

Population	
Greater Kings Mountain	21,914
City Limits (1966 Census)	8,256
City Limits (Estimate 1968)	9300

Greater Kings Mountain figure is derived from the special United States Bureau of the Census report for January 1968, and includes the 14,900 population of Number 4 Township, and the remaining 6,194 from Number 5 Township, in Cleveland County and Crowder Township in Gaston County.

# Kings Mountain Herald

Kings Mountain's Reliable Newspaper

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## HUD Invites CBD Reapplication Up To \$1,400,000

### Fluoridation Fight Shooting Starts Earlier Than Expected



#### Jaycees Visit Commission, Bolton Too

**By MARTIN HARMON**

The prospective renewed community fight over fluoridation of the city's water supply became more than a prospect Tuesday night.

Gerald Thomasson, chairman of the Jaycee committee spearheading the campaign for fluoridation, presented the city commissioners and mayor with an informational packet supporting fluoridation as a means to vastly improve dental health. He told the commission he and his committee were not asking immediate implementation of fluoridation.

"We merely want you to be fully informed before we make a formal request a few weeks hence," Mr. Thomasson said.

Clayton Bolton, resident of 206 N. Piedmont avenue and employee of Fibre Industries, asked recognition and proceeded to present a detailed statement opposing fluoridation as dangerous to health.

He prefaced his remarks by saying his opposition was not personal and averred that he and Mr. Thomasson were mutual supporters of George Wallace for president.

Mr. Bolton labeled fluorine "a deadly poison, a rat killer".

He also declared that medical and dental groups which have endorsed fluoridation have not guaranteed it has no harmful effects.

"I don't want my children to have it," he continued.

He asked that the city commission submit the question to citizens by referendum before affirmative action to fluoridate.

The city has twice conducted information referendums on the question.

In 1957, Kings Mountain citizens solidly supported fluoridation by 1146 to 593, but the Bridges Administration did not see fit to implement.

Various groups put pressure on



FROM JAMBOREE — Bill Baird, top, and his brother, Boyd Baird, have returned from National Boy Scout Jamboree in Idaho. They are members of Troop 93 and sons of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Baird.

#### Baird Brothers From Jamboree

Star Scouts Bill and Boyd Baird have returned from the National Boy Scout Jamboree in Idaho.

They are the sons of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Baird of the El Bethel community. They were among 185 Boy Scouts from North Carolina and among 40,000 at the Jamboree July 14-21.

Active in Boy Scout Troop 93, of which Simmet Moss is scoutmaster, the Baird brothers also attended Camp Schiele in Tryon this summer and passed the Order of the Arrow, becoming members of the Esau Huppeday Lodge.

Bill Baird, who became a Scout over two years ago, is a rising sophomore at Kings Mountain high school. Boyd Baird, a rising eighth grader, became a Scout a little over a year ago.

#### Temperature Up At City Meeting; Fites Demand Drain Water Relief

**By MARTIN HARMON**

The night was cool but the temperature waxed warm momentarily at City Hall Monday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Fite, 906 Monroe avenue, appeared to ask why their curb-and-gutter petition, approved, they said, over two years ago, had not been honored and why nothing had been done in the past five weeks when the city promised relief of the Fite water drainage problem.

Mrs. Fite questioned the Mayor's veracity and threatened litigation against the city if water flooded her basement.

Mayor John Henry Moss replied that the Fite problem had not been forgotten at all and that Superintendent of Public Works Grady Yelon had twice talked with Skidmore Construction Company about including the piping work in contracted curb-and-gutter work Skidmore was scheduled to begin several weeks ago.

Supt. Yelon said Skidmore Construction said it was bogged on a job in Newton and was probably three weeks away from the Kings Mountain work. "We have the pipe," Mayor Moss said. "The problem is installing it."

Mrs. Fite then complained of sewage odors from the pump station near the Fite residence.

"I want to know about that, too," W. B. (Bill) Simpson, a Jackson street neighbor of the Fites, said he was present in support of their plea and accused Comm. T. J. Ellison to telling him previously the Fites could sue Simpson for letting water damage Fite property.

Comm. Ellison replied, "I didn't tell you that, Bill."

After several exchanges, Mr. Simpson said, "You might have been kidding."

Denying the Simpson allegation again, Comm. Ellison said, "I did tell you about that big lake you have. But you can't sue on what God made run downhill."

Mr. Simpson had asked initially if street improvements petitions weren't required to be "taken in order."

### Speed By-Pass, Citizens Tell Highway Official



WIN PROMOTIONS — Ralph A. Smith, top, and William T. Gibbs recently won promotions at Kinder Manufacturing Company. Smith is the new assistant plant superintendent and Gibbs is traffic manager.

#### Kinder Promotes Smith, Gibbs

Clint Linn, General Manager of Kinder Manufacturing Co., Inc., announces the promotion of two employees on their staff.

Ralph A. Smith, who started with Fred V. Gentsch in Georgia in April of 1968, has been named Assistant Plant Superintendent. He is a graduate of Georgia Military college and was a junior at Georgia Southwestern college when he and his wife transferred to Kings Mountain. They attend Grace Methodist church and reside on the Dallas-Cherryville highway.

William T. Gibbs has been named Traffic Manager. Mr. Gibbs has been employed since operations of this plant began last January. He has been in charge of the shipping and Transportation Departments until he assumed his duties of Traffic Management.

Gibbs attended school in Fletcher, N. C. and received his GED degree in military service. He also attended Cleveland Tech to study welding, blueprint reading, and mechanics.

He lives in Shelby with his wife and two children. They are members of Polkville Baptist church.

#### No Whammy, Folk, This Is Radar

Kings Mountain motorists will do well to become light-foot Freddie.

The city police department has just received shipment on two new radar machines which it will use, beginning Friday or Saturday, to detect heavy-footed drivers.

There are no cables, ala the "whammy", to this machine, therefore, no warning to produce screeching brakes and cries of innocence.

"The machine logs the speed of a car up to 2000 feet," says Chief of Police Tom McDevitt. "If it catches you, you're caught and guilty."

### Speed By-Pass, Citizens Tell Highway Official

How to speed up Kings Mountain's long-proposed U. S. 74 by-pass wasn't listed on the agenda for Monday night's public hearing on the city's proposed preliminary thoroughfare plan.

However, this was the topic uppermost in the minds of the 75 or more citizens who attended.

Marion Poole of the State Highway Commission's Advanced Planning Department could only answer: "Talk to your highway commissioner" and he gave a loud answer so folks on the back row of City Hall courtroom could understand.

"It's up to your highway commissioner to establish the status of projects," said Mr. Poole, conducting the hearing on request of the city board of commissioners.

Roy Dedmon, Shelby, was appointed recently by Governor Scott as highway commissioner for Cleveland County.

Kings Mountain's thoroughfare plan (object of the meeting) was prepared in 1966 by the Community Planning Division of the N. C. Department of Local Affairs and the Advanced Planning Department of the State Highway Commission.

It calls for radial thoroughfares and crosstown "ones", explained Mr. Poole. "We expect King Street to be the principal crosstown thoroughfare," said Poole. "It will be the new U.S. 74 by-pass. Gold street will supplement King as a crosstown street with Battleground Avenue, Gaston street and Candler street as minor thoroughfares."

"We also expect to build loop thoroughfares around the city's perimeter to serve the outer fringes. As the areas build up we will build additional loops one-half to one mile further out. We hope to build two new underpasses at railroad crossings. The one at North Battleground avenue will be expensive and difficult. The underpass at Hawthorne on the south side will be less difficult.

Mr. Poole pointed out that no priorities have been set for construction because the plan has not gone to preliminary design.

He explained early in the hearing that before any street is rebuilt it will be studied in detail

### Narcotics Theft Suspects Jailed

City police arrested William David Fields, 35, 416 Cherry street, Belmont, Wednesday and charged him with breaking and entering and stealing a quantity of narcotics from Kings Mountain Drug Company on the night of July 27-28.

Sgt. William Roper said Gastonia police have arrested and lodged similar charges against Larry Leon Lewis, 39, 411 W. Fifth St., Gastonia.

A third man, who Sgt. Roper said is known to police, is being sought. "The three run together," Sgt. Roper added.

He said Fields and perhaps the others are suspected of the narcotics robbery of Griffin Drug Store on the night of July 7 and of a Bessemer City drug firm on the recent Sunday night.

The same pattern was followed in each of the three narcotics thefts. In each instance, the thieves stole only narcotics, ignored cash in open cash registers.

Chief of Police Tom McDevitt, Sgt. Roper and Gastonia officers searched the Jenkins home Wednesday, found quantities of assorted narcotics and hypodermic needles.

### Free Razing Deadline Saturday; Dixon Says 74 Structures Razed

Deadline on requests for free razing of derelict dwellings and outbuildings and hauling away of hulks of autos and appliances by the city is Saturday.

Meantime, Kelly Dixon, city code endorsement officer told the city commission Tuesday night that 290 residential inspections, 25 percent have found sub-standard.

Of the 290, a total of 159 owners have agreed to comply with building code regulations.

He reported that 74 structures have been razed since the residential clean-up effort began last month.

Mr. Dixon said he had received "good cooperation" from citizens.

He also told the board it is intended that every residence within the city will be inspected.

### Baxter Praises Performance Of City In HUD-Run Project

#### Regional Chief Hand-Delivers Certification

Kings Mountain's workable program for community improvement was officially re-certified by Edward H. Baxter, regional administrator for the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, visiting here Friday.

"Many times I've sent letters to you, I thought I'd drop by and deliver this one personally," he told Mayor John Henry Moss.

The two-year certification for community improvements extend through August 1, 1971.

Kings Mountain has had a healthy share of federal dollars the last two years and the HUD official was optimistic there's more to come.

He promised that more money would be coming from Washington for Kings Mountain to continue its programs of urban renewal, public housing and downtown development.

"I heartily approve of Kings Mountain's program of low-rent housing," he said. "This is the right concept in public housing. It may cost a little more to scatter them but it's better to disperse them than to crowd all those people together in one section," he added. "The apartments will be located in nine different locations over the city."

He was also highly complimentary of the Neighborhood Facilities building now under construction.

"I've been in Washington meeting with Secretary George Romney and other officials," said Mr. Baxter. "They tell me that money is tight right now. But we'll have more money as soon as Congress passes the latest appropriation," he added.

Said Mr. Baxter, "For a city your size Kings Mountain is one of the most active ones anywhere in my region. If we find a little extra money I don't mind putting it in your city," he said.

"Thank you, Sir, we can make use of all the money we get", and feel Kings Mountain deserves, the mayor said in acknowledging the certificate.

Baxter declared that he's confident that more funds will be available in towns and cities as soon as the Vietnam War is over.

In Kings Mountain HUD has provided a grant of \$892,000 for downtown development, \$450,000 for water and sewer improvements, \$2,115,000 for low-rent housing, and \$303,000 for a community center. In addition, HUD announced recently it was reserving a grant of \$19,000 for urban beautification.

Kings Mountain has an application pending for \$1,774,000 for urban renewal.

"I am confident that your application will be approved," Baxter said.

The project—known as R-96—is the Candler Street urban renewal project. The area includes 147 acres with 293 residences, 80 percent of them sub-standard.

The regional administrator, 6 Atlanta, Ga., stopped in Durham before paying his official visit here to city officials. His eight state region covers Alabama, Georgia, Florida, Kentucky, Mississippi, Tennessee and the two Carolinas.



CITY GETS CERTIFICATE — Edward H. Baxter, regional administrator for the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, at left, presents a certificate to Mayor John H. Moss which states that the city's workable program for community improvement is re-certified for the period ending August 1, 1971. Mr. Baxter praised the city as "one of the most active ones in my region" and promised there would be more federal dollars to come to continue progress in the areas of urban renewal, public housing and downtown development. (Photo by Jim Belt).

### United Fund Goal For 1970 \$32,100



#### Kyle Smith Is Chairman Of Campaign

Kings Mountain's United Fund campaign for 1970 will seek a goal of \$32,100 for seven causes.

The goal is \$5,500 more than last year's goal and 21.2 percent more than the amount raised last year, said the United Fund Board of Directors in making the announcement.

A reorganization meeting was held this week and the budget approved.

In announcing the goal for the Kings Mountain United Fund, campaign chairman, Kyle Smith said that in the opinion of the board this sum represented a minimum amount needed to support this community's essential health, welfare and recreational services that are included in this campaign.

"Our admissions and budget committees chaired by Joe Smith,"

#### Reb Wiesener Is Selected

Robert (Reb) Wiesener, 18-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Wiesener, has been selected to represent the county at the American Red Cross Aquatic School in Hendersonville August 21-31.

The Kings Mountain high school senior student, who has completed Senior life saving courses, will study swimming pool management, water safety, first aid and swimming and will be taught to serve as a Red Cross instructor in these subjects. Pre-requisite for taking the training is that the student hold a Senior life saving certificate.

Wiesener has served as a lifeguard for the past three summers at the city swimming pool. He is employed at Mountaineer Pharmacy.

Red Cross Aquatic schools are held twice annually all over the country. This is the first year that the county Red Cross chapter has sponsored a student and the first time an area person has attended in five years.

#### McMackin Discovers J. C. McGill Home Entered; Suffers Hemorrhage

W. Lindsay McMackin is in critical condition at Kings Mountain Hospital after suffering a cerebral hemorrhage Tuesday night.

Mr. McMackin became violently ill when he and his wife returned to the home of Dr. and Mrs. John C. McGill on vacation. The McMackins had been sleeping at the McGill home during their absence. The McMackins found that, since their early morning departure and their return about 8 p. m., that the house had been entered. An upstairs window sash had been kicked out and another window pane broken. Kitchen drawers were standing open, a butcher knife was on the table, and the thief or thieves had heated and eaten a can of tomato soup and consumed all but one slice of canned pineapple.

Meantime, the McGill family, who had been vacationing at Bon

### Additional Grant Would Assure Project

The regional director of the urban renewal program of the Department of Housing and Urban Development has invited the Kings Mountain Redevelopment Commission to make a new application estimated to cost up to \$1.4 million in federal money.

Joe Laney, executive director, reporting to the city commission Tuesday on a Friday conference in Atlanta, said the invitation in no wise meant that the re-application would be approved but he aided, "Without the invitation, there could have been no re-application."

The invitation by John Edmonds, the HUD regional chief, means that there is a possibility that the imbalance between Kings Mountain's \$892,000 federal grant for the central business district project and current cost estimate of \$1.2 million will be surmounted.

Mr. Laney said Mr. Edmonds and his aides acknowledged two principal reasons for the imbalance: 1) price increases in real property of \$200,000 since the application was filed three years ago, and 2) increase in interest rates to the federal government in the past three years of from two to six percent and amounting to \$138,000.

"We had three alternate proposals, piling the original project," but the Atlanta officials thought each would severely impair the total project," Mr. Laney continued.

One expansion of the project was suggested by the HUD officials, estimated to cost \$200,000, and this was obtaining of 80-foot

### Mrs. Sellers' Rites Conducted

Funeral rites for Mrs. Fairy Frances Sellers, 72, wife of William A. (Buddy) Sellers of the Dixon community, were held Wednesday afternoon at 4 p. m. from Dixon Presbyterian church of which she was a member.

Her pastor, Rev. Robert Wilson, assisted by a former pastor, Rex James S. Mann of Candor, N. C., and Rev. R. C. Franks officiated at the final rites. Interment was in Bethlehem Baptist church cemetery.

Grandsons of Mrs. Sellers served as pallbearers and granddaughters served as flower bearers.

Mrs. Sellers died Monday morning at 5:10 in the Kings Mountain hospital after illness of several years. Though in declining health, she had been showing some improvement and had only reentered the hospital Friday night. Death was attributed to a heart condition.

A native of Cleveland County, she was a daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. John Hayes.

Besides her husband, she is survived by two sons, George W. Sellers and Lee A. Sellers, both of Kings Mountain; four daughters, Miss Annie Mae Sellers and Miss Elizabeth Sellers, both of the home, Mrs. Delbert Jackson of Kings Mountain and Mrs. Yates A. Smith, Jr. of Grover; one sister, Mrs. Bertha Mason of Ware Shoals; 10 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

(Continued on Page 6)