

Population
Kings Mountain 2,547
Immediate Trading Area 15,000
(figures based on registrations of
local War Price and Rationing
board.)

Kings Mountain Herald

12 Pages
Today

THURSDAY, MAY 24, 1945

KINGS MOUNTAIN, N. C. VOL. 24 NO. 20

FIVE CENTS PER COPY

Citizens Learn Of City's Part In War Effort

Kings Mountain citizens' attention has been directed to the city's part in war production this week, with the records showing that the major part of Kings Mountain's production is going, directly or indirectly, into the war effort.

Feature of the week has been the appearance of Lt. Col. L. F. Nickel, army service forces, at Kings Mountain war production plants, in which he has presented to workers the importance of them, and of their labors, to the armed forces.

Another feature gaining attention was the display in the window of Keeter's department store, showing graphically the role of cotton in the war and the end products of production from Kings Mountain mills. Jacob Cooper was in charge of the arrangements for the display.

In this issue is included the remainder of the Kings Mountain war production story. Attention of the readers is called to the advertisements of Park Yarn Mill, Cora plant of Textiles, Inc., and Phenix Mills, Inc.

Also announced this week were the winners of the poster contests sponsored by the War Production week committee in the various schools. A total of 175 posters were entered in the five contests.

Col. Nickel, veteran of 16 months (Cont'd on page two)

Sgt. Dickey Will Report To OCS

Sgt. Jimmy Dickey, marine corps aircraft mechanic, is back in the United States to attend Officer Candidate school at the Marine corps station at Quantico, Va., after spending 15 months in the South Pacific theater.

Whether or not he succeeds in winning a commission at the tough officer's school, Sgt. Dickey says he's infantry-bound.

The former high school and Catawba college football star says his action experiences in the South Pacific — spent mostly in the Solomons on Bougainville — were limited to a few minor bombings by the Japanese, but he still isn't sorry to be home for a time.

He managed a month's leave after hitch-hiking home by plane from the Pacific. He says he made the trip in only 36 hours flying time, though he was delayed by a stop-over at Pearl Harbor.

Sgt. Dickey, in service since 1943, went overseas in February, 1944. He tells some interesting stories about the life in the Pacific islands, and says one of the chief pastimes was listening to the Japanese propaganda put out by Tokyo Rose on short wave broadcasts.

"The propaganda was pretty silly, but these were the best phonograph records we heard — better than from the American stations," he said.

Sgt. Dickey, son of Mrs. Bessie Dickey, had the job of servicing B-29's and DC 3's, the latter the main transport planes.

On the return trip, he whiled away the hours in the air by playing hearts with Shirley Povich, former Washington sports editor, now a combat correspondent, who was with Ernie Pyle when he was killed.

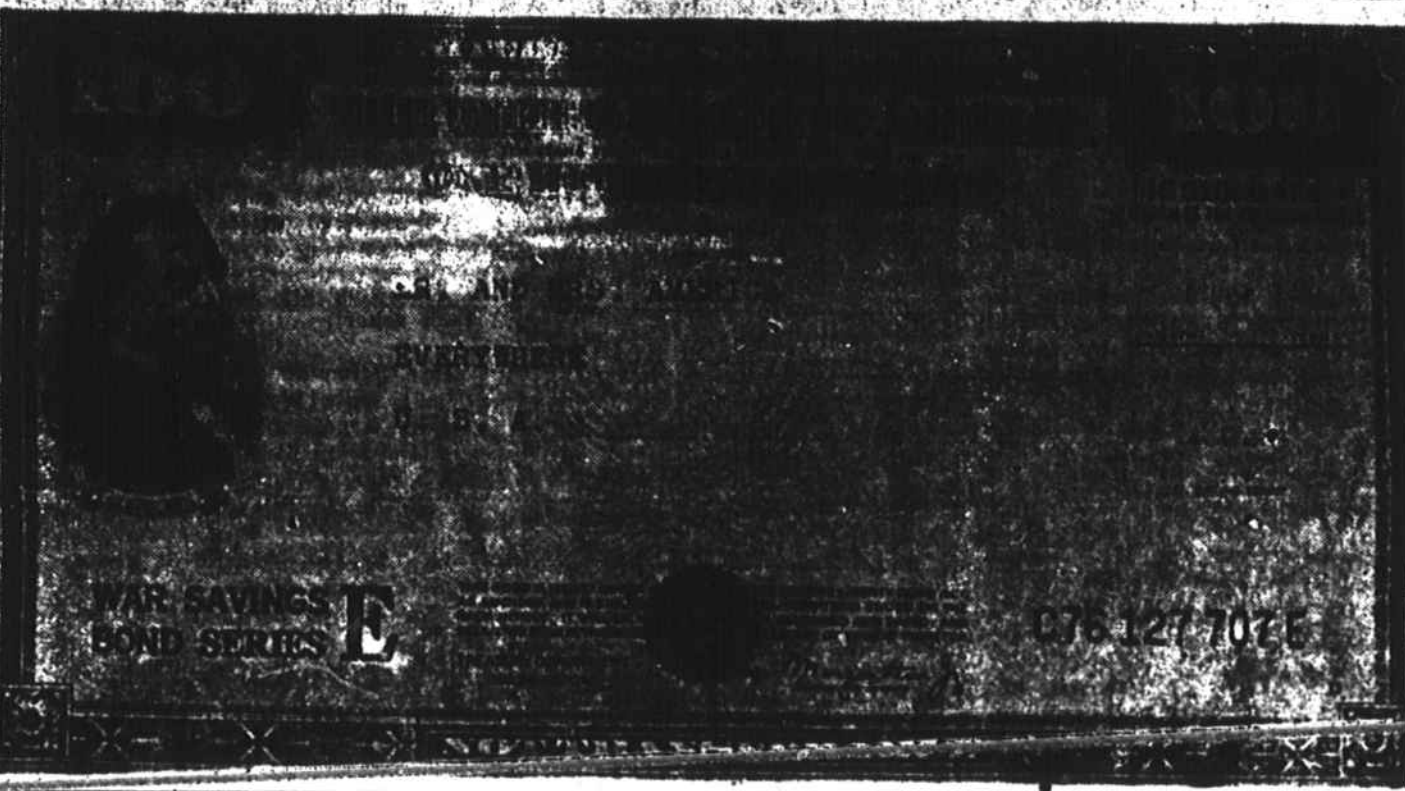
Service Subscription Expirations Now 133

The attention of Herald readers who subscribe to the paper for men in the armed forces is called to the fact that, in a check-up made this week, no less than 133 of the subscriptions have expired or will expire by June 1.

If there is one thing the Herald management does not wish to do it is to suspend sending the paper to men in service. We also do not make it a practice of mailing reminder notices to service personnel, many of whom are overseas.

Also announced last week by the circulation department was a notice, effective July 1, on mail to men in service with fleet postoffice addresses. This restriction will require specific request of the service to receive newspapers and other second class mail. The same restrictions have applied to army mail for many months.

The Herald respectfully requests that relatives of service personnel check on their addresses from time to time. While every effort will be made to notify persons of these subscription changes, the Herald knows only a small number of the relatives of men in service.



Local News Bulletins

KIWANIS PROGRAM
Lt. Col. L. F. Nickel, Army Service Forces, now at Moore General hospital after returning from 16 months service in Italy, will speak at the Kiwanis club meeting Thursday night at 7 o'clock on a program arranged by Ladd W. Hamrick. The army officer has been in Kings Mountain this week in connection with the city's War Production week program.

SMOOKS
Mrs. Grady King announced Tuesday that a large number of smooks used by workers in the Red Cross room and left there after the work was completed have been placed at the Kings Mountain Building and Loan association, and she has issued a request to the owners to get these smooks immediately.

McGINNIS TRANSFERRED
Pfc. Jacob Tracy McGinnis, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Tracy McGinnis, has been transferred from West over Field, Mass., to Kingman Field, Arizona. Pfc. McGinnis was recently home on leave.

FULTON NOW CHIEF
ACOM Robert D. Fulton, son of Mr. and Mrs. P. D. Fulton, has recently been promoted to that rating according to a letter received recently from the Kings Mountain sailor by his parents. Chief Fulton is attached to a fleet unit operating in the Pacific.

Bible Program Attended By 300

A crowd estimated at more than 300 persons attended the Bible program presented by Plonk School of Creative Arts, of Asheville, which was held at the high school auditorium Sunday afternoon.

The program, first feature of a city-wide go-to-church campaign, included Bible readings presented by members of the school faculty and student body and special musical selections.

Following the singing of Malotte's "The Lord's Prayer," Bible selections were read by Miss Laura Plonk, director of the school, and Biblical readings were given by Misses Florence Andrews, Evelyn Hamrick, Clara Plonk and Eugenia Reid.

For the second portion of the program, Miss Lillian Plonk, assistant director of the school, gave an introduction to the works of Kahlil Gibran, and readings from his works were given by Miss Andrews, Miss Ruth Beatie, Miss Hamrick, Miss Clara Plonk, and Misses Bonnie Murdock and Laura Bryson.

The special musical selections included the anthems "The Night is Far Spent," "Lovely Apper," "God's Loving Care," and "Finlandia" by the choral group, and a soprano solo "Father Most Merciful" sung by Miss Clara Plonk.

Cora Mill Employees Awarded Citation For Bond Purchases

Miss Lula Phifer Claimed By Death

Funeral services for Miss Lula Phifer, 72, who died at her home near Kings Mountain at 12:55 Wednesday morning, will be held at El Bethel Methodist church Friday afternoon at 3 o'clock, with burial to follow in the church cemetery.

The pastor, Rev. Avette, will be in charge of the rites, assisted by Rev. J. W. Winkler, pastor of Central Methodist church.

Death was attributed to heart attack. Miss Phifer had been in declining health for a number of years and had been confined to bed for the past two weeks. However, she had appeared stronger on Tuesday and was able to sit in a chair.

She was the daughter of the late John M. and Margaret R. Phifer. Surviving is one brother, Ben D. Phifer, with whom she resided.

Employees of the Cora plant, of Textiles, Inc., were presented the Minute Man citation and Minute Man flag for better than 90 percent participation in war bond purchases in brief ceremonies held at the mill Tuesday afternoon.

The awards, made by the Treasury department, were officially presented by J. R. Davis, Kings Mountain attorney and chairman of the city's Seventh War Loan campaign, following a short address in which he praised highly the record of the employees of the Cora plant.

Superintendent Z. F. Cranford presented Mr. Davis, and Ira J. Falls, chairman of the plant's bond sales committee, accepted the awards for the employees, and urged greater buying on the part of the employees in order that the plant may be awarded the "E" flag for bond-buying—given for 100 percent participation.

Record of the plant for the week ending May 19 showed that of the 266 employees, 249 were participating in bond buying on the payroll deduction plan. Only 17 employees were not buying bonds. On a percentage basis, 93.61 percent are buying bonds regularly.

For the ceremony the mill was stopped and the employees assembled in one large room. In praising the bond-buying record, Mr. Davis pointed out the necessity for continued bond-buying, calling attention to the bloody fighting still ahead in the Pacific theater, as well as the fact that bond-buying halts inflation and will help take care of future recession-depression periods.

FALSE ALARM

The Tuesday afternoon fire alarm proved false, when it was found that the fire department had been summoned following a minor blaze in an electrical apparatus. There was no fire when the fire department reached the scene.

Letter Received From McGinnis

Stag-Sergeant Donald H. McGinnis, air forces B-17 gunner, is safe and well after liberation from a German prison camp, according to a letter from the Kings Mountain soldier received by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. McGinnis, Monday.

Sgt. McGinnis, who had been listed as missing in action over Czechoslovakia since April 19, wrote that he was in a German prison camp for three weeks, before his liberation, and that he hoped to be home soon.

He went overseas in January, and he had made a number of combat missions over Europe before his plane was shot down. He holds the air medal for his participation in these missions.

Memorial Day Service Will Be Held Sunday

Memorial Day services will be held at Mountain Rest cemetery Sunday afternoon at 3:30, according to VFW Commander Charles E. Warlick.

The memorial services will be conducted by the members of Johnny W. Blackwell Post 2268, and members of the post are requested to meet in the post quarters at 2:30 Sunday afternoon. The group will then march to the cemetery in a body.

Also to take part in the memorial service will be the recently organized chapter of Kings Mountain War Dads. Final plans for the service are to be completed at the regular VFW meeting Friday night at 8 o'clock. Commander Warlick said that a special invitation is being issued to Gold Star mothers to attend the services, and he said that seats will be available for them.

RAIDED HOLDING OWN

Dr. R. N. Baird, pastor of Boyce Memorial A.M.E. church, who suffered a stroke of paralysis late Tuesday morning, was described as "holding his own" Wednesday afternoon. The minister was said to be paralyzed on the left side. Dr. Baird, who had returned from Due West, S. C., Monday afternoon, delivering the benediction sermon at Erskine college Sunday, was in apparent good health Monday. Working in the garden Tuesday morning, he had complained of feeling very tired, and had entered his home to rest when he was stricken. He stated Mrs. James W. Baird, of Due West, S. C., is now at the hospital.

High School Finals Begin Sunday; Crier To Preach

The beginning of annual commencement exercises at Kings Mountain high school — this year for 12 graduates of the 12th grade and 50 graduates of the 11th grade — will take place Sunday night at 8 o'clock, when Rev. R. C. Grier, D. D., president of Erskine college at Due West, S. C., preaches the baccalaureate sermon at the high school auditorium.

The sermon on Sunday night will precede the presentation of diplomas which will be made on Friday night, June 1. B. N. Barnes, superintendent of city schools, has announced that Dr. P. H. Gwynn, of the Davidson college faculty, will give the address on graduation night.

The program Sunday night will also include special music by the high school boys' and girls' glee clubs.

Rev. W. L. Harkey, pastor of Grace Methodist church, will give the invocation. This will be followed by the singing of the hymn "Come Thou Almighty King," and Rev. W. H. Stender, pastor of St. Matthew's Lutheran church, will read the scripture.

The girls' glee club will sing Humpordick's "Prayer" from "Hansel and Gretel." Following the sermon by Dr. Grier, the boys' glee club will sing Gounod's "Praise Ye the Father."

Mr. Barnes said that Dr. R. N. Baird, who suffered a stroke of paralysis Tuesday, was to have introduced Dr. Grier.

Twelfth grade class officers are Houston Black, president, Eugene Mitcham, vice-president, Doris Phifer, secretary, and Albert Huffstickler, treasurer.

Class mascots are Brenda Thornburg and David Plonk.

Marion P. Herndon Rites Held Monday

Funeral services for Marion Pinkney Herndon, 67, retired Southern Railway engineer, were held Monday afternoon at Bethlehem Baptist church near Kings Mountain, with Rev. J. L. Teague, assisted by Rev. W. H. Stender, conducting the final rites.

Mr. Herndon, who had made his home in Kings Mountain since his retirement about two years ago, died in the Veterans Hospital, Columbia, S. C., Saturday, after entering the hospital two weeks before.

A Mason, Mr. Herndon is survived by his wife and a daughter, Winona, who live at their home on Waco road.

Masonic rites at the grave were conducted by members of Fairview Lodge Number 339.

Pink Ware, Now Home On Leave, Saw Heroic Franklin Win Fight

When the Essex-class aircraft carrier USS Franklin burst into flames after hits by Japanese bombs, a Kings Mountain man, aboard a navy cruiser off her starboard beam, saw her blow. He is Luther (Pink) Ware, RM 1c, now home on leave after two years aboard the cruiser, which operated most of the time in Pacific waters.

Radoman Ware's ship stayed close aboard, along with other ships of the fast carrier task force, fighting off Jan planes as they made further attacks, and stayed with the carrier until she again got her big engines going and was able to proceed under her own power.

Radoman Ware's ship then moved back nearer Japan.

He heard the first bomb hit the Franklin, and said it seemed that the big flattop was surely lost. He adds that there isn't much he can add to the heroic story of the carrier's survival than was released by the navy department last week.

But the action in which the carrier was hit was not all that the Kings Mountain sailor saw. Nor was it combat that gave him his greatest sorrow. His ship was one of the many in the violent South Pacific typhoon of about three months ago, in which three destroyers were lost.

"We couldn't see any other ship," he said, "and our ship rolled to 45 degrees. The mainmast fell off the ship was in danger, which meant

Kings Mountain Man Learns About City

The Herald received this week the following letter from Chester Spear, principal of Kings Mountain, Ky., high school, who had received a copy of the V-E Day edition:

"Our school today received a copy of the V-E Day edition of the Kings Mountain Herald to be placed in the library. We presume it was sent to us by the Herald directly, and we desire to thank you for being so thoughtful."

"Usually, I have read the paper rather carefully, which has proved a revelation to me. I had known that a Revolutionary battle was fought at Kings Mountain, but now I know that it is the location of a splendid little city, which has at least one very fine newspaper. It seems to me that you have everything necessary to make a great community."

"Now that I know more about the town, in honor of which my home town probably was named by early settlers from North Carolina, I shall look forward to the time when I can visit Kings Mountain and Cleveland County on a tour of your section of the country."

The Herald, however, did not send the copy of the paper, and passes the letter along to the person who deserves praise for doing a nice job of spreading information about North Carolina's historical city.

Lions Are Told Future Bright

In closing remarks at the Lions club seventh annual Ladies Night banquet, Miss Laura Plonk, director of Plonk School of Creative Arts, Asheville, declared that people must be educated in living as well as learning, and predicted for Kings Mountain "bigger things than she has ever known before."

"I see a hospital to take care of our ill, an inn to receive travelers from all the world, and a great university," she said. "There is nothing to hinder Kings Mountain from being the best town in the United States."

The brief, but inspirational talk of Miss Plonk was the highlight of an entertaining evening enjoyed by some 210 persons, including Lions, their wives and guests, who gathered for the annual event at the Woman's club last Friday night.

Among the many program highlights was the presentation of a number of original monologues by Miss Laura Bryson, the singing of Miss Clara Plonk, the reading of poems by Misses Eugenia Reid and Florence Andrews, and the reading of an original arrangement of Bird's Christmas Carol by Miss Bonnie Murdock.

The Plonk school choral group had sung Malotte's "The Lord's Prayer" following the invocation, given by Rev. W. H. Stender, and closed the program by singing Shellen's "Prayer for Peace."

Club President William Plonk presided, and Billy Houser led the salute to the flag.

Mr. Plonk, in welcoming the guests, said, "I want to say it is very fine for a city to have two large, fine civic clubs. By working together, we can improve our community immeasurably."

Mr. Plonk also praised the Woman's club for its cooperation and help during the year, and thanked the City of Kings Mountain for rendering full cooperation in Lions club projects.

The program was opened by the singing of the Lions song.

The delicious dinner served for the occasion included tomato juice cocktail, celery, olives, southern fried chicken, rice and gravy, garden string beans, coleslaw, hot biscuits and butter, ice cream and orange cake, and food tea.

Mrs. Overman's Father Succumbs After Stroke

Funeral services for E. F. Ebelin, 72, father of Mrs. Frank Overman of Kings Mountain, were held at the home in Lexington Monday afternoon, May 15, following his death on Saturday, May 12.

Mr. Ebelin suffered a stroke of paralysis on May 12. His wife, Mrs. Ebelin, is now in Lexington, and will be buried in Lexington.