

DR. GEORGE W. PLONK

## KM's First Resident Surgeon Is Retiring

Dr. George W. Plonk, Kings Mountain surgeon for 32 years, is retiring Sept. 7th.

"It is with mixed emotions that I make the decision to retire at the age of 65 but it's my feeling that doctors should retire from this profession while they are in good health," said Plonk who became this community's first surgeon in 1952 after practicing in Raleigh for five years.

"I do appreciate very much the support my patients and the whole community have given me over the years and I shall

always cherish the memories of my association with the fine hospital and medical staff of Kings Mountain Hospital and the entire medical community", he said.

"I invite my patients to contact me during the next few weeks so that I may transfer their medical records to the doctor and surgeon of their choice", said Dr. Plonk.

Dr. Plonk said he and his wife, Margaret Cooper Plonk, plan to travel and spend more time with their 15 grandchildren and con-

tinue to raise horses on their farm on Cherryville Road.

Dr. Plonk said he looks forward to retirement but feels it "will be quite an adjustment" having practiced a rigid schedule for years.

A Kings Mountain native, son of Mrs. C.S. Plonk, 98, and the late Mr. Plonk and reared in a family of 10 children, Dr. Plonk said he "considered working in Kings Mountain long before Kings Mountain Hospital was founded and then again when it became a 24 bed facility. Cer-

tified by the American Board of Surgery and a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons, a stipulation was that as a surgeon he practice in a bigger hospital. After completing a surgical residency at Lankenau Hospital in Philadelphia, Pa., Dr. Plonk began his surgical practice in Raleigh. Prior to that he had graduated from Kings Mountain High School, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and attended two years of medical school at Carolina. He graduated from Jefferson

Medical College, Philadelphia, Pa. and interned during World War II at Lankenau Hospital. Discharged from the Army Medical Corps in 1946 after a two year hitch, he was a general practitioner in Murphy from January 1947 until October 1948.

When he opened his surgical practice here 32 years ago his office was located in what used to be the Kings Mountain Bonded Warehouse adjacent to Kings

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## Thomasson Says City Not Liable For Drainage

The city board of commissioners Monday at a noon special meeting awarded the contract to the low bidder-P&M Utilities of Shelby, at \$77,674.40, for 4,050 feet of six inch gas line for the Lake Montonia Road-Galilee Area and to serve Thermacote Welco.

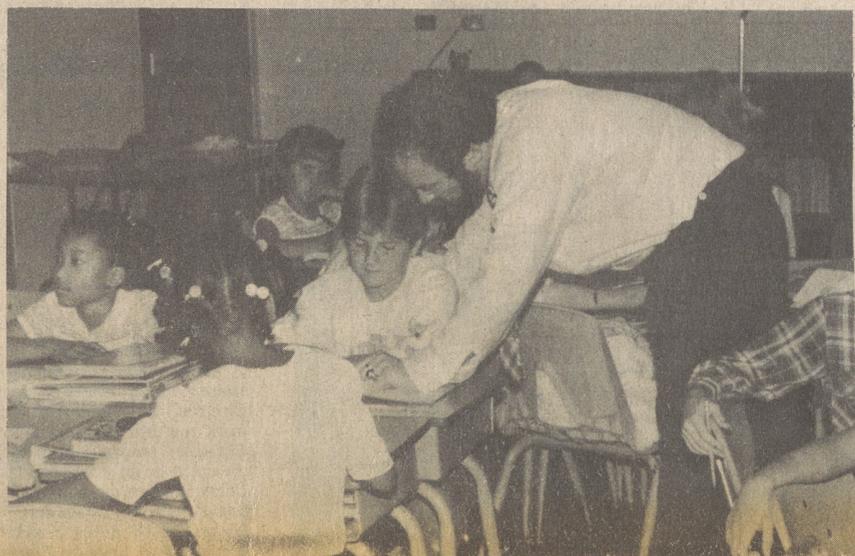
Jimmy Maney, Superintendent of the Gas Department, said that construction could start as soon as Tuesday and that, depending upon the weather, work could be completed within 10 days.

Other bidders were Edwards Pipeline, Charlotte, \$90,975.20 and Hall Contracting, Charlotte, \$96,300.

In other business, the board heard a report from city attorney

George Thomasson clarifying the city's position on drainage "problems" that citizens are experiencing.

Thomasson said that the North Carolina League of Municipalities' ruling is very clear, that the city is under no obligation for drainage liabilities on private property. "Due to the heavy rains local residents have been calling about drainage problems and there is some confusion as to who is liable, the city or the private property owner," he said. Thomasson said that "unless the city goes in voluntarily and diverts water and engages in any activity that might worsen a drainage problem, the city is not liable."



PRINCIPAL'S PAL—Dr. Larry Queen, the new principal of North School, has initiated a new program called "Principal's Pal" in which students are recognized during the week. Here, he talks with pupils in Mrs. Connie Bell's fourth grade classroom.

## Prinicpal Already Making 'Pals'

Dr. Larry Queen, the new principal of North School, intends to keep abreast of the changing role of teachers and principals and is implementing some of the new ideas in the classroom.

Chairman of the Department of Education at Gardner Webb College for six years before coming to Kings Mountain this Fall, Dr. Queen said he wanted to get back "in the mainstream of education" and is excited about his new work, and he and his wife are looking forward to moving soon to Kings Mountain.

"I'm very excited about North

School. Our teachers are working as teams and when they see a need they just jump right in", he said, as he talked about some new ideas he is implementing. Principal's Pal is a special recognition program in which he recognizes students for outstanding work, invites them to his office, eats lunch with them and visits with them in the classroom on a "one on one" level. It's a reward program and also part of what he calls "assertive discipline" in the classroom. A Principal's helper or pal builds self concept in the student. Parents are also becoming involved, and Dr. Queen said he looks forward to more parent in-

volvement in the program.

To provide extra safety for the students, the North system inaugurated this year a new traffic route for parents who bring their students to school by automobile. The left lane in front of the school is now blocked off and barriers are up. Although its somewhat inconvenient for parents to use one lane only, says Queen, the plan is working. Teachers and the principal meet the oncoming cars and escort the children from the automobiles to the classroom. "This gives us a chance to greet the parents too", says the principal.

New teachers joining the faculty this year are Barbara Puceta, who teaches exceptional children; Ann Lefevers, who teaches kindergarten, and Brenda Sipe, who is on the reading support team.

A total of 470 students are enrolled in K-5 plus a Head Start program.

"We had a very smooth opening last week and appreciate the public's support and assistance with our new school traffic program", said Dr. Queen.



WILSON GRIFFIN

## Griffin Named Chairman

E. Wilson Griffin, owner and pharmacist at Griffin Drug Company, has been appointed chairman of the Kings Mountain Planning and Zoning Board by the city board of commissioners.

Mr. Griffin has been serving as the temporary chairman.

He has served on the Planning Board since 1965 and has also served as vice chairman of the board which is appointed by the city board of commissioners.

He is the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. E.W. Griffin and is married to the former Sara Spurling, Kings Mountain High School librarian. The Griffins are parents of a daughter, Myra Griffin.

## Kiwanis Travel Series Set For Third Year

For the third consecutive year, the Kiwanis Club of Kings Mountain is sponsoring the Travel Series. The series consists of professionally done photography and live, inculcating narrations.

The series will feature Mexico, Central America, and the

Highlands of Scotland. Come along with the Kiwanis and visit by beautiful photography these exciting parts of our world. Not only will you enjoy the sceneries but you will hear the first hand words of the men who took the pictures.

Season tickets are available for

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## KM Man Dies In Gaston Jail

A Kings Mountain man who hoped a prison term would help him beat a drug addiction died in Gaston County Jail Saturday after being treated for what officials said were drug withdrawal symptoms.

Funeral services for William Terry Bridges, 36, who died some five hours after being released from Gaston Memorial Hospital, were held Monday afternoon from the Chapel of Masters Funeral Home by Rev. Roger Webb and Rev. Winford L. Bagwell, interment following

in Mountain Rest Cemetery.

Mr. Bridges, of 1105 Gold St. Extension, was the son of William Edward and Mildred Mullinax Bridges of Kings Mountain and was an employee of Aristocratic Stylists of Gastonia and a member of Westover Baptist Church

Also surviving are his wife, Linda Branch Bridges of Gastonia; one daughter, Tommi Leigh Bridges of Gastonia; one stepdaughter, Tammy Foster of Gastonia; and one sister, Judy Putnam of Kings Mountain.

Bridges father was quoted as saying that "the drug habit was just bigger than I am."

Bridges was jailed Monday after failing to pay a deposit on a \$1,500 bond pending trial on two counts of larceny in Gaston County. He was also facing trial on a larceny charge in Lincoln County, was being held for failure to comply with a court judgment in Mecklenburg County and was wanted in Cleveland County for failure to pay a fine.

Bridges had stayed in the sick

ward until Wednesday and on Thursday was returned to the sick ward after vomiting was reported. An ambulance was summoned and Bridges was treated at the hospital and returned to the sick ward at the jail, where he appeared calm un-

til at 3:45 a.m. Saturday when his breathing became "hard and rapid".

Relatives said Bridges had hoped to get himself "straightened out" so that he and his wife and family "could make a life together."

## LOOK

What's Inside

Seeing Europe in 18 days was a trip of a lifetime for JoAnn and Odus Smith, and their daughter, Teresa. See Page 1-C.

Kings Mountain High's football team will travel to Icard tonight to face 4-A East Burke in a pre-season scrimmage game. See page 2-B.

Steve Rathbone, the popular delivery man and soda jerk at Griffin's Drug Store, is retiring Friday. His co-workers plan a big party in his honor today. See page 1-B.

The Cleveland County Republican Party feels there is either something illegal or unethical about placing a polling place at Lutz Apple House, which is owned by Democratic Rep. Edith Lutz. The Republicans want the State Board of Elections to move the polling place somewhere else in Mulla Precinct. See page 2-A.

Mrs. Gordon Myers was recently honored for 19 years of service as a teacher at Trinity Day School. See page 5-B.

The 26th annual Bethware Fair will begin Tuesday at Bethware School. See page 2-A.



## Look For Grid Contest In Next Week's Herald

How would you like to have an extra \$100? We know how you can get it! Beginning in next week's Herald, for 10 consecutive weeks this paper will sponsor its annual "Pick the Winners" football contest.

Each week, 20 games will be listed in advertisements on a football contest page, and the person who correctly predicts the most winners in the 20 games will pocket \$100...the most cash paid in any newspaper football contest anywhere!

Rules can be found in a full page advertisement inside today's Herald.

So, be looking for the contest beginning next week.

Meanwhile, any businesses wanting to place an ad in the contest are urged to call the Herald's advertising department at 739-7496.



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 Piedmont Ave.  
 Mtn., 28086