

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

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Sixty-Seventh Year

PRICE FIVE CENTS

Short Industrial Holidays Reflect Better Business

Business Power Rate Upped

City Increases Over 2500 Rate By 40 Percent

The city board of commissioners upped base power rate schedules for large commercial users by approximately 40 percent at a special session Wednesday afternoon.

Though the board did not set an effective date, it is presumed the increase in the schedule from .88 of one cent per kilowatt hour to 1.4 cents per kilowatt hour for all over 2500 will be reflected in billings of February 1.

The action of the board was unanimous.

Assistant City Clerk Joe McDaniel estimated that the rate increase would effect probably 20 customers, though he added it might effect more in the summer months when air-conditioning systems are in use. Four largest users of city purchased power he named as Elmer Lumber Company, Kings Mountain Hospital, A & P Tea Company and Dixie Home Stores. Mr. McDaniel guessed the rate increase would return something like \$200 per month to city coffers in winter months, much more in the hot summer months, again with air-conditioning to play a major role in power bills.

Commissioner Sam Collins objected to the Herald reporter on a statement appearing in last week's issue concerning power rates and crediting Mr. Collins, who had served on the committee to investigate power rate revision, with "long being a booster of higher power rates." Mr. Collins said he has only supported increased rates in the commercial schedule.

Mayor Glee A. Bridges and Commissioner W. G. Grantham pointed out that the new rate keeps the city rate under those of Duke Power Company and of the neighboring cities of Shelby and Gastonia.

Residential rates are unaffected by the change. In other actions, the board: 1) Told the Mayor to inform the state highway and public works commission it desired a traffic signal installed at the intersection of Piedmont avenue and Linwood Drive and also wished installation of an island at the Linwood Drive entrance. (The state had suggested use of the island and caution lights). 2) In a technical action, authorized City Tax Collector J. V.

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Commission Would Up Pay

The city board of commissioners will ask the county's legislative delegation to introduce a bill in the forthcoming session of the General Assembly to raise the pay of city commissioners from \$10 to \$25 monthly.

The motion was made by Commissioner T. J. Ellison, with Commissioner Sam Collins seconding, and was passed unanimously.

There was some discussion on the mayor's pay, but Mayor Glee A. Bridges said, "Let's leave that out of it." He added, "I might want to run again, and I don't believe that would help me get re-elected."

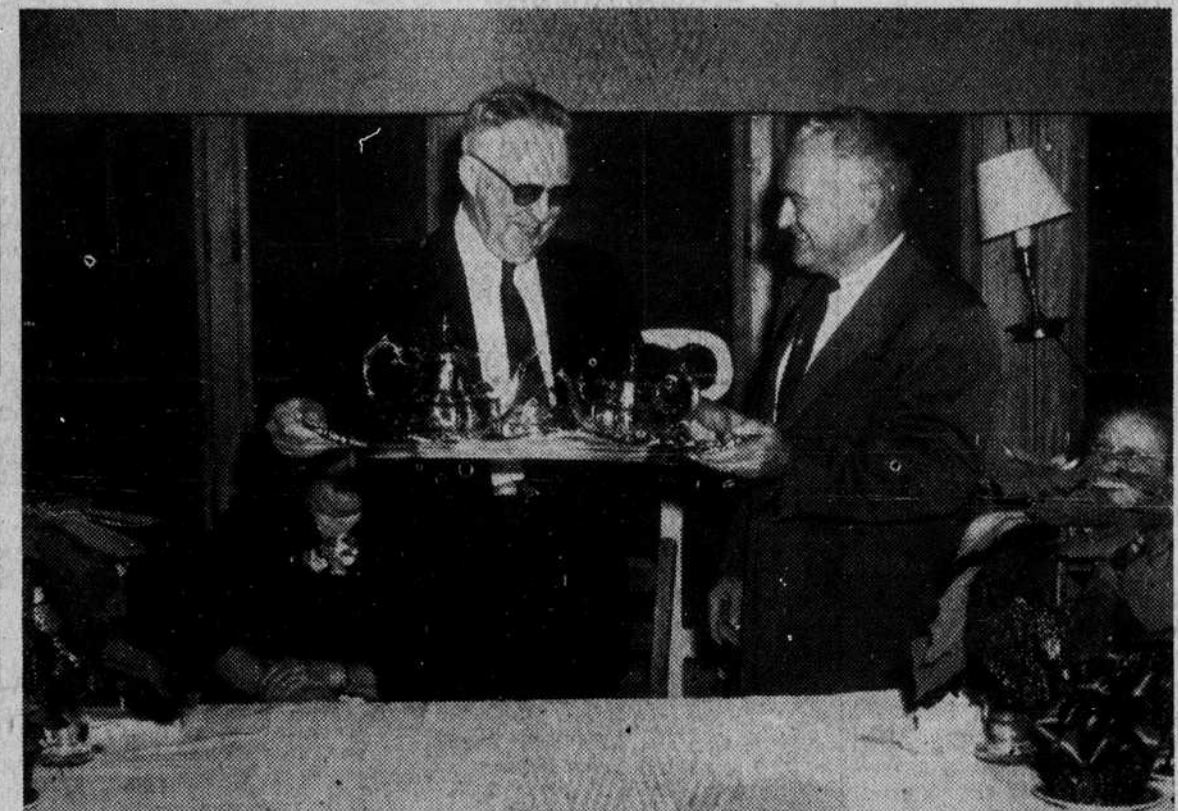
The commissioners now have authority to pay the mayor a minimum of \$50 per month and a maximum of \$300. Mayor Bridges has received \$300 since he assumed the mayoral spot on a full-time basis in 1955.

Under Mr. Ellison's motion, the bill, if approved, would not become effective until after the May 1957 city election.

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New City Commercial Power Rate Schedule

First 100 Kilowatt Hours	@ 4.8c
Next 900 Kilowatt Hours	@ 2.56c
Next 1500 Kilowatt Hours	@ 1.6c
All over 2500 Kilowatt Hours	@ 1.4c



NEILL HONORED BY BANK — B. S. Neill, left, executive vice-president of First National Bank, was honored by the bank Saturday night on the silver anniversary of his joining First National Bank. Louis Brooks, right, is congratulating Mr. Neill after presenting him a sterling silver service.

Mr. Brooks, of Charlotte, is president of the North Carolina Bankers' association. The presentation was a surprise to Mr. Neill and was made at First National's annual employee Christmas party. (Photo by Pennington Studio.)

Neill Is Honored By First National

Neil Joined First National 25 Years Ago

Buren Shuford Neill, executive vice-president of First National Bank, was honored by the bank and its employees Saturday night on the 25th anniversary of Mr. Neill's joining the Kings Mountain bank.

The occasion was the annual First National Christmas party, held at the Kings Mountain Country Club, and the homage to Mr. Neill, who joined First National on December 15, 1931, included a surprise testimonial and a handsome gift.

Louis Brooks, of Charlotte, executive vice-president of Union National Bank and president of the North Carolina Bankers' association, made the brief testimonial speech and presented Mr. Neill a sterling silver service, gift of the bank.

Mr. Neill and his wife obviously were completely surprised at the turn of events. Mr. Neill could only remark, "I'm too full to say anything."

Normally, he could have been referring to the sumptuous holiday-season dinner, but his attitude indicated otherwise.

Present for the dinner were all employees of the bank, their wives and husbands, directors and their wives, Mr. and Mrs. Brooks and Mr. and Mrs. Martin Harmon.

The format was that of the customary First National Christmas party, with handsome favors and gifts for the ladies, cigars for the men, and a huge Christmas dinner. President Summers noted that the party would not be featured by long speeches but recognized Mayor Glee A. Bridges, a bank director, to take the rostrum. The invited mayor recognized guests and presented Mr. Brooks, the Bankers' association president, a mammoth key to the city. Mr. Brooks used his "thank you" as a springboard into his testimonial to Mr. Neill for his 25 years here. The silver service was concealed under the table, well-hidden by the copious tablecloth.

Mr. Neill is a native of Iredell county. He attended school at Oxford orphanage, then became a hotel clerk at Hickory, where he married the former Elizabeth

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Retailers Set Later Weekend Closing Hours

Kings Mountain retailers will be open later than usual Friday, Saturday and Monday to accommodate last-minute Christmas shoppers.

The merchants will observe Saturday hours on both Friday and Monday, as well as Saturday.

This means most stores will be open until 6:30 or 7 o'clock, with grocers remaining open slightly later.

Merchants reported brisk sales this week and last weekend.

While some reported shortages in a few items, majority of the merchants said their stocks are still complete in both variety of style and size and numerous merchants said their stocks are minute arrivals via parcel post, express, and motor freight.

Payments of Christmas bonuses by several industrial firms was expected to put a last-minute spur to Christmas season shopping here.

Majority of the merchants will take a two-day holiday for Christmas, both Christmas Day and December 26. They will re-open on regular schedule December 27. Majority of the merchants will also observe New Year's Day as a holiday. The same schedule will be followed by the city's dry cleaning and laundry industry. Fleete McCurdy, of McCurdy Cleaning-Laundry announced.

MOOSE MEETING

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



MEDICAL CHIEF — Dr. P. G. Padgett, Kings Mountain physician, has been elected chief of the medical staff of Kings Mountain hospital. He succeeds Dr. W. L. Ramsey.

Padgett Named Medical Chief

Dr. Phillip G. Padgett was elected chief of the medical staff of Kings Mountain hospital at a dinner meeting Monday. He succeeds Dr. W. L. Ramsey.

Dr. John C. McGill was elected to succeed Dr. Paul E. Hendricks as assistant chief of staff and Dr. Kenneth McGill was re-elected secretary-treasurer.

Attending the session in addition were:

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Escapee James Woods Is Captured After Drawing Pistol On Officers

A 17-year-old Kings Mountain prison camp escapee threatened city officers with a pistol here Monday night when he was recaptured at his home, police say.

James Woods reportedly pulled a gun on Sgt. B. P. Cooke and Officer Paul Saunders when they apprehended the young escapee at his home on Phillips Drive.

Woods had escaped from a Newton Prison Camp earlier. He was serving a term for breaking and entering and larceny in connection with a break-in of Keeter's Department Store here last summer.

Chief Hugh A. Logan, Jr. reported that Cooke and Saunders went to the Woods' home on a "tip." The officers spied the fugitive through a window and when they knocked he ran into a room and turned the lights out. When the policemen entered

Several Firms Are Planning Gifts, Bonuses

Holidays and holiday bonuses and gifts are in store for most of Kings Mountain's citizens next week.

Local textile and other manufacturing firms announced that holiday schedules will range from two days to a full week.

A good portion of the plants are paying Christmas bonuses, and others are giving their employees gifts of hams, blankets, turkeys and fruit.

Mauney Mills will stop work Saturday, December 22 and will resume operations on December 31. Bonuses of two and four percent of earnings will be paid, with persons employed five or more years getting the four percent.

Kings Mountain Manufacturing Co. announced plans to stop work on Thursday, December 20 until December 26. A bonus of three percent will be paid employees on the last six months' earnings.

Footo Mineral Company will cease operations Friday and will re-open its plant on Wednesday, December 26. A few workers will maintain a skeleton work crew during this period. Bonuses of \$20, \$10 and \$5 will be paid, depending upon length of service.

Mauney Hosiery Co. will stop off on Friday, December 21, and will start work again on December 31. Bonuses of two and four percent will be paid employees.

Burlington Mills' Phenix plant will shut down on Saturday and will re-open operations on Wednesday, December 26. All employees have received \$15 bonuses as is the firm's custom of past years.

Craftspun Yarns, Inc., employees will begin their holidays December 22, and will return to work on December 27. The company announced that all workers will receive one day's pay as a bonus.

Park Yarn Mills will close December 22 and employees will return to work on December 30 beginning with the third shift.

Bonnie Mills will halt operations on December 22 and will return to work on December 31. Bonus plans were not ready for announcement Wednesday, company officials said.

Lambeth Rope Corporation will stand idle only two days, December 24 and 25. Part of the firm's employees will return Wednesday, December 26, with full operations beginning with the third shift on that night. Gifts will again be given employees by the company.

Slater Brothers will close at 7 a. m. on Friday and will resume operations at 7 a. m. December 31. Employees will be given turkeys, a company spokesman said.

Neisler Division of Massachusetts Mohair Plush Company plants will halt operations on Saturday and will return to work on Wednesday, December 26.

Lithium Corporation of America's Bessemer City plant will halt its operations at midnight Saturday night and will stand

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Fog Caught Eldon's Plane, Stacked It

Bill Eldon, of Foote Mineral Company, left Philadelphia last Saturday morning by plane on a scheduled three hour flight which should have put him on the landing at Charlotte airports, as the fog refused to lift.

But the weatherman had dictated fog for the day, and the result was that the plane got "stacked" over Charlotte, along with another batch of transports, as the fog refused to lift. Eldon's plane subsequently headed for Atlanta, found the weather no better there, then pointed toward Jacksonville.

But Atlanta airport cleared and the pilot finally sat the plane down at 1:45 p. m. Mrs. Eldon and their four children arrived home at 1:45 Sunday morning.

But there is some question who "worked" the harder, Passenger Eldon or Mrs. Eldon. Mrs. Eldon and their four children were meeting the passenger at Charlotte Airport. Questions to the Charlotte Terminal folk brought no help at all. It all depended on the weatherman, and he never cooperated.

Local News Bulletins

BUILDING PERMITS

Two permits were issued this week by Building Inspector J. W. Webster. Thursday, December 13, a permit was issued to Kelly Dixon to erect a house on W. Ridge street, at an estimated cost of \$3,500. Wednesday, December 12, a permit was issued to Charles Alexander to erect a house on Henry street, at an estimated cost of \$10,000.

DIXON PROGRAM

Dixon Presbyterian church has scheduled two Christmas programs, on Saturday night and Sunday afternoon at the church. A one-act play will be presented at 7 p. m. Saturday night. A candle-lighting service to feature scripture and familiar carols will be held at 3:45 p. m. on Sunday.

KIWANIS SESSION

The Kings Mountain Kiwanis club will hold its regular meeting on Thursday night at the Woman's Club at 6:45. No formal program has been scheduled, with the meeting to be devoted to the club's annual Christmas charity project.

OFFICES CLOSING

Driving license offices will be closed Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of next week, according to an official report. The offices will be open in Kings Mountain on Thursday and Friday as scheduled.

CITY HOLIDAYS

Business offices and tax office at City Hall will be closed on Christmas Eve and on Christmas Day and will re-open for business Wednesday, December 26. These offices will also be closed on New Year's day, it was announced.

AT SON'S HOME

Harvey Roberts is recuperating at his son's home on Grover Road from an operation he underwent recently at Charlotte Memorial Hospital. Mr. and Mrs. Roberts are at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Roberts.

Next Herald Out On December 24th

The next edition of the Kings Mountain Herald will appear under date of Monday, December 24.

It will be the traditional "Christmas" issue, customarily advanced in publishing schedule to appear the day prior to Christmas. The Herald will appear on newsstands Sunday evening.

It will contain, in addition to the regular content of up-to-the-minute news, social and sports events, Christmas feature material, greetings from merchants and other features.

Both merchants and citizens seeking news coverage should observe these deadlines:

Advertising at 2 p. m. Saturday.

Social and sports news at 10 a. m. Sunday.

Other news events at 2 p. m. Sunday.

The Herald will suspend operations for Christmas holidays Monday at noon and will resume operations Monday morning, December 31. The December 24 edition will be the last one of 1956. The next edition will appear January 3.

Methodist Choir To Sing Cantata

Choir To Sing Handel Work Sunday At 5

The choir of Central Methodist church will sing Handel's "Messiah" Sunday afternoon at 5 o'clock.

Soloists will be Mrs. Sue Dixon, soprano; Miss Margaret McLarty, soprano; Mrs. Alice Thompson, of Gastonia, alto; Earl Marlowe, Jr., and E. S. Peeler, Jr., baritone, and Albert Hewitt of Marion, tenor.

Miss Bonnie McIntosh is choir director and organist.

Handel wrote the "Messiah" more than 200 years ago. Since its introduction it has been a traditional Christmas oratorio. On occasion of the work's bi-centennial in 1952, Critic Rafael Kammerer remarked, "In the 200 years . . . since 'Messiah' first brought tears to the eyes of its creator and filled him with the vision of Heaven and the 'great God Himself,' it has moved and thrilled more music lovers perhaps than any other choral work in the repertoire of choral societies, church or secular."

Members of the 29-voice choir are:

Sopranos — Mrs. Barbara Allen, Mrs. Joan Cross, Mrs. Sue Dixon, Miss Winifred Fulton, Miss Jean Hicks, Miss Dorothy Goforth, Miss Ann McCluney, Miss Mary Alice McDaniel, and Miss Margaret McLarty.

Altos — Miss Linda Biser, Miss Shirley Falls, Miss Norma Kay Hamrick, Mrs. J. N. McClure, Miss Mildred McDaniel, Mrs. Y. F. Throneburg, and Mrs. Alice Thompson.

Tenors — Jacob Dixon, Albert Hewitt, Reginald Murray, and Arthur Walker.

Basses — Bill Allen, Gary Allran, John Cross, I. Ben Goforth, Jr., Earl Marlowe, Jr., Buddy Mayes, Rev. James McLarty, B. S. Peeler, Jr., and John Warlick.

LIONS MEET FRIDAY

Members of the Kings Mountain Lions club will meet Friday night at 7 o'clock at the Kings Mountain Woman's Club to have dinner, then distribute Christmas baskets to blind families of the area. The meeting will replace the regular meeting, which, on regular schedule, would be held Christmas night.

Postal Peak Recorded On Monday; 28 Persons Kept Busy Moving Mail

Kings Mountain post office has good news for late mailers.

Traffic, Wednesday morning though still brisk, was on the "downbeat" Assistant Postmaster George Hord said in reporting cancellation figures on outgoing mail for the Christmas rush season.

"I can't say whether the big rush is over for sure, but it's on the downbeat this morning," Mr. Hord commented.

Cancellation comparisons for Monday and Tuesday bore out Mr. Hord's statement. Monday was peak day for out-going mail, as postal clerks cancelled stamps of 23,825 pieces of mail. Tuesday's total was off slightly at 23,566.

The Kings Mountain post-office was keeping abreast of its work, as nine extra employees aided the regular staff of 19 in handling the big volume of parcels, Christmas greeting cards and regular mail.

Extras included Delvin Huff-



ELECTED — Dr. Paul E. Hendricks, Kings Mountain physician, was elected president of the Cleveland County Medical society at its recent quarterly meeting. Dr. Hendricks will assume office in January.

County Doctors Elect Hendricks

Dr. Paul E. Hendricks, of Kings Mountain, has been elected president of the Cleveland County Medical society for the coming year.

Dr. Hendricks, who was elected at the recent quarterly dinner meeting of the society held at Cleveland Country Club, will succeed Dr. S. F. Parker, of Shelby.

The medical group elected Dr. Charles Padgett, of Shelby, vice-president, to succeed Dr. C. M. McMurray, also of Shelby. Dr. Avery W. McMurray, of Shelby, was re-elected secretary-treasurer.

The newly elected officers will assume office at the January meeting of the organization.

Dr. Hendricks, a Kings Mountain general practitioner, is a graduate of Wake Forest college and Bowman-Gray School of Medicine. He served as a medical officer in the army before resuming practice here. He is senior partner of the the Hendricks-Nolan Clinic here.

stetler, George Hord, Jr., Carl Cole, Guy Fisher, Harold Pearson and Robert Hullender, in addition to the regular substitutes for the three rural carriers, who are Edwin Moore, Marshall Van Dyke and Gettys Seism.

Parcel post was moved swiftly as the post office kept two trucks moving at top speed Monday and Tuesday. This was a boom to special orders for customers.

As has been previously announced by Postmaster C. L. Alexander, the post office will provide window service until 6 p. m. Saturday. Customarily, the post office windows close at noon on Saturdays.

According to cancellation figures the postal rush actually began last Thursday, on December 13. From regular cancellations of 6,000-plus on the three previous days, items of out-going mail increased to 9,180.

On Friday the total was 11,086, on Saturday it was 12,001, with another 2,142 on Sunday.