

Population

Greater Kings Mountain	10,320
City Limits	8,008

This 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

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VOL. 72 No. 7 Kings Mountain, N. C., Thursday February 16, 1961 Seventy-Second Year PRICE TEN CENTS

City Ups Commitment To Assure Armory Project

Power, Gas Sales Set New Records

Local News Bulletins

MEETING POSTPONED
The public meeting, sponsored by the Cleveland County coordinating committee on Aging, scheduled for the Shelby First Presbyterian church for Friday night, has been postponed until Friday night February 24.

CANCEL MOTHER'S MARCH
The annual Mother's March for the March of Dimes was cancelled last week because of bad weather. Donations are being accepted by any member of the Junior Woman's Club or contributions may be forwarded to Tom Tate, March of Dimes Chairman, in care of Home Building & Loan.

PERMIT ISSUED
A permit was issued Wednesday by City Building Inspector M. H. Biser to Jack Bennett to build a six-room dwelling off Bennett Street at an estimated cost of \$18,000. Contractor for the structure is N. E. Chapman.

FIRES
City firemen answered four alarms this week for grass fires, one Friday to a vacant lot on Phenix Street, one Monday to a vacant lot on Piedmont Avenue, one Tuesday to a lot at the corner of Stowe Acres and Blanton Street, and one Wednesday in the county on Cherryville Road. No damage was reported.

IN TECHNOLOGY SCHOOL
Jack Holden Kennedy, son of John L. Kennedy of Rt. 3, Shelby, is enrolled in the two-year civil technology course at the Gastonia Technical Institute in Gastonia. A graduate of Shelby high school, he is married and lives in Kings Mountain.

ADD ONE
Omitted from the list of "straight A" students at Kings Mountain High School in the February 9 Herald was Gail Morrison, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Luther S. Morrison.

ON HONOR ROLL
Tommy Boyd, Kings Mountain student at Gaston Technical Institute in Gastonia, has completed the school term with a 3.00 or B average. He was also listed on the honor roll for the fall semester, according to report from the school.

EAST P-TA
East School Parent-Teacher Association will hold its regular meeting Tuesday afternoon at 3:30 in the school auditorium.

ROTARY MEETING
The regular meeting of Rotary Club will be held at 12:15 p. m. Thursday at the Country Club. Speaker will be the Rev. Thomas Droppers, Rector of Trinity Episcopal Church. Rev. Droppers will address the group on the annual Heart Fund Drive.

Rutherford Firm Gets Power Lines

Rutherford Electrical Association, a cooperative, was high bidder for the city's 33-customer Lake Montonia power lines. The Rutherford association bid \$6,025 for the properties, while Duke Power Company declined to raise its first bid of \$5,500. Last Thursday's bid-taking was a re-bid, the REA firm having objected to method of bid taking at the previous bidding. Bill of sale for the properties was ready for delivery Wednesday, City Clerk Joe McDaniel said.

Repeat Likely For Upcoming Month's Bills

City power and natural gas sales established new records in January, and City Clerk Joe McDaniel believes that February 1 billings may set another.

Mr. McDaniel attributes the major factor in January's high mark to the cold weather, with short winter days and Christmas-season home lighting as other minor factors.

In January, the city's power sales escalated to \$28,804, and total utility billings of \$36,472 were only a few dollars short of last April's peak of \$36,514. Water billings in April were more than \$1,000 over January's.

January's natural gas report shows a new city peak on January 25, when customers used 1,064,000 cubic feet of gas, with total billings at \$25,251. January's gas consumption was 27,471,000 cubic feet.

The peak would have been much higher, Mr. McDaniel noted, had not the gas system interrupted service to all customers who buy gas on an interruptible contract.

January's account was also the city's largest to date with its supplier, Transcontinental Gas Pipeline Corporation, totaling \$10,265.

Additionally, the setting of a new peak will prove costly to the city come summer, as the city must pay monthly a demand charge, with the basis of charge 80 percent of peak consumption.

In January, residential customers paid the city \$15,318 for gas. Small commercial customers paid \$4,054, large commercial users paid \$1,250, interruptible service customers \$3,099, and public institutions \$1,530.

Figuring of February 1 billings has just started, but indications are customers for both utilities and gas can expect large bills again. The recent spate of warm weather didn't come early enough in the meter reading period.

AT GASTON TECH
Tommy Lewis Boyd, son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Boyd of Kings Mountain, is studying electronics technology at the Gaston Technical Institute in Gastonia. A division of the N. C. State College School of Engineering, Gaston Tech is operated by the College Extension Division. Other two-year technical programs offered at the school are electrical, mechanical, production, and civil technology.

AT SEMINAR
David Putnam, of Kings Mountain, route supervisor for Holsum Bakeries, is in Chicago, Ill. this week attending a baker's seminar.

Aid To Dependent Children Cash Provides For 1473 In Cleveland

The often-discussed phase of the county's welfare program known familiarly as ADC, or aid to dependent children, provides monetary care for 1473 dependent children in Cleveland county.

Ben Carpenter, county welfare superintendent, in a recent compilation of figures on this phase of the welfare department's operation, reports that 596 white children and 877 Negro children are recipients of aid.

The ADC program is frequently the butt of criticism of legislators and citizens as the law which subsidizes bastardy. Cleveland County figures on this contention tend to refute each other, Mr. Carpenter says. On the one hand, the 304 children getting aid who were born out of wedlock is a larger figure than three years ago and represents 20.6 percent of the children receiving aid. The percentage total is up by ten percent in the past three years.

Yet, Mr. Carpenter's figures show only 28 children are receiving aid who were born out of wedlock since the family began receiving ADC aid. An additional 53 children are given aid, in situations where the husband in the family isn't the father. These situations are results mostly from desertions by the fathers, Mr. Carpenter notes.

Generally, aid to dependent children in the form of monthly monetary grants are available to children deprived of support. Desertion of the father is the major contributor to the ADC welfare list in Cleveland county, Mr. Carpenter says, with illegitimacy second. Other major contributors are death of the father with inadequate or no social security coverage, confinement of the father in prison or mental institution, or disability of the father.

Average monthly payment in Cleveland county is \$21 per child and \$90 per case. If the eligibility tests are met, the welfare department employs a formula whereby minimum needs are estimated. Deducted therefrom is any income the family might have. Then the payment is fixed at 75 percent of the net total.

The program costs cash in a year's time. For the current fiscal year, the County's ADC welfare budget is \$521,400, with the county supplying \$56,287 of this total, and the remainder coming from federal and state governments.

Mr. Carpenter expects this year's budget to be underspent. National figures show 778,000 ADC cases, (families) with aid being given to 2,929,000. The average receiving aid is 34 children under 18 per 1,000 of population.



EASTER SEAL CHILD — Jane Yates, age eight, is North Carolina's Easter Seal Child for 1961. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Yates of Kings Mountain.

Jane Yates Plans To Sell Sanford

Jane Yates, eight-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Yates, is North Carolina's 1961 Easter Seal Child.

Dr. Hugh T. Thompson of Duke University, president of the North Carolina Society for Crippled Children and Adults—the Easter Seal Society—announced her selection this week.

An active third grader at East school, Jane's "still only when she's asleep" says her mother. Jane's report card shows an almost continuous string of A's, she sings in the Junior choir at St. Matthew's Lutheran church, helps her mother with household chores and is an active and enthusiastic Brownie Scout. She's quite expert with the hula hoop and rides a tricycle.

As the 1961 Easter Seal Child Jane is to be the subject of much attention and the honor guest for a number of occasions.

On February 27 she is to visit with Governor Terry Sanford in Raleigh and present him with the first 1961 Easter Seal.

On March 2 Jane will be the honor guest of Governor Sanford and the state's First Lady as they launch the 1961 Easter Seal Campaign from the Executive Mansion.

From then until Easter Day, Jane will, as she says, "be a very happy and very busy little girl."

Garland Still In Mayor Race

Civic Groups Ask For New Lighting

The city has been asked to consider rebuilding of the business district "white way" in the fiscal year beginning July 1.

Charles Blanton, president of the Chamber of Commerce and Merchants association was spokesman for a group of civic organizations, which seek modernization of business district lighting.

Mr. Blanton said better lighting would advertise the community as one boasting good government and progressive merchants, would contribute to traffic safety, improve retail trade, increase property values and deter crime.

Board Asked To Include Item In Next Budget

He said he discussed possible cost with one firm, but that the figures would be very rough estimates at best and that costs would depend on extensiveness of the program, engineering and bidding.

"We'd like to see modern lighting extended to the whole community," he added.

Specifically, he asked the commission to budget new business district lighting for the coming year.

Appearing in behalf of the project were Mrs. George Houser, of the Woman's Club, George Thomasson, Lions club, and Robert H. Goforth, Jaycees.

School Board Meets Monday

Principal business at Monday night's meeting of the Kings Mountain board of education is expected to concern the consolidation of the Kings Mountain schools with those of Bethware, Park Grace, Grover, and Compact.

Superintendent B. N. Barnes said Wednesday he anticipated the board would discuss terms of an election system to provide for future election of school board trustees, and to enfranchise citizens living in the incoming areas. Setting up of the system will require an act of the General Assembly.

Mr. Barnes said he also hoped J. R. Davis, attorney for the schools, would be able to make a report on progress toward a bond issue election for the erection of a new high school plant.

The board will convene in the superintendent's office at 7 o'clock.

ARP's Plan Training Course

A Leadership Training School for teachers in the Sunday School departments of the ARP church is in Kings Mountain, Gastonia, Bessemer City and surrounding areas. The program will begin Tuesday and continue through Thursday.

Classes will be held from 7:45 until 9:30 p. m. each evening at First ARP church of Gastonia.

On opening night, buffet dinner will be served from 6:30 until 7:00 o'clock in the church social hall.

Teachers of pre-school, primary, junior, youth and adults groups are invited to attend. A course will also be offered in church school administration.

Stay Off Grass, Commission Asks

Please stay off the grass: This is the plea of the Kings Mountain Recreation Commission which this week announced completion of a \$1500 beautification project at Deal Street Pool.

"We're very proud of the picnic area," a spokesman said. Trees have been planted, grass sown and other work on the beautification project completed.

Former Mayor Again Seeking To Regain Post

Former Mayor Garland E. Still is again a candidate for mayor. It will be the eighth consecutive city election in which Mr. Still has sought the office and the fifth time he has opposed Mayor Glee A. Bridges, who is seeking re-election.

Mr. Still's one successful race was in 1951 and his next best showing was in 1953 when he had the right to call a run-off election, did call for it, then withdrew before the second voting.

In 1959, Mr. Still ran third to Mayor Bridges and David L. Sanders, the other challenger.

The former mayor, now a salesman of specialty items, is a former jeweler and restaurant owner.

In contrast to other announced candidates, Mr. Still attached a statement to his official filing announcement, in which he said he had received numerous requests to offer again for the mayoral seat.

He promised both a reduction in utility rates and in tax rate, as well as recreational buildings and a program for our children which has been sorely neglected.

In an obvious reference to the incumbent, Mr. Still wrote, "I believe that if eight years in office is long enough for our president, then it is long enough . . . for our mayor." Mr. Bridges is completing his fourth mayoral term.

Mr. Still was the only new addition to the candidate list for the May 9 election.

Other lone contest to date is for Ward 4 commissioner, where Paul W. Ledford, a former commissioner, and Willis Bagwell, are candidates.

J. Elmer Rhea is a candidate for Ward 5 commissioner and Corbett Nicholson is a candidate for Ward 3 commissioner.

David Neill Wins Promotion

David M. Neill, Kings Mountain native, has been promoted to the position of vice president and trust officer of North Carolina National Bank, Charlotte.

Mr. Neill, a 1944 graduate of Kings Mountain high school and 1948 graduate of Davidson college, was advanced from the position of trust officer. He has been associated with the bank since June, 1953, and has attended the Hanover Trust School, Financial Public Relations School and is national trust chairman of the F.P.R.A.

Mr. and Mrs. Neill, the former Jean R. Webb of Kings Mountain, have three daughters and attend Providence Methodist church. Mr. Neill is a Myers Park Civitan.

Sunday Dinner At Woman's Club

The Kings Mountain Woman's club will serve dinner to the public on Sunday.

Mrs. George Houser said the club may offer semi-regular Sunday dinner service in the future. Dinner will be served beginning promptly at noon, she added.

Reservations are requested by Saturday noon, by telephoning Mrs. John Cheshire or Mrs. George Thomasson.

Prices are \$1.50 for adults, \$1 for children under ten.

World Prayer Service Friday

Kings Mountain citizens will join with those around the globe Friday in the 75th observance of World Day of Prayer.

The Kings Mountain Council of Churchwomen is sponsoring the local service which will be held at 3:30 p. m. at First Baptist Church. Theme of the program is "Forward Through the Ages" and the offering will be used for the migrant ministry in the U. S.

Voices of various countries will be portrayed by women from the various churches of the city. Participating in the program will be Mrs. Leona Fie, Mrs. Charles Blanton, Mrs. George Plonk, Mrs. L. E. Hinant, Mrs. H. D. Garmon, Mrs. Delbert Dixon, Mrs. W. L. Pressly, Mrs. Don Crawford, Mrs. John L. McGill, Mrs. J. E. Gamble, Mrs. Y. F. Throneburg, Mrs. Dorus Bennett, Mrs. H. C. Mayes and Mrs. C. W. Falls.

All churches in the Kings Mountain area will join in the observance.

The Kings Mountain Council of United Churchwomen, of which Mrs. Lawrence Lohr is president is an interdenominational organization representing virtually all churches in the community.

Central PT-SA Meets

Central School Parent-Teachers-Student Association will meet Tuesday, February 21, at 8:00 p. m. at the school auditorium. The program, an informal discussion of work being done in the science and math departments, will be conducted by Mrs. Paul K. Ausley and Miss Kittle Lou Sutton.

Country Club Work Underway

Construction of the new Kings Mountain Country Club building is underway.

Paul M. Neisler, Sr., chairman of the club building committee, said contractors were to begin pouring footings for the new \$40,000 structure Wednesday.

He said the weather would be a chief determining factor in completing the initial construction, adding, "We don't know how March weather will be but we hope to show something pretty fast."

Plans call for a modernly designed clubhouse, with large ballroom, clubroom and adjacent kitchen facilities, plus service rooms.

The club is also constructing a major addition in the form of a swimming pool. Mr. Neisler said the swimming pool project is being directed by a special committee, including Joe N. McClure, Fred Wright, and James Herndon. He said that contracts for the pool project has been let.

The new clubhouse will be built on the site of the former colonial style two-story frame structure, with pool to be built on the west side in an area now occupied by a putting green.

Other members of the building committee are Hunter R. Neisler, Mrs. George Houser, Fred Wright, William Herndon, and Fred W. Plonk.

Former Mayor Board Taps Contingency Fund For Armory

The city board of commissioners moved to assure construction of a National Guard armory Monday night, voting to purchase required additional property for the site and taking the initial step in issuance of \$19,000 in bonds to provide major portion of local funds required.

The board dipped into the city's contingency fund to provide \$7,500 for purchase of site property from the Willeford Estate and R. S. Plonk Estate.

With acceptance of the \$8,025 bid of the Rutherford REA for Lake Montonia power lines last week, the city anticipates that this unbudgeted revenue, plus proceeds from the bond sales, will provide the \$24,500 local fund share of the \$140,000 armory which the North Carolina National Guard has stated must be on deposit in Raleigh by June 1.

The city has an informal pledge from the members of the Cleveland County board of commissioners for a \$10,000 appropriation for the armory next year.

The deadline problem, continuing for weeks, has been how the funds could be deposited by June 1. Efforts to obtain a delay on the project were to no avail, North Carolina National Guard officials stating that the federal agency, which supplies 75 percent of the funds, declined to grant the delay request.

Additional property for the armory area was a federal requirement. The city is purchasing for the armory the "P" owned by the Willeford and Plonk estates, between Mountain and King streets, and a lot from the Willeford estate on the east side of Phifer road. The armory will be built on the present three-acre site on the west side of Phifer road.

Under the statutes, the city has the power to issue bonds up to two-thirds of the previous fiscal year's net debt retirement, which, last year, was \$29,006.

City Attorney J. R. Davis was authorized to contact bond attorneys to arrange details for the bond issuance. Last time the city obtained funds under this statute was in 1950, when \$20,000 in bonds was issued for street improvements.

Under the armory project timetable, the North Carolina National Guard will advertise for bids on the Kings Mountain armory in April, with contracts scheduled for letting on June 1.

The state will provide \$11,500 of the building funds.



CANDIDATE — Garland E. Still, entered the mayor's race Wednesday. He served as mayor in 1951-53.

City Tag Sales Top 1500-Mark

The city had sold a total of 1514 auto license tags for the current year through mid-afternoon Wednesday.

In spite of the jump in sales in the past week, it was estimated on basis of last year's tag purchases that at least 200 auto owners were candidates for late-purchasing.

Mayor Glee A. Bridges said that the tag problem will go to the police department Thursday. The law requires that a motorist purchase and display a new tag, not later than February 15, just as the law on state license tags does.

Under the law, delinquent tag buyers can be hauled to court and found guilty, subjected to a \$5 fine, in addition to court costs.

The city tags sell for \$1.

Present Two-Man Race For Mayor Could Be Crowded, Rumors Indicate

Last week's spate of candidates for city political offices produced prolific rumors but only a lone new candidate.

Conversational interest chiefly concerned the mayor's post, as of Wednesday a contest between Mayor Glee A. Bridges and former Mayor Garland E. Still, and with a hefty prospect list.

Principal development was that two-term Commissioner Ben H. Bridges, who had been listed as a possible mayoral candidate, was telling friends he definitely wouldn't seek the mayoral job and might not offer for re-election to the commission.

Among those mentioned as possible candidates for mayor considered most serious a 50-year-old offering were Harold L. Phillips, a former city commissioner, and David L. Saunders, who sought the office unsuccessfully two years ago.

In the rumor category were three more names, those of Kelly Dixon, Republican candidate for Congress last November, R. Coleman Stroupe, Ward 5 commissioner, and C. T. Carpenter, Jr., representative of International Correspondence schools.

There was less conversation concerning commissioner posts.

(Continued On Page Eight)

Boy Scouts Spent Busy Day Saturday

Kings Mountain Boy Scouts had a busy day Saturday as they helped man city posts for the day.

Ronnie Dover, of Troop 2, was Kings Mountain mayor-for-a-day and Charles Padgett, Troop 1, was fire chief. Tommy Plonk, Troop 9, was chief of police, Larry Anderson, Troop 96, superintendent of public utilities and Chuck Gladden, Troop 2, recorder's court judge.

Commissioners for the day were Gene Allen, Troop 2, Lyn Cheshire, Troop 9, and Alvin Ellison, Troop 96.

Other Scouts served in various posts throughout the county as a special feature of Boy Scout Week and many Scout troops attended church services together on Sunday morning.

RECEIVES DEGREE — Harold Richard Hunnicutt, Jr., a member of the January graduating class at Belmont Abbey College, received his B. A. degree, majoring in business administration with a minor in history. He will formally receive his diploma at commencement exercises on June 6th. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. H. R. Hunnicutt Sr., of Kings Mountain.