

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

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Kings Mountain, N. C., Thursday, November 19, 1953

Sixty-Third Year

PRICE FIVE CENTS

Pumpage Cut, But Water Supply Dwindles

Gold Mine Area Being Tested For Sources

Kings Mountain's water problem continued for still another week and brilliant, hazy, dust-filled skies offered little support to the weather observer's predictions for Thursday showers.

The city's situation on Wednesday morning was this: 1) Daily pumpage at a new low of 585,000 gallons on Tuesday, following voluntary restriction by Foote Mineral Company of an additional four hours.

2) A still declining water level at the city lake, though at a slow rate, Mayor Glee A. Bridges said the level had dropped four-plus inches in the past week, none on Sunday, and not more than one inch on any particular day.

3) The city is still pumping from Davidson Scout Camp creek, and was dynamiting and exploring in the old Gold Mine area Wednesday morning seeking new sources of raw water.

4) The county sanitation officer had ruled against use of water from the old wells on Cherryville Road, even with chlorination. The water should be filtered, he said, and doubted advisability of using it without filtration.

Need for rain was mentioned by many ministers in prayers at Sunday services.

Meantime, citizens drove grimy, dust-covered automobiles, and the few who had their cars cleaned out-of-town found the cleaning didn't last long.

The water, due to necessity of heavier chemical treatment for purification, had a strange taste that imparted a bitter, metallic flavor to coffee.

The news was good from Foote Mineral, where Manager J. E. Castle reported the water reclamation system "doing better than we expected".

Reclamation of the wash water used in the ore mining process enabled Foote to cut its city water consumption to 12 hours per day. It has been on a 16-hour ration for the past several weeks.

Mr. Castle said the reclamation success meant the company could continue operations indefinitely on the 12-hour pumpage schedule.

The city had to locate another irrigation rig, being used to pump water from the Davidson Scout creek, when O. Max Gardner, who had lent his, reported he had a customer for the system. Another was located by Police Chief Hugh A. Logan, Jr., at the farm of Woodrow Wilson, Route 1, Shelby, and the city was obtaining the Wilson rig on a rental basis Wednesday.

Mayor Bridges said city workmen were busy Wednesday morning tapping small lakes in the Gold Mine area, and were drilling to see if it were possible to tap water in the old Gold Mine shaft.

George Moss, water plant operator, reported the Tuesday drop in finished water pumped, which followed the further Foote curtailment.

During September, the city pumped an average of 817,000 gallons of finished water per day.

Mrs. J. B. Bell Rites Conducted

Funeral services for Mrs. Minnie Ledford Bell, 71, wife of J. D. Bell and resident of route 3, were conducted Wednesday at 3 p. m. from Oak Grove Baptist church.

Rev. C. C. Crowe, pastor of the church, and Rev. Luther Hawkins officiated. The body was in state at the church one-half hour prior to the rites, and interment was made in the church cemetery.

Mrs. Bell succumbed at her home here Monday afternoon at 3:45 following a three-year illness. She was a daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Berry Ledford and was a charter member of Oak Grove Baptist church.

Surviving in addition to her husband are two sons, Alvin Bell and Edmond Bell, both of Kings Mountain and three daughters, Mrs. Faye Ross, Mrs. Walter Blanton, and Mrs. Edna Ervin, all of Kings Mountain; and one adopted daughter, Mrs. Janie Hamrick, Kings Mountain.

Also surviving are five brothers, Ed and Kemp Ledford, both of Lincolnton, Gaither and Jesse Ledford, both of Kings Mountain, and Cleophus Ledford of Cherryville.

School May Buy Williams Property

Trustees Visit Alternate Area For Negro Site

The board of school trustees may purchase a 15-acre tract from Wray A. Williams to provide sufficient land for its new Negro elementary plant now under construction.

The school board visited the site Wednesday morning, and J. R. Davis, Ward 1 trustee, said later in the morning that the board has a verbal option for 60 days to purchase the tract at \$1,000 per acre.

Should the Williams tract be purchased, the B. D. Ratterree-Estelle Weir Estate property, previously sought by the board, would not be required. Owners of the tract have refused to sell and adjacent property owners have objected strongly to board plans for obtaining the tracts via condemnation action.

School board members first discussed the Williams' property in full meeting Monday night at their regular November session. At that time, discussion indicated the board would like to buy some of the Williams property but actually needed only four acres.

Mr. Williams offers 15 acres minimum. However, Mr. Davis said Wednesday it is possible the city could use a portion of the Williams property for a proposed Negro recreation plant, Mayor Glee A. Bridges has indicated. Such purchase would lower the school's investment in site.

Chairman A. W. Kincaid reported developments in the site situation since the last meeting and members of the board present agreed to visit the Williams property on Wednesday.

A spokesman for the petitioners opposing the sale of the Ratterree-Weir land to the school said this week that the group was not protesting the location of the school building but were against plans to build a ball park there.

"We want the school to hold the line at the creek and not purchase any of the Ratterree-Weir land on our side of the creek," he said. "There is plenty of land on the other side that is available. We want the school to go that way," he added.

Progress continues toward final location of the U. S. Highway 29 by-pass, Division Engineer Lewis B. Peck said Wednesday.

As was indicated following the public hearing on the Highway 29 by-pass here several weeks ago, the changes being mapped for the by-pass are south of the line as shown on the map originally posted, enabling the Highway Department to eliminate crossing major spodumene deposits of Foote Mineral Company, as well as other mineral lands owned by Charlie Moss, Mr. Peck said.

Generally the changes anticipated from the original mapping are west of Highway 161, Mr. Peck stated.

"We're not quite ready for any final statements on the location," Mr. Peck said, "but we're close to it."

It is still the intention of the highway department to let contracts on the by-pass construction work next spring, he added.

Commissioner's re-sale of the T. N. Harmon Estate property at the corner of Battleground avenue and Falls street will be conducted Saturday morning at 10 o'clock at the site.

Bidding will begin at B. D. Ratterree's high bid of \$9,983.13. Following the sale, the bidding will remain open for ten days.

The property fronts on three streets, Cherokee, Falls, and Battleground, and is 100 feet by 230 feet, and is occupied by a two-apartment frame dwelling.

It was first offered for sale last May and Saturday's will be the eighth re-sale of the property.

Martin L. Harmon, Jr., is commissioner, and Davis and White are attorneys.

After the meeting, the board visited the primary department where Mr. Barnes showed the work already completed there. The hall floor had been sanded and floors in two of the rooms have been completed.

Mr. Barnes reported on the project to improve the lighting in the primary department at Central school and the board voted to employ Marion M. Packard to do the engineering phase of the work.

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School Trustees Argue Auditing Contract Matter

Discussion of the annual city schools audit of local funds and principals accounts highlighted the regular November meeting of the Kings Mountain district board of school trustees, held at Central school Monday at 7:30 p. m.

Mrs. H. E. Lynch told the board that she wanted a different auditor to do the work "than the same ones we've had for the past 25 years, I guess."

The discussion came up after Superintendent B. N. Barnes told the board that the state local government commission had approved a contract with Jano & Jones for the annual audit. Plummer F. Jones, CPA who is associated with George H. Emery & Co., Statesville, is a partner in the new firm, Mr. Barnes said, and suggested the change.

The board had voted to contract the Emery firm to prepare the 1952-53 audit at the September meeting. "If I had known the question of letting the audit was going to come up, I'd have been at the meeting," Mrs. Lynch said, referring to the September meeting.

The board declined to approve the Jano & Jones contract. "The party of the first part should be the George H. Emery & Co. according to our motion," Trustee J. R. Davis said.

All members of the board were present except Dr. P. G. Padgett, Chairman A. W. Kincaid president.

DEAD ISSUE Consolidation of Number Four Township schools into a single administrative unit is being considered as a "dead issue" by members of the Kings Mountain school board present Monday night.

On question from Superintendent Barnes, Chairman Kincaid instructed him to include a summary of the matter in the minutes to include the 9 to 1 defeat of the matter in the Bethware district straw ballot and the refusal of Compact Negro district committeemen to sign the petition asking the county school board to call the election on the issue.

James Layton, city recreation director, appeared before the board and requested use of the gymnasium for the department's basketball program. "We will only use the gym when it isn't being used for school activities," he said.

Mrs. Lynch moved that the board consider the request, take it up with the school coaches and give Mr. Layton an early answer. Mr. Davis seconded the motion, stating that there is "no opposition from the school board."

In other actions, the board voted a supplement of \$150 to Miss Elizabeth Collette to coach the girl's basketball team for the season, authorized purchase of new building insurance on advice of the architects; authorized payment of \$350 to Odessa Shields for a vacant lot and \$300 to Catherine Boyd; and voted to pay O. Jessa Shields and Sara Bennett \$50 each for damages.

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Griffin Chairman Of Band Campaign

Junior Chamber Is Conducting Annual Appeal

Kings Mountain Jaycees will begin a drive today for funds for the Kings Mountain school band.

A minimum of \$1,500-\$2,000 is needed by the band to make equipment repairs and to purchase new instruments, Wilson Griffin, chairman of the band fund drive announced Tuesday night.

Long winner of high awards in band playing and marching competition, the Kings Mountain unit last year added additional top ratings at the annual state contest at Greensboro.

The unit received much praise for an outstanding performance during the half of the UNC-Charlotte football game at Chapel Hill last Saturday and also gave annual performance at the Lenoir Rhyme homecoming game last month.

The band accompanied the Kings Mountain football team on trips to Cherryville and Rutherfordton this season, and played for all five home games.

No solicitation for the musical group was made last year but funds are badly needed this season.

"Band work definitely helps build good citizens," Mr. Griffin said yesterday, "because it teaches a student to be a part of the group — to harmonize with his neighbors. We feel that, as in the past, the citizens of Kings Mountain are aware of this and will continue to support the unit in every way."

Merchants will be solicited by Jaycee teams and individual donations may be made to any member of the club. Checks, made payable to the Kings Mountain School Band, may be mailed to: Band Fund Drive, P. O. Box 508, Kings Mountain.

Officers of the Band-Parent Association this year are Eugene Roberts, president; Mrs. A. W. Kincaid, vice-president; Mrs. J. H. Arthur, secretary; Mrs. W. F. Houser, treasurer; Ollie Harris, publicity chairman; Sam Weir, past president; and Joe Hedden, director.

Special Stewardship films have been shown each Sunday night during the month.

A newly formed budget committee, under the chairmanship of J. B. Keeter, is studying the budget and is to report to the church.

The revival services will be held each night next week at 7:30 in the church sanctuary.

Past Master's night will be observed by Fairview Lodge Number 339, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, at an emergent communication on Monday evening at 7:30 at Masonic Lodge Hall, according to announcement by D. E. Tate, Master.

Mr. Tate said the Fellowcraft degree will be conferred and asked that all Master Masons plan to attend.

Following the degree work, Charles E. Pugh, of Gastonia, will recognize past masters.

Past masters planning to attend the communication are Dr. L. P. Baker, Dr. J. E. Anthony, Dr. O. P. Lewis, M. A. Ware, O. T. Hayes, P. F. Dilling, J. H. Floyd, S. A. Crouse, J. E. Herndon, W. K. Crook, C. J. Gault, Jr., A. W. Kincaid, and Paul Owens.

Refreshments will be served by Eastern Star Chapter Number 123.

The first ticket pulled from the big cage listed the name of Mrs. Ruby McGinnis, who works at Sadie Mill and lives on Floyd street, and Mrs. McGinnis was right on hand to claim her prize.

The 30 percent ticket gave her \$39 in trade certificates spendable at any participating firm.

Mrs. McGinnis expressed surprise at being the initial week's winner, but had not "really thought I would win".

Later on, Mrs. McGinnis invested a portion of her trade certificates in groceries purchased from Crawford's Market, while another portion went to other firms for other purposes.

Since the rules require a person to be present to win, committee members had anticipated necessity for pulling several tickets before finding a winner.

The crowd gathered for the drawing was estimated at between 200 and 250 persons.

Members of the merchant committee handling the drawing are John H. Lewis, chairman, Ross Alexander, J. B. Keeter, Fred Halthcox, and Dan Huffstetler.

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BAPTIST SPEAKER — Dr. B. C. Land will conduct a week's revival series beginning Sunday at First Baptist church. The series will devote its theme to stewardship.

Land To Conduct Baptist Revival

Dr. B. C. Land, director of the Stewardship Evangelism association, of Jackson, Miss., will be guest minister at First Baptist church next week for a series of stewardship sermons, according to announcement by the pastor, Rev. H. Gordon Weekly.

The opening service will be on Sunday evening at 7:30.

Plans for a month of special emphasis upon "The Stewardship of the Christian" have been formulated and carried out by a special committee known as the stewardship committee. L. L. Benson is chairman and other members are A. W. Kincaid and W. B. Logan.

The revival is under the sponsorship of the Men's Brotherhood, of which Fred Weaver is president. Tuesday night six cottage prayer services were held in various homes of the membership under the direction of Brotherhood members.

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Jaycees Selling Lite-A-Lawn House Markers

Kings Mountain Jaycees began a project this week of selling reflectorized lawn markers, with the slogan "Lite-A-Lawn—Bring Cancer Out of the Dark," tying the effort in with the national organization and the Damon Runyon Cancer Fund.

The signs sell for \$2.98, with 75 cents of the purchase price going directly to the Damon Runyon fund.

No one is being asked to donate money. The signs we are selling are worth the purchase price," K. E. (Red) Morrison, chairman of the Jaycee committee stated this week.

"The signs are very pleasing in the daytime and reflect brilliantly in car headlights at night, enabling persons looking for your home to find it easily," he added.

The lawn signs will be available from any member of the Junior Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Morrison said, or orders will be accepted by mail or telephone. (See mail order blank, Page 3 Second Section.)

The project is a nation-wide one being sponsored by Jaycees all over the United States.

"Be certain you get the "Official Junior Chamber of Commerce-Lawn Sign," Chairman Morrison said. "You can tell it by the carton it is wrapped in."

Rev. Clyde E. Luther, of Pine Level, will begin a week-long series of morning and evening revival services at Temple Baptist church on Sunday morning at 11 o'clock.

Announcement of the revival was made by Rev. David Morris, pastor of Temple church, who said that services will be held each evening at 7:30 p. m. and, beginning Monday, each morning at 9:30 a. m.

The series is being sponsored by the Young Men's Class, R. B. Grigg, Jr., teacher, and will close on Saturday evening.

"Mr. Luther is one of our younger evangelists. Many heard him when he was here about a year and one-half ago and I'm sure they will want to hear him again. Those who have not heard him should not miss the opportunity," Mr. Grigg said.

Plans were also announced to open the church nursery each evening for the services and persons desiring transportation to the church are urged to call any of these phone numbers for rides: 970-W, 304-J, 1047-J, 554-J, or 1073-J3.

Mr. Luther is pastor of the Pine Level Baptist church.

The Little Theatre will present its first play of the season, "Ring Around Elizabeth," Saturday night at 8 o'clock in the Central school auditorium.

The play is being offered admission-free to the citizens of Kings Mountain and surrounding areas.

An hilarious three-act comedy, "Ring Around Elizabeth," was presented on Broadway in 1942 and was an outstanding success last summer at the Flat Rock Theatre near Hendersonville.

It is a family-type comedy offering several eccentric characters caught up in a highly amusing situation. "Considered neither too high-brow nor low-brow for anyone, the play should provide great entertainment for all," according to Miss Jean Cash, director.

Members of the cast are: Bernice Cloninger as "Elizabeth Cherry," the beleaguered housewife whose home contains a back-breaking collection of spoiled and eccentric relatives; Delbert Dixon, as her husband "Ralph," who isn't too much help in straightening out the confusion; Dr. Bob Baker, as "Hubert Cherry," her father-in-law who chases fires; Johnnie Ware, as "Laurette Styler," her mother

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Local News Bulletins

SUFFERERS ATTACK

S. P. Grissom, father of Neal Grissom of Kings Mountain, suffered a heart attack last Sunday and is a patient at Gaston Memorial hospital in Gastonia. Mr. Grissom's condition Wednesday was reported as critical.

WHEEL CHAIR

Kings Mountain firemen were responsible for a gift of a new wheel chair to Will Adams, Negro, 70, son of Nancy Adams, who has been an invalid for a number of years. The chair was delivered Tuesday, November 10.

THREE FIRES

City firemen answered three calls last week, according to report of C. D. Ware, fireman. On Saturday afternoon there were two grass fires extinguished, one on Gold street and one on E. King street. Sunday afternoon a grass fire was extinguished on Morris street. No damage was reported.

TO CHERRYVILLE

H. Y. Ballard, former Park Yarn Mills superintendent, has accepted a position with Rhyme-Houser Mills, according to information received here. Mr. Ballard, since leaving Kings Mountain, has been affiliated with a Belmont textile firm. The Ballard family is residing in Cherryville at 113 E. First street.

LIONS MEETING

Members of the Kings Mountain Lions club will see a motion picture at their meeting Tuesday night devoted to public education, on a program arranged by the publicity committee of the Kings Mountain Education association unit. The club meets at Masonic Dining Hall at 7 o'clock.

Church Calls Rev. R. D. Fritz

Resurrection Lutheran church has extended a call to Rev. R. Douglas Fritz, of Hildebrand, to accept its vacant pastorate.

While the call has not been formally accepted, members of the pulp committee said Mr. Fritz' acceptance is anticipated momentarily.

The Resurrection pulpit has been vacant since the departure of Rev. Vance Daniel, of the church's first minister, who left October 1 for Decatur, Ga.

Members of the pulp committee include Paul McGinnis, E. K. Whitener, Fred Plonk, Dorus Bennett, John Caveny and Rufus Mitchem.

City Is Ready For Thanksgiving

The city is readying for Thanksgiving this week, with churches preparing special services, housewives making turkey reservations and checking on fruit supplies, and others looking forward to the annual Thanksgiving holiday.

Retailers are anticipating a fast Wednesday afternoon holiday and plan Thanksgiving holidays on the final scheduled mid-week rest before Christmas, and school children look forward to suspension of school next Wednesday afternoon.

The observance of Thanksgiving here will be traditional and therefore quiet, present plans indicate.