

Population

Greater Kings Mountain 10,320
City Limits 8,008

This figure for Greater Kings Mountain is derived from the 1955 Kings Mountain city directory census. The city limits figure is from the United States census of 1950.

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Seventy-Sixth Year

PRICE TEN CENTS

Comm. Rhea Will Move Replacing Dickson Firm

Heavy Fire Loss Well-Insured

Herndon Firm Plans To Build Modern Plant

Much of the J. E. Herndon company complex of several buildings was gutted by fire early Saturday morning.

Among the buildings destroyed was one rented by neighboring Elmer Lumber Company as a paint warehouse.

A Herndon Company official still had not estimated total damage, from the holocaust, with cotton and other materials still smoldering Wednesday afternoon. Some guessed the loss at several hundred thousand dollars.

B. S. Peeler, Jr., estimated the Lumber firm's loss at \$150,000.

Both firms were conducting business operations Monday morning, along with directing clean-up work.

A Herndon official said Wednesday the firm has rented a warehouse in Shelby at the corner of Morgan & Blanton streets, between P & M Warehouse and Shelby Mills. Minor repairs to the warehouse were scheduled for completion Wednesday afternoon.

Firemen fought the blaze for 13 hours before it was brought under control. Meantime, firemen were able to save the Herndon office building, Elmer Lumber's office building and others, as well as nearby homes on City, Ridge and Candler streets.

With a strong wind from the northeast, debris littered yards and drives to Goforth street and west. It was the city's most costly fire since the 1964 fire leveled Slater Mills. In contrast to the Slater fire, both Herndon and Elmer Lumber were well insured.

A Herndon official said the Long Shoals Mill fire of several years ago had dictated heavy investment in insurance protection. Not only was the firm as fully insured against fire as possible, but also carried business interruption and extra expense insurance.

The Herndon firm listed these losses:

A 60 x 160 warehouse, a 60 x 70 shed area, a 50 x 70 building (onetime the hangar at Bridges Airport), and a recently constructed 45 x 150 warehouse. Other losses were a '48 Chevrolet truck, two warehouse fork lifts, '60 Chevrolet truck, '64 Evans flatbed cotton trailer. Loss of cotton waste and other inventories is not yet assessed.

While anticipating rebuilding at the present site, the official said Wednesday, "We would sell

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Stadium Fund Creeps Upward

Pledges and actual cash-in-hand to the John Gamble Stadium Fund reached \$74,607.39, Treasurer Charles F. Harry, III said Wednesday.

Subsequently, W. S. Fulton, Jr., president of the Kings Mountain Kiwanis club, said accounting on the club's Thursday night talent show has not been completed but that the club's minimal pledge of \$1,000 will be exceeded.

The Kings Mountain Junior Woman's club voted unanimously Monday night to donate its 1964 community project fund of \$150 to the stadium fund, Mrs. W. G. Jonas, club president, reported.

Goal in the campaign to build a new football stadium for the city is \$80,000 which means that \$5,242.61 is needed to complete the fund gifts this week included those from B. Holmes Harry, Royster Grocery, Mr. and Mrs. John Gold, James Ware, Spangler Construction Company, Jacob P. Hauser, Wray A. Williams, Mr. and Mrs. Yates Harbison and Mr. and Mrs. Elmer McGill, Secretary-Treasurer Harry said.

John Gamble Football Stadium will have a seating capacity of 4,000 and will be erected south of the new high school plant on Phifer road.

Aim of the fund-raising committee is to have the stadium ready for use when the football season opens in September.

Youths Lose Licenses, Put On Probation

Four Kings Mountain teenagers drew variable sentences, all suspended, and were placed in probation for five years by Judge Joe Mull in Cleveland County Recorder's Court Tuesday. All plead guilty.

The youths were arrested several weeks ago by county officials after a Saturday night theft at Weir's Grocery near the Park Yam Mill, in which 64 cartons of cigarettes and a few cigarette lighters were reported missing.

The arrests climaxed a series of four incidents beginning last July 4.

The youths and the judgments: James P. Falls, who pleaded guilty to three counts of forcible trespass and larceny, 18 months suspended on payment of \$25 and costs, plus \$23.52 for reimbursement of W. T. Weir, and surrender of his driver's license until September 3. Judge Mull specified that he be allowed to drive his father's truck solely to obtain feed for his father's farm. A charge of larceny was not pressed with leave.

David Michael Ballard, who pleaded guilty to three counts of forcible trespass and larceny, 12 months suspended on payment of \$20 and costs, plus \$23.52 for reimbursement of Mr. Weir, and surrender of driver's license until September 3.

Daniel Charles Dilling, who pleaded guilty on two counts of forcible trespass and larceny, 12 months, suspended on payment of \$20 and costs plus \$23.52 to reimburse Mr. Weir, and surrender of driver's license until September 3.

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VETERANS

World War 1 Veterans will hold a regular meeting Sunday afternoon at 2:30 at City Hall courtroom, Quartermaster F. H. Glenn has announced.

City Has \$194,338 In Bank Balances

City Clerk Joe McDaniel, Jr., will report to the board of commissioners at Thursday afternoon's 6 p.m. session that the city's consolidated bank balances total \$194,338.07, and all funds are meeting the current fiscal year's budgetary needs.

Mr. McDaniel will detail the several funds as follows:

The Cemetery Operating Fund has a small debit due to the heavy expenditures incurred in buying land and building and furnishing an office at the cemetery. This balance will be absorbed when final distribution of Cemetery income is made on June 30th. Currently, the Cemetery Fund has \$39,000 invested in savings and loan stock.

The General Fund with a debit of \$108,142.15 has been expended to date leaving \$69,632.85 left to

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Crackerjacks Will Be Featured At Annual Retailer Party Monday

Arthur Smith and his Crackerjacks from WB-TV, Charlotte, will present an entertainment program at Monday night's annual employee-employer banquet of the Kings Mountain Merchants Association.

Featured with the group of entertainers will be the "Councils of the Airways", Tommy Failla and Ralph Smith.

Supper will be served buffet style at 7 o'clock in the dining room of the American Legion building on York road.

Tickets for the event are \$3 and may be purchased from downtown merchants. A limited number of tickets are available

to the general public at the Merchants Association office on Mountain street.

Jonas Bridges, association president, urged members to notify the association secretary, Mrs. Luther Joy, the number of tickets they will need for their employees Thursday and Friday so that reservations may be made.

The annual retailer banquet customarily attracts a large crowd and also features the installation of new officers for the coming year.

President Bridges will preside and Past President Robert O. (Bob) Southwell will install the new officers.

Rhea Declares City Must Meet Sewage Order

By MARTIN HARMON

Ward 5 Commissioner J. E. (Zip) Rhea said Wednesday he will move replacement of W. K. Dickson & Company as the city's engineering consultant at Thursday's 6 p.m. meeting.

Comm. Rhea's vote follows revelation by Engineer W. K. Dickson last week that preliminary plans for meeting the city's agreement with the State Stream Sanitation committee would not be filed by last Thursday's due date.

Comm. Rhea commented, "Mr. Dickson has been aware of the city's agreement to build a modern sewage treatment plant since the agreement was executed in 1963. The initial deadline has not been met and from dates Mr. Dickson was quoted as indicating last week, neither will the next two. The city's agreement calls for having construction underway not later than January 1, 1966, and the system in service not later than January 1, 1967. In view of the situation, I feel the city must retain an engineering firm which will speed the work to completion and thereby enable Kings Mountain to honor its agreements."

Mayor Glee A. Bridges, out-of-town last week, said on return he was surprised and disappointed at the news the preliminary plans were not at least ready for filing. Recalling the agreement was executed by the prior administration, he said he was reminded of the agreement by a notice from the State Stream Sanitation committee early in January.

He added, "I immediately forwarded the notice to our engineers, W. K. Dickson & Company and asked him to come over. Several days passed and I telephoned him. A few days later, Mr. Dickson himself came to Kings Mountain and he, Grady Yelton, superintendent of public works, and I toured the western area of the city, which the projected plant is to serve. I instructed him to proceed and I thought he was getting the plans ready."

Last Friday, Mr. Dickson was quoted in the Shelby Daily Star as stating that at least \$50,000 was required to be in hand for the project before an application for sharing funds from the federal government could be submitted.

Mayor Bridges commented, "First I'd ever heard of the \$50,000."

Mayor Bridges did not say what recommendation he might make to the commission Thursday afternoon, but said, "I will report the situation as I know it and invite discussion and action by the commissioners."

One nearby city official, in discussing the city's sewage disposal needs a few months ago, said the State Stream Sanitation committee had the legal power for tern action with firms or cities which do not comply with their agreements. One action, he said, might be an order to cease making any sewage taps.

Another official said he understood the committee had the power to force assessment of a sewage service fee, with the funds obtained to be held in escrow for use of the city in complying with the agreement.

Otherwise, the commission will consider a request from the board of education for installation of a sewage line from the Phifer Road property line to the outfall of the Mauney tank. Mayor Bridges estimated honoring the request would require 1000 feet of six-inch pipe, plus a pumping station.

Two Cantatas Palm Sunday

Two Kings Mountain church choirs will sing Easter Cantatas Palm Sunday.

Members of the Central Methodist church choir will sing "The Crucifixion", meditation on the sacred passion of the Holy Redeemer, text and music by John Stainer, at the 11 a.m. morning worship service.

The Church and Youth Choirs of Kings Mountain Baptist church will sing "The Resurrection Song", by Louise E. Stairs in a special Palm Sunday afternoon

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Walker And Brown File In 5; Registration Books To Open

Books To Open In Eight Wards On Saturday

Registration books will open at eight precincts Saturday for the May 11 city and board of education elections.

Same qualification test will apply as applied in the county election and was required in the county voting last April. Registrant will have to prove his or her ability to read a section of the state constitution and sign his or her name.

At three outside city precincts, voters will help determine only the election of two members of the board of education.

At Grover Rescue Squad building, citizens of the Grover school district, will register and vote. At Park Grace school, citizens living in the Park Grace - Compact section of the school district will register and vote and at Bethware school citizens living in the Bethware area section of the school district will register and vote.

All other ward voting places are the same as applied in the May 1963 city election.

It is not anticipated that voter registration will be heavy as an all-new registration was held two years ago.

New citizens must register to vote.

Citizens who have changed residence within the community must obtain transfers.

Voting precincts and list of judges follows:

Ward I at City Hall, C. L. Black, registrar.

Ward II at American Legion building, R. D. Goforth, registrar.

Ward III at East school, Mrs. Ruth Bowers, registrar.

Ward IV at Kings Mountain Manufacturing clubroom, Mrs. Vera Cole Cash, registrar.

Ward V at National Guard Armory, Mrs. Paul Patterson, registrar.

Grover School District at Grover Rescue Squad Building, Mrs. James C. Scruggs, registrar.

Bethware School District at Bethware school, Mrs. Frank Ware, registrar.

Park Grace School District at Park Grace school, Mrs. James Cloninger, registrar.

Registration books will be open for four successive Saturdays from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m. Challenge Day is Saturday, May 8.

Cemetery Fund Bill Delayed

Mayor Glee A. Bridges said this week he has requested Senator Jack White to delay introduction of a bill which would empower the city to use for general purposes its perpetual care cemetery fund.

The Mayor said both he and city commissioners have received calls from several citizens who oppose the change.

He said he would ask the commission to affirm or countermand the bill request at Thursday afternoon's 6 p.m. session.

Moss Promises Effort To Obtain Return Of Kings Mountain ESC

John Henry Moss, candidate for mayor, said Wednesday he will seek re-opening of the Employment Security commission and the Kings Mountain welfare office branch "whether as mayor or interested citizen."

Return of both he termed of "vital importance."

He also stated firm support for the efforts of the 73 power-selling cities to amend Senate Bill 95 and House Bill 255 to include the desired sentence "to provide that nothing in the article shall prohibit a municipality from providing electrical services to any customer within its corporate limits, or for acquiring at a fair price the electrical facilities of another supplier within the municipality's bounds."

"Otherwise, he said, "Kings



WINS FELLOWSHIP—Stephen E. Kesler has won a National Science Foundation Fellowship for a third year of graduate work at Stanford University.

Kesler Wins NSF Fellowship

Stephen E. Kesler, son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas L. Kesler of Kings Mountain, has been awarded a National Science Foundation Fellowship for the third year.

Kesler, in his third year of graduate school at Stanford University, is now completing work on his doctorate degree. He completed research work on his doctorate during the summer.

The Kings Mountain man was among 1,339 students from across the nation to receive graduate fellowships in the sciences, mathematics and engineering. There were some 7,807 applicants.

A graduate of the University of North Carolina with a bachelor of science degree, Kesler earned his master's degree from Stanford University in Stanford, California.

Herndon Resigns Chairmanship

J. E. Herndon, Jr., Tuesday wrote the Kings Mountain board of education his resignation as chairman.

Mr. Herndon the recent fire which gutted much of the J. E. Herndon Company complex dictated his action.

"I could not do justice to the citizens of the school district to continue as chairman," he commented. He said he would continue as a member and would render every assistance possible.

H. O. (Toby) Williams is vice-chairman.

SQUAD

Grover Rescue Squad traveled 1,332 miles for a total of \$40 hours and 21 calls during the month of March, according to report of squad reporter Ralph Miller.

DIXON 4-H CLUB

The Dixon Community 4-H club will hold regular meeting Tuesday night at 7 p.m. at Dixon Presbyterian church.

Walker Opposes In-Law Nephew Incumbent Rhea

All candidates for city and board of education offices now have opposition.

Commissioner J. E. (Zip) Rhea, Ward 5, previously the lone candidate unopposed, now has two opponents.

O. O. Walker, retired contractor, and an uncle-in-law of Commissioner Rhea, filed for the Ward 5 post Tuesday. Benjamin F. Brown, Negro, employee of Margrace Mills, filed Wednesday.

Addition of the two new candidates brings the number to 19 those seeking six City Hall and two board of education positions.

Filing deadline is April 16.

Mr. Walker came to Kings Mountain in 1924 as superintendent for A. H. Golon Construction Company and while here married the former Madge Rhea. The Walkers are parents of one daughter, Mrs. F. A. McDaniel, Jr., of Kings Mountain. They are members of Kings Mountain Baptist church and Mr. Walker is a Mason, Shriner, and member of American Legion Post 155. They live on Williams street.

Serving in the Navy during World War I, Mr. Walker made 14 trips across the Atlantic on convoy duty.

His experience in water, sewer, streets and the construction business spans 50 years. For 22 years until 1946, he was superintendent of A. H. Guion Construction Company of Charlotte and Gastonia; was assistant general superintendent of water, sewer and streets at Camp Shelby at Hattisburg, Miss., general superintendent of water and sewer at Byrd Airport at Richmond, Va., general superintendent of water and sewer at the Marine Base at Cherry Point, in addition to many others from Virginia to Florida and from the Atlantic

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Bill Herndon Repeat Champ

Bill Herndon, Park Grace school seventh grader, is Kings Mountain's spelling champion for the second straight year.

Herndon, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Herndon, spelled 95 of 100 words correctly in a written test Wednesday afternoon to win the Kings Mountain Bee and represent the city in the Charlotte Observer spelling bee this spring.

He competed with seven other top spellers representing the East, West, North, Davidson, Compact, Grover and Bethware elementary schools in the Kings Mountain district.

The contest was held at North school. East school's David Smith will receive the Frank R. Summers spelling medal at school finals. Young Herndon was not eligible to receive the medal, since he had received the top spelling award last year.

Davidson eighth grader Robert White will receive the F. R. Summers spelling medal, given to the top speller at Davidson - Compact schools.

Alleged KKK Leader Gone; Sticks City

The man thought to be, but not confirmed as the Ku Klux Klan leader in Kings Mountain, is no longer a Kings Mountain citizen.

City officials said this week the residence occupied by the man reliable informants said last week was the Cleveland County KKK organizer is vacant. Exact date of his departure is not sure, but is indicated as last Thursday.

He left the city utilities department his calling card — \$60.50 in utility bills over and above his deposit fees.

He left no forwarding address, postal officials relate.

They had already checked. His ex-landlord had the same problem the city does.