

## Population

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

VOL. 64 NO. 9

Established 1889

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

Sixty-Third Year

PRICE FIVE CENTS

## Red Cross Drive Appeal Launched

### Local News Bulletins

#### LEGION MEETING

Regular monthly meeting of Otis D. Green Post 155, the American Legion, will be held at the Legion Hall Friday at 8 p. m. Commander C. E. Warlick has invited all members to attend.

#### BREAK-IN

Police reported the office of Bridges Airport was entered sometime early Wednesday morning. Officers B. P. Cook and Martin Ware reported that entry was gained through a window in the office. Investigation revealed nothing missing.

#### SOCIAL SECURITY

The social security representative of the Gastonia field office will be in Kings Mountain again on Monday, March 15, at City Hall, from 9:30 a. m. to 12:30 p. m. announced by James P. Walsh, manager of the Gastonia office.

#### CLUB DANCE

Lewis Cathay and his Orchestra will furnish music for a Spring Frolic at Kings Mountain Country Club Saturday night. Dinner will be served at 7 o'clock and reservations are requested no later than noon Saturday. The affair will be a Club Night party.

#### TAG SALES

A total of 987 Kings Mountain motorists had purchased 1954 city auto license stickers through Wednesday at noon, according to report of Joe Hendrick, city clerk. Eighteen of the total were purchased this week, he said.

#### FIRE ALARMS

Two grass fires and a chimney fire were extinguished last week, according to C. D. Ware, fireman. The two grass fires were on Falls street and Waco road Friday and Saturday. The chimney fire was on Cleveland avenue at the Wiggins residence. No damages were reported.

#### PRAYER MEETING

Prayer meeting will be held Wednesday evening at First Presbyterian church. The meeting is a preparatory service for the week of services to begin on Sunday, March 14, and will feature a men's quartet. Speakers will be Dr. F. G. Padgett and George Thomasson.

#### CLARIFICATION

The John Houser mentioned in last week's Herald report on city court was not the John Houser residing at 304 Parker street. Address of the John Houser found guilty of taking part in an affray was not listed on the court record. The Herald is glad to make this clarification.

#### NEW POLICEMAN

Bill Bell assumed duty February 22 as city policeman. Mr. Bell is the son of Mr. and Mrs. James Bell of Grover, and is married to the former Lou Ann Logan. They live on East King street.

#### LIONS MEETING

Members and coaches of the Kings Mountain high school basketball team will be guests of the Kings Mountain Lions club at their Tuesday night meeting W. L. Plonk, program chairman, said this week. The club meets at 7 o'clock at Masonic Dining Hall.

## Scout Drive Nets \$1,332, \$400 Short

A total of \$1,332 was reported collected Tuesday in the annual fund drive of the Kings Mountain Boy Scout district.

Goal of the drive is \$1,700 and the effort is being headed by G. C. Kelly.

Committeemen are urged to complete their solicitations and turn in reports to J. C. McKinney, treasurer, as soon as possible.

## Southeast Area Civil Defense Tests Underway

Another in a series of Civil Defense - Air Defense tests is underway in the Carolinas, with members of the Kings Mountain OP on duty at City Hall for the three-day "Operation Spring Fever".

The 35th Air Division (Defense) scheduled the test to check the Ground Observer Corps operational capabilities throughout the entire southeast. Civilian volunteers, who have been trained in the reporting of aircraft movements will report on a five-state area to strategically located Air Defense Filter Centers.

The Filter Centers, also manned by civilian volunteers, will receive the information from the Ground Observer Posts, "filter" that information, and then pass that information in an abbreviated form to the Air Force authorities concerned with Air Defense.

The test is slated to start at 8 a. m. on the 3rd of March, and conclude at 6 p. m. the same day, and on March 4th and 5th from 8 a. m. until midnight.

Approximately 250 Observation Posts in the Charlotte Air Defense Filter Center's area of responsibility are cooperating in the operation.

The Observation Posts, which normally are located at eight mile intervals, are manned by a group of patriotic civilian volunteers who realize that the falling of radar, if not supplemented by the Ground Observer Corps, might mean the difference between success and failure of our Air Defense Interceptor Force.

"You are also needed in this program of Civil Defense, volunteer your services now, so that America may remain free from aggression. Contact us and volunteer your services today - Tomorrow may be too late," James Houser, Kings Mountain post supervisor said this week.

Mr. Houser may be contacted at phones 245-LW or 760.

At the present time the Kings Mountain Ground Observer Post has 15 volunteers, and more volunteers are needed. James Lybrand is chief observer and others are Neil Hüllerder, Curtis Gaffney, Dean Payne, Delbert Dixon, K. E. Morrison, Paul Walker, Charles Dixon, Bill Eldon, Bill Jones, Dr. L. T. Anderson, J. G. Darracott, C. D. Ware, Edwin Moore, J. E. Rhea and A. A. (Buck) Allran.

## Rites Conducted For I. W. Bridges

Funeral services for I. W. Bridges, 79, Statesville textile machinist and father of Everett Bridges of Kings Mountain, were conducted last Thursday at 4 p. m. at the chapel of Bunch Funeral Home, in Statesville.

Interment was in the Oakwood cemetery.

Mr. Bridges succumbed last Wednesday in a Statesville hospital. He was employed as a textile machinist by Mooresville Mills, in Statesville.

He was a former resident of Kings Mountain and had served as assistant superintendent of the Cora Mills here from 1930-1933.

Survivors include eight children, C. V. Bridges, Concord, Lester and Edwin Bridges and Mrs. M. A. Hamm, all of Gastonia, Mrs. G. F. Gilley, Fieldale, Va., Mrs. R. L. Alexander and Mrs. Apostolos Georgiou, of Statesville, and Everett Bridges, of Kings Mountain.

He is also survived by two brothers, Walker Bridges of Boger City and Cleve Bridges of Crumerton and two sisters, Mrs. Robert Percy, Lenoir, and Mrs. T. S. Hendrick of Thomasville.

## Mrs. Mauney's Mother Dies

Funeral services for Mrs. Carrie Cline Herman, 78, mother of Mrs. Carl F. Mauney, of Kings Mountain, were conducted Monday afternoon at Trinity Reformed church in Newton, interment following in the Newton cemetery.

Mrs. Herman, widow of Dr. F. L. Herman, former Conover physician, died at her home in Conover early Sunday morning. She had been in declining health for several months.

She was a charter member of the Trinity Reformed church.

Surviving, in addition to Mrs. Mauney, are seven other children, Dr. E. C. Herman, LaGrange, Ga., P. W. Herman, Conover, Mrs. L. L. Schell, Statesville, Mrs. T. W. Smart, Ellenboro, Mrs. J. W. Marrow, Jr., Plymouth, Mrs. Buford M. Guy, Salisbury, and Mrs. H. V. Park, Raleigh.

## World Prayer Day Service On Friday

### 1953 City Tax Take Reaches \$106,066

City taxes for 1953 continued to trickle in during February and had reached a total of \$106,066.93 as of March 1, according to report of city tax supervisor Clarence E. Carpenter.

This meant the penalty increase of March 2 applied to \$20,019.25, the balance outstanding on the 1953 levy of \$126,086.18.

Penalty on unpaid tax bills is now two percent. It will advance to two-and-one-half percent next month.

On a percentage basis, 84 percent of the 1953 tax levy has now been paid.

## Charter Night Set By Kiwanis

The Kings Mountain Kiwanis club, chartered in March 1940, will hold its 15th annual Charter Night banquet, a ladies' night affair, Thursday evening at the Masonic Dining Hall.

The principal address for the banquet will be given by Richard Thigpen, veteran Charlotte tax attorney, and a past governor of the Carolinas Kiwanis district. In addition to having served in numerous other Kiwanis offices on both club and district level.

Mr. Thigpen was graduated from both Duke university and Duke University law school, then served, from 1929-1933, on the United States Board of Tax Appeals. He is a past president of both the Charlotte and Durham Kiwanis clubs.

Currently, he is a member of the board of stewards of Myers Park Methodist church and president of the Charlotte YMCA.

## Postal Receipts Show Big Gain

Kings Mountain postal receipts showed a large gain in February over the comparable month last year.

Postmaster W. E. Blakely reported Wednesday that February receipts total \$5,373.55, compared to \$3,327.32 for February 1953. Part of the jump was abnormal, Mr. Blakely suggested, due to large deposits for metered mail which occurred during February 1954. However, he added, he thought a portion of the increase was normal increase.

## Plott Still Mum On Lithium Plans For New Mining Operation, Plant

Lithium Corporation of America has obtained an option on an 85-acre tract on the Kings Mountain - Bessemer City highway and plans to build a plant for processing spodumene ore, the Gastonia Gazette quoted Dr. W. S. Matthews, Bessemer City physician and grantor of the option, on Saturday.

The statements attributed to Dr. Matthews partially confirmed a report prevalent here for several weeks that Lithium Corporation, which has headquarters in Minneapolis, Minn., would build a large plant for obtaining lithium.

E. T. Plott, Kings Mountain representative of Lithium Corporation, declined comment on the reports, though he acknowledged that he had been in the employ of the Minneapolis concern since 1946, during that time obtaining purchase options and mineral leases on property throughout the area from Lincolnton to Kings Mountain. The firm was organized, Mr. Plott said, in 1942, and is headed by Carl Lute, president.

Mr. Plott said he talked with Lithium Corporation officials by telephone during the past week-end, but that they had no public announcements to make concerning possible operations in this area.

The Matthews property, which lies close to the Southern Railway mainline tracks, is in the area near the community known as "Stumptown", and northeast of the former site of Leon's Grill, onetime short order restaurant and night club on the Bessemer City - Kings Mountain road.

## Churchwomen Sponsor Annual Worship At Noon

Kings Mountain's annual World Day of Prayer service will be held Friday at 12 o'clock noon in Central Methodist church, as Kings Mountain citizens unite with Christians in other communities and nations the world over.

Purpose of the service is to unite all Christians in a bond of prayer and to make an offering for both missions at home and abroad.

This year's mission offering will be used for the advancement of Christian education in government schools in India, the United States, and Alaska, for the support of pastors and lay workers on rural farms in the United States and Puerto Rico, and for the over-all support of both home and foreign missions.

Mrs. Robert Neill is program chairman for the service. Theme of the program is "That They Might Have Life", with the program prepared by Miss Sarah Chacko, president of the Isabella Thoburn College for Women in Lucknow, India, and the first chairman of the World Council of Church Women's Work. The theme is taken from John 10:10.

The World Day of Prayer observance began in 1887 when Presbyterian women designated a day of prayer for home missions. Since 1941 the General Department of United Church Women has produced the service and promoted the observance in the United States. The Division of Foreign Missions of the National Council of Churches has promoted the observance overseas.

Friday's service will be the sixty-seventh annual observance of the world-wide call to prayer. The service is sponsored by the National Council of Churches' Department of United Church Women and here by the Kings Mountain Council of Church Women, of which Mrs. Phillip Baker is chairman.

## Building Permits Totalled \$9,500

Two building permits totaling \$9,500 were issued here by Building Inspector J. W. Webster, through March 3.

P. B. Phillips obtained a permit to build a house to be used for a residence on Second street, at an estimated cost of \$3,500, on March 3.

On February 25, a permit was issued to E. T. Plott to build a one-story dwelling on Rhodes avenue, at an estimated cost of \$6,000.

## Davis Predicts Favorable Gas Decision Soon

City Attorney J. R. Davis, home after a quick trip to Washington, D. C., for cross-examination Monday on the city's request for a natural gas allotment, said he felt the city's request will obtain final approval from the Federal Power Commission within 30 to 60 days.

Mr. Davis said the Monday hearing before the FPC was short, and that there was little opposition to the request of the City of Kings Mountain for an allotment of natural gas from the Transcontinental Pipeline Company's big line on York Road.

The principal previous objection to the city's request, Public Service Company of North Carolina, did not appear for the hearing. Objections to the Kings Mountain request, which Mr. Davis termed "minor," were voiced by attorneys for Thomas Edison Company, and by representatives of coal trade associations.

"We're going to get it," Mr. Davis said, adding the decision to make permanent the previously granted tentative allotment of more than a million cubic feet of natural gas per day should be forthcoming soon.

The latest survey and construction proposal of Bernard & Burk, the city's engineers on the gas matter, indicates the city can build a natural gas distribution system for \$515,000.

The city plans to build the system via issuance of revenue bonds, which would not be a general obligation of the city.

The Bernard & Burk survey shows potential demand for gas service, that is, the city could pay the interest on the bonds, retire the bonds over a period of 300-years and still retain a profit - all at rates competitive with other fuels.

Several business firms have indicated a desire for the service and are willing to take it on an interruptible basis, the survey shows.

## Cherryville Church Sets Week Services

Bishop Ralph S. Cushman, retired Methodist minister, of Raleigh, will speak at a series of special services at First Methodist church, in Cherryville, beginning Sunday, March 7.

Services each evening are at 7:30. Bishop Cushman will also preach at the 11 o'clock hour on Sunday and at the 7:30 service on Sunday evening. He will preach at 10 o'clock on Tuesday morning and at services through Wednesday evening.

Rev. C. W. Kirby, district superintendent of the Gastonia district, will deliver the messages at evening services on Thursday and Friday of next week and again at the 11 o'clock hour on Sunday, March 14.

"Friends and neighbors in the surrounding communities of Cherryville are invited to share with the people of Cherryville in this preaching series," Rev. Walter R. Kelly, pastor of the Cherryville church, said Tuesday in making the announcement.

## Mission Event Being Observed

World Mission Season is being observed this week in the Shiloh Presbyterian church of Grover. Mrs. Park Moore is chairman of the committee of the Women of the Church planning the various events.

On Sunday evening, February 28th, the congregation heard the Rev. J. Holmes Smith, III, pastor of the Presbyterian church in Forest City, speak on his experiences while a missionary in the Belgian Congo. He exhibited many items of native handicraft, including war knives, bow and arrows, work knives, combs, powder boxes, elephant tusks, and a witch doctor's mask. Mr. Smith served for four years in Africa. He also spoke to the combined Senior High and Pioneer Fellowships before the evening service.

Monday afternoon the children of the Sunday School met for handwork on mission subjects, singing of missionary songs, and the viewing of a set of colored slides on Mexican children, "Rosita and Juanito." Mrs. Louis Morag led the Nursery class. Mrs. Paul Hambricht the Beginner, Miss Inez Davis, the Primary, and Mrs. Frank Hambricht, the Junior classes. Mrs. Glenn Rountree, president of the Women of the Church, and Mrs. Park Moore also assisted in the program of the afternoon.

Wednesday evening the whole church will observe the week.

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## Employment Total Reported Higher



### Pay Claims Drop To 362 Shows Situation Better

Franklin Ware, manager of the Kings Mountain branch of the North Carolina Employment Service, predicted this week a general leveling of unemployment in Kings Mountain at 350 to 400 persons for the "next several weeks".

Mr. Ware made the statement against a background of dropping unemployment compensation claims totals, which last week totaled only 362, including 45 initial claims.

The figure will be slightly higher for the current week, Mr. Ware said, due to partial layoffs at Kings Mountain Manufacturing Company, but generally the job situation in Kings Mountain is better than it has been for several weeks.

Slater Manufacturing Company has been adding a few employees to its labor force, and Neisler's Margrace plant has also recalled a number of persons previously on part-time work schedules.

Mr. Ware said the next big reduction in unemployment totals probably depends on resumption of operations of the former Friend Manufacturing Company plant at Crowder's Mountain, Inc. Ben Rudisill, of Carlton, said last week previous reports of Carlton's resumption of operations were premature and without confirmation. Conversion work on the machinery is partially completed and some samples are being manufactured, Mr. Rudisill said.

For February, the Kings Mountain employment report is improved over January. A total of 2,415 claims for unemployment compensation were filed at the Kings Mountain office during February, for an average of about 604 per week. Initial claims during February were listed at 586.

The January total was 2,894 unemployment compensation claims, 1,145 of them initial claims.

Mr. Ware reported 46 job placements during February, mostly in textiles, which he described as a particularly encouraging sign of improvement in the job situation here.

## City Fathers Meet Thursday

The city board of commissioners will hold their regular March meeting Thursday night at 8 o'clock.

Among items of business scheduled for discussion include request of Duke Power Company for the city to retain certain Philfer Road power customers, receiving bids on an oil storage tank owned by the city and being offered for sale, and action on a petition for installing sidewalk on the south side of West King street, from Wattersson street to the hospital entrance.

Several months ago the city asked Bennett Brick & Tile Company and Lambert Rope Corporation, among others of its outside-city-limits power customers to obtain service from Duke on plea that the cost of end-of-line service was a money-losing venture for the city. City Clerk Joe Hendrick said Duke has found it will cost about \$20,000 to build proper lines for serving Philfer Road customers and wants the city to retain them. Mr. Hendrick said proper service will require city expenditure of about \$6,000 for regulators.

Improving  
The condition of D. C. Mauney, a patient at Charlotte Memorial hospital, continues to show improvement, members of his family said Wednesday.

## El Bethel Sets Revival Series

Rev. G. W. Fink of Mocksville will conduct a revival at El Bethel Methodist church beginning Wednesday evening. Services are at 7:30.

Rev. G. W. Fink of Mocksville will conduct a revival at El Bethel Methodist church beginning Wednesday evening with services to be held nightly at 7:30.

Rev. Mr. Fink, a retired minister and evangelist, served as conference evangelist for the Western North Carolina conference of the Methodist church for a number of years. He is a former pastor of Grace Methodist church here.

Services will be held through March 21, Rev. Boyce Huffstetter, pastor of the church, said in making the announcement.

## Dog Quarantine In Effect Here

A 30-day quarantine of all dogs in Kings Mountain went into effect Monday morning with the quarantine to be lifted on March 31.

All dog owners are being asked to comply with the quarantine and keep their dogs confined. All dogs not confined will be subject to be killed by any police officer or officer from the county sheriff's department.

Dr. J. P. Mauney, county veterinarian, announced Monday the rabies clinic schedule for Friday, Shady Rest, Cherryville Road, 9:30-9:45.

Eaker's Store, Mary's Grove, 10-10:30.  
Barrett's Store, Cherryville road, 10:45-11.  
Robert's Store, Piedmont Ave., 11-11:30.  
Pauline Mill Store 11:30-11:45.  
Heavner's Store, Waco Road, 11:45-12 noon.  
York Road Store, 1:15-1:30.  
Mtn. View Store, 1:30-1:45.  
Morgan's Store, 1:45-2 p. m.  
Lewis Place, off York road, 2:00-2:15.  
Patton's Place, York Road, 2:30-2:45 p. m.

## Heart Fund Gifts Reported At \$217

Contributions of Kings Mountain citizens to the Cleveland County Heart association totaled \$217 Wednesday morning, it was announced by L. E. Abbott, who, with J. L. McGill, is conducting the appeal for funds.

Mr. Abbott invited further contributions for the fund which is aimed at cutting the death total caused by heart trouble of various kinds. Every second death is caused by heart ailments, statistics show.

"We'd like to have at least \$100 more," Mr. Abbott said, and invited citizens to mail donations to himself or to Mr. McGill, or to convey them in person.