

## War News

### Reich Army Packs Bulgaria's Ports

Sofia, Bulgaria. — Germany's field army in Bulgaria was concentrated today at Black Sea ports and on the Greek frontier as the Nazis deployed for the great Balkan war so long expected and seemingly all but begun. Twelve Nazi divisions—some 150,000 men—were reported standing at Bulgaria's frontier with Greece, with more on the way. There were no reports of the number of men Germany has sent to the Black Sea ports. While the troops were taking their stations, observers said, German planes from the fourth air fleet of 1,700 aircraft based in Bulgaria already were busily photographing Greek and Turkish frontier defenses. Bulgarian and southeastern Europe were on edge, wondering what would come next.

### Greeks Rejecting German Pressure

Athens. — Greece rejected mounting German pressure for a separate peace with Italy last night and announced she was standing firmly beside Britain, having "agreed on all aspects of the situation" in Southeast Europe with British Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden. Eden left Athens last night after three days of conferences. A Greek government communiqué said that Eden and General Sir John Dill, chief of the British imperial general staff, had with King George II and Premier Alexandros Korizis "examined very attentively the situation in the Balkans, where they continued all efforts with a view of preventing the spread of war." (The "spread of war" from this viewpoint could have but one meaning—a German invasion of Greece from Bulgaria.) The Greek high command declared, earlier, in a communiqué of its own: "The army and the Greek people have decided to face events, and to fight on with the same undying will for their liberty and their fatherland," said a high command communiqué. The announcement indicated the Greeks are shifting considerable forces to their Yugoslav and Bulgarian frontiers in Macedonia and Thrace to meet the threat of massing German divisions.

### Ethiopians Take Italian Fort

Cairo, Egypt. — Native Ethiopians have routed an Italian garrison of 20,000 in Golljam province and seized the fort of Burye, 140 miles northwest of Addis Ababa in a revolt "spreading like wildfire," the British announced last night. (A Reuters, British news agency dispatch from Khartoum reported other rebels even had occupied Mansuka village, 8 miles east of Debra Markos, Italian headquarters 115 miles from the capital, Addis Ababa.) From Burye, near Lake Tana, the Italians were said to be falling back over a 50-mile mountainous road to Debra Markos with the dusky "patriots" in close pursuit. The Ethiopians were assisted in their capture of Burye by heavy desertions of both native conscripts and Italian regulars in the garrison of 2,000 to 3,000 men, said British informants.

### Equalization Board To Meet

Wilkes County board of equalization, which is composed of the county commissioners and tax supervisors, will meet at the courthouse on Monday, March 17, to hear appeals from tax assessments for the current year. For the sake of convenience, the board will hear appeals from all townships except North Wilkesboro and Wilkesboro on March 17, and a date will be set later for North Wilkesboro and Wilkesboro appeals.

### Loans On Poultry

Farmers needing loans to finance poultry and other farm projects should contact local bankers or the Production Credit Association which has a representative in each county seat throughout the South. Anyone who needs loans of this kind must have had experience in caring for chickens and some security to cover the loan. Oftentimes combination loans are made on chickens and some other farm enterprises such as cotton, corn, hogs, etc.—The Progressive Farmer.

# THE JOURNAL-PATRIOT

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## Judge Orders Commissioners Charged With Failure to Perform Duties of Office

### Progress Made In Getting Members For Home Guard

Officer Will Accept Applications Friday Evening and Night At City Hall

Harry Pearson, captain of the Home Guard company to be formed here, said today that a number of good men have already made application for membership. Captain Pearson, First Lieutenant Malcolm Wyatt or Second Lieutenant John Wells will be at the city hall here on Friday, four until nine p. m., for the purpose of taking applications of other men who will join. The authorized strength is 50 men and the officers desire to have many acceptable applications. To be members of the home guard the men must be between the ages of 18 and 45 but men who are subject to call under selective service cannot be accepted. Men between the ages of 21 and 26 who have dependents and for that reason will not be called into federal service may join the Home Guard. Commenting on progress being made, Captain Pearson said that cooperation has been splendid and that he feels that a most creditable quota of men can be assembled for the North Wilkesboro company, which the officers are determined shall be the "best in the state." In addition to drills and instructions in military training, physical education will be stressed in the company. Captain Pearson said, in order that members might derive physical benefits from membership.

### Contest Finals On Friday Night

Will Be Held After Legion Meeting; Square Dance Is Also Announced

Wilkes county finals in the American Legion's oratorical contest will be held at the Legion and Auxiliary clubhouse here Friday night. The Legion meeting will begin at 7:30, followed immediately by the oratorical contest with students from North Wilkesboro, Ronda and Mountain View schools participating. After the contest a square and round dance will be held. The public is cordially invited to the oratorical contest and to the dance and entertainment which follows.

### Austin Lovette Added To Force

Local Citizen Employed By Commissioners Tuesday To Succeed David

City Board of Commissioners in March meeting Tuesday evening added Austin Lovette to the police force. Lovette is a citizen of North Wilkesboro and for the past 17 years was employed at Forest Furniture company. On the force he will succeed Harold David, who has been off the force since January 11. The police force as now constituted consists of Chief J. E. Walker, Sergeant Cecil Hayes, Keller Ellier, C. G. Horton and Austin Lovette.

### Gorge Combs Rites Conducted Tuesday At Lewis Church

Funeral service was held Tuesday afternoon at Lewis church for George Combs, age 45, citizen of the Lovebece community who died at his home Monday morning. Rev. Noah Hayes conducted the service, assisted by Rev. A. K. Baily. Surviving are his widow, Mrs. Leatha Barnett Combs, and four children: Homer, Cecil, Ruby and Thomas Combs.

### Strange Light Seen In The Western Sky On Saturday Night

There was a strange light in the western sky Saturday night noticeable for several hours after sunset. It looked like light reflected on smoke from a great fire and reached well up toward the zenith of the sky. It could not have been a fire west of here because several persons saw it here and watched it as they traveled to other points and it could be seen just as plainly as here. It was indeed a strange phenomenon, and while it resembled the northern lights, or aurora borealis, it was in the wrong position, being in the western sky.

### Several Cases Are Tried This Week

Longest Sentence Is 7 To 10 Years On Charge Assault With Deadly Weapon

Wilkes superior court convened in Wilkesboro Monday with Judge F. Donald Phillips, of Rockingham, presiding, and after charge to the grand jury court began work on a long docket of more than 175 cases. Solicitor Avalon E. Hall, of Yadkinville, is prosecuting the docket. Judgments have been rendered in the following cases: Odell Riddle, abandonment, \$50 fine and 12 months sentence suspended on payment of cost and on condition he maintain wife and child; Clay Greene Church, operating car while intoxicated, \$50 fine and cost, 12 months sentence suspended. Press Winger, operating car while intoxicated, \$50 fine, six months suspended two years. James Adams, Charlie Adams and Numa Porter, affray, James Adams, 30 days; Charlie Adams and Numa Porter six months each. Eugene Reynolds, abandonment, 18 months suspended five years on payment cost and \$15 per month for support children. Carl Redding, violation prohibition law, four months and 18 months suspended. James Gray, colored, operating car while intoxicated, 90 days on roads. Sanford McKinley Hendren and Elsie Souther Hendren, violation prohibition law, suspended sentences. Clinton Anderson, operating car while intoxicated, prayer for judgment continued on payment \$50 fine and costs. The grand jury today returned a true bill charging Tom, Absher with rape. Charlie (Son) Smitley, peeping tom, six months on roads. Herbert Steed, operating car while intoxicated, six months suspended on payment \$50 fine and costs. Sam Segraves, violation prohibition laws, eight months on roads and 12 months suspended. Coot Gilreath, colored, larceny from person, 90 days on roads; Dubb Brown, colored, 30 days on same charge. Hubert Ester, assault with deadly weapon, seven to ten years in penitentiary. A true bill was returned charging Troy Reynolds, of North Wilkesboro, with first degree burglary. Colon Hayes, colored, bastardy, to pay cost, doctor bill and \$5.00 to Thankful church.

### March Clinic For Cripples Thursday

March clinic for crippled children will be held at the Wilkes hospital on Thursday, March 13, the county health department announced today. Health authorities ask that all crippled and deformed who wish free examination to be present at the clinic, which will be held about 9:30 a. m.

### Wichita, Kansas. — Waiting for a bus, on a street corner, Ray Smith was hit on the shoulder by a mallard duck. The impact knocked out the duck, which was carried home by the man.

### One of Hamby Twins Age 85 Died Tuesday

H. M. Hamby, one of twin brothers who recently celebrated their 85th birthday together, died Tuesday night at his home at Wilbar and funeral service was held Wednesday afternoon at Union church with Rev. Glenn Huffman in charge. He was a son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hamby and the survivors are: his widow, Mrs. Rebecca McGuire Hamby, seven children, Edgar Hamby, North Wilkesboro; Bryan Hamby, K. n. napolis; Henry Hamby, Lenoir; Mary, Edsel, Elmer and Calvin Hamby, Wilbar; and one brother, W. H. Hamby, of Lenoir.

### City Fathers Talk Financing Plans For Storage Plant

Grange Committee Discusses Self-Liquidating Project With Commissioners

A committee from the Wilkesboro Grange appeared before the North Wilkesboro board of commissioners in their March meeting Tuesday evening to discuss financing construction of a cold storage locker plant in North Wilkesboro. Financing plans discussed by the committee, composed of C. F. Bretholl, orchardist and farmer, J. B. Simpson, county agent, and Carl E. Vasboshan, orchard specialist, including underwriting of the cost by North Wilkesboro in order that the government may be able to legally lend financial assistance. The plan given attention would be to construct the plant as a self-liquidating project and would not involve the credit of the town. The proposal was discussed favorably but no definite action was taken pending further investigation. The Wilkesboro Grange is sponsoring the erection of a cold storage plant here and its committee has been working on the proposal for the past several weeks. They report that much interest has been shown and already many individuals and business firms have expressed a desire to rent cold storage lockers if a plant is constructed.

### Safety Campaign By Eastern Star

The Local Organization Will Promote Safety Campaign Wilkes Schools

The beginning of a safety campaign in the interest of decreasing traffic accidents and resulting injuries, especially among children of school age, was announced today by Wilkes Chapter number 42, Order of the Eastern Star, of this city. Heading the campaign for the Eastern Star will be Mrs. Helen Cashion, Miss Mable Hendren, worthy matron, and Mrs. Ira Payne, associate matron. The campaign includes the distribution of safety rule book marks to school children, display of post and window display posters at central points, and other means to impress the public with the need for careful driving, careful walking and other precautionary measures. In announcing the Safety Campaign the Eastern Star committee pointed out that nearly one third of the people killed in traffic accidents last year were children, and with hundreds of pupils in daily attendance it is timely that the attention of the motorists be focused upon the necessity for careful handling of motor vehicles. The Eastern Star is calling upon every one in the city of North Wilkesboro and surrounding counties to cooperate with the campaign. The slogan, "Drive Carefully," will be the thought experiment in the minds of the local Eastern Star chapter in the campaign being conducted.

### Said They Failed to Abide By Order Of Superior Court

Ask Indictment For Failure To Make Improvements At Jail, Courthouse

Bills of indictment charging the present board of Wilkes county commissioners and two former members of the board with failure to perform their official duties were handed the grand jury in Wilkes court Wednesday by Solicitor Avalon E. Hall. The solicitor was directed by Judge F. Donald Phillips to bring charges against the commissioners, whom the judge said had failed to abide by an order issued at the August, 1939, term of court by Judge Frank M. Armstrong. In his order Judge Armstrong had directed the commissioners to make certain improvements at the county jail, including installation of a plumbing and heating system, provide adequate water supply for the county home and tubercular hospital near North Wilkesboro, carry out sanitary measures at the courthouse and to secure estimates on the cost of a heating plant for the courthouse. Judge Phillips said that he had personally made an investigation and as far as he could learn the order of Judge Armstrong in August, 1939, had not been complied with. On Tuesday Judge Phillips brought up the subject in open court and referred to the order of Judge Armstrong, which included a clause that the solicitor indict the commissioners for failure to execute their duty if they had not made provisions for complying with the order by the November, 1939 court.

Judge Phillips on Tuesday asked Solicitor Hall to draw bills of indictment against the board of commissioners in 1939 and now. The commissioners then were M. F. Absher, chairman, Dr. W. R. Triplett and C. C. Sidden. Absher is chairman of the present board and Max Foster and Vilas T. Walsh have succeeded Dr. Triplett and Sidden on the board. Wednesday afternoon Judge Phillips called the grand jury in for special instructions relative to the matter. He read to them the statutes which outline duties of commissioners relative to maintenance of county property, read the order of Judge Armstrong and gave his account of his own investigation as to whether or not the commissioners had done as directed by the court. He said that he had found conditions at the jail "deplorable, with no way for prisoners to take a bath and no way to properly heat the building." He mentioned the need of a heating system in the courthouse, saying that 22 separate fires were built in fireplaces and stoves that morning in the courthouse. Judge Phillips informed the grand jury that bills of indictment against the commissioners would be given that body by the solicitor and for the grand jury to examine the witnesses and return the bills according to the evidence of probable cause of violation of the statutes he had read to them. Judge Phillips pointed out to the grand jury that grand juries at several terms of court had made recommendations for improvements as Judge Armstrong ordered, before and after the term when the order was made and that nothing had been done. When the bills are returned to court depends upon when the grand jury reaches them and hears the evidence. Witnesses have been subpoenaed by Solicitor Hall. Wm. H. Duhling, a North Wilkesboro business man, is foreman of the grand jury at this term.

### Stacy Alexander Taken By Death

Funeral service for John Stacy Alexander, age 49, prominent Wilkes citizen who died at his home near Wilkesboro Wednesday afternoon, will be held Friday, 3:30 p. m., at Wilkesboro Presbyterian church. Mr. Alexander had been ill on- ly a few days and his condition became critical only a short time before his death. He was a member of a well and favorably known family, being a son of the late W. N. Alexander and Mrs. Rachel Woodruff Alexander, who survives. Surviving members of his immediate family are his widow, Mrs. Louise Alexander, of Wilkesboro, his mother, three brothers and five sisters: Christie Alexander, Roaring River; Cager Alexander, North Wilkesboro route one; William A. Alexander, Rocky Mount, Va.; Mrs. J. S. El- liot, Wilkesboro route one; Mrs. Maggie Blackburn, Winston-Salem; Mrs. John W. Goodman, Raleigh; Mrs. Bruce Jones, Savan- nah, Ga.; and Miss Ena Alexan- der, North Wilkesboro route one. Mr. W. C. Laws, of Parsonville, was a visitor in this city Wed- nesday.

### WIND AND WATER

Burlington, N. J. Low tide on the Delaware river, caused by a strong two-day wind, brought about a water shortage for 3,000 families and caused 3,500 pupils to be dismissed from school.

### Deportation?



Deportation proceedings against Harry Bridges, West coast labor leader (above), have been ordered by Attorney General Jackson. Basis for this action is the FBI report that Bridges is a communist.

### Brushy Mountain Road Is Improved

WPA Forces Are Regrading Parts Of Road From Oak- woods To Top Mountain

The Brushy Mountain road between Oakwoods and the summer resort colony on the Brushies is undergoing much improvement. WPA forces are busily engaged in reggrading that portion of the road and are eliminating many of the curves. Highway officials contacted today said that improvements will be made on the grade and crushed stone surface will be applied when the grading is completed. The road is one of the most important on the county roads in Wilkes and interested people are hoping that a black top surface eventually can be applied. The road not only serves the fast growing summer resort on the Brushies but traverses some of the best apple growing parts of the county.

### Engineers Seeking Location For Track

Additional Surveys Made Of Possible Routes For Spur Railroad Track

Additional surveys have been made here during the past few days by Southern Railroad engineers seeking location for a spur track above flood water marks. So far reports have not been made on the surveys and location of the work has not been made public pending final results. Vast damage to industries and other plants along the railroad here in the August, 1940, flood caused interested local people to seek location for spur railroad tracks to lands above the highest flood level in order that industrial sites might be available. A number of preliminary surveys have been made since that time but there have been no definite developments.

### Wilkes Unit Of Defense Works Council Formed

John R. Prevette Chairman; Seeks Defense Industries In Western N. C.

A Wilkes county unit of the Western North Carolina Industrial Council has been formed with John R. Prevette as chairman. The council is an organization with representatives from many western North Carolina counties formed for the purpose of promoting industrial development and particularly for furnishing the War Department with data relative to location for defense industrial in the western part of the state. L. L. Scott, of West Jefferson, is chairman for this district and Frank Allen, of Hendersonville, is executive secretary of the council. Mr. Prevette said that with him on the Wilkes board of the council are R. T. McNeil, mayor of North Wilkesboro, S. V. Tomlinson, W. H. McElwee, and Sheriff C. T. Doughton. W. P. Kelly is secretary to the group. Mr. Scott, district chairman, advised Mr. Prevette that a district meeting of the council will be held in North Wilkesboro about the middle of this month. The primary purpose of the district meeting will be to assemble data which may be used by the War Department in choosing location for defense industries in this part of the state.

### Juniors Banquet Tuesday Evening

Will Be Held At Roaring River, 6:30 O'Clock; Kincheloe To Speak

North Wilkesboro council of Jr. O. U. A. M. will hold its annual banquet Tuesday evening, March 11, 6:30 o'clock, at Roaring River school lunchroom. Principal address of the evening will be by Dr. John W. Kincheloe, Jr., pastor of the First Baptist church here, and there will be several other entertainment features on the program. Council leaders desire a large attendance and have announced that any members who do not have means of transportation to the banquet to notify Claude Canter at the earliest possible date.

### Chickens Must Be Kept Up Here

Advent Of Spring Accompanied By Complaints Of Chickens On The Loose

Police Chief J. E. Walker says spring is here, regardless of what the calendar may say. The surest sign of spring here is complaints reaching the police department of chickens on the loose and scratching in newly planted gardens and flower beds. This week complaints have literally poured in to the police department and the chief has been out trying to bring about some relief for those damaged by chickens. In making the rounds of places from which complaints originated he could hear how-ewes cawing chickens several houses ahead—getting the chickens up before the cops arrived. Today Chief Walker sounded his annual warning that chickens must be kept well confined if within the city limits. A city ordinance provides for punishment for those who allow their chickens to run loose.

### Perry Bumgarner Claimed By Death

Perry A. Bumgarner, aged citizen of Reddies River township, died early Tuesday. Funeral service was held Wednesday, two p. m., at Friendship church with Rev. Edd Hayes in charge. Surviving are one son, John A. Bumgarner, and four daughters, Mrs. Henry Bumgarner, Mrs. J. A. Evans, Mrs. R. E. Wyatt and Mrs. W. T. Church.

Fort Bragg will be North Carolina's third largest city when the garrison strength reaches 67,000 next summer.