

The Journal-Patriot

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THURSDAY, MAR. 19, 1942



Fifty Years Of Service

On March 2, 1892, North Wilkesboro was a sprawling village in an undeveloped county.

But on that date something happened which affected the entire future of Wilkes and adjoining counties as well as the future of the then infant town.

The Bank of North Wilkesboro opened for business.

Down through the years that institution has stood as a bulwark of sound progress in the business life of this part of the state.

With a capital stock of only \$20,000 and only half of that paid in, the bank opened in rented quarters on the south side of Main street. Compared to enterprises today, it was a small business, but in a small, undeveloped village it was a major enterprise.

The late J. E. Finley was induced to come back from his livestock farm in Watauga county to his native community to be president and active head of the bank. Integrity of his character and those of his associates instilled confidence by the people in the infant financial enterprise and it grew as the community grew and developed.

Through every year of the half century history of the bank that institution has been fortunate in having as officers and directors men whose honesty and integrity has never been questioned; men whose names are synonymous with honor and fair dealing.

On opening day of the bank, deposits were \$2,000.47 and resources were \$13,550.47.

On January 1 this year deposits totaled \$2,478,795.38, an increase of more than one thousand fold.

The worth of that institution to the community in which it is located is immeasurable. Not only has it been a safe place for the funds and trusts of the people, but it has rendered a banking service adequate for the needs of its patrons and community.

Banking service rendered by the Bank of North Wilkesboro through half a century has enabled many worthy enterprises to be started and to continue service to the people in this part of the state. The perspective of the officers and directors of the bank has always been keen with sound business judgment, which enabled them to correctly value the worth and future possibilities of business enterprises in a wide range of diversified endeavor.

The presence of an institution with an unimpeachable reputation for sound and yet progressive service, gives the entire community which it serves a similar reputation.

Some of the present officers and directors of the bank have a long record of service with the institution. R. W. Gwyn, cashier, joined the bank four months after it opened. J. R. Hix, president, was first elected to that office in 1923, S. V. Tomlinson, vice president, has been a director through many years. Reputation of these men, like those they preceded, is favorably known throughout northwestern North Carolina. Others officers and personnel with shorter records of service likewise are leaders with integrity and excellent business judgment.

It is with pleasure that we congratulate the Bank of North Wilkesboro on having passed the half century mark of service and extend our best wishes for continued success and progress. In these congratulations we speak the sentiments of the people in this part of the state.

We thought that women could spare gossip and rumor but the war produces new talent along this line.

In spite of the... ber that strikes would be outlasted the duration of the war, America's vitally needed war production is being hampered by walk outs. At a time when every hour of work counts more than it ever has before, men are dropping their tools and leaving their jobs. At a time when the fighting forces of freedom are making gallant stands in every part of the world, men here are giving up.

A recent survey revealed that there had been 76 strikes in war work plants during February—an increase of 77 per cent over January. These strikes involved 70,905 workers and caused a loss of 2,028,324 man-hours of labor in those plants alone. Production of such vital military stores as airplane parts, machine tools, anti-aircraft guns, ships and ship parts was held up. Other factories that depend on the struck plants were also affected and work was slowed down all long the line.

Today, when uninterrupted war production is the single hope of freedom, why must industrial disputes bring production to a stand still? Why can't the disputes be settled while the war work continues? Why are the promises that were made only a few months ago being broken now?

RULES OF THE ROAD Animal-Drawn Vehicles

Sec. 132½, Motor Vehicle Laws of North Carolina—"Every person riding an animal or driving any animal drawing a vehicle upon a highway shall be subject to the provisions of this Act applicable to the driver of a vehicle, except those provisions of the Act which by their nature can have no application."

In other words, a man riding a mule or driving a horse-drawn vehicle on any highway must obey the same general traffic regulations and rules of the road that drivers of motor vehicles are required to obey, the only exceptions being those laws which could not apply to animals or animal-drawn vehicles, such as the 60-mile maximum speed law or the law forbidding coasting down grade with the gears in neutral.

A Misfit

It's better far to stammer truth
Than smoothly tell a lie;
You'd better be an offcast youth
Than measure high in social rings,
The proud world passes by,
With wrong be in accord,
Than measure high in social rings,
While in your heart no honor sings
And offer no reward.

You'd better have a conscience clear,
Although you walk alone,
Than fit into the crowds that cheer
And claim you as their own,
While conscience lashes and condemns
For what you know you are,
And promises no diadems
When you shall "cross the bar."

Although you do not fit the world
In actions, styles and name;
No banners seem for you unfurled
Because you win no fame;
However, God holds in reserve
Far more than man can give,
And all who faithfully will serve
With saints shall ever live.

What with all the cooling schools and home economics courses we might expect better cooking some day in the future.

Unity will not result from promiscuous and unsupported charges of inefficiency on the part of our military leaders.

Thumb-nail war review: Speeches, management and plans do not make up for missing tanks, planes, guns and ships.

Congress would do all right if it was not made-up of Congressmen who have to please the lunatic fringe in their districts.

A few bombs, judiciously dropped in the United States, might persuade some people that war is going on and that this nation can be attacked.

No, Geraldine, there is no truth in the report that Congressmen, who voted against the two-ocean navy, have volunteered for immediate service.

People who are already tired of hearing about the war will probably be surprised how much they will have to hear about the war before it is over.

The time has come, whether the people of Wilkes county believe it or not, for every American to be an American, for what it is worth and regardless of what it costs.

J. R. HIX
**Hix Head Bank
Nineteen Years**
President of Bank of North Wilkesboro is Also A Manufacturer

J. R. Hix has been president of the Bank of North Wilkesboro during the past 19 years of the half-century history of the institution.

He was born and reared in the Moravian Falls community of Wilkes county. Early in life he became actively affiliated with business interests here and prior to his election as president of the bank, he was connected with Vaughn - Hemphill Company, a wholesale merchandising firm.

For decades J. R. Hix has been one of North Wilkesboro's most prominent and best known, business men. And his activities have not been confined to business. He has been a leader in church, civic and community affairs.

Mr. Hix is a member of the board of stewards of the North Wilkesboro Methodist church and over a period of several years was superintendent of the Sunday school. He is a member of the board of directors of the North Wilkesboro Kiwanis club, in which he has been actively affiliated with many civic activities. He is a member of the North Wilkesboro board of commissioners and is mayor pro-tem. He was appointed a member of the Wilkes Selective Service board number two and is chairman of that board.

He is prominently connected with other business interests here in addition to being president of the Bank of North Wilkesboro. He is secretary of the American Furniture company and president of the Turner-White Casket company, both of which are widely known industries and have enviable records of successful operation.

Mr. Hix is secretary-treasurer of Grier Mills, Gordon Mills, and Wilkes Hotel Company.

The sound business judgment exercised by Mr. Hix is everyday knowledge throughout northwestern North Carolina. His upright character commands the respect of the public as well as his associates.

Three New Units Arrive At Bragg

Fort Bragg.—The population of Fort Bragg was increased this week by the arrival of three new organizations, two of them of a type unique to this post.

The first of these was the 19th Field Artillery, which arrived Thursday night. This regiment is the first unit in our armed forces to be completely equipped with the brand new eight-inch howitzer, a modern, hard-hitting highly mobile weapon which was thoroughly tested by Fort Bragg's Field Artillery Board last summer before the Army adopted it.

Fort Bragg also got its first real tanks when the 70th Tank Battalion (light) arrived the last of the week. Heretofore armored scout cars used by the cavalry at Bragg and armored weapon carriers of the artillery were the only armored vehicles in the camp.

The third outfit to arrive here was the 36th Engineer Regiment, which is described as a "corps combat regiment."

REPAIRS

Farm machinery and repair dealers of Gaston county report an increase of 25 percent in repair parts purchased to date over the same time a year ago...

TURKEYS

Probably the most outstanding change in the poultry marketing picture during the past five years has been the increase in the number of turkeys raised and sold.

W. D. HALFACRE
**Halfacre Joined
Bank 4 Years Ago**
Vice-President Was Superintendent of City Schools Here Seven Years

W. D. Halfacre became affiliated with the Bank of North Wilkesboro in 1938 and has rapidly gained a reputation for efficiency and good business judgment.

He is vice president of the bank and a member of the board of directors.

Mr. Halfacre was superintendent of the North Wilkesboro schools for seven years prior to the time he accepted his position with the bank in 1938. During his school career here he learned to know many people of the city and surrounding country through the schools, giving him a splendid background for his business career.


During and since his years as superintendent of the schools he has been very active in church and civic work and in public life in North Wilkesboro. He is chairman of the board of stewards of the North Wilkesboro Methodist church. He is a member of the Boy Scout court of honor and is chairman of the Underprivileged Child committee of the North Wilkesboro Kiwanis club. He is a veteran of World War number 1 and is an active member of Wilkes post number 125 of the American Legion.

Used Typewriters Ration On April 13

Raleigh.—State civilian defense headquarters were advised yesterday to prepare to ration used typewriters on April 13. Prior to the rationing program an inventory of all dealers stocks will be taken and rental of typewriters will be regulated.


T. S. Johnson, state rationing administrator, announced that the March 9 deadline on sales of automobiles by men called into the armed services had been extended without limit. Regulations on such sales will continue in effect as previously.

Advertisement for MENTHOLIN, a product for relief of colds and flu. It is advertised as a "miraculous" relief for various ailments. The advertisement includes a list of symptoms it treats and a price of \$1.00 per box. The manufacturer is M. M. BRAME & SONS.



ELECTRICITY

Turns The Wheels of Defense
In More Ways Than One!



REDDY KILOWATT
... your untiring
Electrical Servant ...

helps you do your work efficiently, economically, and quickly ... giving you more time to meet the civilian responsibilities of war time.

Duke POWER COMPANY

HOURS 9 to 5 NINTH STREET

NOTICE!

The Wilkes County Board of Equalization and Review

Will meet Monday, March 23rd, in the County Commissioners' office, Wilkes County Courthouse, from 10 o'clock in the morning until 3 o'clock in the afternoon to hear complaints on property values. Complainants must file formal notice of appeal with the county tax supervisor prior to their appearance before the board.

WILKES COUNTY TAX SUPERVISOR