

### Jaycee Project To Aid Needy

Wednesday will be the last day to help the Junior Chamber of Commerce make Christmas merrier for Kings Mountain's most needy families.

The club's third annual "Buy A Can, Leave A Can" project is to close Wednesday and Jaycees will distribute "Merry Christmas Baskets" to a list of families furnished by the Red Cross.

Fred Weaver, chairman of the Jaycees' Christmas activities committee, yesterday urged all members of the club to meet at Plunk Motor Company Wednesday at 7 p. m. to begin preparing the baskets, which will be distributed later in the evening.

Many citizens have been purchasing staple food items for several weeks now and depositing them in baskets at grocery stores all over the Kings Mountain area in cooperation with the "Buy A Can, Leave A Can" project.

All grocery firms in the area

are cooperating with the Jaycees in the food collection. The drive last season failed to furnish enough food for the two dozen baskets delivered and the club purchased some \$100 in additional items.

The drive this season is reported as going better but still far short of the goal and citizens are urged to purchase several items while food shopping Tuesday and Wednesday.

Students at Central school, under the SPO, have turned in a large quantity of food for the project, chairman Weaver reported.

Also serving on the committee with Chairman Weaver are Sam Mitchem, Clinton Jolly, R. G. Plonk, Jr., Robert Whiteside and Curtis Gaffney.

"With just a little extra effort and not much expense, you can help make Christmas a happier season this year for some needy Kings Mountain family. I urge you to make several purchases Tuesday or Wednesday and cooperate in this very worthwhile project," Mr. Weaver said.

### Craftspun Holds Christmas Party

Employees of Craftspun Mill were entertained from 2-4 p. m. at their annual Christmas Party Sunday, December 17, at the Craftspun lunch room. Attendance was estimated at 1,000 persons.

A short talk by G. C. Kelly opened the party, and was followed by an invocation by Rev. Gordon Weekley.

Door prizes of hams were drawn by Harold Phillips, and the winners were Dela Foster, Bessie Ham, Earnest Couser, LeRoy Green, William Letter, Henry Smith, Jesse Burton, Robert Wright, and Lawrence Street.

Jonas Bridges was Master of Ceremonies, and entertainment was presented by Pete Frederick, tap dancer and singer; Carolina Twins, Charles and Henry Foster; Gene and Elmer Martin, hillbilly singers; trio, consisting of Rev. Gordon Weekley, Louise Gladden, and Melba Tindall; Kingsmens Quartet, consisting of Jones Bridges, Bill Pack, Basil Lovelace, and Martin Frederick, and Fred Kirby, WBTV Cowboy star.

Refreshments were served during intermission.

Those assisting in serving were Dorothy Hüllender, Helen Falls, Lorena Falls, Coleen Kiser, Edith Lovell, Catherine Thomasson, Virginia Bolds, Faye Bennett, Janie Martin, Mary Howell, Sarah Bell, Dorothy Bennett, Essie Mae Huffstetler, and Helen Woods.

The lunch room was decorated with candles and greenery. Andy Huffstetler and Russell Owens by were co-chairmen in charge of decorations for the event.

All children under 12 were given a treat of fruits, nuts, candies, and toys.

### KINGS MOUNTAIN Hospital Log VISITING HOURS

Daily, 10 to 11 a. m.  
3 to 4 p. m. and 7 to 8 p. m.

**PATIENT LIST AT NOON**

MONDAY: James Mark Howell, admitted Tuesday, November 17.  
Constance Davis, admitted Thursday, December 10.  
Michael D. Carroll, admitted Sunday, December 13.  
Seydell Garcia, admitted Sunday, December 13.  
Maggie McClain, route 1, Shelby, admitted Monday, December 14.  
Mrs. Rose Holmes, admitted Tuesday, December 15.  
Jim Patterson, route 2, admitted Tuesday, December 15.  
Edith Floyd, admitted Tuesday, December 15.  
Bertha Hüllender, route 2, admitted Thursday, December 17.  
Chris Ralnes, route 3, admitted Thursday, December 17.  
Mrs. Etta Crider, route 1, admitted Thursday, December 17.  
Earl Wright, admitted Friday, December 18.  
C. P. Goforth, admitted Friday, December 18.  
Betty Smith, route 3, admitted Saturday, December 19.  
Germie Waters, Cherryville, admitted Saturday, December 19.  
Mary Gordin, admitted Saturday, December 19.  
James Childers, admitted Sunday, December 20.  
Mrs. James Franklin, admitted Sunday, December 20.  
Mrs. Mary Ella Ellis, admitted Monday, December 21.  
Danny Abernathy, admitted Monday, December 21.

### DOUBLE CHRISTMAS

By Lillace M. Mitchell

EVERYONE in the club thought it an excellent and unique idea; double Christmas! Wonderful! Two connecting rooms which would accommodate any number of members and guests—one room a real, modern Christmas tree, the other an old-fashioned tree.

"All right, then," laughed the president when the clamor had died down. "It's voted, definitely. Now, for the two committees to handle the two trees. I'd like volunteers. I know how busy everyone is at this time of year and if I may have volunteers, I shan't be imposing on anyone."

Unfortunately, all those who volunteered wanted to trim the modern tree. No one offered to take the old-fashioned tree in the old-fashioned room. Linda Marby was almost as astonished as anyone when she said she would be responsible for it.

Outside in the clear, cool night she wondered why she had offered. She was a stranger in this community and knew no young men who would put up the thirty-foot tree for her. A teacher of freshman English in a small high school does not meet many young men.

At last she decided to let the putting-up of the tree wait and get the ornaments ready: mostly homemade, the Christmas committee had told her; something like pioneer life, the tree must be. So she went into a grocery store and asked for popcorn. It was the same answer in five stores: usual.

### Christmas Today Is Too Commercial, Many People Believe

Today we hear many people say that Christmas has been "commercialized" and has lost its true meaning.

"Has it?"

Is it wrong this one time in the year to make the dominate theme one of giving, rather than receiving?

Giving has always been a major part of the Christmas theme—the giving of joy and happiness to others whether it be spiritual or material.

It is true that economically no other holiday or festive season contributes so much to the welfare of the world. The holiday has hardly passed into the new year before thousands are at work on toys and Christmas specialties for the next year.

Giving will remain one of the great joys of Christmas for all time to come. The idea has survived through the centuries and nothing will ever stop it.

What, after all, brings more joy than seeing people happy; than watching children and loved ones open gifts and express their thanks in words and deeds?

It is, essentially, the Christmas story.

### Sgt. Charles Clary Home From Korea

Sgt. Charles L. Clary, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Clary, Ridge street, Kings Mountain, arrived home last Wednesday from Korea, where he spent 14 months on active duty.

Sgt. Clary came by plane from Seattle, Wash.

He is an infantryman.

A Marine Air Wing is comparable in size to a Marine Division of ground troops.

### Negro News

By Mrs. Annie Gordon  
105 Carpenter Street

**Bynum Service**  
Quarterly Conference at Bynum Chapel, A.M.E. Zion church began Saturday night and concluded Sunday morning at the church service hour. J. D. Gladden, superintendent, was in charge of the services. Rev. Reid R. White, the pastor, made the announcement and reported the conference meeting.

MERRY CHRISTMAS from WEIRS COAL Ted Weir

North Carolina farmers paid an average of \$3.35 per hundred pounds to have their 1953 cotton crop harvested. The average rate for the nation is \$2.80.

### Germans First Lighted Christmas Tree Here

German immigrants, homesick for the traditions of their native land, were the first to decorate Christmas trees in their homes in the United States, according to tradition.

Historians believe it was about the end of the Revolution that the practice began to grow in the colonies.

Before that the Pilgrims forbade Christmas celebrations on the grounds they were pagan. And a Massachusetts law in 1689 subjected anyone to a fine who observed the day by feasting, refraining from work or in any other manner.

Historians also believe that Martin Luther was the first to decorate and light a tree. He was fascinated by evergreen trees, glistening with starlit snow, pointing to the heavens at Christmas time. So he brought an evergreen into his house and lighted it with candles for his children.



"Popcorn!" his voice and blue eyes were both incredulous. "First time I ever saw a young lady running around in the dark for popcorn!"

ly they had an excess of popcorn but now they were entirely out.

Linda Lou was getting panicked by half past eight that night.

At nearly nine o'clock she saw a man in a small grocery store window reach up to pull out the light. "Oh, wait, wait, please," she said breathlessly as she pushed open the big door.

"Well, you must be really hungry!" laughed the tall, dark young man teasingly. "What'll it be?"

"Popcorn!" she said.

"Popcorn!" his voice and blue eyes were both incredulous. "First time I ever saw a young lady running around in the dark for popcorn!"

So Linda told him all about the old-fashioned tree and how she had been unable to buy any popcorn which must be popped and strung and ready for the tree.

"They gave you little enough time," he grumbled as he went back to the shelf. "Whoever heard of getting up a thing like that in one day! I'd best help you, I think. I'll pop tomorrow morning while you are in your school."

"But your job here?"

"Oh, this isn't any job. I'm a newspaper photographer. Just came down to visit my aunt and uncle and helped out in the store while they went for a visit with a sick friend. Seems rather strange, doesn't it? I got time off which was unusual. Came down here although I could have gone for the holidays to any one of a dozen places. You offered to trim a tree. I have the popcorn—" he hesitated.

"—and you offer to pop it."

Linda Lou added in her breathless fashion. "Why—it—it's like a story, almost. Isn't it?"

"It certainly is," he agreed, smoothing his black hair back as he stared down at her. "Now I never wrote a story in my life but I have noticed that in the stories, it all ends happily."

Linda felt the color rising in her cheeks.

"Well, I'm sure it will make a very happy ending if that tree is up and trimmed in time for the party, the Christmas party—"

"Ah, now, don't just use words to drag this out. Christmas party, indeed! Of course, they don't use Christmas trees at any time except Christmas. Well, I'll get the tree up and pop the corn and we'll color it pink. How does that sound?"

"It sounds wonderful," she murmured.

"Yes, the whole thing sounds wonderful to me, too. With maybe a bit of mistletoe on a long, high branch."

Linda Lou only nodded. It seemed a part of a huge pattern, she thought. A pattern marked MERRY CHRISTMAS.

**Church Notices**

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
REV. P. D. PATRICK, Pastor

Sunday: Sunday School 9:45 a. m.  
Morning Worship 11:00 a. m.  
Sermon Topic: "Travel Stains"  
Pioneer Fellowship 5:00 p. m.  
Senior High Fellowship 6:00 p. m.  
Program by College Students 7:30 p. m.

Monday: Cub Scouts 3:15 p. m.  
Boy Scouts 7:30 p. m.

Wednesday: Senior Choir Practice 7:30 p. m.

Thursday: Brownie Scouts 3:15 p. m.

Friday: Girl Scouts 3:30 p. m.

Merry Christmas

To all our friends we extend our heartiest wishes for gladness and good fortune for Christmas and the New Year.

**ARTHUR HAY AGENCY**

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## CITY OF KINGS MOUNTAIN, N. C.

Sealed bids will be received by the Mayor and Board of the City of Kings Mountain, N. C., in the Office of the City Clerk until 7:00 P. M., Thursday, January 7, 1954, for the construction of municipal improvements for the City of Kings Mountain, North Carolina, at which time they will be publicly opened and read.

The work will consist of improving West King Street from the intersection leading to the Kings Mountain Hospital to Watterson Street and shall include the necessary drainage structures, excavation, the laying of concrete pavement with curbs on each side of the street, and 4-inch sidewalks and 7-inch driveways as shown on the plans.

Plans and specifications and contract documents are open to public inspection at the City Clerk's Office, Kings Mountain, North Carolina; the office of the General Contractors' Association, Charlotte, North Carolina; and at the office of the Engineers, W. K. Dickson & Co., Inc., 404 1/2 South Tryon Street, Charlotte, North Carolina, or may be obtained from the Engineers upon deposit of \$5.00. The full amount of this deposit will be returned to each actual bidder.

No bid may be withdrawn after the scheduled closing time for the receipt of bids for a period of 30 days.

Each proposal must be accompanied by a deposit equal to 5% of the gross price bid: This deposit consisting of cash or a Cashier's Check issued by or a Certified Check drawn on a Bank of Trust Company authorized to do business in North Carolina or on a Bank insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, or a U. S. Money Order, payable to the City of Kings Mountain, North Carolina, or a Bid Bond issued by an Insurance Company authorized to do business in North Carolina, said deposit shall be retained by the City of Kings Mountain, North Carolina, in the event that the successful bidder fails to execute a formal contract within ten days after notice of award is given, or fails to give satisfactory surety as required in the instructions to bidders.

General Contractors are notified that "An Act to Regulate the Practices of General Contracting" ratified by the General Assembly of March 10, 1925, and as subsequently amended, will be observed in receiving bids and awarding general contracts.

The Mayor and Board of Commissioners reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive informalities.

CITY OF KINGS MOUNTAIN, N. C.  
G. A. BRIDGES, MAYOR.

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