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Wilkes Man Tells of Scuttling Of German Liner

Robert Settle Member Of
Crew Of Tuscaloosa, U.
S. Rescue Boat

Robert Settle, a comparatively young recruit in the United States navy, had plenty to tell his relatives and friends while here spending the Christmas vacation with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Settle.

Young Settle was a member of the crew of the U. S. S. Tuscaloosa, the boat which picked up the survivors of the scuttled German liner Columbia off the coast of Norfolk.

The Tuscaloosa had trailed the big German ship for some time and was nearby when she went to Davy Jones locker. Settle got to see all the action.

"We were close enough to see everything all right and saw the British destroyer come in sight over the horizon. The German crew wasted no time in evacuating the ship and not over three minutes passed before the crew was making ready to leave," Settle said.

"We saw the crew get into the lifeboats and saw flames shoot 300 feet in the air from the scuttled liner. It made a whale of a fire.

"We were about three hours in picking up the survivors. Meanwhile the British ship was circling about the scene. The Columbia sank out of sight when we were about ten miles on our way toward New York.

"I talked with a number of the men of Columbia's crew who could speak English. They said that two men remained on board to open the liner's hatches and pour out and set fire to the benzine. They went down with the ship and as far as they know there were no other survivors.

"Members of the German crew expressed a desire to stay on this side of the Atlantic. Some of them expressed a desire to go to Mexico and remain there, anyway until the end of the war. None seemed anxious to return to the 'fatherland'.

"We accommodated the German crew as best we could until we reached New York," Settle said. He explained that the rescue of so many by the Tuscaloosa made things a bit crowded on the ship but that bunk beds were finally arranged for those who wanted to sleep and rest.

Settle wouldn't take anything for his experience and his ringside seat with a full view of one of the most thrilling sea dramas of the war.

Total Receipts By Red Cross Annual Roll Call \$1,111.80

Final Report Of Treasurer Shows Good Results From Recent Drive

Total receipts by the Wilkes Red Cross chapter during the recent roll call were \$1,111.80, Blair Gwyn, chapter treasurer, reported today.

This represents one of the most successful roll calls in the history of the chapter and indicated widespread response to the roll call appeal.

There were 944 annual memberships at one dollar each, Mr. Gwyn said. Special gifts totaled \$125 while \$40.05 was contributed by school children to the Junior Red Cross. Miscellaneous and small contributions amounted to \$2.75.

Appropriating the chapter's share of the roll call and unused funds from last year's budget, the Wilkes chapter has adopted a budget allowing expenditure of \$1,078 for benevolent causes in Wilkes during the coming year.

Christmas Baby

A son, Thomas Mast, was born to Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Hayes, of Millers Creek, on Christmas Day, Monday, December 25, at the Wilkes hospital. It is needless to remark that both father and mother are extremely proud of their Christmas gift.

Miss Nellie Duncan, of Roanoke, Va., spent the holidays at home with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Duncan.



GREETINGS

We approach the new year 1940 as a new opportunity and with a firm resolve to endeavor to render the fullest possible service in our field. And with the new year greetings, we take great pleasure in an expression of appreciation to each and every one

for their cooperation and patronage during the year now drawing to a close and in wishing for all a happy and prosperous new year. Carter-Hubbard Publishing Company, publishers of The Journal-Patriot, and every member of the firm's personnel join heartily in greetings of the New Year season.

Holiday Business Sets A High Record Here

Junior Order To Install Officers

All members of the North Wilkesboro council are asked to attend the Junior Order meeting to be held on Tuesday night. Officers for the next six-months period will be installed.

2,050 Children In The County Tested In Clinic

Sixteen Per Cent React To Tuberculin Tests Given In Schools

Tuberculin tests were given 2,050 children in the school children's tuberculosis clinic held in Wilkes, according to information received today from the office of Dr. A. J. Eller, Wilkes county health officer.

Of this number there were 350 reactors, representing about 16 per cent. This number, health officials said, corresponds favorably to the state average for school children 12 years of age and older. Some schools were found to have a higher percentage of reactors, particularly Lincoln Heights colored school, according to the report of the clinic.

The tests were read by Dr. G. C. Godwin, specialist from the state sanatorium, who will return to make and study X-rays of the reactors.

The X-rays will be made at the Wilkes hospital during three days beginning on January 16.

Cripple Clinic Again January 11

Specialist To Examine Crippled and Deformed Without Charge

The next cripple clinic at the Wilkes hospital will be held on Thursday, January 11. It was learned today from the Wilkes county health department.

The clinics, which are conducted under sponsorship of the North Wilkesboro Kiwanis club in cooperation with the county health department, are held regularly and examination of crippled and deformed persons is made by Dr. O. L. Miller, of Charlotte, who makes recommendations relative to orthopedic treatment. No charge is made for examinations and the health department desires that every person in need of such an examination be present at the clinic.

Singing Sunday At Wilkesboro Church

The Southside singing association will hold its next session of gospel singing at Wilkesboro Methodist church Sunday afternoon, beginning at 1:30. All singing classes, quartets and other gospel singers are invited to attend and take part in the program for the afternoon.

Business Houses Express Pleasure At Trade Volume

Large Crowds Throng City During Last Days Of Holiday Shopping

Holiday trade set a new record in volume in North Wilkesboro, according to information gained from a survey of many of the city stores.

Among those contacted with but few exceptions they declared that business was the best in the history of their firms and replies to queries relative to holiday trade ranged all the way from "very satisfactory" to "by far the best we have ever experienced."

Early buying reached a greater volume than during previous years but did not lessen the amount of business during the rush of the latter part of the week preceding Christmas.

Despite severe winter weather Saturday with snow and ice, many merchants declared that they had about as many customers as they were able to serve during the day and until closing time Saturday night.

Following the holidays merchants expressed delight with the small number of exchanges of merchandise, indicating that gifts were well selected by customers in the city.

This year North Wilkesboro experienced further expansion of its trading area, with a steadily increasing number of customers from other counties in northwestern North Carolina.

With the volume of business so large, merchants are devoting their time to inventories and stock replacements.

Lighting Contest Winners Named

Committee From Woman's Club Judged Decorations Last Friday Night

A committee from the North Wilkesboro and Wilkesboro Woman's Clubs and the North Wilkesboro Junior Woman's Club visited the various homes entered in The Journal-Patriot's Christmas lighting contest Friday night and after much deliberation made necessary by so many beautifully-decorated residences, announced the prize winners, as follows:

First prize—Marvin R. Warren; second—Aune Lott; third—Mrs. Joe Barber; Fourth—Frances Anne Smith.

The judges gave honorable mention to Linda Forester at the Floyd C. Forester's, the C. E. Jenkins residence, the A. C. Chamberlains, Joe Kelly at the Walter Kellys, Rebecca Hayes at the residence of her parents, Judge and Mrs. Johnson J. Hayes, the W. E. Jones residence, all in North Wilkesboro; also the residence of Mrs. Dorothy Foster and Presley E. Brown in Wilkesboro. Prizes amounting to \$20.00

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Diaper Derby



Edward Mueller, a bachelor uncle, won the Kansas City, Mo., diaper derby recently when he beated a field of five experienced fathers, completing his task in 1:02 seconds. Reason: He used a slipper-equipped diaper in which to enclose his young but co-operative nephew, Bobby Smith.

Volume Of Mail Sets New Record For The Holidays

16,500 Cards and Letters Mailed Here During Busiest Day

Volume of mail during the Christmas holiday period at the North Wilkesboro postoffice exceeded that of any previous year by a wide margin, it was learned today from postoffice officials.

Tuesday, December 19, was the biggest day from the standpoint of outgoing Christmas mail when 16,500 cards and letters found their way through the cancelling machine. This number did not include packages and other pieces of mail too large for the machine and which were hand cancelled. One postal worker expressed the opinion that a greater volume of outgoing mail was handled Monday and Tuesday than was handled at the postoffice during the entire holiday period ten years ago.

Christmas mailing did not swell the volume of mail very noticeably until Monday, December 18, and the volume of incoming mail reached its peak during the latter days of the week immediately preceding the holidays.

There was a big volume of late holiday mail and due to the fact that there was no delivery on Sunday or Monday some mail perhaps intended to reach recipients by Christmas was a day late in being delivered.

With the holiday mail reaching an unprecedented volume, it is expected that the year's postal receipts here will show a substantial gain over 1938.

Misses Mary and Elicia Caroon students of Women's College of the university, Greensboro, are spending the holiday vacation here with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Caroon.

Man Killed Instantly Near Roaring River

John Conolly Is Accident Victim; Hit By Automobile

Robert Cheek Driver of Car; Conolly Died Instantly When Hit

John Conolly, age 32, was hit and instantly killed by a car one mile east of Roaring River on highway 268 about seven o'clock

an inquest Tuesday, said that the car was driven by Robert Cheek, of the Rock Creek community, and that Cheek was held blameless by the jury.

According to the evidence before the coroner's jury, Conolly and Fred Blackburn were walking eastward and were on the right side of the road. Cheek's car was going in the same direction and he was blinded by the lights of a car going west when his car struck Conolly, killing him instantly.

Coroner Myers quoted Blackburn as saying that he stepped off the hardsurface on the right side and that Conolly stepped toward the center of the highway when he was hit by the right fender of Cheek's car. Cheek had apparently swerved his car toward the center of the road in an effort to avoid hitting the man but the impact took place about five feet from the edge of the pavement. He was carried by Cheek's car about 90 feet before it came to a stop.

Conolly, a resident of the Rocky Creek community in Alexander county, had been employed as a sawmill worker near Roaring River. His body was taken home to await funeral arrangements.

Patrolman's Report

Highway Patrol Sergeant Carlyle Ingle said today that a warrant charging the driver with manslaughter has been sworn out and that Cheek is being held under bond on that charge, also for speeding, reckless driving and failure to have operator's license. The officer said that according to information given him by witnesses, Cheek was driving fast and that the accident occurred near the center of the highway. According to indications on the road, he said, Cheek had driven all the way to the left side and proceeded a considerable distance before stopping.

Mrs. E. L. Hart Taken By Death

Well Known Local Resident Succumbed Wednesday; Funeral Today

Mrs. Minnie Ward Hart, age 69, a well known resident of this city, died at 2:45 a. m. Wednesday at the Wilkes hospital following an illness of several days. She was the wife of the late E. L. Hart; for many years a prominent merchant and business

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Banks To Close New Year's Day

Both banks in this city will be closed on New Year's Day, Monday, January 1. The announcement is made in advance in order that no inconvenience may result.

Building & Loan In Wilkesboro In Meeting On Friday

H. Johnson Elected President; Four New Directors Are Named

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Wilkesboro Building and Loan Association was held Friday night in the town hall with the largest number of stockholders present in the history of the association.

Ex-Sheriff J. H. Johnson, president of the association, presided over the meeting, and William A. Stroud, C. T. Doughton, and W. E. Smyth served as secretaries.

The report of William A. Stroud, secretary of the association, was presented to the stockholders and accepted. The report showed good growth for the association during the year with all obligations being met promptly and numerous loans made for home building and repairing.

The stockholders re-elected the following directors for the coming year: J. H. Johnson, William A. Stroud, R. B. Pharr, J. T. Prevette, J. H. Leckie, B. J. Kennedy, O. K. Whittington, and W. E. Smyth. Four new directors, as follows, were elected, making the total twelve: C. T. Doughton, sheriff of Wilkes county; George D. Kennedy; C. C. Hayes, clerk of superior court; and Charlie Howard.

Following the stockholders' meeting the following officers were elected: J. H. Johnson, president; C. T. Doughton, vice president; William A. Stroud, secretary-treasurer; J. R. Henderson, attorney; J. T. Prevette, B. J. Kennedy, W. E. Smyth, George D. Kennedy and Charlie Howard, loan committee.

Small Number Of Holiday Weddings

Only Ten Secure License To Wed During Christmas Holiday Season

Only ten license to wed were issued by the Wilkes register of deeds office during the holiday season as compared to a score or more at Christmas time in previous years.

License issued since December 19 in Wilkes follow: David Minton and Lucille Allen, both of Wilkesboro; Carl Wood and Beatrice Trivette, both of Roaring River; Carl Clanton and Fay Laws, both of Pores Knob; Phillip Newman, Traphill, and Elsie Johnson, North Wilkesboro; O. E. Fink and Edna Kumborough, both of Kannapolis. Four couples requested no publicity.

Tax Listing Will Begin On Tuesday In Wilkes County

County Tax Supervisor Gives List Of All List Takers' Appointments

C. G. Poindexter, Wilkes county accountant and tax supervisor, stated today that tax listing in Wilkes county for 1940 will begin on Tuesday, January 2.

Mr. Poindexter also announced a complete list of appointments for tax listers in all townships are urged all persons who are required by law to list property or poll for taxation to meet their respective list takers on the earliest possible date.

Attention is called to the fact that tax listing was moved up from April to January by act of the last legislature.

Names of list takers and appointments in each township follow:

Antioch Township
Curtis Sparks—At Dellaplane, January 2; at Lee Martin's, January 3; at R. C. Segraves Service Station, January 4; at Tom Mathis' Store, January 5; at Curtis Sparks, January 6.

Beaver Creek Township
Zachery Ferguson—At G. L. Livingston's Home, January 2; at Beaver Creek Baptist church, January 3; at Genio Walsh's store, January 4; at Gaither Walsh store, January 5.

Boomer Township
Ralph Swanson—At Greer's Store, January 2; at Filing Station (Little Rock), January 3; at Goshen, Jim Caudills, January 4; at High Rock school, January 5; at Avery Russell place, January 8; at Walshes old store, January 9; at Greer's store, January 12.

Brushy Mountain Township
Alonso Anderson—At Alvin

Henry Doughton's store, January 4; at Alonso Anderson's store, January 5; at Albert Baitty's home, January 6.

Edwards No. 1
C. C. Sharpe—At West End Grocery Co., Elkin, January 15; at Macedonia church, January 16; at Ronda, January 17 and 18; at W. E. Sales, January 19.

Edwards No. 2
Clifton Prevette—At Boss Blackburn's, January 2; at Roaring River, January 3; at Cotton Mill, January 4; at Shepherd's Cross Roads, January 5; at Shepherd's Cross Roads, January 6; at Curtis Johnson's store, January

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Welfare Board Approves Number Aid Applications

125 On Waiting List For Old Age Assistance With Slim Chance For Aid

Wilkes county board of welfare in meeting this week passed on many applications for public assistance.

Thirty applications for old age assistance were passed on by the board, composed of P. J. Brame, W. E. Smyth and Wm. A. Stroud. Of the 30, 19 were approved, four rejected and seven revised.

Sixteen aid the dependent children applications were passed on and of that number ten were approved, four rejected and one terminated.

Charles McNeill, county welfare superintendent, explained that due to more liberal federal grants for aid to dependent children beginning January 1 that funds would be sufficient to make monthly payments to those cases approved but that there are about 125 cases on the old age list who have been approved as eligible to receive aid but are not receiving it on account of lack of funds. A total of 478 cases are now receiving old age assistance but there are no immediate prospects that the number can be increased, Mr. McNeill said.

Miss Clara Colvard, a case worker of the welfare department, will leave on January 1 to take a course in social service at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Mr. McNeill explained that some local persons may be given the job temporarily but that the selection had not been definitely made to