

The population is from the U. S. Government census report for 1950. The Census Bureau estimates the nation's population gain since 1950 at 1.7 percent per year, while Kings Mountain's 1954 population should approximate 7800. The trading area population in 1945, based on 1940 local registrations at the Kings Mountain office, was 15,000.

Citizens Will Cast Ballots Tuesday

No. 4 Township Voters To Mark Four Ballots

Kings Mountain and Cleveland County citizens will go to the polls Tuesday to consider four separate ballots and to help determine the results of North Carolina's biennial election.

The polls will open at all the county's 28 precincts at 6:30 a. m. and will close at sundown, Elections Board Chairman J. W. Osborne said.

Predictions are that the voting will be light throughout Cleveland County where only one contest for office is listed, this in Number 5 Township (Waco) where Enos Beattie (R), seeks the office of constable township against Eugene Bridges (D). Otherwise, the only names on the county-wide and township ballots are Democrats.

The voters will also mark ballots on a long state ticket and on five proposed amendments to the North Carolina constitution. The state ticket, however, is merely pock-marked with Republican opposition to Democratic candidates. Among the races are: For United States Senate, six-year-term, W. Kerr Scott (D), and Paul C. West (R). Scott has no opposition for the short term of less than two months. State Treasurer Ed Gill (D) is opposed by Rex Morton (R) and State Commissioner of Insurance Charles F. Gold (D) is opposed by Fred G. Fricke (R). Eleventh District U. S. Congressman Woodrow Jones (D) is opposed by R. E. Ramsey (R).

The five amendment proposals to the state constitution would: 1) provide for retirement of the State Supreme Court for their recall for temporary duty in event of illness of an active member; 2) authorize the General Assembly to create a Board of Pardons; 3) provide that no county shall be entitled to more than one senator in the General Assembly; 4) to liberalize residence requirements for voting to provide that a person would have to live in a precinct only 30 days before being eligible to vote, if he had lived in the state one year; and 5) to eliminate short terms of office running between a general election and the subsequent January 1.

Indications of a light vote for next Tuesday are also borne out by very negligible registration activity. Less than 40 persons were added to the voting scrolls in Number 4 Township during the three-week registration period ending last Saturday, registrars have reported.

However, the total registration is large, with 2,346 listed on the East Kings Mountain pollbooks, alone. West Kings Mountain is a larger precinct.

In Kings Mountain alone (exclusive of Grover) the voting totals for past years were: 688 in the non-presidential election year of 1946; 1,450 in the presidential election year of 1948; 667 in the 1950 off-year elections; and 3,004 in the 1952 presidential year contests.

Shelby Mayor To Speak Here

Mayor C. M. King, of Shelby, will speak at the regular meeting of the Junior Chamber of Commerce at Masonic Hall Tuesday at 7 p. m. on a program featuring American Education Week, to be observed November 8-13.

Mayor King is a former Shelby school principal.

An invitation has been extended to interested persons to attend the program on Tuesday. Persons desiring to have dinner with the club are requested to contact Wilson Griffin for reservations. The program will begin at around 7:45 o'clock, he said.

Tuesday Election Facts Are Listed

Facts on Tuesday's biennial general election follow: Polls open 6:30 a. m. Polls close at sundown. Kings Mountain area voting places: East Kings Mountain at City Hall, Mrs. Nell Cranford, registrar; West Kings Mountain, at Victory Chevrolet Company, Mrs. J. H. Arthur, registrar; Bethware, at Bethware school, Mrs. H. A. Goforth, registrar; Grover, at Keeter's Dry Goods store, Broadus Ellis, registrar. Number of ballots: four. Predicted vote in township: 700-800.

Cooke's Audit Report Details City Operations For 1953-54

The city's 1953-54 audit report, on file at the office of the city clerk, details the fiscal operations of the city during the fiscal year ending last June 30, and shows total receipts of \$1,094,649.49, including \$600,000 in specially voted bond monies, and total expenditures of \$536,720.68.

The budget estimate had anticipated expenditures to balance income at \$427,302.50, exclusive, of course, of the bond issue receipts.

Of the previously reported budget over-expenditure of \$109,418.18; a total of \$43,018.21 was chargeable, Auditor R. H. Cooke set forth, to bond money.

While it was over-spending its budget by \$66,399.97 in regular operations, the city was receiving \$67,346.99 more than it had anticipated from regular income sources.

In the preface to the many schedules of figures, Auditor Cooke referred to his September 14 letter published two weeks ago as follows: "Special Comment. A separate letter of recommendations and comment is written in connection with this report addressed to the Mayor and Board of Commissioners."

Mr. Cooke's September 14 letter contained sharp criticisms of city bookkeeping procedures. Mr. Cooke subsequently minimized these criticisms in a second letter dated October 19 and published in full in last week's Herald.

In the prefacing comments, Auditor Cooke noted that the petty cash account showed a shortage of \$68 which had not been located when the audit was completed, and wrote: "Because of lack of Internal Control and of certain procedures in the system of accounting used, I am unable to express an unqualified opinion upon the result of the audit and the financial statements in connection therewith, however, it is my opinion that the foregoing report has been prepared in such a manner as to reflect with fair accuracy the financial condition of the City of Kings Mountain, in accordance with the records available for audit at the end of its fiscal year June 30, 1954, and the result of the operations for the year ending on that date, in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles."

Auditor Cooke suggested consideration of adequacy of fidelity bonds for the city treasurer, assistant treasurer, and tax collector, and noted that the depository bonds of First National Bank, the city depository, were insufficient to cover the amount of the bank balances of the city. First National funds in escrow totaled \$530,600, compared to June 30 deposits of the city at \$624,312.08.

The much-discussed over-spending of the budget appeared in every city department except administratively, which cost the city \$935.60 less than was anticipated. Had not bond monies been involved to the extent of \$43,018.21, the city would have under-spent its capital outlay budget estimate by \$4,757.24.

Following are the total expenditures and amounts over-spent for the other departments: Street department, \$73,214.32, or \$21,814.32 over the budget; water system, \$29,250.66, or \$11,535.66 over the budget; water plant and dam, \$26,908.26, or \$2,518.26 over the budget; sanitation department, \$22,996.71, or \$5,226.71 over the budget; sewer maintenance, \$7,236.72, or \$2,011.72 over the budget.

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Dismissed Group Protest Heard By City Board

Several among nine discharged employees in the city's public works department protested their dismissals at a special meeting Monday night.

Principal spokesman among the discharged employees was Campbell Lockridge, and others speaking out were Ben Sessions and Dan Lanier.

Mayor Glee A. Bridges explained the purpose of the meeting and invited all who wished to speak. He also noted that the policy of the board was to leave employment matters in the hands of the department heads, in this instance, E. C. Nicholson, superintendent of public works. He also stated that the city had discussed employment of the discharged men with the contractors for the natural gas distribution system and had been assured that the men could obtain employment there.

Mr. Lockridge said he'd been employed with the city for three years, is a home-owner and taxpayer, and objected to his discharge while out-of-town residents were still on the payroll. He also said that the gas contractors had told him, and others, that 75-cents-per-hour jobs were all they had available, which he said was a considerable cut from the \$1.15 he earned with the city.

Mr. Nicholson explained that the dismissals were necessary if he were to operate within his budget and offered the hope that re-hirings would be possible next spring. He also said at least five more city employees would have to be discharged to avoid a department deficit.

Expressions of Mr. Sessions and Mr. Lanier indicated the discharged group was concerned about loss of two days' pay, since the gas contractors had told them no men would be put on the job until October 27.

Mr. Sessions also interjected a political tone as he addressed the Mayor and said he hoped he'd be around until the next election.

Commissioner W. G. Grantham told the group that discharges and layoffs were pleasant for none but "they sometimes have to be done." Both he and Mayor Bridges said they had been assured by the gas contractors that they needed machine operators and other skilled employees and would employ these at higher pay rates.

Mr. Lockridge interjected the contention that he was being discharged because of "trading too much with Tommy Ellison," and because falsehoods had been told concerning his work.

Neil Hüllender, city garage mechanic, said Lockridge was a good handler of equipment.

Near the end of the discussion, Vincent Bechum, city gas superintendent, stated he had employed Supt. Nicholson's son "after board authorization" to hire a helper for the upcoming gas work.

At the end of the discussion, the commissioners voted unanimously to pay the discharged men two days' pay and any accrued vacation time.

Honor System Working Well

Kings Mountain's courtesy nickel honor system on over-parking is working handsomely, officials of the Kings Mountain Merchants association, sponsors of the six-month trial plan, reported this week.

President John H. Lewis issued his initial report on the system which showed that 362 over-parkers among 500 had returned \$33.26 for nickels advanced by the city's meter officer. The report included receipts through Wednesday morning.

Under the trial plan inaugurated at Merchants association request by the city board of commissioners, a motorist who leaves his car too long in a meter zone receives a courtesy nickel envelope instead of the long familiar pink parking ticket. The over-parking motorist is informed that the meter policeman has inserted a nickel in the meter and the motorist is invited to refund the nickel to the policeman or any merchant. Many have returned more than the nickel. The old pink parking ticket cost a dollar plus a trip to City Hall to pay it. The merchants organization is Continued On Page Eight



Jacob Mauney, president of Central P-TA, which is sponsoring the new subject. The specially-equipped car was provided free by Plank Motor Company, free insurance was provided by Warlick Insurance Agency, and the city's oil dealers are providing gas and oil for operation of the vehicle. (Photo by Carlisle Studio.)

HIGH SCHOOL LAUNCHES DRIVING COURSE — Pictured are principals in the recently-installed driver education course at Kings Mountain high school with the new dual-control Ford to be used as the instructor's laboratory. Left to right are Chief of Police Hugh A. Logan, Jr., who urged the school to institute the course, Faculty Member Don Parker, who will teach the course, and Mrs.

Appraisers Award \$6,500 To Mauney

Local News Bulletins

OSTER SUPPER — The American Home Department of the Woman's club will sponsor an oyster supper at the Woman's club next Wednesday from 5 o'clock until 7 p. m. Plates of fried oysters will sell for \$1, and oyster stew will be 75 cents per plate. Children plates will be sold at half-price.

ATTEND CONVENTION — Dr. and Mrs. P. G. Padgett and children, Phillip, Jr., and Connie, attended the annual convention of the North Carolina Chapter, Academy of General Practitioners, held aboard the M. E. Stockholm last week. The doctors and their families made a cruise to Havana, Cuba, and Nassau, British Bahamas. B. S. Peeler, Jr., also made the trip with the Padgetts.

KIWANIS MEETING — A group of eight members of the Gastonia Toastmaster's club will present the program at Thursday night's meeting of the Kings Mountain Kiwanis club at Masonic Dining Hall at 6:45. The group, under the direction of Mac McIntosh, will give a sample Toastmaster meeting.

SINGING PROGRAM — A program of singing will be held Sunday afternoon at 2 p. m. at Grace Methodist church. Among singers expected to attend are Concord's Roberta Trio, Mrs. Terrace and the Highland Trio of Shelby, and the Lincoln Avenue Baptist Trio, of Lincolnton. The public is invited to attend.

ASC MEETING — D. B. Blalock is attending an ASC district meeting in session this week in Charlotte. The meeting convened Monday morning.

Community Day Service Planned — Kings Mountain's World Community Day service will be held November 5th, at St. Matthew's Lutheran church. The service is sponsored annually by the Kings Mountain Council of Churchwomen, of which Mrs. Edgar Sellers is president. Theme of the program is "Let the Children Come To Me" and "Building Lasting Peace". Complete plans for the observance will be announced later.

Driver Course Being Taught At High School

A dual-control Ford Coach, courtesy of Plank Motor Company, was delivered last week to Kings Mountain High school for the use of students who are taking a driver's education course offered for the first time by the school. The course, sponsored by the P-TA, is being offered to students who have just become 16 years of age or who are almost 16.

Chief Hugh A. Logan, Jr., and Mrs. Jacob Mauney, P-TA president stated that plans for a driver's course which have been discussed for the past two years were formulated last summer after instructions on conducting an approved driver's course were received from the State Department of Motor Vehicles Safety division.

Plans for the course were approved by Superintendent B. N. Barnes, the instruction car arrangements were approved by the school board and Principal Rowell Lane installed the course in the curriculum in September after Don Parker, high school teacher, obtained an instructor's certificate upon completion of a study course conducted by the Department of Public Instruction.

The dual-control car is insured free by Warlick Insurance Agency, Mr. Logan noted. "I personally feel," Chief Logan stated, "a driver's education course will cut down teen-age accidents, and I hope the whole town will co-operate."

"This is going to be a good thing," Mrs. Mauney stated. Gas and oil for the car, Mrs. Mauney said, is being furnished free by local gas and oil dealers.

"It's a mighty good thing," is the opinion of Mr. Parker, instructor for the driver's course. Mr. Parker thinks it will be some time before results of the course will be noted, but "in time we'll be able to see a big difference," he stated. Mr. Parker said that at present 44 students are taking the course, which includes 54 one-hour period classes. Thirty-

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Spooks And Goblins Will Gambol Early In '54 Hallowe'en Fetes

Spooks and goblins will fly and cavort a night early this season, as Kings Mountain schools avoid this year's Sunday date for the annual observance of Hallowe'en. Grover school's Hallowe'en party will be on Friday night. As in past years, school Parent-Teacher associations are sponsoring the traditional Hallowe'en celebrations, with plenty of games and goodies available for the young celebrants. Central school's Hallowe'en party will begin with supper to be served at the high school cafeteria at 5:30. The entertainment will include room activities in the primary department, comic movies in the auditorium at 7 o'clock and a cake walk. At 8 o'clock a square dance will be held in the gymnasium, with hot dogs and cold drinks available. Ray Smith will call the figures. West school's Hallowe'en carnival will be held from 5 to 8 o'clock at the school, with a big and varied program of activities. While East school's party will begin at 5:30, also with food, classroom activities, popularity contests and similar frolic on the list of events. Park Grace school's party will start at 6 o'clock and will include fortune-telling, cake walks, dart games and a fishing well. Supper will also be served. Grover's Friday night party combines both Hallowe'en and Fall Festival activities at the school. It will begin with supper at 5:30 in the school cafeteria and includes the school king and queen contests and an entertainment program.

Bloodmobile Unit Returns Monday

Aim Of Visit Is Minimum Of 125 Pints

The Red Cross Bloodmobile will make a one-day visit in Kings Mountain Monday, setting up to receive blood donors at the Woman's club from 11 a. m. to 3 p. m.

Goal of the collection, this time under city police department sponsorship, is 125 pints, which, Red Cross records indicate, will require about 200 prospective donors.

While Kings Mountain is momentarily "off the hook" on its blood quota — result of the mammoth Labor Day collection — Mrs. E. W. Griffin, publicity chairman, offered the hope that the Monday quota would be met to further assure no repeat performance of the blood supply crisis which existed prior to Labor Day.

Mrs. Griffin said she hoped prospective donors who were not able to give on Labor Day would visit the Bloodmobile Monday. She also asked that merchants re-display Red Cross blood collection posters with corrected date during the coming weekend.

Kings Mountain Red Cross chapter is a member of the area blood bank located at Charlotte. The bank maintains supplies of blood of all types and issues it to hospitals on order and free of charge. Recently, supplies at the bank became dangerously low, due to failure of many communities to meet their quotas. Both Kings Mountain and Gastonia, among other cities, were on the verge of suspension from the program.

"Kings Mountain's great Labor Day response solved the immediate problem," Mrs. Griffin noted, "but we don't want to be in that position again."

MOOSE DANCE — Kings Mountain Loyal Order of Moose Lodge No. 1748 will hold a Hallowe'en dance for members and guests Saturday, at 8:30 p. m. at the lodge on Bessemer City road.



EVANGELIST — Rev. E. F. Hardin, of Ridgecrest, begins a week's revival at Bethlehem Baptist church Sunday. Services are at 7 p. m. nightly.

Hardin To Lead Bethlehem Series

Rev. E. F. Hardin, Ridgecrest evangelist, will begin a revival series at Bethlehem Baptist church Sunday morning with services to be held nightly at 7 p. m. through November 7.

Nicholson Says Davidson Source To Furnish Water By Next Week

By next Wednesday, Kings Mountain should be getting some raw water from its new Davidson Creek auxiliary reservoir, E. C. Nicholson, superintendent of public works, said yesterday. The pump at the new reservoir was being installed Wednesday, and Mr. Nicholson said it was possible pumping of the water into the York Road reservoir might begin as early as Monday. He said the water level in the Davidson reservoir has reached a point 15 inches above the base intake valve. Meantime, he reported the Gold mine shaft water level "holding its own" at a depth of approximately 240 feet. Present plans call for pumping both the Gold Mine shaft and Davidson creek supplies into the York Road reservoir as fast as possible and within limits of the water supplies available from

Women Name Mrs. Houser Contest Entry

The Kings Mountain Woman's club has named Mrs. George H. Houser "Club Woman of the Year" and has entered her name in competition in the annual "Woman of the Year" contest sponsored by the Woman's Home Companion.

Any Woman's Club may enter the contest by submitting the name of a member of their club who they recognize for outstanding work in the club. A 300-word article about the member and the club submitted and some outstanding community service achieved by the club during the year is also required with the entry.

The magazine makes an award to the winning "Woman of the Year" and the winning club receives a \$1,000 dollar savings bond.

Band Attended UNC, Wake Forest Game

The Kings Mountain school band attended the University of North Carolina - Wake Forest football game at Chapel Hill last Saturday. The band, 69 members strong, left by bus and autos at 5:30 a. m. Saturday and had picnic lunch at Chapel Hill. During the half of the game, the band assembled with over 50 others on the field and the 4,000 student musicians played a concert conducted by Earl Slocum, UNC band director.