

New Council Takes Over Monday Night

Clerk Joe McDaniel administer the oath of office to a brand new city board of commissioners Monday night at city hall.

Commissioners elected in districts two, five and six will begin four year terms to complete the staggered term cycle. Mayor Moss was elected during the Oct. 7 balloting, but the six new commissioners could not be decided until the Nov. 4 runoff ballots were tabulated. From a field of 35 commissioner candidates no single candidate earned a clear victory in the Oct. 7 election and 12 of the top vote-getters went into the Nov. 4 runoff.

Both elections were attended by better than 50 percent of the city's registered voters, a move that surprised many local observers and candidates alike. Voters decided to retain only one member of the present board — Corbet Nicholson, district three — and gave him a four year term. The other five commissioners are all new men, with the exception of Norman King, who was unseated two years ago by Don McAbee.

As in the past the city commissioners will meet on a regular basis of twice each month, on the second and fourth Mondays at 7:30 p. m. Special meetings will be announced. Under the heading of old business expected to be tackled by the present council Monday night is a decision on the extension of water lines in the southeastern section of the city. The problems of low pressure in certain sections of the city was discussed at full length in session two weeks ago.



SWORN IN — June Lee and Marion Thomasson, Kings Mountain's newest school board trustees, are sworn in by Judge Lee Roberts during luncheon meeting of the board Wednesday. Pictured, left to right, are Roberts, Dr. Joseph

Lee, Mrs. Lee, Mrs. Thomasson and George Thomasson. The two new members led a field of six, including four men, in the November board elections.

Photo By Gary Stewart

In Mini-Parade

Hey, Kids! Santa's Coming On Wednesday

A mini-parade for children is planned downtown next Wednesday at 4 p. m., according to Jerry White, assistant supt. of the city's natural gas department.

White, one of the creative forces behind the construction of the new fire department museum, got an okay from city officials Tuesday to formulate plans for a Christmas parade for children downtown.

"I read the article in the Mirror-Herald about no Christmas parade planned for this year and wondered why something couldn't be done for the children in this city," White said. "The answer was there was no reason why not."

So White set about recruiting aid — Helen Holt and Tom McIntyre — and calling on people for potential parade units.

To date White has secured the services of the Kings Mountain Senior high band, antique car

owners, several VFD and rescue units, Scout troops, junior police and junior rescue members, horseback riders, clowns and Santa Claus.

There is also a unit from Crossroads Music Park on the city's Bicentennial Heritage Music program, and possible a color guard from the local National Guard unit. Jane's School of the Dance also plans participation.

If anyone has a float or a parade entry they want to include in this mini-parade, just contact White at the city gas department or McIntyre at the Mirror-Herald.

The parade route is Mountain St. to Battleground and Battleground to Gold St. "Maybe next year there will become interest in sponsoring a Christmas parade on a large scale for the city," White said, "but this year the mini-parade will have to suffice. We hope the youngsters of our city enjoy it."

'Freedoms' Is Theme

For Panel Discussion

By ELIZABETH STEWART
Staff Writer

Life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

Certain unalienable rights. Freedom of speech, the press, religion.

The Bill of Rights, a piece of paper we studied in government courses but later left in a dusty textbook on a shelf, came alive Monday night in the third in a series of public forums by the KM Bicentennial Commission at City Hall.

Rev. Gary Bryant, First Presbyterian pastor, led off the discussion of the First Amendment, followed by Tom McIntyre, Mirror-Herald Editor, Mickey Corry, local attorney, and Mrs. Yvonne Greene, reading specialist in the county schools. Panel moderator was Rev. Glenn Boland, Resurrection Lutheran pastor, and forum chairman was Mrs. Aubrey Mauney.

Declaring that the "no knock law" is the most flagrant violation of the Fourth Amendment which guarantees an individual's right of privacy, the young Black lawyer also touched on recent cases of wire-tapping, "bugging" and eavesdropping as violations of the Fourth and Fifth Amendments and charged that the public is

being "informationally raped" today, citing case after case of private citizens' names appearing on government agent's subversive lists simply because they were gun collectors or obtain a lot of library books on the subject. Many aids by federal narcotics agents recently in other cities were "mistakes," he said, and invasions of privacy.

Is a man's house still his castle? asked Corry, noting that the U. S. Supreme Court is now broadening base of the Fourth Amendment regarding search and seizure as he touched briefly on arrest warrants, writs of assistance in vogue in 1751 and some of the violations in practice in 1975. "During the American Revolution we fired on the King's soldiers to protect ourselves. Defend your home today when an "intruder" breaks down your door "by mistake" and you are in trouble. The officer who didn't knock may receive a few days suspension from the force with pay," he continued.

To a question, Corry, said the "no knock" law was passed to prevent a suspect from harming himself and to keep him from hiding the evidence.

Tired of tyranny, the early

colonists looked for freedom to be who they were and worship as they pleased, explained Pastor Bryant who declared that freedom of speech and assembly is one we take advantage of and do not appreciate. Giving a history of the religion of early settlers, Bryant said that two-thirds of our Revolutionary fathers were trained in the school of John Calvin and quoted excerpts from "Religion In the Law" from Mad Magazine which blasted organized religion for failure to pay taxes, noting that a high percentage of business is owned by the church, including baseball fields, diaper factories and

apartment buildings. He cautioned that Sunday Blue Laws may be an issue and raised the question of power of the religious community. Elaborating on the freedom of free choice in worship, the minister reviewed "The Handbook of Denominations."

Editor McIntyre traced the history of the free press beginning in the life of John Peter Zinger who exposed a corrupt government in the 1700's and went on trial for printing the truth.

Declaring that the colonial newspapers forged the war of independence, Editor

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Bicen Choir Sings At Barnes Sunday

Over 100 voices will join in singing Sunday afternoon, Dec. 7, 3 p. m. when the Kings Mountain Bicentennial Choir presents a concert of Christmas music. Place of meeting is the B. N. Barnes Auditorium.

Organized specifically to join in the celebration of the year of bicentennial, the choir comes from the total community. Professional musi-

cians and those who just enjoy singing make up the membership.

Included in the program Sunday are standard Christmas favorites, carols, and hymns, with solos, ensembles, and one piece done with interpretive movement.

Mrs. Victoria Bess is president of the choir; Allen Jolley, director; and Mrs. Ellen McCurdy, the accompanist.

Rescue Squad Finding Itself In A Squeeze

By TOM MCINTYRE
Editor, Mirror-Herald

In the old days the Kings Mountain Rescue Squad was hardpressed for money and equipment to serve the city, but Capt. Bob Hope admits "today the citizen response is much better."

There was a time when the rescuers antied up \$1 each week in dues to pay for gas used in the squad vehicles and more times than not they went ahead and paid for a tank of gas out of pocket.

Times have changed. The squad now operates out of its own building on Parker St. They have equipment, manpower and donations to keep the work going.

But, in the very near future the squad is going to have to invest in a newer model ambulance to replace one that has seen better days. The squad is also going to have to have larger quarters and garage space for housing the current rolling stock.

"We are cramped even now where we are," Hope said. "We don't have enough space to park our equipment and no space to store it. Our boats and ambulances have to be left outside exposed to all kinds of weather."

The squad members have already added 12 feet to the rear of the building on Parker St. and there is no more room for

growth at the present site. Hope said at one time they had hoped they could purchase adjoining property, but that possibility seems remote now.

Hope said what the squad members would like is to relocate, perhaps more toward the center of the community. "The city has grown and we have grown right along with it," Hope continued. "But now we are reaching the critical stage as far as development. We're pot-bound where we are."

The rescue squad was first located in the basement of the police department, then a house on S. Piedmont, below the Herald building, then to Parker St.

Hope said the present quarters were built through public donations and personal loans arranged by the rescue members. "We sit around and talk about how we're going to be able to do this or that. It seems impossible, but somehow we've always managed to see a project through."

A hot dog supper, for instance, held at the Parker St. building raised a substantial amount of money even though the rescuers had been advised against the project. The reason given was the building was too far out of the way and there was no parking spaces for the public. Hope said the hot dogs were gone within a couple of hours after the sale began.

Hope said he didn't feel the going will be as rough in the future as it has been "because the citizens have come to realize what a valuable service the rescue squad offers them."

The squad is 25-members strong. A total of 13 of the members have qualified under the North Carolina Emergency Medical Technician courses. That's an 81-hour course that takes three months at two nights a week to complete. Another EMT course is scheduled to begin in January.

Also on Jan. 5, 1976 new officers and directors for the coming year will be elected.

Hope said "the men have worked very hard this year and I am proud of all of them. They have taken classes and tended the emergency needs of the community and stand ready 24-hours a day, seven days a week to serve."

And, in case there are any doubts, the rescue squadders serve the community on a strictly volunteer basis. They must buy their own uniforms and devote their free time to the program without receiving one penny of compensation.

Hope said the squad wants to thank the citizens who have donated and supported the squad during the past year. "Without them we wouldn't have much of a community service organization," he added.



Photo By Tom McIntyre

TOYS NEEDED — Kings Mountain Fire-fighter Bob Hope works on a bicycle which has been donated to the fire department's annual Christmas toy drive. The drive is lagging behind, according to firemen. The need is for

toys either in good or repairable condition for distribution to the city's underprivileged children on Christmas Eve. Call 739-2552 for pickup service, or drop toys at the fire department beside city hall on S. Piedmont Ave.

Notice To Readers And Advertisers....

In order to give readers and advertisers full mailing and street sales service during the coming holidays, The Mirror-Herald will publish one day earlier than usual.

For Christmas, Wed., Dec. 24.
For New Years, Wed., Dec. 31.

This will necessitate moving all deadlines back in order to maintain the publishing schedule. The social and women's news

items must be by 10 a. m. on the Monday proceeding the Wednesday dateline. Regular news items must be in by 10 a. m. on Tuesday before the Wednesday dateline.

The Mirror-Herald advertising staff will call on accounts earlier during these holiday schedules in order to assure service to businessmen and merchants.

The early deadlines are being observed as a service to our readers and advertisers and we appreciate your cooperation.