

Population

City Limits 7,206
Trading Area 15,000
(1945 Nation Board Figures)

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DEMOCRATS CHOOSE NOMINEES SATURDAY

Davidson Project Proceeding

Board Accepted \$10,500 Appraisal By 3-2 Vote

The city board of commissioners, in a split 3-2 decision requiring the mayor's vote, proceeded with the Davidson Creek reservoir project Monday night by voting to accept the report of the appraisers awarding payment of \$10,500 to Haywood E. Lynch and W. G. Grantham for 50 acres in the reservoir tract.

Mr. Grantham, Ward 5 commissioner, abstained from the voting, with Commissioner Harold Phillips and T. J. Ellison voting "no." Mayor Glee A. Bridges cast the deciding vote, supporting Commissioners W. S. Fulton, Sr., and J. H. Patterson.

The same vote result was also recorded on a motion to borrow money for buying the Grantham-Lynch property from First National Bank in anticipation of receipt of funds from sale of the recent \$600,000 city bond issue, expected momentarily.

A similar motion on the borrowing, to provide funds for immediate purchase of the two recreation plant sites, was carried unanimously.

No discussion was advanced on the motions, other than the mayor's explanation of the desire to pay the owners, since citizens' petition opposing the Davidson project was not mentioned, but Commissioner Phillips, who had supported the petition and aided its circulation, told the Herald prior to the meeting "the petition is dead."

The resolution accepting the award by appraisers B. D. Rattee, I. B. Goforth, Sr., and Clyde Nolan called for payment of \$5,250 each to Mr. Lynch and Mr. Grantham. Other owners of the property had previously conveyed their holdings to them to simplify the transfer.

The resolution concerning the borrowing provided for short-term borrowing of \$15,500, sufficient to pay John Owens and Alec Owens \$5,000 for 19 acres also in the reservoir area.

Clerk of Court E. A. Houser had formally appointed the appraisal team from his hospital bed on May 5.

Mayor Bridges said the appraisal team performed its duties last Friday.

In other actions the board: 1) Left "as is" an agreement with D. C. Mauney by a previous administration recorded in the minutes of November 10, 1952, to open a street from Mauney avenue to Falls street when funds are available.

2) Passed a resolution per-



COMMENCEMENT SPEAKERS — Two well-known Lutherans will deliver commencement addresses to graduating seniors of Kings Mountain high school at the annual exercises beginning Sunday evening. Dr. W. P. Gerberding, left, pastor of St. Matthew's Lutheran church, will deliver the commencement sermon Sunday night, and Walter H. Nau, right, Lenoir-Rhyne college professor, will deliver the commencement address on Monday evening. The exercises will be held at Central auditorium.

High School Finals Program To Begin

Commencement exercises for Kings Mountain high school's Class of 1954 will begin Sunday evening with the traditional commencement sermon and will be concluded with graduation exercises on Monday evening. Both programs will begin at 8 o'clock.

Dr. W. P. Gerberding, pastor of St. Matthew's Lutheran church, will deliver the commencement sermon Sunday night, Rev. P. L. Shore will give the invocation, Rev. Douglas Fritz will read the Scripture, and B. N. Barnes, city schools superintendent, will present Dr. Gerberding. The high school mixed chorus, directed by Miss Margaret Cole, will sing Curran's "Blessing", and the audience will sing "Faith of Our Fathers."

On Monday evening Dr. Walter Nau, professor at Lenoir-Rhyne college and onetime supply pastor at St. Matthew's church here, will deliver the graduation address. He will be presented by Everett L. Carlton, high school faculty member. Rev. W. L. Pressly will say the benediction. The mixed chorus will sing "Onward, Ye Peoples!", by Sibellus, and diploma will be presented by Rowell Lane, high school principal, John Oliver Harris, Jr., will present the gift of the graduating class.

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City Valuation At 9,635,053 Up By \$110,226

The City of Kings Mountain's tax valuation for the current year is \$9,635,053, according to preliminary totaling completed by Tax Supervisor Clarence E. Carpenter, early Wednesday afternoon.

The total, subject to re-check of entries, shows a valuation gain over 1953 of \$110,226.

Mr. Carpenter said he had not completed a breakdown of the figures to show sub-totals on real property and personal property, but he ascribed the increase to addition of new machinery, construction of new buildings and homes, and improved listings on household goods and similar personal property.

City officials had feared a drop in the tax valuation, due to lower prices on automobiles.

The figures will be used by the board of commissioners in their work, now beginning, on the city's 1954-55 budget. Mayor Glee A. Bridges said this week that budget work is underway and it is possible that the city will adopt tentatively the 1954 tax rate at the June 3 meeting, in order that pre-payments on 1954 tax bills may be accepted.

The 1953 tax rate was \$1.30 per \$100 valuation, sure to rise for 1954 due to the issuance of \$600,000 in bonds on vote of the citizens in January.

Mr. Carpenter also reported total collections of 1953 taxes to date at \$1,397,53, or 88.3 percent of the \$1,582,646 levy.

Final Rites Held For Mrs. Kiser

Funeral service for Mrs. Myrtle Sigmon Kiser, 57, were conducted from St. Matthew's Lutheran church Tuesday morning at 11 o'clock.

Dr. W. P. Gerberding officiated and burial was in St. Luke's cemetery off Cherryville road.

Mrs. Kiser, a resident of Cherryville road, succumbed at 11:20 a. m. Sunday after an illness of four months. She was the wife of A. S. (Gus) Kiser, whom she married August 18, 1920, and was the daughter of William P. Sigmon of Hickory and the late Mrs. Minnie Cordelia Simmons Sigmon. She was a native of Catawba county.

Mrs. Kiser was a member of St. Matthew's Lutheran church.

Surviving are her husband, her father, two sons, Ray A. Kiser of Albemarle and Fred W. Kiser, a student at N. C. State College in Raleigh, and three daughters, Miss Katherine Louise Kiser of Huntersville, Miss Betty Joyce Kiser of Charlotte, and Mrs. Jerry L. Simmons of Statesville.

Five brothers, Orin C. Sigmon, W. Max Sigmon, Claude F. Sigmon, and Ray L. Sigmon, all of Hickory, and Russell E. Sigmon of Cameron, N. C., four sisters, Mrs. Claude Hoke of Conover, Mrs. E. S. Temple of Salisbury, and Mrs. D. Clyde Hoke and Mrs. Mal P. Sigmon, both of Hickory, and one grandchild also survive.

Serving as active pallbearers were Dan Finger, Glee Edwin Bridges, Jacob Cooper, Dr. W. L. Mauney, Carl Ramsey, and Ray Cline.

White Not Buying Consolidated Mill

There is no truth to the rumor that C. G. White and others are buying the Kings Mountain plant of Consolidated Textiles, Inc.

Mr. White, onetime superintendent of the same plant, under former ownership, said the rumor is "completely untrue", and J. Lamar Moore, superintendent of Consolidated here, also branded the rumor as "just a lot of talk."

Mr. White, for the past several years superintendent of Alma Mills at Gaffney, S. C., recently resigned his position and returned to Kings Mountain this week, he and his wife moving into a new home they have constructed on Catherine street in East Kings Mountain.

Ballard Predicts Win; Saunders Lennon Handler

Charlie Ballard, ex-baseball star now managing the Kings Mountain Scott-for-Senate campaign predicted Kings Mountain would return a majority for his candidate in Saturday's primary, and Dave L. Saunders, looking after the Lennon campaign here, said, "no comment."

Mr. Saunders, who was reluctant to admit he is the Lennon manager, said, "No comment, only I want Lennon to win." Willis McMurray, Cleveland County manager for Lennon, said Saturday that Mr. Saunders, Kings Mountain dry cleaner, was handling details of the Lennon campaign in Kings Mountain.

Mr. Ballard further charged the Lennon forces with "covering up" their activities.

"Why don't they come out in the open?" Mr. Ballard asked.

The Ballard statement continued: "Sure, we're going to carry Kings Mountain Saturday. We've got an enthusiastic organization and we've got the best candidate. Governor Scott has followed to the letter the political code of ethics he announced months ago, in contrast to the mud-slinging of the Lennon forces. I have no doubt that Scott can count on a majority from Kings Mountain precincts on Saturday."

City To Seek Sewer Line Bids

The city board of commissioners voted Monday night to advertise for bids on sewer installations for several areas not now served with city sewage disposal.

The board will include in its bid notice provision for installing eight-inch terra cotta mains in the following areas (figures with street designations show lineal footage of the proposed installations):

Cleveland Avenue Area: Second street, 1285, Cleveland ave., 1500, Linwood road, 4960; Stone st., 780; Clay, 850; Jackson st., 1900. McGinnis Street Area: McGinnis st., 1800; Ramsey st., 1000; Gantt st., 1575; Harmon rd., 1100; Alexander outfall, 1200.

Phenix Mill Village: Clinton Drive, 525; Hall st., 375; Gillespie st., 610; Cherry st., 690; Walnut st., 640; Chestnut st., 885; Bennett Drive, 1270.

Watterson Street Area: Ridge st., 1100; Childers st., 885; Ware Tank outfall, 1400.

York Road Area: Bennett st., 2400; Owens st., 1100. Crescent Hill Area: Meadowbrook rd., 3,300; Hawthorne rd., 2000; 1300; Crescent Hill, 1000.

Figures compiled by E. C. Nicholson, superintendent of public works, to be confirmed by W. K. Dickson, the city engineer, indicated the cost of the installations would approximate \$51,000. Mayor Bridges said the installations would be made on an "oldest need first" basis.

ATTENDS MEETING Neal Grissom, President of the Kings Mountain Optimist Club attended the 13th annual Optimist International meeting held in Raleigh last week.

Lions Elected Cooper President, Heard Yelton On Hospital Bonds

Jacob Cooper, superintendent of Bonnie Mills, Inc., Tuesday night was elected president of the Kings Mountain Lions club for 1954-55.

Mr. Cooper and all other officers were elected by acclamation.

The election preceded a talk by Parris Yelton, chairman of the county hospital board of trustees, in which Mr. Yelton outlined the needs for the forthcoming hospital bond issue election on June 12, details of the proposition, and answered criticisms concerning it.

Other officers elected for the year beginning July 1 are: first vice-president, Dr. Nathan H. George Thomasson; third vice-president, Martin Harmon; secretary, Robert Davidson; treasurer, John H. Lewis; tall twister, Dave L. Saunders; assistant tall twister, Sam Stallings; Lion at Large, Sam Stallings.



CANDIDATES IN SATURDAY PRIMARY — Among the contests attracting most attention in pre-primary politicking activity here are the state-wide contest for U. S. Senator and the district contest for county commissioner. Leading candidates for U. S. Senate nomination are Kerr Scott, left above, and Alton A. Lennon, right. Five other candidates also seek the nomination. L. Arnold Kiser, below left, opposes for the District 2 county commissioner seat, Hazel B. Bumgardner, below right, the incumbent.

Kings Mountain To Help Name Ten Nominees

Kings Mountain area Democrats join their neighbors throughout North Carolina Saturday as they go to the polls to choose party nominees, for state, district, county, and township offices.

The voting will close the biennial primary "season" that began in mid-winter, barring close races and possible second primary voting.

In the Kings Mountain area, the headline attractions are the contests between seven candidates for the nomination for the United States Senate seat, now held by Alton A. Lennon, of Wilmington. Former Governor W. Kerr Scott, Alvin Wingfield, Henry L. Sprinkle, W. M. Bostick, Olla Ray Boyd, and A. E. Turner; and the home level district affair, to be determined by voters of Waco, Bethware, Grover, and Kings Mountain, between Hazel B. Bumgardner, seeking re-nomination as county commissioner, and L. Arnold Kiser.

In state-wide contests, Lennon, Scott, Wingfield and Sprinkle, also seek nomination to the short term as Senator, from November 29 to January 1. In other state-wide voting, Kings Mountain citizens will help determine the outcome of the race for state treasurer, between Edwin Gill, the incumbent, and Joshua James; and for state commissioner of insurance, between Charles E. Gold, the incumbent, and John Fletcher.

Four county-wide races feature the Saturday primary: for judge of recorder's court, between Ruben L. Elam, incumbent, and C. B. Cash, Jr.; for solicitor, between Bynum Weathers, incumbent, and Joe Mull; for clerk of Superior Court, between E. A. Houser, incumbent, and Roy Price; and for sheriff, between Haywood Allen, incumbent, and Walter Feeler.

Voters of Kings Mountain, Bethware and Grover, will choose among four candidates a nominee for the now-vacant position of Number 4 Township constable. The four are Bobby Herndon, Robert (Bob) Cox, Gus Huffstetler, and Ervin Ellison.

While campaigning has been devoid of fireworks on both state and local level, there was a quickening of activity during the past week. Street talk usually concerned politics and indications are that a large vote will be recorded on Saturday.

Polls open at 6:30 a. m. and close 12 hours later at 6:30 p. m.

Spelling Contest Winners Listed

Winners of the annual city schools spelling contests for medals offered by the First National Bank were announced this week, following the contests held last Friday.

They are: City white elementary — Sherry Kelley, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Kelley, eighth grade student at West school.

Central high school — Jerry McCarter, tenth grade, son of Mr. and Mrs. Oscar McCarter.

Davidson elementary — Wilene Jackson, seventh grade, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Willie Jackson.

Davidson high school — Delia Garvin, twelfth grade, daughter of Rev. and Mrs. R. L. Garvin.

Facts Are Listed On Primary Voting

Following are salient facts on Saturday's Democratic primary election:

Polls open 6:30 a. m. Polls close 6:30 p. m.

Number of ballots for Kings Mountain area voters: four, including state ballot, county ballot, district ballot, and township ballot.

Kings Mountain area precinct voting places: East Kings Mountain, at City Hall; West Kings Mountain, at Victory Chevrolet Company; Bethware, at Bethware school; Grover, at Keeter's Dry Goods Store.

Predicted vote totals: county, 14,000; district, 2,500; No. 4 Township, 2,200.

Swimming Pools Contracts Are Let

Bennett Promises One Completion In 70 Work Days

The city board of commissioners, on recommendation of the parks and recreation commission, awarded contracts totaling \$115,615 Monday night for the construction of two city swimming pools.

Meantime, Recreation Committee member W. K. Mauney, Jr., said the group expects to get one pool in operation before the end of the summer.

Bennett Construction Company, which was awarded the general contract, has promised completion of one pool in 70 working days, Recreation Chairman Fred W. Plonk said. Mr. Bennett's contract calls for payment of \$101,500 for the erection of two pools and two bath houses.

Contracts for the plumbing installations was awarded to Ben T. Goforth, Kings Mountain, at the low bid of \$6,815, on assignment.

Concrete Plant In Production

Spangler & Sons will be operating their new ready-mix concrete plant on Battleground Road Thursday morning.

Pat Spangler, one of the owners of the firm, said first pourings would begin Thursday from the \$50,000 concrete manufacturing plant.

Archie Bridges will serve as plant manager.

In announcing their plans to build the plant several weeks ago, Spangler & Sons said the location of the plant here would result in a saving to concrete purchasers of at least 15 percent on costs of finished concrete.

Building Permit Is Required Item

J. W. Webster, city building inspector, reminded citizens this week that building permits are required for all construction within the city limits and should be obtained prior to start of building.

"On application for permit, information about zoning restrictions, and other building code requirements are provided, frequently resulting in considerable loss of time, trouble and money," Mr. Webster said.



MAYOR FIRST CUSTOMER — Mayor Glee A. Bridges is pictured above as first customer of the new exterior service window of First National Bank. Mrs. Helen R. Clayton, assistant cashier, is providing the service, separating a customer from the interior in a thick bullet-proof glass window. Conversation is handled by a two-way "talk box." The new service was inaugurated by First National last Friday. (For further information see Section 1, page 3.)