



DISCUSS NEW INDUSTRY-These three men met in the Mayor's office yesterday to discuss a coordinated effort to bring a new industry to Kings Mountain. Shown above (left to right) are Mayor John Henry Moss, Tom Tate, co-chairmen of the Industrial Development Committee, and Dave Kaufman, representing a group that hopes to open a new industry in the Margrace and Pauline Mills.

City Assisting New Industry

Negotiations are presently underway that could bring another new industry to Kings Mountain, the Herald has learned. Margrace Mill Industries would be the name of the new industry, which would be located in the Margrace and Pauline Mills.

The new company would produce medium-priced upholstery fabric for various other industries.

In Kings Mountain yesterday representing the group negotiating to buy the mills was Dave Kaufman, who would be Vice President and director of contract operations.

Mr. Kaufman stated that his group is presently working with the Small Business Administration to put together a package for his group.

"I want to express my appreciation to the Kings Mountain Industrial Development Committee, who have worked closely with us to bring the various groups together who are interested in this project," Mr. Kaufman said.

"We could not have had any better cooperation from a community, from your Mayor, and from other individuals. Josh Hinnant and Tom Tate, the chairmen of your Industrial Development committee have gone out of their way to help in developing this project."

Mayor Moss stated that he felt sure the project would be approved by all parties and thanked the members of the Small Business Administration for working with the Kings Mountain Industrial Development

Committee on the project. "It takes the combined effort of a lot of people to develop such a project and we look forward to having Margrace Mill Industries a vital part of our community."

James Dickey of Kings Mountain will be the Superintendent and chief operations officer of the new industry. Charles Bunch of Statesville will be the President.

"As soon as we get approval of the project by the SBA, we hope to be in operation soon afterwards," Mr. Kaufman stated. "At full capacity, our mill would employ about 300 people."

He stated that the new industry would utilize the present equipment in the plant and

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Few Citizens, Candidates Attend Public Forum

There was only a small turnout of citizens and candidates at Monday's public forum at the Governmental Services Facilities Center.

The forum was sponsored by the Positive Action League to give candidates and citizens a chance to voice opinions on the issues in the upcoming election of Kings Mountain mayor and three commissioners.

Only about 30 citizens and eight of the 13 citizens seeking

political office showed up for the 7:30 meeting. Candidates who did not show were Irvin "Tootie" Allen, who is opposing incumbent commissioner Jim Childers in district one; Clara Ross, Harry "Dutch" Wilson and Danny McAbee, who are facing incumbent Norman King and Rev. M.L. Campbell in district four; and incumbent Corbet Nicholson, who is challenged by Ronald Franks and T.C. "Red" McKee in district three.

Rev. Eugene Land, chairman of the Positive Action League and moderator of the meeting, said he received word from Commissioner Nicholson that he had a prior engagement and from Mrs. Ross, who was vacationing in Hawaii, but did not receive word from the other candidates who did not attend.

After each candidate received three minutes to express their views, citizens were given the opportunity to question the can-

didates. Questions were on such topics as bootlegging, ABC elections, traffic problems, recruitment of business and industry, and a city manager form of government.

CANDIDATES' STATEMENTS

In their three-minute opening statements, candidates were given an opportunity to introduce themselves to the citizens and state their qualifications for office.

Commissioner Childers said he is seeking a third term in office because "I have seen a lot of things done but there are some things to be implemented in the next three years that are going to take experienced people to guide the city. We've come through a critical two years when the economy was down and money was tight, but I think we're coming out of it now."

Rev. Campbell said, "I am not experienced but do not think that will be a handicap, because I have experience in national and state politics and with the city by appointment. I think I can handle arising conditions, whatever they may be, and think I can join in helping promote the city forward."

He said he was concerned with street improvements, continued improvement of existing low-rent housing, keeping the tax rate as low as possible while still continuing needed services, improving activities for the elderly and improving the recreation programs.

Wright said he feels his 22 years experience in teaching, plus his experience in textiles and sales qualify him for office. "I'm very proud of Kings Mountain and would just like to add a little more to the town."

He said he would like to see old buildings torn down and more involvement in religious and civic events. "I would prefer lower utility rates, especially for senior citizens, and we need to try to reach young people and keep them in the city," he said.

King pointed to several improvements since he first took office in 1963, such as Moss Lake, the new City Hall, new Public Works Building and the new sewer plant.

"The things we've done since I've been in office have benefited all the citizens," King said. "The city did not have a retirement plan when I came into office. We initiated one in 1964 and I was honored to be a member of a committee of three that initiated a pay plan and personnel policy for the city."

Franks said he feels his experience as an accountant will be invaluable to the city, which has a \$12.5 million budget.

"We need to set some priorities, and then follow them through," he said. "I would like to see expanded programs for the

youth and elderly."

Mayor Moss said when he first ran for office he pledged to bring "planned, progressive leadership to the mayor's office, and I renew my pledge to devote my time, energy and talents to

make this city a better place to live."

McKee and Gilbert "Pee Wee" Hamrick did not make opening comments.

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OPINION Who Cares

Do the citizens of Kings Mountain really care what goes on at city hall?

Do the people who offer themselves as candidates for city offices really care, or are they just interested in the salaries those positions pay?

After Monday night's open forum at the Governmental Services Facilities Center, which was sponsored by the Positive Action League to give citizens the opportunity to discuss issues with the candidates, we must conclude that very few people could care less about what goes on in city government.

Only about 30 citizens and eight of the 13 persons who have filed for office in the October 11 election showed up.

In short, that's a disgrace. Citizens who don't bother to attend such gatherings are the first to complain when things don't go their way.

And, if people who run for public office are not even interested enough to attend the forum, they would do the city a great favor by dropping out of the race. We certainly hope that come October 11, the voters of Kings Mountain will cast their ballots for the ones who were interested enough in the citizens to meet them Monday night.

Had Monday night's meeting involved an ABC referendum, you can bet that city hall would have been overflowing, just as it was on that night in February when church members came to ask the city board to rescind its action calling for a liquor, beer and wine vote.

If Monday's turnout is any indication of the turnout for the election, the decision on who will guide Kings Mountain during the next four years will be made by a very small minority of citizens.



Photo by Gary Stewart

CANDIDATE FORUM - Rev. Gene Land, center, pastor of Second Baptist Church and chairman of the Kings Mountain Positive Action League, explains the guidelines used for Monday's public forum for city election candidates. Candidates in the picture, left to right, are Frank Wright, Ronald Franks, T.C. "Red" McKee, Mayor John Henry Moss, Norman King and M.L. Campbell.

KM Youth Injured

A Kings Mountain youth was injured late Wednesday afternoon when he fell 45-feet into an old mine shaft off Highway 161 south of Kings Mountain.

Edward Allender, 18, a resident of Lyons Trailer Park, was rappelling down the side of the 10 feet by 10 feet shaft when he lost his grip and fell into the hole.

A companion, 16-year-old Thomas Wayne Blanton, ran to Falls Superette to call for help. Kings Mountain Rescue Squad members Russell Falls and

Frank Hayes were strapped in harnesses and lowered into the shaft to rescue Allender. Allender was taken to Charlotte Memorial Hospital.

Ron McKinney, chief deputy of the Cleveland County Sheriff's Department, was at the Kings Mountain Truck Plaza when the emergency call went out to the Rescue Squad. He hurried to the scene to help in the rescue effort.

McKinney said the boys told him they had explored caves and

rocks before "but they were far from professional." He said the rope they used appeared to be a three-quarter inch Dacron type with knots tied every four or five feet to help get a better grip.

The rope was tied to a tree and thrown down into the hole, McKinney said. He said Allender was apparently about 10 to 15 feet down when he lost his grip and fell. Blanton had not yet entered the mine shaft.

The old mine shaft is on private property across from Paul Hord's Seafood. Hord said no trespassing signs have been posted on the property before but have always been torn down. McKinney said chicken wire had been strung around the shaft the boys were exploring, but it, too, had been pushed down.

Allender is a patient in room 432 at Charlotte Memorial, where he underwent back surgery this week. Get well cards would be appreciated.

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Cop Car Damaged In High Speed Chase

A Kings Mountain police car was damaged to the tune of \$2,800 when it was wrecked during a high speed chase through Cleveland County early Sunday morning.

Reserve officer Jackie Dean

Barnett was driving the vehicle, which was one of several police cars trying to stop a car allegedly driven by Roger Milton Phipps, 30, of Gastonia.

Charlotte Woman Raped Near Kings Mountain

A Charlotte man has been charged by the Cleveland County Sheriff's Department with rape following an incident late Monday night.

Lee Thomas Pegues, of 3114 Ross Avenue, Charlotte, was jailed in Cleveland County jail after being apprehended near Boiling Springs.

According to Deputy Bob Fortenberry, Pegues allegedly abducted an unidentified Charlotte woman in a parking lot in Charlotte and drove her, in her own car, to an area off Dixon School Road, south of Kings Mountain, where the rape allegedly occurred.

The woman was put out of the car on Highway 216 near Little Dan's Grocery.

The woman's car was spotted around midnight by a Boiling Springs police officer at Mutt's Chicken N Biscuits near Boiling Springs. There were two other occupants in the car, but according to Fortenberry, they were not involved in the incident.

The Boiling Springs officer followed the car when it left Mutt's. When the car was stopped, Pegues reportedly ran and was apprehended by Trooper

Ralph Gantt of the Highway Patrol.

The Cleveland County Sheriff's Department charged Pegues with rape and temporary larceny of an automobile. According to Fortenberry, charges of robbery and kidnapping will be lodged by Mecklenburg County Police.

Jaycees Not Running Phone Contest

The Kings Mountain Jaycees are not involved in any telephone contests or solicitations going on in the Kings Mountain area, Jaycee President Louie Sabetti said today.

Sabetti said he has received several reports that people identifying themselves as representatives of the Jaycees are calling citizens and offering \$300 worth of coupons, redeemable at area merchants, for \$21.

"We are in no way affiliated with it, and we're very concerned about it," he said. "If people

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