

CITY TAX RATE REMAINS \$1 FOR FOR NEXT YEAR

City Council Adopted Budget and Decides Against 10 Cent Raise in Rate

City council of North Wilkesboro adopted the budget for the ensuing year and set the tax rate at \$1.00 on each hundred dollar valuation of property instead of \$1.10, which had been the estimated rate on which prepayments of 1944 taxes were accepted.

W. P. Kelly, city clerk and treasurer, said that the more than 100 who had made prepayment of their 1944 taxes are being refunded the difference in the estimated rate and the adopted rate.

The estimated tax rate, at which prepayments on 1944 town taxes were received until a few days ago, was set at \$1.10 on the hundred dollars assessed valuation of property, which rate was estimated at 10 cents more on the one hundred dollars assessed valuation than the rate for the previous year for the reason that the amount of bond principal maturing during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1945 is \$5,000.00 more than matured during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1944.

However, after due consideration, the board decided to set the tentative tax rate for the year 1944 at \$1.00 on the one hundred dollar assessed valuation of property, which is the same as the 1943 tax rate.

The total principal amount of outstanding bonded indebtedness of the Town of North Wilkesboro as of June 30, 1944 was \$202,500.00. Of this amount of principal, \$24,500.00 matures during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1945, as shown in budget estimate.

The board ordered that real estate on which 1943 taxes are not paid be advertised as of August 12 and sold on September 11, and that the clerk proceed to levy on personal property and garnish wages to collect personal property taxes for last year.

A. C. Williams was employed as watershed inspector at a salary of \$15.00 per month, replacing B. F. Estes, who had resigned.

Mayor R. T. McNeil, Clerk W. P. Kelly and all members of the board of commissioners were present for the adjourned meeting. The commissioners are J. R. Hix, R. G. Finley, A. F. Kilby, Ralph Duncan, and H. M. Hurchens.

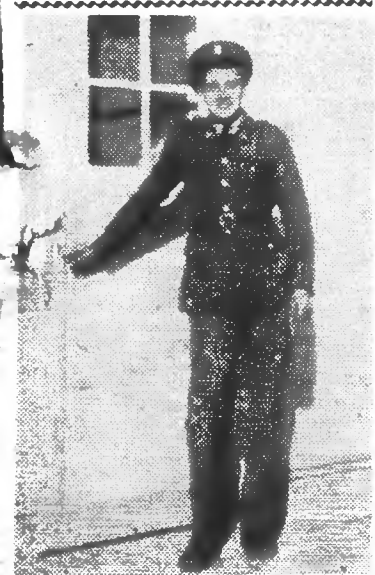
Commander Eller Says Allied Force Growing Rapidly

Commander Ernest M. Eller, who is on the staff of Admiral Chester W. Nimitz in the Pacific, in a recent letter to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Eller, of North Wilkesboro, wrote very encouragingly about the progress of the Allied Nations toward victory.

The text of Commander Eller's letter follows:

"Again a week has passed, bringing favorable news to us from all parts of the earth and its seas. Of course there will be setbacks and long periods of delay which, now unseen, will seem (See Commander—Page 8)

Now In Sardinia



Pvt. Paul Holcomb is now in Sardinia. Paul volunteered for service in 1941 and has been overseas since April, 1943. He is the son of E. D. Holcomb, a former citizen of the Thurnmond community of Wilkes county. In letters received recently by relatives Pvt. Holcomb stated that he is getting along fine and is willing to do his part, and that the happiest day of his life will be when the war ends and he and all the other boys can be returned home to stay.

Seriously Wounded



Pvt. John W. Shew was seriously wounded in Italy on June 8. According to letters received by relatives, he lost his left leg at the knee. Pvt. Shew has been in the army two years and overseas for the past five months. His wife, the former Miss Julian Shew, and daughter, Annabelle, reside at 609 E. street in North Wilkesboro. His father, Milton Shew, lives on North Wilkesboro route three. A recent letter received by his wife stated that he expects to be returned to the states soon.

Attends Meeting Board of Trustees

Mayor H. A. Cranor, of Wilkesboro, attended a meeting of the board of trustees of A. S. T. C. at Boone on Wednesday of last week. Mayor Cranor has been a member of the board for a number of years and was again named a member of the executive committee which is composed of V. D. Guire, state highway commissioner of Lenoir, Eugene Transou, of Sparta, G. P. Hagaman and Wade E. Brown, of Boone.

Court Of Honor Meet Postponed

Because of the polio epidemic, the meeting of the Boy Scout Court of honor and review scheduled for Thursday night, July 20, has been postponed until the third Thursday night in August.

In Virginia



Pvt. Ira D. Rhoades was inducted May 11, 1944, and is stationed at Camp Lee, Va., in the Quartermaster Corps. After his basic training is completed he will enter technical school. He is the son of D. C. Rhoades of Radcliff.

NAZIS LOSE HALF-MILLION MEN IN PUSH

The Red Army yesterday seized Grodno gateway to East Prussia, and announced it had reached within ten miles of Kaunas in sweeping westward advances which the Moscow radio said had cost the Germans more than a half-million men in less than a month and were headed "straight for Berlin".

From the eastern border of Latvia, right around southwestward through the big bulge into Lithuania, through Grodno and down on the eastern approaches to Bialystok and Brest-Litovsk, the Russians reported capture of more than 340 cities and towns.

Everywhere it was the now-familiar Russian pattern of outflanking the enemy's strongpoints, forcing him either to abandon them without a fight or stand and die in a trap.

Kaunas, capital of the old Lithuanian Republic, appeared doomed in short order as the Russians circled toward it from the east, southeast and southwest, with Dorsuniskia, 10 miles southeast, their closest announced approach.

Two New Cases Polio Reported In This County

Mayor McNeil Issues Statement Urging Cooperation To Prevent Spread

Two new cases of infantile paralysis in Wilkes have increased the total to 28, it was learned today from the county health department.

The last two cases reported were Billie Pearson, nine-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Joe H. Pearson, of Wilkesboro, and Mary Jane Dimmette, age 10, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Roger Dimmette, of Roaring River. Both have been admitted to the State Orthopedic Hospital in Gastonia.

Meanwhile, the county health department urges that people keep their children at home, away from all types of public gatherings, off the streets and out of stores, buses and all other public places.

In North Wilkesboro Mayor R. T. McNeil issued the following statement:

"Cooperation on the part of the public in keeping their children at home and away from public places is essential in precautions to prevent spread of infantile paralysis. Parents are asked to keep their children off the streets, and away from all places of business and other places used by the public. It is also urgently requested that the people of North Wilkesboro keep their homes, places of business and premises clean as possible, to place all garbage in cans and to keep lids on the cans."

Demonstrations In Terracing On Wednesday, 17th

Two terracing demonstrations will be held Wednesday, July 19. One will be held on the farm of John W. Casey, Cycle, at 9:00 a. m., and one that afternoon at 2:30 p. m. on the farm of O. P. Holbrook, Elkin route one. Mr. Holbrook's farm is located one mile east of Benham school. These demonstrations were scheduled for July 14 but were postponed because of rain.

These demonstrations will be conducted by Soil Conservation Service, Farm Security, Extension and AAA officials. Terraces for these demonstrations will be staked by representatives of the county agent's office and soil conservation service. According to a new ruling, the AAA is in a position to pay for terraces which are properly surveyed, constructed, and maintained.

All farmers in the county who are interested in learning how to properly build terraces are invited to attend these demonstrations.

Dr. Cooper Returns

Dr. E. S. Cooper, who has been attending Logan's Chiropractor's College at St. Louis, Mo., for the past 18 days, will be back in his office in this city Tuesday. Dr. Cooper has been engaged in special laboratory studies.

Mexico's national military savings fund loaned over \$287,000 to Mexican soldiers in a recent month.

WEST BROTHERS AND UNCLE IN SERVICE



Shown at left is Pvt. Chelsie G. West, who was killed in action in the European theatre of operations April 28 this year. Pvt. West entered the army November 17, 1942, received basic training at Camp Lee, Va., and was stationed at Camp Breckenridge, Ky., before going to England in September last year. The purple heart has been awarded for wounds which caused his death and for military merit. He was a son of Mr. and Mrs. Don West, of Boomer. Shown at center is Pvt. Bud West, brother of Pvt. Chelsie G. West. Bud entered service on the date that the message was received telling of his brother's death. He recently spent a furlough at home and is now with a special training unit at Fort Jackson, S. C. At right is Pvt. Lonnie A. Wolfe, of Hendrix, an uncle of the West brothers. Pvt. Wolfe entered the army in November last year, received his basic training at Camp Wheeler, Ga., and was sent to England in the spring of this year.

Appointed On State Board of Elections



Ex-Sheriff Presley E. Brown has been appointed on the State Board of Elections by Governor J. M. Broughton to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of W. V. Hall, of Charlotte, one of the Republican members. Ex-Sheriff Brown has for many years been a leader in the Republican party in Wilkes county and in the state.

FIRE WARDEN COMMENDED

Frank Hendren Given High Rating In District Two For Law Enforcement

Frank Hendren, Wilkes county's fire warden, has received high commendation from A. D. Williams, acting district forester, for the high record made in law enforcement governing forest fires during the past six months.

When Mr. Hendren began service as county fire warden, Mr. Williams said, Wilkes was eighth in the standing of counties of the district which is now composed of Caldwell, Wilkes, Burke, Rutherford and Yadkin counties.

Returns to Ship



Seaman First Class R. C. Mathis has returned to his ship after spending a seven-day leave with his mother, Mrs. Ina Mathis, at Traphill, R. C. received his basic training at Bainbridge, Md., and Norfolk, Va., and has been on sea duty since the first of this year.

\$35,000 In 'E' Bonds Needed To Reach Goal

State Treasurer Tells Kiwanians State Finances

Charles M. Johnson Delivers Address About State's Fiscal Status

Charles M. Johnson, treasurer of the state of North Carolina, in an address Friday noon before the North Wilkesboro Kiwanis club, said the state of North Carolina is now in the best financial condition of its history.

However, he advocated that the surplus be used cautiously and that planning under present financial condition is unwise.

State Treasurer Johnson was presented to the club by P. M. Williams, who was program chairman for the day.

The speaker said the general fund surplus was about \$75,000,000, and the highway funds surplus, which he said would all be needed after the war, is \$45,000,000.

He explained that North Carolina is the only state which maintains a full nine months school term without revenue from other sources and the only state which builds and maintains all its roads.

Treasurer Johnson advocated that the surplus be used after the war for tax reduction, greater appropriation for schools, and for aid to returning veterans.

Guests at the meeting Friday were as follows: James M. Anderson with W. J. Caroon; Max Foster with P. W. Eshelman; Carl Lee with R. G. Finley; Lt. C. Chambers, Lt. Walter Chambers and H. H. Cobb with P. E. Forester; Rev. T. Sloane Guy, Sr., with Rev. T. Sloane Guy, Jr.; Lt. Mack Miller with J. B. Prevette, Andy Borders, of Hickory, was a visiting Kiwanian.

DEMOCRATS AWAIT F. R.'s LETTER

Chicago. — Official disclosure that President Roosevelt has written a letter setting forth his "general" views on the Democratic vice-presidential nomination was made yesterday and it probably will be made public today or Tuesday. The party's National Convention opens Wednesday, with an anticipated scrap over a running mate for President Roosevelt due for decision Friday.

Chairman Robert E. Hannegan of the Democratic National Committee told 125 newsmen about the existence of the Roosevelt letter. But aside from repeating that it would "speak for itself," he declined to reveal whether it recommended renomination of Vice-President Wallace, as has been reported by Wallace's friends, or any of its contents.

"I have an idea what it contains, but it will speak for itself," he declared.

Now In England



Pvt. Gene A. Brookshire, of North Wilkesboro route one, is now in England. He entered the army in November, 1943, as a mechanic in the engineers and was in training at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. Pvt. Brookshire is the son of Mr. and Mrs. L. C. Brookshire, and his wife is the former Miss Lucille Woodruff, of Hays.

Stone Mountain Singing July 30

J. A. Gilliam, chairman, announces that the Stone Mountain Singing association will meet with Piney Grove church three miles north of Dockery on July 30. The program will open at one p. m. with devotionals by Rev. L. E. Sparks, followed by singing throughout the afternoon. All gospel singers are invited to attend and take part.

Promoted In Italy



Sgt. Udy C. Wood was recently promoted in Italy, where he took part in the battle for Rome. In a recent letter to his wife, the former Miss Kathleen Brewer, of North Wilkesboro route two, he stated that the going was really tough there for a while and that he is now getting along O. K. Sgt. Wood was inducted in September, 1943, and went overseas in March. He is a son of and Mrs. J. H. Wood, of North Wilkesboro route two and before entering service was a member of the Mulberry school faculty. Sgt. and Mrs. Wood have one son, Udy, Jr.

REPORT SAYS U. S. TROOPS TAKE LESSAY

The British Second Army has opened a surprise night offensive on the road to Paris, bursting through to open country in a two-mile advance through eight villages, and American troops have battled to within 1,500 yards of St. Lo, it was revealed today.

One unconfirmed front report reaching here said the Yanks had captured Lessay, anchor of the buckling German line on the French west coast but United Press Correspondent James McGlinchey reported at 9 p. m. Sunday that fighting still was under way in the outskirts. American patrols, however, crossed the Ay River just north of Lessay without drawing enemy fire, strengthening belief that the Germans had withdrawn.

Tabulation Today Shows County Is Under "E" Quota

F and G Bonds Don't Count Toward E Bond Total, Reports Today Said

Although Wilkes has gone far over the top in bond sales during the Fifth War Loan, the county's total of "E" bonds is still \$35,760 short of the "E" bond quota of \$227,000.

Last week it was announced that the county had gone over the "E" bond goal, but that was due to a misunderstanding of what counts toward the "E" bond quota. In previous campaigns, the county was given credit on the "E" bond quota for sales of "F" and "G" bonds. In the Fifth War Loan only the series "E" bonds count.

This information was not received until today. The county's total in bond sales today was \$2,007,100, which is well over double the quota of \$990,000.

However, for the county to have a perfect record and receive the honor of having the name "Wilkes" placed on a landing craft, it will be necessary to sell an additional \$35,760 in "E" bonds.

W. D. Halfacre, War Loan chairman, has notified all district chairmen and other workers, including personnel of retail stores, to continue their efforts during this week and next and put the county over in the "E" bond phase of the campaign.

Sales of "E" bonds will count through July 29, and it is earnestly hoped that the people of the county will dig a little deeper, and buy some extra bonds to give the county a perfect record. The total for the county is impressively good, but there still remains \$35,760 to sell in "E" bonds before the job is complete.

\$25.00 Donation To Wilkes Polio Fund Is Received

Today the Wilkes Chapter of the Infantile Paralysis Foundation received an unsolicited donation of \$25.00 to be used for the benefit of infantile paralysis victims in Wilkes county.

The donation was in the form of a cashier's check from 527 Big Star Store, 1624 High street, Portsmouth, Va., and was sent to the editor of The Journal-Patriot to be turned over to the infantile paralysis chapter.

A note accompanying the check was as follows:

"Sorry to hear of so many cases of infantile paralysis in county. We are enclosing check for \$25.00 to be used for the relief of suffering from infantile paralysis. Will you please acknowledge the check and let us hear from you."

"The Employees and Managers of 527 Big Star Store". The check today was forwarded to Mrs. W. R. Absber, secretary-treasurer of the Wilkes polio chapter.

Now In Florida



W. T. Johnson was recently promoted to his present rank of second class after completing boot training at Camp Peary, Va., and is now stationed at Miami, Florida. Recently he spent a ten-day leave with his wife, the former Miss Rosalee Gilreath, at North Wilkesboro.