

Late News Of State-Nation Told Briefly

36 Lose Licenses
Raleigh, March 17.—Twenty-six drunks lost their driving licenses today.

Low Record of Escapes
Raleigh, March 17.—The state penal division set a new low record for escapes in February as only 21 prisoners got away from prisons and prison camps in North Carolina.

Income Tax Increase
Raleigh, March 17.—Showing an increase over last year's figures, state income tax receipts for the fiscal year through noon Monday totalled \$5,559,302.42. Receipts for the month amounted to \$2,818,293.59.

Burns Fatal To Tot
Rocky Mount, March 17.—Rocky suffered this week-end when he stumbled and fell into a pot of hot water proved fatal in a hospital here today to Floyd Dean Hardy, two-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Hardy, who live near Whitakers.

Blizzard Hits State
Charlotte, March 17.—Blizzard-whipped snowdrifts blocked mountain highways, marooning school children and others while high winds raked all parts of North Carolina today as a winter storm swept over the state and out to sea, sending temperatures tumbling toward the freezing point.

Dust Storms Rage Again
Phoenix, Ariz., March 17.—Dust hovered over a large part of Arizona and New Mexico, reducing visibility and making breathing difficult in some sections. At Beaver, Okla., visibility was cut to three blocks. Motorists were forced to drive with their lights on in southwest New Mexico.

Drew Pension 8 Years
Wayetteville, March 17.—Mary L. W. Campbell, a negro woman preacher, was sentenced to three years in federal prison at Alderson, W. Va., when she was convicted in United States district court here today on a charge that she had defrauded the government of \$100. The defendant was a resident of Cumberland county.

Girl Confesses Murder
Hamlin, W. Va., March 17.—A 14-year-old girl pleaded guilty to charges of poisoning her family and received a seven-year reform school sentence Monday. Buxom Gladys Dillon stood before Circuit Judge Thomas R. Shepherd, admitted her guilt, heard him sentence her to the girls' industrial school at Salem until she is 21, then said: "Well, that's a long time."

Flood Control Talked
Washington, March 17.—Flood control advocates of Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi conferred today with Senator Overton, Democrat of Louisiana, prior to expected Senate action on his bill to provide \$270,000,000 to complete flood control works in the lower Mississippi valley.

Gets Another Dollar Bill
Stoneham, Mass., March 17.—A fourth dollar bill came through the mails today from an unknown sender to Dr. C. A. Haysmer of New England sanitarium. Three before letters bearing Boston postmarks brought the doctor money, with no clue as to the sender.

NYA Committee To Meet April 2

State Representative Will Be Present to Lay Plans For Youth Aid
Advisory and executive committees of the National Youth Administration organization in Wilkes county will have a meeting at Hotel Wilkes on the evening of Wednesday, April 2, at which time a representative of the state unit of NYA will be present to assist in perfecting the organization and lay plans for immediate action in the county.

Wilkes youths so far have not shared very largely in the NYA, mainly due to the fact that there was no organization but it is expected that the organization started in a recent meeting will enable the needy youths to take advantage of the opportunities afforded through the NYA to the fullest possible extent.

The National Youth Administration is supported by federal money to be used in giving youths the work to help in paying expenses in high school and college.

T. E. Story, superintendent of Wilkesboro district of the administration of the advisory

Large Crowd Will Hear Chairman Meekins Saturday

Meekins to Speak in Wilkes Republican Convention at Courthouse

PRECINCT MEETINGS Will Be Held at Voting Places on Friday Afternoon at 1 o'clock

A capacity crowd is expected to attend the Wilkes county Republican convention in the courthouse in Wilkesboro Saturday afternoon when W. C. Meekins, head of the Republican party in North Carolina, will deliver the keynote address. The convention will open at one o'clock.

In the call for the convention issued by J. M. Brown, chairman, and Kyle Hayes, secretary, precinct chairmen were asked to call precinct meetings to be held on Friday, March 10, at one o'clock at the voting place in each precinct with the exceptions of North Wilkesboro precincts one and two, which will have their meetings at noon. In the precinct meetings precinct organizations will be perfected and delegates and alternates named for the county convention on the following day.

In the county convention Saturday delegates will be named to attend the state, congressional and senatorial conventions and any other business properly coming before the convention will be transacted.

Party leaders are giving the announcement of the coming of the state chairman wide publicity and it is expected that all the precincts will be largely represented in the meeting.

Following is a list of the precincts and the number of delegates to be elected:

(Continued on page eight)

Branson Benton Loser in Appeal To High Court

Wilkes Man Must Serve Sentence Imposed in Liquor Case Last Year

Branson Benton, Purlear resident, who was probably the first Wilkes county man to carry a case before the United States supreme court, lost his appeal before that high tribunal and must serve a sentence in the federal prison at Atlanta for violation of the liquor tax laws.

Benton was convicted in a hard fought jury trial in federal court at Wilkesboro at the May term on two counts, failure to register a 300-gallon still with the collector of revenue and on a charge of operating the illicit plant. On each count he was given a sentence of two years in federal prison and a fine of \$1,000 by Judge Johnson J. Hayes, middle district jurist presiding. A penalty of \$500 was also imposed.

Officers who raided the large illicit plant testified that it was on lands adjoining Benton's 500-acre farm and that the signs of travel led to Benton's home and through his barn. On this and other circumstantial evidence he was convicted and he first appealed through his attorney, Judge T. C. Bowie, to the circuit court of appeals. The circuit court ruled that the lower court erred on the first count, failure to register the distillery, pointing out that registration is required with the alcohol tax unit instead of the collector of internal revenue. However, the judgment of the district court on the second count, operating an unlicensed still, was upheld by the circuit court.

Benton then applied to the United States supreme court for a writ of certiorari, but his petition was denied, and the duty of complying with the judgment of the district court as to the second count in the bill of indictment now evolves upon the defendant. He reported to the office of United States Marshal W. T. Dodwd in Greensboro Monday and in a short time will be in prison in Atlanta, it is expected.

G. O. P. Chairman



W. C. Meekins, chairman of the Republican state executive committee, who will address the Wilkes county Republican convention to be held Saturday afternoon at the courthouse in Wilkesboro.

Denatured Alcohol Is Fatal To Sam Smithey, Age 35

Wilkesboro Resident Taken Fatally Ill After Imbibing Solution Monday

Sam Smithey, Wilkesboro resident, died at his home Monday afternoon and his death was attributed to drinking an anti-freeze solution, presumably made from wood alcohol.

According to reports of his illness and death, he had been imbibing small amounts of the solution for some time. It is thought that he then drank heavily of the poisonous fluid and became desperately ill, living only a short time.

He was 35 years of age, a son of the late Will Smithey and Mrs. Smithey, who survives. Also surviving are his wife, Mrs. Pearl Smithey, four children, Howard, Odell, Florence and Alma Smithey, and four brothers and sisters: Bud, Shafter, Bessie and Edith Smithey.

Funeral and burial services were held at Shady Grove Baptist church west of Wilkesboro Wednesday afternoon, two o'clock.

Wilkes Cases In The Supreme Court

The supreme court in Raleigh yesterday handed down opinions in five Wilkes cases as follows:

Tomlinson versus Cranor, reversed.
Vannoy versus Stafford, no error.
Sparks and Pardue versus Holland, appeal dismissed.
Anderson versus Holland, appeal dismissed.
Miller versus Bumgarner, reversed.

A case of the city of Greensboro versus Guilford county to compel the county to assume the bonded indebtedness of Greensboro for schools was decided in favor of the county.

Eight 4-H clubs have been organized in Caswell county with a membership of 140 boys. Most of the members will grow corn as their club project.

Wilkes Farmers to Hear Farm Plan Explained on April 10th

District Agent To Discuss Plan Displacing AAA

County Agent and Assistant to Attend Raleigh Meeting Monday, Tuesday

MANY INQUIRIES Farmers Want To Obtain Aid For Growing Soil Building Crops

Wilkes county farmers will meet at the courthouse on April 10—Good Friday—to learn about the new farm aid program, it was announced today by A. G. Hendren, county farm agent.

E. W. Gaither, of Raleigh, district agent, will be present on that date to outline the new farm program, tell its aims and purposes and the benefits farmers may derive by growing soil conservation crops in lieu of a portion of the land ordinarily planted to tobacco, cotton, corn, wheat and other cash crops that are classified as soil depleting instead of soil building.

County Agent Hendren and his assistant, W. J. Hanna, will attend a state meeting of county agents at State College Monday and Tuesday of next week, at which time the new farm aid program and its tentative manner of administration will be outlined. By so doing they will be better prepared to answer the multiple questions propounded by interested farmers in regard to the triple A substitute.

Many farmers in the county are showing much interest in the new farm program and inquiries about how it is to be administered and how to go about getting help to improve and conserve their soil are heard daily at the office of Mr. Hendren.

Because of the diversity of farming and crops in the county Wilkes did not share so greatly in AAA benefit payments, although there were about 500 tobacco farmers, small scale growers, who signed contracts last year.

Teachers Hear Dougherty Speak

Reviews Progress of Education in State in Meeting Held Saturday

Dr. B. B. Dougherty, president of Appalachian State Teachers College, Boone, and a member of the state school commission, reviewed the high spots in the history of the school system in North Carolina in a meeting of Wilkes county teachers held Saturday in Wilkesboro. Practically all the teachers employed in the high and elementary schools of the county were in attendance.

After giving briefly the history of public education in the state he spoke about school finances and appropriations from the standpoint of a member of the school commission. His address was quite constructive and was received with much interest by the teachers assembled.

Her Novel To Be Published Soon



Mrs. Kathleen Morehouse, wife of Robert L. Morehouse, is the author of "Rain On the Just," novel which is expected to prove a literary sensation. The book is to be published in April by Furman, Inc., New York publishers. Mrs. Morehouse is a native of Massachusetts but for the past seven years has made her home on the Brushies near Oakwoods.

Novel By Mrs. Morehouse Will Be Published Soon; Highly Praised

Snowdrifts Block Wilkes School Bus

Wilkesboro Bus Operating On Brushy Mountain Route Unable To Run Yesterday

The heavy snowfall and blizzard on Tuesday afternoon and night caused deep drifts of snow in several places on the Brushy Mountains and the road over which the school bus operates to Wilkesboro was covered in snow so deeply in places that the school bus was unable to operate Wednesday.

Reports from Ashe and Watauga counties yesterday were to the effect that in sports the snow had drifted to a depth of five feet or more. Traffic on some of the highways was at a standstill on account of the heavy snowfall.

Sunday Rally Day At Methodist Church

Sunday, March 22, is to be a Rally Day in the North Wilkesboro Methodist Sunday school and all members of the Sunday school are urged to be present and bring their friends and visitors with them. At a recent meeting of the Workers Council the teachers and officers present decided to make the day a Banner Day in attendance and each teacher is making a special effort to have every member of his or her class present, Dr. A. S. Caswell is general superintendent of the Sunday school.

"Rain On the Just" Portrays Folk of the Brushy Mountains

By RAY ERWIN

The South has won a victory from the North, the Old North State has marked up another gain from New England, a great asset of Massachusetts is rooted firmly to Carolina soil.

Of far greater worth to the literary life of the South was the acquisition of Kathleen Morehouse, Boston-bred author, than the moving of 10 cotton mills from New Bedford to Gastonia would have meant in an industrial way.

Mrs. Morehouse has lived for seven years in a hillside apple orchard of the Brushy mountains in Wilkes county—at Oakwoods, five miles from Wilkesboro. Now she has written an opus presenting for the first time to the outside world the folkways of the virile Anglo-Saxons who inhabited those rugged hills and deep valleys right after the War. Between the States—and still do. Rain On the Just will be published.

(Continued from page six)

Tax Listers To Begin Work Soon

Appointments Being Posted so That Work Can Start Early in April

Taxlisters recently appointed by the board of commissioners to list property for taxation in the various precincts in Wilkes met Monday at the courthouse in a meeting called by C. C. Sidden, of Traphill, tax supervisor for the ensuing year.

The meeting was called for the purpose of giving information in regard to the list taking and to distribute supplies to each precinct list taker.

Tax listers have arranged their appointments in each precinct and will post them at public places in order that all property owners and those who must list for poll tax may have ample time to make arrangements to meet the list taker at the most convenient point. The tax listing will get under way early in April and will be completed during the month. Cooperation by promptness in listing is urged by the tax supervisor and other county officials.

A brief for the night time is given by the tax supervisor, Dr. A. S. Caswell, in a letter to the list takers.

Bids Received For Surface Treatment 2 Local Highways

Bid on Surfacing 5.68 Miles of Highway 10 Submitted Tuesday

ALSO HIGHWAY 115

11.65 Miles From Wilkes Toward Statesville to Be Surfaced

Among the 27 projects in which the state highway and public works commission canvassed bids yesterday were two of interest to Wilkes county people.

Hardaway Contracting company, of Columbus, Ga., submitted the low bid of \$23,317 for 5.68 miles of surface treatment on the new highway 16 from the intersection with the Boone Trail at Millers Creek to a point near Wilbar. This section of the road has been graded and gravel surfaced for a year and probably would have been surfaced earlier if weather conditions had permitted.

The other project of local interest which is to get under way soon is surface treatment on 11.65 miles of highway 115 from a point near the Wilkes-Iredell line to the end of the present pavement near Statesville. Kiker and Young, of Reidsville, submitted the low bid of \$52,125.30.

The bids were opened Tuesday and the commission met again yesterday to canvass the bids and hear delegations.

Chairman Waynick said in an interview Tuesday that work of repairing the damage done to roads by the severe winter weather would get under way as soon as possible. In regard to improvement of secondary roads he said that school bus routes and the other more important secondary roads would be placed in as good condition as the supply of highway funds would permit.

Many Times Here

Tropical Thunder Storm Monday Night; Heavy Snowfall Tuesday

The weather, always a popular topic of conversation, came in for an extra share of discussion here Tuesday when in less than 12 hours this part of the state was visited by a thunder storm of July proportions and a heavy snowfall.

On Monday night there were a series of thunder storms with brilliant displays of lightning. Rain fell steadily until Tuesday noon, when there was a sudden shift of wind accompanied by a heavy snowfall with flakes more than an inch in diameter. Later in the afternoon the snow took on blizzard proportions and, although the ground was wet and temperature comparatively high, reached a depth of two inches before it ceased Tuesday night. Overcoats which had been laid away for spring and summer were again in use yesterday as the mercury hovered near the freezing point.

Many from rural sections expressed a hope that the late return visit of winter weather would serve to keep fruit trees from blooming too early and stay dormant until milder temperatures prevail.

Penny Lot Sale In City A Success

Many Who Purchased Lots Plan To Build Homes Soon; Real Estate Active

The auction sale of lots in the Finley Park addition to North Wilkesboro Saturday was quite a success as many interested buyers placed bids on the desired property.

The sale was conducted by Penny Brothers in cooperation with J. I. Myers, local real estate dealer. Mr. Myers, commenting on real estate business, said today that "All indications are that real estate is picking up and taking on new life in North Wilkesboro and surrounding vicinity." His advice to those who are interested in real estate is to make purchases now because prices are certainly on an upward trend.

Several of those who purchased lots at the sale Saturday are already making preparations to build new homes.

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MOUNT PLEASANT GIRLS AND MOUNTAIN VIEW BOYS WIN IN GOODWILL BASKETBALL TOURNEY

Mount Pleasant girls and Mountain View boys were winners in the finals of the Wilkes County Goodwill Basketball Tournament Tuesday night. The tournament was sponsored by the North Wilkesboro high school and the games, which began on Thursday afternoon, were played in the high school gymnasium.

The first string and five subs were used by Mountain View boys to defeat Mount Pleasant 35 to 26 in a game filled with an exceedingly fast brand of basketball for high school teams. However, Mountain View gained a decisive victory. At the end of the half period, Mountain View boys led 19 to 12.

C. Holder, Brown S. P. Holder, B. Baugues, C. Brown, Wiles S. Rhoades, R. Holder, Hender-son S. and Coffey; Mount Pleasant—Elledge 10, Huffman, T. Church 1, W. Church 2, Green 2, Michael 5, Hamby and Broynhill.

Following the games Coach Barker, of the North Wilkesboro school, presented attractive trophies to Mount Pleasant girls and Mountain View boys.

In the semi-finals on Monday night Mountain View teams gained decisive victories over Wilkesboro, the girls winning 31 to 31 and the boys 52 to 32. The eight schools participating in the tournament were Mountain View, Mount Pleasant, Wilkesboro, Wilkes, Greensboro, Statesville, and Yadon.