

POPULATION
 City Limits (1940 Census) 6,574
 Immediate Trading Area 15,000
 (1945 Ration Board Figures)

Kings Mountain Herald

16 Pages Today

VOL. 59 NO. 23

Kings Mountain, N. C., Friday, June 11, 1948

PRICE FIVE CENTS

Tax Rate Tentatively Set At \$1.60, Same As '47-'48

Local News Bulletins

VFW SUPPER
 Members of VFW Post and guests will meet at Bridges Airport Saturday night at 7 p. m. for a fish supper, one dollar a plate, according to an announcement this week by Frank Gladden, commander. All members are urged to attend and bring guests.

BLACKBURN CITY COP
 W. L. Blackburn began duties Thursday as city policeman according to Chief N. M. Farr. Mr. Blackburn has resigned as Cleveland county deputy sheriff. He was sixth ranking deputy.

SCOUT GATHERING
 All Kings Mountain district Boy Scouts, troop commanders, Scoutmasters, and members of the executive are invited to a weiner roast at Davidson Memorial Camp on the York Road Tuesday afternoon, according to Chairman J. W. Phillips. The weiner roast will follow an afternoon of work on the camp site, where a swimming pool is now being built.

RECORD ENROLLMENT
 A record enrollment is reported this year at Presbyterian church Daily Vacation Bible school. Rev. P. D. Patrick said the school has a splendid faculty and that classes will continue the first five days of the week through June 18th. The school opens at 8:30 and closes at 11 a. m.

SAFETY AWARD
 Bennett Brick and Tile Company became the ninth Kings Mountain firm to qualify for the safety award of the North Carolina Department of Labor, according to announcement from the department this week. The awards are made for improvements in plant accident rates.

UNION SERVICE
 Sunday night's union service will be held at 8 o'clock at St. Matthew's Lutheran church, with Rev. P. D. Patrick, pastor of First Presbyterian church, preaching the sermon.

LEGION MEETING
 Regular meeting of Otis D. Green Post 155, American Legion, will be held at City Hall Monday night at 7:30, with election of officers for the coming year the chief item of business, according to announcement by C. H. Aderholdt, adjutant.

MAUNEY APPOINTED
 W. K. Mauney, of Kings Mountain, was appointed to a three-year term as Number 4 township representative on the county hospital board by the board of county commissioners Monday. Mr. Mauney succeeds L. Arnold Kiser, whose term has expired.

WINS MEDAL
 Frank A. Summers, son of Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Summers, was awarded the Headmasters medal, highest award at Blue Ridge School for Boys, at graduation exercises last Friday morning. The award is made to the student adjudged best in combining scholarship and service to the school. The Kings Mountain student, who was graduated this year, will enter Georgia Tech next fall.

ATTENDING SCHOOL
 George Moss, superintendent of the city water plant, is attending water works school at Chapel Hill this week.

NEW RADIOMAN
 H. A. Harris has been employed by the police department as radioman according to an announcement by N. M. Farr, chief.



WAR CASUALTY — Funeral services for Johnny W. Blackwell, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Blackwell, will be held Sunday. He was the first Kings Mountain man killed in World War II, and the VFW post here is named in his honor.

Blackwell Rites Sunday Afternoon

Final interment rites for Pfc. Johnny W. Blackwell, 22, first soldier from Number 4 Township to be killed in action in World War II, will be held Sunday afternoon at 4 o'clock at Second Baptist church here with interment in Mountain Rest cemetery. Pfc. Blackwell was killed March 31, 1943, in North Africa while serving as a medical aid man with infantry troops of the First division. He entered service Oct. 14, 1940, and sailed for overseas in July 1942. He was a native of Gaffney, S. C. Kings Mountain post Veterans of Foreign Wars is named in honor of Pfc. Blackwell. Members of the post will serve as active and honorary pallbearers, assisted by members of the American Legion. Shelby National Guard company will have charge of the military rites. Services will be conducted at the church by Rev. B. F. Austin, pastor and Rev. Hillard Redmon. The body will be taken to the home Saturday. He is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. William E. Blackwell, of Kings Mountain, and by one brother, Pvt. Connie Blackwell, U. S. Air Force, San Antonio, Texas.

Beauty Contest Plans Shaping Up

Plans for the Third Annual Joyce Beauty Pageant to be held June 25, were shaping up this week, according to announcement by Frosty Spearman, publicity chairman. The pageant steering committee held a meeting Monday night and Mr. Spearman said that entries to date indicated keen competition for the titles "Miss Kings Mountain" and "Miss Kings Mountain Junior." The contest is being conducted in conjunction with the annual "Miss America" contests.

Funeral Services Held Wednesday For P. D. Herndon, Former Mayor



FUNERAL HELD — Funeral services for P. D. Herndon, prominent citizen and former mayor, who succumbed Tuesday, were conducted Wednesday afternoon.



FINAL RITES FRIDAY — Final interment of Pvt. Elmer M. Propst, Kings Mountain native who lost his life in action in Burma in World War II, will be held Friday morning, with simple graveside rites at Memorial park of Mountain Rest cemetery.

Propst Rites Friday Morning

Simple graveside rites for Pvt. Elmer M. Propst, 32, Kings Mountain native who was killed in action in Burma on June 23, 1944, will be held at Memorial Park in Mountain Rest cemetery here Friday morning at 11 o'clock, with Rev. G. W. Fink, pastor of Grace Methodist church officiating. Pvt. Propst, son of Mr. and Mrs. T. G. Propst of Kings Mountain, entered the army from Shelby in 1943 and was serving with the 5307th composite group (PROV), 475th infantry commanded by the late Gen. Joe Stillwell at the time of his death. He was an assistant overseer of Cleveland Cloth Mill, Shelby, and was active in the affairs of Shelby's First Baptist church, of which he was a member. Surviving are his wife, the former Miss Helen Sue Kendrick, who now resides in Charlotte, his parents, and the following brothers and sisters, Gaither, Donald and Clyde Propst, Mrs. Dwydd Vaughan, Mrs. Calvin Payne, and Miss Faye Propst, all of Kings Mountain. Active pallbearers will be members of Johnny W. Blackwell Post 2268, VFW, and honorary pallbearers will be members of the U. M. Mull Bible Class of Shelby's First Baptist church.

BUILDING PERMITS

Building permits issued at City Hall last week included: J. O. Sellers on 8th, add room on York road, \$500; Dan Finger, on 5th, new 5-room dwelling corner W. Gold and Watterson, \$5,000; F. M. Lee on 4th, repair fire damage home on Brick, \$1,000; Henry McGinnis, screen new porch on Piedmont, \$400; and Norman King, new 4-room dwelling Cherryville road, \$2,000.

Board Votes \$2,000 For Schools; Motion To Close Stadium Rejected

1948-49 Budget Tentatively Set At \$289,914.07

As the climax of a long regular June meeting, the city board of commissioners, adopted a tentative budget of \$289,914.07 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, and tentatively set the 1948 tax rate at \$1.60 per \$100 valuation, no increase over the rate for 1947. While the commissioners may change budget or tax rates before final adoption at the July meeting, neither development is anticipated, according to statements by the commissioners, who said they were paring all possible expenses to hold the same tax rate. Persons paying 1948 taxes by June 30 will qualify for the regular two percent discount. Prior to the action on the budget, the commissioners had heard a request from Ned McGill, who said he was representing M. A. Ware, Bill Baker, Mrs. Bessie Gantt and other Gaston street residents, that the city close the City Stadium. Mr. McGill said sanitary facilities at the stadium are inadequate and that the stadium otherwise is a public nuisance. He said that unless some action were taken the citizens he represented contemplated seeking an injunction against the use of the stadium. In the discussion on the matter, it was pointed out that, while the stadium is being used for colored baseball games, separate toilet facilities are not available. Members of the board expressed the feeling that the stadium situation is a bad one, but Commissioner Marriott Phifer's motion that the stadium be closed did not receive a second.

BUDGET

The budget estimate anticipates revenue of \$83,529.07 from property taxes during the next fiscal year, the figure being based on property valuations of \$5,692,138, more than a half million dollar increase over the taxable values of 1947. As usual, biggest estimated revenue item is from sale of water and lights at \$160,500. Other estimated revenue includes: poll taxes, \$3,249; taxes of 1947 and prior years, \$2,500; privilege license taxes, \$6,000; auto licenses, \$800; dog licenses, \$250; intangible taxes, \$4,000; franchise taxes, \$1,500; beer taxes, \$5,500; court fees, \$10,200; permits, \$250; sewer charges, \$45; water and sewer connections, \$2,000; supplies, \$500; cemetery lots and graves, \$3,300; miscellaneous, \$2,000; stadium lights, \$200 and parking meters, \$3,500.

EXPENSE ITEMS

Estimated expenditures, which balance estimated revenues, include appropriations of \$32,000 for payment on the city's bonded debt, \$17,602.50 in interest payments due on bonds, and \$101.54 in bank commissions. (Cont'd on page eight)



GRADUATES — James Edward Amos, son of Mr. and Mrs. M. C. Amos, was a member of the graduating class at the University of North Carolina. Mr. Amos was graduated with the degree of B. S. in commerce.

Second Primary 15 Days Away

Outward signs of the forthcoming second primary in the gubernatorial race were limited this week, even though the second voting to determine whether Charles M. Johnson, first primary leader, or W. Kerr Scott runner-up, would be the Democratic nominee for governor is only 15 days away. The quietness, of course, referred to the situation in Kings Mountain, for daily dispatches from headquarters of both candidates indicated that the business of politicking is in full swing. Mr. Scott, former commissioner of agriculture from Haw River, formally called for a second primary Tuesday after final canvass of the votes, which showed he trailed Mr. Johnson, state treasurer, by more than 8,000 votes in the first race. Most political observers were predicting a light vote in the "second" race. They reasoned that only two candidates would not attract the interest of the citizens as was evidenced in the first primary when a battery of candidates' names appeared on the ballots. A few thought it possible the second primary campaign would wax hot enough to attract the interest and therefore vote-casting by more citizens. In Kings Mountain, indications were that Scott supporters were still (Cont'd on page eight)

METER RECEIPTS

Parking meter receipts for the week ending Wednesday at noon totaled \$166.86, according to an announcement by S. A. Crouse, city clerk.

Juniors Play Here Saturday At 8 P. M.

Kings Mountain American Legion junior baseball team is scheduled to face Cherryville here Saturday night at 8 p. m. in the fourth game of the first round elimination series. Coach Howard Edens nine was also scheduled to play Mecklenburg in City Stadium last (Thursday) night. The local nine defeated Forest City here Tuesday afternoon 9 to 5 to gain a one-win, one-loss average in group two play. Mecklenburg defeated Shelby Tuesday after the locals had bowed to the Shelby team in the opener Monday night 8 to 1. Cherryville lost to Bessemer City in their opener Monday. W. L. Plonk, team business manager, yesterday urged all citizens to back the team this year by attending the games. "Many local business firms and individuals have loaned financial assistance to the program and we feel that all citizens should indicate their support by attending the home games," he said.

Mayor Objects To Appropriation For School Aid

The city board of commissioners voted a \$2,000 appropriation for city schools at the meeting Tuesday night, but only after considerable straight talk between Mayor H. Tom Fulton, board members and school board members, and over the objections of the mayor who contended that such an appropriation is illegal. The discussion ran from a plea for aid for supplemental funds for the school, to failure of the county board of commissioners to hold a property revaluation. The county board never acknowledged receipt of a letter from the Kings Mountain city board endorsing and urging the revaluation, Mayor H. Tom Fulton said, and this brought the statement from School Board Member J. R. Davis, also county attorney, that he had "never heard of it (the letter)." Plea for the school funds was presented by A. W. Kincaid, Ward 3 school board commissioner, with other school board members, Mr. Davis, B. S. Neill, and C. C. Edens, Superintendent B. N. Barnes, and other interested citizens present. Mr. Kincaid said the schools would suffer without additional funds to take care of teacher supplements, supplements for coaches, band and music instructors. He said the school board had no place to turn for additional funds, adding that holding of a special tax election was prevented by proximity of other elections. Mr. Kincaid explained that, from the present supplemental tax of 20 cents in the Kings Mountain school district, the schools will have available an estimated \$8,500 per year. Necessary expense not paid for by state funds during the past year he listed as follows: Band instructor, \$2,783; coaches' supplements, \$1,389; teacher supplement, \$3,760; music teacher, \$1,854.50; and retirement fund payments on supplemental salaries \$550. He said all these figures would have to be increased for the coming year if the schools retained personnel of equal ability, stating the need at a minimum of \$13,000. The city commissioners plainly expressed the opinion that operating the schools was school board function and not city function, according to the statutes, and Mayor Fulton said, "You fellows are going to have to do something and stand on your own bottom. Somebody's been asleep at the switch up there." He also pointed out that taxable values in the city had increased to \$5,692,000 which would increase their funds. "We're pleading this time for temporary relief and won't be back again," Mr. Kincaid replied. With the remark, "It's not the (Cont'd on page eight)

Ned A. McGill Resigns Position As Secretary Of Merchants' Group

Ned A. McGill, for the past 16 months executive secretary of the Kings Mountain Merchants association, has resigned that position, according to an announcement by Joe Lee Woodward, president. Mr. McGill has accepted a sales position with Allied Drug Products Company, Chattanooga, and will serve as salesman in the Western North Carolina territory. He will begin his new work Monday. Mr. McGill became secretary of the association on February 1, 1947, succeeding W. F. Laughter. "We regret exceedingly to lose Mr. McGill," President Woodward said. "He has served the association well. During his tenure membership and activities of the association have hit their highest point." In tendering his resignation, Mr. McGill expressed appreciation for the "fine cooperation I have received from the officers, directors, committees, and general membership." Mr. Woodward said directors of

Kiwanis To Sponsor Donkey Ball Game

Donkey baseball will come to Kings Mountain Friday night, June 18, when the Kiwanis club sponsors a game at City Stadium, featuring local players. B. S. Neill, who made the announcement, said he was not ready to announce complete line-ups for the two teams, but said further details would be announced next week. The game will be played according to softball rules, except that instead of innings, a time limit of 12 minutes, instead of three outs, will determine the changing of fielding and hitting positions of the teams. Time of the game will be 8 p. m. The association would meet at Kings Mountain Drug Company Monday evening to discuss naming of a new secretary.