

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

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Established 1889

Kings Mountain, N. C., Thursday, February 4, 1954

Sixty-Third Year

PRICE FIVE CENTS

Local News Bulletins

METER RECEIPTS
Net receipts from the city's parking meters for the week ending Wednesday at noon were \$136.75.

SUFFERS ATTACK
John Davis, of Walker street, suffered a heart attack Tuesday around 1:30 p. m.

BUILDING PERMITS
Two building permits, totaling \$9,500, were issued this week to Kelly Dixon for residential construction.

TO RALEIGH
K. E. (Red) Morrison, of Cooper's, Inc., left Monday to attend a three-day General Electric training school at Raleigh.

MUMPS VICTIM
Luco Jenkins, well-known finger laundry deliveryman, is confined to bed with a case of mumps.

JOINS FLOK'S
Don Bumgardner, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Bumgardner, has joined Flok Brothers & Company as a salesman in the men's department.

SPEAKER SUNDAY
C. W. Kirby, district Methodist superintendent for the Gastonia district, will be guest speaker for the Sunday night worship service at Grace Methodist church at 7 o'clock.

NARROW MARGIN
Members of Boyce Memorial A.R.P. church contributed \$1,250.37 Sunday to the church building fund.

SALES LAGGING
Only 705 Kings Mountain motorists had purchased 1954 city auto license stickers by auto license stickers past the deadline.

KIWANIS PROGRAM
Miss Margaret Stem, city schools Bible teacher, will speak to members of the Kings Mountain Kiwanis club Thursday evening at 6:45 at Masonic Dining Hall.

CLUB CLOSED
Kings Mountain Country Club will be closed Sunday, Feb. 7-13, according to announcement by Mr. and Mrs. B. B. Spidel, country club manager.

TO WASHINGTON
Mayor Glee A. Bridges and City Attorney J. R. Davis are scheduled to be in Washington, D. C., February 8, for hearing before the Federal Power Commission on the city's allotment of natural gas.

Firemen Answered Shelby Fire Alarm

The Kings Mountain fire department answered a call Saturday from the Shelby fire department to assist in the \$125,000 fire at the D. A. Beam Co.



KINGS MOUNTAIN NATIONAL GUARD GETS AWARD—Kings Mountain Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Battalion, 120th Infantry Regiment, 30th Division, North Carolina National Guard, was presented a certificate signifying its winning of the Silver Award for excellent performance in the 1953 summer encampment.

officer, at left, is handing the certificate to Capt. Humes Houston, commanding officer of the local company.

National Guard Gets High Award For 1953 Work

Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Battalion, 120th Infantry Regiment of the North Carolina National Guard—known colloquially as the Kings Mountain National Guard—has received the Silver Award for its field training activities during 1953.

A certificate emblematic of the company at Monday night's drill session, by Capt. Ray G. Burrell, battalion operations and planning officer, The Kings Mountain unit was one of two in the battalion to receive the Silver Award.

"We did well," Capt. Houston said. "Company E, at Morganton, was the only other company in our battalion to attain the award and that company has an armory and other needed facilities."

Capt. Houston called attention to the observance this month as National Guard recruitment month, noting that the company has openings for 50 men and promising them pleasure, training, and profit.

The Kings Mountain company also drew praise, as a result of its annual Third Army inspection on December 3.

The inspecting officer noted: "The unit is well-organized. Administration, supply and maintenance of equipment were excellent. The appearance of vehicles was outstanding...."

Legion Meeting

Regular February meeting of Otis D. Green Post 155, the American Legion will be held at the Legion Hall on East Gold street Friday at 8 p. m.

In a brief report which elicited considerable applause from his audience, President Bridges recounted activities of the association during the past twelve months, reported a net membership gain of two (to 54) during the year, and added that the treasury had been bettered over the same date last year by \$240.

Incoming president John H. Lewis predicted that the association would enjoy a good year in the forthcoming 12 months.

Chief Hugh Logan Scout Chairman

New Chairman Is Succeeding J. W. Webster

Chief of Police Hugh A. Logan, Jr., has been appointed chairman of the Kings Mountain Boy Scout district.

The appointment of Chief Logan as Scout chairman was made by the executive committee of the Kings Mountain district.

A meeting was scheduled Wednesday night to formulate plans for the annual Boy Scout week observance here next week, Feb. 7 through 13.

Windows of different establishments in town will be decorated during Scout Week, Chairman Logan said, with handcraft work taken from each of the city's troops.

On Sunday night, five uptown churches will hold the annual Boy Scout union service at Resurrection Lutheran church.

The new Scout chairman is a one-time Eagle Scout and also helped to organize Scouts and to build a Scout camp in Cabarrus County while doing police work there.

Chief Logan has requested the co-operation of all adult leaders in making the year a successful Boy Scout year.

In accepting the chairmanship, Chief Logan succeeds J. W. Webster, who served as chairman for the past year.



BSA HEAD—Chief of Police Hugh A. Logan, Jr., has been appointed chairman of the Kings Mountain Boy Scout district for the coming year. He succeeds J. W. Webster.

McGinnis Opens Floor Service

Bill McGinnis is announcing this week the opening of McGinnis Floor Service, following his purchase of supplies and inventory items of Novelite Venetian Blind Company.

Oliver Falls, owner of Novelite, said he would work with Mr. McGinnis for several weeks, before entering another type of work.

McGinnis Floor Service is located at 112 West Mountain, temporarily sharing quarters with McGinnis Shoe Service.

The firm will specialize, Mr. McGinnis said, in floor coverings of all kinds, including rubber tile, asphalt tile, inlaid linoleum, vinyl tile, plastic wall coverings, in addition to manufacturing made-to-measure Venetian blinds.

Mr. McGinnis is a son of Mr. and Mrs. W. Henkle McGinnis.

Parks Board May Purchase BurMil Tract

Fred Plonk, chairman of the city's parks and recreation commission, met with Burlington Mills, Inc., officials here Tuesday to discuss the possibility of purchasing a 24-tract of land for a city recreation center.

Announcement of the meeting was made at the regular meeting of the Junior Chamber of Commerce at Masonic Dining Hall Tuesday at 7 p. m.

Members of the parks and recreation commission were guests of the club, Jaycee Jack White, secretary of the commission, spoke for the group.

Chairman Plonk, Mr. White, Hunter R. Neisler and W. K. Mauney, Jr., members of the commission were present, John T. Latham, also a member of the five-man body, was absent.

Mr. White told the group that the commission is endeavoring to secure sites for two centers, white and Negro, adequate for future needs of the city and that "it looks like we're going to have to build swimming pools first".

Two sites for the white center and one for the Negro center are "seriously under consideration" he said. The two sites are the Burlington Mills tract, located west of Cleveland avenue, and the old city waterworks site.

"The Burlington tract is large enough, is centrally located and is easily accessible," he said. He declined to reveal location of the Negro site under consideration.

Burlington at one time offered to give the tract to the city but the recreation commission at that time did not accept the offer because of certain restrictions, including a reversion clause, in the proposed agreement.

Mr. White also said that the board has discussed building and site layout plans with Charles Graves, Atlanta, Ga., architect. "We are spending public money and we wanted to get an expert in the field to assist with planning," Mr. White added.

Bill George, West Elementary school principal, was also a guest of the club.

President Paul Walker presided over the meeting.

Hodge To Speak To Woman's Club

Faulton Hodge, of Shelby, case worker for the Cleveland County Welfare Department who went abroad last summer under sponsorship of the International Youth Exchange program, will speak to members of the Kings Mountain Woman's club at their meeting Friday night at the Woman's clubhouse.

Mr. Hodge was a visitor in 16 different homes in England during a five-months tour last summer and also visited other homes in Scotland, Holland, Belgium, Germany, Switzerland, and France.

The International Youth Exchange is sponsored by a group of business men and women, who believe that understanding is the basis for world peace, a spokesman for the group said in making the announcement.

Mr. Hodge is a graduate of Mars Hill Junior College, received his bachelor of science degree in sociology from Furman University and his master of arts degree in sculpture from the University of Louisville.

Program for the meeting was arranged by the International Relations Department of the Woman's club.

Mayor Flays Herald Editor For City Affairs Comment

An Editorial

When It's The Public Business, The Newspaper Must Speak Out...

In the column at the extreme right of this page, Mayor Glee A. Bridges makes some interesting statements and charges concerning the operation of this newspaper and its duties.

He also makes some statements which are partially incorrect, intentionally or not. Among them:

1) Mayor Bridges writes he did not state that the city expected to do all the work involved in the expenditure of the \$600,000 voted by the citizens on January 16. His inference, in a telephone conversation with the Herald editor, as reported in a news story of January 21, was that the great portion of the work would be done locally, without the benefit of certified engineering advice.

2) Mayor Bridges says the city had no part in the \$2,200 paid to Engineer W. K. Dickson for certain surveys. True, Mr. Dickson was retained originally by the Fulton Administration in 1949 and paid \$2,000. But the Bridges Administration said it was paying Mr. Dickson \$200 to bring that 1949 survey up-to-date and, indeed, based its appeal for \$450,000 of the bond money on the Dickson report.

3) Anent the comment about reading the minutes of board of commissioner meetings, it is Herald policy to report the meetings from first hand information gleaned from reportorial presence at the board sessions. When meetings are held without our knowledge, as was the special meeting of January 21, the minutes are our source. But there has been no complaint on our report from those minutes.

Mayor Bridges' letter is welcome, for he is the chief administrative officer of the city. However, answer to the one important question still is desired by the Herald, and a sizeable portion of the community's citizens will concur.

Is the city going to employ professional engineering aid in its program, be his name Dickson, Olson, Graves, or Smith?

No newspaper worthy of the name can bury its conscience regarding the public business. The Mayor's attitude is not untypical. Holders of political office are well known for laughing and smiling when the news is good and praise forthcoming, and for tearing their hair when the news is bad and criticism resulant.

There was no intention to agitate trouble or disension, nor to infer that the board members are weak in knowledge—except in engineering. The time to speak on spending of the \$600,000 is now, not when the money is all gone and the mule out of the barnyard.

The business of the City of Kings Mountain is the public's business, and, if Mayor Bridges was not aware of that fact, he should never have sought the office.

County Bond Issue Election Planned

Bond Money Would Benefit Schools, Hospital

The county board of commissioners anticipates calling a \$2,743,000 county bond issue election in the near future, with the funds to be used for school construction, hospital plant expansion, and for construction of a county health center building.

The commissioners passed a resolution Monday instructing County Attorney C. C. Horn to make arrangements for the legal technicalities with Mitchell and Pershing, New York attorneys specializing in bond work. The commissioners indicated they would call the election as quickly as possible.

The citizens will be invited to vote "yes" or "no" on three separate issues:

- 1) \$2,500,000 for capital improvements for the Shelby, Kings Mountain and Cleveland County school units.
2) \$216,720 for the county share in building an \$143,350 addition to Shelby hospital and a \$73,370 addition to Kings Mountain hospital.
3) \$26,596 for the county's share in the cost of building a health center.

Still hanging fire was the request of residents of the western portions of the county for a hospital plant. Already disapproved by the Medical Care Commission, the county commissioners are going to press the case further with the state body, according to their action on Monday.

Calling of the hospital bond issue election was cleared last weekend, when the Medical Care commission tentatively approved a 14-bed addition to Kings Mountain hospital, plus necessary expansion of service facilities, and a 50-bed addition to Shelby hospital, plus addition of service facilities.

Continued On Page Eight

Mayor Bridges Tags Editorial As "Premature"

Mayor Glee A. Bridges, taking exception to last week's Herald editorial suggesting that competent engineering advice would assure more capable spending of the recently voted \$600,000 public improvements bond money, addressed an open letter to the editor this week telling the Herald, in effect, that city affairs are not the business of the newspaper.

Mayor Bridges presented the typewritten letter to Herald Editor Martin Harmon in person Tuesday morning. The text follows:

"It is very unfortunate that the Editor of The Herald is not satisfied with running his paper and let the Mayor and City Council, who were elected by the people run the city affairs. If you wish to run the city, then offer yourself as a candidate for Mayor or City Council and see if the people want you to run their affairs."

"I have not, or any member of the council to my knowledge made any statement to the effect that we expected to do all the work on the program in mention. We are going to contract on open bids the major portion of the work, such as addition to filter plant, enlargement to the disposal plant, swimming pools, etc. For certain parts of the work, we have talked of and are planning to use the city equipment and men, who we feel are as competent as any for the work we plan to do locally. Thereby we will save city money and be using local labor as much as possible."

"I will say again, observing the long lines forming at the Employment Office in Kings Mountain, I believe that the masses of our people will appreciate the efforts of the Mayor and Council to spend as much of the taxpayers money as possible, in Kings Mountain. I believe the combined knowledge and experience of the six men on the governing board who were duly elected by the citizens of Kings Mountain would know the value of the dollar about as well as the Editor of the Herald."

"I would like to inform you Mr. Editor, that the \$2,200.00 you elaborated on, was money allocated, and spent by a previous administration, and this administration, had no part in this spending whatsoever."

"I will also request that in the future, you read our minutes at least two times so you will get it printed correct in your paper."

"We will welcome any constructive criticism from any citizen, but we do not appreciate any premature editorial remarks as was printed in the last week's Herald."

"Our meetings are always open to the public, and we keep a complete set of books for inspection of any actions taken by the board, we account for every dollar of the taxpayers' money spent."

"The power of The Press can be a great weapon for good in the community when aimed in the right direction, but it can also do great harm when it is used to agitate and stir up trouble and disension. So regardless of you and your paper, we intend to continue to administer the affairs of Kings Mountain to the best of our ability."

Band Fund Drive Short Of Goal

Only around \$750 of a \$1,500 quota has been raised for the Kings Mountain school band, William Griffin, chairman of the Junior Chamber of Commerce committee conducting the drive, announced Tuesday night.

Mr. Griffin made an appeal to persons wishing to make a contribution to contact him this week, final week of the drive.

"The Kings Mountain school band has always been a great credit to the city and I feel certain that many citizens and firms who have not yet contributed this year still want to do so. The band needs money now to pay equipment reconditioning bills and for other purposes," Mr. Griffin said. Checks may be made payable to Kings Mountain School Band and addressed to Mr. Griffin at the Kings Mountain postoffice.