



PHOTO BY LIB STEWART **RETIRING TEACHERS**-Supt. William Davis, left, presents plaques to retiring teachers during a luncheon Friday. From left, Myers Ham-bright, Hilda Wilson, Juanita Goforth, Eddys Ware, Margaret McCarter and Gladys Blackwell.

## Retiring Teachers Honored

Six retiring teachers in Kings Mountain District Schools served a total of 205 years and were cited for "outstanding service to many Kings Mountain area young people" by the Kings Mountain NCAE and ACT Units Friday at a luncheon at KMSH Cafeteria.

Myers Hambright, Hilda Wilson, Juanita McSwain Goforth, Eddys Ware, Margaret Goforth McCarter and Gladys Blackwell were presented handsome engraved plaques by Schools Supt. William Davis and gifts from the NCEA and ACT by retiring NCEA presidents John Pettus and Willie Marable.

Mr. Hambright, veteran agriculture teacher and for a

number of years director of the Schools Vocational Department, retired after 42 years. Margaret (Mrs. Eugene) McCarter retired from Bethware School after a 38 year teaching career, Juanita (Mrs. Ben T.) Goforth retired at Kings Mountain Senior High after a 35 year career as an English teacher, Hilda Wilson retired from West School after a 31 year teaching career, Gladys Blackwell retired from East School after a teaching career of 30 years, and Eddys (Mrs. Franklin) Ware retired from Kings Mountain Senior High School after a teaching career of 29 years.

Mr. Hambright also accepted a plaque honoring his late

brother, Paul Hambright who for many years served the system as an agriculture teacher. He retired due to ill health and died during the past year.

Dean B. Westmoreland, a former state NCEA president who is currently serving as Division II Director, installed new officers of the two organizations. Miss Connie Phifer will head the local unit of NCEA in the coming year and serving with her will be Kay Jolley, secretary, and Pattie Weathers, treasurer. Miss Annette Parker will head the ACT Unit and serving with her will be Mrs. Sara Simpson, vice president; Treda Berry Shed, secretary, and Sarah Adams, treasurer.

Supt. William Davis was recognized as the newly elected president of District VI Superintendents Council and William Steve Wells was recognized as the new state president of the Association of Classroom Teachers (ACT).

Present as special guests were Jack Palmer, chairman of the Cleveland County Board of Commissioners; Mrs. Ruth Dedmon, Cleveland County Clerk of Superior Court; Kings Mountain Mayor John Henry Moss, City Commissioners Norman King and Jim Dickey, and Mrs. George B. Thomasson, chairman of the Kings Mountain Board of Education, and trustees June Lee, William McDaniel and Kyle Smith.

Dining tables were arranged with homegrown roses and door-prizes were compliments of downtown firms.

## Reading Program Good

Assistant Schools Supt. Howard Bryant, reporting on the schools testing program, said that "overall we feel good about the reading program and feel good about the criterion reading tests administered in Grades 1-4 will definitely give us directions for teaching and tell us what needs to be retaught."

Mr. Bryant made the remarks during a presentation at the regular meeting of the KM Board of Education.

For the past two years the Kindergarten Program in Kings Mountain has placed more emphasis on getting children to read. Test results, according to Bryant, show much progress has been made.

In other actions, the board adopted a seniority policy called "reduction in force of certificated staff." And Supt. William Davis said that most of

my lost positions would be taken care of through retirement of teachers and normal resignations. Kyle Smith, board member, suggested that consideration be given to "merit" in the plan rather than seniority.

The Board approved requests of the Kings Mountain Journalism staff to sell advertisements for the school newspaper as a fund-raising project and agreed to pay ticket sellers at high school athletic events. Currently, teachers rotate these duties and are not paid. The ticket sellers would be paid from gate receipts.

Assistant Superintendent Larry Allen reported that the Title I program for next year is "on go" and awaiting word that federal funds will be approved to support the program again.

The board approved employment of Dennis Hicks, PE and

Health teacher at KMSHS; Kathy Purser, EMH and LD teacher; Randy Ryan, chemistry teacher at KMSHS; Linda M. Dixon, home economics teacher at KMSHS, and Dennis Martin, agriculture teacher at KMSHS.

Supt. Davis announced that Mrs. Gladys Blackwell, East School teacher is retiring. He also announced the resignations of Steve Foster and Martha Noblitt. The Board granted maternity leaves to Marie Ballard, fourth grade teacher at East; Evelyn Kiser, Resource teacher at Bethware; and Anne Rudisill, third grade teacher at West.

The Board approved a new plan for scholastic insurance from Martin Associates, approved two student transfers and approved the 1981-82 vocational program.



PHOTO BY LIB STEWART **NEW OFFICERS**-Pictured are new officers of the NCAE and ACT Units for the coming year. From left, Sara Adams, treasurer of NCAE; Annette Parker, president of Kings Mountain ACT Unit and Connie Phifer, president of Kings Mountain NCAE unit.

## Book Fees Reinstated

Student fees for the 1981-82 school year were reinstated Monday night by the Kings Mountain Board of Education.

Supt. William Davis told the board that fees are necessary because of a difference between the funds requested by the schools next year and the amount recommended in the county budget by County Manager Joe Hendrick.

Reinstatement of fees is expected to bring \$20,000 more in additional revenue.

"We have been quite pleased to have been able to eliminate that cost but now it looks like we are in a situation where the ox is in the ditch," said Mr. Davis.

This year Kings Mountain District Schools received \$1,036,579. in current expense funds. Next year's current expense allocation is \$1,084,123, a difference of \$107,943. in Kings Mountain School's requested budget of \$1,192,066.

Davis said that at least \$50,000 more than recommended by the county commission is needed in current expense money for next year. He suggested the board consider increasing the supplementary tax levy from its current rate of 14 cents (out of a possible 20 cents) or consider a portion of the capital outlay fund it receives next year as an emergency fund. He said that the board, if necessary, could ask the commissioners to transfer some of the capital outlay funds into operational funds.

The board, on motion of Kyle Smith and seconded by Bill McDaniel, directed Supt. Davis to attend a budget hearing meeting Monday with the county commissioners and ask commissioners for an increase in appropriations. The board then reinstated the fees policy, same as had applied two years ago, and decided, if necessary, to transfer capital outlay funds into current expense funds. "In all my 12 years as a superintendent I have not recalled this step being taken," said Supt. Davis.

The board also directed the superintendent to ask the county commissioners for a 13 percent increase in current expenses instead of the anticipated eight percent increase which the commission derived by dividing the funds per pupil using figures from the State Board of Education. According to those figures, Kings Mountain Schools has 131 fewer students to be considered for budgeting for next year.

A total of \$241,000 has been allotted the Kings Mountain system for capital outlay, a decrease of \$2,152 from last school year.

Responding to question of Harold Lineberger, Supt. Davis said a one cent increase in the tax levy would amount to \$31,000. The tax base is based on property evaluation of \$308 million. Kings Mountain's local supplement this year was \$415,000. "The return to the fee system is the best place to start," said Lineberger.

## Citizens Protest Board's Not Rehiring PE Teacher

The school system's personnel procedures were questioned by William Orr and Rev. Victor Carson Monday night.

"The Black Community was shocked when we learned of the non-renewal of the contract of a young man who belongs to our congregation," said Mr. Carson. "Our Bynum chapel youth came to church Sunday and they asked us, 'what's the use, they won't let us be involved even if we're qualified.' I need to be able to go back to my young people with some answers and I need to be able to tell them there is a fair employment policy or we are prepared to issue a grievance in the matter," said Mr. Carson.

"Blacks don't just want to be on the receiving end of welfare handouts. When they are qualified for positions they should be given every opportunity."

Rev. Mr. Carson acknowledged that he had not talked to the superintendent of schools or any school officials before coming to the meeting but said that "this is an area that concerns the people

of my congregation and that is why I am here."

Supt. William Davis reviewed briefly the procedures in selecting personnel to fill vacancies and noted that the system has few vacancies and that all young teachers are having difficulty in obtaining employment. He said the system received a "multitude of applications for PE, social studies and K-3 teachers but there is shortage of applications in math and science, for instance." He said the system receives approximately 10 applicants for each vacancy and that in determining teacher prospects a number of factors are involved, such as experience, academic excellence at the college level, and scoring on the national teacher's exams, etc. He said a separate file is maintained for non-certificated personnel and that applications are filed according to subject areas the potential applicant is interested in.

Supt. Davis said the young

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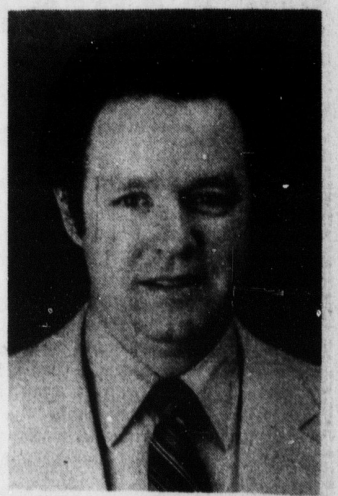
## Rev. Jerry Smith Named Head Of Children's Home

Rev. Jerry A. Smith, pastor of the Church of God on East Parker Street, has been elected to serve as Superintendent of the Church of God Home for Children in Kannapolis, N.C.

The Board of Directors for the Home made the decision two weeks ago. Rev. Smith will assume his duties there on June 16.

Rev. Smith has served the Church of God congregation here for almost three years. During those three years, the church has experienced steady growth in attendance and finance.

"This is by far the best congregation I have ever pastored," Rev. Smith said. "These people are tremendous and we will certainly miss their fellowship. We will also miss the many friends in the community. Kings Mountain is a fine place to live."



REV. JERRY SMITH

Rev. Kenneth Looney from Winston-Salem will succeed Rev. Smith as pastor of the Church here.

## KMHS To Begin Monday

School bells will ring Monday morning at Kings Mountain Senior High School for the beginning of summer school.

Students should report to the Cafeteria at 8 a.m. for an organizational meeting and assignment of classes, said Principal Bob McRae.