

War News

British Capture 25,000 Italians In Bardia Battle

Cairo.—Italy's base of Bardia fell in shambles yesterday to British invasion of Libya, after 20 days of savage siege, and all its 25,000 defenders including the Fascist commander were taken prisoner in the first major British victory of the war on Italian soil.

The complete capture of Bardia at 1 p. m., after the rout of a suicidal force of about 5,000 Italian "terribili" holding out in defense to the southeast, was announced in a communique of the British middle east command last night.

The hoisting of Britain's Union Jack above the Bardia government house meant the complete shattering of Marshal Rodolfo Graziani's Italian army of invasion, which in September struck 75 miles across Egypt to Sidi Barrani only to be thrown back in one of the most disastrous routs in military history.

70,000 Prisoners
With the taking of the 25,000 Italian prisoners, in the final assault on Bardia, the number of Italian troops falling prisoner in the sweep of Britain's desert blitzkrieg rose to perhaps 70,000 men—Graziani's entire invasion army, it was said.

General Bergonzoli, handsome bearded commander who resisted valiantly within Bardia because Premier Benito Mussolini had ordered the base defended "at all costs," surrendered to the British conquest, led by wildly-shouting Australian troops.

Last night's communique said that Gen. Bergonzoli was captured along with a corps commander and four of his senior generals.

Thus, Britain's offensive has stripped Italy of at least 10 of its best fighting leaders in the past month, according to official accounts.

Nazis Will March In Bulgaria Soon

Belgrade.—All Russian envoys to Balkan capitals have been

expelled, it was reported last night as reports spread of an impending German "peaceful occupation" of Bulgaria perhaps within two or three days.

Usually well-informed quarters said that Wednesday has been fixed as the "zero hour" for a march of German armed forces into Bulgaria from their new Rumanian bases.

Nazi quarters said that Russia will not interfere in any way "with any forthcoming German action in Bulgaria."

"Free Hand" Sway

One German source went so far as to say that, as result of the recent Berlin visit of Soviet Premier and Foreign Commissar Vyacheslav M. Molotov, Russia will give Germany "a free hand" in Bulgaria.

Greeks Repulse Italian Onslaught

Athens.—Italian forces, reinforced by stock troops rushed from Italy, have been driven back upon the Albanian Adriatic seaport of Valona after surrendering strategic positions to the Greeks and suffering heavy losses in dead, wounded and prisoners. It was stated officially last night.

An official spokesman said the Italian defenders of Valona, trying to stem the Greek push upon the port, used large numbers of fresh troops but "all Italian attempts were repulsed with heavy losses."

Farther north Greek forces stormed and captured a 4,500-foot peak in fierce fighting, adding a mountain of "considerable strategic importance" to their line pushing upon Valona, the Greek spokesman said.

150 Prisoners Taken
In this fighting, the Greeks took 150 prisoners and much war material, it was said. More than 100 prisoners, including officers, were captured in the fighting along the coastal sector.

An official Royal Air Force communique reported that British planes had carried out a devastating raid on Italy's major mid-Albanian base at Elbasan, where many fires were started.

Reports from the southern front also told of Greek warriors smashing one of the fierce enemy tanks assaults of the war in Albania.

The Carolina Trio At Roaring River

The Carolina Trio and Dwight Bell and his Dixie String Band will render a program at Roaring River school on Saturday night, January 11, seven o'clock.

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\$1.50 In the State — \$2.00 Out of State

John K. Blackburn Wilkes Chairman Birthday Parties

Drive Is Planned to Raise Funds to Fight Infantile Paralysis This Year

John Kermit Blackburn, who has been appointed Wilkes county chairman for the organization for President's birthday parties to raise funds to fight infantile paralysis, said here today that he is perfecting a county-wide organization to carry out the activities, which may include a President's Ball in North Wilkesboro.

Mr. Blackburn said that he had just received notice of his appointment as county chairman from Dr. Julian Miller, state chairman, and that he has not had time to complete the local organization here.

However, he said that the drive will be put on and that all people of the county will be given an opportunity to participate in the infantile paralysis fund this year.

Major Fletcher Called to Duty At Washington

Raleigh.—Major A. L. Fletcher, regional director of the wage and hour division for the Carolinas, has been called to report to Washington for active service with the selective service board.

Major Fletcher's orders stipulate service of a year or less. A specialist on draft procedure, he will serve as assistant to General Lewis B. Hershey, executive officer of the selective service system.

By federal regulation, his status with the wage-hour administration is suspended during his absence on military duty and he is expected to return to his post at the conclusion of his service in Washington.

During his absence, his duties will be performed by Stephen A. MacRae, supervising inspector with headquarters in Columbia, S. C., who will divide his time between Raleigh and Columbia. Mrs. Pauline W. Horton, assistant regional director, will be in charge of the Raleigh office.

Major Fletcher set up the Inspection Branch of the Wage and Hour Division for the country and served as assistant administrator of the Wage and Hour Division during its infancy. He is an expert on wage and hour regulations. He has been an active National Guard officer since 1917. He organized and captained a unit of the 13th Field Artillery and led it overseas. After the World War No. 1 he helped reorganize the National Guard and since 1932 he has been major and judge advocate general on the State staff. About five years ago he was assigned to make a study of selective service and to draw up a State Selective Service Plan for North Carolina. He is recognized as an expert on selective service just as he is an expert on the wage and hour. Temporarily he will be with the Army and the Selective Service Division but he will only be away on leave and as soon as he is released from military service he will again become the Director of Region VI for the Wage and Hour.

Resources Grow At Northwestern

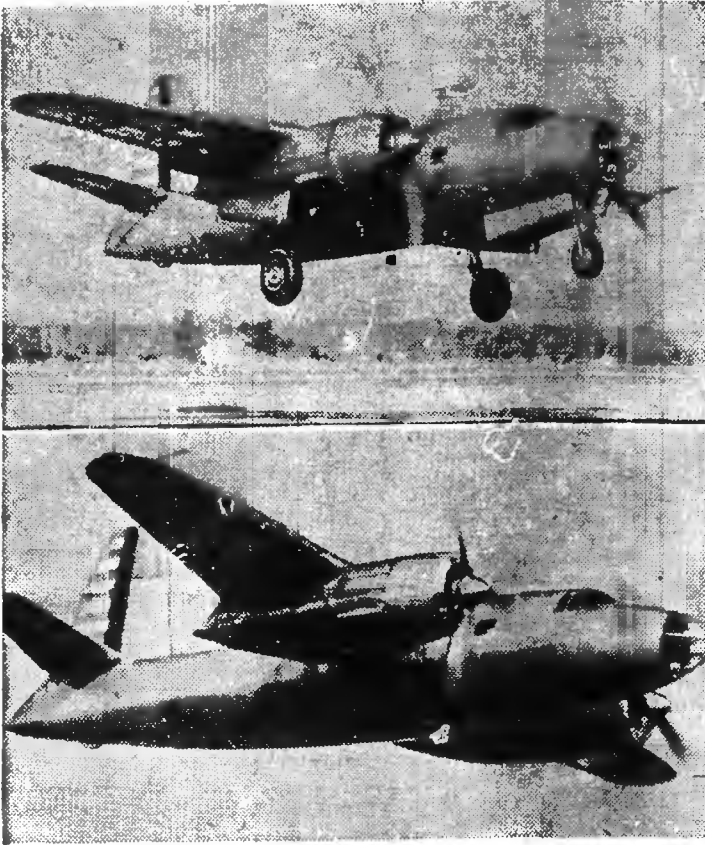
Resources Grow Over One and One-Half Million In the Past Two Years

Resources of The Northwestern Bank, which has home office here and branches in eight other northwestern North Carolina towns, have increased by more than one and one-half million dollars in the past two years.

A statement from the bank today listed resources at the close of business on December 31, 1940, at \$5,247,548.41, which represents an increase of \$1,514,429.11 over resources totaling \$3,733,119.30 on December 31, 1938. The total on December 30, 1939, was \$4,381,820.32.

Annual stockholders' meeting will be held at the bank's home office here on Tuesday, January 11 at 11 a. m.

Our Newest Bomber in Flight



The newest and best of the U. S. medium bombers is B-26, shown here taking off (above), and in the air (below), during a test flight at Baltimore, Md. Product of the Glenn L. Martin factory at Baltimore, this high performance dealer of destruction will soon be rolling off the production lines at mass production rate.

Clark Baby Is Winner Awards Today In Several Precincts of Wilkes

Son Born in Night of January 1 Is First New Year Baby Born in Wilkes

According to reports reaching this office, a son born to Mr. and Mrs. Julius Clark, of North Wilkesboro route three, was the winner of the several awards offered by North Wilkesboro business firms to the first New Year baby.

Dr. G. T. Mitchell, attending physician, said the son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Clark on January 1 at 11 p. m.

According to announced rules of the baby marathon, the entries should have been turned in to The Journal-Patriot office by six o'clock on Friday.

Prizes await the first baby are given by Belk's, Emily's Beauty Salon, G. P. Store, Tomlinson's department store, Rhodes-Day, Brame's Drug store, Bare's Fair store.

Duke Power company also offered a prize for the first baby of the new year to a family on Duke Power company lines. The Clark baby does not qualify for that prize and the contest for the Duke Power company prize is still open.

Cripple Clinic

January cripple clinic will be held at the Wilkes hospital here on Thursday morning, an announcement from the Wilkes county health department said. A specialist from Charlotte will make examination of cripples at the clinic and efforts will be made to have as many as possible there for free examination.

Bombed!



British firemen pouring a stream of water on the still smoldering St. James church, historic London landmark, following a German air raid on the British capital. This picture approved by British censors.

Tax Listing Begins Today In Several Precincts of Wilkes

Appointments by Tax Listers and Assessors Announced By C. G. Poindexter

Tax listing and the quadrennial assessment of property for taxation got under way today in many townships in Wilkes county.

C. G. Poindexter, county tax supervisor, said that the task will be completed during the month on January and urged early listing in order to avoid the rush on the last days set apart for listing.

As a convenience to the persons required to list for taxes, the county tax supervisor has announced the following appointments for list takers in practically all of the townships:

Antioch, C. A. Sparks, list taker—Dellaplane church January 6, Lee Martin place January 7, R. C. Segraves' service station January 8 and 10, Tom Mathis' service station January 9.

Beaver Creek, G. H. Walker, list taker—V. T. Walsh's store (Continued on page four)

Story Leaves For Raleigh Tuesday

T. E. Story, who was elected to the legislature as Wilkes county's representative, will leave for Raleigh tomorrow in preparation for opening of the 1941 legislature the following day.

Mr. Story, for many years one of the best known educators in this section of the state, will be one of six Republican representatives in the legislature. He was elected by a majority of 1,473 in Wilkes. This senatorial district, composed of Wilkes, Yadkin and Davie, will also be represented by a Republican, Miles T. Shore, of Yadkin county.

Fox Caught In Barn And Chicken House On The Same Day

Maybe the man who when caught in a chicken house said he was opossum hunting was not so badly wrong after all because a fox was caught in a barn and a chicken house on the same day.

On Friday morning Mrs. Matilda Eller went to the home of a neighbor, Mrs. W. T. Eller, in the Pearle community, and told the boys there that there was a wildcat in her barn.

Clyde and Ernest Eller went there with their dogs and caught the fox in the barn. Later that day the fox was turned loose on Little Mountain with all the fox hounds in the Pearle community loosed on its trail. It went to the home of Vernon Church, where the women folks caught the fox and tossed it into the hen house to keep the dogs from teasing it as please.

Civic Clubs Ask That Hackett Be Retained On Commission

Lions Endorse Hackett Record Highway Group

Ask For His Reappointment: Judge Hayes Delivers Address Before the Club

North Wilkesboro Lions Club began the new year Friday night with an enthusiastic meeting, an attendance of 43 and a splendid program featured by an address by Judge Johnson J. Hayes on the subject of "Liberty."

The club also discussed some items of public interest and unanimously passed a resolution asking Governor Elect J. M. Broughton to appoint J. Gordon Hackett, of this city, to another term on the state highway commission.

The resolution, identical with the one passed by the Kiwanis club earlier Friday, cited Mr. Hackett's splendid record as a member of the commission and the progress made in highway work during the past four years while he has been a member of the commission.

The program Friday night was in charge of Grady Church and he presented Judge Hayes as the speaker. The federal jurist delivered a stirring message which brought enthusiastic applause from the membership of the club and several visitors.

Included among the visitors at the meeting were 14 members of the Lenoir Lions clubs. Guests of members here included Paul Wiles, of Taylorsville, and Robin Hood, of Vernon Deal and Frank Stafford was a guest of Emmett Johnson.

Several members of the club here plan to go to Lenoir tonight to attend a meeting of the club there.

Annual Report Of Clerk Is Published

Funds Held by Clerk of the Court Listed on Pages Three-Six Today

The annual report of the Clerk of Superior court of Wilkes county, which shows the funds being held in court actions and other matters by the clerk, is published in this issue of The Journal-Patriot on pages three and six.

Publication of the report is required by law.

Persons who have funds being held for them by the clerk are requested to make notation of the judgment docket number when calling for the money at the clerk's office. This information is essential in order that records can be looked up without excessive delay.

Power for Defense



John C. Garand, inventor of the army's famed semi-automatic Garand rifle, is shown at work in his model shop at the Springfield, Mass., armory, where his grand gun is in mass production to arm our defense forces.

Home Chair Co. Begin Operation About February 1

Machinery Installed In New Plant; Offices Installed In 10-Room Building

The Home Chair company will begin manufacturing operations at its plant at Ronda about February 1, it was learned today from an official of the company.

After the company's plant here was destroyed in the flood on August 14 the company purchased the Ronda Cotton Mills plant and transformed it into a modern furniture factory.

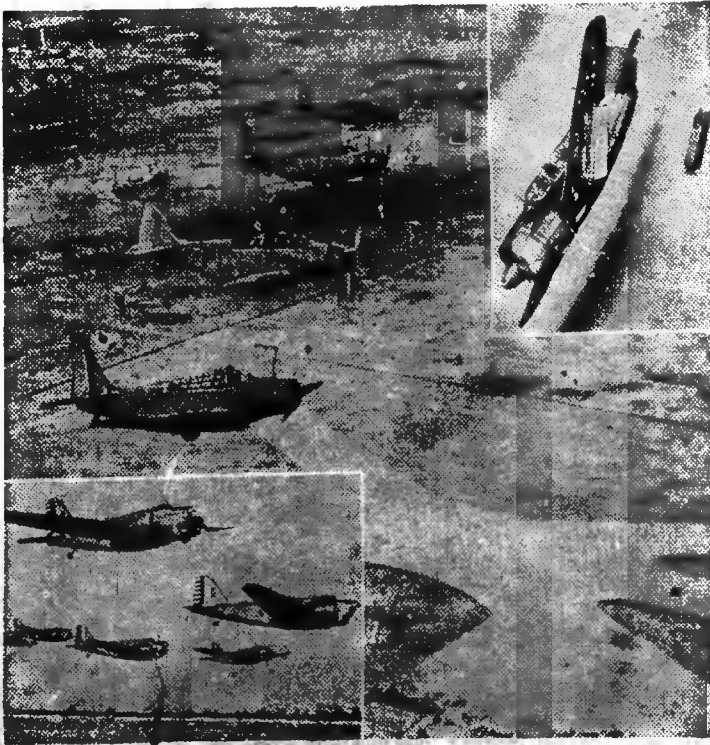
New and modern machinery, including conveyor systems, has been installed and workmen are putting the finishing touches to remodeling and enlarging of the factory buildings.

Plant offices have been moved to a ten-room building in Ronda, but the postoffice address of the company will remain North Wilkesboro.

Twenty-two dwelling houses, which were included in the sale of the cotton mills property, have been renovated and placed in livable condition.

Twenty-six North Carolina cities are listed in the 10,000 and over population class in the 1940 census.

'The Olympics of Aviation'



Dive bombers will demonstrate their prowess at the annual All-American Air Meet—the Olympics of Aviation—in Miami, Fla., January 16 to 22. One of these "Stuka" bombers is pictured, upper right. Crack speedsters are shown above flying over the Miami airport. Low-flying army air corps planes appear in the bottom panel as they seemed last year's exhibition.

Kiwanians Pass Resolution Here At Friday's Meet

Splendid Record of Commissioner Hackett Is Pointed Out In the Resolution

North Wilkesboro Kiwanis club in meeting Friday noon went on record requesting Governor-Elect J. M. Broughton to appoint J. Gordon Hackett, of this city, to another term as member of the State Highway and Public Works Commission.

The resolution, presented by W. H. McElwee, was unanimously and enthusiastically passed by the club, membership of which is composed of many of the best known and most influential men of the city and immediate community.

"More progress has been made in the 12 counties located in this division in road work during the past four years than at any time during the history of North Carolina; which progress, in our opinion, has been due, in a large part, to the energy and untiring service of Mr. Hackett," the resolution said.

In the business session of the luncheon meeting the list of committeemen for the year was read by the secretary, who called attention to the duties of the chairman of each committee.

J. H. Rector was received into membership in the club and was given the induction ceremony by A. H. Casey, who also presented him with the Kiwanis button.

J. B. Cantor, who was installed as president of the club at last week's meeting, delivered his inaugural address, which received high praise from the membership of the club.

The Resolution
Text of the resolution asking another term for Mr. Hackett on the Highway Commission was as follows:

"This Resolution, made this the 3rd day of January, 1941, by the North Wilkesboro Kiwanis Club in a meeting duly assembled in the Town of North Wilkesboro, North Carolina. Witnesseth: "That, Whereas, The North Wilkesboro Kiwanis Club has in the past and will in the future be very vitally and intensely interested in the promotion of the welfare of the State of North Carolina, and more particularly that section of North Carolina in which is situated Wilkes County and the Town of North Wilkesboro; and

"Whereas, The North Wilkesboro Kiwanis Club has done all things in the power looking toward the promotion of the interest of the people residing in this the Northwest Section of our State; and

"Whereas, During the past four (4) years the Honorable J. G. Hackett, as a member of the State Highway and Public Works Commission of North Carolina, has given unsparingly all of his time and efforts, and has rendered unselfish service to the State as a whole and to this highway division particularly; and, whereas, as a result of his efforts, more progress has been made in the twelve (12) counties located in his division in road work during the past four (4) years than at any time during the history of North Carolina; which progress, in our opinion, has been due, in a large part, to the energy and untiring service of Mr. Hackett. "Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by the Kiwanis Club of North Wilkesboro, North Carolina, that Governor J. M. Broughton, of the State of North Carolina, be earnestly requested, in the interest of the welfare of the residents of the State of North Carolina, to reappoint for an additional term of office the Honorable J. G. Hackett as a member of the State Highway and Public Works Commission of North Carolina."

Grange Will Meet On Tuesday Night

Wilkesboro Grange will meet on Tuesday night, January 14, 7:30 p. m. A special program is being prepared by Mrs. C. F. Bretholt and a large attendance is requested.