

IN THIS CITY—

Stores Open To 9 Starting On Friday Evening, Dec. 19th

North Wilkesboro Stores Are Ready To Care For Record Volume Holiday Trade

The majority of the stores in North Wilkesboro will begin on Friday, December 19, remaining open until nine p. m. for convenience of Christmas shoppers.

The stores will continue to be open nights until nine o'clock through Christmas eve, December 24.

This decision was made by the merchants in order to better accommodate the holiday shoppers who are doing business in North Wilkesboro in ever-increasing numbers.

The volume of holiday trade is expected to set a new record this year.

North Wilkesboro stores are prepared for increased holiday business with large stocks of every variety of merchandise in wide selections.

Trade expansion has resulted in growth of local stores to the point where they are able to carry large and varied stocks, making it unnecessary for the most discriminating shopper to go elsewhere for holiday shopping.

AT CRAIG FIELD—

Richard Johnston Receives Wings

Local Man Commissioned As Second Lieutenant In U. S. Army Air Corps

A member of the first war-time class of Aviation Cadets to graduate from the Advance Flying School, Craig Field, Selma, Ala., Richard Blaine Johnston, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Johnston, of 716 B street, Thursday received his "Wings" and commission as Second Lieutenant in the United States Army Air Corps.

The graduation exercises at which Lieutenant Johnston formally became a commissioned pilot were direct, serious and to the point. Lieutenant Colonel Julian B. Haddon, Commandant of Craig Field addressed the class, saying that he had no fears about sending them out on their tours of duty, for this class had achieved better gunnery scores, had a lower crash record and during their final ten weeks of training had conduct and flying discipline superior to those of any previous class.

To the parents and friends who gathered for the ceremonies in the Post Theatre at Craig Field, pursuit school unit of the Southeast Air Corps Training Center, Colonel Haddon offered a reassuring note, that the new lieutenants had been prepared for their duties in the best and most efficient manner. During their thirty weeks of intensive conditioning, their training had made them skilled for every demand that may tax their flying ability, the colonel said. "We've not only prepared them but we've hardened them so that they'll be able to face and conquer the hardships they may meet," he continued.

In closing, Colonel Haddon expressed his pride in this class and told them it was now their turn to be proud—proud to go forth on a career of serving their country—the greatest country in the world. As one aviator to another, he wished them, one and all, "Happy Landings."

IN N. WILKESBORO—

Sale Of Defense Bonds Skyrocket

Sale of defense bonds and stamps at the North Wilkesboro post office showed a big increase last week following the attack on the United States possessions and forces by Japanese, it was learned today.

While no exact figures were given out, it was learned that increase above normal sales of defense bonds and stamps was great and is expected to increase further.

Bonds are offered in denominations from \$25 up and stamps which may be accumulated and exchanged for bonds can be purchased with pocket change.

People of North Wilkesboro and rural communities in Wilkes are responding well to the appeal to buy bonds, postoffice authorities said.

One man walked to the bond sale window at the post office last week and said he wanted to buy a hundred dollars worth of machine gun bullets to shoot Japs.

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For mutual advantage do your buying in North Wilkesboro, the growing trading center of North-western North Carolina.

Sea, Air, Land Forces Battle For Positions

IN THIS COUNTY—

Local Defense Council Asking For Volunteers

Many Precautions To Be Taken and Services Of Many Are Needed

Attorney W. H. McElwee, chairman of the Wilkes County Civilian Defense Council, said today that the council plans several defense measures which will require the services of many volunteers in civilian defense.

The council has received instruction to have air observation posts manned at all times and a four-hour shift is recommended. Volunteers will be needed for that work at all the posts which have been set up in the county.

The council has also been asked to form a fire squad to receive training in fighting fire caused by incendiary bombs.

Air raid wardens must also be appointed for North Wilkesboro and Wilkesboro.

It is also asked that emergency medical groups be formed with special training in first aid. It is understood that the Red Cross chapter will promote that work.

It is asked that emergency public utilities be provided in every instance possible and that precautions be taken with water supplies and electrical lines, to prevent sabotage.

CITY AND COUNTY—

Schools To Close Friday, Dec. 19th, for Holiday Period

Two Full Weeks Holiday Vacation For City and County Schools

North Wilkesboro schools and Wilkes county schools will close for Christmas holidays on Friday, December 19, and re open on Monday, January 5, giving two full weeks for the holiday vacation, it was learned today from Paul S. Cragan, North Wilkesboro superintendent, and C. B. Eller, superintendent of the county school system.

It was also learned that the school will deliver vouchers at the end of the week to teachers, bus drivers, janitors and other employees for the fourth month.

PAPER IS SCARCE—

Collect Paper Every Day Now

Waste paper will be collected from business houses here daily, it was learned today from Paul Cashion, secretary of the North Wilkesboro Lions club, which is collecting and selling waste paper to raise funds to help underprivileged children.

All business houses are asked to cooperate and save every piece of scrap paper for the collectors daily. Homes are also asked to save all kinds of scrap paper and have it on the porch each Tuesday afternoon for the weekly canvass of homes.

FLUOROSCOPE FUND—

Watch It Grow!

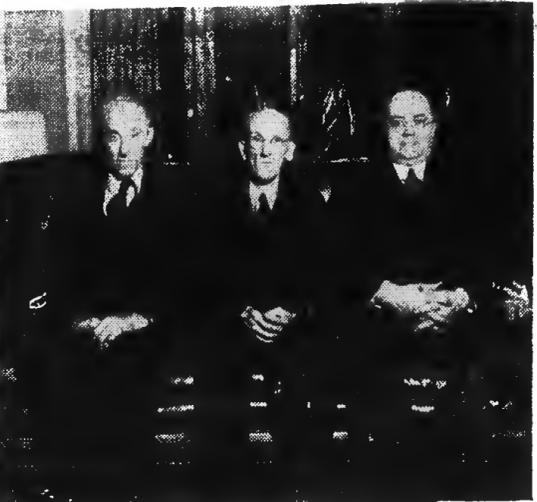
Junior Chamber of Commerce reported today that \$91 had been raised in the bond sale in connection with sale of Christmas seals to raise funds for the purpose of fluoroscopic and X-ray equipment for the county tubercular hospital.

The following today had bought seal bonds in the amounts shown: Jenkins Hardware \$5; Meadows Mills company \$10; Oak Furniture company \$10; Wilkesboro Manufacturing company \$5; Rose's \$2; Forest Furniture company, \$10; Key City Furniture company \$5; Wilkes Drug store \$1; Recreation Center \$2; Carolina Mirror Corporation \$10; Lineberry Foundry \$5; Goodwill Store \$10; Southern Bargain store \$1; Wilkes Auto Sales and W. O. Absher and F. D. Forester \$10.

ON THURSDAY NIGHT AT DIRECTORS' MEETING—
PAST PRESIDENTS OF THE NORTH WILKESBORO KIWANIS CLUB



In this picture are the men who have headed the North Wilkesboro Kiwanis Club since its organization in 1923. The photo was made as they attended the meeting of old and new board of directors on Thursday night at Hotel Wilkes. The past presidents form the Advisory Council of the club, widely recognized as a leader among civic organizations in Northwestern North Carolina. Left to right, seated, are: Genio Cardwell, P. W. Eshelman, J. C. Reins, E. G. Finley; standing left to right—J. R. Finley, W. K. Sturdivant, H. H. Morehouse, J. B. Carter (1941 president), A. H. Casey (past lieutenant governor of division three), Dr. F. C. Hubbard, J. B. Williams (president elect), D. J. Carter, R. G. Finley, W. E. Jones and J. B. McCoy. At left are shown the three secretaries who have served the club very efficiently: T. E. Story, secretary since 1932; Genio Cardwell, club's second secretary; and J. B. Williams, secretary from 1923 to 1927. (Photo by Harvel).



ON SATURDAY NIGHT—
John Wesley Miles Dies of Stab Wound

MISSING



Carl Willard Pierce, machinist-pilot in the navy air force, is reported missing. He and his plane failed to report from a flight, presumably from Norfolk, Va., over the Atlantic. He is a son of Mrs. Bertha Pierce and the late Ransom Pierce, of near this city.

Daniel Webster died at Marshfield October 24, 1852.

Monroe Shumate Is Held For Trial On Death Charge

Miles And Shumate Had Trouble Saturday Night Before Fatal Meeting

John Wesley Miles, age 24, was killed late Saturday night when he was stabbed in the back by Monroe Shumate, age 53, at Reynolds' store at Dockery, 12 miles northeast of this city.

Coroner I. M. Myers investigated the affair and after talking with a number of witnesses set the hearing for ten o'clock today in Wilkesboro, where the grand jury was in session in the December term of court.

In court today a charge of manslaughter was lodged against Shumate by the grand jury.

According to reports received by the coroner, Miles, who lived in the Mulberry community and had been employed at a factory here, went in his car to the home of Shumate on Hays, route one. The coroner was told that Miles ran his car into Shumate's house, backed it away and continued the same procedure until Shumate was killed. (Continued on Page Five)

Kiwanians Ready For Another Year's Service

Committees Are Appointed For Next Year

Club Widely Recognized As One of Most Active and Influential Groups

Thirteen past presidents, President J. B. Carter, President elect Bid J. Williams and members of the old and newly elected boards of directors of the North Wilkesboro Kiwanis club met on Thursday evening at Hotel Wilkes.

It was an inspiring occasion as these men who have figured prominently in the progress of North Wilkesboro and Wilkes county gathered for the annual meeting which winds up the business for one year and lays plans for the next.

Only five of the past presidents of the club were absent from the meeting. Of the 18 past presidents who led the club for a year each since its organization in 1923, three have died. The deceased past presidents are Charles Smoot, the club's first president; Joe Clements, who served through 1927, and Arthur A. Finley, president during 1937.

The other past presidents and the year in which each led the club are: Henry Reynolds, 1924; Genio Cardwell, 1925; P. Ward Eshelman, 1926; J. C. Reins, 1928; E. G. Finley, 1929; Horace Sisk, 1930; J. R. Finley, 1931; H. H. Morehouse, 1932; Dr. F. C. Hubbard, 1933; R. G. Finley, 1934; J. B. McCoy, 1935; (Continued on Page Five)

Award Winner



Miss Mary Gage Barber, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Barber, of Wilkesboro, has been selected the outstanding student in the senior class and receives the D.A.R. medal for that honor. Miss Barber, who has an outstanding high school record, was chosen by her class and by the faculty. She will represent the school in state competition. The award is based on loyalty, scholarship, patriotism, popularity and citizenship qualities in and out of school.

The sale of whole milk has brought an income of \$40,120.10 to Mitchell county farmers during the past year, reports F. L. Woodard, farm agent of the N. C. College Extension Service.

No Developments Major Interest In The Pacific Ocean

But The Russians Make Big Claims Of Success In Attacks Against Nazis

With uncounted thousands of Japanese troops plunged to death on bombed and torpedoed transports short of land fronts, the Japanese invasion of the Philippines was resolved today into a struggle for air supremacy and the Malayan campaign into a war of position in jungle fastnesses.

Hong Kong, British crown colony on the south China coast and No. 2 naval base in the Far East, appeared to be the point of the greatest pressure of Japan's greater East Asia offensive.

The British acknowledged a withdrawal from Kowloon, a city of the colony, which permitted the Japanese to advance to within rifle shot of the island of Hong Kong, just off the Kowloon peninsula.

Unless this was the forerunner of complete abandonment of Hong Kong it represented a strategy of permitting the Japanese to plunge into the extremity of Kowloon peninsula in the hope that the free Chinese armies operating at their rear would cut them off.

London's announcement said that the withdrawal was "progressing according to plan."

The afternoon communique from Manila indicating that the Japanese were checked in the land operations at three points on the main island of Luzon, said that "enemy activities throughout the day were confined entirely to the air."

At Manila Japanese bombs fell again at midday on the Nichols Field area.

AMERICANS DAMAGE JAPANESE SHIPS

Manila.—United States army bombers, resisting Japanese attempts to reinforce troops landed at Legaspi, on the southeastern tip of Luzon island 250 miles from Manila, heavily damaged two Japanese transports yesterday. U. S. Army headquarters reported today.

Announcement of the new American successes followed by 24 hours an official bulletin declaring that during the first week of the war army bombers sank four Japanese transports and badly damaged three more off northern Luzon, where the invaders effected landings at several points.

PROMOTES SCOUTING—
Cubbing Course Completed Here

Twenty-One Parents Make Prospective Cubs Eligible By Attendance

The final course in cubbing was given at the Presbyterial Sunday School building Saturday night, December 13th. The following received certificates showing that they had attended all four of the meetings: Ivey Moore, Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Gibbs, Jr., Mrs. J. B. Carter, Mrs. Jack Swafford, Mrs. A. M. Hadley, Mrs. Jeff Craven, Mrs. Marvin McNeil, Mrs. J. D. Gettys, T. E. Story, L. M. Nelson. The following attended three of the four meetings, making their prospective Cubs eligible: Judge J. A. Rousseau, J. G. Forester, Mrs. W. F. Gaddy, Mrs. R. T. McNeil, Mrs. W. J. Bason, Miss Lula H. Brame, Mrs. Andy Shook, Mrs. A. C. Waggoner, Mrs. Ray Hayes, Mr. Gordon Finley.

Following the training course a business session was held and the officers of the Pack were elected. Ivey Moore was elected Pack Committee chairman, others on the committee are Gordon Finley, T. E. Story and A. M. Church. R. S. Gibbs, Jr., was elected Cubmaster and the following Den Mothers: Mrs. R. T. McNeil, Mrs. J. B. Carter, Mrs. Robert Gibbs.

It is hoped that final organization plans will be completed before Christmas so that projects may be started with the New Year.