-wide Boy Scout service will be held at First Presbyterian church early in February and that Rev Mr. Philips would delivers the sermon at the annual community-wide Easter Sunrise service.

Stores Postpone Longer Schedules

In spite of a permissive action of the Kings Mountain Merchants association, it appeared Wednesday that majority of Kings Mountain retail merchants would not lengthen shopping hours prior to Thursday, December 20.

Information given the Herald by several merchants follows:

Majority of department and variety stores will observe regular hours through the forthcoming week through Wednesday, December 19. They will observe Saturday hours (open until 7 p. m.) beginning Thursday, December 20, and continuing through Christmas Eve.

Schedules of jewelers will approximate that of the majority of the department and variety stores, with the exception that they will remain open until 9 p. m. on Christmas Eve.

Furniture stores agreed last week to remain open until 7 p. m. on Saturday, December 22, and Christmas Eve.

Virtually all Kings Mountain retail establishments plant a two-day Christmas holiday. They will close on December 25 and 26.

The Merchants association has recommended that New Year's Day not be observed as a holiday. However, Yates Harbison, manager of Dixie-Home Store and Tom Davidson, A & P Store manager, said their firms would be closed two days for the New Year's holiday as well.

Postoffice Open Saturdays All Day

The Kings Mountain postoffice will be open Saturday afternoons through Christmas, Postmaster W. E. Blakeslee said Wednesday.

The additional schedule is being followed to handle the vast amounts of Christmas-season mail which already have made the local postoffice a busy place, the postmaster added.

He again urged all citizens to handle their Christmas mailing, both first class mail, third-class mail and parcel post as early as possible in order to ensure delivery by Christmas.

Volunteer Firemen Might Resign Effective Jan. 1st

Throng Hears UNC's Justice At Grid Banquet

Charlie (Choo-Choo) Justice, former University of North Carolina football star and now a UNC assistant coach, proved Tuesday night to be as nimble at the speaking platform as he formerly was on the gridiron, as he spun yarns for a capacity crowd at the annual Lions club football banquet.

Justice pleased his audience with humorous tales of football experiences, several of them at the expense of Art Weiner, high school coach and his former all-American team-mate.

He then invited questions from the floor and answered a dozen, before showing pictures of the 1948 UNC victory over Louisiana State university. "We don't have much to show from the past season," he remarked.

The banquet was given in honor of the high school football team and Coach Weiner received a big hand fromthe large audience when, in the process of introducing Justice, he said, "I have enjoyed working with these boys very much and am looking forward to working with a number of them again next year."

Co-Captain Charles Mauney presented team members and Ollie Harris recognized guests of the club, including Pride Ratterree, Lenoir-Rhyne line coach and Kings Mountain native and high school officials.

Prior to the program, Charlie Moss welcomed James Houser as a new member of the Lions club.

The principal words of wisdom passed to the high school players by the all-American Justice were 1) not to take favorable publicity too seriously, and 2) to study. Mr. Justice pointed out that the best player in the world can't operate without the aid of ten other players, and added the opinion that the National Collegiate Athletic Association is going to require more stringent attention to scholastics on the part of players.

Some other Justice pronouncements in the question-and-ans-

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Rites Conducted For Mrs. Connor

Funeral services for Mrs. Lillie Jean Connor, 67, widow of the late John B. Connor, were held Sunday at 3 p. m. The Rev. T. L. Cashwell, Jr., officiated and interment was in Bessemer City cemetery.

Mrs. Connor died at her home at 105 Battleground avenue Saturday morning at 4 o'clock. She was a native of Stanley County but had lived in Kings Mountain for the past four years. She formerly resided in Gastonia, where she was a member of Armstrong Memorial Presbyterian church.

Survivors include three sons, J. C. Connor, Greer, R. A. Connor, of Shelby, and E. T. Connor, of Lumberton; three daughters, Mrs. J. P. Panther, of Kings Mountain, Mrs. H. N. Panther, of Shelby, and Mrs. C. B. Carlyle, of Gastonia; 22 grandchildren, and one great grandchild.

KIWANIS SPEAKER — John Payne Williams, of Montreat, will address members of the Kings Mountain Kiwanis club Thursday night.

Kiwanis Club To Hear Williams

John Payne Williams, professor of education at the American College of Life Underwriters, will address members of the Kings Mountain Kiwanis club at their meeting Thursday night at 6:45 at Masonic Dining Hall.

Mr. Williams will speak on the subject "Challenges Ahead".

Announcement was made by Rev. P. D. Patrick, program chairman.

Mr. Williams is a graduate of Davidson College, Class of '16. He later obtained an M. A. degree from Columbia University. He was a faculty member at Davidson from 1926 to 1938 and previously was associated with the college as YMCA secretary.

Board To Study Sewage Survey

The city board of commissioners has tentatively scheduled a special meeting for Monday night at City Hall to consider the report of Olsen Engineering Company, which includes recommendations for revamping of the city's sewage disposal system and expansion of the city's water distribution system.

F. H. Mengel, engineer with the Raleigh firm, conducted the survey and is expected to be present to explain in detail his report.

Pending Monday's meeting, the board of commissioners did not discuss or consider the report at the session this week.

Azelias Donated To City Cemetery

Nine azelias have been given the city for use at Mountain Rest cemetery and 100 rose plants.

Sam Suber, cemetery superintendent, said that Mrs. Charles Warlick was the donor of the beautiful azelias, which were planted near the Dilling Street entrance yesterday.

The rose plants were the gift of the city beautification committee.

Board, Firemen In Disagreement Over Procedure

The city board of commissioners may be faced with the necessity of replacing in the near future the 18 volunteer members of its fire department, including Fire Chief Grady W. King.

Differences between some members of the board and its volunteer fire-fighters have been pronounced, almost since the board took office last May, and delations have been more strained in the past few weeks.

Chief King said Wednesday that "Under present instructions for answering alarms the volunteer members of the fire department are giving notice of resignation, effective January 1."

The relations between the board and the fire department have worsened since early November when the board ordered a radio, first ordered for the fire chief's car, not installed. Originally the radio was to be installed in the chief's car to speed his calling of the general alarm when it appeared grass fires were getting out of control.

Procedure has been, Mr. King said, to ring the general alarm at any time a citizen reports his residence or other property ablaze. If a grass fire was reported, it has been policy for Chief King himself to investigate and to determine danger of the fire's spreading.

"We feel if we make as many as a dozen useless calls, it is worth it if, on the next, we save a person's property," Mr. King said.

As understood by the firemen, procedure suggested by the board is to let the two paid on-duty firemen answer an alarm in the Number 1 fire truck, then summon the firemen by general alarm.

"Under the present circumstance, we feel forced to resign," Chief King said.

The matter was aired by the board without any tangible results at Monday night's meeting.

Commissioner B. T. Wright made a motion as follows: "That the fire chief be allowed to run the department at the best of his

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Child Injured By Auto Friday

Charles Franklin Wilson, five year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Wilson, who suffered a broken leg when hit by an auto last Friday afternoon, remained in a very critical condition Tuesday.

According to a report of the investigating officers, Ed Martin and B. F. Sessoms, the child was playing in the street when he ran in front of the vehicle, driven by Wade H. Strange, of route three.

The youth was taken to Kings Mountain hospital.

No charges were made against Mr. Strange, police said.

Mrs. Mauney Is Appointed Chairman

Mrs. Jacob Mauney has been appointed chairman of the Junior Red Cross for the Kings Mountain chapter of the American Red Cross, according to an announcement by Mrs. J. N. Gamble, executive secretary for the Kings Mountain chapter.

Plans are now being made for the annual Junior Red Cross drive which is conducted throughout the schools in No. 4 Township.

Mrs. Gamble stated that the Junior funds were restricted to Junior activities only and part of the funds were sent to overseas Childlren's relief.

Herald To Advance Christmas Paper

As has been the custom for the past six years, the Kings Mountain Herald will advance its issue, scheduled for Christmas week, to appear the day before Christmas.

The edition will be distributed to readers on the morning of December 24. It will be the annual Christmas edition and will carry special Christmas feature material, Christmas greetings from business firms, and last minute suggestions for late Christmas shoppers.

Schools of Pre-Bell Era Discussed In High School Journalists Series

(Ed. Note — The Kings Mountain high school journalism class is interpreting the chronological order of the story of the Kings Mountain schools, in order to tell about the schools of the Pre-Bell era. The group had not anticipated having the opportunity of learning about the schools of more than 75 years ago. This article, the fourth in a series written by members of the class, is based on an interview given by S. S. Weir.)

The first free school in the Kings Mountain community, serving children from the old gold mine through the surrounding country, was a one-room building located on the present lot of Mrs. G. D. Hambright, on Battleground avenue. The property was then owned by W. M. Falls.

The seats were made of heavy, unpainted slabs with legs fastened to the back side. They had no backs. Desks were not used and there was one blackboard on legs. The pupils used chalk similar to that in use today. Students used slates for figuring but used copy books, pen and ink for practicing penmanship. To one side of the room was fastened special writing board, planed smooth and about two inches thick. The ink was kept on the board. There was a special bench for it and the children went to that bench to practice penmanship. On one side of the room there was a rock chimney and an open fire place in which wood was burned. The students cut the wood, made the fires, and cleaned the room.

Teachers

The teacher was hired by free school committeemen, who relied on their own judgment in selecting someone capable of teaching. There were no special requirements for teachers in that day. The term consisted of three months of free school each year. Generally, the fourth month was paid for by subscription, the

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