



TALKING TO SANTA—Marylee Dilling, on Santa's lap, Amy Mauney, Kimberly Stinchcomb, Haley Montgomery and Angelena Sisk give Santa their "wish list" during a Christmas party at The Dance Academy of Dance Campbell Jane Campbell of Jane Campbell.

Ruth Gamble President Of Retired Persons Group

Ruth Gamble was elected president of the Kings Mountain Chapter of Association of Retired People at the monthly meeting Wednesday at the Senior Citizens Center.

Other officers are Cecile Pendelton, vice president; Helen Yates, secretary; Evelyn Herndon, assistant secretary; and Charles R. Walker, treasurer.

The last part of the Heritage films about Kings Mountain citizens in and about their daily activities during the periods of 1940-41 in color was presented by the staff of Kings Mountain Fire Department.

Gifts were brought by the members to the meeting for the sunshine committee to distribute at Christmas to residents of Kings Mountain



RUTH GAMBLE

Convalescent Center.

Membership in the local chapter has reached 72 and is open to the public.

The Festival of Lights bring joy to the Jewish community

For Jewish children, this is the season for a favorite holiday: Hanukkah, the Festival of Lights, or the Festival of Dedication.

This joyful feast celebrates the victory of Judah Maccabee and his brothers over the tyranny of Syrian-Greek rule, over 2,000 years ago.

Not only does the holiday commemorate a great victory, it is also a reminder to the Jewish people of a miracle that occurred when the Temple was cleansed and rededicated, after the Maccabees had found it desecrated.

According to legend, the liberators of the Temple found only one flask of oil with which to light the Temple can-

delabrum, enough oil for only one day. Miraculously, the oil burned for eight days. These days were later declared a festival, and the holiday of Hanukkah was born. The First Book of Maccabees describes this first celebration and the events leading up to it.

During the eight days of Hanukkah, one light of the *hanukiah*, a nine-branched lamp used especially for the holiday, is lit on each successive night, both in the synagogue and the home, until the lamp is ablaze with lights.

In the synagogue, portions of the Torah are read on each day of the holiday, as well as psalms of praise.

In the home, the lamp is placed in

a window to let passersby know which night of the holiday it is. On the fifth night, a candle is lit especially for the children, at which time they may receive their Hanukkah "coins", small coin-shaped chocolates, wrapped in foil.

Traditionally, small gifts are exchanged each night, but in modern times, gifts are generally given on one night. Children are traditionally given gelt, or money, as a symbol of the coins struck by the Hasmoneans, the Jews who fought for political independence after the liberation of the Temple.

Feasting adds to the joys of the Hanukkah season. Special dishes are

prepared at this time, such as pancakes or *latkes* of all kinds, a yeast doughnut called *sofganiyot*, and shaped cookies.

For the children, the custom of spinning the *dreidel* is probably the most fun of all. A four-sided top, the *dreidel* is decorated with Hebrew letters and is spun for sums of money, amid much merriment.

Parties, gifts and games...no wonder Jewish youngsters look forward to this special holiday each winter!

More importantly, Hanukkah is the celebration of a victory in the long struggle of the Jewish people for religious freedom.

Merry Christmas



SILENT NIGHT, HOLY NIGHT
ALL IS CALM, ALL IS BRIGHT.
ROUND YON VIRGIN, MOTHER
AND CHILD: HOLY INFANT
SO TENDER AND MILD,
SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE,
SILENT NIGHT, HOLY NIGHT,
SHEPHERDS SHAKE AT THE
SIGHT. GLORIES STREAM FROM
HEAVEN AFAR, HEAV'NLY
HOSTS SING ALLELUIA.
CHRIST THE SAVIOR IS BORN,
CHRIST THE SAVIOR IS BORN.

Donna Mike Billie
Lucille Sherry
Peggy Loretta Lynn
Beth Muriel Penny Chris

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