

# War News

## British Capture 30,000 At Tobruk

Cairo, Egypt.—The fall of the major Italian Libyan base of Tobruk to the British African army was announced officially last night.

Mopping-up operations continued in the town's western defenses alone.

"The remainder of the defenses are in our hands," said a military communique.

Australian shock troops led the forces storming Tobruk. They immediately cut off the Italians still holding out beyond the port to the west.

These advanced units—the same Australians who had led the way in a campaign that now has all but consolidated 80 miles of Libyan coast line in British hands—entered Tobruk at noon after more than 24 hours of violent attack upon the town and port by British troops, warships and bombers.

Thousands of Italians—no precise count had been made—already had been reported captured.

In the Tobruk fortress was the greater part of an Italian garrison of 30,000 and the fact that units of the British Mediterranean fleet had been able to bombard the town for hours suggested that there could be no hope of retreat by sea.

Above the town, smoke rose over the rubble left by the shells pumped into it so long.

The general attack began early Tuesday morning. "Free French" troops fought bitterly and successfully beside the British and Australians.

Like Bardia, Tobruk was ringed by a strong outer arc of defenses about 25 miles from the coast and, with the sea, encircling the whole town.

## Greeks Repulsing Italian Assaults

Athens, Greece.—The Greek airforce reported last night the destruction by bombers of more than 100 trucks on the central Albanian front.

Italian troops also were bombed and machine-gunned in repeat attacks, it was stated.

The transport column was said to have been smashed after a Greek bomb had dislodged a great boulder which rolled into the road, blocking a narrow mountain pass and enabling the Greek planes to pour bombs upon the trapped trucks.

In this sector Greek infantry was reported far enough advanced to permit the transfer of artillery to new forward positions. At one point 200 Italian prisoners were taken, a Greek government spokesman said.

Four Italian counterattacks along the central front, he added, had been easily repulsed with "heavy losses" to the Fascists.

## Nazis Slowing Down

London.—German bombers made relatively minor stabs at the southeast coast and over Yorkshire yesterday and two were reported shot down in aerial combat.

Nowhere in Britain were raid casualties reported during the day. Six bombs fell in a town on the Kent coast—harmlessly, the government said, and a Yorkshire area was reported bombed with similar negligible effect.

German planes also appeared over a northeast coast town and over East Anglia, but no incident of consequence was reported from those areas.

As part of the program to keep British planes well supplied, Geoffrey Lloyd, the government's petroleum administrator, urged motorists last night to be "more careful than ever" in their consumption of gasoline.

"Every ship, every plane, every mechanized vehicle that is added to the nation's growing strength from our own industry and from the United States must and shall have waiting for its supplies of fuel to enable it to strike at the enemy," he said in a broadcast.

## Prevette, Durham Hearing Feb. 8th

Hearing for Lester Prevette and Vaughn Durham, charged with hit and run in connection with the injury of Belva Grimes at Hays during the latter part of December, will be held on February 8, Wilkes officers said today.

Prevette and Durham are under bond. They are charged with operation of an automobile which struck the Grimes girl and did not stop.

Prevette's name was erroneously reported as Luther Prevette in a news report of the accident several days ago.

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NORTH WILKESBORO, N. C., THURSDAY, JAN. 23, 1941

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

For mutual advantage do your buying in North Wilkesboro, the trading center of Northwestern North Carolina.

## Plans Made To Raise Funds To Fight Paralysis

### Junior And Senior Dances To Be Held On Night Of January 31st Here

Final plans were announced today for activities to raise funds in Wilkes to fight infantile paralysis.

A President's Ball will be held on Friday night, January 31. The junior dance will be at the Woman's Clubhouse and the senior dance will be at the Legion and Auxiliary clubhouse. An orchestra has been engaged for this dance.

"Tag Day" will be observed in North Wilkesboro on Saturday, January 25. "Fight Infantile Paralysis" tags will be on sale all day Saturday. The sale of the tags to be handled by the young ladies of the town.

## Deputy Marshal Takes Trio in Wilkes

Illegal operation of a distillery was charged against three Wilkes county residents arrested during the week-end. United States Marshal W. T. Dowd said yesterday.

They were named as Minnie Johnson, Clingman Johnson and Edward Johnson. Deputy Walter Irwin, Wilkesboro, arrested them on a capias, and they were released under \$500 bond each.

## Over 1,000 Helped In County Through Public Assistance

### \$8,102 Goes To Needy Aged, Dependent Children and Blind This Month

Over 1,000 people in Wilkes county were aided directly through the public assistance division of the welfare department. It was learned today from figures released by Charles McNeill, Wilkes superintendent of welfare.

The number receiving old age assistance for January totaled 633 in the amount of \$5,158.

Aid to dependent children funds totaling \$2,120 were paid to 150 families with 336 needy children. Thirty-nine blind received \$524 for the month.

The total for all three divisions of public assistance payments in Wilkes this month was \$8,102.

Figures also released by the welfare department disclosed that 700 cases had been aided by distribution of surplus commodities. The case load for aid through food and clothing was greatly increased during the latter part of the summer to care for flood victims.

## Roaring River Community To Sponsor Ball 24th

The Roaring River community will sponsor the President's Ball at the American Legion Club House in North Wilkesboro, Friday evening, January 24th, at 9 o'clock. The public is cordially invited to attend. Admission 50c. Round and square dancing.

## Remove Nazi Flag From German Consulate



A Nazi swastika flag is here shown being removed from the window of the German consulate in San Francisco. Two sailors, Harold James Sturdevant, fireman on the destroyer Craven, and E. J. Lackey, seaman first class on the destroyer Perkins, were booked at the city prison on a charge of malicious mischief while en route to the U. S. navy. Photo shows Sturdevant throwing a tarpaulin over the flag. Lackey is shown on the right of picture.

## WILKES VOLUNTEERS AND CONSCRIPTS WHO LEFT MONDAY



Pictured here are the 18 volunteers and conscripts who made up Wilkes' quota for the January selective service call, together with draft board officials present to see them off at North Wilkesboro Monday morning. The front row are from Wilkes board area number one left to right: William Blaine Nichols, Owdis Lloyd Johnson, Charlie Cicero Call, Archie Laws, Robert Hamy, Arnold F. Bamgarner, Alonzo Hout, O. K. Whittington, draft board member, and Wm. A. Stroud, draft board clerk. Back row are from Wilkes board

number two area, left to right: William Bud Burchette, Willie Parsons, Old Edward Shumate, Thurman Franklin Bowlin, Howard William Carrigan, Rudy Walker, Sanford David Brown, Woodrow Bain Wood, Paul Eugene Rhodes, Claude Taylor, Jesse Caudill, Eugene Trivette, appeal agent, and W. P. Kelly, draft board clerk. James Harvey Holler, whose postoffice address was listed on his registration card as Joyne, failed to appear here as ordered and only 11 went from this board area. (Photo by Dwight Nichols).

## Large Number Of Laborers Wanted On Defense Works

### Jobless Who Want Work Asked To Register At Employment Service Office

B. G. Gentry, manager of the North Wilkesboro branch of the North Carolina State Employment Service, said today that there are openings for a large and almost unlimited number of laborers and ditch diggers at Holly Ridge and Fort Bragg defense projects.

There are also calls for skilled laborers, particularly carpenters, sheet metal workers, trench digging machine operators, back hoe shovel operators and diesel tractor mechanics, he said.

Mr. Gentry explained that it is not the purpose of the employment service to take people who are already employed and send them to other places but urged that those in need of a job should contact the employment service at the earliest possible date.

The call for laborers at Holly Ridge said an "unlimited number" is wanted for 56 hours per week at 40 cents per hour. Fort Bragg asks for 600 for 48 hour week at 30 cents per hour and 2,500 ditch diggers at 40 cents. Skilled carpenters are paid 90 cents per hour at each place but may work 56 hours per week at Holly Ridge. All Fort Bragg workmen are for 48 hours per week.

There is a call for one stenographer at \$120 to \$135 per month but the applicant must pass an exacting test, Mr. Gentry said.

## Want Orders To Complete 3rd Car Of Superphosphate

Two carloads of phosphate have already been ordered and the Triple A office is anxious to complete tonnage for a third car. Lawrence Miller, Triple A secretary, said today.

The phosphate is ordered by the farmers and payment will be deducted from earnings in the soil program. Farmers who have not placed orders are urged to do so at once in order that the third car may be filled.

## PRESENTATION OF FLAGS



Four states, it shows, were presenting 48 large flags to North Wilkesboro school in honor of the local chapter of Moose. The flags were received for the school by Paul S. Cragan, superintendent, shown at right. (Photo by Dwight Nichols)

## James F. Williams Claimed By Death

### Funeral Service Held Today For Local Citizen Who Died Tuesday Night

James F. Williams, local business man and manufacturer, died Tuesday night at 10:30 o'clock. He had been seriously ill for several days.

For the past several years Mr. Williams had operated a lumber plant, repair shop, cafe and tourist cabins immediately west of this city on highway 421. He was a World War veteran, having served in France, and was affiliated with the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Surviving are his widow, Mrs. Nettie Williams and four children, Ralph Williams, Mrs. Ruby Bottomley, Faye and Mazie Williams, all of North Wilkesboro. Also surviving are his father, E. V. Williams, of North Wilkesboro, one brother, T. H. Williams, of North Wilkesboro, and two sisters, Mrs. W. P. Holder, of Charlotte, and Mrs. Mona Reavis, of North Wilkesboro.

Funeral service was held at Laurel Springs Baptist church this afternoon, two o'clock.

Rev. Eugene Olive, of Wake Forest, former pastor of the First Baptist church here, conducted the last rites. World War veterans conducted military rites at the grave and were pall bearers.

## Mrs. Ellen Saunders Is Claimed By Death

Funeral service was held Thursday morning at Edgewood Baptist church for Mrs. Ellen Saunders, age 73, resident of that community who died Tuesday at her home.

She fell in the fire at her home and was fatally burned. Surviving Mrs. Saunders are three sons and one daughter: Sanford Dotson, Edgar Dotson and F. A. Parker, of Winston-Salem, and Mrs. T. L. Cooley, of Fort Worth, Texas. Also surviving are one brother and two sisters, Tom Parker, of Crumpler, W. Va., Mrs. Minnie Widdington, of Statesville and Mrs. Ardley Brock, of Davidson.

Miss Beatrice Godfrey has been ill with flu this week.

## Asking Farmers To Sign Applications

### Over 1,000 Applications For Benefit Payment Now Await Signatures

One main reason why a larger number of farm payment checks for 1940 compliance have not been received is because farmers have not signed final application for payment. Lawrence Miller, secretary of the Triple A in Wilkes, said today.

Over 1,000 applications for payment are in the office of the county agent awaiting the signatures of farmers before being forwarded as the last step before payment is received.

Farmers who have not signed are urged to call at the office of the county agent on the earliest possible date and place their names on the applications.

A few hundred Wilkes farmers whose applications were forwarded to Washington some time ago have already received payments.

## Local Colored Glee Club Sings

### Delightful Program of Songs Rendered At Kiwanis Club Meeting Friday

North Wilkesboro Kiwanis club on Friday noon was entertained by the glee club of North Wilkesboro colored school, under direction of Prof. Frank Parker. Twenty-seven students were in the chorus, which very delightfully rendered two groups of songs as the feature of the program. W. D. Halfacre was program chairman for the day.

Prior to the program President J. B. Carter presented L. S. Weaver, of the Elkin Kiwanis club, and Paul S. Cragan led in singing "Bells of St. Mary's." Program chairmen for meetings through February were announced.

Charles Crutchfield, of New York City, and T. G. McLaughlin, of this city, were guests of P. W. Eshelman, Mrs. Frank Johnson, of Morganton, was a guest of Miss Lois Scroggs, club pianist.

## Fairplains Road To Be Widened A Distance 1 1/2 Miles

### WPA Project Sponsored By Highway Commission For Local Road Approved

A project calling for concrete widening of highway 18 from North Wilkesboro city limits northward to Fairplains has been approved, it was learned here today from WPA and state highway officials.

It will be a WPA project sponsored by the State Highway and Public Works commission and work will not begin until spring, WPA officials said.

Four feet of concrete pavement will be added to the present concrete pavement and shoulders will be constructed, thus modernizing the highway for a distance of slightly more than one and one-half miles.

WPA officials also said that a project for widening highway 421 from Wilkesboro a distance of ten miles eastward has been completed. Four feet of concrete pavement was added to the highway and new shoulders were constructed.

## Flu Not Bad In Wilkes Schools

### County Schools To Remain In Operation; Absences Not Very Numerous

The flu epidemic has not reached Wilkes schools to any great extent, C. B. Eller, county superintendent of public instruction, said today.

Wilkesboro and Millers Creek reported a large number of absences this week than usual but these were only a small percentage of the total. Reports from some of the other larger schools indicated only a slight increase in number of absences and school authorities deemed it advisable to continue in operation.

School authorities expressed a hope that the flu epidemic may not reach any great intensity in the rural schools. Several cases of mumps, whooping cough and chickenpox have been reported in different parts of the county.

## 1 Case Meningitis At Moravian Falls

Billie Anderson, a six-year-old student of Moravian Falls, is ill with some form of spinal meningitis, which has caused considerable alarm among the people of the community.

Because of the alarm and a number of cases of flu and mumps among the students, the school was closed this afternoon until Wednesday, January 23.

The meningitis case has been isolated and is apparently recovering. Dr. A. J. Eller, county health officer, said today there is little cause for alarm because it had not been determined whether or not the disease was of the particular type which is communicable.

## North Wilkesboro Schools Closed On Account Of Illness

### 208 Absences Tuesday On Account Of Flu, Mumps and Chicken Pox

North Wilkesboro schools closed Tuesday morning at 10:30 o'clock because of a fast growing epidemic of communicable diseases.

Paul S. Cragan, superintendent, said that 208 students were absent from the white schools and 40 per cent were out at the colored school unit. Both were closed until Monday, January 27.

Well while epidemics were reported in practically every section of the country and people here were hopeful that any serious epidemic could be averted.

But flu and other diseases struck Monday in ever increasing numbers, there being 170 out of the white schools Monday. There were also three teachers out because of illness—Miss Emma Elmer, Ray Cline and Miss Evelyn Sharpe.

Absences were not all due to flu. There were 40 out Tuesday because of mumps and 10 on account of chickenpox. The remainder were classed as colds and flu.

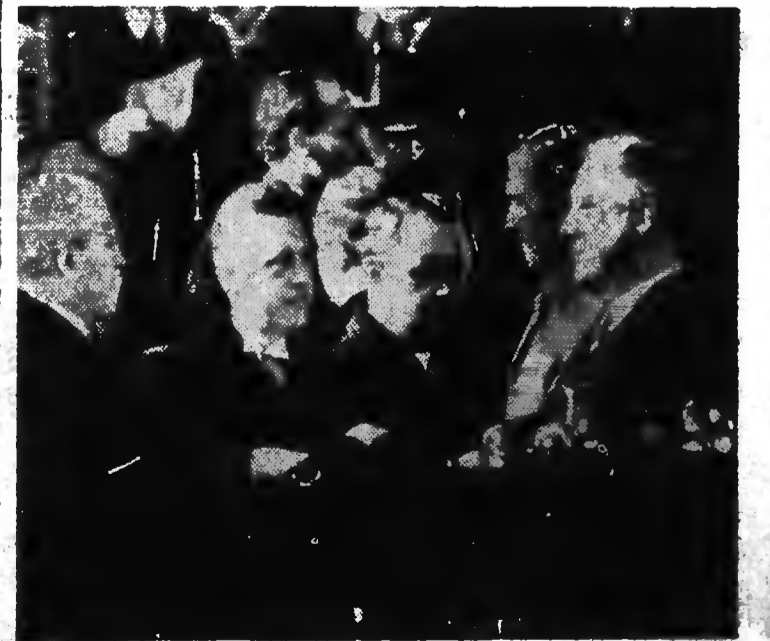
Superintendent Cragan said he conferred with school board members, physicians and members of the health department, all of whom said closing the schools in order to prevent further epidemic would be the proper course.

Physicians generally described the prevalent illness here as a mild form of flu which is likely to keep patients laid up for a few days but without serious results except in severe cases with complications.

Many parents were known to have kept their children at home because of common colds in order to prevent more serious illness.

Mr. J. B. McCoy has recovered from an attack of flu.

## President Takes Oath at Third Inauguration



This soundphoto shows Chief Justice Hughes, extreme left, administering the oath of office to President Franklin Delano Roosevelt as he was inaugurated as the first third-term President of the United States on Monday, January 20. In his inaugural address the President declared that "democracy is not dying" and "cannot die." His speech was marked by constant references to his faith in American democracy.