



Merry Christmas



Kings Mountain Herald

Kings Mountain's Reliable Newspaper

20 Pages Today

Population
 Greater Kings Mountain 10,320
 City Limits 7,206

The figure for Greater Kings Mountain is derived from the 1955 Kings Mountain city directory census. The City Limits figure is from the United States census of 1950.

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CITIZENS PLANNING TRADITIONAL HOLIDAY

Building And Loans Likely To Increase Dividend Rate

Associations In Shelby Have Hiked Their Rate

Directorates of Kings Mountain's two building and loan associations will meet this week to consider raising the dividend rate of savings accounts to three and one-half percent.

Both A. H. Patterson, secretary-treasurer of Home Building & Loan association, and Ben H. Bridges, Jr., secretary-treasurer of Kings Mountain Building & Loan association said they would submit their directors to consider dividend rate, following announcement Saturday by Shelby associations that they were raising to the three and one-half figure, effective January 1. Like Kings Mountain's associations, the Shelby associations had been paying three percent.

The likelihood is that the Kings Mountain associations will vote the increased rate.

"I feel we'll have to follow suit," Mr. Patterson commented. He said there was no question but that failure of Kings Mountain associations to pay the new rate would result in heavy withdrawal of savings, which, in turn, would move to associations providing greater dividends.

"It wouldn't happen overnight," Mr. Patterson said, "but over a period of time withdrawals would be heavy."

Mr. Patterson said he expected to call the Home Building & Loan directors into session Monday morning.

Mr. Bridges, though expressing some reluctance at upping the dividend rate "at this particular time," added, "If the other associations are raising dividend rates, we'll raise them, too." Kings Mountain Building & Loan directors will convene either Monday or Thursday.

Possibility of raising the rates has been discussed and considered by the building and loan associations previously and is a result of so-called "tight" money. As recently as last week, U. S. Treasury 91-day bills sold a 3.33 percent interest. This is the short-term financing device of the Treasury Department.

Interest rates have been increasing constantly for several months, as loans from banks have been heavy for a wide variety of purposes.

Associations here have paid as much as five percent on savings and as little as two percent. The five percent was in vogue during the Depression of the Thirties. The two percent rate was used during World War II when there was virtually no building activity.

Today's Herald Final of Year

Today's Herald will be the final one of 1956. Published in advance of regular schedule, as is the traditional Herald Christmas custom, the paper includes Christmas greetings from Kings Mountain merchants, feature material on the traditions of the Christmas holiday, and news of the events of the past weekend as well as forthcoming events during the holiday season.

The Herald will close Monday afternoon for the Christmas holidays and will re-open on December 31. The next edition of the Herald will appear on January 3, 1957.

Local News Bulletins

TV APPEARANCE
Bob Hoffman, Herald sports editor, will be a guest on the "Big" Bill Ward sports show on WBTW Thursday night, December 27. Mr. Hoffman will give his predictions of the upcoming national football Bowl games.

FIREFIGHTERS
Kings Mountain firemen spent Sunday, one of the insurance Agency to extinguish a fire caused by a short circuit wire; the other to 310 Waco road to extinguish an oil stove blaze. Firemen extinguished a grass blaze on Gold street.

NO MOOSE MEETING
Members of Kings Mountain Moose Lodge 1748 will not hold their regular meeting Thursday night, December 27, according to an announcement.

KIWANIS PROGRAM
The Kings Mountain Kiwanis club will hear an address Thursday night by Ray Killian, of Charlotte, personnel manager of Bell's of Charlotte, who will discuss "Human Relations Keys to Better Dividends." The club convenes at the Woman's Club at 6:45.

LODGE PARTY HELD
Kings Mountain Moose Lodge 1748 held a Christmas party Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock at the lodge on Bessemer City road for children of lodge members. Gifts were presented to all children under the age of 12.

STILL IN HOSPITAL
Arnold W. Kincaid, Bessemer City businessman and Kings Mountain School Board chairman, is still undergoing tests and observation at Kings Mountain Hospital. Mr. Kincaid is expected to be released from the hospital Monday.

Father And Son Instantly Killed When Struck By Truck Wednesday

Double funeral rites were held Friday for a Kings Mountain father and son, who were killed Wednesday night in an automobile accident near Bethany ARP church.

The two victims were Vester Gillespie, 57, and his son, William T. Gillespie, 31. York County Coroner A. V. Leslie, Jr., said Saturday that the Gillespies were killed when they were struck by a furniture firm truck driven by William H. Ennis, Jr., of Conley Springs, N. C.

Mr. Leslie set the scene of the accident at about one-half mile north of Bethany ARP Church. He added that the Gillespie car, a 1951 Ford, was parked in the road with the left door open. The lights of the vehicle blinded the driver of the approaching truck, according to reports from the driver and Coolidge Wycoff, a passenger in the truck.

The truck, leased by Tallant Transfer Co., of Hickory, hit the

Three Churches Are Presenting Christmas Rites

Two Christmas Eve services and another on Christmas morning will highlight church religious celebrations of Christmas here, following special rites in virtually all churches during the past weekend.

On Christmas Eve, the community's two Lutheran Churches will hold 11 p. m. services, featuring Christmas music and brief meditations. On Christmas morning, First Presbyterian church will hold worship services at 10 o'clock.

The Christmas Eve rites are traditional with Lutheran churches here and elsewhere and customarily attract not only Lutherans but many other citizens of the area.

Dr. W. P. Gerberdin, pastor of St. Matthew's Lutheran church, said the rites at his church will take the form of a musicale, with special music by the church choir, two featured soloists, congregational singing of Christmas hymns.

Soloists will be Miss Frances Summers and Miss Margaret McLarty, both sopranos. Miss Summers will sing "O Holy Night," by Adam, and Miss McLarty will sing "Come Unto Him," from Handel's "Messiah." The choir will sing five anthems, including "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming," "Over Bethlehem's Town," "What Child Is This?" "Sing Gloria" and "Carol of the Bells." Dr. Gerberdin will conduct the meditation. The choir will bear lighted candles during the procession.

Resurrection Lutheran's 11 p. m. rites will be a candlelight service, Rev. Douglas Fritz, the pastor, announced.

Resurrection Lutheran church will be entirely lighted by candles. The service will include Christmas music and Christmas scenes portrayed in tableau. The church's three choirs will participate. The service will be concluded with a candlelighting ceremony in which each worshiper will receive a lighted candle.

Rev. P. D. Patrick, pastor of First Presbyterian church will deliver a Christmas sermon at 10 o'clock Christmas morning in another Kings Mountain traditional Christmas season services.

Majority of Kings Mountain's other churches completed their traditional rites on Sunday.

The Central Methodist choir presented Handel's "Messiah" on Sunday afternoon, and Boyce Memorial ARP church had a Christmas pageant on Sunday evening.

Baby Derby Announced

The Kings Mountain Herald's second annual baby derby is being announced this week.

Numerous Kings Mountain retail firms, cooperating in the contest, are announcing in today's Herald many valuable gifts for the kings Mountain area's first arrival of 1957.

Rules of the contest provide that the winner of the 1957 derby must be born in the Kings Mountain area to parents who are residents of this area. Rules also provide that entries must be filed by January 10 and that certificates of attending physicians must certify both time of birth and place of birth. In event of the unlikelihood of a tie, the contest judges' will determine division of the awards. The judges' decision will be final.

Sue Ann Arrowood was winner of the 1956 contest and also the Cleveland County winner.

Neislers Decline Comment On Rumored New Shelby Mill

Tax Listing To Begin Here On January 2

City and county tax listing will get underway on January 2, officials reported yesterday.

The annual listing chore, which is required by law during the month of January, will be underway daily here Mondays-through Fridays from 8 a. m. to noon and from 1 to 4:30 p. m.

No listing will be done here on Saturdays as the Number 4 Township lister, Conrad Hughes, will be at Grover on those days. When in Grover, Mr. Hughes will set up for business at R. E. Hambrick's store.

J. W. Webster, city tax collector, will handle the city listing duties.

Mr. Webster and Mr. Hughes will follow identical schedules here in order that citizens can handle their listing for both city and county at the same time.

Principal change in the tax listing procedure is decision of Mr. Webster to dispense with mailing of forms whereby citizens can list taxes by mail. All property-owners will be required to appear in person to list for taxes.

The tax listing officials noted that all property, both real and personal, within the county must be listed for taxes. In addition, males between the ages of 21 and 50 are required to list for poll taxes.

As last year, business firms will not be required to list their inventories with the tax lister. They are to supply these figures (on forms to be provided via mail) to County Tax Supervisor Max Hamrick. The city, in turn, will obtain the figures from the tax supervisor.

Most Citizens Having Holidays

Many of Kings Mountain's citizens are currently enjoying Christmas holidays, as majority of industrial establishments have suspended operations.

Virtually all the rest of Kings Mountain will close down on Christmas Eve for at least a two-day holiday, as retail merchants go home after the busy holiday selling season.

There are some exceptions. Service stations will be open for business as usual as will motion picture houses.

Drug stores are on a varied schedule as follows: Kings Mountain Drug Company will observe Sunday hours on both Christmas day and Wednesday, December 26. Griffin Drug Store will not formally open on Christmas Day but druggists will be available for emergency prescription service. Griffin will operate on regular schedule Wednesday. Stroupe Drug Company will be closed Christmas Day and will observe Sunday hours on Wednesday.

City Hall offices will be closed Monday and Tuesday, reopening Wednesday. These offices will also be closed New Year's Day, along with majority of the retail firms. County offices will be closed Monday through Wednesday.

Building and loan associations will close Monday at noon and will reopen Thursday morning. Kings Mountain post office will be closed Christmas Day and again on New Year's Day. Indicating the Christmas rush of mail is over, schedule for Monday calls for only one delivery, Assistant Postmaster George Hord said.

St. Luke's Christmas Story

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed.

(And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.)

And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city.

And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David.)

To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.

And she brought forth her first-born son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flocks by night.

And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone around about them: and they were sore afraid.

And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

And this shall be a sign unto you: Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go and see this thing, which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.

And they came with haste, and found Mary and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.

And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child.

Site Reported Bought For New Fabrics Firm

Rumors are current here and in Shelby that Paul M. Neisler, Sr., and his sons will construct a new textile manufacturing plant in Shelby.

There is no confirmation from Mr. Neisler nor from members of his family. Two of his sons, Henry P. Neisler and Charles A. Neisler, replied to formal questions "no comment".

That the Neislers—who sold their seven-plant Carolinas operation a little more than a year ago to Massachusetts Mohair Plush Company—will build in Shelby was common street talk in Shelby last week and the rumor was being discussed in Kings Mountain business circles.

Kings Mountain folk expressed regret that the mill is going to Shelby instead of Kings Mountain.

The reason, as expressed by a person close to the situation, was this: "They came after us."

It appeared another feather in the cap of the Shelby Chamber of Commerce, which again, it was reported, served as a catalyst in helping to arrange the transactions involved. However, Paul Limerick, Chamber of Commerce secretary, also said, "No comment."

The rumors, unconfirmed but thought to be reliable, are: P. M. Neisler, Sr., in behalf of himself and others, has purchased a 20-acre tract, cut by a stream, near the Shelby WOHHS radio station.

A new modern plant will be constructed for the manufacture of fabrics.

Mr. Neisler sought county aid for a water line to serve the projected new plant, received a similar answer to the one given Massachusetts Mohair Plush Company here. The county has no further funds currently to use to build water lines and, legally, cannot pledge future income.

However, informal inferences were that the county would furnish funds, if and when they become available. Meantime, the rumors are, the Shelby Chamber of Commerce borrowed the water line outlay of about \$14,000 from a Shelby bank, with some 30 Shelby businessmen endorsing the note.

P. M. Neisler, Sr., was treasurer of Neisler Mills, Inc., which prior to October 1955 operated here, in Ellenboro, Shelby, Double Shoals, Pageland, S. C., and Mayo S. C.

His three sons are Paul M. Neisler, Jr., associated with Massachusetts Mohair Plush Company, Henry P. Neisler, employed by a Concord fabrics manufacturer, and Charles A. Neisler, general manager of Blackmer & Company, Kings Mountain cotton brokers.

Wyatt Near End Of Hospital Stay

Christmas should be a happy time for the Cliff Reid Wyatts of 106 Wingate Circle, Gastonia.

Mr. Wyatt, a patient at Kings Mountain Hospital since last July, is spending the Christmas holidays, with his family, and faces the prospects of being released from his hospital bed early in 1957.

The recently discharged 14-year Army veteran was injured in an equipment accident on North Piedmont avenue in July and lost his left leg as a result of these injuries.

Wyatt was mangled in a tractor-type payloader while working for Neal Tawkins Company of Gastonia. The Hawkins firm was doing grad-

Church Rites, Family Dinners Feature Season

Kings Mountain will observe a traditional Christmas against a background of improving conditions in its bread-and-butter textile industry.

For textiles, 1956 has not been the happiest of years, but majority of textile men express optimism for the next several months.

Citizens will be busy Monday with last-minute gift buying and housewives will be putting the final touches on larders filled with traditional Christmas season food.

Essentially, Kings Mountain's Christmas for most folk will be quiet, featuring religious services, family gatherings and the visits of the children's friend, Santa Claus.

Church services feature two 11 p. m. Christmas Eve services at St. Matthew's and Resurrection Lutheran churches, and a 10 a. m. service Christmas morning at First Presbyterian church.

For almost all it will be a bright and cheery Christmas.

For the needy, numerous church groups and civic organizations are making a point to supply both food and gifts, toys and clothing to make Christmas a joyous holiday for all. The Moose Lodge, American Legion and city police department are distributing toys to children in 65 families.

The city's population is already swelled with the arrival home of the community's college population.

Christmas entertaining is already well-underway with numerous private parties.

Mrs. Curtis Bell Hurt In Accident

Mrs. Curtis Bell, Belvedere Drive resident, is in Kings Mountain Hospital with severe head injuries received about midnight Friday night when her car overturned on the old Kings Mountain-Blaidsburg road.

Dr. Paul Nolan, attending physician, said Sunday that Mrs. Bell's condition is "serious but improving."

According to reports from members of the family, Mrs. Bell was taking Don Kiser to his home following a Christmas party when the accident occurred. Kiser was not injured in the accident.

Road conditions were wet and slippery at the time of the accident, and it is believed that Mrs. Bell, driver of the 1952 Chevrolet, lost control of the car which overturned.

The wrecked car was said to be a total loss.

Building and Loan Dividend Total Will Set Record For Period, Year

Kings Mountain's two building and loan associations will again pay record dividends to association shareholders on December 31.

Reports of the two associations this week showed that building and loan association shareholders will receive on the final day of the year a total of \$55,774.36.

The final six-month dividend payments will also set a new annual record, with dividend payments from the two associations totaling \$106,161.61. It is the first time these dividends have topped the \$100,000 mark and compares

with \$87,934.49 paid last year.

A. H. Patterson, secretary-treasurer of Home Building & Loan association, reported final six-month dividend payments at \$30,857.08. These include \$956.79 on installment shares, \$16,208.44 on full-paid shares, and \$13,691.85 on optional savings shares.

The Home Building & Loan total for 1956 will reach \$58,935.93, comparing with \$51,211.55 the previous year.