### Clayton Ollis Named Youth Of The Month

The Shelby Exchange Club at its meeting last week honored Clayton Ollis, a senior at Kings Mountain High School, as its Youth of the Month. Clayton was selected for this honor not only because of his outstanding scholarship record, but because of his extra-curricular school and community activities. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Ollis of Rhodes Ave., Kings Mountain

At Kings Mountain High School Clayton is Vice President of the senior class, as well as being a member of the National Honor Society, the Beta Club, the student council, and the Drama Club. He is very active in his church, the Second Baptist Church, serving as youth president, as youth department song leader, and as a member of the youth and adult choirs.

Ollis plans to attend Mars Hill College, majoring in religious music, in hopes of ultimately applying his abilities as a church music director.

The Shelby Exchange Club honors eight Youths of the Month during the school year, selecting two seniors from each high in Cleveland County. At the end of the year the club selects one of these eight as Youth of the Year, to whom it awards a scholarship. That per-



CLAYTON OLLIS

son so honored competes for state honors, the winner of which competes for the National Exchange Club's Youth of the Year award.

## Students To Be Tested

Kings Mountain public schools continue to check the progress of their students in math, reading and language arts through state achievement tests administered each Spring.

More than 400,000 students in grades one, two, three, six and nine throughout North Carolina will be tested this year in late March and early April.

Achievement tests are given in reading and math in grades one and two. Students in grades three, six and nine are tested in language arts as well as reading and math.

The test is designed to measure how well a student is performing in skills and knowledge emphasized at the student's grade level. Teachers can easily pinpoint each

student's learning strengths and difficulties and compare the performance of various groups of students.

The latest testing results in June of 1982 revealed that, for the second consecutive time since its inception in 1978, North Carolina's elementary and secondary students scored above the national average in all grade levels on the state's annual testing program.

North Carolina's students surpassed the national norm in all grade levels for the first time in the Spring of 1981. Between the Spring of 1981 and the Spring of 1982, the average student in North Carolina improved in performance in all tested areas. Improvement averaged a full school month over last year. Compared

to the norm, students scored higher in language and math than in reading.

According to the 1982 annual statewide report, the average student in the state--whether grouped by sex, ethnic origin, handicap, region, or education level of parents-had shown growth in all subjects in the grades that were tested when compared to the previous year.

#### IF

You plan to buy furniture, wait 'til Jan. 13th. The Big Sale is coming.

## Loans Available

High school seniors in Kings Mountain need not rule out colleges in the fall if money is the only problem. Students with a good academic record who plan to teach in a specific course shortage area may apply for a scholarship loan from the State Department of Public Instruction's Prospective Teacher Scholarship Loan Fund.

The teaching shortage areas include math, physics, chemistry, agriculture, excep-

tional children, and vocational education.

Awards for the program are in the amount of \$1500 per academic year and are limited to undergraduate study. A recipient may participate in the program a maximum of four years.

Last year, the department awarded 135 new scholarship loans for the current school year. Since 1957, about 11,578 high school seniors and other undergraduate students interested in entering the public schools as certified teachers have received financial assistance.

A recipient has seven years to repay the loan through teaching in the public schools or a federal school located in North Carolina. One year of the loan is repaid for each year taught. If a recipient does not repay the loan by teaching, he/she must repay the principal of the loan plus interest. Because of the shortage of teaching jobs and other factors, prospective teaches have been given an extension on the time allotted to repay a loan.

Application forms are available from the Division of Personnel Relations, State Department of Public Instruction, Education Building, Raleigh, NC 27611. Applications should be received before March 1 for priority consideration. Awards will be announced in early May.

#### Income Tax Course Set

Cleveland Tech's Continuing Education Department announces a course in Income Tax Preparation to be taught by Gary Ritchie, an experienced teacher and tax preparer.

Instruction will deal with Federal and State income tax preparation to help individuals with interpretation of new rules and regulations.

Registration will be held at the first class meeting on Tuesday, January 4, 1983, at 6:30 p.m. Classes will be held for eleven weeks on Tech's campus in room 114.

An \$8.00 registration fee will be charged for adults 18 years and older. Persons 65 or older may register free. Additional information may be obtained by calling 484-4015.

#### DIVIDEND

The Board of Directors of First Citizens Corporation declared a quarterly dividend on common stock of \$1.90 per share at its December board meeting in Raleigh.

The dividend is payable Jan. 4, 1983, to shareholders of record Dec. 28, 1982.

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