

Population

City Limits 7,206
The population is from the U. S. Government census report for 1950. The Census Bureau estimates the nation's population gain since 1950 at 1.7 percent per year, which means Kings Mountain's 1954 population should approach 7,600.

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Established 1889

Crowds Increase At Battle Drama

Local News Bulletins

Third Weekend Of Performances Starts Thursday

"The Sword of Gideon" resumes performances on the last half of its scheduled 1954 run Thursday evening.

Six scheduled performances remain, three this weekend and three the weekend beginning August 12.

Mrs. P. G. Padgett, publicist, reported increased crowds during the past weekend, with Saturday's audience the peak crowd of the season. She also reported that Mayor Glee A. Bridges has tendered an invitation to attend to Miss Miriam Stevenson, the South Carolina beauty recently chosen "Miss Universe." Whether Miss Stevenson will be able to attend has not been learned Wednesday at noon.

Whether a make-up showing for the blacked-out opening night performance will be presented is yet to be determined. However, Mrs. Padgett said, any make-ups will be in the last week. Some suggestions have been advanced to run the show each night during the week of August 9, but final decision has not been reached.

Out-of-state and area travelers are continuing to see the performances. Mrs. Padgett noted with auto tags from California, Michigan, Florida, and Wisconsin appearing in the parking lot last weekend. In last week's audiences were two 25 Waco school pupils. Parking is under direction of Bill Hudspeth, who is using a "staff" of Foote Mineral Company employees.

Mrs. Padgett also noted that grandchildren of the late John Van Dyke, owner of the tract which became the Kings Mountain National Military park, are members of this year's cast.

"The Sword of Gideon" is Florette Henri's battle drama of the Battle of Kings Mountain, which, on October 7, 1780, resulted in a resounding defeat for the British forces and paved the way for subsequent victories and the surrender at Yorktown.

The outdoor drama is present, at the Military Park amphitheatre, near the site where the battle was fought.

Tickets are on sale daily at the Kings Mountain Little Theatre office on East King street, and prior to the performances at the amphitheatre box office. Admission is \$2 for reserved seats, \$1.20 general admission, and 60 cents for children.

The show is directed by Bill Trotman.

Assessment Policy Is Outlined; "Kings Mountain" Wrote Governor

A Kings Mountain citizen has anonymously addressed the Governor of North Carolina questioning the right of the City of Kings Mountain to collect street assessments.

E. L. Rankin, Jr., private secretary to the Governor, forwarded the letter to June F. Scarborough, district highway commissioner, who forwarded the correspondence to the Herald.

Mr. Rankin noted that the question on street assessments appeared to be a purely local matter and felt that city officials would want to make a statement clarifying the matter of street paving assessments.

Under long-term policy, Assistant City Clerk Joe McDaniel said, the city has paved streets on the assessment basis, with one-third of the cost paid by the city, and the additional two-thirds by the abutting property owners. The Bridges administration, in an announced effort to simplify the process, has standardized the paving assessment at 75 cents per linear foot of paving for each property owner. The city pays for the remaining amount and for all intersections.

The sidewalk and curb-and-gutter formula is 50-50, half for the city and half for the property owner. The Bridges administration on sidewalk assessments is 50 cents per linear foot.

The state maintains all highways passing through the city, which, in Kings Mountain, includes US Highways 74 and 29.

AT GREENWOOD, S. C. Mayor Glee A. Bridges and City Clerk Joe Hendrick went to Greenwood, S. C., Tuesday to observe the bid-opening by the City of Greenwood on construction of Greenwood's natural gas distribution system. Kings Mountain city officials are to open bids on their proposed system Friday morning at 11 o'clock.

PROMOTED Cpl. Kelly Weaver, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Weaver, has just been promoted to the rating of corporal, according to information received here. Cpl. Weaver is serving with the 3rd Marine Division in Japan.

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Kings Mountain Herald

Kings Mountain's RELIABLE Newspaper

14 Pages Today

Kings Mountain, N. C., Thursday, August 5, 1954

Sixty-Fourth Year

PRICE FIVE CENTS

Perry Admitted To Roanoke, Va., VA Hospital

Otis Perry, the ex-navy boxer who had been arrested last week on a charge of temporary insanity, was admitted to Roanoke, Va., Veterans Administration hospital Tuesday.

Perry, first detained by Chief of Police Hugh A. Logan, Jr., on July 26, and examined by Dr. P. E. Hendricks, was released July 28 to the custody of his parents. Before the day was over, Chief Logan said, he arrested Perry for the second time, again for stopping traffic at the U. S. Highway 74 bridge over the Southern Railway tracks. Again, the Chief said, Perry was accosting motorists and showing them printed religious tracts. Chief Logan said Perry "gave some trouble" on the second arrest.

Perry was lodged at county jail until Tuesday when admission was obtained for him at the state sanitarium at Goldsboro. While county officers were taking Perry to Goldsboro, notification was received by County Service Officer Chalmus Miller that the Roanoke VA hospital would admit the veteran.

The officers were reached by Raleigh authorities and proceeded to Roanoke. Efforts by Service Officer Miller to obtain admission for Perry at the Sallsbury VA hospital had proved unsuccessful.

Miss Virginia Perry, sister of the veteran, called the Herald Wednesday morning to ask that her family's appreciation be stated publicly to Commander James Bennett, commander of Otis D. Green Post 155 American Legion. Dr. P. G. Padgett, Ollie Harris, Coley Freeman, and the American Legion post for their successful efforts in obtaining admission to the Veterans Hospital for the Kings Mountain veteran.

She said her brother suffered a broken jaw in a navy boxing match prior to his discharge from service in 1949, and that he had served five years in the navy.

Norwood Pastor Accepts Call

Rev. R. J. Essary, a native of Tuscaloosa County, Alabama, has accepted the pastorate of First Church of the Nazarene, assuming his duties July 25.

Mr. Essary comes to the Kings Mountain church from First Nazarene Church, Norwood, where he served three years. Before accepting the pastorate of the Norwood church, he served three years at First Church of the Nazarene, Plant City, Florida.

Mr. and Mrs. Essary have four children, Donald 17, and Annie Ruth, 15, at home, and two sons, one of Norwood, and one of Plant City, Florida.

Rev. Mr. Essary succeeds Rev. A. D. Holt who is expected to accept pastorate of a church in Greensboro.

The former Baxter Paper Corporation, which operates a plant at Grover, has changed its corporate name to The Baxter Corporation, according to announcement by President Irving S. Baxter.

The change in name was effective August 1.

Baxter operates plants at Patterson, N. J., and Providence, R. I. In addition to its Grover plant,

it is incorporated in New York and maintains offices at 90 West Broadway, New York, N. Y.

Baxter Corporation specializes in general textile services for Jacquard fabrics and says it has the most complete service in the industry.

The Grover plant is managed by Roy Thompson, with Raymond Barry and Everett Pruden in charge of sketching, jacquard designing, comb board manufacture and harness building. Pierce Cassidy is sales manager.

The unsigned letter to the Governor was addressed "Personal To The Governor of N. C., Raleigh, N. C.", and it read:

"I don't hardly know how to write this letter. It concerns the people of Kings Mtn., N. C. and the surrounding area. We would like to no what kind of Laws we have, we understand that the state gave money for our roads to be fixed. Also we pay taxes for the roads and the Town of Kings Mtn., N. C., wants the people to pay for the roads to be fixed for each house on a street. It runs in any from \$45 to \$65 are we suppose to pay taxes and keep up the roads to and they have sent us statement wants us to pay it right away and it is hard for us to make a living now. We the people of Kings Mtn., N. C."



SINGERS FOR OUTDOOR PROGRAM SATURDAY — The Lefevre Trio, of Atlanta, Ga., will be among the featured radio-television gospel singers to appear here Saturday evening at City Stadium at a Gospel Sing being sponsored by the Junior Chamber of Commerce. Other groups on the program will include the Lefevreates, The Fantomine Quartet, the Toney Trio, and the Kingsmen's Quartet. Gates open at 7 o'clock and the program is scheduled to begin at 8 o'clock. Admission is \$1. In event of rain, the program will be held at Central school auditorium.

Job Picture Here Is Slightly Better

Jobless Pay Claims Dropped During July

Franklin Ware, manager of the Kings Mountain branch of the North Carolina Employment Service, on Wednesday termed the employment situation here "a little brighter".

Mr. Ware based his statement on the branch office's July report, which showed total claims at 1,831 for the four-week period ending July 25.

He said resumption of weekly production at Park Yarn Mills Company, other firming in the textile industry, and placements in area construction jobs had bettered the situation. During July the office filled 60 vacancies out of 71 job orders.

Further improvement is anticipated for this and coming weeks, Mr. Ware added, with resumption of more regular production by Mauney Mills, Inc.

The claim drop was due, Mr. Ware said, both to improvement in the employment situation, and to exhaustion of benefit periods for some workers.

At July 25, the office listed 349 applicants for work.

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Man Indicted After Wreck

William Ramsey Lovelace, 64, has been indicted by the Kings Mountain police department on a charge of driving drunk as a result of a four car smash-up occurring Sunday afternoon on East King near the intersection of U. S. Highway 29 and N. C. Highway 161.

According to the accident report, the three other cars involved

Continued On Page Eight

Gas Superintendent Hired, Webster Is Tap Salesman

Some Sewer Taps Will Cost \$55, Board Decrees

The city board of commissioners, at its special meeting last Friday night, set a pavement-breaking fee of \$20 in connection with installing sewer taps.

Under the action, persons or firms requiring sewer taps on non-paved streets will still be charged the \$35 tap fee. Should the city have to break pavement for the tap-in, the total charge will be \$55. The action was taken on recommendation of Public Works Superintendent E. C. Nicholson, who said a survey had indicated most cities make a similar charge, adding that the cost involved is "quite real".

In an other action, the board authorized payment of the statement of Gilbert Construction Company for re-routing the raw water line, provided approval of the payment is received from the State Highway & Public Works commission, which had agreed to pay the re-routing expense.

The board passed a resolution, on request of the county sanitarian, to ask the county commissioners to adopt for Cleveland County provisions of the 1953 Public Health law relating to milk sanitation, and voted to request that the Lions club provide for a safety award presentation to city officials from Edward Schleid, state commissioner of motor vehicles.

In a procedural matter relating to building permits, the board ordered that building permits approved by the city building inspector be forwarded to the superintendent of public works for inspection of utility installations and subsequently to the tax supervisor for inclusion on the tax books.

Mayor Glee A. Bridges reported that he had been informed by E. L. Kemper, division highway engineer, that only about \$5,000 remains to the city's credit for the proposed curb-and-gutter installations on N. Piedmont avenue, an insufficient amount to curb-and-gutter both sides of the street. Action on the matter was deferred to the forthcoming meeting.

All commissioners were present except Harold Phillips.

Auto Thieves Swap Cars With Shytle

Take one, leave one" was apparently the motto of visiting automobile thieves, who according to Police Chief Hugh A. Logan, Jr., evidently pulled a switch of cars on Landing street Wednesday night, July 28.

According to Chief Logan, Martin Shytle, of 609 Landing street, reported last Thursday the theft of his 1950 auto. Shytle, Logan stated, said the car had been stolen from his residence sometime during the night after 11 p.m.

While officers were still investigating this incident, Logan said, a report was received by the police department of an apparently unclaimed car with Georgia license parked near the spot the Shytle car had been stolen.

Logan said investigation proved that the car had been stolen from Kermit E. Yearwood, of Toccoa, Ga. The Georgia police, according to Chief Logan, said, at two industrial school escapees were suspects. Logan also said that it was believed after the Georgia car was stolen, it was apparently driven as far as Kings Mountain and swapped for the Shytle car.

Investigating officers were Chief Hugh A. Logan, Jr., Sgt. Tom Gladden, Officers Bill Bell, Jack Stone, P. A. Hawkins, and R. R. Carrigan.

City To Hold Two Sessions

The city board of commissioners will hold its regular August meeting Thursday night at City Hall at 8 o'clock and will convene again on Friday morning at 11 o'clock to open and to consider bids for construction of a natural gas distribution system.

A portion of the Thursday night meeting has been designated as a public hearing on street improvements assessments, including \$1,375.50 for sidewalk installations on West King street, and \$1,236.77 for paving of Floyd street, from York road to Oriental avenue.

The board will also hear a plea from Tax Supervisor Clarence E. Carpenter that the city seek legislation by the 1955 General Assembly to make city taxes payable during the month of August at the full two percent discount.

Mr. Carpenter noted that the county follows this procedure, under a special act of the legislature, and that the variance between Kings Mountain and county policy is causing confusion among many taxpayers.

RETURN HERE

Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Plonk, Jr., have resumed residence here, having returned Friday from Lafayette, Ga., where Mr. Plonk was employed by Ely & Walker Company. The firm has assigned him for work with C. A. Plonk, of Asheville, veteran Ely & Walker salesman. Harold Plonk, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. G. Plonk, has replaced J. O. Plonk, Jr., at the Lafayette saleroom of Ely & Walker.

Thus in its two nationwide predictions, the United States Poll scored two bull's eyes and its



CITY GAS MAN — Vincent L. Beechum, of Concord, has been employed by the city as superintendent of the newly-created gas department.

Missing Man Found Dead

The body of John Crawford, 77, who was reported missing by the police department July 27, was found Wednesday morning by a searching party some distance off a county road, near Sparrow Springs.

Gaston County Coroner W. J. McClean said there was no evidence of foul play and that no inquest will be held.

According to Chief Hugh A. Logan, Jr., Mr. Crawford, who left home with the intention of visiting his granddaughter, Mrs. V. H. Crawford, of Rock Hill, S. C., was last seen in Love Valley, near the Dixon schoolhouse.

Eita Cordell, who lives in the house with Dennis Crawford, a son, stated Wednesday afternoon, that Mr. Crawford was visiting in the home of his daughter, Mrs. George Leigh, near the Battleground, at the time he left on the trip to Rock Hill, S. C.

Graveside rites will be held at Mountain Rest cemetery at 11 o'clock Thursday morning, with Rev. M. Hardee officiating.

Sunday Storm Caused Damage

Kings Mountain citizens experienced their worse storm of the summer Sunday afternoon, when heavy