

Late News Of State-Nation Told Briefly

THE JOURNAL-PATRIOT

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

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Two Killed In Auto-Truck Collision

Two Alleged Desperadoes Are Captured Near City

West Virginia Men Suspects In Sparta Robbery

Merchandise Found in Car Identified as Taken From Virginia Firms

WIVES ARE ALSO HELD

Aubry and John Kitts, Accompanied by Wives; Taken at Tourist Cabin

Wilkes officers Monday night captured two men, together with their wives, who are suspected of having pulled the Bledsoe Motor company robbery in Sparta on April 9 and who had in their possession several hundred dollars worth of merchandise, some of which has already been identified as stolen from business firms in Virginia towns.

The men, now in jail at Wilkesboro, are Aubry Kitts, 29, and John A. Kitts, 32, who gave their address as Bluefield, W. Va. They are halfbrothers and said they were married to their attractive lady companions on April 15 at Bland Courthouse, Va.

The capture was made by Wilkes Sheriff C. T. Doughton, Deputy Oscar Felts, Highway Patrolman Carlyle Ingle, Keller Elmer and Harold David, of the local police.

Surrounded in a tourist cabin at Jim Williams' tourist camp one-half mile west of this city, the men and women had no opportunity to resist, although they had within arm's reach a .38 calibre high powered rifle, two revolvers and a plentiful supply of ammunition.

Local officers were tipped off by Allegheny county officers who saw them pass through Sparta in the afternoon. Suspects of the Sparta robbery two weeks ago, they were trailed to Brooks Cross roads, where they turned west on highway 421 toward this city. Local officers found the car as described by Allegheny officers near the cabin and quickly arranged the capture, taking the wanted men by surprise.

The car used by the men and two women was identified early Tuesday as one which was stolen from an auto dealer's storage room in Wytheville, Va., only a few days ago. The car contained clothing of every type in several bags and with a total value of several hundred dollars. Some of the clothing was high grade men's suits, shoes and furnishings while ladies apparel was not lacking. A tool box with tools valued at \$175 was in the car and there were tools specially suited for breaking into buildings, locks, safes, etc.

Officers were here Tuesday from Wytheville, Va., Damascus, Va., Pulaski, Va., Sparta and Jefferson. Damascus officers were accompanied by the manager of Smithy's store there, who identified part of the merchandise in the car as that which was stolen there several days ago.

Officers said investigation will in all probability show that the men have robbed many places in North Carolina, Virginia, Tennessee, and other neighboring states and have stolen a number of automobiles.

Although the evidence was not disclosed, officers expressed confidence that they pulled the Sparta robbery, when a new car, a truck and the office safe containing about \$1,700 in cash and negotiable securities were taken from the motor company in Sparta.

Officers declined to comment on the probable disposition of the prisoners until further investigation is made and it is not known at this time what charges they will face first.

Found in the car was indication that the men had traveled far and wide. There were road maps of all states east of the Mississippi.

Mrs. G. G. Wellborn, of Wilkesboro Route 2, is very ill with pneumonia in the Wilkes Hospital. Friends hope for her rapid recovery.

Their Capture May Solve Robberies



Here are pictured Aubry and John Kitts, of Bluefield, W. Va., who were captured with their wives Monday night in a tourist cabin near this city. Their car was literally filled with merchandise, much of which has been identified as stolen from business firms in Virginia, West Virginia and Tennessee towns.

Lions Celebrate First Anniversary With Ladies Night Banquet Here

Club Has Shown Remarkable Growth; Carried Out Many Projects

By ZEB DICKSON Bedecked in all sorts of colorful head regalia and making the jungles resound with a multiplicity of noises, the members of the North Wilkesboro Lions club roared and romped throughout the major part of last Friday evening in celebration of the club's first anniversary.

It was also Ladies' Night and the Lionesses showed themselves in grand style before their honor guests.

As they entered the banquet hall each Lion was presented with a colorful hat and whistle. Then the fun began in earnest—the hall sounding and re-sounding with mirth and gaiety. A chicken dinner was served.

The program for Anniversary and Ladies' Night was in charge of a committee composed of Bill Prevette, J. H. Whicker, Jr., Bill Absher and Ed Finley. A toast to the ladies was given by Richard Johnston and response was by Mrs. Lawrence Miller.

Lawrence Miller gave a summary of the club's growth and activities during its first year. The club was organized on April 28, 1938, with Dr. H. B. Smith as its first president. There were 29 charter members but at present the membership totals 44.

The club, Mr. Miller said, has sponsored many worthwhile activities. Among them were: aid to destitute families, milk fund for underprivileged children, erected road signs, leased swimming pool for five years, and has taken part in many worthwhile community interests.

The address of the evening was delivered by Judge J. H. Hastings, of Winston-Salem, a director of Lions International and past district governor. His subject was "Liberty, Intelligence, Our Country's Security." He delivered an inspiring, and highly entertaining, message which was received with rapt interest.

Revival Meeting To Begin at Union

A revival meeting, to which the public is most cordially invited, will start at Union Methodist church near this city Sunday morning at 11 o'clock. The pastor, Rev. A. W. Lynch, will do the preaching.

Taken by Death



Mrs. R. M. Finley, well known resident of this city who died Tuesday morning.

Mrs. R. M. Finley Is Taken By Death

Funeral Is Held for Aged and Highly Esteemed Resident of This City

Mrs. R. M. Finley, age 87, a member of one of the oldest and best known families in this section of North Carolina, died Tuesday morning, 11 o'clock, at her home on Eighth street in this city. She was the widow of the late J. H. Finley.

Mrs. Finley, whose kindly and hospitable disposition had won for her many friends, had been ill for about two weeks.

She was a daughter of the late Martin and Mary Virginia Hartwright McGlamery and was a great-great-granddaughter of Bob Cleveland, a pioneer settler and Revolutionary War hero in the Battle of Kings Mountain. She was born and reared on a farm near Purlair in Lewis Fork valley where her great-grandfather had lived as one of the earliest settlers in that section.

Mrs. Finley was considered an authority on northwestern North Carolina history and was possessed of a keen and retentive mind. Many friends here and elsewhere were saddened at the news of her passing.

In early life she joined New Hope Baptist church near her home and after she was married (Continued on page eight)

Farmers To Meet To Sign Up For Farm Practices

Meetings Announced for All Townships Next Week; Signatures Required

Lawrence Miller, chief clerk of the Wilkes County Agricultural Conservation association, today announced meeting dates for all the townships in Wilkes county, at which farmers will meet with community committeemen and sign a new form for participation in the soil program this year.

Every farmer who receives payment for compliance this year must first sign one of the forms, which is merely a statement of his intentions relative to improving and conserving the soil on his farm this year.

At the meetings, which will begin at 8:30 a. m. and continue until 4:30 p. m., the farmers will also be required to report all practices carried out to date. All meetings will be held on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of next week, May 1, 2 and 3.

The meetings for the various townships follow:

Antioch—Monday at Segraves Service station, Tuesday at Delaplaine.

Beaver Creek—Tuesday and Wednesday at Ferguson.

Boomer—Monday and Tuesday at Greer's store.

Brushy Mountain—Monday at Mountain Crest school, Tuesday at Morris Hendren's store.

Edwards—Monday at Ronda, Tuesday at Benham, Wednesday at Logax.

Friday—Monday at Darby postoffice, Tuesday at Ferguson.

Jobs Cabin—Monday at Virgil Church's store, Tuesday at Woodie's store.

Lovelace—Monday at Hunting Creek church.

Lewis Fork—Wednesday and Thursday at voting place.

Moravian Falls—Monday and Tuesday at Seroggs' store.

Mulberry—Monday at Mulberry school and Tuesday at Halls Mills postoffice.

New Castle—Monday at Dennyville school, Tuesday at Green's store.

North Wilkesboro—Monday and Tuesday at J. W. Jones' store.

Reddies River—Monday and Tuesday at Tulburt's store, Wednesday at Reddies River postoffice.

Rock Creek—Monday and Tuesday at Hays postoffice, Wednesday at Knottville postoffice.

Somers—Monday at Gus Myers' store, Tuesday at Comer's store.

Stanton, Monday and Tuesday at New Hope school.

Traphill—Monday at Traphill, Tuesday at Thurmond.

Union—Monday at Wilbar, Tuesday at Piney Ridge school.

Wilkesboro—Monday and Tuesday at county courthouse.

Walnut Grove—Monday at Abshers, Tuesday at Dockery.

Crash Victim



M. G. Butner, popular and highly esteemed manager of the Duke Power company branch here, who was killed instantly last night when his car collided with a truck on highway 115 in Iredell county.

M. G. Butner And Arthur Forester Accident Victims

Duke Power Company Manager Instantly Killed on Wednesday Night

IN IREDELL COUNTY Car and Truck Collide On New Highway 115 15 Miles North Statesville

M. G. Butner, 42, manager of the Duke Power Company's North Wilkesboro branch office since it was established, was killed instantly Wednesday night when his car collided with a truck on highway 115 about 15 miles north of Statesville.

Arthur (Red) Forester, one of the three others of the office personnel with Mr. Butner in his car, died at 3 o'clock this afternoon from injuries received in the accident.

Mr. Butner and the three other members of the Duke Power Co. office personnel were returning from a company meeting held in Charlotte Wednesday. The accident occurred about 9:30 p. m.

Gordon Forester and H. V. Overcash, other occupants of the car, were injured. Mr. Forester received many painful lacerations on his head and face while injuries to Mr. Overcash were at first considered less serious.

The accident occurred as the car and truck traveling in opposite directions collided at the top of the hill. The left front wheel of the car struck the left front wheel of the truck and both vehicles were practically demolished.

In the truck were Hobert Weisner, owner, who lives near the scene of the wreck, his son who was driving and one other young man. The elder Weisner sustained severe head injuries and is a patient at a Statesville hospital.

Coroner Tomlin, of Iredell county, with a jury was in this city this afternoon conducting the investigation of the accident but had not reached a verdict before returning to the scene of the crash.

Gordon Forester was carried to Davis Hospital and Arthur Forester and H. V. Overcash to Long's Hospital.

While injuries to Gordon Forester were not considered critical, there were many lacerations and he suffered from loss of blood and shock. Barring complications it is expected that he will recover.

Extent of Arthur Forester's injuries was not definitely determined early today, although his condition was described by physicians as serious. Blood donors were called for transfusions but (Continued on page eight)

City Elections To Be Tuesday In Both Towns

Only One Ticket in Election, Candidates Named in Primary April 17

North Wilkesboro will have a municipal election on Tuesday, May 2, but little excitement is expected because the controversy was settled in the primary held on April 17.

In North Wilkesboro a primary was held to nominate a candidate for mayor and five candidates for commissioner, which compose the ticket unless independents file and none have filed for the May 2 election.

In the primary Mayor McNeil was renominated over his opponent, Ralph R. Reins. Two members of the present board of commissioners, Ralph Duncan and Hoyle Hutchens, were renominated while three candidates for commissioners on what was called the "new ticket" in the primary were also nominated. They are W. K. Sturdivant, J. B. Carter and A. G. Finley.

Candidates unsuccessful in the primary were T. S. Kenerly, S. V. Tomlinson and Dr. R. P. Casey of the present board, F. P. Blair, Jr., and J. E. Caudill, of the new candidates.

Wilkesboro Election

In Wilkesboro there will also be an election but there is only one ticket which is composed of the present officers: Mayor J. F. Jordan, and Commissioners Wm. A. Stroud, W. E. Smithy, Dr. G. T. Mitchell and James Lowe. No primary was held because there were no opposing candidates.

Faculty of City Schools Re-elected

City Board of Education Held Meeting on Monday Night

In a meeting of the North Wilkesboro board of education held on Monday night teachers for the 1939-40 term were elected. Superintendent Paul S. Cragan and teachers as follows were re-elected by the board:

High School W. P. Grier, Jr., Miss Estelle Ardrey, Miss Ruth Webb, Miss Anne Jones, Miss Lilyan Miller, Miss Evelyn Sharpe and Robert Taylor.

Elementary School Miss Sam Johnson, Mrs. Lucille Farmer, Miss Sallie Outlaw, Mrs. Susie Williams, Miss Beatrice Pearson, Miss Emma Eller, Miss Elizabeth Finley, Miss Etta Turner, Miss Rebecca Moseley, Miss Ruby Blackburn, Miss Mabel Hendren, Miss Kathryn Troutman, Miss Monie Gordon, Miss Marguerite Harris and Miss Hazel Sherrill.

Miss Elsie Nichols, office secretary, and T. J. Hargwood, custodian of buildings, were also re-elected.

The city board of education is composed of J. R. Hix, chairman, D. J. Carter, J. B. McCoy, E. E. (Continued on page eight)

Teachers Apply For Re-election

Following is the application for re-election by the Wilkesboro school faculty: "To the Wilkesboro Central Committee

"Wilkesboro, N. C. "Gentlemen: "We, the undersigned teachers of the Wilkesboro Central School, do hereby make this our written and formal application for re-election as teachers in the same school for the year 1939-40:

"First grade, Mrs. Zola Barber; first grade, Mrs. Grace Henderson; first grade, Miss Margaret Hansel; second grade, Mrs. Grace Edwards; second grade, Miss Louise Melville; third grade, Miss Lucille Scroggs; third grade, Miss Ruby Martin; fourth grade, Miss Cynthia Prevette; fourth grade, Mrs. Willie Felts; fifth grade, Mrs. Edith Hemphill; fifth grade, Mrs. Gertrude Steelman; sixth grade, Miss Eloise Starr; six-seventh grade, Mrs. Elizabeth Moore; seventh grade, Mrs. Pearl Hartley.

Public school music, Miss Dorothy Lashmit; Latin and English, Mrs. Jessie G. Pharr; history, English, civics, Miss Margaret Faw; algebra, geometry, law, Mr. J. L. A. Bumgarner; French, biology, Miss Helen Bostick; English, 8, 11, Miss Hilda Baker; home economics, Miss Ghita Tuttle; Science, mathematics, Mr. R. E. Caldwell; history, economics, geography, Mr. V. E. Jennings; principal, Mr. T. E. Story.