

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.



VOLUNTARY AUTO INSPECTION CAMPAIGN PLANNED - Pictured is a group of Kings Mountain citizens as they met at City Hall last week to map plans for the second annual Kings Mountain area voluntary motor vehicle safety check scheduled for May 21-26.

George Houser, second row, left to right, are W. C. Grantham, handling details for setting up the check lane, and Jonas Bridges, publicity chairman. Back row, left to right, are Louis Sabetti, in charge of program materials, Bob Maner, finance chairman, and Mayor Glee A. Bridges, a member of the steering committee.

Political Tempo Quickening As May 26 Voting Day Nears

Local News Bulletins

ONE PERMIT - Building Inspector J. W. Webster issued a permit Friday to M. B. Hannon for an addition on a one story frame house on Benfield road, at an estimated cost of \$600.

METER RECEIPTS - City parking meter receipts for the week ending noon, Wednesday totaled \$242.85, according to a report by Miss Grace Carpenter of City Clerk's office.

MOOSE MEETING - Kings Mountain Moose Lodge 1748 will hold their regular Thursday night meeting at 8:15 at the lodge on Bessemer City road, according to an announcement by Curtis Gaffney, secretary.

ATTENDS MEETING - Rev. P. D. Patrick, pastor of First Presbyterian church, represented Kings Mountain Presbytery at the general assembly's stewardship conference held in Charlotte on Tuesday.

YOUTH CHOIR - The youth choir of Macedonia Baptist church will sing over Radio Station WCYL, York, S. C., Sunday afternoon in a half-hour program from 2:30 p. m. until 3 o'clock.

TO HEAR WELLS - Hugh Wells, Shelby attorney and candidate for the 11th district nomination for Democratic Congressman, will address members of the Kiwanis club at their meeting Thursday night at the Woman's Club.

SUNDAY DINNER - Kings Mountain Woman's club will serve dinner Sunday at the clubhouse at 12 noon with the menu to include fried chicken, green beans, new potatoes, lettuce and tomato salad, and apple pie.

SOCIAL SECURITY - A representative of the Gastonia social security office will be at City Hall here next Monday and again on May 21 to serve residents of the area with any question pertaining to social security.

Three Congress Candidates Push Their Campaigns

The tempo of political activity—particularly in the three-man race for the 11th district Congressional nomination—increased during the past week, with at least one interesting sidelight.

Last week, Kings Mountain utility poles suddenly blossomed with placards exhorting the voters to cast May 26 ballots for Ralph Gardner.

It wasn't long until managers for Basil Whitener went brandishing a city ordinance at Mayor Glee A. Bridges and Chief of Police Hugh A. Logan, Jr. The ordinance prohibits the use of utility poles for this purpose—be the advertising political or other, wise.

Jack White, district manager for Whitener, was among those protesting and by Wednesday virtually all the placards were removed.

"As far as I know the police department has cleaned the poles," Chief Logan remarked, adding, "I didn't know that ordinance was on the books."

It reminded some local citizens of the incident which occurred during the 1950 primary, when a "Woodrow Jones Victory Caravan" came to Kings Mountain to aid the Jones vote quest. Entering the city limits, one of the caravanners was making good use of a loud speaker system in his car when accosted by the Kings Mountain constabulary and hauled to the police station. The charge was violation of the city's ordinance prohibiting use of outdoor loud speakers within the city limits.

Otherwise, the campaign was marked by a sudden blossoming of campaign advertising on the part of all candidates. Basil Whitener's forces got out a Whitener crossword puzzle, Ralph Gardner and Hugh Wells (in Kings Mountain shaking hands Wednesday) placed newspaper advertising in majority of the newspapers of the district. In Kings Mountain, "Gardner for Congress" banners began to appear with more frequency on au-

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Bethware Commencement Program Set; Co-Valedictorians Named

Commencement exercises for Bethware high school senior class were announced yesterday by Principal John Rudisill. The exercises, scheduled for May 20-22, will begin on Sunday May 20, with the baccalaureate sermon by Dr. Dorus F. Rudisill, of Hickory, professor of Bible and philosophy at Lenoir-Rhyne college and a brother of Principal Rudisill.

Sunday Designated Straw Hat Day Here

Sunday will be "Kings Mountain Straw Hat Day" for male members of the population. Paul Walker, president of the Kings Mountain merchants association, announced this week that May 6 has been designated as the official day for men to don straw hats for the summer season.

Kings Mountain department stores announce they've already had some interest among the male population in buying new model hats, particularly on Monday which was the hottest day to date in the spring season.

Models are slightly changed this year, with more accent on so-called Ivy League numbers and "flat-tops." Dark colors will again be popular this summer, merchants have reported.

Fellowship Day Rites Thursday

Kings Mountain churchwomen will observe May Fellowship Day Thursday evening (tonight) at a program at First Baptist church.

The observance is one of three programs sponsored here annually by the Kings Mountain council of churchwomen of which Mrs. Paul Mauney is president. Other observances commemorate World Community Day and World Day of Prayer.

A covered dish supper at 6:30 p. m. will precede the 7:30 p. m. program. Rev. A. T. Quakenbush, pastor of First Baptist church, will give the invocation and benediction. Mrs. John Gamble and Mrs. Eugene Steffy will conduct the responsive reading. Offertory music will be presented before Mrs. Aubrey Mauney discusses how the offering is used and Mrs. W. M. Gantt introduces the program which will feature the showing of the film "Sound Of A Stone."

The film will be shown by Luther Cansler.

"This is a family program," Mrs. F. R. Summers, publicity chairman noted, "and we invite all families of the community to join in this observance."

Conducted on Tuesday night, May 22, Rev. James B. McLarty, pastor of Central Methodist church will make the graduation night address. Claude Harmon, chairman of the district school committee, will award diplomas. Principal Rudisill announced that two students will share honors for valedictorian of the senior class. They are Nancy Bell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Horace Bell, and Sara Mae Hamrick, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ben Hamrick.

Employment Slightly Off During April

Kings Mountain area's employment picture worsened only slightly during the four weeks ended April 25, but indications are the figure on job-seekers and unemployment compensation claimants will be greater for the subsequent four-week period.

Franklin L. Ware, Jr., manager of the Kings Mountain branch of the North Carolina Employment service, said the April 25 report does not reflect heavy activity of the past weekend in accepting claims for unemployment compensation from laid-off employees of Neisler Mills division of Massachusetts Mohair Plush Company. The company announced last week it's halting temporarily of third shift work.

"Company officials say they are hopeful the situation will change materially in three to four weeks," Mr. Ware added.

For the April period, total weeks of employment compensation claimed was 1145, an average of slightly less than 300 claims per week, and only slightly higher than 1,096 registered during the previous four-week period.

Number of active job-seekers jumped to 411, result of addition of 107 new applicants for employment.

During April, the employment service received 84 job orders and made 73 placements, the same figure recorded for the March period. Of this total, domestic household employment was the largest total, resulting in 19 placements. Others were: textiles 18, construction 11, mining 9, public utilities 9, wholesale and retail trade 2, service industry 2, and farming and related work 3.

Maximum payments of unemployment compensation are \$30 per week for a maximum of 26 weeks in a benefit year. Mr. Ware said, adding that several claimants have earnings in the base period qualifying them for the maximum payment. Average check being drawn, however, is \$23 to \$24, he continued.

New U. S. 29 Strip Opened

The new two-lane strip of U. S. 29 from Archdale Farms to the Grover city limits was opened to traffic last week.

This new strip provides four-lane accommodation for traffic, with one-way traffic on each two-lane strip of the boulevard.

For all intents and purposes the road construction is complete. However Ed Kemper, district highway engineer, said general condition of the road will determine when it is to receive an added treatment of hot-mix.

Mr. Kemper said the highway department is currently widening, improving, and applying base material to the St. Luke's church road at county spur off Highway 216 (Cherryville-Road), with a view to eventual paving of this road. However, he added, the paving will not be done during calendar year 1956.

The St. Luke's road work is a part of the highway division policy in preparing now for eventual hard-surfacing all county roads which log as many as 100 vehicles per day. Mr. Kemper further remarked that only some eight to ten miles of unpaved road in Cleveland county currently carry this amount of traffic.

There are no new developments, he added, on the possibility of extending the new double-lane strip of U. S. 29 through Grover. Grover town officials declined, due to the heavy financial consideration required, to agree to share right-of-way costs.

Mr. Kemper said further decision on improvements to U. S. 29 now await action of Congress on the pending \$51 billion highway construction bill and subsequently, on the question of whether a new inter-state road will be built from Gastonia south. Preliminary engineering surveys have been made for a possible new U. S. 29. Present terms of the pending highway legislation provide that the proposed federal-state inter-state roads be built on a share formula whereby the federal government would supply 90 percent of the funds.

OPEN HOUSE - Central Methodist church will honor Rev. and Mrs. James McLarty and family and new members of the church at open house Sunday evening from 7:30 p. m. until 9 o'clock, according to announcement by Mrs. Paul Hendricks, president of the Women's Society of Christian Service.

Mrs. Aubrey Mauney Elected N.C. Women's Club President



ELECTED—J. Ollie Harris, Kings Mountain mortician, was elected president of the North Carolina Funeral Directors and Embalmers Examining board, in session at Raleigh Wednesday. Mr. Harris has served on the board for several years and advances from the vice-presidency.

Harris President Of State Board

J. Ollie Harris, Kings Mountain mortician, was elected Wednesday to serve as President of the North Carolina Funeral Directors and Embalmers examining board.

Mr. Harris advances from the vice-presidency of this state licensing board which conducts examinations to determine fitness of applicants for funeral director's and embalmer's licenses.

The Kings Mountain citizen is a veteran member of the board.

Hospital Honors Late J. C. Plonk

A portrait of the late Joseph Calvin Plonk was one of three unveiled in Sunday ceremonies at Rutherford County hospital, Rutherford.

The late Mr. Plonk, kinsman of the Kings Mountain Plonk clan, was honored along with the hospital's founders, Dr. Henry Norris and Dr. Montgomery H. Biggs.

The portrait of Mr. Plonk was unveiled by his widow, Mrs. Maude Reinhardt Plonk, and the citation distributed to persons attending the ceremonies read:

Joseph Calvin Plonk was born December 9, 1852, near Kings Mountain, in Cleveland County, North Carolina, the son of John Jonas and Ann Ellen (Oates) Plonk. His forebears were of Dutch origin, the immigrant ancestor of the line, Jacob Plonk, coming from Holland in 1747; he settled first in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, and later moved to North Carolina.

"Mr. Joseph Calvin Plonk was an outstanding figure in the cotton manufacturing industry and was for years one of the most influential manufacturers in the South. As President of the Cherokee Falls Manufacturing Company, of Cherokee Falls, South Carolina, he contributed much to business and social welfare of the section. This is shown by the fact that he was a charter member and, after his retirement, an honorary member for life of the South Carolina Textile Association; a life member of the American Cotton Manufacturers Association; and a leading figure in the National Manufacturers Association.

Kesler Winner In School Contest

Steve Kesler, son of Mr. and Mrs. T. L. Kesler, was first-place winner in the extemporaneous division of the high school forensic contest Friday at Lenoir-Rhyne college, Hickory.

Young Kesler, tenth grade student at Central school, received a medal and a scholarship to Lenoir-Rhyne which is valued at \$80 each year should he attend the institution. His subject was "The Colonial Problems of France in North Africa."

Bobby Early, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jake Early, represented Central school in the declamation division. A ninth grade student, he chose the subject, "The Personality of Jesus" by Fosdick.

Kings Mountain Citizen Named To State Office

Mrs. Aubrey Mauney was elected president of the North Carolina Federation of Women's Clubs at the annual state convention in Durham last weekend.

The three-day convention featured the election and installation of officers and the presentation of club awards. Among winners was Kings Mountain Woman's club. She is a past president of both the Junior and Senior Women's clubs here and has served as president of district four of the state federation which includes Cleveland, Rutherford, Lincoln, and Gaston counties. She was state chairman of the American Home department and served as first chairman of the state Fine Arts division. She served twice as chairman of the state Fine Arts festival and was chairman of the federation year book committee. She is a past recording secretary of the state federation.

She served as president of the state Women's Missionary Society of the United Lutheran Synod of North Carolina in 1943-46 and is a past recording secretary of the North Carolina Council of Churches.

Mrs. Mauney is the wife of Aubrey Mauney, secretary-treasurer of Kings Mountain Manufacturing company who is currently serving as third vice-president of the Lutheran Brotherhood of America.

Officers were elected to serve a two-year term.

Kings Mountain delegates to the convention included Mrs. Haywood E. Lynch, Mrs. Jacob Cooper, Mrs. Claude Hambright, and Mrs. George Houser, all of the Senior club, and Mrs. D. W. Blanton and Miss Margaret Goforth, both of the Junior club.

Other officers elected, in addition to Mrs. Mauney, include Mrs. C. Gordon Madrey, of Ahoskie, first vice-president; Mrs. James Harper, Jr., of Southport, second vice-president; Miss Margaret Yorkley, of Mount Airy, third vice-president; Mrs. Leslie Barnhardt, of Charlotte, corresponding secretary, and Mrs. J. Henry Highsmith, of Raleigh, member of the board of trustees.

Bank Will Close Thursday, May 10

First National Bank of Kings Mountain will be closed Thursday, May 10, according to an announcement by President F. R. Summers.

May 10 is Confederate Memorial Day. This holiday is observed only in North and South Carolina.

The city's other financial institutions, Home Building & Loan and Kings Mountain Building & Loan, had not decided Wednesday whether they would close or not.

Audit Contract, Police Vacations On City Board Agenda Thursday

Much of Thursday's agenda for the regular monthly meeting of the city board of commissioners represents deferred decisions on business discussed at a special session Monday night.

The board will consider these deferred items at the Thursday night 8 p. m. session at City Hall:

1) Award of contract for the annual city audit.

2) Police department vacation policy.

3) A request for easement to enter North Deal street extension from Mr. Ray.

4) Request from B. T. Wright, Sr., for relief from future curbing cost should the city widen Goforth street to 50-foot dimension. Mr. Wright contends the widening will destroy the curbing in front of his property and he doesn't want to pay his portion of the assessment again.

Also on Thursday night the commissioners are expected to bid to install curb-and-gutter and sidewalk on North Piedmont avenue and to effect some fund transfers to tide over several city departments for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Actions taken at Monday night's special session were:

1) Re-zoning of a lot on E. King street to neighborhood trading area designation from residential designation. The request had been made by Dan Huffstetler and none appeared at the meeting to object.

2) Authorization for installing about 67 feet of sidewalk on South Piedmont avenue (West side) on petition of First Baptist church trustees and Kings Mountain Herald. The board instructed the Mayor to obtain bids and award to the lowest bidder and the petitioners stated they would pay their 50 percent share of the sidewalk job on completion. Estimated cost was \$125.

The Mayor informed the board he expected to indict Albert Turner, Shelby plumber, who "continues to refuse to pay plumbing tap fees unless caught."

The board deferred action on award of audit contract to determine which of four bidders would be able to audit immediately the recorder's court and tax accounts through April 15. On that date, leave of absence granted Recorder Clerk and Tax Supervisor Clarence E. Carpenter became effective.

The audit bids were: Ernst & Ernst of Winston.



ELECTED - Mrs. Aubrey Mauney, of Kings Mountain, is the new state president of the North Carolina Federation of Women's Clubs. Mrs. Mauney was elected at the annual convention held in Durham last week.

Democrats Set Meetings

Democratic precinct workers in East Kings Mountain will hold a meeting Saturday afternoon at 3 o'clock at City Hall, according to an announcement by S. A. Crouse, chairman of the East precinct.

Precinct committeemen, including a chairman, vice-chairman, and three committeemen, will be elected at Saturday's meeting. Delegates to the county Democratic meeting to be held in Shelby by May 12, at 2 p. m. will also be named.

Present East Precinct committee members are Mr. Crouse, chairman; Mrs. C. C. Oates, vice-chairman; Leonard Smith, Ollie Harris, and J. E. Mauney.

West Precinct workers will meet at Victory Chevrolet Company Saturday at 2 p. m. Chairman H. D. Ormand said. West committee members are Mr. Ormand, chairman; Mrs. J. H. Arthur, vice-chairman; H. B. Jackson, Mrs. J. N. Gamble, and Martin Harmon. West will also elect Committeemen and County delegates.

Grover and Bethware precincts have not reported the date or place of their meetings. Grover chairman, J. B. Ellis, and Bethware chairman, Wayne L. Ware, Jr., were not reachable Wednesday.

Grover precinct committeemen are Mr. Ellis, chairman; Mrs. D. A. Moss, vice-chairman; Vance Kiser, Carley Martin, W. J. Herndon, and James Byers.

Cleveland County Democratic officers include C. C. Horn, chairman; Mrs. J. E. Lipford, of Kings Mountain; G. R. Cline, second vice-chairman; and David Royster, secretary-treasurer.

FALSE ALARM

C. D. Ware, city fireman, reported Kings Mountain Fire department answered a false alarm call Thursday to Radio station WKMT.

Neill Joins Travel Agency

Buren S. Neill, Jr., since 1948 assistant office manager at Nelsler Mills, has resigned to join Wide-World Travel Service, Inc., a recently organized Gastonia travel agency.

Mr. Neill will be actively associated with the firm, which maintains offices at 218 E. Franklin avenue, Gastonia.

Another member of the corporation is Max Parrish, Pyramid Electric Co., personnel manager.

Mr. Neill said the firm will specialize in arranging all types of travel accommodations for citizens of this area, including both regular trips and tours, in the nation or international. The service is rendered at no cost to the traveler. The travel agency can handle bookings on all steamship and airlines, as well as railroads, Mr. Neill added.

A resident of Gastonia, Mr. Neill is a son of Mr. and Mrs. B. S. Neill, Sr., of Kings Mountain.

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Kings Mountain Area Offenders Draw Sentences

J. C. Tate, route 3, Rutherfordton man, received two years in state prison in Cleveland County Superior Court this week on forgery charges.

Tate, who was one of the state's most-sought-after bad-check artist admitted that he had signed some 50-60 checks with the name of C. W. and L. W. Green. These checks had been cashed throughout an area of several North and South Carolina counties.

Two charges of forgery were brought against Tate by Chief Hugh A. Logan, Jr., Judge Jack White had bound the defendant over to higher court, and Judge Francis O. Clark, presiding jurist, gave Tate a total of two years on these counts.

It is reported that Tate will face several other forgery charges being brought by other counties, where he has passed checks.

John Coy Wilkes, 34, of Shelby was another forgery defendant who had been bound over to higher court by Judge White. He received three months' active road sentence, and another 12 months suspended.

Wilkes had admitted forging the name of Glenn Putnam to a check for \$18, which he passed in Roberts Store here.

Calvin Cornwell, Kings Mountain Negro, pleaded guilty to charges of second-degree burglary in Superior Court, but judgment has not yet been passed by Judge Clarkson.

Cornwell was bound over from Kings Mountain Recorder's Court on charges of first degree burglary. He was accused of breaking into the home of Walter McCabe, another Kings Mountain Negro, after nightfall, and of taking \$40 from McCabe.

McCabe said he was asleep at the time Cornwell entered the house, and added that he awakened to find Cornwell removing one of his shoes in search of additional money. Cornwell admitted breaking into the house, but said he went there to collect \$10 which McCabe owed him.

Walter Bill Riley was found guilty of breaking and entering and larceny charges. He was given 12-18 months on the roads on these charges. A crime agent.

Registration Report Given

County registration books will be open again Saturday at each of the 28 voting places.

Registrars reported light activity in the Kings Mountain area as the books opened for the first time last Saturday.

Mrs. Nell Cranford, East Kings Mountain registrar, had the busiest day in Number 4 township as she added 15 names to the voting book and handled five transfers from other precincts.

Mrs. J. H. Arthur, West Kings Mountain registrar, logged eight new voters at her box and also handled a number of transfers.

Mrs. H. A. Goforth, Bethware registrar, reported four new registrants in this precinct.

J. B. Ellis, Grover registrar, could not be reached Wednesday for a report on this precinct.

The books will be open Saturday and again on May 12. Unregistered persons who expect to vote in the May 26 Democratic primary must register.

This year's registration is not a new one. However, new citizens citizens and those who have become 21 years of age should get their names on the books if they expect to cast ballots.

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