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THE JOURNAL-PATRIOT

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War News

British Air Forces Hit Invasion Ports

London.—A big British air armada yesterday swept over the Dover Straits and Germany's invasion coast in bold daylight "offensive sweeps" that blasted Nazi barge concentrations, airdromes and emplacements of Big Bertha guns.

The surprise assault by bombers and more than 100 fighter planes, including at least one American pilot, was unleashed as Britain tightened her defenses in belief that the luftwaffe's armed reconnaissance flights, which continued yesterday, might be the prelude to savage round-the-clock bombings of "total destruction."

Some British quarters, recalling the strategy of the German "air blitz" last September, said that "the second battle of Britain" might already be under way.

In yesterday's "offensive sweeps" along the Nazi-held French coast, aimed partially at silencing the Nazi long-range guns that have been hurling shells across the channel into the Dover area, the German luftwaffe was said to have "refused to give battle."

Only a few German planes challenged the British planes, it was said, and three of them were shot down, one by a 28-year-old American flight lieutenant who is a member of a famous auxiliary squadron of the R. A. F.

Full Retreat Of Italians Claimed

Cairo. — Fascist forces last night were reported in "full retreat" from Britain's four-pronged invasion of Italian East Africa after British forces captured the Eritrean railroad terminus of Agordat and "many hundreds of prisoners" in fierce battle.

The toll of Italian dead and wounded was said to have been heavy in the fighting for Agordat, scene of two great Italian victories over the Darvishes 50 years ago and gateway to Italy's Red Sea port of Massawa 100 miles eastward.

Great quantities of guns and mechanized transport were captured at Agordat and 11 Italian tanks were destroyed, the British middle east command reported.

Without pausing in the town, captured Saturday morning British and Indian troops pushed on after the Italians fleeing toward Keren, 40 miles northeastward along the main road to the Eritrean capital of Asmara, it was stated.

Greek Soldiers In Fierce Engagement

Athens.—Greek soldiers fighting what their official spokesman called a "really heroic" action captured a large and important mountain range about 10 miles long north of Klisura yesterday, it was reported last night.

The spokesman said that 270 prisoners, belonging mostly to units which arrived in Albania last month, were seized along with large quantities of machine guns, automatic rifles and other materials not yet counted.

The Greek high command earlier told of fighting which persisted on a small scale despite heavy rain and mist. Other sources said that the weather made large operation impossible but an artillery duel on the coast was reported.

"The Italians," the spokesman said, "having been convinced that counter-attacks are ineffective and are costing heavy losses, renounced any further attempts.

In fact, during the last week they had launched 12 counter-attacks in order to recapture some heights but all failed."

2 High Games Here Tuesday Night, 7:30

North Wilkesboro high school basketball team will play Roaring River here on Tuesday night.

There will be two games, the varsity and the midgets. The first game will begin at 7:30 and there will be a cake walk between halves. Admission will be 10 and 25 cents and all are invited.

P.-T. A. Study Class Will Meet Thursday

Study class of the North Wilkesboro Parent-Teacher association will meet Thursday afternoon. At 2:30 the parents of high school children will visit classrooms and at three the study class will hold its meeting. All are invited to attend.

Tree-planting activities on American farms have doubled since 1935, the distribution of 55,559,723 trees to farmers in 1938 comparing with 26,150,197 three years previous.

Wilkes To Furnish 14 Men On February 20

Board Number One Has Quota of Five And Nine Will Be Called From Number Two Area For Training This Month

County quotas for the February draft call were announced in Raleigh Thursday.

Wilkes board number one will furnish five and nine will go from Wilkes board number two area. There will also be replacements for one each turned down at Fort Bragg in January.

Since there are but few volunteer applications, it is expected that the February quota will be composed mainly of conscripts unless there are additional volunteers soon.

The January call took five from Wilkes board number one and 11 from board number two. Each board had one rejected and one of those selected failed to show up before the board here in time to go with the others on January 20.

Birthday Dances On Friday Night Draw Good Crowd

$65 For Fund To Fight Infantile Paralysis Realized From Dances Friday

The dances were well attended and the sum of $65 was raised for the fund after all expenses were paid. An orchestra furnished music for the senior dance.

During intermissions pupils of the Finley Studio of Dance and Drama rendered excellent floor shows. Those taking part were Norman and Patty Gabriel, Jane Carter, Mary Gage Barber, Betty Gwyn Finley, Harriet Crutchfield, Patsy Ruth McNiel and Carol Hayes.

Over $70 was raised for the fund on "tag day" and money has not been collected from a number of miscellaneous sources in the drive.

Conferences At Church Saturday

Dr. M. B. Stokes, Returned Missionary, Will Deliver Address Here

The second quarterly conference of the North Wilkesboro Methodist church is to be held at the church Saturday afternoon at two o'clock in connection with a group conference of ten other charges. Rev. A. C. Gibbs, of Elkin, and district superintendent, will be in charge of the meeting.

Dr. M. B. Stokes, returned missionary from Korea, is to be present and deliver a missionary address.

Churches to be represented at this meeting other than North Wilkesboro are: Ararat, Bryant Memorial, Dobson, Elkin, Jonesville, Millers Creek, Moravian Falls, St. Paul, Traphill, and Wilkesboro.

It is hoped that there will be a full attendance of the members present from the quarterly conference of the local church, as well as a large number of the church people.

Four tons of worn-out paper money are returned to the Treasury department every day.

Resigns

O. K. Armstrong, magazine writer, who resigned from the "No Foreign War" committee because of differences with Chairman Verne Marshall, shown at a press conference in Washington.

Aged Resident Of Jobs Cabin Passes; Funeral On Sunday

Jerry Milton Watson, 82-year-old citizen of Jobs Cabin township, died at his home Thursday night. Funeral service was held Sunday, two o'clock, at Yellow Hill Baptist church with Rev. Henry Smith in charge.

Surviving are his widow, Mrs. Alice Wilcox Watson, three daughters and six sons: Mrs. Eva Cardwell, Winston-Salem; Melvin Watson, Summit; Love Watson, Damascus; Mrs. Smith Watson, Linville; Bine Watson, Parsonville; Enoch Watson, Francisco; Turner Watson, Ferguson; Mrs. Bertha Hanks, Maple Springs; Claude Watson, Kannapolis.

North Wilkesboro Teams Win Couple On Friday Night

North Wilkesboro high school basketball teams won a double header here Friday night.

The varsity team won a close and thrilling contest over Taylorsville 15 to 13 while the midgets overwhelmed Millers Creek juniors by the score of 22 to 8.

Nature is a wonderful thing! A million years ago she did not know we were going to wear spectacles . . . yet look at the way she placed our ears.

Country Lost, They Fight With British

Their homeland gone, these Polish troops joined with the British forces and are now undergoing training somewhere in Scotland. Above they are seen with tanks in battle formation during maneuvers. The tanks, incidentally, are French ones, and were taken to England when the Nazi hordes over-ran France.

Raleigh Firm Low Bidder To Build The Yadkin Bridge

Bowers Construction Company To Get Contract To Build Lower Bridge

Bowers construction company, of Raleigh, submitted the lowest bid for construction of a concrete bridge across the Yadkin here about 100 yards above the present temporary bridge, it was learned here today from highway engineers.

The structure will be higher than the present temporary bridge and will intersect with east Main street at a point where an entrance of highway 268 joins the street.

The bridge level will be even with the railroad tracks and a fill will cover the present triangular intersection of the highway and street. Although not above flood level, the bridge will be of substantial construction sufficient to withstand flood force.

The bridge will serve the short cut road which extends from east Main street to highway 421 two miles east of Wilkesboro, on which are located the highway division shop and the state highway prison camp for this county.

If the low bid is approved as anticipated and the contract is awarded the low bidder, work may begin on the bridge within the next few weeks.

According to a resolution passed by the North Wilkesboro Kiwanis club, the bridge will be named the "Gordon Hackett bridge" in honor of J. Gordon Hackett, highway commissioner.

Local UCC Office Had Paid Out Over $300,000 To Jobless

Figures For Entire Operation And For Month Of December Released

Raleigh.—Benefit payments to unemployed workers in North Carolina in the three years since payments started amounted to $17,170,917.29, which includes $378,040.59 sent to residents of other states who had worked and established wage credits in this State, Chairman Charles G. Powell, of the N. C. Unemployment Compensation, announces.

Payments during the month of December were $224,428.16, including $13,749.47 out-of-State.

During the year 1940, registrations for work in the 46 local employment offices with 10 colored branches in the state, numbered 375,603, which includes new applications, renewals, retentions and clearance additions. In the same calendar year, these offices found jobs for 97,419 applicants for work, R. Mayne Albright, director of the Employment Service Division, reports.

In December, 1940, registrations for work numbered 40,575, while there were 13,886 placements on jobs in the month.

In the North Wilkesboro employment office, 192 registrations for work and 49 placements on jobs are shown for December, 1940, while in the entire year of 1940, registrations for work numbered 6,966 and 1,409 placements on jobs are shown. Unemployment benefits distributed through this office amounted to $305,374.66 in the three years, while in December, 1940, the amount distributed in checks was $8,521.44.

Cripple Clinic On Thursday, Feb. 13

February cripple clinic for free examination of physical defects and deforities will be held at the Wilkes hospital on Thursday, February 13, it was announced today by the Wilkes county health department.

An orthopedic specialist will be present to make examinations and to give advice relative to treatment. There is no charge for the examination and the health department is making an effort to reach all who need the examinations and to have them present on clinic days, which are held once monthly under sponsorship of the North Wilkesboro Kiwanis club in cooperation with the county health department.

MORE WINTER OR SPRING NOW?

The sun did not shine here all day Sunday, February 2, but there was sufficient sunshine for Mr. Groundhog to see his shadow. According to old timers, this means six weeks more of winter with its cold nothwestern winds, snow, sleet, low temberatures, etc. According to Mr. Groundhog, he can safely emerge from his hibernation on Sunday, March 16, with full assurance of the arrival of spring and the end of winter weather. As usual, groundhog day brought fourth its arguments about whether or not the groundhog really saw his shadow and the time of day, etc. If he saw his shadow here, observers said, he had to be a very early riser because the sun shone only in the early morning hours.

Eight Enrollment Periods Yearly Is New C. C. C. Plan

Many Have Opportunity For Camp Service; 88 From Wilkes Are Enrolled

This year will bring opportunity for many young men in Wilkes between 17 and 23 years of age to enlist in the Civilian Conservation Camps, Charles McNeill, welfare officer, said today.

The times of enlistment during the year have been doubled. The enlistment plan heretofore has been quarterly and during 1941 will be semi-quarterly, the welfare officer said.

There will be intermediate enlistments in February, May, August and November in addition to the quarterly enlistments, he said.

During January 88 from Wilkes were enrolled in camps, the largest number ever to go from the county in any one month and representing the first time that all white applicants were allowed to enlist.

More frequent enlistments will make it possible, the welfare officer said, for camps to more nearly have full strength at all times. Discharges caused many camps to be far from authorized strength before the next enlistment time arrived under the old plan.

Many of those who enlist in the quarterly enlistments will be transferred to western states, he said, while the intermediate enlistment will be to keep local camps at full strength. A large number of the Wilkes boys who enlisted in January and were sent to the Madison camp for conditioning were soon sent to camps in Utah.

Mr. McNeill also explained the new method of distribution of pay, which requires a member to send $15 home, receive $7 at the camp and have eight dollars each month deposited in a savings fund which he receives when he has finished his time in camp. This enables the enrollee to save some money as well as help the folks at home, Mr. McNeill said.

Child At Boomer Fatally Burned

Infant Son Of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Pope Victim Of Burns Saturday

Gwyn A. Pope, two-months-old son of Albert and Edna Lind Pope, of Boomer, died Saturday night in a Lenoir hospital from burns received Saturday morning at home. A coal of fire popped from the fireplace and ignited the child's clothes. No hope was ever held for his recovery.

Surviving are the father and mother, two brothers and one sister.

Funeral service was held Sunday at Little Rock Baptist church near Boomer.

Though farm population has changed little during the last 40 years, farmers are providing abundantly for a city population that increased more than two-thirds during the same period.

Public Library Members Drive Set February 17

Letters Outlining Needs Of Library Have Been Mailed Out In The County

The Wilkes County Library Association has issued letters outlining the need of new books for the library. The annual membership drive is set for the week of February 17 and everyone is urged to respond by joining the Association, or by renewing membership.

To relate the far reaching good the Library has afforded the county, would be an impossibility. On Saturday mornings, especially, there is an almost endless stream of people, made up mostly of teachers and pupils, who go to the library for reference books, biographies, etc., to be used in school work during the next week. A demand for a wider scope of material is being pressed upon the library daily and in order to supply this increasing requirement, new books must necessarily be purchased. Also there is an increasing demand for fiction, the very latest of books. There are series of good, wholesome books for boys and girls which the youngsters enjoy and which give to their young minds a sense of clean morale and fair sportsmanship.

The membership fee was purposely set at a low figure so that everyone could participate in the drive. However, no limit was set for contributions. The public's cooperation is vitally essential to the growth of the Library.

The North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company in Durham is the largest Negro insurance company in the world, operating in eight states and employing 1,067 people.

Speeds Graduation

Rear Admiral Wilson Brown, superintendent of the U. S. Naval academy at Annapolis, will officiate February 7 at the first pre-June graduation exercises since the World war. The educational program was speeded up in line with naval defense expansion.

Flu Epidemic Has Passed Its Crest; Schools Reopened

All Schools Except Ferguson In Operation Today; Attendance Better

Information obtained from several authoritative sources this morning indicated that the flu epidemic in Wilkes county has passed its peak.

According to information obtained here, the type of disease prevalent this year has been mild and no deaths have resulted directly from the disease. However, many have been confined to their homes from periods ranging from three to ten days.

All schools in the county with the exception of Ferguson were in operation today. Ferguson school was in operation last week but numerous absences during the latter part of the week prompted the decision of school authorities to close the school for one week. Wilkesboro, Moravian Falls, Boomer, Mulberry and Lincoln Heights, which had been closed, are now open with attendance nearing normal.

Attendance at North Wilkesboro schools this morning was better than last week, although many primary children were reported out on account of mumps.

There were no new cases of spinal menigitis in the Moravian Falls community, where one six-year-old child was stricken with the disease several days ago. Physicians expressed the opinion that the case, which was isolated as soon as diagnosed, was not of a communicable type.

The child became ill while at school and the case caused considerable alarm in the community.

First Local Bill Starts In Senate

Would Repeal Academical and Industrial Institute Trustee Act Of 1937

Senator Miles F. Shore, representing the 24th senatorial district, has introduced in the general assembly the first local bill pertaining to Wilkes county.

The bill, which was referred to senate Judiciary committee number one, was entitled: "To repeal chapter 21 of the private laws of 1937, relative to the North Wilkesboro Academical and Industrial Institute for the colored race."

The law which would be repealed by the bill introduced by Senator Shore was entitled: "An act ratifying and validating the acts of Wm. A. Stroud, former clerk of the superior court of Wilkes county, in appointing trustees to take charge of and manage the affairs of the North Wilkesboro Academical and Industrial Institute for the colored race."

The trustees thus appointed were W. A. Watkins, S. C. Turner, C. I. Watkins, L. F. Harris, E. L. Golden, S. A. Grimes, Joseph Bowers, C. M. Petty, S. T. Davenport, R. C. Barber, C. C. Luper and Harrison Glenn. The trustees under the act were to have the same duties as trustees appointed under act of the general assembly under date of February 23, 1895.

Harris Child Dies; Funeral On Sunday

Rildamae Dean Harris, three-year-old daughter of E. R. and Viola Wood Harris, of Cricket, died early Saturday morning. Funeral service was held Sunday at Harmony Baptist church.

Surviving are the father and mother, three brothers and one sister: Robert Lee, Sevon, William and Annie Lou Harris.

Mrs. J. R. Hincher Claimed By Death

Mrs. Sarah B. Hincher, age 62, died Saturday night at the home of a son, John Hincher, in this city. Funeral service was held today, ten a. m., at Pine View Church with Rev. Monroe Dillard conducting the last rites.

Survivors are her husband, J. R. Hincher, three sons, John, Granville and Claude Hincher and one daughter, Mrs. Belva Morris.