

War News

British Continue African Offense

Cairo, Egypt, Dec. 11.—British troops stormed and captured Sidi Barrani—the strongest Italian base in Egypt—today and rolled westward in armored cars to occupy considerable additional areas, general headquarters announced tonight.

Captured, said the official communique, were "a large number" of military prisoners, including three fascist generals, who went into British custody along with more than 6,000 prisoners of war already taken.

The Italians put up a stubborn resistance before the British finally took Sidi Barrani, and late tonight, on a 200-mile square desert battleground, fighting still was going on between isolated groups, with the Italians holding out desperately. It was generally believed, however, that with the capture of the base, the present phase of operations is concluded satisfactorily for the British.

The fall of Sidi Barrani, the greatest success yet reported in the spectacular British desert offensive, and the continuing thrust of British mechanized units to the west along the Mediterranean coast imperilled the entire Italian force in Egypt.

Greeks Victors In Fierce Fighting

Athens, Dec. 12.—(Thursday)—Continued advances in southern Albania were claimed for Greek forces early today but in the north, a spokesman indicated, picked Italian troops had succeeded in slowing the Greek offensive.

On their extreme left, north of fallen Argirocastro and Porto Edda, the spokesman said, the Greeks pushed ahead without even rear-guard action from an enemy retreating toward the Chimara heights.

On snow-covered battle grounds of the north and central sections fierce fighting with heavy losses to the counter-attacking enemy was said to have failed to halt the Greeks.

Germans Bombing London Again

London, Dec. 11.—German bombs fell upon London tonight for the first time in the two days and nights, at the end of the longest lull ever enjoyed here since the beginning of the air siege. Other raiders smashed heavily at a west midlands town, coming over in waves every two or three minutes.

The Nazis followed the old method of night assault, first dropping incendiaries and following up with salvos of high explosives.

In the town in the midlands a bus was hit, several homes were destroyed and there were a number of casualties, some of them fatal. There were at least four instances of people trapped in wreckage. Many fires sprang up, but were reported brought quickly under control.

There was a report that several other west midlands areas were under attack.

Morrison Pen Offer Will Be Withdrawn Soon

The Journal-Patriot announces that its offer to give away free a genuine Morrison fountain pen with a yearly subscription, new or renewal, will be withdrawn soon.

Since the offer was made a few months ago large numbers of Morrison guaranteed pens have been given to persons renewing their subscriptions and to many new readers of The Journal-Patriot. The pens have been highly praised and hundreds are using them very satisfactorily every day.

By special contract with the manufacturer The Journal-Patriot has been able to secure these pens at a cost which does not make them prohibitive as gifts but within a very short time it will be necessary to discontinue the offer.

Before that date hundreds have the opportunity to secure these high quality pens free. A \$1.50 subscription to any person in North Carolina or \$2 to persons living outside of the state entitles the subscriber to a Morrison pen. Those who wish to mail their subscriptions may do so but should specify men's or ladies' style pen, which will be forwarded by mail after receipt of the subscription payment.

The Journal-Patriot wishes to make it plain that the offer must be withdrawn and to ask all who will to take advantage of it while it is still in force.

Public Library Association Will Be Formed Here

Mass Meeting Called To Be Held In The City Hall Friday, 7:30 P. M.

Library Board of the Wilkes county public library has called a mass meeting to be held on Friday evening, December 13, at the city hall here for the purpose of organizing a Library Association.

The meeting, which will begin at 7:30 p. m., will be for the purpose of forming the library association organization, election of officers and the carrying out of a program designed to boost the library and to place it on a permanent and sound footing.

All persons interested in the growth and stability of the library as a public institution in the city and county are urged to attend the meeting.

The library is being maintained by WPA help and by public appropriation and the Library Association is calculated to be a major step toward continued growth of the institution. The library has grown rapidly since it was organized a few years ago with the donations of a few volumes of books and is now located in quarters provided for it in the city hall building.

Moose Will Hold Big Gathering In This City Sunday

Representatives Of Lodges In Three States Will Attend Initiation

North Wilkesboro lodge number 233, Loyal Order of Moose, will close its Patriotic Campaign with a large class initiation on Sunday, December 15, 1:30 p. m., at the Moose Hall, under direction of A. J. Mount, membership director.

The Exemplification will be put on by the fine team from Galax, Va. There will also be a large gathering of representatives of many lodges in North Carolina, Virginia and Tennessee. The meeting is being held especially to make plans for the North Carolina conclave, which will be held in North Wilkesboro August 30, 31 and September 1, 1941.

Announcement of the meeting said there will be a number of prominent speakers, including District Deputy Supreme Governor Walter York, of High Point. All members and candidates are asked to be present.

Duke Power Co. Moves Monday

Will Be In New Quarters On Ninth Street On Monday, Dec. 16

North Wilkesboro branch office of the Duke Power company will be in its new quarters on Ninth street Monday, December 16, Robert S. Gibbs, Jr., manager, said today.

The company's offices and showrooms will be moved from its present quarters on Main street to the new building erected especially for the company on Ninth street between Rhodes Day Furniture company and the Central Electric and Telephone company building. The new building has been leased to Duke Power company by Attorney Kyle Hayes, owner.

The street floor will contain the firm's offices, showrooms and demonstration room. The basement floor will be used as a stock and storage room.

The interior of the building is being modernly equipped for a maximum of convenience and will be attractively arranged and lighted.

Rebuilding Church On Highway No. 421

Work is progressing on rebuilding and remodeling Lewis Fork Advent Christian church 15 miles west of this city on highway 421. The church will be enlarged and completely remodeled, affecting many improvements on the structure.

Wilkes' First Volunteers For Draft Are Now In Training At Fort Bragg

WILKES' FIRST... THEY'RE IN THE ARMY NOW



This picture shows Wilkes county's first quota of five men in the selective service program as they boarded the bus early Wednesday morning in North Wilkesboro for Fort Bragg. Left to right are Raymond Pearson and Belo Queen, of Wilkes draft board area number 1; Rufus Ellis, Ted Roberts and Paul Reeves, of draft board area number 2. The five were the first volunteers to make application in Wilkes. (Photo by Paul Harvel, Jr.)

Five Sentenced For Failure To Build Privies

Sanitation laws of the watershed must be cleaned up immediately

H. B. Howie, Wilkes county sanitarian, said today that five residents of the Reddies River watershed area have been convicted of violation of the sanitation laws pertaining to the watershed territory.

Todd Darnell, Denny Sheets, Nick Darnell, F. L. Dancy and T. T. Church were convicted in a hearing before Magistrate R. C. Jennings, who sentenced each to 30 days in jail. The jail sentence was suspended on condition they erect approved type privies and pay costs of the action.

Warrants for the five were issued by Mr. Howie, who explained that they had been repeatedly notified to comply with the law and had failed to do so. He also stated that others who have been notified to comply with the sanitation laws governing the watershed will be prosecuted unless they act immediately.

North Wilkesboro derives its water supply from Reddies River at the water plant here. Mr. Howie said that the WPA sanitation project continues to function and that any person may have a privy constructed by furnishing the required materials.

53 Get On Jobs Through NCSSES

Larger Number Referred to Construction Projects At Fort Bragg

Placements of the North Wilkesboro branch of the North Carolina State Employment service for the month of November dropped to 53, a report released today, by B. G. Gentry, manager, showed.

Of this number 51 were placed in private employment and two on public works jobs.

However, the office here was instrumental in placing a much greater number on jobs during the month because 130 were referred to other branch offices for assignments on jobs in their respective territories. Practically all of that number were skilled laborers sent to Fort Bragg to work on army camp construction work, Mr. Gentry said. During the month the office had a total of 271 new registrations of jobless and ended the month with an active file of 1,028.

International Shoe Co. Employees To Receive Extra Week's Pay On Dec. 20

International Shoe Company announced today that an extra amount to approximately \$600,000 will be paid to its employees on Dec. 20, 1940, to all factory, warehouse, and office employees with continuous service from January 1, 1940, through November 30, 1940, with a maximum limit of \$50.

Hours Determined For Stores To Be Open Evenings Before Holidays

Bus Station In This City Plans Moving January 1

The bus station in this city will move about January 1 to the Brame building formerly occupied by Henderson Electric company on Ninth street, M. C. Woodie, agent, said today. The new location will offer more desirable facilities than the present quarters on Tenth street and there will be less congestion of traffic.

Five License To Wed Are Issued

Only five license to wed have been issued from the office of the register of deeds of Wilkes county during the past two weeks.

The couples obtaining license were: Walter Bauguess and Ruth McCarter, both of North Wilkesboro; Robert Miller and Gladys Williams, both of Winston-Salem; Roy Rose and Grace Kilby, both of North Wilkesboro; Ferris Benke and Viola Darnell, both of Elkin; Allen Staley, of Reddies River, and Vergie Pinkenton, of Wilbar.

School Holidays Begin December 18

North Wilkesboro school will recess for the Christmas holidays on Wednesday, December 18, and resume work on December 30.

Several of the larger county schools will observe the same dates for the Christmas holiday season but some of the schools will have a shorter holiday vacation.

Britain Places Airplane Losses At 58; Italy 460

London, Dec. 11.—The air ministry said tonight that 460 Italian airplanes had been destroyed since Italy's entry into the European war last June, while total British losses against the Italians were put at 58. (Authoritative sources in Rome said 467 "enemy" planes had been destroyed against a loss of 110 Italian planes.)

Five Board Bus On Wednesday For Training

Cheerful Group Makes Up Wilkes First Quota For Year Military Training

Wilkes county's first quota of men in the nation's first peacetime draft left here yesterday morning for Fort Bragg for one year of training.

All five men were volunteers and it was a cheerful group as they assembled at the bus station to leave at 7:30 a. m.

There was none of the weeping and wailing which accompanied such scenes 23 years ago. Without exception the enlisted men seemed eager to go and all thought "it was a good thing to do." The few relatives present concurred in their expressed opinion.

From Wilkes draft board area number 1 were Raymond Pearson and Belo Queen. From draft board area number 2 were Paul Reeves, Ted Roberts and Rufus Ellis.

At the bus station to see the first men from Wilkes leave for a year of training in the selective service program were O. K. Whittington, draft board member in area number 1, Wm. A. Stroud, draft board clerk, and Attorney F. J. McDuffie, appeal agent.

For draft board area number two were all three draft board members—J. R. Hix, chairman, R. G. Finley and J. B. Williams and Clerk W. P. Kelly.

After receiving such farewell advice as "have a good time,"

for executives, but does, of course, apply to a very large majority of the Company's 30,000 employees.

A similar extra payment was made by the Company about a year ago.

Hours Determined For Stores To Be Open Evenings Before Holidays

Stores in North Wilkesboro have agreed upon hours of being open evenings before Christmas, according to news released by W. G. Gabriel, head of the Merchants' Bureau.

Stores will remain open until nine o'clock on Saturday night of this week, December 14, and will begin staying open until nine each night on Thursday, December 19, continuing on that schedule until December 24.

Merchants agreed that the hours set would afford ample time for shoppers who because of other duties would not find time to visit the stores during regular hours.

Mercantile firms in North Wilkesboro have the most varied stocks of holiday merchandise in the history of the city and trade is already feeling the stimulus of holiday buying.

With business conditions generally good throughout this territory and with bank deposits at a new record high, it is expected that retail trade will set a new record for volume during the holiday season in North Wilkesboro.

The streets have been attractively lighted with lights of many colors on streamers and with decorative stars in the center of the streets. The street decorations are of a permanent type which may be used from year to year in interesting arrangements.

Water And Sewer Project To Begin Early Next Month

Work on the WPA project providing for extension of the water and sewer systems in North Wilkesboro and construction of a sewage disposal plant will get under way about January 1.

Defense Training Classes May Begin In This City Soon

Defense training classes may be started in North Wilkesboro early next month, according to information received today from Paul S. Cragan, superintendent of North Wilkesboro schools.

Mr. Cragan was in Raleigh Saturday and discussed the matter with state officials. On Tuesday Q. E. Mathis, superintendent of defense training classes of the state department of vocational education, was in conference with the city board of education here and other interested parties.

First Farm Checks Arrive Far Ahead Previous Schedule

47 Checks Totaling \$791 Being Distributed To Farmers Of Wilkes

At least 47 Wilkes county farmers will receive their payments for compliance with the 1940 farm program in time for Christmas shopping.

Forty-seven checks totaling \$791 have been received by Mrs. Rosa B. Church, treasurer of the Wilkes County Agricultural Conservation association, representing the first checks received for 1940 compliance with provisions of the farm program for which the government pays cash. The total represents the balance due that number of farmers after deductions had been made for lime, superphosphate, Austrian winter peas and rye grass seed purchased under the "grant of aid" plan at contract price.

The first batch of checks arrived at least two months earlier this year than during any previous year. Usually, the first ones arrive in February for compliance during the previous calendar year.

Early payment was made possible by rapid work on the part of Lawrence Miller, the secretary of the Triple A, and office assistants.

Mr. Miller explained that about 2,000 Wilkes farmers may receive payment soon if they will call at the office of the county agent and attach their signature to applications for payment which have been completed and are ready to send off when signed.

He urged that all farmers who have received notice that their applications for payment are ready to sign to call at the office immediately in order that the

valued that 3,700 Wilkes farmers have earned government payments out of a possible total of 4,098. More than 2,000 applications have been completed and work is progressing rapidly on the remainder.

It was explained, however, that it will be useless for a farmer to call for his check unless he has received notice that his check has arrived. Notices are mailed promptly when checks arrive.

Interest Shown In Plans For An Armory Building

Possibilities Of Securing A Building As WPA Project Are Being Studied

City officials and others interested are studying plans for construction of a new armory building in this city.

North Wilkesboro has been without an armory since the one located on the fairgrounds was destroyed in the flood on August 14. Without an armory the city would face the probability of losing Company A of the National Guard when it completes its year of training at Fort Jackson, S. C., next fall.

Adjutant General J. Van B. Metts has been contacted by parties here and he expressed interest in plans for construction of an armory, pointing out that North Wilkesboro may secure an armory now as a WPA project and with a large part of the cost furnished by the federal government.

It is expected that definite proposals will be ready for consideration in the next few days.

Reminder To Buy Christmas Seals

"In the holiday rush you may have forgotten to send your money for the Christmas Seals that were mailed to you," said Mrs. Boyd Stout, Christmas seal, sale chairman. "If you have, we feel sure that you would like to help. Tuberculosis germs never take a holiday. They keep us busy all the year, every day, busy saving precious lives. So please give what you can—we promise every dollar will help to protect your home and your neighbor's from this needless disease."

Chapel Hill

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