

HAPPY NEW YEAR

1956

Population

Greater Kings Mountain 10,320
City Limits 7,206

The figure for Greater Kings Mountain is derived from the 1955 Kings Mountain city directory census. The City Limits figure is from the United States census of 1950.

Kings Mountain Herald

Kings Mountain's Reliable Newspaper

16 Pages Today

VOL 65 NO 51

Established 1889

Kings Mountain N. C. Thursday December 29, 1955

Sixty-Fifth Year

PRICE FIVE CENTS

Neil O. Johnson To Manage Foote

Local News Bulletins

HAS OPERATION
John Rudisill, principal of Bethware school, underwent an operation Wednesday morning at Charlotte Memorial hospital.

LIONS DIRECTORS
Regular monthly meeting of directors of the Kings Mountain Lions club will be held Thursday night at 7 o'clock at the office of Dr. N. H. Reed.

LIONS TALK PROJECTS
Members of the Kings Mountain Lions club held an informal meeting Tuesday night, discussing a series of possible projects and charitable plans for the New Year.

BUILDING PERMIT
Building Inspector J. W. Webster issued a building permit Thursday to T. F. Bridges to erect a house on Spices street, at an estimated cost of \$6,500.

METER RECEIPTS
City parking meters returned \$252.76 for the week ending noon Wednesday, December 21, and \$296.50 for the week ending Wednesday, December 28, according to Gene Mitchem, city clerk. Off-street meters accounted for \$48.76 and \$52.52 of this total and street meters brought in \$204 and \$183.98, he reported.

Negro Injured In Holiday Shooting

A pre-Christmas party at the home of Mrs. Pink Crawford on U. S. 29 South of Kings Mountain last Saturday morning resulted in the shooting of a colored man and the arrest of another Negro and his wife.

According to a report by Sheriff Haywood Allen, a group of Negroes had gathered at the home for some holiday festivities Friday night. During the course of the party, Mrs. Georgia Rice Bert and her husband, Varnell Bert got into an argument.

Mrs. Bert went into the home of Mrs. Crawford and got a gun. She was trying to get a shot at her husband when the gun went off and the bullet struck G. R. Adams, another Negro, in the right chest, the sheriff said.

Adams is in Kings Mountain Hospital recovering from his wounds. Mr. and Mrs. Bert were arrested and charged with assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill. Both are free under \$500 bonds.

The sheriff said the trial is pending.

Adams' condition is not thought to be serious.

Prizes Await Winner Of 1956 Baby Derby

Who will be Kings Mountain's first 1956 new arrival? Whoever it may be, time will only tell, but several Kings Mountain firms are ready to salute the new arrival with gifts.

A complete list of the firms and gifts awaiting the first stork passenger are listed on page 6 section one.

Rules for participation in the stork derby contest are:

1. Winning baby must be born in this area.
2. Parents must be residents of this area.
3. Exact time of birth must be specified in written statement by attending physician.
4. All applications must be received at the Herald by January 9.
5. In the event of a tie, award will be distributed at the discretion of the committee in charge.

Horvath Names J. W. Milam To Sales Post

J. W. (Mike) Milam, former Kings Mountain citizen, has been named sales manager for the upholstery and drapery fabric sections of Massachusetts Plush Mohair Company's Neisler division.

Ernest Horvath, president, announced the appointment Wednesday.

Mr. Horvath announced that that George Weber, former secretary-treasurer of Neisler Mills Company, assets of which were obtained by Horvath interests in the purchase of Neisler Mills, would continue as chief administrative officer in the New York selling organization and would have full charge of yarn sales.

Allan Julian, former president of the sales company has retired.

Mr. Milam has been on the New York company's sales staff since January 1949. Prior to that time, Mr. Milam was associated with Plunk Brothers & Company and was for many years manager of Dixie-Home Store here. He served in World War II as a naval officer aboard aircraft carriers operating in the Pacific ocean areas and when released held the rank of lieutenant-commander.

In Kings Mountain, Mr. Milam was active in Central Methodist church, the Kings Mountain Lions club and Kings Mountain Merchant association. He is a former president of the Lions and Merchants organizations.

Butler Escapes, Still At Large

Bill Butler, Kings Mountain man, walked away from a honor grade crew at the Spindale prison camp on December 21 and is still at large.

Butler, one-time cafe operator here, had been convicted for issuing worthless checks and had been sentenced to 10-months on the roads.

Two other prisoners were with Butler when he escaped. One of the men, Gene Allen of Spindale, has been recaptured, according to the camp superintendent.

Cleveland County authorities have been notified to be on the look-out for Butler and for Lonnie Carswell, of Morganton, who escaped with him.

Both Allen and Carswell were convicted for violation of the prohibition laws.

Butler has served about 30 days of his 10-month sentence when he escaped, the superintendent reported.

Hill Returns To Silver Dollar

H. A. Hill, well-known restaurateur, announced Wednesday he had resumed ownership and management of Silver Dollar Grill on Grover Road.

For the past year the restaurant has been operated under lease by Mr. and Mrs. George Lublanski.

Mr. Hill, who owns the building and equipment, will continue to use the establishment's familiar trade name. Mrs. Hill will be associated with him in the operation of the business.

During the past year, Mr. Hill has been insimilar work in Gastonia and Charlotte. He operated Silver Dollar Grill for eight years prior to his leasing it to the Lublanskis.

Monday To Be Retail Holiday

Majority of Kings Mountain retail stores will be closed next Monday, January 2, in observance of a delayed New Year's holiday, dictated by the fact New Year's Day comes on Sunday.

All stores will be open for the full day on Wednesday, however. The retailers will resume their customary Wednesday afternoon half-holiday on January 11.

Financial firms will also be closed on January 2, a legal holiday, and will also close at noon on next Wednesday, January 4.

The Kings Mountain Herald will operate on regular schedule. Drug stores will also be open on regular schedule.

Building & Loans Paying Record High Dividends Totalling \$46,403

Kings Mountain's two building & loan associations have declared year-end dividends on savings accounts totalling \$46,403.64.

Officials of both Home Building & Loan association and Kings Mountain Building & Loan association termed the six-month declaration "new records."

Home Building & Loan association dividends on savings accounts will total \$26,756.09. A. H. Patterson, executive vice-president, said Wednesday. He noted that dividend checks on full-paid stock would be mailed this week-end, while dividends on optional savings accounts would be credited. The December 30 payment brings to \$51,211.53 total dividends paid by the association during 1955.

Ben H. Bridges, secretary-treasurer, of Kings Mountain Building & Loan association, said his firm would pay dividends at December 30 totaling \$19,647.56. Of this total, \$10,037.53 will go to holders of full-paid shares, while \$9,610.03 will be added to the accounts of optional shareholders.

The December 30 payment of Kings Mountain Building & Loan association will bring to \$36,714.88 the payments for 1955.

Both associations declared dividends at the rate of three per cent.

Dividends by the two associations during 1955 amount to \$87,926.43.

Books Are Closing On Eventful Year

Neisler Sale, Sunday Movies, Prosperity, City Politics Among Top Kings Mountain Area News Events of '55

Kings Mountain will close out the books Saturday at midnight on a news-filled year.

Some of the major events were one-time happenings, while others were continuing situations.

Among the major news events were:

- Sale of Neisler Mills to Horvath textile interests.
- The high school football team's winning of the conference championship.
- The Sunday movie issue.
- Publication of Kings Mountain's first city directory.
- City politics, featuring the reelection of Mayor Glee A. Bridges and majority of the incumbents from Bridges Administration I.
- High employment throughout 1955.
- Expansion of the mining industry, including opening of the new Lithium Corporation of America plant, launching of operations of Carolina Mines, Inc., and entrance into the lithium field here of Basic Atomic, Inc.
- Opening of the U. S. 29 by-pass south of Kings Mountain.
- Cut-out of city natural gas service.
- The year brought its share of good deeds and bad deeds, pleasant events and tragic ones.
- Numerous accidents resulted in death of area citizens, including R. F. Elam, Willie Ramsey, Sammie Moore, Arnold Moore, and Leroy Oates, Tommy Gurley, of Newton, died in an auto accident, and four people were killed in a head-on crash on the road since become the Highway 29 by-pass.
- Fire destroyed David's Baptist church.
- Well-known citizens removed by non-accidental death during 1955 included J. A. Walker, Rastus B. Dixon, R. H. Hord, J. Calvin Plonk, J. W. Layton, A. E. Cline, S. S. Weir, O. T. Hayes, Sr. and Mrs. C. T. Cornwell. Former citizens claimed by death included W. F. Thomson, Mrs. J. R. Cline, Herbert J. Plonk, and Miss Katie Garrett.
- Following is a monthly summation of the major headlines appearing in the Kings Mountain Herald during the past 12 months:

New Year Shooters To Be Here Dec. 31

The New Year will come with a bang in Kings Mountain.

The New Year Shooters from Cherrystone will journey to Kings Mountain this year to welcome the arrival of 1956.

These shooters, who have been carrying out this old German tradition for many years, will be here on December 31 from 11:30 until noon. They will probably shoot on Railroad avenue, D. M. Black, one of the group's spokesmen, said.

Sidney A. Beam, who will soon be 83 years old, will be the speech crayer again this year. Uncle Sidney has been crying the New Year chant for 64 years, and has not missed a year since 1908.

Uncle Dock Shull is another old-timer with the shooters. Uncle Dock says he has been firing with the group for the past 63 years.

The Cherrystone shooters travel throughout Gaston County and its surrounding area each year firing their old muskets and chanting a greeting to the coming year.

Monday To Be Retail Holiday

Majority of Kings Mountain retail stores will be closed next Monday, January 2, in observance of a delayed New Year's holiday, dictated by the fact New Year's Day comes on Sunday.

All stores will be open for the full day on Wednesday, however. The retailers will resume their customary Wednesday afternoon half-holiday on January 11.

Financial firms will also be closed on January 2, a legal holiday, and will also close at noon on next Wednesday, January 4.

The Kings Mountain Herald will operate on regular schedule. Drug stores will also be open on regular schedule.

Building & Loans Paying Record High Dividends Totalling \$46,403

Kings Mountain's two building & loan associations have declared year-end dividends on savings accounts totalling \$46,403.64.

Officials of both Home Building & Loan association and Kings Mountain Building & Loan association termed the six-month declaration "new records."

Home Building & Loan association dividends on savings accounts will total \$26,756.09. A. H. Patterson, executive vice-president, said Wednesday. He noted that dividend checks on full-paid stock would be mailed this week-end, while dividends on optional savings accounts would be credited. The December 30 payment brings to \$51,211.53 total dividends paid by the association during 1955.

Ben H. Bridges, secretary-treasurer, of Kings Mountain Building & Loan association, said his firm would pay dividends at December 30 totaling \$19,647.56. Of this total, \$10,037.53 will go to holders of full-paid shares, while \$9,610.03 will be added to the accounts of optional shareholders.

The December 30 payment of Kings Mountain Building & Loan association will bring to \$36,714.88 the payments for 1955.

Both associations declared dividends at the rate of three per cent.

Dividends by the two associations during 1955 amount to \$87,926.43.

Santa Claus Pay Reached \$45,000 Here

Kings Mountain's manufacturing plant operators, playing Santa Claus to their workers, put at least \$45,000 into circulation in the city last week.

Burlington's Phenix plant paid \$6,000 in holiday bonuses to its employees.

Craftspun Yarns paid bonuses totaling \$3,000; while Sadie Mills paid a two per cent of yearly wage bonus.

Mauney Mills handed out approximately \$7,000, while Mauney Hoisery bonuses amounted to about \$5,500, and the other Mauney plant, Bonnie Mill, paid out some \$3,300. These bonuses amounted to two and four per cent of yearly wages.

Kings Mountain Manufacturing Company employees collected some \$5,000 in holiday bonuses; while the workers at Horvath's Neisler Division plants received approximately \$7,500 plus other gifts from the owners.

Many of the other plants gave gifts of turkeys, hams, blankets and candies in addition to the cash bonuses.

75 Families Got Christmas Aid

The combined efforts of the Kings Mountain Jaycees, Moose Lodge and American Legion Post made Christmas a happier affair for 75 families this year according to a report made by K. E. Morrison.

Morrison, one of the officials in the "Buy-a-can-leave-a-can" drive, said that the 75 families were all given baskets containing food worth \$10 or more depending on the size and needs of the family.

Pete Barkley, local grocer, matched dollar for dollar all cash donations received. Morrison said that \$125 was received and that Barkley added another \$125 in merchandise.

Grocery stores, toy stores and the grammar school in both Kings Mountain and Bessemer City were cooperating with the three clubs in this Christmas relief drive.

Morrison added that the three sponsoring clubs would like to extend their thanks to every citizen in the two cities who helped make the drive a success.

New Year Shooters To Be Here Dec. 31

The New Year will come with a bang in Kings Mountain.

The New Year Shooters from Cherrystone will journey to Kings Mountain this year to welcome the arrival of 1956.

These shooters, who have been carrying out this old German tradition for many years, will be here on December 31 from 11:30 until noon. They will probably shoot on Railroad avenue, D. M. Black, one of the group's spokesmen, said.

Sidney A. Beam, who will soon be 83 years old, will be the speech crayer again this year. Uncle Sidney has been crying the New Year chant for 64 years, and has not missed a year since 1908.

Uncle Dock Shull is another old-timer with the shooters. Uncle Dock says he has been firing with the group for the past 63 years.

The Cherrystone shooters travel throughout Gaston County and its surrounding area each year firing their old muskets and chanting a greeting to the coming year.

ONE FIRE

Kings Mountain fire department answered one call this week to extinguish a grass fire Monday on Dilling street.

Community Ready For Traditional Welcome To Bright New Year '56

Old Man 1955 is fast running off of days, and the babe 1956 is just around the corner.

Festivities celebrating the new year arrival are being planned throughout the nation.

Many parties and other festivities on the local scene are scheduled. The Country Club is planning a buffet supper and party to begin at 9 p. m. December 31 and innumerable private parties are set.

Tax Listing Chore To Begin Tuesday



City tax supervisor C. E. Carpenter said this week special tax listing forms are being mailed to both individuals and business firms. It will be possible for the citizens to fill in their own blanks, sign them, have them witnessed and return them to City Hall either in person, or by mail.

"We feel the new system will be of much help to many people and will enable all of us to dispense with the long waits which are sometimes necessary when the tax lister has to go over each item on the long form," Mr. Carpenter stated.

He said the system has been used with success in Mecklenburg County.

Conrad Hughes, tax lister for Number 4 Township, will be at City Hall too, in order that citizens may do both listing jobs at one time.

The listing will be underway from 8:30 a. m. to 4:30 p. m. daily except Saturdays, through the month of January. On Saturdays, Mr. Hughes will be at Carley Martin's store in Grover to accommodate citizens in the Grover area.

The tax listing officials noted that state law requires all citizens to list their personal property for taxes, including autos, dogs, cameras, furniture, radios, television sets, jewelry and other valuables, while business firms are required to report their inventory, equipment additions, fixture additions and other assets.

Realty is already on the tax books. However, transfers should be noted as should new construction, it was noted.

The law also requires that men between the ages of 21 and 50 list for poll taxes.

"The word of the tax listing officials was, 'List your property early.'"

"It's always hard to prevent a last-minute jam-up," they added.

City Will Mail Forms In Effort To Speed Work

City tax supervisor C. E. Carpenter said this week special tax listing forms are being mailed to both individuals and business firms. It will be possible for the citizens to fill in their own blanks, sign them, have them witnessed and return them to City Hall either in person, or by mail.

"We feel the new system will be of much help to many people and will enable all of us to dispense with the long waits which are sometimes necessary when the tax lister has to go over each item on the long form," Mr. Carpenter stated.

He said the system has been used with success in Mecklenburg County.

Conrad Hughes, tax lister for Number 4 Township, will be at City Hall too, in order that citizens may do both listing jobs at one time.

The listing will be underway from 8:30 a. m. to 4:30 p. m. daily except Saturdays, through the month of January. On Saturdays, Mr. Hughes will be at Carley Martin's store in Grover to accommodate citizens in the Grover area.

The tax listing officials noted that state law requires all citizens to list their personal property for taxes, including autos, dogs, cameras, furniture, radios, television sets, jewelry and other valuables, while business firms are required to report their inventory, equipment additions, fixture additions and other assets.

Realty is already on the tax books. However, transfers should be noted as should new construction, it was noted.

The law also requires that men between the ages of 21 and 50 list for poll taxes.

"The word of the tax listing officials was, 'List your property early.'"

"It's always hard to prevent a last-minute jam-up," they added.

Horvath Writes Neisler Workers

The president of Massachusetts Mohair Plush Company, new owner of Neisler Mills, addressed a message to each employee last week.

Ernest W. Horvath wrote his new employees in a letter accompanying their pre-Christmas paychecks.

"I think you should know more about the new owners of the mills. People generally fear and distrust things or other people that are unknown to them. I would like to tell you something about ourselves and the way we operate."

"I. We own and operate a number of textile mills in Maine, Massachusetts and New Hampshire, and we have been in this business for a great many years."

"2. We know that no mill can be successful without the complete cooperation of all its people."

"3. It has always been our policy to improve the conditions of our people within the limits of the finances of each mill. Our policy has been to share the successes of the mill with the people who contribute to its success."

"It is our sincere hope that in 1956 we will get better acquainted with each other and with our mutual problems and that each of us will earn and merit confidence in the other."

Let me wish you and your families a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year."

W. P. Bumgardner Will Be Ordained

William P. Bumgardner will be ordained as a Baptist minister at a special ordination service on Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock at Oakview Baptist church, according to announcement by the pastor Rev. C. E. Oxford.

Rev. E. O. Gore, a former pastor of the church, will present the charge to Mr. Bumgardner, who has been called to fill the pulpit at Gamble Hill Baptist church, a new church on Gastonia highway.

Loan Firm Plans Opening Here

A new loan and finance company, Local Loan and Finance Company, Inc., has announced plans for opening an office in Kings Mountain.

The new firm will be located at 146 Mountain street, in the building formerly occupied by Whitley Fabric Company. The exact opening date has not been announced, but it is expected the firm will open next week.

Ford Sides, Jr., of Shelby, one of the company's incorporators, will be manager of the local office. The company will specialize in personal loans ranging from \$10 to \$100, Mr. Sides said.

Other incorporators of the company include Mrs. G. F. Sides and Mrs. Frances Bridges, both of Shelby.

Deadline Saturday For Award Nominees

Saturday will be the last day for filing nominations for the Kings Mountain Junior Chamber of Commerce "Young Man of the Year" award. Ed Smith, chairman of the project, said yesterday.

Mr. Smith said several nominations have already been received.

The Jaycees annually honor Kings Mountain's "Young Man of the Year," as chosen by a secret committee of citizens. The award will be made and announced next month.

Nominations should be filed with Mr. Smith in person, or via mail, to Postoffice Box 109, Kings Mountain.