

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 69 No. 11

Established 1889

Kings Mountain, N. C., Thursday, March 13, 1958

Sixty-Ninth Year

PRICE TEN CENTS

Florence Bomb Blast Cause Local Folk To Ponder "If's"

BY MARTIN HARMON
Every citizen in Kings Mountain and surrounding area would have been in serious and near-immediate danger Tuesday afternoon subsequent to 4 o'clock if
1) The bomb which was accidentally released by a plane over Florence, S. C., had been armed with an atomic warhead; and
2) If the winds had been coming from the southeast.
Harold Hunnicutt, assistant director of civil defense for Kings Mountain, noted that prevailing winds here are southeasterly.
Mr. Hunnicutt said a check shows that Florence is 115 air miles southeast of Kings Mountain — which, had the blast which injured five persons and damaged atomic blasts is fast commu-

two buildings, been atomic — would have released radiation which would have reached Kings Mountain in about 90 minutes.
"In other words," Mr. Hunnicutt said, "had the blast been atomic and the prevailing winds bringing the radiation fall-out toward Kings Mountain, this area would have had about 90 minutes to evacuate the area. Those who didn't get out and far enough away in time would have faced death."
Could the evacuation been brought off in time?
"No," was Mr. Hunnicutt's answer.
He guessed that perhaps half of the citizens would have been evacuated in time.
About the only defense against

tions. Mr. Hunnicutt said a warning would have been received within three to four minutes, with a report on prevailing winds and instructions on whether evacuees should move north, east, or west.
He pointed out that no instruments are owned, here or in Cleveland County, which measure radiation in the atmosphere.
"It's hardly a happy thought," Mr. Hunnicutt continued.
A jet plane, flying over Florence, accidentally released a bomb Tuesday afternoon. It was not armed with its atomic warhead.
But the force of impact detonated its component of dynamite (TNT) which, in atomic bombs, is used merely to trigger the atomic blast.

Baptist Deacons Take No Action On Compromise

The board of deacons of First Baptist met in special session for two hours Monday night but took no formal action on the offer of the church minority group to compromise the issue on building of a new church on a new site.
Yates Harbison, chairman of the board of deacons, said the group reasoned that the temporary injunction against sale of any church real property or disposal of building fund assets, precluded any by the board of deacons, or, for that matter, of the church.
The restraining order is in force until March 24, when hearing on making the order permanent is to be resumed before Judge Dan K. Moore, of Sylva, in Cleveland Superior Court.
Mr. Harbison said discussion took several different tacks at Monday night's session, among them:
1) A willingness of some deacons to consider compromising the issue if the dissident group would quash their two court actions.
2) A willingness of some deacons, provided the legal actions are quashed, to return to the church for a vote on the original issue, if major elements of the dissident group agreed to honor the result.
3) Possibility of conducting an informational poll of church members to determine their attitude on the basic question of compromise and/or on the terms already offered by the dissident group.
"Frankly," Mr. Harbison commented, "when legal actions are involved, it becomes difficult for a layman, including me, to understand the many complications and ramifications."
The next regularly scheduled meeting of the deacons is on the night of March 19.
The dissident group has offered to compromise the issue on this basis: the dissident group would retain the present church plant property at W. Mountain and S. Piedmont avenues and the majority would take all other church property including property on Cherokee street, the new site at W. King and Sims streets, the N. Gaston avenue parsonage and the building fund of more than \$80,000.

Jobless Pay Claims Decline; Further Drop Is Anticipated

Political Sap Slow To Rise; Filing Deadline Is April 19



Rollins Files; Basil Whitener Posts His Fee

Though majority of county offices are to be filled in this year's off-year elections, spring Democratic primary activity remained slow this week, only a little more than a month away from the filing deadline.
Only incumbents had yet offered for county or district offices.
Congressman Basil L. Whitener posted his 11th Congressional district filing fee with the state board of elections on Tuesday, serving notice that he seeks re-nomination and re-election to a second two-year term in Washington.
Also this week Fitzhugh L. Rollins, chairman of the board of county commissioners, posted his filing fee for re-nomination. He is the only incumbent commissioner who has yet filed, though all the incumbents, including Knox Sarratt, Carl P. Finger, John White, and Mal Spangler, Sr., are expected to seek to continue in office for two more years.
Solicitor B. T. Falls, Jr., has filed for nomination as district solicitor, a position he now holds via appointment, and Senator Robert Morgan, also of Shelby, has filed for re-nomination to the North Carolina Senate.
The five members of the county board of education have either filed for re-nomination or have indicated they will. These are Walter Davis, B. Austell, Edwin Moore, C. C. Forney, Jr., and W. H. Lutz.
Still producing little activity is the vacancy in the county's seat to the state House of Representatives. Haywood E. Lynch, of Kings Mountain, and Hugh Wells, of Shelby, have indicated they will seek the Democratic nomination. Another name added to the speculation on possible candidacies for the house seat is Jack Palmer, Shelby mortician.
Other offices to be filled are county coroner, clerk of court, judge of recorder's court, solicitor of recorder's court and sheriff, all four-year terms, and county treasurer, county surveyor, township constables and magistrates, all for two-year terms. All the offices are held by Democrats.
County Elections Board Chairman Joe Mull said Wednesday the law specifies that the deadline for filing for county offices is noon Saturday, April 19.
The primary voting will be conducted on May 31.
Customarily there is little activity among the Republican party in spring primaries. Should contests develop for GOP nominations, both Democratic and Republican primaries would be conducted.

Better Weather Puts Builders Back To Work

Unemployment pay claims in Kings Mountain dropped last week in Kings Mountain from 573 to 488 and the figure is expected to drop again this week.
Franklin Ware, manager of the Kings Mountain branch of the North Carolina Employment service, said the improvement in weather conditions had resulted in return-to-work calls for many persons partially laid off by firms in several types of construction industry.
Otherwise, the labor picture here was little changed.
On the bright side, Franklin Harry, of Minette Mills, Grover, said last week his firm was operating at about 85 per cent of capacity, and Slater Mills resumed some operations last Friday after a week's shutdown. Meantime, Phenix Plant of Burlington Mills resumed a five-day work week after a short span of four-day work weeks. R. B. Payne, personnel manager, said the curtailment was due to a company order to reduce warehouse inventories.
On the other side of the ledger, Craftsman Yarns, Inc., has suspended its third shift operation and several Kings Mountain citizens were among those laid off by Firestone Textiles, of Gastonia. Mr. Ware estimated this number at 15.
Commenting on a statement from Raleigh on exhaustion of unemployment benefits, Mr. Ware said only a small number of Kings Mountain area citizens is among the more than 3,000 North Carolinians in this dilemma. He said Raleigh records are more accurate than those kept in the local office, but guessed the number at not more than 15.



POST FILING FEE — Basil L. Whitener, 11th district Congressman, seeks Democratic re-nomination to the federal House of Representatives. He posted his filing fee this week.

Welfare Branch To Be Discussed

Jack Hoyle, county welfare superintendent, will confer with a State Board of Public Welfare official in Raleigh Thursday on plans to set up a Cleveland County welfare branch office in Kings Mountain.
Mr. Hoyle said Wednesday he had been invited to discuss the matter with R. Eugene Brown, director of public assistance of the State Board of Public Welfare.
Mr. Hoyle and Clerk of Court J. W. Osborne will be in Raleigh Thursday and Friday for a meeting on juvenile court problems and operations. Mr. Osborne is ex officio judge of juvenile court. County commissioners have indicated they will approve setting up of a welfare branch office here and funds, provided on a county-state-federal share basis, appear to be sufficient.
Mr. Hoyle has estimated cost of a branch office here at \$3,500 for the first year and \$2,500 thereafter.
Other offices to be filled are county coroner, clerk of court, judge of recorder's court, solicitor of recorder's court and sheriff, all four-year terms, and county treasurer, county surveyor, township constables and magistrates, all for two-year terms. All the offices are held by Democrats.
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Red Cross Drive Now Underway

Incomplete reports indicate the Red Cross fund campaign in Kings Mountain is "going very well", Paul Walker, chapter fund appeal chairman, said Wednesday.
Kings Mountain area citizens are being asked during the month of March to give \$5625 to the American Red Cross, and canvassing of the community is being completed by volunteer workers.
Mr. Walker invited citizens who have pledged donations to report them as soon as possible and asked persons who have not donated to contribute via the numerous campaign workers or at campaign headquarters located in the Haywood E. Lynch building between Baird Furniture company and Helen's Beauty Shop. The office is open daily, Monday through Saturday, from 1 to 5 p. m.
On the local scene, Mr. Walker pointed out that the Red Cross handles numerous services for area citizens, emergency relief, as a liaison agent between citizens and the armed forces, and in numerous other ways.
"We urge all citizens to give in order that Kings Mountain can meet the goal, monies badly needed to further the work of this service organization", Mr. Walker added.

Eight Will Play In Piano Contests

Eight Kings Mountain area students will go to Salisbury Friday to compete in district piano contests at Catawba college.
Playing in the junior division will be Vinnelle Phillips, Sara Hendricks, Linda Walker, Pattie Howard, Sarah Lennon and Robert Plonk, all city schools students.
Playing in the senior division will be Jerry Patterson, Bethware high school, and Jim Plonk, Central high school.
Vinnelle Phillips is a pupil of Mrs. Musa Marto. The other students are pupils of Mrs. Martin Harmon.

Annual Merchants Banquet Monday; Morgan Speaker At Retailer Event

State Senator Robert Morgan, of Shelby, will make an address and install new officers of the Kings Mountain Merchants association at the annual employer-employee banquet to be held Monday night at the Woman's Club.
Senator Morgan's address will highlight an entertainment program which will also include slight-of-hand and music.
Alfred B. Boyles, executive vice-president of the Denoir Chamber of Commerce, will bring his magician's art to the merchants' stage and Brenda Ann Sweazy, of Shelby, will perform on the accordion and render vocal numbers.
Mrs. Elaine Queen, association secretary, said advance ticket sales have reached the 100-mark and she anticipates an audience of at least 150.
Merchants will provide gifts for the ladies and the banquet will be held at 7 o'clock.
Reports will be heard from Bruce Thorburn, president; Sam Stallings, secretary and George Thomason, treasurer.
The following committee chairmen will report on the past year's activities: Joe A. Neisler, greens; George W. Mauney, membership; J. E. Rhea and Ollie Harris, house; Bruce McDaniel and W. S. Fulton, Jr., social.
John C. Smathers, chairman will make the nominating committee report.
Stockholders who find they will be unable to attend are being requested to authorize another member to vote his proxy.
(Continued On Page Eight)



SPEAKER-Senator Robert Morgan of Shelby, will be the principal speaker and will install new officers at the annual banquet of the Kings Mountain Merchants association Monday night.

Rabies Clinic Set Saturday

Dr. Jacob P. Mauney, veterinarian, has announced the schedule for the initial rabies clinic in the area Saturday, March 15.
The clinic is under direction of the Cleveland County Health department and will maintain the following schedule:
Baity's Grocery, off US 74, 9 a. m. to 9:30.
Claude Harmon's Store, Midway, 9:30 to 10 a. m.
G. A. Lail Grocery (Bethlehem Section) 10 to 10:30 a. m.
Cash Service Station, Shelby a road, 10:30 to 11 a. m.
Bethware School, 11 to 11:30 a. m.
Stowe's West End Grocery, 11:30 to 12 noon.
Blalock's Park-In, Shelby road, 12 to 12:30.
City Hall, Kings Mountain, 1 to 2 o'clock p. m.

Local News Bulletins

BETTER
Mrs. C. E. Neisler continues to improve at Kings Mountain hospital after an illness of pneumonia.

HOSPITALIZED
Grady Yelton, city superintendent of public works, is a patient at Kings Mountain hospital where he is receiving treatment for a leg ailment.

DISCUSSION LEADER
"Is Military Service An Answer For Defense?" is the topic in which Steve Kesler will lead a discussion group at the western North Carolina National Honor Society convention at Wingate college March 28-30.

TYPING COURSE
Adults interested in taking a typing course at the local high school and those who have already signed up for the course are asked to meet with Mrs. Grady Howard, high school teacher, at Central school typing classroom Monday at 4 p. m. for a planning session.

P-TA SPEAKER
Norman Prevatte, of WBTV, Charlotte, will address members of the West school P-TA at the regular meeting of the group Thursday, March 20th, at 3 o'clock in the school auditorium. He will speak on the topic, "Your Child and Television."

ARP SPEAKER
Rev. O. Z. White, of Due West, S. C., will fill the pulpit at Boyce Memorial ARP church Sunday morning in the absence of the pastor, Dr. W. L. Pressly, who is preaching in Lancaster, S. C.

STUDENT TEACHER
Tommy Keeter, of Grover, is doing his practice teaching in the commercial department of Kings Mountain high school. Mr. Keeter attended Appalachian State Teachers college, Boone.

ASSUMES POSITION
Mrs. Maybelle Gordon, wife of Ervin Gordon, has joined the staff of Sudie's Beauty Shop. Mrs. Gordon assumes her new duties Thursday.

MASONIC MEETING
An emergent communication of Fairview Lodge 339 AF&AM for work in the third degree will be held Monday night at 7:30 p. m. at Masonic Hall, according to T. D. Tindall, secretary.

TO RALEIGH
Mrs. Wanza Y. Davis, City Schools Supt. B. N. Barnes, and Central School Principal Lawson Brown will attend the state meeting of the Association of Educational Secretaries in session in Raleigh during the weekend. Both Mr. Brown and Mr. Barnes will appear on the program. Mrs. Davis will attend the three-day meeting beginning Thursday.

JAYCEE SERVICE
Get your auto accessories marked for free by the Jaycees Saturday, one through five o'clock p. m. in the city parking lot behind city hall. Members of the club will mark state tag numbers on accessories, with non-marring vibrator tools furnished by Esso Standard Oil. The project is intended to cut down vandalism of auto accessories.
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Blood Collection Totals 191 Pints

Community Exceeds Quota By 41 Pints

Kings Mountain citizens turned out in force Tuesday evening to donate 191 pints of blood-41 pints over the goal-to the Red Cross.
It was the second highest Kings Mountain collection on record. Only on September 6, 1954, when Kings Mountain citizens gave 345 pints of blood, has a one-day visit of the Bloodmobile been more productive. The 1954 visit was against a background of a threat of area Red Cross to withdraw Kings Mountain from its blood program.
Rev. R. Douglas Fritz, chairman of the blood program here, expressed much pleasure at the Tuesday result and said it exceeded his expectations.
He gave particular praise to Otis D. Green Post 155, American Legion, which co-sponsored the collection, to industrial employees for their participation, and to individuals who aided in blood donor recruitment.
He also stated appreciation to those persons who had used blood and made a commitment for its replacement. Of the total, 28 pints were furnished by donors volunteering to replace blood previously used by friends or kin.
Industrial group donation totals included: Mauney Hosiery Company, 22 pints; Sadie Cotton Mill, 23 pints; Foote Mineral Company, 16 pints; Phenix Plant of Burlington Industries, ten pints; Lithium Corporation of America, 18 pints; Park Yarn Mills, two pints; Mauney Mills, Inc., four pints; Lambeth Rope Corporation, two pints; Pauline plant, Massachusetts Mohair Plush Company, one pint; Craftsman Yarns, Inc., three pints; and Margrace plant, Massachusetts Mohair Plush Company, 12 pints.
The citizens who gave 191 pints of blood Tuesday are:
James B. Scism, Paul D. Whitely, Charles A. Butterworth, Jr., Gene Junior Short, Dr. Nathan H. Reed, Bobby G. Moore, Lemuel E. Deese, Jr., Raymond H. Cox, Darvin Moss, Mrs. S. K. Patter-

Building Business Is On The Boom

Building in Kings Mountain is on the upsurge with the coming of spring, according to City Inspector J. W. Webster's records on building permits at City Hall.
Four permits have been issued during the past week.
One permit was issued Thursday to J. Wilson Crawford to build a one story frame house on Rhodes avenue between Linwood and Jackson street as a residence. Estimated cost of the 5-room structure is \$9,000.
A permit issued to T. F. Bridges Thursday was to build two one story brick veneer houses on Cleveland avenue between Linwood road and Jackson street to be used as residences. Estimated cost of each 5-room structure is \$7,500.
Webster issued a permit last Monday to S. E. Heavner to add a room to his home on Walker Street. Estimated cost is \$700.
A permit issued Monday to J. Wilson Crawford was to build a one story brick and weather beard house on Monroe avenue between Henry street and Woodside Drive. Estimated cost of the 5-room house is \$9,500.

City Auto Tag Supply Exhausted
The city has posted a "temporarily sold out" sign over its city auto license window in the police department.
The supply of 1400 city auto tags has been exhausted and a rush order for another 275 license tags hasn't yet been received from the manufacturer, City Clerk Joe McDaniel reported.
Until the new tags arrive (they're expected soon), the city is recording names of those who seek to buy them and will notify these car owners.
Mr. McDaniel said a new record has been set for auto tag sale.

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COURT OF HONOR

Regular March Court of Honor for Kings Mountain Boy Scouts will be held Thursday night at 7:15 at City Hall courtroom.

Another Industry Prospect Visits

Officials of Kings Mountain Business Development, Inc., talked to yet another new industry prospect Tuesday.
J. Wilson Crawford, president, said a New York industrialist conversed with several officers of the industry expansion firm and was taken on a tour of the community.
The industrialist said he definitely expected to locate in the South, would require a building of 50,000 to 60,000 square feet of floor space, and was seeing other Carolinas communities during his current visit, President Crawford reported.
Mr. Crawford also reported that cost estimates are being obtained on a building of 10,000-plus feet which may house an 80-employee knitting industry.

Ward's Accounts To Be Auctioned

J. Wilson Crawford and C. B. Cash, Jr., co-receivers of Ward's Feed and Seed Store, Inc., announced today public auction of accounts due the corporation, scheduled for 10:00 a. m. Saturday, March 22, at City Hall.
The accounts, totaling \$28,026.66, will be sold for cash, either separately or as a whole, under power of sale contained in an order made by P. C. Fronberger, Resident Judge of the Twenty-Seventh Judicial District.
Accounts, as shown on the books of Ward's Feed and Seed Store, Inc. now due, are listed in a legal notice on page 8 of Section B in this issue of the Herald.

Jaycees Plan Band Benefit

Kings Mountain Junior Chamber of Commerce will produce a local talent minstrel May 2 and 3 for benefit of the Kings Mountain city schools band.
All profits from the show will benefit the band, Charles E. Dixon, Jaycee spokesman, said Wednesday.
It will be the first Jaycee Minstrel in four years.
D. D. (Salty) Saunders will serve as chairman of the project.
Advance ticket sale will begin soon, Mr. Dixon added.

Farmers To Be Guests Of Kiwanis Thursday Night; Ray On Rostrum

Kings Mountain Kiwanians will honor over 100 area farmers at the civic club's Farmer's Night event Thursday night at 6:45 at the Woman's Club.
Principal speaker for the gathering and regular meeting of the club will be Lex L. Ray, assistant to the chancellor and director of foundations at North Carolina State college.
"We are inviting all area farmers to join us in this meeting", Dr. J. P. Mauney, chairman of the Farmer's Night committee said. Other members of the committee are Charles Neisler, J. E. Herndon, J. B. Keeter, and I. B. Goforth.
Mr. Ray, a 1932 graduate of State college, was executive vice-president of the North Carolina Dairy Products association from November 1944 until he became director of foundations at the Raleigh institution in June 1950. Prior to his connection with the association he taught vocational



KIWANIS SPEAKER—Lex L. Ray, of Raleigh, will address over 100 area farmers and Kiwanians at the annual farmer's night banquet Thursday of the Kiwanis Club.
(Continued on Page Eight)