

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's Reliable Newspaper

VOL 71 No. 2

Established 1889

Kings Mountain, N. C., Thursday, January 14, 1960

Seventy-First Year

PRICE TEN CENTS

Area School Merger Petition Now Being Circulated

Local News Bulletins

SUPPER DANCE
Cleveland County Life Saving Crew and American Legion Post 155 are sponsoring a supper-dance February 13th...

HOSPITALIZED
W. D. (Bill) Bennett underwent surgery for a kidney ailment Monday in Charlotte Memorial hospital...

P-TA MEETING
Central school Parent-Teacher Association will hold its regular meeting Wednesday afternoon in the school auditorium...

KIWANIS CLUB
Ralph G. Higgins, chemist at Fiber Industries near Earl and a newcomer to Kings Mountain...

MASONS
An emergent communication of Fairview Lodge 339 A&F&M for work in the first degree will be held Monday night at 7:30 at Masonic Hall...

ELECTED
Miss Barbara Gamble, Kings Mountain student at King's Business college and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Gamble...

HOT DOG SALE
Westover Baptist church will conduct a sale of hot dogs, cakes and pies on Saturday. The sale will begin at noon and continue to 8 p. m.

TAX REPORT AID
The Internal Revenue Office in Shelby will be open to assist taxpayers in the preparation of their federal income tax returns from 8:30 a. m. to 5:00 p. m. each Friday beginning January 22, until April 15.

METER RECEIPTS
Parking meter receipts for the two weeks ending at noon Wednesday totaled \$196.53, including \$173.88 from on-street meters and \$22.65 from Cherokee lot meters.

Honor Society Inducts Seven

The Kings Mountain high school chapter of the National Honor Society inducted seven new members Friday at the mid-year induction program held at the high school.

Inducted were these seniors: April Brown, Phil Mauney, Steve Powell, Gale Kircus, Joyce Childers, Barbara Lynn, and Bill Simpson.

Harry Jaynes, Central principal, presented membership cards to new members and Connie Padgett, secretary to the society, read the names of candidates. Nancy McClure, Connie Padgett, Jimmy Plonk, and Jimmy Blanton sang, "I Would Be True" as a feature of the program and Jimmy Plonk and Dianna Neal pointed out the requirements for membership and the significance of the emblem.

Dr. Harvey Bumgardner made the principal address on the theme, "Character," to members of the high school student body. Rose Malcolm closed the program after the new members had inscribed their names to the permanent scroll, lighted candles, and pledged membership in the chapter.



March Of Dimes Drive Underway

Ollie Harris Chairman; Goal Of Drive \$3000
Kings Mountain's quota for the annual March of Dimes campaign is \$3000, and J. Ollie Harris, chairman of the drive here, was busy this week completing his organization.

Carl Mauney Club President

Carl F. Mauney, of Kings Mountain, was elected president of Lake Montonia Club, Inc., at the annual stockholder's meeting Tuesday night. He succeeds F. A. Young, of Gastonia.

Mr. Mauney succeeds F. A. Young, of Gastonia. Other officers elected were Walter Carroll, Gastonia, vice-president; Jim Wilson, Jr., Gastonia, secretary-treasurer; and George H. Houser, Kings Mountain, assistant secretary-treasurer.

The new president was retiring vice-president and Mr. Houser succeeds Mr. Wilson, retiring assistant secretary-treasurer. Lawrence Patrick is retiring secretary-treasurer.

Two new directors were elected for three-year terms. George H. Mauney succeeds J. Pat Tignor, and Charles Pearson succeeds Walter Carroll. Holdover directors are: terms expiring in 1961, Bob Crockett and Dr. O. P. Lewis; terms expiring in 1962, L. Arnold Kiser and R. Lee Spencer.

Report of officers showed the club enjoyed a prosperous year. Out of gross income of \$5,329, the club spent \$1,835 for capital improvements and purchased \$1,000 in Kings Mountain Savings & Loan association shares, bringing the total of its equity to \$2,000.

Capital expenditures were made for swimming area improvements and purchase of a water cooler. The membership report at year-end showed 132 regular members, 27 child members, and 20 associate members.

Making committee reports were J. Pat Tignor, fishing, George H. Mauney, roads, and Bob Crockett, recreation. Mr. Mauney said the roads were in passable condition, but suggested some maintenance would be required during the coming year.

Six lot and stock transfers were recorded during 1959. The stockholders voted to retain present regular dues schedule of \$24 per year.

COURT OF HONOR
Kings Mountain Court of Honor for district Boy Scouts will be held Thursday night at 7:45 p. m. at Central Methodist church; it was announced this week.

Cut-Off Day For Utility Service No Fun For Anybody; Here's Why...

By MARTIN HARMON
Utility cut-off day for delinquent payment is an unpleasant one with the city electrical department.

There are many reasons, among them the fact the electrical men know that they'll be going back, likely the following day, to reverse the work and cut in service. Another is the fact that the electrical men are human, too, and don't like to inconvenience anyone.

But policy is policy, and city hall officials guess that this month's cut-off list of near 100 customers would jump to 300 quickly if a lax policy on payment is followed.

History shows this to be true. Other reasons are individual, as can be indicated by these samples Supt. Hunter Allen was reporting Wednesday:

Bank Promotes Hinnant; Herndon Is New Director

First National Bank enjoyed one of its best years in 1959 and looks forward to the future with confidence and expectancy, President E. S. Neill told stockholders at the annual meeting Tuesday.

R. S. Lennon, executive vice-president and cashier, commented on statistical reports in the bank's annual statement and stated that the bank's investment maturity schedule as well as its assets-loan ratio puts the bank in excellent position to handle loan demand, in contrast to some institutions reporting a very slight loan situation.

The stockholders, about 75 percent of them present either in person or by proxy, re-elected seven of the eight directors, including Dr. L. P. Baker, G. A. Bridges, R. S. Lennon, W. K. Mauney, B. S. Neill, P. M. Neisler, Sr., and Frank A. Summers. J. E. Herndon, Jr., was elected a director succeeding M. A. Ware.

Convening after the stockholder's meeting, the directors promoted L. E. (Josh) Hinnant to vice-president from assistant cashier. It was stated that Mr. Hinnant would be assigned additional duties principally in public relations.

Other officers were re-elected, including Mr. Neill, president; Mr. Lennon, executive vice-president and cashier; and Mrs. Helen R. Blanton, William G. Jones and Mrs. Louise C. Lybrand, assistant cashiers.

Report on 1959 operations showed the bank had operating earnings of \$148,487, paid taxes of \$10,527 out of total operating expenses of \$117,675, and showed a net profit of \$28,241, or \$2.82 per share of stock outstanding.

At year-end, loans totaled \$1,327,160, investments of \$2,088,550, and deposits of \$4,006,340. Total assets were \$4,444,045, up about \$300,000 from 1958. Meantime, capital, surplus and undivided profits increased over \$18,000 to \$407,704. In addition, there is a contingency reserve of \$30,000 and a reserve for bad debts of \$23,468.

The bank paid dividends of \$1 per share, totaling \$10,000. Mr. Lennon noted that of the bank's investment in securities, nearly 38 percent, or \$798,936, mature within a year, providing the bank plenty of near-term cash.

(Continued On Page Eight)

Grigg To Speak To Rotary Club

J. Horace Grigg, superintendent of Cleveland County schools, will address Kings Mountain Rotarians at their Thursday meeting at the Country Club.

Mr. Grigg, who will speak on a program arranged by Tom Trot, will use "Names" as his subject. The club convenes for the noon meal at 12:15.

Mr. Grigg is a life member of the National Education Association and a past president of the South Piedmont Teachers Association. He was a member of the State High School Textbook Committee for seven years and a member of the Governor's Committee on Education in 1938. He is a Kiwanian and a past president of the Kiwanis club of Shelby.

Leap Year History; Scots Gave Lassies Hunting License In 1288

It's Leap Year again... and open season on bachelors. Legend has it that women's right to pop the question during Leap Year came about even before Columbus sailed to America.

According to World Book Encyclopedia, the Leap Year privilege could probably be attributed to the Scots, who decreed in 1288 "ladies of both high and low estate shall have the privilege of proposing during leap years."

They said further that if a young man refused, he was fined a pound or more — unless he could show another had a prior claim on his affections. And, they went further to order the young lady, if she were "out to catch a man", to give fair warning of her intent. The edge of her scarlet flannel petticoat had to be plainly visible or the man was absolved from paying the forfeit.

March Of Dimes Drive Underway

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Kings Mountain's quota for the annual March of Dimes campaign is \$3000, and J. Ollie Harris, chairman of the drive here, was busy this week completing his organization.

The nationwide fund campaign to raise money to treat victims of infantile paralysis and to pay for research to find better means of treatment, is to be conducted throughout the month of January, it was announced by Lindsay Carroll of Shelby, Cleveland County chairman in the 19-60 effort.

Mr. Carroll noted that Kings Mountain and Number 4 Township has made it possible for its citizens to respond to the appeal for funds for the fight against polio last year.

Large portion of the money given remains in Cleveland County to treat Cleveland County victims of the dread disease which preys particularly on children.

The campaign in Kings Mountain will follow closely the drive of last year. "It is easy to ask for funds for the campaign," the drive chairman pointed out. "For there is not a citizen who is not familiar with what polio means, both here and in other sections of the state and nation. The National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis has made it possible for its victims to obtain special treatment which many could not afford, and I am sure that the people of this area will again support this campaign to the limit of their abilities."

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Mrs. Weir's Rites Conducted

Funeral rites for Mrs. Sallie Wells Weir, 89, were held Sunday at 2:30 p. m. from Kings Mountain Baptist church, of which she was a member.

Mrs. Weir succumbed at her home on Grover road Saturday morning at 6:30 a. m. following a several years illness. She was a Cleveland County native, daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Dan Wells and the widow of S. S. Weir, Sr., a former Kings Mountain postmaster who died in 1955.

Survivors include four sons, A. Frank Weir of Gastonia, L. Curtis Weir of Long Beach, Calif., W. T. Weir and Sam Weir, Jr., both of Kings Mountain; two daughters, Miss Veatress Weir of Charlotte and Mrs. T. A. Hambricht of Grover; and three sisters, Mrs. Florence Hughes, Mrs. Etta Logan, both of Kings Mountain, and Mrs. Ross McCarter of Clover, S. C. Also surviving are 18 grandchildren, 45 great-grandchildren, and three great-great-grandchildren.

Lions Heard AFS Student

Switzerland is prosperous today due to hard work of its people, high productivity, and a long-time state policy of neutrality, Pierre Dassen, Swiss international exchange student here, said in an address to members of the Kings Mountain Lions club Tuesday night.

He said Switzerland's policy of neutrality evolved from experience and, though Switzerland maintains a large standing reserve force, cancels the citizenship of any citizen (other than members of the historical Swiss guard at the Vatican) who bears arms for any other nation. Should a Swiss citizen break the law and return to Switzerland, he is jailed.

The Swiss student, member of the Kings Mountain high school senior class, guessed that Hitler's willingness to respect Swiss neutrality during World War II was based on his belief that, if invaded, Switzerland would destroy its pass through the Alps mountains and would therefore, be of no practical benefit to the German war effort. He also noted that, with universal military training for men from 20 to 40, Switzerland can mobilize an army of 350,000 men in one day, and 600,000 in three days, made possible because the reservists maintain uniforms, arms and even vehicles at their homes.

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UF Officials To Plan Clean-Up

Officials of Kings Mountain United Fund and campaign solicitors who haven't completed their assignments are requested to meet at City Hall Thursday night at 8 o'clock, Sam Stallings, president, asked Wednesday.

He labeled Thursday night's session as a "clean-up" meeting. "We want to finish the campaign — and successfully," Mr. Stallings said.

Thus far, United Fund has reported cash and pledges totaling \$13,000, some \$5,000 short of the \$18,000 goal.

"Contributions continue to trickle in," Mr. Stallings commented, "and I believe that we virtually can attain our goal with a clean-up effort. We certainly want to meet the quota. The United Fund directors were very careful in its efforts to adopt a realistic budget, both in terms of total amount and in terms of bare necessities of participating organizations."

Nine organizations are participating in the campaign. Included are Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Kings Mountain city schools band, Davidson school band, Kings Mountain Recreation Commission, Red Cross, special education fund, Jacob S. Mauney Memorial Library, and Cleveland County Life-Saving and Rescue Squad.

Mr. Stewart died Friday of a heart attack while he was at work at Bonnie Mills where he had been employed the past 18 years. He was a son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Mike Stewart and a member of the First Nazarene church.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Alice Mae Gilbert Stewart; two sons, Coford Lee Stewart of Kings Mountain and James David Stewart of Gastonia; and one daughter, Mrs. Faye Dover of Kings Mountain. Also surviving are four brothers, Ed Stewart of Kings Mountain, Forrest Stewart, of Charleston, S. C., and Tom and Crawford Stewart, both of Gastonia; and one sister, Mrs. Ernest Dixon of Kings Mountain, and 12 grandchildren.

Rev. R. J. Essary officiated at the final rites.

Mrs. Carter Station Manager

Mrs. Naomi Carter, of Belmont, assumed management of the Bus Terminal and Western Union office here Wednesday.

She replaces Mrs. Louise Ghant, of Shelby, who resigned.

Announcement of the change was made by Douglas Ammons, representative of Queen City Coach Company, which owns the terminal, who said, "Mrs. Ghant did a very acceptable job and we hate to lose her."

Mrs. Carter said she expected to move to Kings Mountain. She said she is a veteran cafe operator.

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Bond Election For New Plant Being Asked

A petition calling for the establishment of bounds of a consolidated Kings Mountain area school district and a bond election for the building of a high school plant to serve the new district is being distributed among residents of the Bethware, Grover, Park Grace, and Compact districts.

The petitions were released Saturday after being presented to Hill Lowery, chairman of the movement, last Thursday.

J. Horace Grigg, county school superintendent, noted that the new district would embrace virtually all of No. 4 Township and a small portion of No. 5 Township which now lies within the Bethware school district. A small strip of No. 4 Township, now in the No. 5 school district, is excluded.

According to the late comment by the late Assistant Attorney General Claude Love, two elections will be necessary to effect the consolidation proposal.

The first is to furnish monies for the construction of a proposed new high school via bond issuance. The second vote will decide actual consolidation with a "yes" or a "no" vote by citizens outside the present Kings Mountain district, and their willingness to accept Kings Mountain's supplemental school tax.

If the bond vote is "no," the second vote would not be necessary and the consolidation proposal would be dropped, according to the agreement by school officials of the several school units involved.

School officials at first proposed a consolidation plan with a contingent clause stating the merger would not be valid if a subsequent bond election were not approved.

According to Love, if the consolidation vote were yes, but the bond vote no, the consolidation would be valid none-the-less — minus money to build a new high school.

According to the plan suggested by Love, the bond election will be held first to determine if citizens of the school district set by the county board of education will vote the added tax for construction. If yes, the money for the new school is assured, and consolidation plans can continue.

The petition being distributed by county school committees will be filed under a 1935 North Carolina statute which empowers a county board of education to establish boundary lines for a special school bond taxing district.

Before the county board would be empowered to act, the petition must bear the names of ten percent of the proposed district's qualified voters.

Present plans call for a \$1,100,000 bond issue proposal for a new consolidated high school plant. The text of the petition being distributed follows:

"We, the undersigned, being more than ten percent of the qualified voters residing in the territory hereinafter described respectfully petition and show:

Hambright Rites Held Wednesday

Funeral rites for Carroll I. Hambright, 40, former principal of East Elementary school, were held in Greenville, S. C., Wednesday afternoon.

Mr. Hambright succumbed to a heart condition at a Greenville hospital Monday night at 11:30. He had been hospitalized since December 1.

A Grover native, he was the son of Mrs. Daisy Hambright, who survives, and the late Cleveland O. Hambright. Also surviving are a sister, Mrs. Laura Grace Butler, Glen Elynn, Ill., and a brother, Jack Hambright, of Greenville, S. C.

Mr. Hambright was principal of Carolina high school, in Greenville. In the past year, he was a summer assistant at Kings Mountain Military park.

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City Tax Sales Now Total 478

City auto owners had purchased 478 city licenses for 1960 through Wednesday afternoon, City Clerk Joe McDaniel reported.

The total compares to more than 1700 purchased during 1959. Mayor Glee A. Bridges pointed out to motorists that they must not only purchase the licenses but also display them, with failure to do either making them subject to a \$5 fine. The tag sells for \$1.

Deadline for use of the old 1959 tag is February 15.