

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.

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Seventieth Year

PRICE TEN CENTS

P-TA's Query City Fathers: Why No Fluoridated Water?

Board Is Urged To Implement '57 Vote Result

By MARTIN HARMON

City schools Parent-Teacher Association representatives took the city board of commissioners to task last week for not implementing the 1957 informational referendum instructing the city to fluoridate its water supply.

Appearing for the P-TA's at the March 11 commission session were Mrs. John C. McGill, who acted as spokesman, Mrs. Kenneth McGill, Bruce Thorburn and Clavon Kelly.

A petition was presented to the commission signed by the several members of the P-TA health and welfare committees.

In 1957, citizens voted 1193 to 576 in favor of fluoridating the city's water supply, said by proponents to prevent tooth cavities, particularly in children.

The 1957 referendum was "informational" in that it was not authorized by the General Assembly. The administration has not fluoridated the city's water supply.

Cost estimates on fluoridation in 1957 were \$4200 to \$5000 for the first year, and \$1800 to \$2000 in operating costs in subsequent years.

Mayor Pro Tempore Ben Bridges, presiding in the absence of Mayor Glee A. Bridges, suggested that a check be made, both on the results of the referendum and requirements for fluoridating water supply.

Comm. Boyce Gault said he had been told by Mayor Bridges that certain forms had to be filed by the community's doctors, and that this had not been done.

Mrs. John McGill replied, "I can't understand that. The medical staff unanimously supported fluoridation of the city's water supply."

City Clerk Joe McDaniel, on query, said he was sure the forms are in hand, as he had seen them, and Mr. Kelly remarked, "I think the point is to keep this matter out of the pigeonhole."

Mrs. McGill had previously (Continued on Page Eight)



SECRETAIRES GIVE AWARD — City Schools Supt. B. N. Barnes is pictured receiving from his secretary, Mrs. Wanza Y. Davis, the "Boss of the Year" award presented last weekend in Durham as a feature of the annual convention of the Department of Educational Secretaries of the North Carolina Education Association. Mrs. Davis was re-elected president of the organization.



SPEAKER — Dr. J. Owen Smith, of Spartanburg, S. C., will lead a week of special Holy Week services beginning Sunday night at Central Methodist church.

Methodists Set Special Series

Dr. J. Owen Smith, superintendent of the Spartanburg district of the Methodist church, will conduct Holy Week services beginning Sunday evening at Central Methodist church.

The week's services, to be held nightly at 7:30 p. m., will also include Maundy Thursday communion and special music by the church choir. Rev. J. B. McLarty, the pastor, will lead congregational singing, and the Women's Society of Christian Service will serve as hostesses for the fellowship hour to be held Sunday following the evening service.

Born at Johnson, S. C., Dr. Smith was graduated from Wofford college and Yale Divinity School. He subsequently received the honorary D. D. degree from Wofford in 1946 and did graduate work at Emory and Duke universities. From 1926-54 he served churches in Leesville, Clemson, Laurens, Columbia, Greenville, and Spartanburg, S. C.

Dr. Smith, who has served in numerous posts in the Methodist conference, was president of the Southeastern Jurisdictional Pastors' conference and was vice-chairman of the Superintendent's conference. He was an accredited visitor at the First Assembly of the World Council of Churches in Holland in 1948 and has also traveled extensively in the United States and Europe.

He and Mrs. Smith, the former Mildred Brown of Manning, S. C., have two married daughters.

Stores To Close On Easter Monday

Kings Mountain retail merchants will be open all day next Wednesday, Mrs. Luther Joy, association secretary reported this week.

Stores will be closed Easter Monday, as customary, in accordance with by-laws of the association.

Mrs. Jackson's Rites Conducted On Wednesday

Final rites for Mrs. Lelia Falls Jackson, 82, who died of a heart attack Tuesday morning, were held Wednesday afternoon at 4 p. m. from Boyce Memorial ARP Church, interment following in Mountain Rest cemetery.

Mrs. Jackson, widow of Thompson Jackson, had been in declining health the past several months. A Gaston County native, she was the daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. William Tracy Falls. Her husband died in 1930.

She was a charter member of Boyce Memorial ARP church. Mrs. Jackson lived here all her life. She was a granddaughter of the late Robert Falls, pioneer Kings Mountain citizen and donor of property on which Kings Mountain's first church, Kings Mountain ARP, was erected in 1876. Mr. Falls also gave two acres of land for a cemetery, a tract now a part of Mountain Rest cemetery.

She was the last surviving child of the William Tracy Falls family.

Surviving are four sons, B. P. Jackson, T. W. Jackson, and Howard B. Jackson, all of Kings Mountain, and W. C. Jackson of Lowell, two daughters, Miss Janie Jackson, Kings Mountain, and Mrs. John Hoyle Shelby; and two step-daughters, Mrs. M. S. Barnette, Charlotte, and Miss Lila Jackson of Clover, S. C. Fourteen grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren also survive.

The final rites were conducted by Dr. W. L. Pressly and Dr. Paul Ausley.

Palbearers were N. F. McGill, I. G. Patterson, M. A. Ware, Marriott D. Phifer, Don Crawford and John L. McGill.

Wow, Judge Says, Those Uniforms!

"Wow — how about those uniforms!"

This was the closing comment of Dr. Paul Bryan, the Duke University bandmaster, after he'd judged the Kings Mountain high school band at last Friday's district contest in Hickory.

The band came home with a rating of excellent (II), which qualifies the band for participation in the North Carolina high school band festival at Greensboro next month.

Dr. Bryan was in Kings Mountain last spring to conduct a band clinic. As a band association re-organization meeting he heard considerable discussion on the aged uniforms the band members were wearing.

Musically, Dr. Bryan wrote in his comments, the band had a good feeling of musicality, showed nice style in the march and had generally good tone.

Jaycees Planning Beauty Pageant

Interested in a beauty pageant here probably in June?

Kings Mountain Jaycees hope to sponsor a "Miss Kings Mountain" contest this summer if enough contestants show interest.

Unmarried girls — ages 18-28 — are eligible and are invited to contact Dr. Smith, contest chairman, at Phone No. 1790. Young ladies desiring to enter the contest should be 18 years old by September, Mr. Smith pointed out.

Theme of the eighth annual state meeting was "Better Listener-Better Secretary."

Meek Ormand, Sometime Trader, Joins Ranks Of Nonogenarians

By DAVID BAITY

Batie Meek Ormand, "Captain Meek" to Kings Mountain folk, celebrated his 90th birthday Wednesday, entering the ranks of the Kings Mountain nonogenarians.

Mr. Ormand is a retired railroad conductor. During his early life he has been a schoolteacher, a farmer, and he "used to trade around."

"Mule trading was my specialty," he recalls, "but the tractor ran me out of business."

Mr. Ormand was born March 18, 1869, in the Long Creek church community about four miles from Kings Mountain. He resides at 311 W. Mountain street in a house he bought in 1911. He recalls the house was about half finished when he bought it and cost about \$1200. He has seen local property values skyrocket to the place "you can hardly buy a nice lot for the same price."

Mr. Ormand was married to the former Miss Lillian Allison on December 30, 1896. They have been married 62 years.

The Ormands had four children, two daughters, Mrs. O. P. Lewis and Mrs. C. T. Carpenter; and two sons, Hugh and Lloyd. Lloyd succumbed last August. Nine grandchildren and 10

great-grandchildren complete the progeny.

"Captain Meek" remembers only one cotton mill and a few stores in Kings Mountain in his younger days. He also lived in Greenville, S. C. and Charlotte.

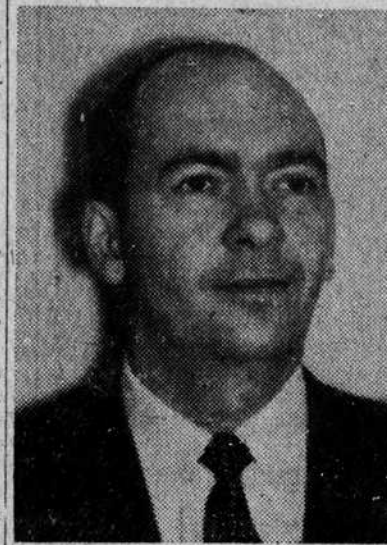
After teaching school at the age of 17, he started work with Southern Railway in the depot in 1889. He then served as flagman and finally in 1893 became a conductor on the Central, S. C., to Charlotte route, a 133-mile run.

The world has changed a lot since he was a youngster, he says, and he observed that "people just can't get along together now." "Let everybody mind his own business and the world would be a better place," he says.

Though he lived during the Spanish American War in 1898, World War I and World War II, Mr. Ormand says about world conditions, "I'm not much of a philosopher," he says. "I just read the papers."

He subscribes to three daily newspapers. He noted himself as a younger member of his family. "My brother, W. L. Ormand, in Bessemer City, celebrated his 92 birthday (Continued on Page Eight)

Ben Bridges, Blalock, Gault, Peeler Enter Political Arena



DRACE M. PEELER



BEN H. BRIDGES



BOYCE H. GAULT

Candidate List Now Totals 18 For Seven Posts

Four more candidates entered the city political arena during the past week.

Ben H. Bridges, mayor pro tempore and Ward 4 commissioner, filed Wednesday afternoon for re-election.

Charles E. Blalock, Kings Mountain grocer, filed Tuesday for Ward 5 commissioner.

Boyce H. Gault, incumbent Ward 2 commissioner and another Kings Mountain grocer, filed Monday for re-election.

Drace M. Peeler, lumber company president, filed Saturday for election to the city board of education.

If there was any surprise in the week's activity, it was Blalock's decision to seek a commission seat, rather than the mayor's chair.

Comm. Bridges' candidacy makes the Ward 4 contest a three-man affair. Other candidates are Paul W. Ledford, former commissioner, and J. Clyde Gladden.

Mr. Blalock's candidacy poses a three-man race in Ward 5, where R. Coleman Stroupe, the incumbent and Curtis V. Gaffney, had filed previously. Both Mr. Stroupe and Mr. Gaffney are N. Piedmont avenue barbers.

Mr. Gault became the first candidate for the Ward 2 seat he now holds.

Mr. Peeler's candidacy adds another three-person race. Mrs. F. A. (Pete) McDaniel, Jr., and Mrs. John L. McGill also seek the school position which J. R. Davis is vacating.

Eighteen candidates have now posted filing fees for the six offices at City Hall and the lone school board post.

Mayor Glee A. Bridges, seeking a fourth term, is being opposed by David L. Saunders, dry cleaner and laundryman, and by Garland E. Still, a former mayor.

In Ward I, Comm. Ross Alexander is being opposed by C. H. (Cat) Houser.

In Ward III, Comm. Luther T. Bennett, asking a second term, is being opposed by C. Glenn White, textile superintendent and T. J. (Tommy) Ellison, a grocer. Mr. Ellison has served four terms on the commission, while Mr. White is a former member of the board of education.

Mr. Peeler seeks public office for the first time. A Kiwanian, he is a member of Central Methodist church and president of his Sunday school class. He is president of Elmer Lumber Company and its subsidiary, Elco Industries. His wife is the former Louise Flowe. They have a son, Joseph Scott Peeler.

Mr. Blalock, veteran Kings Mountain grocer, lives at 511 W. Mountain street. He is a Woodman and a member of First Baptist church. His wife is the former Dorothy Miller. They have four children.

Mr. Gault is a member of First Baptist church and a Past Master of Fairview Lodge, A. F. & A. M. Mrs. Gault is the former Edith Bennett. They have two children.

Mr. Bridges, a Kings Mountain native, is a savings & loan association secretary. He is a member of St. Matthew's Lutheran church and secretary-treasurer of Kings Mountain Business Development, Inc.

Mr. Bridges made the following (Continued on Page Eight)

Bonding Business Can Get Twisty

Clarence Myers is the representative of Ernest Hayes in Mr. Hayes' sideline as a licensed bondsman.

Last week, Mr. Myers had a customer and was prepared to get him free of the City Hall jail.

Meantime, Policeman Warren Ellison was doubled up with poorly contained laughter. Finally, Officer Ellison had to suggest that Mr. Myers check the warrant.

The jailed one had been arrested on a bad check charge and the signer of the warrant was one Ernest Hayes.

Mr. Myers choked, grabbed the telephone and called his boss. It was O. K. with Mr. Hayes to get in deeper, but Mr. Myers couldn't stomach it. Another bondsman freed the guy.

Overflow Crowd At ARP 60th Anniversary Program

Pageant Shows Denomination's History, Tenets

By MARTIN HARMON

Boyce Memorial Associate Reformed Presbyterian church celebrated its 60th anniversary year Sunday with a two-service program and picnic dinner.

More than 300 persons attended the celebration and the church, erected in 1897-98, was filled to overflowing.

The morning service was a pageant "A Goodly Heritage," written and directed by Mrs. M. A. Ware, Sr. Her daughter, Mrs. Jean Ware LeGrand, now of Shelby, was narrator.

The pageant depicted both the history of the ARP denomination and of Boyce Memorial church.

Local History

Boyce Memorial ARP church was the successor to Kings Mountain ARP church which was the first church building erected in Kings Mountain (1876). The original frame structure stood at the southwest corner of what is now the 200 block of E. King street. It was erected at a cost of \$700. Lee Ramsey, father of Dr. W. L. Ramsey, built the present church structure at a cost of \$7,000.

There were 14 charter members. On Sunday all were living and seven attended the Sunday service. On Tuesday, Mrs. Lelia Jackson one of the 14, succumbed. She had not been able to attend the celebration. Charter members present for the celebration were Mrs. Avalona White McGill, Mrs. Minnie Ware Phifer, Miss Freelove Black, Robert (Bob) McGill, and M. L. Harmon, all of Kings Mountain, and Mrs. Mary Hicks Richardson and Mrs. Ida Ware Hambricht, both of Grover. Other charter members are Mrs. Elizabeth Spencer, Gastonia, Mrs. Blanche McGill Ross, Charlotte, Mrs. Sara Black Lamon, Chattanooga, Tenn., and Leo Beatty, T. P. McGill and F. Luther Ware, Sr., all of Kings Mountain.

The 1876 church was built to succeed Mt. Nebo church which divided to form the Kings Mountain church and Bethel church five miles north of Kings Mountain.

Mt. Nebo had been formed in 1855, a church child of Pisgah ARP church.

Particular attention was given in the service to the former ARP beliefs of strict adherence to singing Psalms without instrumental accompaniment. It was customary for a true-voiced member to lead the singing and his only aid was a tuning fork. Bright D. Ratterree served as song leader for non-instrumental congregational singing of "The Lord Is My Shepherd."

Pageant scenes depicted the trials and tribulations of the First church leaders, the entrance of the denomination into foreign mission work, the early activities of the women's organizations and the formation of Erskine College (1939) and the Female college (1859).

The Denomination

The pageant narration declared that the ARP label as "seced-

(Continued on Page Eight)



REVIVALIST — Rev. Demouth Blanton, Kings Mountain native, is conducting revival services this week at First Baptist church. The services will continue through Sunday night.

Blanton, Willie Lead Revival

Revival services are being held at 7:30 each evening this week in the First Baptist church with Rev. Demouth Blanton preaching. The services began Sunday. Music is directed by Norman Willie.

Rev. Blanton, a native of Kings Mountain, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Wiley Blanton. He is presently serving as associate pastor in the University Baptist church of Baltimore, Md.

Mr. Willie, who is married to the former Barbara Matthews of Kings Mountain, is a student at Limestone College, Gaffney, and is serving as minister of music and education in the Second Baptist church of Fort Mill, S. C.

J. L. McGill gave a resume of (Continued on Page Eight)

Board Reverses Field Too Late; Tenure Bill Will Be on Ballot

The city board of commissioners tried to delete the four-year term question from the May 12 ballot last week, but the effort was a few hours too late.

Comm. Luther T. Bennett made the deletion motion with the statement, "I've heard a lot of comment on it and I'd like to see it deleted from the ballot."

City Attorney J. R. Davis suggested that legislative enactment of the balloting permission would mean that the commission had no alternative and suggested further that the motion should be to instruct Cleveland County Representative Jack Palmer to kill the bill in the House of Representatives.

"It passed the Senate last week," Mr. Davis added.

The motion to instruct Rep. Palmer was passed 3-0 on Mr. Bennett's motion and Boyce Gault's second. Mayor Pro Tempore Ben Bridges was in the chair, due to Mayor Glee Bridges' absence and therefore didn't vote.

Comm. Coleman Stroupe voted "aye" and Comm. Ross Alexander abstained.

Mr. Alexander had previously commented, "Let 'em vote, I don't think anybody will be elected for four years."

Some four hours before the city commission met, Mayor Bridges, in Raleigh on industry-seeking business, had chanced into Rep. Palmer, Mayor Bridges reported on his return. After greetings, Rep. Palmer said, "By the way, Mr. Bridges, your bill passed this morning."

In spite of the city commission's efforts to reverse its field, citizens will vote on May 12 to determine whether they want their mayor and/or city commission elected for two or four-year terms.

The ballot will read:

	Yes	No
Mayor 4 years
Commissioners 4 years

It will be possible to name the mayor for four years and the commission for two, or vice versa. Should the voters decide to change the present biennial election system, their decision will be effective immediately.