



Scene Of Armed Robbery

Kings Mountain Police Captain William Roper talks with the desk clerk following a robbery at about 1 a.m. Saturday morning in which three black men described as "ordinary looking customers" robbed the Royal Villa Motor Inn of over \$200 in cash and travelers checks.

Robert Anderson, of 1215 Spring Drive in Shelby was manning the desk at the motel when two black men came to the door. Anderson said they looked like customers so he opened the door for them. The two men walked in, immediately followed by a

third man carrying a rifle. One man said "this is a holdup" and instructed Anderson to empty the cash register. He began doing so and another told him he wasn't going fast enough and jumped over the counter to help. The men then ran from the hotel and Anderson did not know if they were walking or driving. He did describe two of the robbers as being of medium build and one over six feet tall. Anderson had been filling in for his father, the regular third shift clerk, who was on vacation. He also told police that this had been his last night on duty.

Citizens Speak Out At Board Meeting

By Jay Ashley
Mirror News Editor

Two citizens of Kings Mountain appeared before the city board Monday night to air their grievances on two different issues.

Nancy Wiggins of 505 Ellenwood Street and Helen Ballew of 920 Henry Street came to the board to ask why the streets on which they live had not been paved. Mrs. Wiggins said, "the street is one big mess. There are holes all over the street. The city also put something on the road a while back (the substance was a pre mix to prevent dust) and the stuff got all over our cars and we couldn't get it off."

Mayor Moss explained that the pre mix had been put down on request of several citizens in the area to cut down on so much dust. A heavy rain that day had caused the mix to become almost tar-like.

Mrs. Wiggins complained that the petition for paving the road had been entered almost two years ago and she wondered why no action had been taken. "According to new statutes, petitions that have not been acted on must be resubmitted for bid," explained Commissioner Jonas Bridges.

Another major complaint of the ladies was that the power source to their homes was insufficient. Mrs. Ballew and Mrs. Wiggins told the board that air conditioners and even one refrigerator in the area had burned out and according to repairmen the cause was lack of enough current.

"Usually I turn on my television set after dinner," said Mrs. Wiggins, "and I only get half a picture. The lights are also very dim and I average replacing bulbs at a rate of about twice a week."

Earl Turbeyll, head of the electrical department told the ladies that the cut back in current could have its source from Duke Power. "Sometimes they cut back the current without informing anyone,"

Mayor Moss instructed Turbeyll to check on the matter Tuesday and report the matter back.

The Kings Mountain Improvement Association was also present at the board meeting and had Rev. W.F. Scott present as its spokesman. Rev. Scott expressed dismay over the condition of parts of the black community.

"Some of the streets are almost impassable because of the holes and bumps, and I'm tired of spending over \$9 every month to get my tires aligned because of driving over these streets."

Rev. Scott also asked the board about the Federal Grant that was supposed to fix up Davidson Park area. "We have no park to speak of. I went swimming at the pool and got so sick I couldn't drive home, I had to stop on the side of the road. I want to know where that Federal money is. If you can't tell me maybe the Federal government can."

(Tuesday we talked with the Mayor and the Federal Grant had been in the amount of \$10,000 of which the city received \$9,891. The grant, falling under the Urban Beautification and Improvement Program, was obtained August 12, 1969. The Davidson Street allocation of this grant was \$1,005. This money was spent on the existing facilities as well as a portion of the lighting improvement, according to Mayor Moss.)

The Mayor explained to Scott that the poor conditions of properties in the com-

munity are due to the fact that it is hard to act on one man's personal property without the owners consent. "On such matters as keeping the grass clipped on vacant lots, the owner is supposed to do that and it is hard for us to go in and do that work if he has not consented."

The Mayor continued, "The streets you speak of are included for paving in the 1972-73 budget. We try to get to as many as we can, but as you saw tonight (referring to Henry and Ellenwood Streets) problems do arise. I have also been prodding the Congressman in this district to help us along with this Canlier Street project. When this is finally fulfilled requirement-wise, the matter of conditions of homes and streets will swiftly be acted on. Mayor Moss did not recall the amount of the Federal Grant but assured Rev. Scott that he would check on it.

"Self-service government is one of my primary aims for Kings Mountain. This system would make it possible for individual citizens to be a part of the governing body through committees that would hear the problems and offer solutions. Citizens would be working for citizens."

On the agenda business the commissioners voted to approve preliminary assessment resolutions after public hearings on Pineview Street and Caldwell Street. A proponent from the Pineview area, Hugh Scott voiced his approval. Scott resides at 404 Pineview. No pros or cons were sounded in the Caldwell matter.

A request by B.S. Peeler, Jr. to rezone the lot a 104 Dilling Street from residential to neighborhood business was also heard. The board voted to approve the consideration request and send it to the zoning board.

Princeton Drive from Fulton Road to Dead End-for paving; Alley off South Deal Street-for paving; Henry Street extension-for paving; Ellenwood Drive-for paving; W. Parker Street from pavement end to Dead End-for paving Williams Street from Edgemont to Dead End-for paving; Caldwell Street from Fulton Road to Maner Road-for paving, curb, and guttering; Maner Road from Phifer Road to Dead End-for repaving and curb and guttering; Pineview Street from Crescent Hill to End-for paving, curb and guttering. Under the new provisions, 50% of the total assessment of the job will be paid by the property owners. Bids will be taken on August 28.

Safety Committee Chairman and commissioner Biddix and Chief Tom McDevitt addressed the board on a consideration of request of Central Methodist Church for establishing a loading zone in front of the fellowship hall. The purpose of the loading zone is for the pre-school children who will be attending the nine month church school. The request was approved.

An exchanging of property off Highway 74 by Wade Tyner was also heard. City attorney Jack White told the board that Tyner (Wade Ford) would deed the city 60 feet right of way to make Castletown approach 74 at a right angle. "The way it is now, the road is dangerous," said White. The consideration was approved.

The board also sent to the zoning board a consideration to rezone all residential areas to permit day care centers. Jack White read parts of the city ordinance and pointed out various discrepancies in the rules. "Many cities," he continued, "have allowed day care centers in all residential areas. Many more women work today than before and I think this would be a progressive step." The consideration was passed with stipulation that there be at least 100 square feet of outdoor recreational grounds for each child.

Cornell Mauney, 23 and Craig Parker, 21, were confirmed by the commissioners for positions on the Kings Mountain Police Department in a probationary status. Also the board voted to promote Madison Marcellus Hunter from the rank of Patrolman to Sergeant. Requirements for promotion were at least two years with the police force and the highest grades on both written and oral examinations. Three of the eight eligible men took the exams.

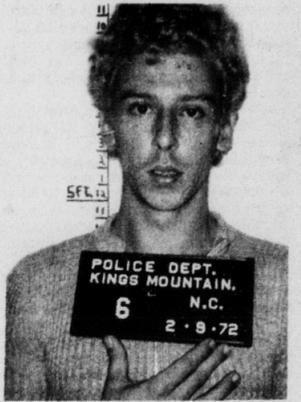
The board voted to authorize Mayor Moss to select a committee for Kings Mountain Centennial in 1974. The committee will be selected early in order to make the centennial celebration successful.

In other business the Mayor appointed Jonas Bridges as chairman of the newly formed Kings Mountain Dog Care and Control Committee. The Mayor expressed a wish for the committee to work hand in hand with county officials to make the program workable.

The Mayor also made it known that four positions for employment with the city were open. Anyone interested should contact the Mayor's Office or the Department of Public Works.

Consideration to authorize advertising for bids on chemicals for the water treatment plant and the waste treatment plant was also approved.

Bids are set for September 11. Norman King was absent from the Monday meeting.



Elford Guy Coker

Coker Declared Outlaw

The State of North Carolina and the General Court of Justice Superior Court Division has proclaimed Elford Guy Coker an outlaw.

The 25 year old white male is an escapee from the South Carolina Prison System and is also wanted by the Kings Mountain Police Department on a warrant for rape.

The order, signed by B.T. Falls, Jr., Senior Resident Judge of the 27th Judicial District and posted at the courthouse reads as follows:

In the matter of Elford Guy Coker; It having been made to appear to the undersigned Judge of the 27th Judicial District of the State of North Carolina, which is the Court of Record, by the Affidavit of Thomas E. McDevitt, Chief of Police of Kings Mountain, Cleveland County, North Carolina, that Elford Guy Coker has been charged in a warrant of the felonious charge, the felony of carnally knowing and abusing a female child under the age of twelve years, to wit, five years of age; and is also on escape from the South Carolina Prison System, he having been convicted of armed robbery.

The order went on further saying:

I do hereby further order and direct that this proclamation be published at the door of the Courthouse of Cleveland County, North Carolina and at the Courthouse door of any other County in which said fugitive is supposed to lurk and conceal himself; and if such fugitive continues to stay out lurking and conceal himself and does not immediately surrender himself, any citizen of this State may capture, arrest, and bring to justice, and in the case of light resistance by him, after being called on and warned to surrender, may slay him without accusation or impeachment of any crime pursuant to General Statute of North Carolina 15-48.

According to Captain William Roper of the Kings Mountain Police Department, a warrant had been issued for Coker's arrest. Sunday afternoon they received information that Coker was hiding in the woods behind his parent's home at 116 Cloninger Street in Kings Mountain.

Roper went on to say that about 1:30 the police and other officers surrounded the woods and the house in an effort to capture the fugitive. Accompanying the search party were three prison officials with bloodhounds. The officers approached the house and found that it was empty. Roper was leaving the scene when he spotted the Coker family car near Highway 216 and he radioed to Officer Tommy King to stop the car and search it. King did so and when the car stopped, Elford Coker came from the back and ran into the woods. King stated that he had been lying on the floorboard of the back seat. Coker's father was driving the vehicle.

Officer King gave pursuit but fell down an embankment, breaking his right foot. Roper stated the officers then continued the search until dark behind the Bennett Brick and Tile business with no luck.

"Coker has been run by the dogs before," Roper said, "and he knows how to backtrack thru the creeks and swampy areas."

Coker is described as being about 150 pounds and five feet, nine inches tall. His hair is almost jet black, curly and he has a rather ruddy complexion. He has brown eyes and a two inch scar on his left cheek. Anyone knowing the whereabouts of Coker is urged to contact local law enforcement officers.

For Class Of '62 It Was A Big Reunion

By SANDRA WILSON

"Hello, glad you could make it," "You haven't changed a bit!" "Jerry, do you remember those oral book reports?"

These are only a few of the comments heard Saturday, August 12 at the Royal Villa Motor Inn as twenty-seven members of the Kings Mountain High School class of 1962 and their guests held their first reunion in ten years. Plans were immediately outlined for another one in five more years.

Henry, who is a successful lawyer in Anderson, S.C. was unable to attend due to a bar association meeting in the West Coast. Ernie commented that this was the second time he had had to give Henry's speech the first being on graduation night, May 30, 1962. At that time, Henry had to make a trip to the West Coast with his family.

The guests enjoyed a buffet supper of ham, roast beef and the trimmings. Those attending from Kings Mountain were; Bud and Sandra (Plonk) Bumgardner; Danny and Joyce (Winders) Williams; Junior and

Sandra (Bumgardner) Wilson; Steve and Gail (Maddox) Brown; Tom and Marlene Bennett; Robert and Carolyn Lovelace; Jerry and Vivian (Henderson) Rikard; Danny A. Thomason; Tommy and Joyce (Wright) Wytee. Bobby and Sara (Hicks) Robertson came from Cherryville, N.C. Those attending from Gastonia were: Joe and Katherine Fite; Dale and Diane (McDaniel) Hollifield; Arthur (Buddy) and Rachel Robinson; Bobby Waters and his guest, Charlotte; James and Elaine Hammon; Alton and Brenda Stewart. Arnold and Colean (Wright) Ledford claimed Shelby as their home.

South Carolina guests were: Mrs. Carolyn (Jonas) Gardner; Ernie Payne, Jr.; George and Linda (Eaker) Randolph; Jackie and Annette (Thrift) Whitaker; John and Judy (Watterson) Woody call Durham, N.C. their home base.

Earl and Dottie (Gibbons) Duckett, Jr. called Norcross, Ga. their home. Traveling the most distance to be here for the occasion was Mrs. Marlan (Plonk) son at Post Office Box 84, Kings Mountain, N.C.

Those Class officers present were: Sandra (Plonk) Bumgardner, Treasurer; Do-

ttie (Gibbons) Duckett, Jr., Treasurer; Judy (Watterson) Woody, Treasurer.

Class President Henry Raines is now in Anderson, S.C. in law practice. Tommy Barrett, Vice President is in bur-Clayett who now resides in Stow, Ohio. Tom Bennett's band, The Caravelles, provided music for dancing after the meal and short business meeting.

Anyone who was a member of this Class of 1962 who wants more information about our plans for another reunion in five years should contact Sandra (Bumgardner) Williams with a floor covering company; David Hardin, our class Secretary, now operates Hardin's garage.

The one class treasurer who did not attend was Sara Rose Lennon who now resides in Paris, France and is a tour guide for Hollins College in that city.

Special recognition for the planning, decorating, and details went to Joyce (Winders) Williams, Sara (Hicks) Robertson, Sandra (Plonk) Bumgardner and Sandra (Bumgardner) Wilson.

Richard L. Williams who is now in Guam is employed by Philco-Ford at the Satellite Tracing Station as Senior Field Tech.

Approximately 106 graduated May 30, 1962.



Among those attending the KMHS class of '62 reunion Saturday night at the Royal Villa were Marion Plonk Clagett, with Adrian; Dottie Gibbons Duckett, Earl Duckett; and Carolyn Jonas Gardner. See entire reunion photo inside. (Mirror Photo by Lem Lynch)

White's Station Robbed By Armed Bandits

White's Service Station, near the Military Battleground, was robbed early Tuesday morning according to the Sheriff's department. H.C. White, owner and operator of the service station told officers that he was in the store about 3:30 Tuesday morning straightening out the soft drink bottles when two black men came in. They hit him an undetermined amount of times around the head with some object.

White told the Sheriff's officers that the men took his wallet and tried to open the cash register but failed. White stated further that he had tried to get up about three different times and each time, was knocked back down. The last time he attempted to get up, the men fired a shot at him with a pistol but luckily, the shot missed.

The thieves made off with approximately \$200 worth of cash.

Detective Putnam from the Sheriff's department told the MIRROR that White had been picked up on the road by a neighbor, who took him to the Grover Clinic. From there White was transferred to the Cleveland Memorial Hospital to undergo a series of X-rays.

Robert Lee Marsh, 37, of Route 9, Box 35-A, Shelby was dead on arrival at Shelby Hospital Sunday.

Sgt. Wilbur Benton of the Cleveland County Sheriff's Department answered a call to the Marsh home Sunday afternoon. Benton reported that he entered the front door of the home and found Marsh lying on the kitchen floor with a .38 caliber pistol beside him. Marsh was rushed to the hospital but was dead on arrival, at 3:08 p.m. No ruling has yet been made in the matter.