

Centennial

Phase 1: City Birthday Celebration Is February 11

By TOM MCINTYRE
Editor, The Mirror

The Kings Mountain Centennial Commission held its first planning session Monday night at city hall with discussions on a proposed activity outline and formation of working committees.

Co-chairmen Mrs. W. T. Weir and Charles F. Mauney and Mayor John Henry Moss gave brief comments on what the centennial celebration is all about, then threw their ideas open to discussion to the committee members.

The first aspect of the celebration, a proposed revival of "The Sword of Gideon," was quickly dashed on the rocks when Mrs. Ray Holmes, a drama committee member, suggested "we have begun too late to bring off the drama as it should be done in the few months remaining before June and July."

"Those months mean vacations to many people here," she said, "and students will be into summer jobs by that time."

Suggestions of a new drama being written were quickly dismissed because it would take from six to nine months to produce a show after the script is completed.

This project was shelved until further study can be made. However, it was noted that Dr. Eugene Poston has been contacted about having the Gardner-Webb College drama group participate and Poston offered to assist in any way possible.

"Dr. Poston even suggested this project might become a permanent part

of the college's drama program on an annual basis," Co-chairman Mauney told the committee members.

The outline of tentative celebration programs, offered for discussion by Mrs. Weir, included religious programs in all of the area churches on Sun., Feb. 10. Rev. Paschal Waugh and Rev. S. W. Avery will handle the religious activities committee, getting out letters to all churches outlining the program idea for that Sunday service.

"We felt more people would be reached through their own churches, rather than at a central meeting," Mrs. Weir said.

The official birthday for the city is Mon., Feb. 11 and on that day a program is planned in Central school auditorium. Mauney said that Gov. James Holshouser will not be able to keynote that program "as we had hoped, but Mayor Moss has been assigned the job of securing another speaker of close to equal stature as the governor."

Other events in the birthday program were discussed and will be worked out by the birthday committee.

Mauney said an effort will be made to coordinate the downtown merchants promotion for August and September. "Beard growing contests, crafts displays and the like have been suggested," he said. "Whatever is finalized it should be a thrust to emphasize the centennial."

The final celebration is scheduled for October to tie it in with the date of the Battle of Kings Mountain.

In connection with the centennial the commission will have brochures published containing the story of Kings

Mountain and including photos from the by-gone era. Mrs. Frank Summers' history of the first 50 years will be included and Martin Harmon is already at work on a history of the last 50 years to make the story complete.

In connection the news media in Kings Mountain will present, on a continuing basis, photos and stories from the city's past to make local people even more aware of their historical surroundings. "And this includes the black history of the city as well," Mauney said.

Mayor Moss, who also serves as vice president of the Cleveland County Historical Society, told the gathering "The society has pledged to assist in anyway possible to help us make the centennial celebration a success. One of the projects already discussed was restoration of the old Goforth home here, which predates Kings Mountain itself."

To coordinate the entire project the commission chairmen will solicit the aid of professional planners and has a meeting set for today at 1:30 p.m. with the first such organization. All information will be brought back to the commission members for discussion and approval.

Mrs. Weir said the theme selected, and open to discussion, for the centennial is "They Dared To Do - Your Kin and Mine."

Mauney announced the names of new commission members added since the last general release. Those members are Rev. Paschal Waugh, Rev. S. W. Avery,

(See CENTENNIAL p.8A)



Photo by Tom McIntyre

CO-CHAIRMEN TALK IT OVER - Charles F. Mauney and Mrs. W. T. Weir, co-chairmen of the Kings Mountain Centennial Commission, discuss the program Monday night at city

hall before presenting tentative plans to commission members. Celebration plans will begin with a "Thanks, King service" Sun., Feb. 10 at area churches.

Comes With DST

Kids In The Dark

"Based on all the information we have received, we are going to keep school hours by the clock", said Don Jones, superintendent of the Kings Mountain Schools.

The mood of many people throughout the state, according to various media accounts, is for school hours to be changed to keep children out of the dark when walking to school. However Jones stated he had received very little opposition to the new daylight savings time.

Jones said he had surveyed 700 parents of North School students about the new school hour schedule and had received only 25 replies "calling for a changing of the hours."

Police chief Tom McDevitt met with the school

superintendent this past Monday to discuss the situation and safety of the school children.

McDevitt said he had ridden around Monday and Tuesday morning observing the children and drivers. "It was very busy around the Cansler and Waterson St. areas. There were lots of children walking to school and some of the drivers were driving a bit fast," the chief said, "however Monday, I suppose, many people were late for work and were pushing it a bit. Tuesday was a lot better for the children. The drivers were going slower, but I did notice several children darting into the streets."

As an added safety measure, McDevitt brought flashlights and reflective vests to the school crossing guards. He noted they stayed in the streets most all morning and needed to be seen by motorists.

Don Jones said he was "glad to have an opinion from the chief about the situation" and they had both tried to "look at the whole matter objectively". Jones stated that many people are now bringing their children to school before going to work and an extra half hour or hour would make things confusing and inconvenient for many people.

"We looked at all angles before making our decision and we feel it will work out", Jones added.

Both Jones and McDevitt said the best thing to do under the circumstances is for the children to wear bright clothing when walking to school. Jones said even a handkerchief tied around the wrist may make the difference in the child being seen or not seen by motorists. Both men also urged parents to instruct their children in safety measures.

"Safety is our goal," said Jones, "and we want all the children to be careful. We have instructed our teachers to allow some tardiness during this period."



CENTENNIAL TAGS - C. P. Barry, a member of the Kings Mountain Lions Club, displays one of the 1974 city tags now on sale by the club. The auto tags are \$1 and can be purchased from members of the club, at The Mirror office, Western Auto, city hall and the offices of Attorney George Thomasson and Magistrate J. Lee Roberts. Proceeds go into club projects for the blind. Get a tag. This one will be a collector's item.

On February 11 Display Flag

To celebrate the City of Kings Mountain's 100th birthday on Mon., Feb. 11, citizens are urged to display the American flag.

Charles Mauney, centennial commission co-chairman, said three by five foot flags will be made available through Kings Mountain Savings and Loan, Home Savings and Loan, First Union National Bank and First Citizens Bank, The Kings Mountain Mirror and Kings Mountain Herald next Monday.

The flags will sell for \$5.50. "If you have a flag we urge you to display it on February 11," Mauney said. "If you don't own one, we urge you to buy one and help celebrate our city's first century of life."

Broyhill Visits KM - Talks Ford, Gas, Issues

Congressman Jim Broyhill spent time with The Mirror staff last Friday and commented on a number of issues now uppermost in the minds of his 10th Congressional District constituents.

First, in light of Sen. Sam Ervin's announcement of retirement this year, speculation is great that Broyhill will seek a senatorial seat in the November 5, 1974 election. The Lenoir native killed that speculation quickly.

"There's always been a tradition of an eastern and a western senator," Broyhill said. "And of course he's (Ervin) is only 16 miles from me and I suppose that's the reason a lot of folks think that I might run."

"I'm not a candidate," he continued. "I put that behind me many years ago. This is my sixth term, 12 years in the House. Seniority is still important. I'm third ranking House member now, after next election it's possible I would be second, maybe even senior member. That means, if you're in the minority you're the leader of the minority side. I just don't feel it's worth it going over to the senate and starting all over again. They have the same rules of seniority."

ON GERALD FORD The congressman said he felt, in his opinion, that Gerald Ford was an excellent choice for vice president.

"The investigation they gave him, I don't know how many of us could have withstood all those people looking over your past life," he said. "But he came through with flying colors. I'm real proud of him."

He said he hoped the President, as he has indicated, will use Ford as a liaison between himself and the congress. "We know from the history of vice presidents we didn't get much action at all," he said. "I'm hopeful the President will put Ford to



Photo by Jay Ashley

LEGISLATOR VISITS - Congressman Jim Broyhill visited The Mirror staff Friday for some conversation about some timely issues facing his constituents today.

work in this capacity." BUSINESS AS USUAL Broyhill was asked how, with so much fur flying in Washington these days, do the unsung officials get their jobs done in areas that get little or no publicity.

"Of course the ones in the House who are not on those big committees are still handling legislation as it comes up," he said. "I think where the controversy gets in the way is in committee deliberations or on the floor of the House. The shorter tempers get, the nearer we get to elections or the more antagonism they might have toward the President, the more they start

reacting to the President and not to the issues and problems. "And I'm talking about both sides," he continued.

"The energy bill, for instance, should have further by now that it is," he said. "It's a big bill and includes a lot of things. It was started late. I think there tended to be a lack of communication, or each side wasn't listening as a result of some of the controversy or conflicts that exist between the White House and the congress. As a result the bill hasn't been passed."

Broyhill said a bill could still be passed, but the one now in committee has lost a number of items originally written.

"I think what the President needs now is a limited authority to implement some energy conservation plans," he said. "He also needs some temporary authority to suspend or to change some of the dates that are written into the clean air act. Also authority to push back some of the target dates in the auto emissions section of the clean air act. Some authority in this area of coal conversion. These laws are written pretty strict and we need some changes in them. This is for the long run."

Broyhill said he felt the President needs statutory authority for the energy office, research and development.

"On rationing, there is a difference of opinion," he said. "I think he has rationing authority. Several of the bills we have passed gives him the authority."

PUBLIC REACTIONS The congressman was asked what reactions he gets in his travels to Watergate and related controversies.

"Rather than a hue and cry," he said, "of get rid of the man, there is more of a sense of frustration in the district. It's more of a feeling of wonder at who's tending the store. The public feels we want to be more critical of each other in the congress and White House, rather than sit down and working out solutions to problems and planning for the future."

The veteran lawmaker said he could be critical, also, like the "Monday morning quarterback." His feeling, he said in looking back, is that heads should have rolled the next day after the Watergate breakin.

He also said, "I get confused myself and find it hard to define what that issue really means now. It began with a breakin of a political headquarters and now it is involved in so many side issues. It's a catch-all now."