

THE JOURNAL-PATRIOT

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Late News of State and Nation

Press Contact Man
Washington, Dec. 31.—The Supreme court made another surprising move today, appointing a "press contact man," the tribunal's first in the 144 years of its existence.

Turkey Day Contest
Raleigh, Dec. 31.—The News and Observer says Duke university and North Carolina State college will play their annual football game regularly on Thanksgiving day beginning in 1936.

New Neutrality Bill
Washington, Dec. 31.—A neutrality bill giving the President wider discretion in measures intended to keep the nation out of war took shape tonight after a White House conference.

Church Is Burned
Henderson, Dec. 31.—Fire of undetermined origin destroyed the Baptist church in Warrenton about 2 o'clock this afternoon with a loss estimated at around \$20,000, partially covered by insurance.

Recapture Record
Raleigh, Dec. 31.—Over 90 per cent of the 757 prisoners who escaped from state penal institutions during 1935 have been recaptured, Oscar Pitts, acting director of the penal division, reported today.

Licenses Sales Up
Raleigh, Dec. 31.—All-day jam in the revenue department today saw the 1936 licenses shoot way ahead of the sales on the last day of 1935, the gains being 18 per cent in 15 days over the whole month of December for 1934.

Would Supply Labor
Raleigh, Dec. 31.—George W. state works progress for North Carolina Monday in order to provide an adequate labor force for the highway program and administration.

Ad For Murder
Dec. 31.—Herbert... and his step-mother... guilty late today to second degree murder in the slaying of his 80-year-old father, Ed... Stanley to 12 to 20 years imprisonment, and Mrs. Stanley 10 to 18 years.

Lindberghs in England
Liverpool, Eng., Dec. 31.—The Charles A. Lindberghs arrival in England today maintaining the secrecy that had surrounded their entire voyage, but a relative said they were refugees from American crime. The flier, his wife and 7-year-old son Jon, while Liverpool celebrated the New Year, spent the eve in their suite at the Delphi Hotel.

Jobless Is Problem
Raleigh, Dec. 31.—United States Senator J. W. Bailey tonight described the presence of 10,000,000 to 3,000,000 unemployed persons in the nation as one of the gravest problems confronting President Roosevelt, the congress and business as he made a radio address here tonight forecasting the probable course of congressional action at a term beginning Friday.

Theodore Cochran Killed By Death
P. Casey and... Newell... age 68, prominent... Mecklenburg... he was the... R. P. Casey and... of this... following children: Mrs. Spainhour, Mrs. Clyde... Williams, Charles Cochran, Newell... service was held to... church... Among those attending... P. Casey, Mr. and Mrs. Spainhour, Attorney... H. Casey, Rev. and the Olive and Mrs. R.

Local... Appreciation
... to thank all who participated in furnishing or supplying to members of the... during the holiday... ABNER, Keeper, and... word "Olin" means... in ancient Greece... merely some of the... of the...

Branson Benton Appeals Case to Highest Court

Purlear Resident Seeks to Escape Sentence Imposed in Liquor Case
BOWIE IS ATTORNEY
Was Convicted in Federal Court at Wilkesboro at May, 1935, Term

Branson Benton, resident of Stanton township in Wilkes county, is perhaps the first Wilkes county man to have a case pending before the highest tribunal in the land—the United States Supreme Court. Benton, who owns a farm of several hundred acres near Purlear, was indicted and convicted in the May, 1935, term of federal court in Wilkesboro on a charge of owning and operating an immense illicit distillery on lands adjoining his farm. He was convicted in a jury trial and sentenced by Judge Johnson J. Hayes to serve two years in the federal penitentiary at Atlanta and a fine of \$1,000 was imposed.

Through his attorney, Judge T. C. Bowie, of West Jefferson, Benton appealed to the fourth circuit court of appeals and recently his appeal was heard. The fine was removed but Judge Hayes was upheld by the circuit court and again Benton has appealed. This time to the highest court.

The trial in federal court at Wilkesboro was hotly contested and the verdict was rendered on what the defense claimed was "wholly circumstantial evidence." However, Judge Hayes ruled that the jury had sufficient evidence on which to render a verdict and a motion by the defense to set aside the verdict was denied. In the appeal to the supreme court Benton's counsel say that most of the government had proved was "he either had knowledge of the operation of the distillery or aided and abetted therein."

The still in question was raided by federal agents on April 23, 1934, and part of the evidence offered in the trial was that travel from the illicit plant led through the yard of the Benton home.

County Is Well Represented at 2 Conferences

Four Attending Student Volunteer Conference; One at Methodist Meeting
Wilkes county had four representatives at the Student Volunteer 12th quadrennial convention which was held at Indianapolis, Ind., December 27-January 1, and one at the Methodist Young People's conference held at Memphis, Tenn., the last of December. Those attending the convention at Indianapolis were Miss Marie Haigwood, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Haigwood, of this city, who is a student at the Asheville Normal Teacher's College, Miss Elizabeth Faw, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Faw, of this city, student at Greensboro College, Nell Hartley, son of Mrs. Pearl Hartley, of Wilkesboro, from A. S. T. C., at Boone; and Billie Bumgarner, son of Rev. and Mrs. J. L. A. Bumgarner, of Wilkesboro, route 1, who represented a Nashville, Tenn., institution. Attending the conference at Memphis was Mrs. A. L. Griffing, of this city, who is on a visit with her mother, Mrs. H. A. Wenzel, at Helena, Ark. Mrs. Griffing is an active worker in the North Wilkesboro Methodist church and officially represented the church at the conference. Miss Haigwood is president of the student volunteer band at the Asheville Normal, and recently she won the third place in the Inter-Collegiate debate held at Winthrop College at Rock Hill, S. C.

Attends Convention of Dancing Masters
Mrs. R. G. Finley left today for Salisbury, where during the remainder of this week she will attend the Dancing Masters' convention in Salisbury. During that time she will study tap, ballet, toe, ballroom and ballroom exhibition dancing under New York and Chicago instructors. She will begin her classes again here on January 11th.

One inch of rain means over 100 tons of water per acre.

Mystery Death



LOS ANGELES... One of the latest pictures of Thelma Todd, film actress (above), who was found dead at the wheel of her car in her garage. Investigation disclosed many mysterious circumstances which are still being investigated.

Drop in Number Marriages For 1935 is Shown

Records Show That 228 Licenses to Wed Were Issued Last Year

Despite improved business conditions that are said to parallel matrimonial ventures, there were 25 fewer marriage licenses issued in Wilkes county in 1935 than in 1934, according to the records in the office of Old Wiles, registrar of deeds. The last license issued in 1935 was number 228 for the year, 25 under the 253 issued during 1934. However, the number issued in 1934 exceeded by 36 the total of 217 in 1933.

More lax marriage laws, together with a feeling of greater confidence and a brighter outlook for earning a living in pairs, was attributed as the cause of the increase last year and the figures for 1935 are greater than the number issued during any other year except 1934 since 1929.

Twenty-one licenses to wed were issued during Christmas week and since that time and through December 31 there were only two licenses issued, these being to Era B. Smith, Red Lion, Penn., and Artie Thornton, Street, Md.; J. A. Call, Britton, Texas, and Nellie Foster, Wilkesboro, R. F. D.

Officers Arresting Drivers Without 1936 Licenses Plates; Sales Brisk

Sentiment For Bonus Accord Is Increasing

Washington, Dec. 30.—Sentiment for concessions intended to melt some of the administration's opposition to immediate payment of the bonus strengthened today behind talk of "compromise" from a key man in the perennial battle. Author of a bill that would pay the bonus through the inflationary method of issuing \$2,000,000,000 in new currency, Representative Patman (D), Tex., returned to the capital to announce that he would "consider a compromise on the method of payment." That has been one of the bitterly contested points in the annual congressional bonus struggle.

Talk of a possible compromise that might escape a presidential veto was heightened when President Roosevelt himself parried all questions about the bonus at his late afternoon press conference. In so doing he left room for an implication that the administration's mind was not closed on the question.

Turns Aside Query
Asked if he had changed his attitude toward the Patman bill since he vetoed it last spring, Mr. Roosevelt turned the query aside by asking in turn if there was such a bill.

When asked, there was, the President suggested the best policy would be to wait and see what kind of bonus legislation is put forward.

Until then, he said, it was an "if" question. Even after a bill had been settled down upon, he added, it was still an "if" question. Such terminology often is used.

Coldest Weather In 18 Years On Tuesday

Thermometer Readings in Wilkes Range From Three Below to Three Above Zero as Cold Wave Strikes Country; Variations in Temperature Recorded

Mercury in thermometers went into a nose dive Monday night and Tuesday morning, when the coldest weather in 18 years in Wilkes county was registered by instruments and the chills of human beings.

Sam Craven, who keeps weather records at the city water pump station, said his thermometer registered two degrees above zero. Others in colder locations registered as much as two and three degrees below zero.

It is necessary to go back to the severe winter of 1917 to find records of colder weather than has visited this section this week and then the winter of 1900.

Low temperatures recorded were ranged only slightly colder than the zero weather Tuesday morning.

Reports from various sections indicated that the cold wave was widely distributed. In Winston-Salem a low of three below was recorded. However, the cold, "felt in spots," the temperature in Charlotte being a mild 16 above.

Meanwhile the weather man again predicted additional snow would pile up on the three inches remaining from the heavy fall Saturday night and Sunday.

Stockholders of Local Banks to Hold Annual Meeting This Month

Walt Gets Pants



BOAZ, Ala., Walt Cagle, 44, (above), who "harbinger of winter" failed to ride in from the hills for his annual pair of size 74 overalls. The townfolk became uneasy, so they sent a truck for Walt, whose mule had died. 4,000 persons greeted Walt when he arrived, making it "Cagle Day" and a Winter Trading Event in Boaz.

Erastosthenes, Greek astronomer, twenty centuries ago calculated the earth's circumference as about 25,000 miles. It actually measures 24,899 miles.

Deposit and Savings Stockholders Meet on 9th; Bank of North Wilkesboro 16th

Stockholders of the Bank of North Wilkesboro and the Deposit and Savings Bank will hold their annual meetings this month. Stockholders of the Deposit and Savings Bank will meet in the directors' room of the bank building on Thursday, January 9, at ten a. m. The stockholders' annual meeting will be followed by a meeting of the directors, at which time officers will be named for the year.

Stockholders of the Bank of North Wilkesboro will meet one week later, on January 16, in the bank's offices.

Both banks grew rapidly and steadily during 1935 with resources and deposits showing large gains.

Rapid Progress Being Made On Highway Project

Contractors Moving Much Dirt on New Highway Despite Snowfall

Contractors are making rapid progress on grading 7 miles of highway 16 between Wilbar and the Ashe-Wilkes line, according to reports reaching this city.

Despite inclement weather and more than six inches of snow, the grading is continuing at a rapid rate and already about three of the seven miles of road bed have been constructed. T. M. Strider, Nashville, Tenn., has the contract for the road and is using about 100 men on the job.

Highway 16 is one of the most important and badly needed highways in this part of the state that has not been completed. When the project now under construction is finished there will remain only one link to be constructed in joining with the present surfaced road at a point near Glendale Springs.

In addition to being the most direct route from Ashe county to North Wilkesboro and Piedmont North Carolina, the road will be one of the several in this part of the state to be used as a thoroughfare connecting with the Scenic Parkway. The intersection with the parkway will be at a point near the Wilkes-Ashe line on the Blue Ridge above Wilbar.

Engineers have expressed an opinion that the road under construction will be one of the best to scale the majestic Blue Ridge in North Carolina. Although over rough terrain, the new survey has very few curves and no unusually steep grades.

Motor Carriers Warned

Washington, Dec. 30.—The Interstate Commerce Commission today warned motor carriers engaged in interstate commerce they will violate the law unless they file applications to operate by February 11.

Mrs. W. L. Richardson and two sons, Messrs. Glenn and Ralph Richardson and daughter, Miss Beth Richardson, all of Pineville, Ky., spent the holidays here with Mrs. Richardson's sister, Mrs. J. C. Richardson.

For Each Dime



LOS ANGELES... The mother of these Missouri bound twins was brought here for a fun-making scene in a movie. Being free, they were named after the famous Canadian sisters for Christmas.

Plans Completed For Jackson Day Dinner January 8

Will Be Held at Hotel Wilkes at 7 o'clock; Judge Bowie to Speak

The Jackson Day dinner to be held here on the night of January 8 will be at Hotel Wilkes instead of at the Legion and Auxiliary clubhouse, as was announced in the tentative plans earlier this week. More than 100 Democrats from adjoining counties are expected to attend the dinner meeting, which is planned as the "opening gun" of the 1936 campaign. Similar dinners are being held by Democrats throughout the nation under auspices of the Young Democratic clubs. C. T. Doughton is chairman of the Wilkes club and is in charge of arrangements for the dinner meeting.

Judge T. C. Bowie, of West Jefferson, will address the meeting here Wednesday night, which will start promptly at seven o'clock. In addition to the address of Judge Bowie, a prominent Democratic leader in the state, there will be other entertaining features, including music by a well known string orchestra.

At ten o'clock radio facilities will be hooked up for reception of the address of President Roosevelt from the Mayflower Hotel in Washington, D. C. Chairman Doughton, of the Democratic club, and J. R. Rousseau, chairman of the Wilkes county Democratic executive committee, stressed the fact that all Democrats are invited and a special invitation is extended to the ladies. Price of plate will be \$2 with one dollar going to national headquarters to start the 1936 campaign fund and the other dollar remaining for expenses of the dinner and entertainment. The dinner has a two-fold purpose to open the campaign and to raise funds.

In order to know how many to make preparations for, advance buying of tickets is stressed. Tickets may be obtained from C. T. Doughton in person or a ticket will be mailed on receipt of two dollars. In case a person who buys a ticket cannot attend, the money will be considered a contribution to the campaign fund. Tickets must be purchased by Tuesday noon.

PARDONS BODY FAILS TO CALL HAUPTMANN

Trenton, N. J., Dec. 30.—Bruno Richard Hauptmann's hopes of appearing personally before the court of pardons to ask for mercy received a setback today.

The court met, but did not take advantage of its session to call upon Hauptmann in the death house of state prison, as indicated recently it might do.

The members considered Hauptmann's case informally during its session of two and a half hours, and deferred the date for a formal hearing until the next session.

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Schools Resume Work Following Holiday Period

Christmas Vacation at Central Schools Practically Over by Heavy Snow
BUS ROUTES CLEANED
Believed That Buses Can Operate Successfully Over Roads at Present

All schools in Wilkes county were expected to resume work today (Thursday) after a holiday vacation extended by a heavy snowfall which made it impractical and dangerous for school buses to operate over many of the county roads.

Mountain View and Mount Pleasant were the only central schools which opened on Monday, and although school buses have been operating since then with considerable difficulty, no serious troubles have arisen, it was learned today.

Wilkesboro, Millers Cross, Honda, Trappill and Mountain View are scheduled to open tomorrow. The smaller individual school units without transportation facilities at school have problems resumed work Monday following the holiday season, and have operated without interruption since that time.

The scheduled school openings were dependent on weather conditions, it being pointed out that additional snowfall might force another postponement in resumption of schools to which buses must operate over county roads.

The highways were soon closed in satisfactory condition for travel soon after the Sunday but highway travel was unable to immediately resume the secondary roads and school buses are not yet in operation.

Officers elected to the camp Andrews, councillor; C. T. Doughton, vice councillor; C. T. Doughton, recording secretary; P. C. Doughton, assistant recording secretary; G. Day, financial secretary; J. W. Wells, conductor; J. A. Johnson, warden; R. C. Doughton, in charge of the camp.

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Native Tomatoes On January

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