

Population

City Limits 7,206
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, which means Kings Mountain's 1954 population should approximate 7800. The trading area population in 1945, based on a return board registration at the Kings Mountain office, was 15,000.

Kings Mountain Herald

Kings Mountain's RELIABLE Newspaper

16 Pages Today

VOL. 65 NO. 5

Established 1889

Kings Mountain, N. C., Thursday, February 3, 1955

Sixty-Fourth Year

PRICE FIVE CENTS

Local News Bulletins

DYER TO SPEAK

Dr. Robert A. Dyer, supply pastor for First Baptist church and Gardner-Webb college faculty member will discuss his hobby, "The Development and Cross-breeding of Canaries in an Effort to Develop a Red Canary" for members of the Kings Mountain Kiwanis club Thursday night at 6:45, Masonic Hall.

BLANTON NAMED

C. D. Blanton, Kings Mountain druggist, has been notified of his election to the committee on socialized pharmacy and medicine by the National Association of Retail Druggists. Mr. Blanton, a vice-president of the North Carolina Pharmaceutical association, is currently serving as the North Carolina organizations legislative committee chairman for Cleveland county and as a member of the committee on papers and queries.

LIONS MEETING

G. A. Munson, general manager of the Bessemer City plant of Lithium Corporation of America, will address members of the Kings Mountain Lions club at their meeting next Tuesday night at 7 o'clock at Masonic Dining hall. He will be accompanied by J. N. McClure, mining engineer, and Fred Dixon, office manager. The program was arranged by J. W. Webster and Sam Weir.

IN NEW HOME

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Welch moved last week to their new home on N. Sims street. They had resided on S. Tracy street. Mr. Welch operates his plumbing repair service, known as Welch Plumbing Shop, from his home.

ON HONOR ROLL

Rachel Plonk, W. R. Fulton, and Dick McMackin, all of Kings Mountain, were listed on the honor roll for the first semester at Lenoir-Rhyne college, Hickory. Miss Plonk was listed in the first honor group, the two men on the second honor group at the college.

SHRUBBERY SALE

The Kings Mountain Garden club is conducting a shrubbery sale Thursday (today) at 9 o'clock on the vacant lot on W. Gold street across the street from the John L. McGill residence.

AT GARDNER-WEBB

Charles H. Sellers, of Kings Mountain, is among the 31 new students enrolled for the second semester at Gardner-Webb Junior college, Bowling Springs. The new students boast the school's enrollment beyond the 400 mark.

IN BAND CLINIC

Bill Sanders, Nick Smith, Don Ford, Butchie Houser, and Harold Ellis represented Kings Mountain high school in the all-state band clinic and concert held in Gastonia Friday and Saturday. The 100-piece band represented 36 North Carolina schools.

TO BE DISCHARGED SOON

Mrs. C. C. (Bus) Oates was said by relatives Wednesday to be improving rapidly, and is expected to be discharged from the Baptist hospital, Winston-Salem within the next day or two. Mrs. Oates underwent a major brain operation at the hospital January 19.

IMPROVING

E. E. Marlowe, Kings Mountain auto dealer, who received a severe arm fracture in a fall at his home January 22, is recovering satisfactorily, but will be hospitalized at least two more weeks, relatives reported Wednesday.

B & L Shareholders Will Meet Tuesday

Shareholders of Kings Mountain Building & Loan association will meet Tuesday afternoon in the office of the association at 5 o'clock for their annual meeting. The shareholders will elect directors for the coming year and will hear reports from officers on the association's activities during 1954.

Merchants May Organize Industry Development Firm

Jaycees Invite Civic Club Aid For Recreation

A joint meeting of representatives from all Kings Mountain civic and veterans organizations with the city parks and recreation commission has been called for Thursday, February 17 at City Hall at 8 p. m. to discuss plans for an enlarged recreation plant and program.

The recreation commission met on Saturday at 2 p. m. at City Hall and, along with other business, formulated an outline of projects to submit to other organizations for their acceptance as a project.

The recreation commission also agreed to secure a permanent recreation director within the month. Secretary Jack H. White announced that contacts have been made through the state recreation commission and N. C. State College and that one applicant has been interviewed for the position.

The group discussed at length outlining projects to be submitted to other organizations for consideration. Mr. White said, and also agreed to secure a landscape engineer to draw plans for landscaping and grassing the two recreation areas.

Chairman Fred W. Plonk reported that two swimming pools will be ready for operation by summer, with work now nearing completion on both projects. The group selected tile for the bath houses at the pools at the Saturday meeting.

The commission also heard a financial report from City Clerk Joe Hendrick, who is treasurer of the group.

Other members of the six-member commission, all present at the meeting, are John Lathef, H. R. Neisler and W. K. Mauney, Jr. One one-year position remains unfilled, with the term of Chairman Plonk also expiring.

Saturday Fire Damages Home

A two-story house on Baker street occupied by J. F. Coyle and owned by Haywood E. Lynch was damaged by fire Saturday morning around 11 o'clock.

Fire Chief Pat Tignor said damages to the house as a result of the fire, which originated from an oil cooking stove, were estimated at approximately \$2,000. Several rooms of the house were burned, he said. It was reported the Coyle family was unable to save any furniture or clothing.

Slight damage was sustained by a house on Chestnut street January 26. The house is owned by John Mauney and occupied by Thurman Gantt. Fire originated in a defective flue. Fireman answered the call around 4 p. m. Fireman C. D. Ware said.

Monday firemen extinguished a grass fire at 103 City street.

Polio Fund Lists \$1,985 In Hand, Over \$3,000 In Sight, More Needed

Contributions to Kings Mountain's fund campaign for the March of Dimes grew to more than \$3,000 during the past week, but still left a deficit against the goal of \$4,500, campaign officials reported Wednesday.

J. C. McKinney, treasurer, said deposits to the fund account total \$1,985, and Co-Chairman Ben H. Bridges, Jr. said additional contributions not yet reported to the treasurer would push the total well over the \$3,000 mark.

The reports followed a heavy weekend effort on the part of many groups for the fund to fight infantile paralysis.

Wednesday afternoon another effort for the campaign, a radio two-hour auction over Station WKMT, a joint project of the radio station and the Kings Mountain Kiwanis club was conducted and was also expected to swell the total of contributions.

Mr. McKinney said his figures included incomplete reports from the Industrial division, headed by Campaign Co-Chairman W. J. Fulkerson, Jr. Incomplete reports from the schools division, and receipts from Monday night's mother's march which netted \$193.24 for the fund, in addition to a previously reported contribution

City Tag Sales For 1955 Short

In spite of a heavy rush of buying through Monday, about half of Kings Mountain auto owners have still neglected to buy city auto licenses for 1955 and are in danger of a citation to court for non-compliance with the law.

This was the word of city officials Wednesday morning. The Chief of Police has been instructed to tag cars not showing the new 1955 city tags, it was stated.

Total tag sales through Wednesday was 572. It is estimated the city's car population is in excess of 1,000 vehicles.

Pressly Heads Library Board

New officers of the Jacob S. Mauney Memorial Library board were elected last Tuesday at a meeting of the group at the Barber Shop.

Dr. W. L. Pressly, pastor of Boyce Memorial ARP church, was elected chairman, Mrs. H. R. Neisler, vice - chairman, and Mrs. James E. Castle was elected secretary. Haywood E. Lynch, retiring chairman, presided.

Members heard a report by Mrs. Charles Dilling, librarian, voted to continue the children's story hour to be held alternate Saturdays at the library, and changed the library opening hour to 9:30 a. m. each day.

The library is open on Mondays from 2:5 and from 7:30 p. m., on Tuesday only morning hours are observed, on Wednesday from 9:30-12 noon, 2:5, and 7 until 9 p. m., both morning and afternoon hours are observed on Thursday and Friday, and only morning hours are observed on Saturday.

In addition to the officers, members of the board are Mr. Lynch, Mrs. W. R. Craig, Dr. D. F. Ford, Mrs. W. T. Weir, and Mrs. W. L. Mauney.

Willie Seawright Charged In Shooting

George Houston, Negro of Hill-top, is in Kings Mountain hospital recovering from pistol shots in the right hand and right thigh sustained from a 32-pistol Sunday in a shooting scrap on Cansler street.

Free under a \$200 bond on a charge of assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill is Willie Seawright, Cansler street Negro, and boot black at Central Barber Shop.

The shooting, which was investigated by Chief of Police Hugh A. Logan, Jr., Sgt. Tom Gladden, Officers Jack Stone and Laymon Cornwell, was said by Mr. Logan, to have occurred at the Seawright residence around 5:30 p. m. after a dispute over a Negro woman had arisen between Seawright and Houston.

Trial for Seawright has not been set pending Houston's release from the hospital.

Police said Houston has just been freed after completing a sentence on the county roads.

Group To Discuss Drama On Friday

Bill Trotman, of Winston-Salem, director of "Sword of Gideon" last summer, is to meet with Little Theatre officials at the organization's office at the Woman's club building Friday evening to discuss plans for the coming season.

Meek Carpenter, Little Theatre president, reported that continued discussion of plans for presentation of the drama of the Battle of Kings Mountain was the main item of business at the club's regular monthly meeting, held Tuesday at 8 p. m.

Mr. Trotman, a graduate student at the University of North Carolina, will be unable to direct the production this summer. He is expecting to be drafted for duty with the armed services.

Survey Set Friday At East Elementary

A new survey seeking additional playground space for East Elementary school is to be made on Friday.

Superintendent B. N. Barnes said yesterday he has an appointment with G. Sam Rowe, surveyor of Newton, Friday at 9 a. m. to begin work on the new plant.

The school board for some time has been seeking to purchase additional land for the school from Consolidated Textiles, Inc., but has been unable to complete arrangements.

ARP MEN'S MEETING
The Men's organization of Boyce Memorial ARP church will hold a supper meeting at the church Monday evening at 7 o'clock. Mr. Hodges, of Shelby, will make an address. Garrison Goforth is president of the organization, while W. S. Fulton, Jr. is program chairman.

Retailers Hold Annual Banquet; Collins Installed

More than 150 merchants, their employees and guests gathered for the annual banquet of the Kings Mountain Merchants association Monday evening, as the group enjoyed a fun-filled entertainment program and witnessed installation of officers of the association for 1955-56.

W. W. Smith, Rutherfordford insurance salesman, gave an address on "Salesmanship", outlining what he called the principal requirements for a successful salesman. He listed them as maintaining enthusiasm, a desire for accomplishment, and honesty with customers.

"No man gets more pleasure out of life than he gets out of his work," Mr. Smith declared.

John H. Lewis, retiring president, gave a summary of Merchants activities during the past year, listing major projects as the "highly successful Christmas opening parade, the merchants' joint sponsorship of the erection of the Christmas nativity scene, and the institution of the Courtyard parking system by the city." He said the association currently has bank balances in excess of \$300.

Paul Walker, outgoing vice-president, installed newly elected officers and directors.

Sam Collins, who assumed the office of president, thanked the members for the honor conferred on him, commended the retiring officers for their good work, and predicted that the association "will go forward this year."

Other officers installed were Fletee R. McCurdy, vice-president, Jonas Bridges, Fred Halthcox, W. L. Plonk and Richard Barnette, two-year directors, and William Jonas, one-year director. John H. Lewis is an ex officio director for one year. Holdover directors are Ross Alexander, Hubert McGinnis, and Martin Harmon.

Glee A. Bridges superintended a prize drawing for the ladies, and B. S. Peeler, Jr. presented the speaker. The banquet was convened with group singing of "America" and Rev. Phil Shore, Jr., president of the Ministerial association, said the invocation.

Floral arrangements were made by Allen's Flower shop.

The banquet menu included country style steak, fresh corn, green beans, tossed salad, stuffed celery, olives and pickles, hot rolls and butter, coffee and orange fruit cake with whipped cream topping.

Board To Meet Thursday Night

The city board of commissioners will hold its regular February meeting at 8 o'clock Thursday night at City Hall.

Items of business thus far listed on the agenda are routine. Mayor Glee A. Bridges said Wednesday.

Included are request by Mrs. J. M. Rhea for city water service on Shelby Road, appointment of a member to the city recreation commission, and receipt of bids for the purchase of a car for the police department.

Mayor Bridges said the term of Fred W. Plonk, member of the city recreation commission, is expiring.

City Clerk Joe Hendrick said he also expected to have ready for board consideration a list of street assessments. Under statutory procedure, the board will call a hearing for consideration of the assessment scroll for the March meeting.

School Officials Discuss New Plant

Preliminary draft of plans for the new elementary school building in the northern part of the city have been temporarily approved by state school board officials.

Superintendent B. N. Barnes said that he and Architect T. W. Cothran of Shelby met with state officials in Raleigh on Wednesday, January 26, and discussed the new building.

Final preliminary plans for the building must be approved by the state group before work is started on detailed building plans and bids asked on the project, Mr. Barnes pointed out.

LENNONS MOVE HERE
The family of R. S. Lennon moved here from Mullins, S. C., last week into the residence at 108 E. Ridge street formerly occupied by Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Abbott.

MRS. MAUNEY NAMED
Mrs. Aubrey Mauney, of Kings Mountain was named a member-at-large on the board of the North Carolina division of United Church Women at the annual meeting held in Charlotte recently.

Belk's Installing New Concrete Floor

Belk's Department Store began work this week on replacing the floor of its Battleground avenue building.

Workmen were cracking the terrazzo tile covering and removing the supporting beams underneath in preparation of pouring a concrete covering and installing an asphalt tile overlay.

Hilton Ruth, manager of the firm, said A. P. Warlick is contractor for the cement work, while Kelly Dixon is handling the carpentry requirements.

The work will require about four weeks, the contractors estimate.

Kings Mountain Area Job Total Is At 18-Month Peak

Gas Customers Now Number 20, Beechum Says

V. L. Beechum, superintendent of the Kings Mountain Natural Gas System, said the city was serving 20 customers on Wednesday.

He said more services are being installed as rapidly as possible and invited citizens expecting to use gas to make their deposits at the City Hall utilities office, superintended by Joe H. McDaniel, Jr., assistant city clerk.

He also noted that the city is still accepting gas tap fees at \$10 a fee expected to be increased materially when the construction of the system is completed.

Deposit fees are \$5 for residential customers, \$10 for commercial customers, and \$25 for industrial customers. The deposit fee is refundable on suspension of service.

Gas customers will be billed for monthly consumption on a separate card-form bill from other utility services, in conformance to the rules and regulations governing the operation of the gas system. The gas system, though operated by the city, is a separate operation, due to the method of financing. The city's credit and regular revenues are not involved in the gas service, the building of the system having been financed through revenue bonds totaling \$400,000.

Mr. McDaniel said the billing system would otherwise compare with the city's water and power utilities, with meter readings to be taken about the 15th of each month and with bills to be mailed on the first day of each month.

Col. A. A. Pate, commander of the South Carolina CAP wing, said Settle apparently had tried to parachute from the plane but did not have time.

Col. Pate said the emergency doors of the cockpit were unlatched and that Dr. Settle apparently had taken his parachute out. Part of it was found draped over the tail section.

Col. Pate identified the number on the tail section as corresponding with that registered under Dr. Settle's name.

Graveside services for Dr. Settle, 45, were held Saturday at West Side Cemetery in Lancaster. The Rev. Clyde Allen of Charleston, a former pastor of the Methodist church in Fort Mill officiated, assisted by the Rev. J. H. Martin of Lancaster.

Dr. Settle was a native of Inman and was the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. George F. Settle. He was married in 1937 to Miss Edna Plyler of Lancaster.

He was graduated from Clemson College and the Medical College of South Carolina at Charleston. After an internship at Roper Hospital, Charleston, Dr. Settle went to Fort Mill to practice medicine.

He was a surgeon, specializing in proctology. He was a member of the York County Medical Society, the Tri-County Medical Society, the South Carolina Medical Assn., the American Academy of General Practitioners, the Shrine, the Elks Club, the Civil Air Patrol and the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Assn., and he was a former steward of St. John's Methodist church in Fort Mill.

Survivors in addition to his sister include his wife, a brother, Lawrence Settle, of Inman, and a sister, Mrs. Byron Rector, of Tryon.

Fill the coal bin, check the oil tank, and don't moth ball the red flannels.

Wednesday's balmy temperatures, first recent break in a long Kings Mountain area cold wave, are not expected to become chronic.

The famous February weather prophet, Mr. Groundhog, saw his shadow in Kings Mountain and environs, and reportedly scampered back into his earth - bound cavern for 40 more days of wet and shivering-producing weather.

Mr. Groundhog saw his shadow by all the known tests. Some contend that he emerges at high noon and only at this particular hour in the day does the shadow-seeking ritual apply. Others say the whole day counts and if he sees his shadow at anytime during the daylight hours of February 2, the winter season has 40 more days of fury in store.

There was no question about it Wednesday. The sun broke through the clouds shortly after 10:30 and was still beaming through at high noon and after.

On the basis of the Groundhog theory, the earliest Kings Mountain can hope for balmy spring breezes is March 12 - still nine days in advance of the official demise of King Winter.

Mr. Trotman, a graduate student at the University of North Carolina, will be unable to direct the production this summer. He is expecting to be drafted for duty with the armed services.

Meek Carpenter, Little Theatre president, reported that continued discussion of plans for presentation of the drama of the Battle of Kings Mountain was the main item of business at the club's regular monthly meeting, held Tuesday at 8 p. m.

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Rates Still Same On City Electricity

January's power bills reflect no rate changes, Mayor Glee A. Bridges noted this week.

Though the total billings for the month were higher than in December, Mr. Bridges said the increase was due to increased consumption of power, largely attributable to cold weather.

The Mayor said that a Herald report on the month's billings, published last week, had brought ten telephone calls from customers complaining about the "rate increase."

Settle Plane Found In Lake

The body of Dr. Herbert G. Settle, brother of Mrs. Samuel Hughes, Meadowbrook Road, Kings Mountain, was recovered last Friday from Lake Moultrie, near Moncks Corner, S. C.

The Fort Mill, S. C., doctor had been missing since August 4, 1953, when his private plane disappeared while on a flight from Charlotte to Charleston, S. C.

The plane had been spotted in Lake Moultrie a day earlier by the South Carolina wing of the Civil Air Patrol as it conducted a search for a missing fisherman. The body was recovered by a party led by Berkeley County Sheriff John Hill. The search group lifted the plane wreckage out of 18 inches of Lake Moultrie mud.

The Settle plane had been the object of a widespread search at the time it disappeared, but no clues to its whereabouts were obtained. With the lake water low, the tail section of the plane came into view.

Col. A. A. Pate, commander of the South Carolina CAP wing, said Settle apparently had tried to parachute from the plane but did not have time.

Col. Pate said the emergency doors of the cockpit were unlatched and that Dr. Settle apparently had taken his parachute out. Part of it was found draped over the tail section.

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Unemployment Claims Drop To 206 Weekly

Economic conditions in Kings Mountain — as they relate to the work force — are stronger in Kings Mountain today than at any time since August 1953.

This was the statement yesterday of Franklin Ware, manager of the Kings Mountain office of the Employment Security commission, who said all industrial plants are in operation, many on six-day work weeks.

Listing comparisons in statistics for the end of January with those of a year ago, Mr. Ware noted that unemployment compensation claims for the month just ended averaged 206 per week, compared to the 750 per week in January 1954.

Mr. Ware also noted that construction work has been a boon to the Kings Mountain economy, with several city jobs now underway expanding the market for construction workers and helpers.

During January the employment office had 82 new applications for work, received 75 job orders from employers, and filled 67 vacancies. It listed in its active job-seeker file 348 persons at the end of January.

In January 1954, the job-seeking file showed 429 names, with only 42 job orders received during the month, and only 33 persons placed with employers.

Thus far, the office has been able to refer workers for all positions open, with the exception of laboratory assistants and knitting machine fixers, Mr. Ware continued.

Mr. Ware also noted that construction