

DIVIDEND NOTICE

KINGS MOUNTAIN BUILDING AND LOAN ASSOCIATION has declared its regular semi-annual dividend at the rate of 3 percent per annum as of December 31, 1952, and such dividend is available to the customers on that date and will be credited to savings accounts and, if not called for, will be mailed to those receiving cash dividends.

J. C. LACKEY, Secretary

Burial Place of Santa Said to Be in Italy

SANTA CLAUS, otherwise St. Nicholas, otherwise the one-time bishop of Myra in Asia Minor, is buried in Bari, Italy. His body was stolen from its original tomb in Myra and swiftly borne to Bari by Italian sailors, who thought back in 1087 that a saint's body brought prosperity and good luck to your town.

St. Nicholas, who was tortured and imprisoned for his faith during the reign of Emperor Diocletian, found no rest in his first tomb at Myra. Always some expedition was attempting to remove his remains:

However, once buried again in Bari, the saint's body was credited with curing 30 people of distemper and performing other miracles. So Bari became a place of pilgrimage, and the legends about St. Nicholas multiplied apace.

We owe our notion of Santa Claus as a secret dispenser of gifts to a story that St. Nicholas once saved three girls from a life of prostitution by throwing purses of gold through a window in Patara, thus permitting a poverty stricken nobleman to give his daughters suitable dowries as custom demanded.

In addition, St. Nicholas was credited with restoring life to some boys who had been slain and dismembered by a wicked innkeeper of Myra—hence the occasional stained glass windows in which the saint is shown beside three lads in a tub.



TIME OUT . . . Santa Claus pauses in his Christmas Eve visits sometimes to pick up a hot dog and ice cream cone at an all-night hamburger stand.

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FORTUNE TELLER
ORIENT
2 3 4 5 6 7

YOU can have fun figuring out your message from the Orient by use of this pleasant little letter puzzle. If the number of letters in your first name is 5 or less, subtract from 7. If more than 5 letters in your first name, subtract from 11. Now take this result and find your key letter in the word ORIENT at the top of this puzzle. Then, starting at the upper left corner, check each one of your large key letters as it appears from left to right. Below the key letters is a code message for you.

T	N	O	T	I	R	E	R	E	O	N	R	T	I	R	O
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S	O	I	F	S	E	D	H	O	M	O	F	T			
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H	R	P	I	A	T	A	T	H	E	O	I	S			
R	R	O	T	E	E	N	I	T	I	N	I	E			
F	B	N	H	I	C	E	S	I	O	S	H	A			
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Lincolnton Sextet, Hickory Boys Favored To Top Western AA Titles

By Ronald Kiser
CHERRYVILLE — Lincolnton's girls and the Hickory boys are once again this season given the nod in the Western AA basketball races. Although both teams have lost their entire squad Coach Jack Kiser of Lincolnton and Coach Gene Miller of Hickory are expecting to come up with powerful freshmen-laden clubs.

Coach Kiser lost his entire squad including Forwards Shirley Parker, Betty Snipes, and Ramona Ballard, Guards Fredia Bost and Frances Gregory but Donnie Smith, Norma Turner, Martha Dysart, and Barbara Aiken have stepped in and together with Guard Mary Jo Elmore, the lone returning letter-winner from last season, these gals are expected to give Kiser his sixth crown in a row. The Lincs, during Kiser's tenure, have won 114, lost and tied three each. Five successive Western flags have been won by the Lincolntons, also two Valdesse Gold Metal Tournament titles, one Western Conference-South Piedmont Conference crown, and two state championships. Last season, they were bea-

ten by Reeds High 51-50 in the semi-finals of the state tourney. Lincolnton was slated to open league play at home last week with Shelby providing the opposition.

Leo Duncan, Herman Busby, Dick James, Rhette Walker, Johnny James, Thomas Bolick, and Bob Dale will lead the high-flying Hickory quint into action. The Hickorians have beaten Spartan and Barium Springs in a couple of pre-season starts. The Catwaba five wait until Jan. 13 to launch their loop campaign with Lenoir's Bearcats.

Both Kings Mountain outfits are given a chance of taking the crown. Shirley Falls, Gertie Jenkins, and Geraldine Barnett top the gals with Jimmy Kimmell, Ollie Harris, Bob Hullender, and Bill Ruth at the head of the class on the boys' roster. The local girls will be tutored this season by Everette Carlton who replaces Art Weiner with Don Parker returning to take over the boys. Last season, the girls won but one with the boys taking six. The Mountaineers, who open the season here with Tri-Hi of Caroleen on Jan. 8, play hosts to Lincolnton on Jan. 30.

Rachel Pharr, scorer of 289 points last session, Neill Duncan, who canned 36 points last week as Cherryville downed Shelby's Dover Mill by 66-53, pace the Cherryville six coached by George Neill. Neill, who piloted the locals to but one triumph last season, also has Guards Martha Jane Putnam and Frankie Dellinger on hand. The former Barium Springs boss expects to have a fairly good campaign. The Cherries are host to Kings Mountain Jan. 23.

Bill Beach, 6' 1" forward, tops the returnees on the boy's side of the ledger at Cherryville with Don Saine, Ray Mauney, Bob Turner, Jim Newton, and Charles Randall also back. The Cherries

dusted off 11 family foes in 14 starts last season for one of their most successful seasons in history. Beach tallied 375 points in '51-52.

Wrether Johnson's Belmont Raider six are also expected to be in the thick of the fight for a first division berth. The Belmonters, who were a disappointment last season, have their entire squad back and with another year's experience behind them, there're expected to be tough. Forwards Shirley Traywick, last season's top point-getter, Martha Wright, Mary Faye Goudebeck, and Dot Wilkenson spearhead the offensive with Betty Cavender and Betty Smith the top defensive performers. The Belmont five, which hits K. M. at Belmont Jan. 16 and at Kings Mountain four days later, was slated to launch their season last week with Rutherford Central at Belmont.

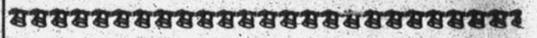
Christine Melton, who scored well over 300 points last season, returns to help Pop Simmons, the grand ole man of Western North Carolina baseball, at Rutherford Central. Melton, high-scoring forward, paced the Hill-topper six to a berth in the conference tournament last year at Statesville. Judy Dockerey, Ruth Bennett, and Bonnie McGinnis are the other R-S Central stars. The Centrals have won from Mt. Vernon twice and Harris High in pre-season starts.

Coach Lloyd Little's sharp-shooting Shelby lads will probably give defending champ Hickory a run for their money. With Andy Cockrell, Johnny Long, Dave Byers, Ronnie Austell, and Bill Kirkendall returning from last season's outfit, the Shelblans rate a post on the pre-season to-tam pole. Cockrell, an all-circuit cage star last session, scored 16 and 14 points respectively as Shelby won from Grover's All-Stars in a pair of pre-holiday contests. Long, an all league footballer and a Shrine Bowl standout, tallied 15 in both games.

Newton-Conover, the last team to defeat Lincolnton's girls in conference play, should turn up with a great club. Vivian Clapp, a 249-point scorer last season, returns to head the class with Doris Mauney, Carolyn Bostian, Glenda Brady, Alice Clapp, Betty Biggers and Martha Christopher are the other stars of Coach Harry Lemon's Red Devillets. Newton opens play with Morganton's Wildcats Jan. 6.

The Lenoir and Marion boys are other outfits that are expected to be in the thick of the flag scramble. Footballers A. G. Jones, Jerry Waters, Happy Setzer, and Jimmy Simmons are tops at Lenoir with James Mask, Mickey Poteat, Delno Shook, and Red McKinney the Marion stand-outs.

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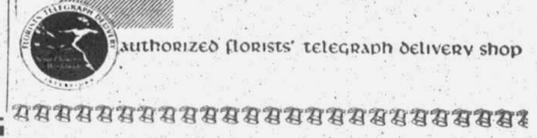


THIS CHRISTMAS

We look to the bright, shining star that symbolizes the light and hope of the world at Christmas! Glorious symbol of the will for peace Brotherhood of man and good will to all - In this reverent mood we express our sincerest wishes to friends and patrons that the Christmas season will give you the richest blessings of contentment, happiness and prosperity

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626 EAST KING STREET phone 361

authorized florists' telegraph delivery shop

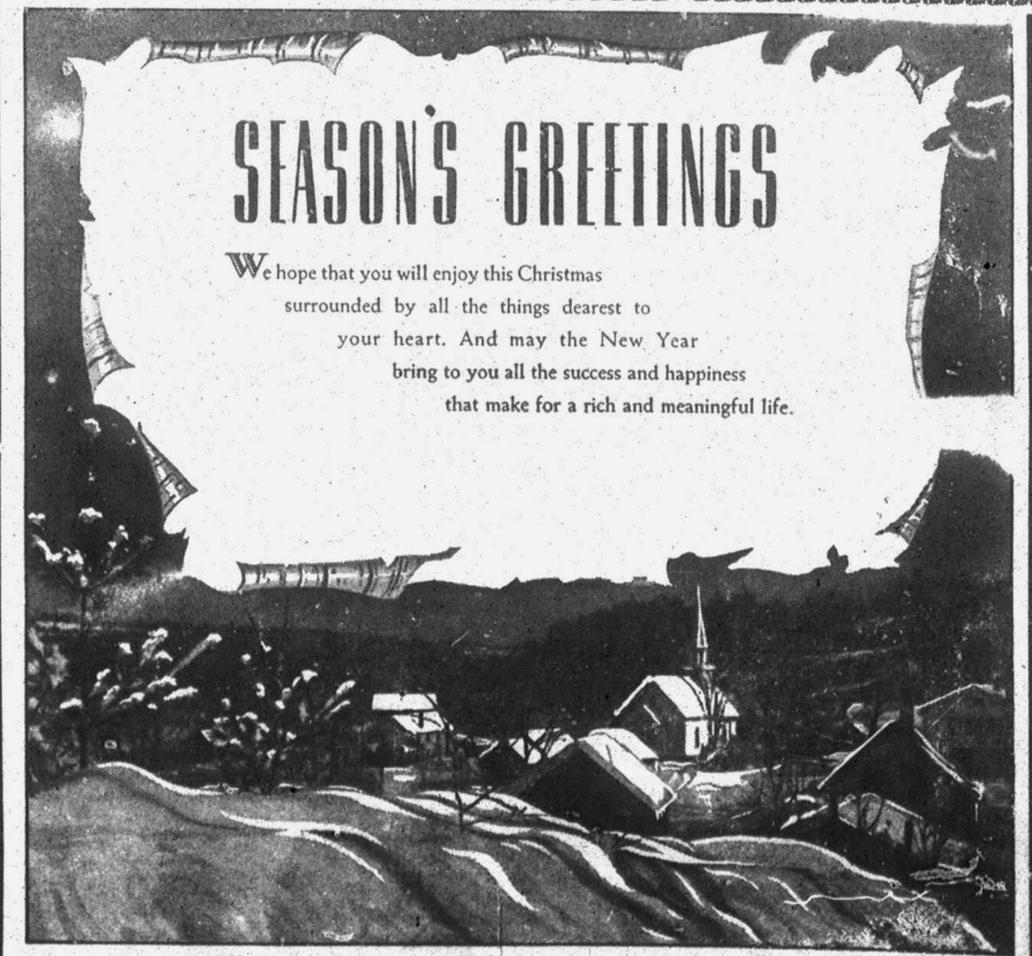


So come all ye faithful...

Christmas what a hold it has on the hearts and imaginations of man! Its spirit puts a beauty and joy into our lives. So we may carry good cheer and good will wherever we go. In this spirit of deep-down gladness we wish our friends a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



KEETER'S
Department Store



SEASON'S GREETINGS

We hope that you will enjoy this Christmas surrounded by all the things dearest to your heart. And may the New Year bring to you all the success and happiness that make for a rich and meaningful life.

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