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# THURSDAY'S KINGS MOUNTAIN MIRROR HERALD

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## Permits, Fees Up, Construction Down

By TOM MCINTYRE  
Editor, Mirror-Herald

Although higher fees were collected and more building permits issued by the city in 1978, the total construction dollars spent were less than in 1977.

These figures are reflected in the 1978 annual report issued this week by the codes department.

Inflation in building materials during 1978 are also reflected in new home construction. For 1977 a total of 54 permits representing \$1,785,250

for construction were issued compared to the 83 issued in '78. These 83 permits represent \$1,141,125 in construction - 21 less permits, but only \$644,125 less in construction dollars.

For the period of Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 1978 a total of 456 building permits were issued, 42 more than in 1977. The city collected \$24,861.05 in '78, which is \$8,156.35 more than the \$16,704.70 for '77. Construction dollars from all permits last year totaled \$3,664,524, which is \$484,840 less than the \$4,149,364 reported for

'77.

The 1978 annual report shows four categories of permits not issued in 1977. There were six categories in 1977 not included in the '78 report. For the year past there were no mobile homes, church buildings, parking lots, driveways, rescue squad building repairs or walls permits issued. Included in new category permits for 1978 are new apartments, apartment repairs, insulation and service station gas tanks.

More home repairs and additions

were made during 1978 than the previous year, according to the report. There were 91 permits in '78 compared to 74 the previous year. But again inflation is reflected in the fact there is only a \$5,557 difference between the total of construction dollars. In 1977 the total was \$264,211. For '78 the total was \$269,768.

Utility permits, although one less than was issued in 1977 (57), indicates almost twice as much expended in construction. The 1977 construction dollar total was \$5,753

while the 1978 total hit \$10,675.

Permits were issued for 52 apartments, one for apartment repairs, three for insulation and one for installation of a gas tank for a service station in 1978. None of these appear on the 1977 report.

Construction dollars represented in the 52 apartments totaled \$501,050. For apartment repairs - \$4,725; insulation - \$2,029; and the gas tank - \$400.

Other categories, permit numbers and total construction dollars included in the 1978 annual report are as follows:

Zoning - 55 - \$275; demolitions - 14 - \$10,190; homes moved - 8 - \$16,900; plumbing contractor - 30 - \$149,079; electric contractor - 40 - \$126,235; heat & air contractor - 29 - \$180,829; accessory buildings - 11 - \$12,225; buildings moved - 2 - \$1,100; new business - 8 - \$923,194; business repairs & additions - 10 - \$115,272; church repairs - 5 - \$28,975; industry repairs - 1 - \$38,000; contract permits - 5 - \$3,000; driveways - 25 - \$50,338; swimming pools - 11 - \$68,045; business signs - 9 - \$32,700; fences - 2 - \$1,600; and carports & patios - 4 - \$1,796.

### Moss Named To Committee

Mayor John H. Moss has been appointed to a one year term on the National League of Cities' Committee on natural resources.

The term begins Sun., Mar. 4 with the committee's first meeting. The meeting will be held in Washington, D. C. NLC President John Rousakis made the appointment.

The committee will focus on federal policy issues of major importance to the more than 80,000 cities in the United States. Areas of study include energy, water resources, waste management, urban development, air quality, noise control and urban aesthetics.

Moss will be one of 12 committee members to serve during 1978.



Photo By Lib Stewart

REHEARSALS UNDERWAY - Kings Mountain Little Theatre is rehearsing three nights weekly for "Finishing Touches," an adult comedy to be presented Feb. 23-24-25 and Mar. 2-3 at Park Grace Auditorium.

Jim Champion, director, standing, chats with the play's co-stars, Mary Greene and Jim Potter, at rehearsal Monday night. The play will be Champion's first directing role for KMLT.

### School Policies To Be Updated

By GARY STEWART  
Staff Writer

The Kings Mountain District Schools board of education completed its review of policies in a special meeting Monday night and will officially act on most of the policies at the regular meeting Feb. 12.

Most of the policies discussed Monday weren't changed drastically but board members and visitors had lengthy discussions on promotion of personnel, the treatment of accumulative records and the student promotion policies.

Gary Shields, president of the local chapter of the NCAE and assistant principal at the junior high school, raised several questions about the promotion of personnel and retention of students.

The board's policy on promotion of personnel states that preference will be given to qualified personnel within the system when administrative vacancies occur.

Board member Bill McDaniel stated "when filling this type of job, we need to get the person best suited regardless of where we find him."

Shields asked, "Why go outside to hire someone when you have

someone inside the system who is just as qualified?"

Board member June Lee pointed out that "everyone does not interpret qualification the same way. We need to get it written down to where it's plain."

Supt. William Davis suggested that he do some more rewording and present the policy again at a later date.

Mrs. Lee added that, regardless of the wording, "all qualified personnel

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CRYSTAL DAWN SPARROW

### Church Youth Set Bake Sale

Youth of El Bethel United Methodist Church will sponsor a hotdog and bake sale Sat., Feb. 3, for benefit of youth projects.

Serving will begin at 10:30 a. m. and continue until 2 p. m. in the church fellowship hall.

### Revelation Book Study

A study of the Book of Revelation will begin Sunday night at Central United Methodist Church and continue each Sunday night through the month of February.

Dr. Loy H. Witherspoon, Professor of Philosophy and Religion in the Department of Religious Studies and Director of the United Religious Ministry at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, will lead the study from 7 until 8:30 p. m.

Prior to coming to Charlotte College in 1964, Dr. Witherspoon taught at the American University in Cairo, Egypt, and at Dakota Wesleyan University at Mitchell, S. D.

### KM Farmers Not In Parade

Local farmers did not participate in the 12 mile long tractorcade to the state capitol but many of them watched from the sidelines as 350 tractors and trucks passed through this area Sunday afternoon about 4 p. m.

Traveling at a snail's pace of about 15 m. p. h., the tractorcade traveled north on I-85 and were to camp out in Charlotte Monday night, resuming their journey early Monday morning. Many of the farmers had their families with them.

As many as 50,000 farmers are expected to gather in the nation's capital this week to demand parity in farm prices and to protest the middleman and large corporate farmers, who, they say, take advantage of the small farmers. Parity is a price for farm products, usually maintained by government price supports, designated to keep the purchasing power of the farmers at a certain level.

## Q&A's About ERA Proposal

Mention ERA and more than likely you may get an argument either way.

ERA, which stands for Equal Rights Amendment, has its supporters and detractors. The supporters want the General Assembly to pass the measure and the detractors want it killed once and for all.

Legislators, such as Sen. Ollie Harris of Kings Mountain, wants a state-wide referendum to let the people have their say one way or the

other. Then people like Sen. Helen Rhyne Marvin and Speaker of the House Carl Stewart feel the measure should be approved by the legislators.

Just exactly what is the Equal Rights Amendment? Why has it become a dirty word in some quarters and the shining hope in others?

To answer some of the questions and lay some of the fears of ERA to rest, Sen. Marvin and Speaker Stewart, both of Gastonia, have

compiled an ERA questionnaire.

A local proponent of ERA, Hazel Fryer, said "Numerous questions concerning ERA are being asked of the staffers at Mauney Memorial Library." she said she feels this "newspaper could do a great service" to the community by publishing some of the material supplied by Mrs. Marvin and Stewart.

The Mirror-Herald cannot print the entire document because its length is too great, but here are

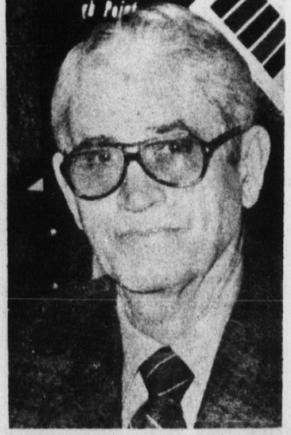
some questions and answers from the text that may enlighten readers concerning ERA.

Q: Doesn't 14th Amendment Protect Rights of Women?

A: No. The Supreme Court stopped short of making a blanket declaration that sex discrimination violates the equal protection clause, as it has stated regarding race and religious discrimination. Remember it was necessary to pass the 19th

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### Cooper's Under New Ownership



RICHARD BARNETTE

Richard Barnette, who joined Cooper's, Inc. as a salesman 39 years ago, has purchased the controlling interest in the Kings Mountain furniture firm and will continue to operate the 44-year-old business as Cooper's Inc. on Railroad Ave.

Mr. Barnette purchased on Jan. 1 the stock of the late Harold Coggins, who died in 1977, and who founded the business with the late Carl C. Cooper in 1935. Mrs. Coggins died in 1977.

As President and General Manager of Cooper's, Inc., Mr. Barnette said that policies will remain the same and that the furniture firm will continue to offer a variety of merchandise for the family, including appliances, furnishings and floorcoverings.

Mr. Barnette expressed appreciation to Kings Mountain area citizens for "their loyalty throughout the years" and said the firm will hold a week-long Appreciation Days Sale, beginning Thursday, Friday and Saturday with drawings for a television set and other prizes, and refreshments to all visitors.

Cooper's, Inc. staffers hold a total of 108 years experience in the furniture business, headed by President Barnette, who joined the firm five years after Coggins and Cooper acquired the business. Dean Payne, with 17 years in sales, rejoined Cooper's in April 1978 as credit manager. Mrs. Charles (Ginny) Owens has served as office manager for 13 years, George McClain, with 33 years experience,

is in charge of warehousing and delivery, and Jerry Jackson, who came to work in 1977, is also involved in warehouse and sales.

Son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Dillard Barnette, Mr. Barnette is married to the former Irene Leigh and they are active in Second Baptist Church where he is a trustee and superintendent of the Sunday School. They are parents of two daughters, Mrs. Brenda Swan and Mrs. Kay Rosenblatt, both of Charlotte.

A veteran of 30 years service in the Kings Mountain Lions Club, Mr. Barnette is a past Lions president. He also is a past president of Kings Mountain Merchants Association.

Mr. Barnette has seen numerous trends in home furnishings since he

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### Pneumonia Claims Life Of 9-Year Old

Last Thursday afternoon Crystal Dawn Sparrow was declared one of three talent show winners at Bethlehem Elementary School.

She attended classes Friday and during the day she developed a strep throat infection. The strep infection developed into pneumonia and she was admitted to Charlotte Memorial Hospital.

Tuesday at 11 p. m. the nine-year old fourth grader died.

Funeral services will be held at 4 p. m. Friday at Patterson Grove Baptist Church by the Rev. Richard Plyler and interment will be in the church cemetery.

Survivors are her parents, Douglas C. and Patsy C. Sparrow, Rt. 4, Patterson Grove; one brother, Eric, of the home; paternal grandmother, Mrs. Flora Sparrow Scism Bell of Kings Mountain; maternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Willie Cantrell of Simpsonville, S. C.; and great-grandparents, Mrs. Ethel Stone Cantrell and Mrs. Edd Holcombe, both of Simpsonville, S. C.

The family will receive friends tonight from 7-9 at Harris Funeral Home. Memorials may be sent to Patterson Grove Baptist Church.