

War News

British Swap Aerial Blows With Germans

London, Thursday. — German planes scattered bombs over wide sections of the west Midlands early yesterday in an attack which was viewed "simply as a nuisance raid" by the British. Some property was destroyed and there were a few casualties, but incendiary fires which started were speedily extinguished. The raiders also were reported over the northwest, East Anglia, and the northeast, but no bombs were dropped on London, where there was a long interval of quiet after an alert which was accompanied by some gunfire. The German raid followed a heavy British attack on Boulogne, across the channel.

60-70 Boats Would Be Put In Aid "Pool" Under Plan

Washington. — The maritime commission yesterday asked 14 Atlantic and Gulf Coast shipping operators to make half of their vessels—about 60 to 70 ships totaling 375,000 tons—available for national defense and the British shipping pool. A commission spokesman said the ships "may be used to bring in defense cargoes or be put into service for aid to the democracies—such as service to the Red Sea." He said it was presumed the vessels would remain under the American flag.

British Assert Army Is Ready To Take Steps

London. — Nazis bandaged and limping like wounded soldiers and others carrying suitcases labeled with big J's to disguise them as Jewish refugees were reported arriving in French-man-ated Syria yesterday as Germany continued to rush infiltrating forces into that strategic wedge of territory at the eastern end of the Mediterranean. Germany is hurrying forces by air, sea and land to strengthen the vanguard already in Syria, said a dispatch by Reuters. British news agency, from the Syrian border.

Revival Held In Wilkesboro

A series of revival services closed Wednesday night at Wilkesboro Baptist church. The pastor, Rev. T. Sloane Guy, Jr., was assisted throughout the services by his father, Rev. T. Sloane Guy, pastor of Snow Hill Baptist church. The services were well attended and much interest was shown. Several were added to the church by baptism or by letter from other churches.

Father Of The Pastor Does Preaching; Several Are Added To Church

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Marine Corps Is Seeking Recruits In North Wilkesboro

Sergeants C. M. Herris and B. A. Mobley, of the Raleigh recruiting office of the U. S. Marine corps, are spending ten days in North Wilkesboro taking applications for enlistment, either for regular terms or as reserves for the duration of the emergency. They established a temporary office at the city hall Tuesday and will be here until June 13. Discussing the Marines, they pointed out that the age limit has been lowered to 17 and that the Marines offer a good opportunity for study and training. On Tuesday Sergeant Harris will spend one day in Elkin interviewing young men and taking applications for enlistments.

Singing School

Paul B. Collins, of Lincolnton, widely known singing teacher, will conduct a singing school at Fairplains Baptist church, beginning Monday, June 9, 7:30 p. m.

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For most advanced do your buying in North Wilkesboro, the center of Northwestern North Carolina.

J. H. Whicker, Jr., Is Named Solicitor For N. Wilkesboro

Commissioners In June Meeting Tuesday Night; Tentative Tax Rate \$1.25

North Wilkesboro board of commissioners in June meeting appointed Attorney J. H. Whicker, Jr., as solicitor for the town. The office of solicitor was abolished two years ago and re-established by the present board. The solicitor will receive no salary but will receive \$2.00 per case if the cost is paid by the defendant. No costs will be paid the solicitor by the city. The board authorized the clerk to accept payment on 1941 taxes at a tentative rate of \$1.25 on each hundred dollars' assessed valuation of property. The tentative rate is subject to change but those who wish to pay 1941 taxes now may save two per cent discount. If the tentative rate is changed adjustment will be made accordingly in the amount paid. The 1940 tax rate was \$1.19.

The board amended the traffic ordinance to restrict parking in front of drug stores to 20 minutes and designated 70 feet on the north side of A street as parking spaces for buses near the bus station. Mrs. J. L. Clement was appointed welfare officer to continue in that capacity through the summer as well as during school months. Mayor R. T. McNeil and all members of the board, composed of Ralph Duncan, A. F. Kilby, H. M. Hutchens, J. R. Hix and R. G. Finley, were present for the meeting.

Wilkes Court Is Now In Progress

Judge Phillips Presiding; Several Cases Disposed Of; Two Divorces

June term of Wilkes superior court is in progress with Judge F. Donald Phillips, of Rockingham, presiding. Several civil cases have been disposed of by trial, consent judgments and non-suits since court opened Monday for the two-week term. Two divorces have been granted on grounds of two years separation. They were: Ruth Grant Harding versus Roy Edward Harding; and Joe Greene versus Allie H. Greene.

Valuable Calf Dies On Tuesday From Snake Bite

A highly prized male calf on Briarpatch farm in Mulberry township died Tuesday from what was diagnosed by a veterinarian as snake bite. There was a slight wound on the calf's neck. It was a purebred Hereford.

Testifies



Mary Spargo, before Dies committee in Washington, testifies that 150 government employees attended an American peace mobilization in New York as official delegates. She said these employees have been supporting the Communist APM.

Ford Employees in Detroit Vote C. I. O.



Using secret ballots, more than 83,000 workers of the Ford Motor company in the Detroit area voted overwhelmingly in favor of the U. A. W. C. I. O. to do their collective bargaining with Ford for them. Photo shows workers at the Ford River Rouge plant being checked in by Police Captain Don Leonard as the balloting began.

Registrants Are Warned to Return Questionnaires

Policy of Leniency Will Not Be Continued, State Director Explains

Warning to all Selective Service registrants that they must respond to notices issued to them by local boards or become liable to severe penalties was given today by General J. Van B. Metts, State Director of Selective Service. His warning was issued locally by both draft boards.

The State Director pointed out that Section 11 of the Selective Training and Service Act of 1940 provides that any registrant who fails to conform to the law or regulations shall be liable to punishment "by imprisonment for not more than five years or a fine of not more than \$10,000, or by fine and imprisonment."

"Most of the cases of delinquency so far reported," State Director Metts said "have been found to be due to ignorance or carelessness on the part of registrants. He pointed out that heretofore it has been the policy of the Selective Service System to be lenient in cases where it is apparent there has been no willful intent to avoid service. "But the investigation of such cases is taking up much valuable time of local boards and of Department of Justice agents, when these agencies should be devoting their time to the more urgent work of national defense."

In an effort to correct this situation and to avoid the possibility of prosecution for delinquency, registrants were reminded by General Metts that they must complete and return their questionnaires within the time stated on the first page. They must report to examining physicians at the time and place stated in the notice and they must report for delivery to the induction station when notified to do so. General Metts warned that failure to respond to any of these legal notices will subject the registrant to possible prosecution in the Federal Court.

County Agent Tells Ways and Means To Make Up For Damage By Drought

The question that quite a number of farmers over the county are asking as they talk with him is: to what extent the crops have been damaged by the drought. That is a hard question to answer with any degree of accuracy. However, the crops which seem to be suffering most are our gardens and pastures. The gardens were looking unusually good until the drought—but have been slowed up considerably. The pasture grasses are getting terribly short where they are being grazed heavily. If spring hay is available, it might be used to an advantage in order to keep from over grazing the pasture land. Small grain came out wonderfully in the month of April, and perhaps would have made a higher yield had we had some rain in May. Corn has stood the drought fine, so far, but now is beginning to show the need of rain. The bottom land corn is growing nicely, but the upland corn needs rain. The tobacco farmers have been put to a little extra trouble of having to water their plants in order to get them to live. They have not been confronted with the blue mold problem as in previous years. The farmers who grow cotton have been troubled with getting a stand, as it requires a great deal of moisture for cotton to germinate. The apple orchards have also been affected in that; the young apples are not growing and developing as fast as they would with more moisture. However, the orchardists should have the diseases under control since we haven't had rains to wash off the spray materials. Apple blight hit some of the orchards, but it is not thought to be severe enough to damage the crop to any extent. (Continued on page five)

Johnnie Booher Jailed For Faking Robbery

Release Suspects And Jail Booher On Larceny Count

Money Reportedly Taken In Assault Robbery Found On Grounds Tuesday

Johnnie Booher, who was supposedly slugged and robbed of \$1,000 at Yates' service station near Purlear on highway 421 a week ago, has been transferred from Wilkes hospital to Wilkes jail, where he is booked on a robbery charge.

Sheriff C. T. Doughton and Deputy R. C. Jennings, who handled investigation of the strange case, said the known facts indicated strongly that Booher faked the assault and robbery.

Booher was found at the station at 2:30 a. m. on last Thursday, lying on the floor apparently in an unconscious condition. He was carried to the hospital where his "unconscious" condition continued for some time.

Meanwhile, it was discovered that the safe in the service station had been broken open and a sum estimated at \$1,900 had been removed. There was blood on the door of the building and blood on the floor. Booher's gun was found just outside, where there were indications of a struggle. His gun had jammed.

Booher faked semi-consciousness and blindness at the hospital, where physicians had never been able to find injuries sufficient to cause so many ill effects. There was a small cut on his head but bruises were negligible and fracture or concussion was noticeably absent, a searching examination revealed.

In what appeared to be a dazed condition, Booher told officers a vague story of how three men who came to the station grabbed him, slugged him with some hard object and he passed out. His descriptions led to the arrest of four suspects, all of whom were released when their records all but were checked carefully. Booher failed to identify any of them because of "blindness."

Faults in Booher's yarn showed up rapidly when officers began to work on it. Blood stains on the bottom of his shoes wouldn't reconcile with his story because the officers couldn't understand how a man who had been knocked out had been walking around in blood.

A part of the blood stained linoleum from the service station floor were sent to laboratories for examination and the report that it was not human blood just about clinched the case.

Although details were not disclosed, it was learned that a number of incidents at the hospital served to point suspicion (Continued on page five)

Eller Says England Can Win War With Our Aid, Sacrifice

Lieut. Commander Ernest Eller Visits Parents Here After Stay In London

Lieut. Commander Ernest M. Eller, of the U. S. Navy, who has been stationed in London as assistant to the naval attaché since September 1, 1940, arrived in New York City Friday on the Yankee clipper and after reporting in Washington, D. C., came to North Carolina Sunday.

Accompanied by his wife, who had been making her home in Winston-Salem during his absence, he spent Sunday night and Monday morning in North Wilkesboro with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Eller. Accompanied by his father and mother he returned by way of Salisbury, where he visited his sister, Mrs. W. M. McCulley, for a few hours before reporting back to Washington Tuesday, where he will be on duty at the naval department until assigned to some ship.

Lieut. Commander Eller reported that his nine-months stay in England was an exceedingly interesting experience. He visited practically all of Britain's naval bases and many ships. He witnessed bombing raids but reported that the British are stout hearted and with high morale. He said he believes England can win with our aid by hard work and much sacrifice.

It is interesting to note that Lieut. Commander Eller spent ten days last fall on the battleship Hood and only two weeks before the ship was sunk he had dinner aboard the ship.

Two Confess To Theft Chicken

Watauga County Men Held By Officers; Changing Ground Is Found

Wilkes deputies have made two arrests which apparently lead to the solution of a number of chicken thefts, especially in Watauga county.

It was reported to Deputy Homer Brookshire that chickens had been found hid in the woods near Pads road about five miles west of here on more than one occasion. Brookshire and Arlie Foster, Wilkesboro policeman, waylaid the place and a car with a full coop of hens arrived about daylight. Norman Miller, 18, was driving and he was accompanied by Letcher Calvin Simmons, 17, both of Boone.

They confessed to theft of the chickens from a farm at Villas in Watauga county.

Meanwhile the investigation continues because of the frequency of reports that chickens had been hid at the place and the possibility that it had been used by an organized group of chicken thieves as a changing ground.

Big Steam Still Taken This Week

Sheriff Doughton and Deputies Make Successful Raid Near Garden Creek

Wilkes officers this week captured a mammoth distillery near Garden creek in the Traphill section of Wilkes.

Sheriff C. T. Doughton was accompanied on the raid by Deputies Homer Brookshire, Bret Cochren and R. L. Spencer.

Along with a large steam boiler the officers confiscated about one ton of coke, a highly efficient fuel which does not produce smoke. About 2,400 gallons of mash ready for manufacture into liquor were destroyed. No one was found at the still.

Shoe Shops Close On Wednesdays p.m.

Announcement is made today in an advertisement elsewhere in this paper that three shoe shops will be closed on Wednesday afternoons throughout the summer in order to allow the workmen a few hours for rest and recreation. The shops to observe the half holiday are Right Way, Gilreath's and O. K. Shoe Shop. It is believed that the public will offer every cooperation.

Christening Navy's Biggest Bomber



Largest and most powerful bomber in navy service, Consolidated's "The Spirit of American Democracies," being christened in the presence of chiefs of general naval staffs of 11 Latin-American nations by William Powell, son of an aircraft worker. Inset: Maj. Remben Fleet, president of Consolidated Aircraft company, and Vice Admiral Jose Machado E. Silva, spokesman for the visiting Latin-American navy chiefs.