

LOCAL NEWS

THE JOURNAL-PATRIOT

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

VOL. XXXIII, No. 1 Published Mondays and Thursdays. NORTH WILKESBORO, N. C., MONDAY, AUGUST 28, 1939 \$1.50 IN THE STATE—\$2.00 OUT OF THE STATE

Mr. J. M. Blevins, of Springfield, was in this city Friday looking after business matters.

Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Critcher, of Boone, are visiting Mrs. Critcher's sister, Mrs. Vick Wall, at Boomer.

Mrs. Bertha R. Hodges, of Pores Knob, one of Wilkes county's well known teachers, is employed this year at Gilreath school, which opened today.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Meadows and son Bobby, spent a few days in Martinsville, Va., with Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Meadows and visited several points of interest in Virginia last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Dallas Welch, Misses Daisy Sebastian, Argyle Haynes and Norma Billings have returned home from a visit to Ocean View and Virginia Beaches. On their return they visited Raleigh and other points of interest.

Miss Mary Louise Hudson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dan Hudson, of this city, is spending a few days at home recuperating from an appendicitis operation. Miss Hudson is a student nurse of Watts Hospital in Durham.

Mr. and Mrs. George Simmons, of Winston-Salem, were overnight guests here Wednesday of Mrs. Simmons' sister, Mrs. R. M. Brame. They had been on a trip to Williamsburg, Va., and were motoring over the scenic highway.

Rev. and Mrs. Paul Caudill and two children, Nettie Sue and Paul, Jr., will return Tuesday to Augusta, Ga., where Rev. Mr. Caudill is pastor of the First Baptist church. They have been visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Caudill, of the Hays community.

Mrs. W. A. Jones, who has been a patient at Davis hospital for two weeks, is getting along nicely. She has been removed from the hospital to the home of Dr. and Mrs. J. M. Robertson, at Harmony. Mrs. Robertson is a daughter of Mrs. Jones.

Mr. and Mrs. Winfield Fletcher, Miss Marcella Pendley and Miss Vanla Anderson left today for New York city and the World's Fair. They expect to be away two weeks and will also visit places of interest in Boston and Philadelphia before returning home.

Miss Nina Jones has returned to her home in Wilkesboro from Salisbury, where she attended summer school. Miss Jones and Mrs. Anne Jones Robertson, of Harmony, daughters of Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Jones, of Wilkesboro, both received B. A. degrees from Catawba college this summer.

Mrs. J. D. Moore, Sr., Mrs. Mary Moore Hix and son and daughter, Tuddie and Dicky Hix, and Miss Kathleen White left Thursday for a several days trip which included a stop at Mantoloking to see the pagoda "The Lost Colony". From there they went to Norfolk and made a boat trip to Baltimore, Md., and they will also visit at Washington, D. C. and Williamsburg, Va.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Miller, of Reno, Nevada, are visiting Mr. Miller's brother, Mr. George Miller, and Mrs. Miller's father, Mr. T. C. Foster, of Wilkesboro route 2. They will return Wednesday and will be accompanied by two of Mrs. Miller's sisters, Miss Elsie Foster, of Wilkesboro, and Mrs. M. K. Davis, of Raleigh. They plan to spend some time in Reno and at several points of interest in California, including the Golden Gate Exposition at San Francisco.

Important Meeting Juniors Tuesday

An important meeting of the North Wilkesboro council of the Junior Order will be held on Tuesday night, council officials said today.

In addition to important business matters for action there will be interesting program features and every member is asked to attend.

Mrs. L. F. Smith Is Taken By Death

Mrs. Alice Smith, age 76, wife of L. F. Smith, of Pores Knob, died today. Funeral service will be held tomorrow at Walnut Grove Baptist church with Rev. E. V. Bumgarner in charge.

Mrs. Smith leaves the following children: Joseph and Richard Smith, of Pores Knob; John Ellis Smith, of Boomer; Mrs. John Carrigan, of Granite Falls; Mrs. Harry Fox, of Taylorsville; Mrs. Charlie Meesback and Mrs. Frank Meshack, of Pores Knob.

New City Hall To Be Occupied Near First Of Month

Structure Complete; Awaits Only Final Inspection Before Occupancy

The various departments of city government may be occupying North Wilkesboro's new city hall by September 1. I. H. McNeill, city clerk, said today.

Construction of the building has been completed and it awaits only final inspection before being ready for occupancy.

Since the structure was erected it has been the subject of much favorable comment by local people and by visitors.

The building, a brick structure with stone front, has three floors. The lower floor will house the police department, jail and warehouse.

On the street floor will be the clerk's office, fire department and public library.

The top floor contains a spacious assembly hall and conference rooms.

Public Assistance In Wilkes County \$7,000 In August

Almost 100 Cases Approved For Aid To Aged Are On Waiting List

Almost \$7,000 was paid out in public assistance funds from the Wilkes county welfare office for the month of August, figures released today by Charles McNeill, welfare officer, showed.

Those on old age assistance rolls received the greater portion of the amount, \$4,966.50 being paid out to 656 needy aged, the report showed. This represented an average grant of \$7.57.

A total of 112 families containing 299 dependent children received \$1,511.50 for the month. Thirty-five blind cases received \$518.

Mr. McNeill said that the welfare board has approved 97 cases for old age assistance who are not being paid because of the lack of funds. The cases on the waiting list can be paid only as cases are terminated or if more funds are allotted for Wilkes county, he said.

At present there are no approved cases for aid to dependent children on the waiting list but all funds allotted the county are being used.

Recovering From Injuries By Bull

Joe Nichols Shows Improvement and May Be Able To Go Home Soon

Joe Nichols, aged man who was critically hurt when gored by a bull on August 14, is showing some improvement and may be able to return to his home in a few days, it was learned today at the Wilkes hospital.

Mr. Nichols, age 79, received many painful injuries, including laceration of his abdomen, when the bull which he had worked on his farm near Millers Creek for six years became angry and showed fight for the first time.

Later on the same evening the bull attacked his son, Jesse Nichols, 39, and inflicted injuries which proved fatal a week later. The bull was killed by neighbors who gathered in that vicinity late that night.

Wellborn Reunion On September 10

Annual reunion of the widely known Wellborn family will be held on the second Sunday in September at the home of the late F. M. Wellborn on highway 421 near Cycle.

There will be an all-day program, including a basket dinner served picnic style at noon.

Rev. Seldon Wellborn, of Mt. Airy, has been invited to address the gathering. There will be other speakers and music by quartets and string bands. All members of the family and friends are invited to attend, the announcement today said.

Ask Resignation Of Supt. Wm. T. Long

Citizens In Mass Meeting Pass Resolutions Saying They Cannot Support Wilkesboro School; Many Attend

Citizens and patrons of Wilkesboro school district in mass meeting assembled today passed a resolution asking the immediate resignation of William T. Long, superintendent who began his duties today, so that Prof. T. E. Story might again have charge of the school.

That until the demand is granted by school officials "We will be unable to support the school with our goodwill and confidence," the resolution said.

Questioned following the meeting, Supt. Long said he had no statement to make.

The meeting was attended by a crowd of patrons and citizens of the district estimated at over 600 and the gathering was held in the school auditorium.

The crowd assembled in the auditorium about nine o'clock but beginning of the meeting was delayed because Zeb Dickson, a new faculty member, was instructing eleventh graders relative to schedule of classes. A committee of patrons called on Supt. Long and asked permission to use the auditorium. He stated that he was glad to cooperate and he moved the class to a classroom.

Dr. H. G. Duncan presided over the meeting and upon finding that no school officials were present he named a committee composed of Carl Bullis, Mrs. D. S. Melville and Mrs. L. B. Dula to personally invite Supt. Long and newly elected teachers to the meeting. Supt. Long responded and came into the meeting.

Dr. Duncan very briefly reviewed the school controversy which started in April when Supt. Story and six teachers were fired by the district board and said the action was over the protest of more than 1,000 citizens and patrons of the district who asked their re-election.

The first speaker called on by the chairman was Attorney T. R. Bryan, who said that he had been attending school openings in Wilkesboro and never before had been at one with no member of the school board or school authorities in attendance. He said that he had seen deputy sheriffs, highway patrolmen, and other officers on the grounds and that such procedure was unnecessary in that the people were only peacefully fighting for their rights.

Part of his remarks were directed to Supt. Long, saying that he had come into a district where 90 per cent of the people still favored his predecessor and into a county which believed in the rule by the majority. "Ninety per cent of the people are not easily persuaded that ten per cent can rule," he said.

Mr. Bryan told Supt. Long that members of the committee and county board of education were not present. "You see there is no one here to back you," he said, addressing his remarks to the newly elected superintendent.

Rev. A. W. Lynch, pastor of the Wilkesboro Methodist church,

spoke emphatically, declared that there is no power, "not even the army," that can compel him to send his children to a school where he considers "there is not a fit atmosphere." He praised former Superintendent Story very highly as a school superintendent who in many respects does not have an equal in the state and that no charge had been preferred against him.

W. E. Harris, a former mayor of Wilkesboro, was the next speaker. He spoke briefly in protest to the actions of the district board.

R. C. Meadows, a citizen of the district who lives in the Pores Knob community, spoke in terms of pride of the fact that his two sons graduated from high school under Mr. Story. He said that a nephew who makes his home with him was not at school today and would not be at that school until the matter is straightened out. He said that it was time for action on the part of the people and called for a rising vote of all who were in favor of action. All but a few who professed no interest in the situation stood in response to his proposition and there were no opposing votes.

Paul Osborne, Wilkesboro citizen, spoke briefly, saying that Supt. Long had come to Wilkesboro well informed about the situation as it existed and that "he had known every step" in the controversy.

Mr. Osborne declared with emphasis that the school controversy is not a political fight, although he had been falsely accused of taking a part for political reasons. He said that his heart and soul were in the matter and that what part he had taken was solely because he was deeply interested in the school.

At the request of the chairman, Supt. Long addressed the meeting. He said that the first person he contacted in Wilkesboro was Mr. Story, whom he quoted as saying "I'm out of the picture" and that Mr. Story said that he would not take the job if offered it back.

He said that he was there to serve the school and to work for the best interest of the children and not as a tool for any faction. He said that he would do what the school board wanted done if he thought it was right; that if the school board asked him to do anything which he did not think was right that he would get out.

He stated that before coming to Wilkesboro that he had no idea of the magnitude of the discord and protest and that he would have stayed with Cleveland schools in Rowan county if he had known, but that he had already given up his work there.

Rev. A. W. Lynch spoke again, saying that Prof. Story's remarks to Supt. Long were characteristic of a man of his high type and that he naturally would not get into a controversy and fight for his own job back.

(Continued on page eight)

One Killed In A Truck Collision On Highway 421

Two Trucks Collided 12 Miles West of This City On Saturday Night

Ernest T. Greene, 23-year-old citizen of the Lewis Fork community, was fatally injured Saturday night when the truck he was driving collided with a truck driven by Duane Church, 18, a son of V. M. Church, of Purlear route 1.

The accident occurred about 12 miles west of this city on highway 421 near the home of Dr. W. R. Triplett.

Greene suffered internal injuries and died shortly after arriving at the Wilkes hospital.

Both trucks were badly damaged.

The accident victim was a son of Mr. and Mrs. Emmett Greene. He is survived by his wife, two children and two sisters, Veronica and Ala Greene.

Funeral service will be held at Lewis Fork Baptist church Tuesday afternoon, two o'clock.

Charges have been preferred against Church and a hearing will be held September 11, 11 a. m. before Magistrate R. C. Jennings.

City Is To Pay \$34,500 On Debts This Fiscal Year

Will Leave Indebtedness Of \$268,000 And Represents A Steady Reduction

Indebtedness of the city of North Wilkesboro will be reduced in the amount of \$34,500 during this fiscal year which began on July 1, it was learned today from I. H. McNeill, Jr., city clerk.

Half of this amount will be paid as it falls due this month, and the remainder when due during the remainder of the year.

At the beginning of the fiscal year the bonded indebtedness of the city was \$302,500 and at the close will be \$268,000, city records show.

This represents a larger than usual reduction in the city's debt because some sinking funds will be used in debt retirement.

The indebtedness of the city has been steadily reduced for many years, including the depression period when many municipal governments were defaulting on their obligations.

The city enjoys a splendid credit rating in financial circles and its bonds are always in demand.

The city recently sold a revenue anticipation note with interest rate of one and one-half per cent, representing a new low for municipal interest rates in this section.

Mrs. R. W. Brock Rites Held Sunday

Mrs. Mary Jane Brock, age 83, died Thursday afternoon at her home near Pores Knob.

Funeral service will be held Sunday afternoon, two o'clock, at Walnut Grove Baptist church with Rev. C. C. Holland in charge.

She was a member of a well known Wilkes family, the widow of the late R. W. Brock. The surviving children are: T. J. and J. E. Brock, Pores Knob; R. W. Brock, Huntington, W. Va.; I. C. Brock, Mrs. John Joiner, Mrs. N. C. Craven and Mrs. W. K. Lane, all of Pores Knob.

Dockery Resident Claimed By Death

Mrs. Nina Holbrook, age 22, wife of Grant Holbrook, of Dockery, died today. Funeral service will be held Tuesday at Roaring Gap church with Rev. L. C. Sparks in charge, assisted by Rev. Grant Cothren.

Surviving are her husband, two children, Lena and Gary, father, Blaine Wood, one brother and one sister, Sam and Lucille Wood.

Preaching Service

Rev. Everett Whisnant, evangelist who has been conducting a campaign here, will preach at Mount Olive school building the third Sunday in September at 11 o'clock. Everybody is invited to attend.

Schools Of Wilkes County Begin Term

Legion To Install Officers Friday

Wilkes Post of the American Legion will meet on Friday night. The regular September meeting will be called to order at 7:30 o'clock.

A full attendance of the membership of the Post is requested as this meeting is the beginning of the Legion's 21st year.

A summary of the past year's work will be given by retiring commander, John W. Hall.

Frank E. Johnson, of North Wilkesboro, commander of the 15th district of the Department of North Carolina, will induct the new officials into office for the ensuing year.

L. M. Nelson is the newly elected commander.

Doughton Speaks On "Security" To Club On Friday

Chairman Ways and Means Committee Tells Of Government Measures

Representative R. L. Doughton, chairman of the Ways and Means committee in congress, delivered an instructive address before the North Wilkesboro Kiwanis club Friday noon, his subject being "Security."

As chairman of the Ways and Means committee Representative Doughton, who helped formulate and pilot social security legislation in the house of Representatives, had full knowledge of his subject and his address was received with much interest.

He said that "all are interested in security, security of family, security of property, security of the state and nation. Today we are spending more money for wars past and to come than for everything else."

In 1935, he said, there began a program of social security, the most comprehensive program ever attempted by any nation. It provides for assistance to aged over 65 up to \$40 per month if the states pay half the amount. He also spoke of the provisions for old age insurance in which the employers and employees pay a stated amount from each pay check to be paid later to the employees in form of monthly benefits and of the unemployment compensation for persons out of work. The last congress also passed legislation to aid the infirm and other indigent people in such a way that they may become self supporting. He urged that "we build character and patriotism as our greatest fort for security."

He also mentioned the fact that he had visited some NYA projects in Wilkes, Watauga and Avery counties and described as marvelous the results being obtained in training of young people for work. He highly complimented J. M. Smith, area supervisor, for the work being done on the NYA program.

Miss Lois Seroggs was program chairman for the day and W. H. McElwee introduced the speaker. Prior to the address Miss Bert Holman delightfully rendered two numbers, "Shepherd Thy Demeanor Way" and "Sweet Song of Long Ago."

In the business session President D. J. Carter appointed a nominating committee composed of J. B. McCoy, J. C. Reins and Genio Cardwell, to nominate officers for next year. It was also announced that delegates to the Carolina district convention to be held in Raleigh September 24 and 25 will be appointed at the next meeting and a large attendance of members of the North Wilkesboro club at the convention is asked.

At the meeting Friday W. T. Long, newly elected superintendent of Wilkesboro schools, was a guest of C. B. Eller, Wade Brown, of Boone and Judge Justin Miller, of Washington, D. C., were guests of W. D. Halfacre. Dr. R. M. Brame was a guest of John Prevette and Russel Hodges was a guest of P. W. Eshelman.

Directors will meet Thursday evening at Hotel Wilkes, 6:30 o'clock, with A. H. Casey as host.

The program for Friday's meeting will be in charge of S. V. Tomlinson.

Large Attendance Reported In Many Schools Of Wilkes

All Schools Begin 1939-40 Term On Uniform Schedule In The County

All school of the Wilkes county system opened today. C. B. Eller, county superintendent, said that early reports from many of the central schools indicated a larger enrollment than on opening days last year.

School books were distributed in the various schools today when students were enrolled and work of the 1939-40 term began uniformly. Free textbooks were loaned to elementary students for use during the year and high school students obtained their books on a rental basis for \$2.40 each.

School buses operated on schedule on all the routes, school authorities said.

According to the calendar for the school term, schools will operate on a uniform schedule and complete half the term before adjourning for the Christmas holidays, allowing two days for Thanksgiving.

There are 76 schools in the county system, which has eight central districts as follows: Wilkesboro, Millers Creek, Mount Pleasant, Mountain View, Traphill, Ronda, Roaring River and Mulberry. All central schools are high schools except Mulberry. A standard high school for colored is maintained at Lincoln Heights in the Wilkesboro district and there are six colored elementary units.

A junior high school is operated at Ferguson in the Wilkesboro district.

North Wilkesboro city school system will open on Monday, September 4.

Graduates Of 1938 Tell Their Plans

Nine of 42 Graduates Here Will Enter College; 17 Obtain Jobs

By MACK MILLER (High School Reporter)

According to information released today from the North Wilkesboro high school office by Superintendent Paul S. Cragan, nearly all of the 42 graduates in the class of 1938 have completed plans for work or further education for the coming year. Nine of the group expect to attend college—seven of them girls and two boys. Their names and the colleges they will attend are: Mary Louise Clements—Woman's College; Margie Gabriel, Woman's College; Corinne Fawcett—Duke University; Margaret Hendon, Lenoir-Rhyne; Billie Waugh Johnson, University of North Carolina; Jane Perry, Salem College; Reba Hayes, Appalachian State Teachers College; Joe McCoy, Jr., Davidson; Dwight Sebastian, Lees-McRae.

Of the remaining 33, 17 are employed in local stores, factories, and business establishments. Two members of the class, one boy and one girl, have moved with their families and have taken up their residence elsewhere. Of the remaining 14, it is interesting to note that one girl is married, one girl has announced her approaching marriage in the early fall, one young man is in a C.C.C. camp, and four have announced their intention of returning to high school for post graduate work in commercial studies. Only seven members of the class, all of them girls, are as yet not certain as to their future plans, having made neither a choice of employment nor decided on further schooling.

To Call Pastor At Moravian Falls

Members of the Moravian Falls Baptist church are requested to meet at the church on Wednesday night, August 30, eight o'clock, for the purpose of calling a pastor. All members are asked to be present.

Today's War News

Europe's hope for peace narrowed today.

With the normal lives of 550,000,000 Europeans paralyzed by war preparations unprecedented in peace time, Great Britain closed the Mediterranean and the Baltic to her own shipping and drafted a message to Adolf Hitler firmly reaffirming opposition to his official public demand for Danzig and the Polish corridor but attempting to keep the road to peace open by counter suggestions.

Parliament was summoned to meet tomorrow. War-time emergency regulations were issued in London. Reports reached the admiralty that German submarines were in the Mediterranean. Tens of thousands of school children practiced evacuation of London. More territorial army reservists were called up. Strict regulations were issued to mobilize British foreign liquid assets and the pound sterling drifted to a new recent low.

President Roosevelt abandoned a proposed trip to Hyde Park to keep in touch with European developments and it was reported abroad that he was being consulted by Britain about a possible peace conference.

Talk of a five-power peace conference spread in Rome, but there appeared to be only the slimmest hope in other capitals that some action might yet be taken to ward off the war threat. In Paris, particularly, the French officials were gloomy, setting up a censorship and evacuating large numbers of civilians from the danger zone—including Paris.

Hitler was described as angry because the French had sought to put full blame for the war danger on him and the German capital, mobilized and on food rations, was glumly ready for anything Reports said France had closed part of the German frontier.

In Warsaw, the Polish government threatened retaliation for countless alleged German frontier invasions but in general the cabinet and people calmly awaited a show-down.