

# THE JOURNAL-PATRIOT

For mutual advantage do your buying in Wilkesboro, the business center of Northwest North Carolina.

VOL. XXXIII, No. 17 Published Mondays and Thursdays. NORTH WILKESBORO, N. C., THURSDAY, NOV. 2, 1939 \$1.50 IN THE STATE—\$2.00 OUT OF THE STATE

## Late News Of State - Nation Told Briefly

### ITALIAN SHAKEUP

Rome, Oct. 31.—Premier Mussolini in a sweeping overhauling of the fascist leadership today removed three military chiefs who had conducted staff talks with German officers and two cabinet members popularly regarded as pro-German. The shuffling of military chiefs, army leaders, and cabinet ministers, however, was regarded in foreign circles as primarily designed to reinforce the fascist regime at home with the international aspect incidental to domestic factors. Whether there was any deliberate thought of shelving those in the government who had been looked on as pro-German could not be ascertained.

### ASK PROTECTION CREW

Washington, Oct. 31.—Secretary Hull took steps to protect the American crew of the City of Flint today by instructing the American embassies in Germany and England to request those governments to avoid exposing the crew to unnecessary danger. The City of Flint's position was unknown to the state department tonight, but in Bergen, Norway, she was reported making her way slowly southward along the Norwegian coast. Aboard her were Captain Gainard, 40 American crew members and the German prize crew of 17. President Roosevelt said he had no new information on the City of Flint, but he still hoped for her return.

### LAST HATFIELD DEAD

Ransom, Ky., Oct. 31.—Tolbert Hatfield, 89, who stayed friendly—and stayed alive—while his kinsmen traded shots with the McCoy's, died today. Possibly the last Hatfield clansman to witness the Hatfield-McCoy border war of the 1880's succumbed to pneumonia developing from a cerebral stroke 10 weeks ago. Tolbert, who became a friend of Henry Ford, served as a justice of peace during the feud, which started over testimony at a murder trial. A Hatfield was killed. A Hatfield sheriff went to arrest a McCoy and then sent back for reinforcements. The late Anderson (Devil Anse) Hatfield answered the call—and the feud started. Tolbert, a first cousin of "Devil Anse," somehow remained friendly with both sides.

### MRS. WHITT FREED

Pittsboro, Oct. 31.—Mrs. Margaret Johnson Whitt, on trial for her life for the murder of her husband, Worth Whitt who died May 28, was found not guilty. Mrs. Whitt, well-known Chatham county woman, was arrested on a first degree murder charge after her husband, Worth Whitt, died at St. Leo's hospital, Greensboro, May 28. A Duke hospital toxicologist who performed an autopsy on the exhumed body testified that it contained enough arsenic to have killed four persons under ordinary conditions. A Pittsboro druggist said he sold Mrs. Whitt some Paris green during the time her husband was ill. Evidence at the trial revealed that Mrs. Whitt had expressed the opinion that lettuce in a bed at the Whitt home had been sprinkled with poison, and that her husband had been poisoned by eating a large amount of salad made from the lettuce.

### TAX REVENUES UP

Raleigh, Oct. 31.—State officials, viewing with satisfaction a revenue report showing tax receipts are continuing to climb, cautiously forecast today that North Carolina might not have to transfer money from the highway to the general fund in order to balance its 1939-40 budget. A provision making possible "diversion" of \$2,500,000—if it is needed—from the highway department to the general fund was made by the 1939 general assembly after a hot fight. Governor Hoge, during whose administration no such transfer has been made, commented that "if business continue, to improve and revenues keep pace with the record established this far, it probably will not be necessary to have any transfer of funds from the highway department."

### Plan Supper For Armistice Event

The regular November meeting of the Wilkes county post number 125 of the American Legion will be held in the Legion-Auxiliary club rooms north of the city Friday night, November 3rd, at 7:30 o'clock. A full attendance of the membership is desired in order that plans may be completed for the annual Armistice Day supper.

## Wilkes County Teachers' Meet Held Saturday

### Mrs. C. B. Eller Is Elected President County Teachers; Activities Planned

Plans for a number of county-wide school activities were laid in the first meeting of the Wilkes unit of the North Carolina Education association held Saturday in Wilkesboro.

M. F. Bumgarner, of Millers Creek, vice president, presided over the meeting of teachers for the organization after the assembly was opened by C. B. Eller, county superintendent of schools.

Mrs. C. B. Eller, Mulberry teacher, was elected president, succeeding S. B. Matthews, former Mount Pleasant principal who is not teaching in the county this year. R. V. Day, Millers Creek principal, was elected vice president, and V. E. Jennings, member of the Wilkesboro high school faculty, was named treasurer.

Supt. Eller told of plans for the district teachers meeting to be held in High Point Thursday night and Friday and urged attendance of Wilkes teachers at the district meet. Wilkesboro will not have school on Friday in order that the teachers may attend and it was left optional with the other schools in the county as to whether or not they will have school on that day.

The teachers voted to sponsor the spelling contest in grades 1 through eight and plans were also discussed for recitation and declamation contest for high and elementary schools.

Supt. Eller asked that National Education Week be observed November 5 through 11 and called particular attention to North Carolina Day to be observed on November 9.

The meeting was well attended by the teachers of the county.

### N.C.S.E.S. Office Finds Jobs For 214

Number Placements For October Shows Gain Over Figures for September

Placements by the North Wilkesboro branch of the North Carolina State Employment Service in October exceeded placements in September by 214 to 208, it was learned here today from B. G. Gentry, manager.

During October the office placed 67 in private employment and 147 on public jobs, making a total of 214.

There were 317 registrations during the month, representing a slight gain over the number for September.

## Mrs. Jeff McNeill Claimed By Death

### Funeral Services Held Today For Well Known Lady Of Millers Creek

Mrs. Louise L. Kirby McNeill, age 81, wife of the late Jeff McNeill, died at one o'clock Wednesday morning at her home near Millers Creek following an extended illness.

Mrs. McNeill was a member of a well known family and was held in high esteem by a wide circle of friends and acquaintances to whom the news of her passing was an occasion of sadness.

Funeral service was held at Pleasant Home Baptist church, where she was a member, at ten o'clock this morning. Rev. Finley C. Watts was in charge of the service, assisted by Rev. A. W. Eller.

Mrs. McNeill leaves four children, all of whom are well and favorably known: Charlie McNeill, of North Wilkesboro, Misses Cora, Minnie and Hattie McNeill, of Millers Creek.

## Says Higgins Not Normal Mentally

### Will Not Go On Trial For Shooting R. C. Jennings, Deputy Sheriff

A jury in Wilkes county court Tuesday decided that Silas Higgins is not mentally capable of going on trial for shooting Deputy Sheriff R. C. Jennings.

Higgins was indicted for assault with a deadly weapon. A few weeks ago he was alleged to have shot Deputy Jennings as he was trying to arrest Higgins for an alleged holdup attempt. The shooting took place on the Brushy Mountain road near where Higgins is alleged to have run into the road with a shotgun and ordered Miss Toby Turner, who was driving her automobile, to stop.

Mr. Jennings was badly hurt by many shot from Higgins' shotgun, several having penetrated his right side and arm. However, he has recovered.

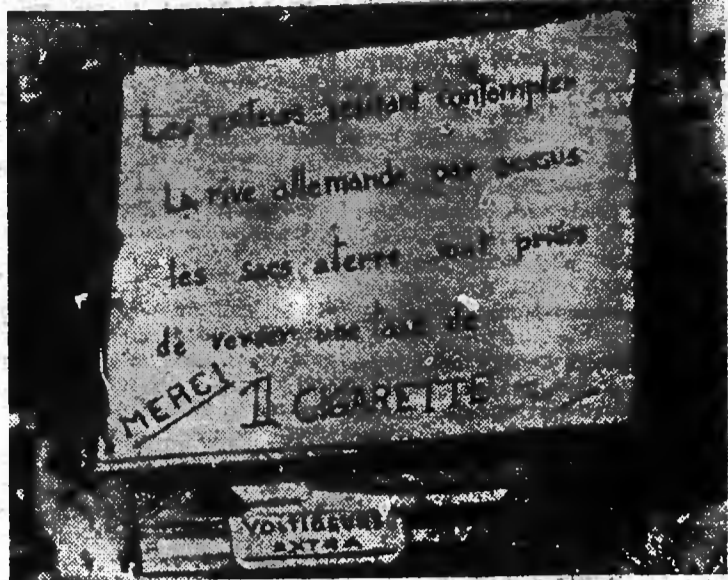
In the hearing Tuesday officers and others testified that at times Higgins was apparently badly unbalanced mentally.

Messrs. H. C. Somers and C. C. Mathis, of Cycle, were business visitors in the Wilkesboros Saturday.

## Oakwoods Revival To Begin Sunday

Beginning Sunday night, 7:30 o'clock, a revival meeting will be held at Oakwoods Baptist church, Rev. Finley C. Watts, of Purlear, and Rev. N. C. Teague, of Winston-Salem, will conduct the meeting, which will continue for ten days, and the public has a cordial invitation to attend.

## Cigarette 'Tax' Insures Front Line View



Visitors to France's front line meet a new and delightfully different "instrument of war." They find they can pass into the line upon payment of a tax of one cigarette. Payment gives the right to view German lines by looking over the sand bags.

## International Shoe Co. Employees Will Receive An Extra Week's Pay

The International Shoe company, which owns and operates the large tannery here, announced today that an extra payment equivalent to one week's pay will be made on November 27, 1939, to all factory, warehouse and office employees with continuous service from January 1, 1939, through October 1, 1939, with a maximum limit of \$50.

The extra payment for the company's employees at the several factories in different sections of the country, will amount to approximately \$600,000. It does not apply to salesmen, officers, directors, and other major executives, but does, of course, apply to a very large majority of the company's 30,000 employees.

The plant here is one of the largest tanneries operated by the company.

## Police Look For One Who Drained Big Storage Tank

### Opened Hydrant Drains Upper Tank Of Water System Tuesday Night

Police Chief J. E. Walker and other members of the force have been looking for the Halloween celebrator who tried to be funny by opening a hydrant and emptying the upper water tank of the city water system.

Some time during the early hours of Tuesday night a hydrant near the upper storage tank was opened and the tank was drained. As it happened it caused no damage but inconvenienced the residents of the upper portion of the city who had no water for a few hours, but should there have been a fire in that part of the city it would have been too bad, officers said.

Other than the draining of the tank, police reported no major disorders during the noisy Halloween celebration here Tuesday night and a general good time was had on the streets of the main part of the city.

Window washers worked overtime yesterday cleaning marks off of store windows and some celebrators with a screwy idea of a good time deflated some automobile tires.

## Clifford Church Is Freed On Charge Of Killing Wife

### Former Wilkes Man Cleared Of First Degree Charge In Ashe Court

West Jefferson, Oct. 31.—Clifford Church, Ashe county filling station operator, was freed by an Ashe superior court jury this afternoon of the charge of murdering his wife last July. The jury deliberated less than two hours.

The trial was one of the most sensational in Ashe county history, an extra two-day court session being required to complete the case.

The body of Church's wife was found lying across a bed in the Church home at Warrensville on the night of July 23, a bullet hole through her right eye and her head in a pool of blood.

According to testimony at the trial, Church told officers when they arrived at the house at midnight that his wife had committed suicide. No gun was found in the room but later a pistol, containing Church's fingerprints, was found under an adjoining house.

Church testified he was on the porch when he heard the pistol fired, that he then rushed into the house, saw his wife lying on the bed, grabbed the pistol and threw it under the house.

He said his wife had threatened to kill herself several times that evening. Other witnesses swore the woman had made one suicide attempt and uttered many threats during the past few years to end everything.

Testimony showed Church and his wife were the only ones at the house at the time of the shooting and that they had quarreled all evening.

Officers found a large quantity of liquor in the house at the time of the investigation and Church is now facing a federal jail term as he was under probation.

Church is a former resident of Wilkes county, a son of J. F. Church, of Purlear.

## License Bureau Office Is Moved

North Wilkesboro branch of the Carolina Motor Club has moved from quarters in the Western Auto Associate Store to the office room formerly occupied by the city clerk in the Poindexter building. Entrance is by way of Gordon Avenue.

J. C. McDiarmid, manager of the office, has announced that 1940 automobile and truck license plates will go on sale December 1.

The office is open from nine a. m. to five p. m.

## Auto-Bus Collision Case Before Court

### John Jones Being Tried For Death Two In Collision

### Several Cases Disposed Of During First Few Days November Term

John Jones, driver of a bus which collided with a car driven by Miss Wilhelmina Triplett 15 miles west of this city four years ago, went on trial in Wilkes court yesterday for the death of Miss Triplett, and Mrs. Hubert Cantor, who were killed in the collision.

Yesterday made the second time that the case has gone to trial. During the year following the accident on October 6, 1935, the case was heard and a mistrial was ordered.

The first witness Wednesday afternoon was Miss Martha Wheeling, who said she was in the rear seat of Miss Triplett's car at the time of the collision. She told that Miss Triplett was going west on highway 421, had been driven off the road into a side ditch by a car, and was pulling back on to the pavement when the bus and car collided. She said the collision occurred on Miss Triplett's right side of the road and that the impact of the bus drove the car into the fence on the other side.

The defense contended that the accident occurred on the other side of the highway.

A large number of witnesses had been subpoenaed to testify in the case which will be completed tomorrow.

Solicitor Avalon E. Hall is assisted in the prosecution by Former Solicitor John R. Jones, J. M. Brown, Eugene Trivette and Kyle Hayes. Jones' counsel includes Fred Hutchins, of Winston-Salem, W. M. Allen, of Elkin and A. H. Casey, of this city.

Ed Casey, who was outlawed after he was alleged to have shot his cousin, Paul Casey, near Traphill a few months ago, was convicted and given a sentence of from 18 to 60 months. After the shooting, which Ed Casey said in court was in self defense, he fled and was the object of a wide search by officers while his youthful cousin was recovering from the gunshot wound.

Walter Foster received a number of sentences. A four months sentence imposed at a former term was put into effect and he received 16 months additional for possession of liquor. Two years on charges of larceny were suspended.

Charlie Wood was given a six months' suspended sentence for non-support.

George Harris and Phillip Parks, negroes, received active sentences of from six to 36 months for larceny and receiving and suspended sentences of from five to eight years for breaking and entering.

Tommie Cothren was convicted of assault with deadly weapon but sentence has not been passed.

For disturbing religious congregation Daudy Spears received eight months and Andrew Spears four months with an additional 12 months suspended.

For operating a car while intoxicated Willie Foster was sentenced to four months.

Eugene Church, for operating a car while intoxicated, was given a 90-day road sentence.

## Sheriff Settles For 1938 Taxes; Now Has 1939 Books

### 1939 Taxes Now Due At Office Of Sheriff; Early Payment Is Urged

Sheriff C. T. Doughton has made settlement with the county board of commissioners for county taxes for the year-1938 and now has the 1939 tax books for collection.

Prepayments on 1939 taxes prior to the turning over the books to the sheriff were made to the county accountant. Taxes for 1939 are now payable to the sheriff and back taxes for any previous year may be paid to the county accountant.

In the tax settlement the sheriff received a fee of 70 cents for costs on each land sale certificate.

All who can are urged to pay their 1939 taxes as early as possible in order that the county may meet its obligations promptly. Attention is also called to the fact that a penalty will soon be added to unpaid 1939 taxes.

C. G. Poldexter, county accountant, has also called attention to the fact that the county will at an early date begin foreclosure proceedings on real estate for which county taxes for the year 1937 remain unpaid. Those who have not made payment for 1937 taxes could save a substantial amount in costs by paying before the suits are begun, he said.

## Schools To Have Holiday Friday

### Teachers of City Schools and Wilkesboro To Attend District Meet

Schools of the Wilkesboros will take a holiday Friday, November 3, in order to give the teachers an opportunity to attend the Northwestern District teachers' meeting to be held in High Point.

In the teachers meeting held Saturday it was left optional with each school as to whether or not a school would be held Friday but could not be learned here early today whether any schools outside of North Wilkesboro and Wilkesboro would have a holiday.

### Meet the Champ!



Doctors decided that seven-months-old Sandra Judd Kirchmann was the champion baby in the annual baby parade at Ocean City, N. J.—and another look will convince you the doctors were right.

## Community And County Groups For Triple A Elected

### J. M. German, H. C. Roberts And Muncie Asher Are County Committee

The Wilkes county Triple A organization was perfected this week by the re-election of the county committee by the community committees who were elected last week.

The county committee composed of J. M. German, chairman, H. C. Roberts, vice chairman, and Muncie Asher was retained for another year. Dag Holler, county farm agent, is by virtue of office a member of the committee and was elected secretary. Mrs. Ross B. Church was re-elected treasurer.

The community committeemen elected for the six communities in the county are as follows:

Community A: Floyd Holman, F. G. Hendren, I. J. Broyles.

Community B: G. C. Green, D. H. Jardue, J. R. Pardue.

Community C: R. L. Proffitt, W. O. Barnett, J. C. Parsons.

Community D: H. H. Jennings, A. R. Miller, J. W. Nichols.

Community E: C. E. Billings, N. P. Myers, Bruce Billings.

Community F: T. M. Carter, J. H. Poplin, J. F. Fields.

B. P. Roberts and J. F. Fields were elected as alternate members of the county committee to serve in the event vacancies occur for any reason.

## Oakwoods Road Now Completed

### Hard Surfaced Road Open For Traffic To Foot Of Brushy Mountain

Work has been completed on the Oakwoods roads and it is now open to the public, highway officials said today.

The road, first in Wilkes county not on the state system to be hard surfaced, was rebuilt from Wilkesboro to the foot of Brushy Mountain and is a decided improvement over the old crooked dirt road.

The project was carried out by WPA labor with state highway supervision and machinery.

J. G. Hackett, highway commissioner, said when the project was begun that the road was found by traffic checking to be the most extensively used road in Wilkes which was not on the highway system.

The improved section of the road will serve people in a big area, including a great part of the apple growing section of the Brushy Mountains.

Mr. and Mrs. F. L. Parks, Harold Parks, Mrs. Stacey Alexander, of Roaring River, Mrs. W. M. Alexander and two children, Billie and Bobbie, visited Mrs. Ida Mae Hipps in Salisbury Monday.

## Says Higgins Not Normal Mentally

### Will Not Go On Trial For Shooting R. C. Jennings, Deputy Sheriff

## License Bureau Office Is Moved

## Schools To Have Holiday Friday

## Teachers of City Schools and Wilkesboro To Attend District Meet

## Community And County Groups For Triple A Elected

### J. M. German, H. C. Roberts And Muncie Asher Are County Committee

## Community And County Groups For Triple A Elected

### J. M. German, H. C. Roberts And Muncie Asher Are County Committee

The Wilkes county Triple A organization was perfected this week by the re-election of the county committee by the community committees who were elected last week.

The county committee composed of J. M. German, chairman, H. C. Roberts, vice chairman, and Muncie Asher was retained for another year. Dag Holler, county farm agent, is by virtue of office a member of the committee and was elected secretary. Mrs. Ross B. Church was re-elected treasurer.

The community committeemen elected for the six communities in the county are as follows:

Community A: Floyd Holman, F. G. Hendren, I. J. Broyles.

Community B: G. C. Green, D. H. Jardue, J. R. Pardue.

Community C: R. L. Proffitt, W. O. Barnett, J. C. Parsons.

Community D: H. H. Jennings, A. R. Miller, J. W. Nichols.

Community E: C. E. Billings, N. P. Myers, Bruce Billings.

Community F: T. M. Carter, J. H. Poplin, J. F. Fields.

B. P. Roberts and J. F. Fields were elected as alternate members of the county committee to serve in the event vacancies occur for any reason.

## F. D. R. Answers Charges By Reds

Washington, Nov. 1.—President Roosevelt, who had been criticized yesterday by Russian Premier Molotov for "intervening" for Finland, dug up and issued tonight an official record which recalled that Russia had given "profound sympathy" only six months ago to his efforts to prevent attacks on Finland, Poland and other European nations.

Mr. Roosevelt's action apparently was both a reply to the Molotov speech and a new effort to show that a bond of sympathy links Finland and the United States.

It was a dramatic action, in which the President, as the leading actor, remained off the stage. It was a drama almost without words or even pantomime.

Notes Released

The President merely directed his press secretary, Stephen T. Early, to run off on a mimeograph machine new copies of cablegrams dated last April. Early then handed the texts to reporters.

In one of the messages the President appealed to Adolf Hitler to give assurances which would guarantee at least 10 years of non-aggression abroad. Specifically Mr. Roosevelt asked Hitler whether he was willing to give assurances that his armed forces would "not attack or invade the territory or possessions" of certain nations.

The President named Poland, of which Russia since has taken a slice. He mentioned Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, with which Russia has concluded agreements recently allowing her to utilize their territory for military purposes.

He specified Finland, with which Russia is negotiating now for military advantages, and also named all the other nations of Europe and a few in western Asia.

Kalinin's Message

The day after the White House made public the message to Hitler last April, President Kalinin cabled "an expression of profound sympathy with the noble appeal which you have addressed to the governments of Germany and Italy."

Kalinin continued: "You may rest assured that your initiative finds most ardent response in the hearts of the peoples of the soviet union."

## Oakwoods Road Now Completed

### Hard Surfaced Road Open For Traffic To Foot Of Brushy Mountain

Work has been completed on the Oakwoods roads and it is now open to the public, highway officials said today.

The road, first in Wilkes county not on the state system to be hard surfaced, was rebuilt from Wilkesboro to the foot of Brushy Mountain and is a decided improvement over the old crooked dirt road.

The project was carried out by WPA labor with state highway supervision and machinery.

J. G. Hackett, highway commissioner, said when the project was begun that the road was found by traffic checking to be the most extensively used road in Wilkes which was not on the highway system.

The improved section of the road will serve people in a big area, including a great part of the apple growing section of the Brushy Mountains.

Mr. and Mrs. F. L. Parks, Harold Parks, Mrs. Stacey Alexander, of Roaring River, Mrs. W. M. Alexander and two children, Billie and Bobbie, visited Mrs. Ida Mae Hipps in Salisbury Monday.

## Says Higgins Not Normal Mentally

### Will Not Go On Trial For Shooting R. C. Jennings, Deputy Sheriff

## License Bureau Office Is Moved

## Schools To Have Holiday Friday

## Community And County Groups For Triple A Elected

### J. M. German, H. C. Roberts And Muncie Asher Are County Committee

## Episcopal Service

Vesper service will be held at St. Paul's Episcopal church Sunday afternoon, November 5th, at four o'clock. At this time the offering for the advanced work of the diocese will be taken and it will be a step toward the 1940-41 campaign for the church that will be held in Boone within the next few weeks.