

KINGS MOUNTAIN MIRROR-HERALD

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Photo By Tom McIntyre
COMMITTEEMEN - Joe Smith, Bill Bates and Corky Fulton discuss their initial meeting date following their appointment to the Kings Mountain Chamber of Commerce and Merchants Association nominations and bylaws committee Tuesday. Lyn Cheshire, not present, rounds out the four-man committee to work on the approved merger of the two organizations.

Under Federal Act City To Create Jobs For The Unemployed

By TOM McINTYRE
Editor-Mirror-Herald

Mayor John H. Moss is currently working on organizing Federal House Bill 16596; a local government employment act, into a reality for Kings Mountain.

The \$2.5 billion bill will create 330,000 jobs nationwide. North Carolina will receive \$12.7 million. Half of that will be distributed among cities with population over 100,000, 25 percent will be divided among cities with unemployment of 4.5 percent; and 25 percent for cities with 6.5 percent.

Kings Mountain's unemployment figures show 6.9 percent as of Dec. 19.

KM was actually the first city in North Carolina to submit application for the Federal funds to create jobs within city government. The applications were submitted Dec. 15, 1974.

"We don't know how many jobs can be created in Kings Mountain," Mayor Moss said, "but we expect to receive the guidelines on Jan. 15. We do know the bill states that the maximum salary for any one job created is \$10,000 for the year."

The program is designed to continue until all the funds are expended.

The mayor said the jobs will probably be made available based on the need to and benefit for the community.

"Another very important feature of the Federal act is the extended period of 13 weeks (for a total of 26) of unemployment security benefits," Mayor Moss said. "The bill also provides some security benefits for those not covered under unemployment insurance."

The second 13 week period begins at the conclusion of the first 13 weeks of benefits and will be administered by the



Photo By Tom McIntyre
A GOOD LISTENER - Bill Bates, a chamber of commerce representative on the Mayor's Utility Rate Study Committee, listens to the arguments from other committeemen on what expenditures should be included in analyzing the cost of

producing 1,000 gallons of water by the city. The study is to determine if the fee schedule is unfair to any particular water customer.

Committee To Nominate Slate, Write By-Laws

A four man committee has been named by the Kings Mountain Chamber of Commerce and Merchants Association to nominate a new slate of officers and to draft by-laws for the merged organizations.

From the chamber are Bill Bates and Lyn Cheshire. From the merchants association are Corky Fulton and Lyn Cheshire. The group will meet Friday at noon at the Kings Mountain Country Club to name a chairman and begin work on committee projects.

Carl DeVane, president of the chamber, told the committee members that he and Mickey Bell, president of the merchants association, had agreed their names would be withdrawn from nomination. Last month members of the chamber and merchants

group voted to merge the two organizations. DeVane said no name has been selected for the new organization, but stated, "It will probably be a combination of both."

"I think this is going to be an extremely tough year," he told both chamber and merchants representatives Tuesday. "It will take support of the full membership to pull us through."

It was stated there has been some confusion over the dues billing which the merchants association has already sent to its members and how this will apply to membership in the merged organization.

"Dues billing has been done," DeVane said, "by the merchants association and the

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KMUF Is Now Underway

The 1975 Kings Mountain United Fund campaign is getting underway toward a total budget of \$35,100.

UF President is William Grissom. Campaign Chairmen are Marvin Teer and Bill Bates. Secretary-treasurer is Mrs. Becky Scism.

With some initial solicitation completed the fund reports \$105 in advance gifts. Total goal for this division is \$4,000. In the industrial division, goal \$21,000, a total of \$4,153.82 has been received. The schools division goal is \$2,400 and to date \$1,692 has been received.

Other divisions and goals are: commercial - \$4,000; correspondence - \$1,500; ministerial - \$400; professional - \$1,200; post office - \$100; and city employees - \$500.

Kings Mountain United Fund money goes into 13 separate budgets, including: Ministerial Helping Hand - \$3,000; Piedmont Council Boy Scouts - \$5,800; American Red Cross - \$6,000; Pioneer Council Girl Scouts - \$5,800; Kings

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Hunnicuttt Rites Held Saturday

Funeral services for Harold Richard Hunnicutt, 68, retired plant engineer for Margrace Hills for many years, were conducted Saturday morning at 11 o'clock from First Presbyterian church of which he was a member.

His pastor, Rev. Gary L. Bryant, officiated at the final rites, and interment was in Mountain Rest cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family has designated memorials to the American Cancer Society at Glade Valley School, Glade Valley, N. C.

Mr. Hunnicutt died of cancer Thursday morning at 11:45 in the Kings Mountain hospital after illness for several months.

He was a native of Union County, son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Richard L. Hunnicutt. A

graduate of Glade Valley School and Gupton Jones College of Mortuary Science, he was a charter member of the Kings Mountain Kiwanis club and was honored as Kiwanian of the Year in 1962.

He was a charter member of the Kings Mountain Country Club, Kings Mountain Radio club, and co-director of the Kings Mountain civil defense program.

He was married to the former Margaret Neisler, who survives, in addition to one son, H. R. (Dick) Hunnicutt; and one daughter, Miss Sue Hunnicutt, both of Kings Mountain; one sister, Mrs. W. S. Cutter of Macon, Ga. and three grandchildren Harold Hunnicutt 111; Minor Adams Hunnicutt and Reid Neisler Hunnicutt.

Active pallbearers, all nephews, were Charles Neisler, C. E. Neisler, 111, Henry Neisler, Paul Neisler, Joe Neisler, Jr., Hunter Neisler, Jr., Hugh Neisler, all of Kings Mountain, and W. S. Leatherman, Jr. of Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Funeral director in Charlotte for a number of years, Hunnicutt held a 38-year perfect attendance record in the Kings Mountain Kiwanis club and was active in church scouting and former president of his Sunday School class of First Presbyterian church. He was an avid fisherman and hunter.

Honorary pallbearers were elders and deacons of First Presbyterian church.



H. R. HUNNICUTT

Water Costs Are Discussed

The third meeting of the Mayor's Utility Rate Study Committee moved factually nearer its goal in evaluating the city's present water-sewer fee schedule for area industry.

Meeting at city hall Tuesday night, the committee, chaired by Dr. Frank Sincox, spent the evening discussing what expenditures should be included in determining the cost of producing water.

Working with a breakdown

from City Engineer Dennis Fox, the committee debated the realities of including equipment depreciation, debt service and capital expenditures in the cost of water production.

Burford DeFore, executive vice president of Spectrum Textured Fibers, the company that instigated the rate study through claims the new fee schedule is unfair to the large water using customer, said revenue from the city's

utilities (water-sewer, electric, gas) is not being used to retire the debt service, which was for the most part incurred to improve these facilities. The revenue goes into the general fund and is being used to provide recreation and other services," he said. "There is no reserve set aside to pay for the retirement of the debt service."

Arguments against including depreciation costs in the water producing costs generally were that the money being set aside for this item is not actually being put aside to pay for replacement of

equipment. The figure is given the city by the annual audit.

The main bone of contention in the rate study is the 50 percent surcharge to industrial customers and the elimination of a fee break to users of over 500,000 gallons of water per month. According to committeemen, these actions are unfair to the city's larger water customers because for the same amount of water these customers are paying approximately 277 percent more in fees.

The committee meets for the fourth time Tues., Jan. 21 at 7:30 p. m. at city hall.

'Dry Force' Organizing For ABC Referendum Defeat

By ELIZABETH STEWART
Staff Writer

With the Mar. 18 referendum on question of legalizing sale of wine and beer for off-premises consumption and establishing ABC stores now fact, proponents and opponents are increasing their activities to get enough favorable votes in the ballot boxes.

The Kings Mountain Citizens Committee Against Sale of Alcoholic Beverages opened its campaign Monday night as 200 citizens at Central United Methodist church named a 10-member steering committee headed up by Dr. Charles Edwards and members of the Kings Mountain Ministerial Association.

It will be the third time in modern history that Kings Mountain citizens have answered the question on a strictly local basis on whether sale of liquor through ABC stores and beer and wine will be legal.

Kings Mountain voted "dry" 13-0 in 1874, only a few months after the town was chartered.

A record-breaking 2,511 went to the polls June 13, 1967 and voted 1,411 to 1,091 against the sale of liquor through Alcoholic Beverage Control stores and beer and wine for off-premises consumption.

The "Dry's" said Monday they will utilize communications media of all kind, newspaper, radio, and speaker cadres to promote their positions and are asking each church in the area to finance the dollars, distributing pledge cards at the organizational meeting and inviting the crowd present to mark their choices for committee assignments.

A finance committee will raise the funds to "educate the people" while the steering committee will draw up the budget and allocate the "mission money" each church is expected to raise.

Members of the steering committee named yesterday are Dr. Edwards, Rev. Gene Land, Rev. Clyde Bearden, J. C. Bridges and Don Jones.

Five more are to be appointed this week.

Next important committee, said Rev. Coy Privette, who

led the rally, will be the voters committee and members will conduct a house-to-house canvass of the area while a transportation committee will assure them of a ride to the polls.

Youth, publicity, and

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Rev. Coy Privette Explains Position

By ELIZABETH STEWART
Staff Writer

He was 15 and working in a beer tavern in Statesville when he said he witnessed first-hand the ill results of consumption of alcohol.

Coy Privette, Baptist minister from Kannapolis and state president of the Christian Action League, tells his own story as he preaches all over the state, waging war on demon rum and leading "dry's" in many successful campaigns against "wets" in countless liquor referendums.

program committee, will also be important factors in a successful campaign, Privette pointed out.

To question after the meeting, Rev. Mr. Privette promised a member of the

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Blackmailers Working KM

KMPD Chief William Roper said today the city now has a new wrinkle in criminal activity; blackmail. "We've had complaints from several citizens that they are being phoned by anonymous callers who threaten to expose damaging information if the citizens do not pay them for silence," Chief Roper said. Roper said he advises anyone receiving such threatening calls to report them to police. "Above all do not even consider paying money to these blackmailers," he said. "We are compiling information concerning suspects (a man and woman) in these blackmail threats and are investigating the leads we have."

The chief said the citizen complaints have included information that the blackmailers have suggested they would do harm to the victim or to a member of the victim's family if the demands for hush money are not met.

One intended victim even went to the pains of going to a designated drop area to pay off the blackmailer, according to the chief, "but the citizen went armed and ready to put an end to such threats permanently."

Southern Bell has a telephone security service, which can be used for tracing such threatening calls, if blackmail victims have been told to expect further contact by the blackmailer.

"This is a dirty business," Roper said, "and the only way we can put a stop to it is through citizen cooperation and as far as we know the blackmailers working in Kings Mountain have so far struck out because their intended victims have reported the incidents to us."