

Population

Greater Kings Mountain 10,320
City Limits 7,206

The figure for Greater Kings Mountain is derived from the 1965 Kings Mountain city directory census. The City Limits figure is from the United States census of 1950.

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Sixty-Six Year

PRICE FIVE CENTS

Alexander Likely To Be Named Postmaster

Elmer Lumber Employee Has Committee Nod

Charles Alexander, Elmer Lumber Company employee, is likely to be appointed permanent postmaster in Kings Mountain in the near future.

Mr. Alexander, who placed third in last May's competitive civil service examination for the Kings Mountain position, confirmed Wednesday morning that he had taken a physical examination to determine his fitness for the position. Mr. Alexander took the examination ten days ago on orders from the Civil Service Commission.

He professed no further knowledge whether, or if, he would be appointed.

W. T. Weir has filled the position for the past year under acting appointment.

Other eligibles from the civil service list are Millard Prince, postal clerk, and Yates Harbison, super market manager, who placed first and second, respectively in the competitive tests.

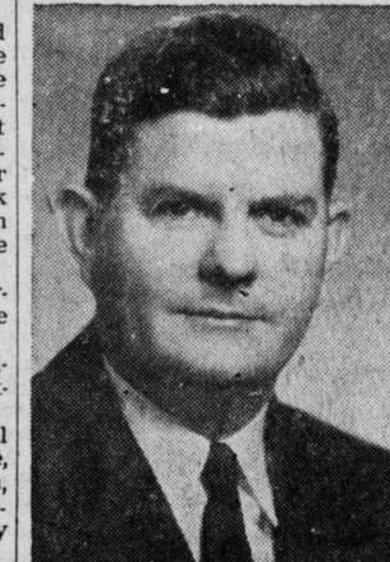
All three are registered Democrats, but Alexander is a practicing Republican, having served on the township GOP executive committee until he resigned to take the postmaster examination.

A member of the GOP township committee confirmed last week that a letter endorsing Alexander had been filed through GOP patronage channels in December and acknowledged that pressure for endorsement of one of the three eligibles had been applied by the civil service commission.

Mr. Weir, Kings Mountain business man, was the original choice of the GOP committee for the permanent appointment, but failed the written examination by one point. Until December, the GOP committee—which includes Wray A. Williams, Grady Howard, and C. P. Goforth—declined to forward a new endorsement.

Mr. Alexander is the son of Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Alexander. He is a navy veteran of World War II.

Wells, Whitener Enter Race For District Congress Seat



GASTON ENTRY — Basil Whitener, Gastonia lawyer, has announced he will seek to succeed Woodrow W. Jones as Congressman from the 11th North Carolina district.

Jones Announces Change-Of-Mind, And Will Retire

The Herald had three political announcements in rapid-fire succession Wednesday morning. In the order of their appearance, they were:

1) A special delivery letter from Congressman Woodrow W. Jones brought the news that the Rutherfordton legislator would not, after all, seek re-election. He had announced several weeks ago he would.

2) Hugh Wells, Shelby attorney, called the Herald a few minutes later to say he was tossing his hat in the ring for the Democratic nomination for the 11th district Congressional seat.

3) Solicitor Basil Whitener, of Gastonia, telegraphed a few minutes thereafter that he, too, would seek the seat being vacated by Jones.

Shortly after lunch, Mr. Whitener called the Herald to elaborate on the matter. He said he had not considered making the race until he heard news of Mr. Jones' decision to retire to his Rutherfordton law practice.

Mr. Wells, who had been projecting his candidacy previously, found in the Jones announcement all the push he needed to get his campaign underway. Concurrently with his announcement, he said the Les Roark, former editor of the Cleveland Times, would be his campaign publicity chief.

Kings Mountain friends of Congressman Jones expressed surprise at the announcement. The Congressman gave "personal and business" reasons for his change-of-mind.

Both Mr. Whitener and Mr. Wells are well-known in Kings Mountain.

Mr. Whitener is a former state president of the Junior Chamber of Commerce and is the veteran solicitor of the Mecklenburg-Gaston district. He was long active in affairs of the Young Democratic state and national organizations.

Mr. Wells, 33, is currently active in Jaycee and Young Democratic circles. He is a member of Shelby's Central Methodist church, a graduate of the University of North Carolina law school, and an air force veteran of World War II.

In an informal statement, Mr. Wells said, "I'm definitely running."

Mr. Whitener said he would pay the filing fee to the State Board of Elections at once.

The Democratic primary will be conducted in May.

Congressman Jones said: "After Continued On Page Eight



CLEVELAND ENTRY — Hugh Wells, Shelby lawyer, has formally announced his candidacy for the Democratic nomination for Congress from the 11th district.

Wreck Victim's Injuries Fatal

Funeral services will be held Thursday afternoon at 4 o'clock at Bethany Baptist church, Grover, for Grady William Montgomery, 42, of Grover who died at Kings Mountain hospital Wednesday morning.

Mr. Montgomery died from injuries received in an automobile accident which occurred on U. S. 29 south of Kings Mountain on January 15.

Patrolman C. D. Fortune, investigating officer, said the accident occurred when James Smith of Bessemer City attempted to turn left just as Montgomery's car tried to pass. No charges were filed against either driver at that time.

Surviving Mr. Montgomery are his parents, Thomas and Lila Black Montgomery of Grover; his wife, Mrs. Inez Childers Montgomery; a daughter, Cindy Kay Montgomery, both of the home; six brothers, Dewey and Floyd Montgomery, both of Grover, Rev. Perry Montgomery of Columbia, S. C., Boyd Montgomery of Kings Mountain, Broadus Montgomery of Gastonia, and R. C. Montgomery of Atlanta, Ga.; and three sisters, Mrs. Lilly Hopper and Mrs. Bessie Putnam both of Grover, and Mrs. Jessie Norman of Gastonia.

The Rev. Wayne Haynes, pastor of Bethany church, will officiate assisted by the Rev. Kenneth Hollifield and the Rev. Franklin Monroe. Burial will be in Antioch Cemetery near Grover. The body will lie in state for 30 minutes at the church prior to services.

Pallbearers will be Jim Montgomery, James Norman, Billy Montgomery, Charlie Putnam, Fred Childers, Jr., and J. W. Burns.

Two Civil Cases Are Non-Suited

Voluntary non-suit was taken last week in Cleveland Superior Court in a civil action filed by D. C. Mauney against D. L. and D. D. Saunders, seeking \$21,691.00 in connection with alleged sale of the former Kings Mountain Laundry equipment to the Messrs. Saunders.

In turn, the Saunders took a voluntary non-suit in a counterclaim for \$3,300 which they alleged Mr. Mauney owed them.

The non-suits were taken last Thursday and signed by Judge George B. Patton, Miss Jeanette Wilson, deputy clerk of superior court said.

Gas Customers Must Pay Bills By 10th

Natural gas accounts must be paid by the tenth of the month or service will be discontinued thereafter, city natural gas customers are being notified this week.

In addition, a penalty will be added for cut-off and cut-on of service, the announcement said.

Policy of the gas department on strict cut-off for non-payment now coincides with that of other city utilities.



CITY GETS SAFETY AWARD—Mayor Glee A. Bridges is shown above receiving a certificate from Hugh H. Cranford, Charlotte district sales manager for the North Carolina State Automobile association emblematic of the city's recording 1,500 consecutive days without a fatal in-city auto accident. Also pictured, standing from left, are City Commissioner J. H. Patterson, Chief of Police Hugh Logan, and Hughlon D. Smith, the auto association's Kings Mountain representative.

City Logs 1,500th Safe-Driving Day

Local News Bulletins

The City of Kings Mountain was presented a certificate of merit Friday for "outstanding accomplishments in traffic safety" by the North Carolina State Automobile association.

The framed parchment certificate was awarded in recognition of Kings Mountain's record of having no motor-vehicle fatalities for 1,500 consecutive days through January 20. The city is now well into its fifth consecutive fatality-free year. The last fatal automobile accident inside the city limits occurred on December 8, 1951.

At a ceremony held at City Hall, the certificate was presented to Mayor Glee A. Bridges and Chief of Police Hugh A. Logan, Jr. by Hugh H. Cranford, Charlotte division sales manager of the NCSA on behalf of the company and T. Chalmers Bryant, president of the National Automobile association, with which the NCSA, the South's largest motor club, is affiliated.

Also participating in the ceremony was Hughlon D. Smith, NCSA representative in Kings Mountain.

"It is a happy privilege to have this opportunity to present the City of Kings Mountain with this certificate for the amazing record in traffic safety that has been achieved here. This award is based on the fact that Kings Mountain has had no automobile fatalities for 1,500 straight days," Cranford said.

"It takes real teamwork on the part of city officials, law enforcement officers and the public in general to go that long a time without a fatality."

Mr. Bundy is a humorist, who addressed a ladies night banquet of the Lions club here several years ago.

Bundy Will Speak At Retailer Fete

Sam D. Bundy, Farmville schoolman, will be the principal speaker at the annual employer-employee banquet of the Kings Mountain Merchants association on February 20.

Announcement was made yesterday by Sam D. Collins, association president.

Tickets for the event will go on sale soon.

Mr. Bundy is a humorist, who addressed a ladies night banquet of the Lions club here several years ago.

Injured Miner Awarded \$6,500

R. C. Crump, Charlotte mining worker, was awarded a \$6,500 judgment against Foote Mineral Company and North American Insurance Company of Charlotte in Federal District Court Tuesday for the loss of a finger in an accident at the company's Kings Mountain plant.

Crump claimed that he was injured on February 23, 1952, while working on a heavy piece of equipment used by Foote in its mining operations.

He said his right hand was crushed, and that his little finger had to be amputated because of the accident.

A company official said Wednesday that it was a workman's compensation case, and that the case was tried in a Federal court because Foote is an out-of-state corporation.

He added that the insurance company, which handles the case, was actually the defendant in the case.

Laycock Tells Lions Hospital Situation, Needs

A patient, on the average, pays 65 cents per hour for his stay in Cleveland County hospitals, George W. Laycock told Shelby and Kings Mountain Lions in a joint session here Tuesday night.

Mr. Laycock submitted that the average is cheap for board, bed, and personal service given.

A full delegation of both Lions clubs were present, the Shelby club having chartered three buses for the visit here.

In a quick-paced and fact-filled address, Mr. Laycock, who assumed the administratorship of the county's hospitals about two months ago, outlined the problems of Shelby Hospital financing, and submitted what he termed his personal ideas of how to improve the service and to eliminate deficit operations.

Meantime, the administrator praised highly the operations of Kings Mountain hospital and paid tribute to Grady Howard, the business manager here.

He reviewed his proposal, made in a Shelby address recently, for leasing of the hospitals to a non-profit operating corporation. He noted that similar arrangements prevailed at Charlotte Memorial hospital, Columbus Memorial, Whiteville, Watts and Lincoln hospitals in Durham and many others. He said the failure of Cleveland County to operate under the same system cost the hospitals \$80,000 in gifts from the Ford Foundation recently.

In the future, Mr. Laycock said, the hospitals require more funds, less welfare patient days, and an active women's auxiliary of 300-400 women. He recommended that the county commissioners purchase hospitalization for welfare patients and that employers in the county be encouraged to adopt hospitalization insurance plans for themselves and their employees.

He questioned the advisability of continuing the nurse's training school, noting that 31 students are currently enrolled when the faculty could handle up to 60 students. Cherokee county, S. C., he noted, is establishing a nurse's training school at Limestone College, with the Cherokee Hospital as the laboratory.

Stating that the Shelby hospital deficit is over \$50,000, Mr. Laycock said he felt confident that, when the slate is cleaned, the hospital would be able to operate without red ink.

Pointing to the great need for hospital facilities, he told the group that only two hospital beds were available in Cleveland County "at this hour."

Martin Harmon presented Mr. Laycock, and D. L. Saunders introduced L. S. Stroupe as a new member of the Kings Mountain club.

L. T. Hamrick, Jr., Shelby president, responded to Kings Mountain. President Timms' welcome to the Shelby Lions.

Special guests at the session included Dr. Paul Nolan, Grady Howard, and Noah Burrok, business manager of Shelby hospital.

Police Sponsoring Cousin Wilbur Show

Cousin Wilbur's County Store and cast Blondie Brooks, The Log Cabin Folks, Little Wilbur, and Prunella Skinner will present a performance at Kings Mountain high school auditorium Saturday night, at 8 o'clock. Admission will be \$1.00 for adults, and 50 cents for children.

The program is under the sponsorship of Kings Mountain police department, with proceeds to go to the department.

The program is a regular feature of WLOS-TV Asheville.



TO HEAD RETAILERS—Paul W. Walker has been elected president of the Kings Mountain Merchants association for 1956-57 in mail balloting just completed. He will assume office on February 20.

Retailers Name Paul Walker

Paul Walker, of Myers' Department Store, has been elected president of the Kings Mountain Merchants association for 1956-57.

Results of mail balloting, announced Wednesday by Mrs. Elaine Queen, association secretary, showed Mr. Walker edged E. R. McCurdy, owner of McCurdy Cleaners-Laundry, by one vote, 18-17.

Charles H. Dixon was elected vice-president of the association, and Charles Blanton, Yates Harbison, Menzell Phifer and Ed Tutor were elected directors for two-year terms.

Mr. Walker will succeed Sam D. Collins. Association directors will have year remaining of their terms of office are Jonas Bridges, W. L. Plonk, Richard Barnette, and William G. Jonas.

Tuesday Snow Not Satisfying

Kings Mountain's Monday-Tuesday snow came and left quickly.

Residents of this portion of the state were amazed to arise Tuesday morning with some one-half inch of snow trying to blanket the surrounding countryside.

The only complaint to be heard was that there was just not enough of the white stuff.

School children wished for more to force the city schools to suspend operations and allow the youngsters time for snowballing and snowman construction.

The merchants did not enough of the snow to have a run on rubber footwear, and this was not pleasing.

Though city streets were slippery, no great number of accidents were reported. However, the official weather forecasters were holding their tongues in their cheeks and calling for clear, cold days ahead.

TO NEWFOUNDLAND

Major James G. Ratterree, son of Mr. and Mrs. B. D. Ratterree, of Kings Mountain, is being transferred to Newfoundland. The Ratterrees have been stationed at the Air Force base in Tacoma, Washington. Mrs. Ratterree and daughter, Julia, will make their home at 401 Gold street in Kings Mountain until arrangements can be made to join Major Ratterree at his new station.

Has Organized Juvenile Delinquency Hit Kings Mountain? Some Say "Yes"

By BOB HOFFMAN

Has the influence of comic book and television gang warfare reached Kings Mountain and the surrounding area?

A juvenile gang, including members from Kings Mountain, Bessemer City, and Gastonia, has been reported active in this area during the past two weeks.

The gang, which carries a skull on a black jacket as its trademark, has been involved in at least two fights in the city. One local boy was reported to have been attacked with a pair of

brass knucks at a local theatre in the latest incident.

Reports have it that gang members are carrying guns and knives, in addition to the usual brass knucks. One gang member was relieved of a pair of knucks Friday night by a duo of local boys.

Local police officers are aware of the gang's activities here, and are awaiting a chance to throw them into the cooler.

A scheduled gang "war" set for Saturday night at a movie house in Kings Mountain failed to come off when the police were tipped

off and were on hand to foil the gangsters.

It has also been reported that Gaston County authorities are having trouble with the same group, and that they are being watched closely there.

Citizens should notify the police department at once of any unlawful action or suspicion of unlawful action.

One teen-age girl reported that the gang members make a habit of molesting boys and their dates, wolf-whistling at girls, and otherwise making themselves as obnoxious as possible.

Demurrer Denied In Damage Action

Formal answer to a \$150,000 civil action for alleged damages against two Kings Mountain and one Charlotte physician will be filed within 30 days.

B. T. Falls, Jr., attorney for Dr. J. C. McGill said Wednesday that a demurrer filed in Mecklenburg Court had been denied.

Attorneys for the three physicians—Dr. John C. McGill, Dr. Kenneth H. McGill and Dr. Thomas H. Wright—had sought dismissal of the action brought by William J. Bailey, 23, of Kings Mountain, on grounds that the action had been improperly lodged. Specifically, the demurrer said Dr. Wright should not have been made a party to the action.

Bailey alleges he was "wrongfully" committed to the State Hospital at Morganton.

Attorney for Dr. Kenneth McGill is Lewis Carpenter, of Charlotte, and attorney for Dr. Wright is Hunter Jones also of Charlotte.

Attorneys for Bailey are Parker Wheedon, Charlotte, and Hugh Wells, Shelby.

Neisler Layoffs Said Temporary

Spotty layoffs at Neisler Mills division of Massachusetts Mohair Plush Company were described as "temporary" by Howard B. Jackson, member of the three-man management committee.

Mr. Jackson said that sales of new goods by Neisler during the period October 29-December 15 were negligible, due to uncertainty among customers concerning the completion of the transaction where by Horvath interests required production assets of Neisler Mills, Inc.

"I am glad to say that orders for new goods are being received and that the situation should straighten itself out," Mr. Jackson said. "Under our production setup, orders for new patterns must be received almost daily if we are to maintain capacity production. Naturally, it will require some time to make up the six-week lag."

Mr. Jackson noted that business in the fabrics-upholstery industry is "the best its been since World War II."

Franklin Ware, manager of the employment service, placed the total of layoffs at Neisler at slightly over 40.

The report reviewed the year's

Dimes Drive Said Lagging

Only \$1,500 of Kings Mountain's \$5,000 March of Dimes campaign goal has been obtained, Charles Dixon co-chairman of the drive, announced Wednesday.

The Kings Mountain Moose Lodge is selling tickets for a singing to be held in Shelby January 29. This program of music will feature the renowned Harmonizers quartet as well as other groups of singers. All proceeds from tickets sold in Kings Mountain will be used in the city's quota, Dixon said.

The Junior Woman's club Mother's March will be held Tuesday night from 7 until 8 p. m. All persons wishing to donate at that time are asked to leave their porch lights burning.

Miss Grace Davis, co-chairman of the Mother's March, said that canvassers will meet at Victory Chevrolet Company, and that anyone being missed during the soliciting may call 49 or 419, Victory Chevrolet numbers, and their donation will be picked up.

Miss Davis added the club hoped to make this the biggest drive ever held in Kings Mountain.

No further word has been received on the status of parking meter receipts which were earmarked to go to the campaign. The city board passed this motion at its last meeting, but the money is not being given to the March of Dimes until the legal aspect of the matter is investigated further. Some \$154.95 was collected in the meters, during the period of time specified by the city board.

HOSPITAL GIFT
Grady Howard, business manager of Kings Mountain hospital, acknowledged Tuesday a gift of Dr. John C. McGill and Dr. Kenneth H. McGill for furnishings for a room in the new wing of the hospital.

KIWANIS MEETING
Members of the Kings Mountain Kiwanis club will see a film "Out of the North" at the meeting of the club Thursday night, 6:45, at Masonic Dining hall. The program was arranged by L. Arnold Kiser. The film is released by Nash division of American Motors.

Kiwanis Club Activities Report Shows Busy Twelve Months In '55

Dr. William L. Pressly, chairman of the Kiwanis Club Achievement Committee, gave a report on Kiwanis activities for the year 1955 to club members at the weekly meeting Thursday night.

This report showed that on January 6, 1955 the club had 74 active and privileged members, and that on December 31, membership had increased to 80 members.

Average attendance for the 52 meetings during the year was 74 per cent of the membership. The lowest attendance mark was in November when only 65 per cent of the members attended. Highest mark for the year was in May when 80 per cent attended.

Dr. Pressly gave a special word of tribute to the officers who served the club during the past year. These included, J. C. Bridges, president; Bill Fulton, secretary; and Harold Coggins, second vice-president and program chairman. The directors of the club were also praised for their guidance of the club's affairs.

The report reviewed the year's

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