

# 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

16 Pages Today

VOL. 72 No. 11

Established 1889

Kings Mountain, N. C., Thursday, March 23, 1961

Seventy-Second Year

PRICE TEN CENTS

## Local News Bulletins

### SCHOOL CONTESTS

The annual reading and declamation contests in Kings Mountain Elementary schools will be held at North school on April 12th at 1:30 p. m.

### PRESBYTERIAN

A special meeting of the Session will be held Palm Sunday at First Presbyterian church for the purpose of receiving into the church the Minister's Communicant's Class and others desiring to unite with the church.

### SERVICE

A special Maundy Thursday Service will be held March 30th at First Presbyterian church at which time the congregation will observe the sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

### CHOIR TO SING

The Cherub Choir of First Presbyterian church will render special music at the 11 a. m. service on Palm Sunday, the pastor Dr. Paul Ausley has announced.

### SPRING CONCERT

The annual Spring concert of the Kings Mountain high school band will be held on March 30th at 8 o'clock p. m. in the school auditorium.

### ROTARY CLUB

Gary Allran, manager of IBM accounting of Carolina Freight Corporation of Cherryville, will address Kings Mountain Rotarians at their Thursday meeting at the Country Club. The club convenes for luncheon at 12:15.

### PARK GRACE P-TA

Showing of the film, "The Old North State" will feature Monday night's meeting of Park-Grace P-TA in the school auditorium at 7 p. m.

### ARP PROGRAM

Miss Florence Craig, director of Christian Education in the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Synod, will speak to the committee of Christian Education, officers and teachers of the church school and congregation, Sunday evening at 7 p. m. in a special program at Boyce Memorial church.

### KIWANIS PROGRAM

Band Director Joe Hedden will lead the city schools Pep Band in a program of music for Kings Mountain Kiwanians Thursday night. The club convenes at 8:45 p. m. at the Woman's club.

### WEST P-TA

The West School P-TA will meet in the school auditorium on Monday night at 8 o'clock. Mrs. J. N. McClure will speak on the music program in the schools.

### PAPER DRIVE

Methodist Men of Central Methodist church are currently sponsoring a scrap paper drive and Kings Mountain citizens are asked to keep their supplies of paper so that members of the organization can collect it, the collection date to be announced later.

### METHODIST MEN

W. T. (Tom) Lambeth, superintendent of the Children's Home at Winston Salem, will be the speaker at the regular monthly meeting of the Methodist Men at Central Methodist church Monday night. Dinner will be served at 6:30 p. m.

## Merchant Employer-Employee Banquet Scheduled For Friday

Kings Mountain retailers and their employees will gather for the annual employer-employee banquet Friday night at 7 p. m. at the Woman's Club. Frank Errigo, Atlanta district manager of Parke, Davis & Company will make the principal address and new officers of the association will be installed by Jonas Bridges, a past president. Mr. Errigo, a veteran entertainer, was third runner-up in National Toastmaster's club contests. He will be presented by Eugene Hood. Rev. B. L. Raines, pastor of First Baptist church, will give the invocation and Tom Tate and J. C. Bridges will supervise presentation of gifts to the ladies. President Charles Blanton will pre-

# Kings Mountain Armory Project Now Assured

## Ellison Seeking Seat In Ward 3



CANDIDATE — Former Commissioner T. J. (Tommy) Ellison filed Wednesday as a candidate from Ward 3 for the City Board.

## Negro Voters Plan To Name Board Candidate

Negro voters are expected to name a candidate from Ward 5 to file for office in the city municipal election at a meeting Monday night. William Orr, chairman of the Negro Voters League, said Wednesday that a meeting of this organization has been called for Monday night at 7:30 at Bynum's Chapel A.M.E. Zion church and that interested Negro citizens are urged to attend. "Our purpose is to select someone to run for city council from Ward 5, either the name or names of likely candidates." Should more than one name be suggested, the Negro Voters League, it is understood, will select the candidate of that group's choice who will file for city office in the May 9th election. Should a Negro file for a seat on the board of city commissioners, it will be the third time that a Negro has sought a commission post here. Rev. S. T. Cooke, Negro clergyman, sought the office in 1957, receiving a total of 283 votes. Roy Brown was defeated by R. Coleman Stroupe in 1959. Mr. Brown polled 305 votes. Mr. Orr had previously stated that one of the chief purposes of the Negro Voters League is to get "citizens out to vote." The Negro League was organized here two years ago. Some speculative conversation listed as likely candidates Roy J. Brown and Hazel Gill. Mr. Orr didn't give names of any "possible" candidates for the post.

## Lions Farmer Event Tuesday

Kings Mountain Lions Club will hold its annual Farmer's Night Banquet Tuesday night at 7:00 p. m. at the Woman's club. S. S. Weir, Jr., chairman of the event, said the club has invited all area farmers to attend the annual banquet, along with numerous special guests. Program plans were not yet available Wednesday afternoon.

## Tom Trott Heads AFS Committee

Tom Trott, Kings Mountain insurance man, was elected chairman of the American Field Service Kings Mountain committee at an organizational meeting Wednesday. Plans for the year were also discussed at the meeting held in the office of Central School Principal Harry Haynes. Mrs. Jacob Cooper was elected vice-chairman and other committee members include: George H. Mauney finance; Mrs. P. G. Padgett, committee for homes; Mrs. W. T. Weir, school liaison; Mrs. C. V. Gaffney, Americans abroad; Miss Elizabeth Stewart, publicity. Other members of the committee who represent the various civic clubs include Dr. George W. Plonk, Lions club; Bob Maner, Jaycees; Ray Cline, American Legion. Mr. Mauney represents the Kiwanis club, Mrs. Cooper the Woman's club, Miss Stewart the Junior Woman's club and Mr. Trott the Rotary club.

## Schools To Take Easter Holidays

In spite of a January snow holiday, the Easter weekend will still spell school holidays for city schools and Park Grace school pupils. Supt. B. N. Barnes said this week that no change has been made in the school holiday schedule adopted by the board of education prior to school opening last September and he anticipates no change. It means that school bells won't ring on Friday, March 31, nor on Monday, April 3.

## Candidate List For City Board Stands At 16

T. J. (Tommy) Ellison, former city commissioner from Ward 3, was the lone entry in the city political sweepstakes during the past week. He is the 16th candidate seeking one of the six Board seats. Mr. Ellison is one of four candidates seeking the Ward 3 seat which is now held by Luther Bennett, who is seeking reelection. Mr. Bennett, completing his second term, edged Mr. Ellison by 132 votes after a run-off in the 1959 municipal election. An East Kings Mountain grocer, Mr. Ellison has many years of service on the commission. He served in the position from 1947-'51, returned in 1953 for four more years after losing to Olland Pearson. Like Mr. Bennett, he is a member of Grace Methodist church. He is a member of Fairview Lodge 339 AF&M and is married to the former Roberta Ballard. He and his wife live with their daughter, Cathy, at 910 Church Street. Mr. Ellison, who posted his filing fee Wednesday, said, "At the request of many voters I have come to the decision to offer myself as a candidate for Ward 3 commissioner. If I am elected I promise to represent all the citizens and I favor, if possible, cutting of cost of water, lights, and gas rates." Mr. Ellison's entry into the race brings to four the number of candidates seeking the Ward 3 position. Corbett Nicholson, former city gas superintendent, and Clavon Kelly, auto store credit manager, having previously filed. Contests as yet haven't developed for two commission jobs. John W. Gladden is the only candidate to date for Ward 2 commissioner and J. Elmer Rhea is the lone candidate for Ward 5 commissioner. Incumbent Commissioners Boyce Gault, Ward 2, Ben H. Bridges, Ward 4, and R. Coleman Stroupe, Ward 5, had not offered for re-election. However, the rumor mill was still grinding out names of possible candidates for city offices. Chief speculation during the past few days centered on the Ward 5 seat, now held by R. Coleman Stroupe. The Negro League of Voters is expected to

## Services Held For Carl Plonk

Funeral services for Carl Alexander Plonk, 64, of Asheville, were held Wednesday morning at St. Mark's Lutheran church in Asheville. Mr. Plonk, a Kings Mountain native, died early Sunday afternoon of a heart attack. Though he had suffered from a heart ailment for several years, he had been in apparent normal health until the day before his death. Mr. Plonk had retired four years ago. For 38 years he was a salesman for Ely & Walker Company and had previously been associated with Williams & Shelton Company. A son of the late William Lafayette and Regina Ware Plonk, of Kings Mountain, Mr. Plonk had wide family connections here and retained business interests here. Until three years ago he was a partner in Plonk Brothers & Company. He attended Lenoir-Rhyne college and the Curry School of Expression, Boston. He was a member of Asheville's St. Mark's Lutheran church, and a long-time trustee and benefactor of the Plonk School of Creative Arts, Asheville. Surviving are his wife, the former Leontine Roberts, 84 Linden Avenue, Asheville, four sisters, Mrs. M. L. Harmon and Mrs. Mary Lovell, both of Kings Mountain, and Misses Laura and Lillian Plonk, of Asheville, and three brothers, C. S. Plonk, Sr., R. L. Plonk, and W. L. Plonk, all of Kings Mountain. He had celebrated his 64th birthday on March 17. Nephews served as pallbearers and interment was in Asheville's Riverside cemetery. Rites were conducted by Rev. Jack Smith. The family asked that flowers be omitted, requesting that memorials be sent to St. Mark's Lutheran church.

## OPTIMISTS MEET

Kings Mountain Optimists will hold an organizational meeting Thursday at 7:30 p. m. at the American Legion Hall. A Dutch dinner will be served.

## Palmer Bill Gives New District Two Members On School Board

The Kings Mountain School Board will continue to consist of five members, three of whom will reside in the City of Kings Mountain and two from territory outside the city. That was determined in a bill passed by the State House of Representatives in Raleigh last week. The bill was introduced by Cleveland County Rep. Jack Palmer and called for amendment to Chapter 960 of the 1955 Sessions Laws applying to the Kings Mountain School Board. The bill calls for the two new board members from outside the city to be elected at the May 9 municipal election. They will represent territory which formerly belonged to the Kings Mountain District and to territory annexed by consolidation. The candidate receiving the highest number of votes will be elected for a six-year term, and the candidate receiving the next highest number of votes will be elected for a four-year term. It was also stipulated in the bill that the city of Kings Mountain establish voting places in Bethware school district, in Parkgrace school district and in the Grover school district, using the same boundaries used for the



SUCCUMBS — Carl A. Plonk, Kings Mountain native, succumbed to a heart attack Sunday at his Asheville home. Funeral rites were conducted Wednesday morning.

## Country Club Names Directors

Four new directors were elected for the Kings Mountain Country Club at the annual stockholders meeting held at the American Legion building on Tuesday night. The four new directors were named to serve for terms of three years, and eight of the present board were reelected, four to serve for a year term and four for a two-year term. Club bylaws were amended so as to stagger the terms of the directors, whereby four new directors will be elected each year to serve a three-year term. The new directors elected for three-year terms were: L. E. Hinnant, P. A. Francis, James Gibson, and W. S. Fulton, Jr. Directors who were reelected for a one-year term in order to set the new bylaws in motion were: Dr. George W. Plonk, Fred Wright, James Herndon, and James Lybrand. The directors named to serve for two years under the new rotation system were: Paul M. Neisler, Jacob Cooper, Joe McClure and George Houser. The current president of the club will call a meeting of the directors to elect the officers for the new year. Dr. George Plonk is the President.

## Stores To Close On Easter Monday

Kings Mountain merchants will be open all day Wednesday, according to association bylaws. Stores will be closed Easter Monday and will resume the Wednesday half-day schedule on Wednesday, April 5. Three members of the staff of the Kings Mountain branch of First Union National Bank attended First Union's first Young Management forum held in Charlotte last weekend. Attending from Kings Mountain were L. E. (Josh) Hinnant, assistant vice-president; W. G. Jonas, assistant cashier; and Boyce Gault. Carl G. McCraw, president, welcomed young management personnel from the eleven field offices and senior officers of the bank presented a program covering the various areas of banking. At the conclusion of the formal program, panel discussions were held by each department of the bank, with active participation by young management. Elected to handle next year's Young Management forum were Edwin R. Johnson, Charlotte, chairman; Buddy Anderson, Wilson, first vice chairman; and Bob Frantz, Asheville, second vice-chairman.

## Bank Group Attends Forum

Members of the class will be presented with service books from the congregation and will be honored by the United Lutheran Churchwomen at a welcome roast at Lake Crawford Sunday evening. Rev. George Moore, pastor, noted that the Confirmation class is the second largest in the history of the congregation.

## Young People To Be Confirmed

Resurrection Lutheran church will receive 10 young people as adult members on Palm Sunday. The Confirmation Class includes those members who have completed two years of intensive religious training and it is made up of these members: Rebecca Dunn, Win Goter, Rodney Hardin, Teresa Jolly, Spencer Moore, Wayne Odell, Linda Plonk, Gail Price, Mark Slater and Debbie Smith. Members of the class will be presented with service books from the congregation and will be honored by the United Lutheran Churchwomen at a welcome roast at Lake Crawford Sunday evening. Rev. George Moore, pastor, noted that the Confirmation class is the second largest in the history of the congregation.

## Commissioners Act Following Revised Ruling

The Kings Mountain Armory project is assured. Major General Claude T. Bowers, adjutant general of the North Carolina National Guard, has notified City Attorney J. E. Davis that deadlines for deposit of the estimated \$24,500 in required local funds have been revised. Gen. Bowers listed these revised requirements: 1) Earliest possible conveyance of deeds to the armory site. 2) Deposit of 7.5 percent of the cost, estimated to require about \$10,000, after construction bids are received. 3) Payable of the remaining local share of ten percent of total construction cost by September 1. Current estimates are that the armory will cost about \$135,000, Gen. Bowers wrote. The city board of commissioners, convening in special session Tuesday night, moved immediately to assure the project by authorizing the mayor to obtain deeds for the site acreage and convey them to the state National Guard in Raleigh. City commissioners and other city officials felt the required funds are obtainable out of current budget appropriations, both from surplus receipts already consigned for capital outlay and from the contingency fund. Previously the city had met various roadblocks in an attempt to obtain all of the local funds by the former June 1 deadline. The new terms set by the adjutant-general mean that the city will not have to pursue a former route for funds, that of issuing bonds. There had been question whether the bonds could be issued without a citizens vote. The city is currently in process of obtaining deeds to additional site acreage from the Willeford and R. S. Plonk Estates. City Attorney Davis said Tuesday the deeds have been drawn and are in the hands of the property owners for signing. Cost of the additional property is \$7500. Meantime, the county commission had indicated it will appropriate \$10,000 for the Kings Mountain Armory project in the 1961-62 budget, with payment date indicated about September 1. In seeking to supply funds for the project, the county commission met the same type of roadblocks on providing the funds as the city commission, has experienced. Present for Tuesday night's session were Mayor Glee H. Bridges, Comms. Ben H. Bridges, Boyce Gault and Ross Alexander.

## School Board Election May 9

Replacements for outgoing school board members Arnold W. Kincaid and J. W. Webster will be decided May 9, the same date of the Kings Mountain municipal election. The two members of the school board, voted on by the entire City school district, will be elected from the recently annexed area of the city school district which includes Bethware, Grover, Park Grace, and Compact school areas. Resolution calling the election was passed at Tuesday night's session of the city board. The city commission will act as elections board. Filing deadline for candidates will be April 24. Candidates will be vying for a six and a four year board term. The candidate receiving the highest number of votes will be elected for a six year term and the next high count will cop a four year term. The school board is presently on a staggered term plan. Voting places inside the corporate limits of Kings Mountain will be the same as for the election of town officials. At Tuesday night's session the board also adopted rules for the municipal election. Date of the election is May 9 with registration April 15, 22 and 29 and May 6 as challenge day. Registration and voting will be as follows: Ward 1 and Ward 2, City Hall, C. L. Black and Mrs. H. R. Parton registrars respectively; Ward 3, Phenix Mill Store, Mrs. Ruth Bowers, registrar; Ward 4, Kings Mountain Manufacturing Company, Mrs. Paul Cole, registrar; and Ward 5, West Elementary School, Mrs. J. T. McGinnis, registrar. Voting place in the Grover District will be the Grover fire station while voting place for the Bethware District and Parkgrace District will be Bethware and Parkgrace schools respectively. Registrar for the Grover District is Mrs. J. B. Ellis and judges are Mrs. Margaret Scruggs and

## Commissioners Also Set Rules For City Vote

At Tuesday night's session of the city board, the city commission will act as elections board. Filing deadline for candidates will be April 24. Candidates will be vying for a six and a four year board term. The candidate receiving the highest number of votes will be elected for a six year term and the next high count will cop a four year term. The school board is presently on a staggered term plan. Voting places inside the corporate limits of Kings Mountain will be the same as for the election of town officials. At Tuesday night's session the board also adopted rules for the municipal election. Date of the election is May 9 with registration April 15, 22 and 29 and May 6 as challenge day. Registration and voting will be as follows: Ward 1 and Ward 2, City Hall, C. L. Black and Mrs. H. R. Parton registrars respectively; Ward 3, Phenix Mill Store, Mrs. Ruth Bowers, registrar; Ward 4, Kings Mountain Manufacturing Company, Mrs. Paul Cole, registrar; and Ward 5, West Elementary School, Mrs. J. T. McGinnis, registrar. Voting place in the Grover District will be the Grover fire station while voting place for the Bethware District and Parkgrace District will be Bethware and Parkgrace schools respectively. Registrar for the Grover District is Mrs. J. B. Ellis and judges are Mrs. Margaret Scruggs and

## Broken Lock Foils Thief

A broken lock may have foiled a would-be thief Monday night. Belk's Department Store discovered Tuesday morning that a thief or thieves had gained entrance to a storage room back of the men's store building, but hadn't been able to manipulate the bar slide lock to the main store area. A key lock—long out of order—had apparently claimed much attention and time of the culprit as he sought unsuccessfully to enter the main store area. Easter clothing apparently wasn't on the culprit's want list. The storage room contained quantities of clothing purchases on layaway, but a cursory check revealed nothing missing. The outside alley door to the storage area had been stripped from its hinges.

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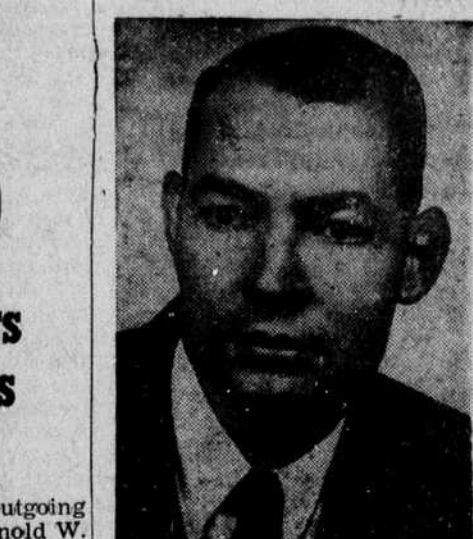
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SPEAKER — Rev. H. D. Garmon, pastor of Central Methodist church, will deliver the message in the traditional community-wide Easter Sunrise Service.

## Garmon To Speak At Easter Rites

Rev. H. D. Garmon, pastor of Central Methodist church, will deliver the sermon at the community-wide Easter Sunrise service April 2. Under sponsorship of the Kings Mountain Ministerial Association, the service will begin at 6 a. m. in Memorial Park of Mountain Rest cemetery. A prelude of music by the Kings Mountain high school band will be under the direction of Joe C. Hedden and Mrs. J. N. McClure will direct the Glee Club in the singing of traditional numbers. Full program for the service will be announced next week, spokesmen for the minister's group said. Arrangements for the Easter morning service will be under the direction of Sam Suher, cemetery superintendent and the piano for the service is being furnished by McGinnis Furniture, the ministers continued. Ministers of the community joined in issuing an invitation to members of their congregations and the general public in worshipping together on Easter Morning.

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