

Three hundred and sixty-six more days have rolled by into the eternal past and come more a pleasant task to extend greetings to the readers and patrons of this publication.

Nineteen hundred and forty years ago the Ambassador of peace and goodwill was sent from heaven to earth and at this Christmas season we celebrate the anniversary of that blessed event.

The fact that over half of the world today is at war is due to the failure on the part of multitudes of people to accept and live by the great principles of goodwill so conveniently laid down by Heaven's Ambassador.

But this great American nation today remains aloof from the holocaust of war and this Christmas holiday season is not marred by the sacrifice

of the flower of our manhood on the altars of the gods of war.

We in America have not and shall not lose sight of the real purpose of Christmas, which is to celebrate the coming of the Prince Of Peace, who taught the world the philosophy of love.

We are glad of the freedom we have to celebrate Christmas as we

feel it should be observed, and along with our other priceless rights we as Americans would fight in defense of that right, but only in order that men who have lost sight of the way of life prescribed by Christ may not in their greed deprive the human race and especially our own people, of the joy and opportunity of living their own lives.

We are glad that we have the undeniable right to write and publish these greetings to all of you without the necessity of obtaining permission from anybody and without censorship.

In the true spirit of Christmas, with goodwill toward all and with malice toward none, this newspaper wishes for each and every one a

Merry Christmas

THE JOURNAL-PATRIOT HAS BLAZED THE TRAIL OF PROGRESS IN THE "STATE OF WILKES" FOR OVER THIRTY - TWO YEARS

War News

London, Dec. 23.—The German luftwaffe battered a north-west English town heavily last night and early today and bombed other northwestern towns in a series of raids that reached in to nearly every section of England and the capital.

(Censorship withheld the name of the town but earlier the Germans were reported over the vital western port of Liverpool for the third consecutive night.)

Nazi raiders attacked London shortly after night fall but the all clear was given in the capital area about an hour after midnight.

Other raiders were reported from numerous sections after giving the British a virtual rest during Sunday's daylight hours.

London, Dec. 22.—After showing its strength with a record night assault on axis objectives from the Ruhr to the Adriatic, the R. A. F. was reported to-night to have carried out rare daybreak bombardments of German naval bases at Wilhelmshaven, Germany, and Brest and Lorient, France.

From all these far-reaching attacks one British plane is missing, according to the air ministry's statement.

During the night other aircraft of the coastal command bombed the Oslo-Bergen railway in Norway.

The port of Bergen was hit at several points, the ministry said.

The other night assaults on the continent, reported to have cost Britain nothing in planes, included a 1,600-mile roundtrip to Venice, near where, the ministry said, fires were started in a petroleum refinery at Porto Marghera and "extremely heavy" bombs fell on docks and factory buildings.

Cairo, Egypt, Dec. 22.—Although there still were no signs that Marshal Rodolfo Graziani was sending help to his beleaguered Italian garrison in Bardia, British troops continued today to mass around the Libyan seaport which has been under siege now for six days.

Today, however, brought little other change in the situation, military sources indicated. British batteries, placed along the 17-mile perimeter of the town, continued to pound the Italian defenses and the fascists replied.

A general headquarters communiqué said merely: "Reinforcements are steadily reaching our troops in the Bardia area. A further seven guns have been collected from the enemy frontier posts which we recently occupied."

Athens, Dec. 22.—Greek troops were reported today to have skirted the well-defended Adriatic coastal city of Chimara in Albania, leaving other units behind to clean out Italian opposition there.

The advance units pressed onward toward the strategic port of Valona about 30 miles farther north, and in fierce hand-to-hand fighting were said to have captured several hundred Italians on important heights bordering the sea.

A government spokesman declared Chimara was under the "absolute control" of Greek artillery and that the Greek army along the Albanian front was advancing "steadily and securely."

Choice Italian troops fighting in the Klisura-Tapelezi region resisted strongly but were unable to check the Greeks and suffered heavy losses, the spokesman added.

Rome, Dec. 22.—The possibility of "complications" with the Rome-Berlin-Tokyo axis if the United States lets Britain get belligerent merchant ships refueled in American harbors was suggested today by Virginia Gayda, fascist editor who often reflects official opinion.

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Section One

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Defense Classes Are Explained To Kiwanians Here

Paul Cragan Tells Club Of Plans For Classes To Be Here Soon

Paul S. Cragan, superintendent of North Wilkesboro schools, in an address Friday noon before the North Wilkesboro Kiwanis club explained the government's plan of establishing defense training classes in industrial trades.

He said that the North Wilkesboro board of education had agreed to sponsor the courses locally and that instruction would be given in mechanics, welding and sheet metal work.

Young men between ages of 17 and 25 may receive training in the classes with the cost paid by the federal government, he said. Courses here will begin early in January and will continue for 12 weeks with 30 hours training per week.

Persons entering the classes must make application with the employment service office here. All persons within the age limits may take the courses regardless of their work in any type of business if the classes do not interfere with their jobs.

Prior to the program the secretary read a telegram from Dr. O. L. Miller, of Charlotte, thanking the club for its cooperation with the health department and with him in sponsoring work for underprivileged and crippled children. The president appointed J. B. Williams, W. D. Halfacre and Rev. Watt Cooper to write the club's expression of appreciation to Dr. Miller and Dr. F. C. Hubbard for the splendid work they have done in the county.

Reins-Sturdivant Now Re-Building

Modern Funeral Home Will Contain Four Floors; Several Departments

Work is progressing rapidly on re-building Reins-Sturdivant funeral home in this city, which was badly damaged by fire several weeks ago.

In rebuilding the structure, which also houses offices of Reins-Sturdivant Burial association, the building will be enlarged and will contain four floors instead of two as formerly. Beginning with the foundation, the entire building is being rebuilt. A floor is being added on the bottom and one on top, the top floor being constructed especially as a fraternal hall.

The funeral home will contain offices, display rooms, fireproof embalming and layout rooms, a spacious chapel, storage rooms and all other necessary departments.

The funeral home here has home office for the burial association, which is the largest in the state and is also home office for Reins-Sturdivant funeral homes at Sparta, West Jefferson and Boone.

Several weeks will be required for re-building. Meanwhile arrangements have been made to carry on the business with uninterrupted service.

And the angel said unto them,
Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.
For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.
And this shall be a sign unto you: ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.
And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying:
Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.
Luke 2:10-14



Nine Persons Die In Wilkes County In Auto Accidents

State Highway Safety Division Releases Figures For 11 Months Of Year

Only four of the 100 counties in North Carolina had not had a single traffic fatality charged against them when the Highway Safety Division released its eleven-months summary last week, and 40 counties showed increases.

Ronald Hocutt, director of the division, stated that 108 fatalities in November brought to 851 the total for the first eleven months of 1940. This represented a two per cent increase over the 834 persons killed on North Carolina streets and highways the first eleven months of last year.

The four counties with clean records at the close of November were Clay, Gates, Mitchell and Tyrrell, all small counties. Two of these, Tyrrell and Gates, were among the six counties without a traffic fatality in 1939.

Wilkes county had nine persons killed in traffic accidents through November of this year, a decrease compared with 13 killed in the county the first 11 months of 1939.

The largest increase was in Robeson county, where 38 were killed through November of this year, against 17 for the same period last year. Mecklenburg's 42 fatalities topped the state, followed in order by Robeson's 38, Guilford's 37, Forsyth's 34, Buncombe's 30, Cumberland's 28, Wake's 25, Gaston's 22, Harnett's 21 and Rowan's and Alamance's 19 each.

For the state as a whole, fatalities by months were as follows: January, 69; February, 68; March, 55; April, 49; May, 62; June, 63; July, 66; August, 51; September, 111; October, 118; and November, 103.

Settle, Absher Harris Assessors For N. Wilkesboro

Appointment of tax lister and assessors for North Wilkesboro township was incomplete when the list for the county was published in this newspaper Monday.

T. H. Settle is list taker and W. R. Absher and L. A. Harris are assessors.

The task of revaluation and assessment of property for taxation will get under way on Monday, January 6, C. G. Poindester, Wilkes county accountant, said.

Students Aid In Christmas Cheer

North Wilkesboro School Children Will Provide For Fifteen Families

North Wilkesboro school children have helped in Christmas cheer work in this city by providing for 15 needy families at Christmas time, it was learned here today.

The children donated money and materials last week sufficient to provide Christmas toys, candies, foods, etc., for fifteen families and today members of the H. Y. club prepared the packages for distribution.

J. E. Walker, city police chief and welfare officer, said the contributions by the students have filled greatly in preparations to fill empty stockings this Christmas.

Christmas Program

Announcement has been made of a Christmas program to be given Wednesday evening, seven o'clock, at Moravian Falls Baptist church. Christmas music, recitations and a Christmas tree will feature the program and all are invited to attend.

Over 1,000 Ask To Make Mattresses On Wilkes Project

Authorities Ask That Applicants Not Duplicate Applications Made

Not content with having one application to make a mattress already in, some Wilkes people have sent in as many as two, three or four because they have not heard from the first one.

Already more than 250 mattresses have been made in Wilkes county by low income families since the mattress project was set up and about 1,000 other applications are on file. The extension services, sponsors of the project, are glad of the keen interest taken in the project but it is pointed out it is not necessary to make a second application just because they do not hear immediately from the first. Applications will be considered in the order in which they are made and the making of a duplicate application will hinder rather than expedite approval, authorities said.

The mattress project now has four working centers. They are in Wilkesboro, Boomer, Mulberry and Roaring River. A small center will be established at Joyces in January and the capacity of the entire project will be 25 mattresses per day.

Dillard Child Dies

Funeral service was held Sunday at Covenant church for Mettel Dillard, five-year-old son of M. C. and Nancy Walker Dillard, of Hays. He died Friday night.

Rev. Jimmie Bryant conducted the service, assisted by Rev. D. M. Dillard.

Surviving are the father and mother, five brothers and three sisters.

Journal-Patriot Not To Be Issued Thursday, Dec. 26

In order to allow The Journal-Patriot staff and employes a brief holiday rest, The Journal-Patriot will not be issued on Thursday, December 26.

The next issue of the paper after this one will be on Monday, December 30, at which time we hope to publish as much local news of the holiday season as possible. In the meantime, we wish one and all a MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Building & Loan Meeting Is Held

Wilkesboro Association's Stockholders In Annual Meet Friday Night

Wilkesboro Building and Loan Association held its annual stockholders meeting Friday night.

Twenty-six stockholders were present and many others were represented by proxy.

The secretary-treasurer read his annual report, which disclosed that the association had a substantial increase in assets and number of installment loans during the year.

The stockholders elected the following directors: J. H. Johnson, Wm. A. Stroud, R. B. Pharr, J. T. Pfvette, J. H. Leckie, R. J. Kennedy, O. K. Whittington, Dr. M. G. Edwards, C. T. Doughton, George D. Kennedy, Charlie Howard and G. P. Johnson. The only changes from the previous board of directors were Dr. M. G. Edwards in place of W. E. Smithey and G. P. Johnson replacing C. C. Hayes.

The newly elected board of directors named J. H. Johnson, president; Dr. M. G. Edwards, vice president; Wm. A. Stroud, secretary-treasurer; J. R. Henderson, attorney.

The appraisal committee is composed of B. J. Kennedy, J. T. Preette, George Kennedy, Dr. M. G. Edwards and Charlie Howard.

Service Station Attendant Hurt

Police Arrest Two For Inflicting Knife Wounds On Lance Eller's Face

Lance Eller, night attendant at Forester's Nu-Way Service station, received a painful cut on the left side of his face by one of two assailants about six o'clock Sunday morning, police here said.

Eller told police that Russell Anderson and Woodrow Richardson went into the station and "tried to take over the place." A fight took place and one of the two, Eller said, inflicted the wound.

Police arriving at the scene took all three to the hospital but Richardson, who stepped into a room, took leave through the window on the outside and escaped. Anderson is being held for assault charges.

Richardson later surrendered to the police.

Boy Scouts Roll Call Conducted By Troop No. 35

Inventory And Roll Call Determines Number Eligible For Emergency Service

Boy Scout troop number 35 here on Thursday evening conducted its annual inventory and roll call.

The year, the Scoutmaster explained, Boy Scouts of America are taking inventory and roll call to determine the number of Boy Scouts eligible for emergency service.

On Thursday evening James M. Anderson and Dewey Minton, appointed by the Winston-Salem council, were present at the troop meeting place to conduct the inventory and roll call.

The roll call started promptly at eight o'clock. Twenty-three boys were lined up for inspection.

An analysis of the roll call results was as follows: nineteen completely uniformed, average of 18 days and 21 nights spent in camping; troop advancement record good with only five boys registered as tenderfeet, six as second class, six as first class, six Star Scouts and one Life Scout.

It was considered remarkable that only four boys were absent from roll call and three of those were out of town that evening.

Syphilis Cases Few In Wilkes

Only 28 Positive In 1,200 Blood Tests Of Men Registered In County

Only twenty-eight cases of syphilis were discovered in 1,200 blood tests taken of men in Wilkes county registered on October 16 for military service. It was learned today from the Wilkes county health department.

Not all of the tests have been heard from but there were only 38 positive in the 1,200 reports received to date from the health department. Sixteen were classed as doubtful.

Mother Of Mrs. R. S. Gibbs Dies

News was received here Saturday of the death of Mrs. John B. Gambill at her home at Athens, Georgia. Mrs. Gambill was the mother of Mrs. Robert S. Gibbs, Jr. of this city.

Mr. and Mrs. Gibbs left immediately for Athens, Georgia and will not return to this city until after the funeral service is held. Mrs. Gambill, it was learned here, had been in ill health for some time.

5th Sunday Singing At Walnut Grove

Next singing convention of the Southside Singing association will be held at Walnut Grove Baptist church near Potosi Knob on Sunday, December 23, F. J. McDuffie, chairman, announced today.

He said the day's program will begin at ten a. m. and urged all singers to be present and take part in the singing. Everybody is invited and asked not to forget to prepare for the picnic-style dinner at noon.

Charge paper