

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

Kings Mountain's Reliable Newspaper

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Seventy-Second Year

PRICE TEN CENTS

Referendum Likely To Be Offered On Sunday Issue

Gladden Ward 2 Candidate; Kelly Seeking Ward 3 Seat

Local News Bulletins

OPTIMISTS MEET
Kings Mountain Optimists will meet Thursday night at the American Legion Hall at 7:00 p. m.

FAIRVIEW LODGE
Regular communication of Fairview Lodge 339 AF&M will be held Monday night at 7:30 at Masonic Hall, Secretary T. D. Tindall has announced.

KIWANIS CLUB
A highway safety film, "The Perfect Crime" will be shown at regular meeting Thursday of the Kings Mountain Kiwanis club. Sherman Perry is program chairman. The club convenes at 6:45 p. m. at the Woman's club.

SUPPER
Young People of Central Methodist church will sponsor a spaghetti supper Friday with serving to be from 6 until 7:30 p. m. at the church. Plates will be \$1 for adults and 50 cents for children. Funds will go to the Mission program sponsored by the young people and tickets may be secured from any member of the youth group or purchased at the door.

PERMIT ISSUED
M. H. Biser, City Building Inspector, issued a permit Tuesday to Crown Central Petroleum Company to build a one-story service station on Cleveland Avenue between Linwood Road and Jackson St. Contractor for the 5-room structure is Webb & Blanton of Shelby. Estimated cost is \$20,000.

FIRE
Firemen were called to Wilson Street last Friday at 4:30 p. m. to douse a grass fire. No damage was reported. The department was called to Battleground Avenue Tuesday to douse a blaze at the Reynolds Enterprises washery. Fireman Ware said lint and dust collected atop a dryer blazed up, but did no damage.

FARMER'S NIGHT
Kings Mountain Kiwanis club will hold its annual Farmer's Night banquet on March 16. Members of the committee on arrangements are J. C. Bridges, chairman, W. T. Weir, B. M. Ormand, P. M. Neisler, N. F. McGill, Sr., and Joe McClure.

Palmer Has Voting Bill

A bill to enfranchise for school election voting citizens in the Park Grace, Bethware, Grover and Compact school areas is in the hands of Rep. Jack Palmer for introduction in the General Assembly.

The bill, amending the present statutes governing elections, would assure election as school trustees of two citizens residing in the areas voted into the Kings Mountain district last year.

The bill provides that the City of Kings Mountain will conduct the election, as it has historically, and requires the city to set up voting precincts at Park Grace and Bethware schools and at Grover.

Citizens outside the city limits but within the former school district boundaries would vote at Bethware school.

Text of the bill Rep. Palmer has been asked to introduce follows:

"The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact:

SECTION 1: That Chapter 960 of the laws of 1955 applying to the Kings Mountain School Board shall remain in force and effect since the school district has been enlarged by consolidation except as herein amended.

"SECTION 2: That at the municipal election in 1961 there shall

(Continued On Page Eight)

14 Candidates Now In Race For City Offices

The candidate list for the biennial city elections in May increased to 14 during the past week.

The two additional candidates are:

John W. Gladden, for Ward 2 commissioner.

Clayton Kelly, for Ward 3 commissioner.

Both are entering the political jousting for the first time.

Thus far, Mr. Gladden, a Parker street resident, long-time citizen and Kings Mountain circulation manager for the Shelby Daily Star, is the lone candidate for the Ward 2 commission seat.

Mr. Kelly opposes another newcomer, Corbett Nicholson, former city gas system superintendent, who filled for office several weeks ago.

Mr. Kelly, a member of Kings Mountain Baptist church, is credit manager of Lemaster Auto & Home Supply store of Bessemer City. He formerly held a similar position with a Kings Mountain firm. He is a Mason. He and his family live on Woodside Drive.

Mr. Gladden is a Parker street resident, a past commander of the American Legion post here, a member of the 40 & 8 and a member of Second Baptist church.

Speculation continued this week on whether four incumbent commissioners would offer for re-election.

Commissioner Boyce Gault, Ward 2, and Ben H. Bridges, Ward 3, continue to say, "I don't know" to questions on their intentions, but Commissioner Luther T. Bennett, Ward 3, acknowledged that he expects to seek re-election to a third term.

Commissioner R. Coleman Stroupe, Ward 5, hasn't made known his intentions.

To date, only Mayor Glee A. Bridges and Ward 1 Commissioner Ross Alexander, among the incumbents, are candidates for re-election.

Also seeking the mayoral post are Kelly Dixon, builder and Congressional candidate last November, David L. Saunders, one-time commissioner, and Garland E. Still, former mayor.

Even minus the incumbent, a four-man race is already posed in Ward 4, where Paul W. Ledford, former commissioner, Clinton Wood, Norman King, and Willis Bagwell are commission

(Continued On Page Eight)

Local Citizens Voice Opposition To Proposal To Expand Sales Tax

The prospect of paying sales tax on food, drugs and a wide variety of presently exempted items is not pleasing to numerous Kings Mountain area citizens.

Expansion of sales tax collections by 81 millions in the 1961-63 biennium, with 73 million recommended for schools, was recommended to the General Assembly Monday by Governor Terry Sanford.

Some local folk frankly declare they do not like the prospective impact on their pocketbooks.

Others feel the projected funds are not needed in the amount recommended, and many oppose the expansion of the sales tax to include food and drugs as an unfair tax "in principle."

Charles Blanton, pharmacist, president of the Chamber of Commerce and retiring president of the Merchant's association, commented, "I ordered some new prescription call checks yesterday with a major change, a place for sales tax and printed in red ink." He predicted the Governor's recommendation will be enacted in large part. He added, "Naturally, I think food and drug prices are high enough now without adding more to the bill. However, I agree that the amount of money asked is needed for the schools."

W. G. Jonas, incoming Merchants association president, was less charitable, saying, "It'll be pretty expensive for consumers. I think the tax should be redirected." He acknowledged the

need for additional school monies but added he thought the state "could go slower."

Ollie Harris, former president of the state funeral director's association, said it appears that burial costs will escalate. Currently, the first \$150 of burial expenses are not subject to the sales tax. He opposed the extension of the tax to food and drugs and predicted considerable opposition to removal of the exemption on burial expenses.

Charles E. Dixon, past president of the Merchants association and automobile dealer, said he opposed the extension of the sales tax to food and the increase from one to two percent on sales of new autos. He predicted the state Automobile Dealers association would fight this proposal.

Paul McGinnis, retail merchant, commented, "Anybody can make a show with more money. I'm looking for a fellow who can make a show with the money on hand."

William Lawrence Plonk, farmer, said he felt the big jump in sales taxes on farm production needs too much. He said that taxing of feeds, seeds and farm machinery would place an undue burden on the farmer.

Ben H. Bridges, savings and loan association executive flayed the proposal to charge tax on food. "Though I consider myself a conservative, I'm a liberal on this issue. A tax on food charges an unfair portion of the tax to those who can least afford to pay."



CANDIDATES — Willis Bagwell, top, and Norman King are two of four announced candidates for Ward 4 commissioner. Other candidates are Paul W. Ledford and Clinton Wood.

Mrs. Herndon's Rites Conducted

Funeral rites for Mrs. Essie Pearl Herndon, 74, wife of Howard V. Herndon, were held Sunday at 2:30 p. m. from David's Baptist Church, interment following in the Bethlehem Cemetery.

Mrs. Herndon died Friday morning in the Kings Mountain Hospital. She had been in ill health for sometime and seriously ill the past several weeks.

A native of Cleveland county, she was a daughter of the late

(Continued On Page Eight)

School Program Would Up Pay \$67,000 Here

Adoption of Governor Terry Sanford's school improvement proposals would add four state-paid teachers to the Kings Mountain district faculty and would materially increase the local school operating budgets.

Superintendent B. N. Barnes, using the 1959-60 school operating year as a base, said the principal benefits, in addition to higher teacher pay by the state and addition of faculty members, would be additional funds for instructional supplies, secretarial aid, and janitorial aid.

The school system, at its present size, would not qualify for the proposed additions to administrative manpower in the form of an assistant superintendent or additional teaching supervisor.

Big jump would be in teacher pay.

The Governor's recommendations provide for a 21 per cent increase for all faculty members, including administrative personnel.

Last year, state-paid instructional allotments for Kings Mountain were \$321,652, indicating an increase of about \$67,000 in teacher pay for present faculty members.

The system has 78 state-paid faculty members. On the proposed formula of adding one teacher for each 20 on the staff, the local system should qualify for four more state-paid teachers.

At \$1.50 per enrolled child, Mr. Barnes estimated, secretarial salary aid of about \$3,500 would result.

Another teacher benefit recommended is expansion of the school teacher pay period from 183 to 185 days.

During 1959-60, the schools expended for current expense \$346,236 in state-furnished monies, and an additional \$100,007 in local funds. Mr. Barnes noted that some of the local funds budget represented federal funds, which for bookkeeping and auditing purposes are treated as local funds. This total of approximately \$447,000 does not include any funds for capital outlay items.

"Secession" Effort Pushed

The county board of education has deferred until Monday night action on a request of A. A. Powell and George Hamrick, attorneys for Number 4 township citizens who don't want to join the Kings Mountain school district, to draw a boundary line for a secession election.

The attorneys asked board of education collaboration prior to presenting a "secession" bill to the Cleveland County legislative delegation.

The attorneys for the dissidents, losers in last May's election in which Compact, Bethware, Grover and Park Grace school patrons voted to join the Kings Mountain school district, want the county board of education to set boundaries on a portion of the incoming areas and, in turn, want the General Assembly to enact a law which would permit voting on question of withdrawing from the Kings Mountain district.

Present state law doesn't provide for a portion of a city district to withdraw.

There was no indication as to what action the county board of education might take.

Kings Mountain Superintendent B. N. Barnes speculated that the county board could decide to 1) take a hands-off attitude, or 2) decide to collaborate by drawing a boundary line.

He also speculated that the county's legislative delegation, Senator Robert Morgan and Representative Jack Palmer, might fight themselves in the midst of a battle of petitions, with consolidation opponents supporting the proposed "secession" bill, and proponents, along with Kings Mountain citizens, opposing it.

Country Club Meeting Set

Annual meeting of stockholders of Kings Mountain Country Club, Inc., will be held March 21 at the American Legion building, it was announced this week.

Notices to stockholders will be mailed this week, Secretary James A. Lybrand said, and members unable to attend are requested to return proxies.

It will be a dinner meeting.



UNITED FUND GIFT — Employees of Phenix Plant of Burlington Industries contributed \$714.50 to the United Fund last Friday and representatives of the plant are shown above presenting the check to Chairman Bob Mamer. Mrs.

Gertie Roper of the Winding Department gives the check to Mr. Mamer while Mrs. Sarah Coyle of the Spinning Department and Oscar Short of the Carding Department look on. (Herald Photo by Pennington)

Billie Jones First Winner Of Jaycee Teen-Ager Award



MAY QUEEN — Sarah Robbins, high school senior, will reign as May Queen over May Day festivities at Kings Mountain high school.

Miss Robbins May Queen

Sarah Robbins, Kings Mountain high school senior, has been elected May Queen and will reign over the high school May Day festivities this year.

Miss Robbins is the daughter of B. A. Robbins, 109 Fulton street. She is president of the Static and Dramatics club, member of the Future Teachers of America and secretary in Miss Logan's homeroom. Miss Robbins represented the high school last year as Carrousel Princess in the Thanksgiving Day parade at Charlotte.

Sue Jean Wright, runner-up for May Queen, will crown Miss Robbins.

May Day festivities are planned annually by the "K" club at Central school.

Attack Fatal To C. G. Myers

Funeral rites for Clarence Graham Myers, 59, who died Friday morning of a heart attack, were held Sunday at 4 p. m. from Resurrection Lutheran Church of which he was a member.

Rev. George Moore, assisted by Rev. R. J. Ebsary and Rev. Albert Hastings, officiated and interment was in Hollywood cemetery at Gastonia.

A Cleveland county native, Mr. Myers was a son of Mrs. Henry Myers of Kings Mountain and the late Mr. Myers. He was a contractor for sign painting.

He is survived, in addition to his mother, by his wife, the former John Eva Winchester; 1 son, Clarence Myers Jr., of Gastonia; and 2 daughters, Mrs. Floyd H. Styers of Pearl River, La. and

(Continued On Page Eight)

Voters May Get Voice In Movie, Pool Decision

BY MARTIN HARMON

Kings Mountain citizens may get a voice in deciding the Sunday blue law issue at the May city election, some members of the city commission indicated Wednesday.

A survey by the Herald indicated that the board may conduct an informational referendum on the issue.

Terms of the voting were less definite.

There was a question whether individual enterprises would be singled out for Sunday operation bans, or whether the citizens would be invited to give an aggregate preference on an absolutely closed or absolutely open Sunday.

Odds are, commissioner comments indicated, that the voters will get the opportunity to answer "yes" or "no" to the question of opening or closing the motion picture theatre and the city-owned swimming pools.

At least, this was the stated position of Commissioners Boyce Gault and Luther Bennett, both of whom favor a referendum.

Commissioner Ross Alexander opposes a referendum, stating, "My idea is that the commission should decide the question." However, he added, if a referendum is offered, he favors the voters deciding whether Sunday will be absolutely open or absolutely "blue."

Commissioner Ben H. Bridges said he favors a referendum, but he didn't spell out the terms. He said the question of operation of the city-owned swimming pools should be included.

Comm. Bennett said, "I favor a referendum along the lines requested by the Kings Mountain Ministerial association. I don't believe the people would favor the blue law currently in the city ordinances."

The Herald was unable to contact Commissioner R. Coleman Stroupe. However, Mr. Stroupe has stated previously that he would favor a referendum and he has also voiced the opinion that the city is in a poor moral position when it forces motion picture theatres to close, yet operates its own swimming pools.

The Sunday blue law issue was revived last fall when owners of Joy Theatre requested relaxation of the city's ordinance prohibiting Sunday showings. The commission took no action. Late in December, Joy Theatre began Sunday showings and has continued the policy since.

Many businesses operate without prosecution in violation of the current blue law. These include some cafes, drug stores, service stations and automatic laundries, in addition to the theatres. Some other firms, including industries, aren't sure whether they're violating the blue law or not.

The commission, it was indicated, will offer an informational referendum, rather than a binding one, comparable to the referendum of two years ago on the question of fluoridating the city's water supply.

The result would offer a guide to the incoming administration on which action it should take.



TEEN OF YEAR — Billie Jones, Kings Mountain High school senior, was recipient of the first Teen-Ager of the Year award presented by Kings Mountain Jaycees Tuesday night.

Blanton Heads School Group

Harold Love, of Shelby, chairman of the Cleveland County Citizens Committee for Better Schools, has announced membership of two additional sub-committees.

Charles Blanton, of Kings Mountain, will head the speaker's bureau, with other members including Mrs. George W. Plonk, Kings Mountain, Felix Hamrick, Bolling Springs, Mrs. Lee Lavery, Earl, Taft S. Putnam, Lawndale, and Mrs. Bell Gheen, Mrs. Rush Hamrick Jr., and Athos Rostan, all of Shelby.

Bill LeGrande, of Shelby, was named chairman of the legislative sub-committee. Other members are Charles Neisler, Kings Mountain, Jack Herndon, Grover, Dr. Jack Hunt, Lattimore, Perry Cacomon, Shelby, J. Landé Faris, Shelby, and Torrence Grigg, Waco.

The program was adopted by the organization's directors.

Mr. Blanton commented, "We have adopted goals that we believe are realistic and are within the realm of attainment, most of them within the current year."

Mr. Blanton said the Chamber of Commerce will launch a membership campaign in early April.

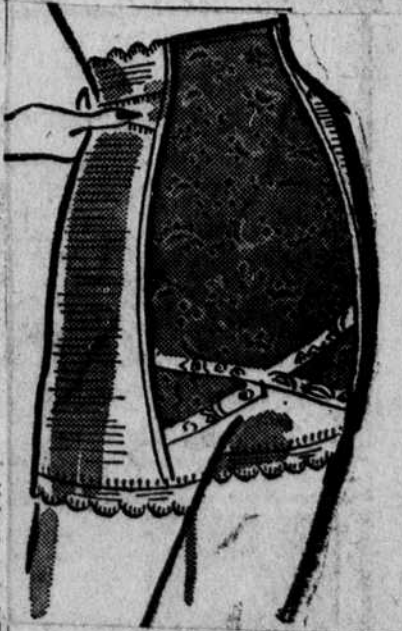
Chamber Of Commerce Lists Goals For 1961; Member Drive Planned

Kings Mountain Chamber of Commerce has adopted a 1961 program aimed at betterment and growth of the community.

In a letter to members this week, President Charles Blanton outlined the 1961 program of the organization:

"For community betterment— 1) Better lighting for the community; 2) effort to regain a state employment service branch office; 3) promotion of more active observance of the Battle of Kings Mountain anniversary; 4) support of improvements in election machinery; and 5) preparation of a new and up-to-date city map.

For growth— 1) Launching of efforts to in-



TO RALEIGH

Representatives of the Kings Mountain Unit of the North Carolina Education Association are expected to go to Raleigh Wednesday for the UFE hearing before the joint appropriations and finance committee of the General Assembly. The meeting is at 2 p. m. in Raleigh Memorial Auditorium.