

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.

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Kings Mountain, N. C., Thursday, May 11, 1961

Seventy-Second Year

PRICE TEN CENTS

Glee Bridges, Cline, Gault, Ellison, Ben Bridges, Rhea Lead Bennett Defeated In Ward 3 Contest

Kings Mountain citizens went to the polls in record numbers Tuesday, giving pluralities to Mayor Glee A. Bridges, Commissioners Ben H. Bridges and Boyce Gault, and Challengers Ray Cline, T. J. (Tommy) Ellison and J. E. (Zip) Rhea. A total of 2227 voted.

In the city office voting, no candidate won a clear majority, though Ben H. Bridges came very close. His 1056 votes failed of a majority by 29 votes out of 2168 cast. He led second-runner Kelly Dixon by 287 votes but failed of a majority by 300 votes. David L. Saunders placed third at 468, Garland E. Still fourth at 375, and Brooks McAbee fifth with 42.

Most close of all the contests was in the four-man Ward 3 contest, which eliminated Luther T. Bennett, the two-term incumbent commissioner. T. J. (Tommy) Ellison, veteran of the political wars and several times a commissioner, led the balloting with 661 votes, just 34 votes ahead of second-runner Corbet Nicholson

at 607. Mr. Bennett placed third at 495, followed by Clavon Kelly at 380. Mr. Ellison lacked 411 votes of a majority.

Pluralities in the other wards were more comparable.

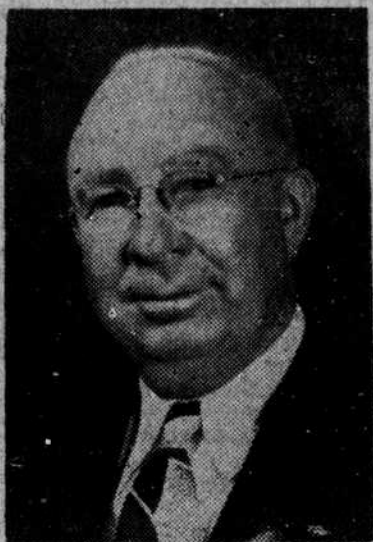
In Ward 1, Ray Cline led incumbent Ross Alexander 929 to 720, with C. H. (Cat) Houser polling 446. Mr. Cline's lead was 209 votes. He lacked a majority by 119.

In Ward 2, Incumbent Boyce Gault's 909 led Eugene Goforth's 706 by 203 votes, with John Gladden trailing at 519. Mr. Gault lacked a majority by 159.

In Ward 5, J. E. Rhea polled 981 votes to top Incumbent R. Coleman Stroupe's 727 and Hazel Gill's 458. Mr. Rhea's lead was 254. He lacked a majority by 102.

Balloting was conducted in almost ideal weather, from the standpoint of the temperature, but rained threatened several times during the day. The raindrops were limited to the drizzle category.

There was heavy balloting early in the day, particularly at Wards 4 and 5. At Ward 4, a line had formed before the polls opened at 6:30 a. m., election officials reported.



GLEE BRIDGES



RAY CLINE



BOYCE GAULT



TOMMY ELLISON



BEN BRIDGES



J. E. RHEA



KELLY DIXON



ROSS ALEXANDER



EUGENE GOFORTH



CORBET NICHOLSON



NORMAN KING



COLEMAN STROUPE

Stroupe, King To Call Run-offs; Others Likely

Williams Leader Over Harry In Uncontested School Vote

Williams Gets Six-Year Term, Harry Four

Two new board of education members — first to represent areas merged into the Kings Mountain school district — were elected without opposition Tuesday.

H. O. (Toby) Williams, who led the voting with 2007, was elected to a six-year term, by virtue of leading Holmes Harry, of Grover, who polled 1547 and was elected to a four year term.

TO TAKE OATHS

H. O. (Toby) Williams and Holmes Harry, newly-elected school trustees, will take their oaths of office in ceremonies at City Hall courtroom Thursday morning at 10:30. Judge Jack White is to administer the oaths, and city and school board officials are expected to attend, as well as interested citizens.

The amendments to the city election laws, recently enacted by the General Assembly, specified that the candidate receiving the highest number of votes be seated for six years, with the second-runner to be seated for four years.

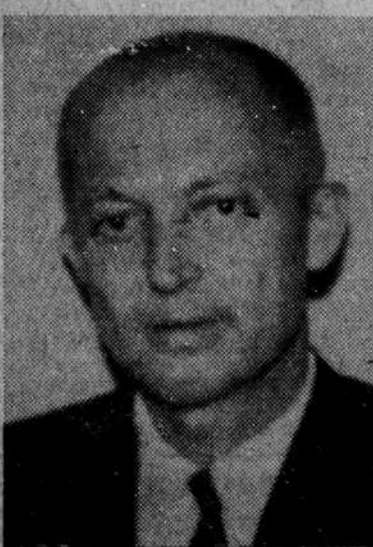
The board of education is arranged with staggered terms. Voting was light in the three outside city precincts, indicating the lack of a contest.

Mr. Williams is a farmer, Kings Mountain high school graduate and a sports enthusiast. For many years he has served as announcer at Kings Mountain high school football games.

Mr. Harry, Grover textile executive, is chairman of the Grover district school committee in the county system.

Both Mr. Williams and Mr. Harry were leaders in the movement of adjacent area citizens to merge into the Kings Mountain school district.

The new trustees will replace Arnold W. Kincaid and J. W. Webster, both completing six-year terms. Mr. Kincaid is a veteran member of the board, having served as trustee for several terms.



NEW SCHOOL TRUSTEES — H. O. (Toby) Williams, left, led Holmes Harry in the uncontested board of education election Tuesday. Williams won a six-year term, Harry a four-year term. They will take oaths of office Thursday morning.

OFFICIAL RETURNS Board of Education Election, May 9

	Ward 1	Ward 2	Ward 3	Ward 4	Ward 5	Beth. Park G. Gro.	Totals
Williams	196	275	350	370	569	103	91/2007
Harry	131	207	256	265	452	62	56/1181547



Mrs. Lovelace Is Elected

Mrs. Iva Lovelace, associated with the insurance firm of B. F. Maner Agency, will head the Gastonia Association of Insurance Women for the coming year.

Officers were installed at a dinner meeting at Gastonia Elks club Tuesday night. Mrs. Lovelace succeeds Miss Libby Camp of Kings Mountain. Miss Camp is employed in Gastonia.

Other officers, all of whom are of Gastonia, include: Miss Ruth Weaver, vice-president; Miss Carolyn Griffin, secretary; and Mrs. Tessie Bridges, treasurer.

PRESIDENT — Mrs. Iva Lovelace was installed Tuesday as president of the Gastonia Association of Insurance Women. She succeeds Miss Libby Camp, also of Kings Mountain.

Ground Rules For Run-Off Are Outlined

The city run-off election, if one is called, as appears likely, will be conducted on Tuesday, May 23.

The same election rules will apply. There will be no new registering and the same election officials will serve at the five ward polling places. Candidates pay no additional filing fees.

Under city statute, successful candidates are required to obtain a majority of the votes. Where a majority is not obtained, the second-runner has five days after the first election in which to call, in writing, for a run-off.

City Clerk Joe McDaniel, Jr., said Tuesday the same policy as heretofore will be followed.

The final day for calling for a run-off will be Sunday, May 15. Sunday is a non-business day. Mailed calls will be honored, provided they are postmarked no later than Sunday. Final postmarking at Kings Mountain post-office Sunday will be 3 p. m. Ken Pruitt, of the postoffice staff said.

Meantime, with no city office candidates elected, the incumbent mayor and board of commissioners will continue in office, at least until May 25. The law specifies that elected officials will serve in office until their successors are elected and qualified.

City Election SIDELIGHTS

The 2227 persons who voted in the city election Tuesday set a record, topping the one set two years ago when 2176 cast ballots. The gain was 51 voters.

Rumored write-in efforts of hard dissidents in the school consolidation fight failed to develop except in minor degree. Beth-ware reported lone write-ins for board of education trustees for H. A. Goforth and Jim Yarboro. Grover had a write-in for Gene Turner. West Kings Mountain listed two write-ins for Hill Lowery and one for C. T. Carpenter, Jr., the latter not qualified to serve.

Park Grace where only 59 persons voted, was first to report the night's work done, at shortly after 7 o'clock. Ward 4 was the last precinct to report, completing the tally.

(Continued On Page Eight)

OFFICIAL RETURNS City Election, May 9, 1961

	Ward 1	Ward 2	Ward 3	Ward 4	Ward 5	Totals
FOR MAYOR						
Bridges	103	135	126	152	298	814
Dixon	42	73	120	152	140	527
Saunders	48	73	61	81	205	468
Still	37	53	122	86	77	375
McAbee	4	7	6	24	1	42
WARD 1 COMMISSIONER						
Cline	129	150	222	184	244	929
Alexander	59	97	135	185	244	720
Houser	39	80	60	101	166	446
WARD 2 COMMISSIONER						
Gault	102	129	164	199	315	909
Goforth	77	125	132	131	241	706
Gladden	47	78	131	152	111	519
WARD 3 COMMISSIONER						
Ellison	72	92	196	134	167	661
Nicholson	49	114	90	149	205	607
Bennett	54	74	73	129	165	495
Kelly	47	48	75	72	138	380
WARD 4 COMMISSIONER						
Bridges	150	166	174	171	395	1056
King	43	99	159	147	173	621
Ledford	10	34	25	54	88	211
Bagwell	9	20	35	67	12	143
Wood	11	17	35	52	22	137
WARD 5 COMMISSIONER						
Rhea	116	160	200	190	315	981
Stroupe	82	104	175	235	131	727
Gill	31	68	48	52	259	458

Two Runners-Up Make Decisions



HEADS JAYCEES — James Lybrand is the new president of the Kings Mountain Junior Chamber of Commerce succeeding Robert H. Goforth. New officers were installed recently.

Six Contests Are Indicated For May 23

Two second runners in Tuesday's city election, Norman King, Ward 4, and R. Coleman Stroupe, Ward 5, have told the Herald they expect to ask for run-off elections, and several other second-runners have indicated they may.

Mr. Stroupe, two-term commissioner who placed second to J. E. (Zip) Rhea, said at Wednesday's commission meeting he never thought about not calling a run-off.

Mr. King called the Herald early Wednesday afternoon to say he definitely will call a run-off.

Challenger Rhea lacked 103 votes of a majority in his three-man race with Comm. Stroupe and Hazel Gill.

Comm. Ben H. Bridges lacked only 29 votes of a majority in his five-man contest with Challenger King, Paul Ledford, Willis Bagwell and Clinton Wood.

Mayoral runner-up Kelly Dixon said Wednesday morning he felt he would be "going back" on his supporters should he decline a run-off, but would defer decision.

Corbet Nicholson, runner-up to T. J. (Tommy) Ellison in the four-man Ward 3 commissioner race, told the Herald it would be Thursday before he made a definite decision, but he indicated he felt reasonably sure he would seek a run-off.

Comm. Ross Alexander said Wednesday afternoon he likely would call a run-off with Challenger Ray Cline, leader in Tuesday's three-man race.

The Herald was unable to contact Challenger Eugene Goforth, runner-up to Comm. Boyce Gault in Ward 2.

Mr. Stroupe has twice come from behind to win in run-off elections, over-taking W. G. Grantham, in 1957 and Charles E. Blalock, in 1959.

LITTLE LEAGUE NOTE

The Kings Mountain Lions club has donated \$25 to the support of the Police Department entry in the Kings Mountain Little League. President George Thomasson reported.

Forum Series Will Continue

Radio Station WKMT expects to continue its Monday afternoon radio political series in event of any run-off election.

However, Manager Jonas Bridges said this week, the format will be altered and effort will be made to have citizen panels interview not only the mayoral candidates, but commissioner candidates as well.

The hour program begins at 6 p. m.

Prior to Tuesday's election, five mayoral interview programs were broadcast.

ELECTED

A student from Kings Mountain at Pfeiffer college has been named vice president of Kappa Chi, pre-ministerial organization at the college. Bill Bumgardner, son of Mrs. Austin Bumgardner, Shelby Road, was named to the post held in elections on the campus recently. A major in the college's pre-ministerial program, he graduated from Central school in 1954.

Local News Bulletins

MASONIC MEETING

An emergent communication of Fairview Lodge 339 will be held Monday at 7:30 p. m. at Masonic Hall. Supper will be served at \$1.50 per plate and Past Masters will serve as officers for the evening. Secretary T. D. Tindall announced.

OPTIMIST CLUB

Regular meeting of the Kings Mountain Optimist club will be held Thursday night at 7:30 at Grace Methodist church fellowship building.

AT OPTIMIST MEET

Glynda Lynn, winner of the regional spelling bee, was a guest of the Optimist club at the regular meeting last week. Glynda's family also attended the program.

Legion Elects W. D. Morrison

W. D. (Red) Morrison, Victory Chevrolet shop manager, was elected commander of Otis D. Green Post 155, American Legion, in the annual post election last Friday.

He defeated Ross Alexander and David Delevie, and will succeed J. T. McGinnis, Jr., commander for the past two years. Mr. Morrison is a former post commander.

For first vice-commander, Hobart Dye and H. O. (Toby) Williams tied at 42 votes each. Mr. Dye won a coin toss for the position.

Other officers elected included Eugene Goforth, second vice-commander; Joe McDaniel, Jr., adjutant and finance officer; Floyd Dover, historian; and George Hull, sergeant-at-arms.

Elected to the five-man executive committee were Frank Elanton, Jay Powell, Eugene Gibson, E. C. (Abie) Martin and James Bennett.