

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 1960.

Kings Mountain Herald

Kings Mountain's Reliable Newspaper

SECTION B

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Kings Mountain, N. C., Thursday, May 4, 1961

Seventy-Second Year

PRICE TEN CENTS

FOR MAYOR



Glee A. Bridges



Garland E. Still



David L. Saunders



Kelly Dixon



Brooks McAbee



Ross F. Alexander



Ray W. Cline



C. H. Houser

FOR WARD 1 COMMISSIONER

WHO'LL WIN?

Record Number Of Candidates Vying For Kings Mountain Elective Offices

FOR WARD 2 COMMISSIONER



Boyce H. Gault



Eugene Goforth



John W. Gladden

23 Candidates Are Seeking Six Positions

Kings Mountain citizens will go to the polls next Tuesday to cast ballots for city officials.

The citizens will choose from a record number of candidates, as 23 are vying for the six elective city positions.

It's the biggest candidate list since 1951 and, some think, will attract a record number of voters.

Two years ago 2176 persons voted in the city election.

Principal outward campaigning has been the province of the mayoral candidates. Four citizens are challenging veteran Mayor Glee A. Bridges, completing his fourth consecutive term and seeking a fifth.

Seeking to oust Mayor Bridges are Garland E. Still, an upset mayoral victor in 1951, David L. Saunders, onetime commissioner by appointment, Kelly Dixon, last fall a Republican candidate for United States Congressman, and Brooks McAbee, a last-minute entrant into the race.

In the Mayor's race, and in most of the others run-offs are in prospect. No less than three candidates seek each position and, as in the mayoral race, Ben H. Bridges, incumbent Ward 4 commissioner and mayor pro tempore the past four years, faces four challengers, Norman Kings, Paul W. Ledford, Willis Bagwell and Clinton Wood.

All incumbents are seeking re-election.

In Ward 1, Ross Alexander seeks re-election over two challengers, Ray W. Cline, a newcomer to city office-seeking, and C. H. (Cat) Houser, bowling center owner.

In Ward 2, Boyce Gault, another two term veteran, is being challenged by Eugene Goforth and John W. Gladden.

In Ward 3, Luther T. Bennett faces three opponents, T. J. (Tommy) Ellison, former commissioner and veteran of many city political campaigns, Clavon Kelly and Corbett Nicholson, both newcomers to the political scene.

In Ward 5, R. Coleman Stroupe, first elected in 1957 seeks to withstand the challenge of J. E. (Zip) Rhea and Hazel Lee Gill.

FOR WARD 3 COMMISSIONER



Luther Bennett



Corbett Nicholson



Clavon Kelly



Tommy J. Ellison

Politics Fast 40 Years Ago But Ground Rules Different

City politics in 1921 was fast and furious, as today, but the ground rules were different.

Forty years ago there was no filing deadline and each "ticket" ordered the printing of its own ballots. It was customary for a ticket to enter the race on election day.

Eugene Matthews, veteran Herald printer, remembers on one particular occasion being awakened before dawn to print a ballot for a last-minute "ticket."

Today, the city manages the election within rules prescribed by state statute. Would-be candidates must pay a filing fee and file 15 days preceding the election. The city prints the ballots with the names of all candidates on the same single sheet. The ballots are scrupulously counted and must be accounted for. Even the names are alternated so that one candidate is sometimes the first listed and sometimes the last listed—all in the interest of

fairness to all candidates. Here is the Herald report of April 28, 1921:

"Two tickets are out. Below we publish two tickets for mayor and aldermen. They were handed us by representative citizens. Look them over and vote as you please or go fishing, if you like—but vote before going."

"Capt. F. Dilling asks to say that he is not a candidate for town alderman and will not be."

"Esquire W. A. Mauney told us Tuesday to strike his name from the list. We have understood that Mr. H. T. Fulton stated before leaving for Raleigh Tuesday that he was 'out of it' but did not ask us to take his name off the list. So we publish the tickets as they stand as we go to press. Candidates for election May 3:

"FOR MAYOR — Wiley H. McGinnis. FOR ALDERMEN — E. W. Barnes, H. C. Dwellie, R. C. Gantt, J. C. Mason, M. A. Ware.

"FOR MAYOR — H. T. Fulton. FOR ALDERMEN — G. D. Ham-bright, J. B. Thomasson, Harry Falls.

And here is the somewhat unique result under the headline "McGinnis Elected Mayor:"

"In the town election Wiley McGinnis was elected mayor over C. E. Neisler by a vote of 322 to 182. The entire McGinnis ticket was elected as follows:

"Mayor, Wiley H. McGinnis 322; aldermen, E. W. Barnes 329; J. C. Mason 347; Moffatt A. Ware 336; H. C. Dwellie 333 and R. Columbus Gantt 324.

"Following is the vote on the Neisler ticket: Mayor C. E. Neisler 182. Aldermen, G. D. Ham-bright 198; M. L. Harmon 182; G. T. King 169; W. K. Mauney 169; L. A. Kiser 142.

"Out of a registration of 619, 504 votes were cast. 175 women were registered and all voted but five or six."

School Board Voting Totals Will Decide Length Of Terms

Williams, Harry Only Candidates For Two Posts

Kings Mountain school district citizens will elect two new trustees to the board of education next Tuesday — the first to represent new citizens of the expanded district which now includes all schools in Number 4 Township.

H. O. (Toby) Williams and Holmes Harry are the lone candidates and their election is virtually assured, as opposition to their candidacies did not occur.

This fact came as a surprise to some, as both were leaders in the movement to consolidate area schools, an issue fought with bit-

BOARD OF EDUCATION



H. O. (Toby) Williams



Holmes Harry

terness and heat both before and since the May 1960 consolidation election.

There is a semblance of a contest between the two candidates, though not involving a seat on

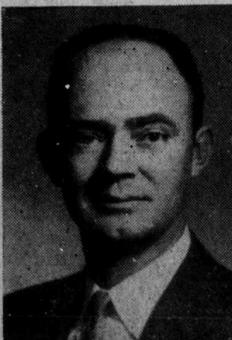
the board. Under the statute recently enacted by the General Assembly which amended election rules to enfranchise the new citizens of the district, the candidate receiving the most votes will be elected to a six-year term and the candidate placing second will be elected to a four-year term.

The two new members will replace Trustees Arnold W. Kincaid and J. W. Webster, legislated from chance of re-election by the recent election law amendment and on their expressed desires. Both had planned to resign from the education board last year after the voters approved the consolidation to provide representation to the incoming citizens. Mr. Kincaid did, then was re-appointed when court action by the losers delayed operational consolidation of the systems, now scheduled for July 1, 1961.

Mr. Williams is a graduate of Kings Mountain high school and Wake Forest college. He is a farmer and sports enthusiast, handling the public address system at high school football games.

Mr. Harry, a textile executive of Minette Mills, is chairman of the Grover district school committee.

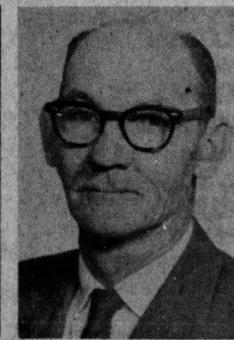
FOR WARD 4 COMMISSIONER



Ben H. Bridges



Paul W. Ledford



Willis B. Bagwell



Norman King



Clinton Wood

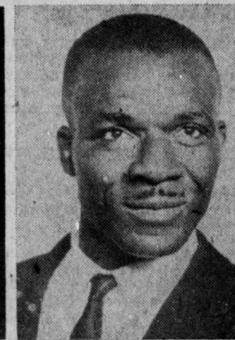
FOR WARD 5 COMMISSIONER



R. Coleman Stroupe



J. E. (Zip) Rhea



Hazel Lee Gill

Saturday Last Day To Register For 1961 City Election