

Population

Greater Kings Mountain City Limits 21,914
8,256

The Greater Kings Mountain figure is derived from the special United States Bureau of the Census report of January 1966, and includes the 14,990 population of Number 4 Township, and the remaining 6,124 from Number 5 Township, in Cleveland County and Crowder Mountain Township in Gaston County.

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INVESTIGATION CONTINUING — Southern Railway officials were continuing their investigation this week to determine what caused last Thursday's spectacular derailment of 21 freight cars of a northbound Southern Railway's freight train which heaped wreckage—a wide variety of merchandise—ripe watermelons, new rental cars, "Her Majesty" women's yellow bath robes—along both sides of the tracks which run parallel to Battleground and Railroad Avenues. Damages were estimated to total in the thousands of dollars. Nearly 300 feet of the track was chewed to splinters when the middle section of the northbound freight-traveling from Atlanta to Washington, D. C.—derailed about 2 a.m. Workmen have cleared Southern's two main lines and a large portion of the wreckage has been removed from the scene. (Photo by Isaac Alexander)

Arrested Looters Of Wreck Won't Be Prosecuted: FBI

21 Cars Derail In Wee Hours Last Thursday

No arrests have been made for looting in the derailment last Thursday of a Southern Railway freight train in Kings Mountain.

Robert M. Murphy, special agent in charge of the Charlotte office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, said Wednesday that the FBI will make no arrests for looting in the incident.

"We presented the information to the U.S. Attorney for the Western District, William Medford, in Asheville," said Mr. Murphy, "and it was decided there not to prosecute." According to Mr. Murphy the facts did not lend themselves to a successful investigation.

Theft from interstate shipment is more involved that what occurred in Kings Mountain, he explained, noting that the goods were scattered out into the open.

The spectacular derailment of 21 cars and merchandise of Southern's northbound 42-car train from Atlanta to Washington early Thursday morning scattered wreckage over a five-block area. One car carrying cookies struck the Mauney Mill about 2 a.m. and an employee reported the wreck to police.

Minutes after the crash looters already had piled up stacks of goods beside the twisted cars. They scurried into the night when police arrived. City police said that four carloads of shoes, girdles, stretch pants, and other things were seized when cars rolled into the parking lots of textile mills next to the tracks.

Mrs. J. V. Pressley, who was sleeping in a house just 50 yards (Continued On Page Eight)



SPEAKER — Rev. T. A. Lineberger of Connelly Springs will deliver the dedicatory sermon Sunday at the Macedonia Baptist church congregation formally dedicates its new parsonage.

Dedication Of Manse Set

The new parsonage of Macedonia Baptist church will be formally dedicated at morning worship services Sunday at 11 a.m. at the church.

A former pastor, Rev. T. A. Lineberger, now of Connelly Springs, will deliver the dedicatory sermon.

The new parsonage, a handsome four-bedroom residence of yellow brick, was completed recently at cost of \$22,000. It adjoins the church plant on Grover road.

(Continued on Page 8)

Educating Feds Want Integration Of Compact And Park Grace Pupils

The city board of education discerned but gave no answer Thursday to formal advisement by letter from the Department of Health, Education and Welfare "to make certain revision in its school desegregation plan or face possible cutoff of federal assistance."

The letter was written under date of June 11th and was signed by Dr. Eloise Severinson, regional civil rights director, in HEW's Charlottesville, Va. office.

School officials were given until July 15th to advise HEW "whether or not your board will be able to adopt an effective terminal desegregation plan."

Staff members of HEW's regional office visited the Kings Mountain plants on March 20 for a period review of the system's desegregation plan and at that time suggested the required revisions which were confirmed in a letter from Miss Severinson.

Schools Supt. Donald Jones is out-of-town this week on vacation. Via a "freedom of choice" plan

for next year school assignments have already been made. Only 194 of the system's 933 Negro students will attend the single all-Negro school, Compact.

Specifically, the required revisions, to be implemented in the coming school year, would include the following changes:

1) Assignment of Davidson school students to formerly white schools since the Davidson facility is to be used next year for special education purposes, rather than as a regular elementary school as in the past.

2) Reorganization of the grade structures of Park Grace and Compact elementary schools so that each school would serve all pupils in certain grades. Park Grace, under HEW's suggestion, would be used for a primary school (grades 1-3) and Compact school, now an all-Negro school, established for grades 4-6. All students would be assigned to all grades and sections on a non-racial basis. "This reorganization appears feasible for the school (Continued on Page 8)

Dick Mitchell Is Building House Boats

By MARTIN HARMON

When passers-by saw the big house boat—building on the lot adjacent to X City Service Station on West King street, they didn't know what was happening.

Since, many have stopped to see to the point that Dick Mitchell spends as much time showing as he does building.

Mitchell Enterprises, godchild of Richard L. Mitchell, a 41-year-old air force veteran of the Korean War, stemmed from the big deluxe, near-complete house boat initially planted on the Fred Plonk lot. Now the boat has company, with several campers of varying size on hand and three more house boats in the former Southwell Motor building which Mitchell has leased.

Mitchell, a California native, says he started building the deluxe model for himself a year ago, got the idea to get into the house boat building business as a wholesale builder, selling to distributors.

He was already acquainted with the trailer building business as a partner in a Lake City, Fla., enterprise.

The big trailer is deluxe: sleeps eight, carpeted floor, butane gas stove, bathroom with shower, sundeck, kitchen and clothes cabinet. Yet to come: the steering gear, with wheel in the enclosed cabinet, the usual finishing touches. Cost: \$7500.

Mitchell touches his pre-fabricated aluminum needs from Alcan on Childers street, his pre-fabricated interior paneling from Florida, his pre-fabricated steel pontoons from a firm in Greenville, S. C.

Mitchell, formerly a restaurant management consultant, has a particular connection with Kings Mountain. His wife is the former Betty Cash McCarter, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David Cash.

Funeral rites for Miss Martha Torrence, 84, of Bessemer City, aunt of Mrs. Fred W. Plonk of Kings Mountain, will be held Thursday at 4 p.m. from Long Creek Presbyterian church of which she was a member.

Interment will be in the family plot.

Miss Torrence, who had been a patient at Turner's Rest Home in Shelby the past four years, died Wednesday morning at 4:30 in Cleveland Memorial hospital. She retired several years ago as bookkeeper at Textiles, Inc. of Gastonia.

She is survived by 10 nieces and nephews.

Rev. Thomas Ruff of Charlotte will officiate at the final rites.

Bids Exceed Estimates By \$284,254

\$150,000 Enough? Mauney Fears Not

Hospital Goal Most Minimal, Says President

By MARTIN HARMON

Kings Mountain Hospital officials hope the \$150,000 goal for public donations to augment the building of an addition to the hospital will be exceeded.

Principal fear, President George W. Mauney said Wednesday, is continued escalation of construction costs.

"Building costs keep going up," President Mauney said, "and our plans are minimal at the present projection with an absolute minimum of \$150,000 necessary to augment county borrowing authority, funds now in hand, and funds indicated by charitable foundations."

Architects Freeman & White, of Charlotte, estimate the cost of the projected two-story east wing, which will provide 32 more beds, a new operating room and other ancillary facilities, at \$850,000.

Borrowing authority of the county for the project is \$500,000, the hospital has some funds available from memorial gifts, and sizeable aid has been indicated from charitable foundations. The gap is \$150,000.

Pressure for speed in letting the project to contract is two-fold: 1) a 95 percent occupancy rate at the present 75-bed hospital which means constant overcrowding and temporary housing of patients, including the very ill, in passageways; and 2) fact that the half-million borrowing authority, voted in February 1964, will expire in February 1969. By state law, unused borrowing authority terminates after five years.

Original addition plans, President Mauney pointed out, were much more expensive, estimated to cost \$1.2 million in anticipation of a federal fund grants under the Hill-Burton act. Last fall, hospital officials were told by the State Medical Care commission no Hill-Burton funds were available for Kings Mountain Hospital nor would be in the near future, Cleveland County, the commission executive director said, had received more than its share of Hill-Burton funds, after the appropriation for Cleveland Memorial hospital at Shelby.

Thursday is report day for citizens assisting in the \$150,000 fund drive. A luncheon will be held at noon at the Woman's Club.

On the initial report day June 6, campaign workers reported cash and pledges of \$53,205.

George H. Houser is campaign chairman.

Gibson Named To DTH Post

Dale Gibson, during the summer of 1967 sports editor of the Kings Mountain Herald and a rising senior at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, has been appointed managing editor of the school newspaper, the Daily Tar Heel, for the year 1968-69.

Gibson is majoring in journalism. The managing editor is one of the two principal editors of the Daily Tar Heel.

He joined the sports staff of the Daily Tar Heel last fall.

This summer Gibson is on the sports staff of the Shelby Daily Star.

He is son of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Gibson, of Patterson Springs.

June 30 Deadline For Registrations

June 30th is the deadline for high school students to change their registrations for next school term. Principal Jake Atkinson said this week.

Some students pre-registered prior to the closing of school, Atkinson said, adding that prospective ninth graders through 12th graders should note the deadline for registering for classes for the term beginning in September.



PRINCIPAL — Joe Hedden, veteran Kings Mountain high school band director is moving into administration as principal of West school. Donald J. Deal, Bessemer City high school band director, will succeed Mr. Hedden.

Hedden Named; Deal Successor

Donald J. Deal, for nine years Bessemer City high school band director, will succeed Kings Mountain high school veteran director Joe Hedden in September, as Director Hedden moves into administration as principal of West school.

Mr. Hedden holds a master's degree in school administration from Peabody University.

Mr. Deal is a 1950 graduate of Lenoir-Rhyne College, with degrees in business administration and music education, and attained a master's degree at Appalachian State University in 1957.

Before going to Bessemer City had been band director at Lincoln high school and had been a teacher at Granite Quarry and Dallas.

Announcement was also made that R. H. Bryant, during the recent school year principal of both West and Park Grace schools, will return to North as principal. No announcement has yet been made concerning the Park Grace principalship.

Contracting of four elementary teachers was also announced by Superintendent Donald D. Jones.

They are Mrs. Carol Porter, now of Stanley but soon to come a Shelby resident; James Owens and Mrs. James Page, of Kings Mountain; and Miss Louise Strange of Kannapolis.

The Blackstones are well known here.

Lt.-Col. O. T. Hayes, Jr., Ends 28 Years Of AF Service July 1

Lt. Col. O. T. Hayes, Jr., who flew 132 combat missions as a senior pilot in two wars, will retire July 1.

The Air Force careerman of 28 years is moving from Shaw AFB in Sumter, S. C. to the home of his mother, Mrs. O. T. Hayes, Sr., 211 Fulton street.

The Hayes' family's future plans are indefinite.

Lt. Col. Hayes, who flew a total of 586 combat hours in a B-26 during World War II and the Korean Conflict, is holder of the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Air Medal, and the Oak Leaf with 16 Oak Leaf clusters. A 1933 graduate of Kings Mountain high school, he entered the service in October 1941 and in June 1943 earned his pilot's wings. Then Captain Hayes was a combat pilot on duty in the European Theatre of Operations in 1944. Returning to the states in 1945, he was assigned to Boca Raton, Fla. where he served as a radar fighter instructor until 1947 when he was transferred to Keeler AFB, Miss., as squad commander. He shipped out to Korea in the latter part of 1950 and served as a combat pilot, again flying a B-26. He returned to the U.S. in late December of 1951 and in January of 1952 was assigned to Langley AFB. In 1952 he was transferred to Shaw AFB at Sumter as an officer and senior pilot.

Mrs. Hayes is the former Gloria

Recreation Center Base Bid Total \$608,577

By MARTIN HARMON

The dollar gap between low base bids of \$608,577 for the proposed neighborhood facilities building and the federal grant of \$302,680 is \$305,897.

Bids on the project, for which J. L. Williams & Associates of Charlotte, is architect, were opened Wednesday afternoon at City Hall.

Low base bid of three on the general contract was \$467,500, posted by Twin City Builders, Inc., of Winston-Salem.

Low base bid of ten on the electrical contract was \$37,493, posted by Modern Electric Company, of Statesville.

Low base bid of four on the heating-ventilating contract was \$64,622, posted by Hickory Plumbing & Heating Company, of Hickory.

Low base bid of three on the plumbing contract was \$38,962, posted by Rink Plumbing & Heating Company, of Hickory.

The base bids do not include any figuring of alternates, most of which were "add" alternates.

In the general contract all but two alternates bid were additions to cost and were for equipment for the facility. Largest "add" item was for bleachers, for which Twin City will contract for \$23,000. Kitchen equipment would cost another \$16,975.

There were two "minus" alternates in the general contract specifications: 1) Should the city do the grading for the building, Twin City would deduct \$4,000; 2) substitution of a multi-purpose rubber floor (described as a recent development in public building flooring by the architect) for a maple floor, Twin-City would deduct \$2800.

Should alternate for air-conditioning be accepted, Hickory Plumbing & Heating would increase its bid by \$31,202, while Modern Electric would add \$3292 to its base bid for the attendant wiring costs.

The board of commissioners set the regular meeting of July 9 for decision on whether to accept or reject bids.

The projected building would be two-story, have a multi-purpose basketball court, numerous offices, and day care facilities. It is designed to be located on the east side of the Deal Street recreation area and would face Cleveland avenue.

Morrison Nephew Dies In Accident

Funeral rites for Gary Blackstone, were held Saturday in Clearwater, Fla.

The youngster was nephew of Mr. and Mrs. Scarr Morrison of Kings Mountain. He was killed in an automobile accident in Glen Alpine.

The Blackstones are well known here.



MAJOR CHARLES E. PAINTER



WAYNE FRANKLIN LAUGHTER



BARBARA ANN MARABLE

Three Receive College Diplomas

Three Kings Mountain students are recent college graduates.

Miss Barbara Ann Marable, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joel C. Marable, is a 1968 graduate of North Carolina College, Durham, where she earned an AB degree.

Miss Marable was top student in her graduating class, graduating Magna Cum Laude, majoring in sociology and minoring in history.

She was selected the most outstanding student in the Sociology Department during her junior and senior years. She was elected president of Alpha Kappa Mu Honor Society and president of Alpha Kappa Delta National Sociology Honor Society. She was nominated to Who's Who among American Colleges and Universities.

In addition to the other organizations, she was a member of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Alpha Chi Chapter.

Miss Marable is a 1964 graduate of Lincoln high school, Bessemer City. E. D. Wilson is principal.

Wayne Franklin Laughter received his B.S. degree from Mars Hill college at the recent May commencement exercises. Son of Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Laughter, he was active in Pi Sigma Phi fraternity, the Monogram club and the varsity track team. He was a physical education major.

Laughter will be employed by the Charlotte-Mecklenburg school system as a teacher-coach.

Major Charles E. Painter, son of Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Painter of Kings Mountain, recently received his B.S. in aerospace engineering from the Air Force Institute of Technology.

The Kings Mountain man was one of three "distinguished" graduates in his class in exercises at Wright Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, Ohio. He was a member (Continued on Page 8)

City To Seek More HUD Cash For Facility

Mayor John Henry Williams and members of the city board of commissioners expressed their estimates in base bids for neighborhood facilities building.

J. L. Williams & Associates had estimated the project to cost \$427,223. The base bid total was \$577.

Williams associates said construction costs had increased considerably since the initial estimates.

Mayor Moss said he would seek an appointment in the immediate future with regional officials of the Department of Housing and Urban Development and would investigate possibilities of an increase in the \$302,680 federal grant.

He said he would point out that the federal government's two-thirds share was based on estimates and he would ask that the grant be increased to two-thirds of the actual bid.

The Mayor said that the city, based on architect estimates, "could see our way clear" to finance the city share of the project, from surplus, from an indicated \$42,500 contribution from the Kings Mountain Public Housing Authority, and a prior contribution of \$3,000 from the William Kemp and Mary Simpson Mauney Foundation.

Here for the bid opening was Everett Scott, of Raleigh, area engineer for the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Mayor Moss conferred with Mr. Scott following the bid opening.

"It is the intention and desire of the city commission to see this badly needed facility a fact, and we expect to leave no stone unturned in pursuit of this project," Mayor Moss declared.

"No stone unturned implies," the Mayor added, "a public campaign for funds to supply any differences between cash-in-hand and the cost of the facility."

Haas Family Moved Tuesday

Mr. and Mrs. Arno F. Haas moved Tuesday to Islesboro, Me. In Kings Mountain Mr. Haas has served as dyeing superintendent for a number of years at K Mills and Neisco Sales. He announced his plans to retire several weeks ago.

Mr. and Mrs. Haas said, "We should like to extend our thanks and gratefulness to all our friends, acquaintances and business associates for their hospitality, fellowship and courtesy during our ten years in Kings Mountain."

Hearing Held On PHA Request

Utilities Commissioner Clawson L. Williams conducted hearing in Raleigh Wednesday afternoon on petition by Kings Mountain Public Housing Authority, Inc. for a state certificate of convenience and public necessity.

Appearing in support of the petition were Thomas W. Harper, director, and Bob Bradley, attorney for the authority.

Comm. Williams explained that, in the absence of objection to granting of the certificate, he alone of the five commissioners was conducting the hearing. He said he would study the petition, consider answers to his questions by Harper and Bradley and would make recommendation for action to the full commission.

New Steel Poles Grace Battleground

The city electrical department this week installed two more of the new steel poles, these accommodating the traffic signals at Battleground avenue and West Gold street and the traffic signal on S. Battleground at the rail crossing.

Better street lighting is also provided with modern lamps atop.

Several wood utility poles will be removed in this area.

Momentarily removed, the sign directing southbound traffic at Battleground-Gold to stop on red, then proceed, will be attached to the traffic signal as quickly as it is re-painted.