

## Agent Praises Local Policemen

# FBI Main Goal Is Internal Security

By Jay Ashley

"The people of Kings Mountain should be very proud in having a dedicated officer like Chief Tom McDevitt in town."

So spoke the tall figure standing before the Rotarians at their weekly meeting at the Country Club. The man was a former basketball star with the St. Louis Hawks and the Baltimore Bullets. He is also a former student of West Point and a 1965 graduate of Syracuse. But his position now is neither sports star or military officer.

He is a special agent with the FBI.

The man is Charles Richards, special agent out of the Charlotte field office. Richards, along with his boss, George Knight, cover the four county area around Kings Mountain.

Richards was on hand to speak to the Rotary Club about the function of the FBI in general and in and around Cleveland County in particular.

The agent told the people in attendance how the branch of the Justice Department fits into the activities of a small town.

"Although we don't have a lot of the criminal activity

that one would find in New York or Chicago, we do have our share of the work," Richards explained. "A lot of our work comes in the form of deserters (from Fort Jackson, Fort Bragg and other bases), interstate transportation of stolen property and bank robberies."

"We are out here in the field alone and when we need assistance we have to go to the local law enforcement agencies. I have tried to build a rapport with the local lawmen in assisting me in investigations." At this point Richards praised Chief McDevitt for his aid.

Richards also used his time to dispell many myths surrounding the FBI and its work.

"People watch such programs as the 'FBI' on television and equate us with Efrim Zimbalist Jr. The program is factual but as far as the running gun battles you might see on the other shows go, you will hardly ever see this in real life."

"You may see a show where the lawmen rush the house to capture a fugitive, but the FBI does not operate that way. If we have any information about the whereabouts of a criminal we will surveille the

place. The main thing to note is that the FBI captures a criminal on the FBI's terms and not his. We will apprehend him when he least expects it." To emphasize this point Richards cited that the last two agents to die in action was January of 1969 and that was through a lack of knowledge of the suspect. The agents accidentally came upon the criminal and were gunned down. In the fifty some years the FBI has existed under its current name, only 23 or 24 agents have been killed, a fairly good record. It should further be noted that in the first few years of the FBI the agents weren't allowed to carry arms.

The North Carolina branch of the FBI is not slack in its efforts at curbing crime either. Last year, Richards stated, Charlotte was ranked fourth in fugitive apprehensions and convictions, and recoveries of stolen goods.

The requirements for a position with the bureau are stiff. Lawyers, accountants, scientists and language experts with three years of executive experience is the basic requirement. Batteries of tests, both physical and mental are given the applicants. Out of 4,000 applicants next year only 400 will be taken.

"We need more men. Especially we need minority representation in the bureau. Blacks, Puerto Ricans and other groups are encouraged to apply with the Bureau. The requirements are tough and the standards will not be lowered but a man who gets in is in the finest of company."

J. Edgar Hoover's dream, an FBI National Academy at Quantico Marine Base in Virginia has finally been made a reality as Richards reported. Quantico has been the training ground for FBI men in the past, but now it has been updated with the most modern of facilities for training not only the FBI men but also for training police officers. "We want to train as many police officers as possible, so they can take the FBI's techniques back and teach others."

The FBI has been under constant scrutiny for the past few months with "exposes" and other similar occurrences coming into public view. Richards emphasized that the FBI's prime function is the protection of internal security. In this context he said, many accounts have been distorted through lack of information to the public.

"I know you have read of the FBI has been snooping here

and there into various people's private life. Since our main function is protecting internal security that is what we must do. If we investigate someone who has been known to make statements which may be a threat to security, we have to investigate them thoroughly, and whatever we find must be included in our reports." Richards also quoted a statement made by L. Patrick Gray, acting director of the FBI concerning well known people's appearance in FBI files. "We do run checks on those who may be in criminal activities."

Richards also had praise for the acting director, Gray pointing out that when he took control he visited all 59 field offices and shook hands with every agent in the organization. The determination of Gray to keep the Bureau in highest esteem was illustrated by Richards as he told the group what Gray said upon appointment. "I haven't won the job of director, but that doesn't mean I won't try." And that is determination.

### Reunion

The John Hawkins family reunion will be Sunday, Sept. 17. Dinner will be at 1 p.m., Lake Crawford Shelter #1.



The New Temple Sanctuary. (Mirror Photo)

## Temple Baptist To Dedicate New Building Sunday

The new facilities at Temple Baptist Church, located at 612 N. Candler Street, will be dedicated this Sunday, September 17th. During the 11:00 worship hour, Rev. Lewis McGaha, a former Pastor from 1961-1967 will bring the message of dedication. Following this service there will be "dinner on the ground." At 2:30, a time capsule metal box containing pictures, newspapers, and other historical items will be sealed and placed behind the cornerstone which will also be set in place. Open house will be held from 3 to 4 p.m.

Since the Church's building program is now completed, Temple Baptist has a 500 seat sanctuary plus a 100 seat balcony and a 40 seat choir; a lounge; a bride's room; a prayer and counseling room; a library; a church office; a Pastor's study; a choir room; a financial room; a kitchen and fellowship hall; six rest room; two assembly rooms; and twenty four class rooms. The sanctuary along with all the educational space is air conditioned. At the present, the old sanctuary, completed in 1948, is being used as a re-

creational building for the youth of the Church. From the time the Church was organized in 1945, Temple has had six Pastors, Frank Shirley, the present Pastor, came to Kings Mountain in 1967.

## Squad Answers 111 Calls

In August the Kings Mountain Rescue Squad answered 111 calls, travelled 2,192 miles, and put in 1,137 man hours on duty. During the busy month the volunteer squad answered 19 wreck calls, ran 2 blood relays, made 18 service calls, 4 house calls, made 39 transport trips to Kings Mountain Hospital and 3 to Gaston, 5 to Cleveland Memorial, and 8 to Charlotte.

The squad did stand by duty at 4 Music Park shows, 1 football game, and answered 1 call to search for a missing person, and one false alarm to a reported drowning at the old city water lake.

## Permits Issued

Building permit activity was light last week as seven permits were applied for at City Hall.

Bridges Brothers cont., Inc. permit to build a new house at 600 Lee Street. Cost at \$23,600.

Permit for a sewer tap that was made by Red Blanton at "K" Mills on August 23, 1972. Sewer tap costs listed at \$100.

Melvin Morrison applied for a gas tap at 904 N. Gantt Street. Cost of permit \$35.

M. H. Biser, a permit to repair an old house at 408 W. Gold Street at a cost of \$575.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Boyd, a permit to erect a utility building at 301 Scotland Drive. Cost of building \$200. Mrs. F. G. McDaniel, a permit to do repair and remodel work on house at 808 Fourth Street. Cost at \$300.

Richard Greene, a permit to erect a utility building at 110 Castlewold Drive at a cost of \$300.

## Campground Is Host To Exotic Guests This Week

By Sylvia Holmes

In addition to the local fauna and a single gypsy moth, the K.O.A. campground situated on I-85 in Kings Mountain is hosting some rather more exotic guests this week.

In a black cage on wheels towed by a large white camper truck, 2 bears and a chimpanzee accompany Al-Szasz as he travels around the southeast. Accompanying the Hungarian born animal lover is his German wife and also a trained dog which is part of his animal demonstration. Although his home is in Gerald, Missouri, Al-Szasz works for the Southeastern

School Assemblies of Greensboro, N.C. He travels around giving animal demonstrations to school assemblies (mostly elementary and junior highs) and occasionally to other groups such as the Job Corps. He was due to be at a school in Gaffney, S.C. last Monday.

The object of his program is to teach by their behavior that animals are intelligent and have emotions. He admonishes the youngsters to hunt with a camera rather than a gun. He has worked steadily for the past five years doing these programs and he stayed at the K.O.A. campground last year while working the Gastonia ar-

ea.

With him this week are Miss Tanya, a five and a half year old chimpanzee, Yogi, a three year old American brown bear and "Vic, the bruiser" a thirteen year old Canadian black bear weighing in at 655 lbs! Another chimpanzee is expected to arrive this week and there are many other animals, including a giraffe and alligators, back home in Missouri.

So if you happen to be a camper and happen to be camping in the southeast during the next nine months of the school year, take a close look at your neighbors for they might be of the four-legged variety!



Yogi looks quite at home on the campground.



(Mirror Photos by Sylvia Holmes) Miss Tanya frolics in the shade.

## Nine Day County Fair Features Many New Attractions

The 49th annual Cleveland County Fair will get underway Friday October 6 and continue through Saturday, October 14 at the Cleveland County Fairgrounds, located on Highway 74-A East, within three and a half miles of the center of Shelby. There has been no increase in the general admission ticket price this year... \$1.00 for adults, 50 cents for children 12 and under, and parking is 50 cents. All public school children in this section will be admitted free to the fairgrounds on Friday, October 6, Tuesday, October 10, and Friday, October 13, on tickets they will secure from their respective school principals, and there will be reduced rates for children on all rides up to 7 p.m. on these days.

Deggeller Shows, one of the largest road shows in the United States, will play the midway this year, and this will be their ninth appearance at the Cleveland County Fair. They carry all the standard rides, the giant sky wheels, the Flying Bob plus many other midway attractions for all ages. The Cleveland County Fair midway has been extended, and Deggeller is bringing to the fair this year a number of major rides never seen in this vicinity before.

Fair Manager E.L. Weathers has announced that many outstanding acts have been lined up for the evening grandstand shows which will begin each evening at 7:30 p.m. (No grandstand show will be held Sunday evening.) The American Mustang Hell Drivers will perform the following

evenings: October 6, 7, 10, 12, 13 and 14. Appearing each evening (except Sunday) will be THE FLOWERS FAMILY-musical act; BILL KING AND JACKIE- comedy and juggling act; THE GREAT BOROS- aerial thrill champion; and the circus band. BURGER'S ER'S ANIMAL REVUE will perform at the Monday through Saturday grandstand shows. On Monday night, LONZO AND OSCAR, THE BLUE RIDGE QUARTET AND THE MARK FOUR will perform in addition to the acts appearing each evening. Special attraction scheduled for Wednesday evening will be a DEMOLITION DERBY, the "World's Greatest Thrill Spectacular." Fireworks displays will be presneted nightly following the grandstand shows by the New York Fire-works Company.

The Fair will operate on Sunday, October 8, from 1 p. m. till 6:30 p.m. All rides, exhibit halls, cattle barns and food stands will be open and operating. There will be no games or shows in operation. Beginning at 2 p.m. in the grandstand, the Cleveland County Fair Association will present free a 2 1/2 hour program of gospel singing under the direction of Mr. Bill Bridges and featuring the favorite gospel singers from North and South Carolina.

Pony running races will be held on the fairgrounds race track Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons beginning at 2 p.m.

Stock car races will be held at the fairgrounds race track on Saturday, October 7, and

Saturday, October 14, with the grandstand opening at 12:30 p.m., and race time scheduled for 2:30 p.m. on these two dates. The best well known late model sportsmen drivers in North and South Carolina will compete in both races.

The Fair will again have the fine displays of Vocational Agriculture, Home Economics, Home Demonstration Clubs, 4-H Clubs, school booths, etc. A new steel barn (150' x 120') has been built for livestock exhibits in place of the old wooden barn. Premium lists show approximately \$20,000 in prizes for exhibitors in all departments, and exhibits in most categories may be entered up to 8 p.m. Thursday, October 5 before the fair opens on Friday. Anyone needing information about entering an exhibit should contact Fair Manager E. L. Weathers, P.O. Box 1268, Shelby, North Carolina.

Visitors to the fair are invited to register for a free bale of cotton which will be given away at a drawing to be held Saturday evening, October 14, at the grandstand show.

All persons 75 years of age and over will be admitted free to the fairgrounds every day. They will be asked to register, and a drawing will be held Saturday evening, October 14, for a valuable prize.

All visitors to the fair will be eligible to register once each day in the new livestock barn for a Guernsey helper calf to be given away before the grandstand Friday evening, October 13, at 8 p.m.

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