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THE JOURNAL-PATRIOT

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\$1.50 in the State — \$2.00 Out of State

Heroes of World Battle Front



At left is Dr. C. M. Wassell, through whose skill and courage 12 badly wounded men were gotten safely out of Java, in the face of invading Jap hordes, and safely to the Australian coast. Capt. H. T. Wheeler (right) went out to attack Jap transports off the Philippines. He was attacked by Zero planes but proceeded on his mission, emptied his bomb racks on six Jap transports, then fought off 18 Jap planes for 75 miles, bringing down 11, finally making a safe emergency landing with two engines and rear landing wheel gone.

SERGEANT CARLYLE INGLE MAKES INVESTIGATION

Officer Says Big Theft Ring Will Be Exposed

Thefts Totaling Thousands May Be Brought Out

North Wilkesboro Grocery Company and Carl A. Lowe & Sons Lose By Thefts

Several arrests have already been made in an investigation which is expected to expose a theft ring involving several thousand dollars here. Sergeant Carlyle Ingle, of the state highway patrol, said today.

Declining to divulge names of those involved until the investigation is completed, the patrol officer said vast amounts of merchandise have been stolen from North Wilkesboro Grocery company and Carl A. Lowe and Sons, principally by some of the employees of the two firms.

He also said that the investigation to date has involved at least two country merchants, who purchased the stolen groceries, cigarettes, tobacco and other merchandise.

Sergeant Ingle said a lead on the theft ring was discovered unexpectedly one night this week as he was checking cars on a road a few miles from North Wilkesboro in an effort to apprehend some escaped convicts.

One car Sergeant Ingle stopped had on a cargo of merchandise, principally groceries, and the men with the car told him the goods were from North Wilkesboro and were being delivered to a rural merchant whose name was not disclosed.

After some investigation the car was allowed to proceed but when another car loaded with (Continued on page eight)

7:30 TO 9:30 P. M.— Scout Training Session Tuesday

"Fundamentals of Boy Scout Movement" Will Be Topic For Session

At the last meeting of the Wilkes District Committee of the Boy Scouts of America plans were made for a training session on the subject "Fundamentals of the Boy Scout Movement". This training should be taken by everyone who is interested or active in the Boy Scout movement. It is now a required course before anyone can receive a certificate for the Scoutmaster's Training Course or a Cub leaders Training course. The course is designed to be both informative and interesting. In addition to the lectures a sound and color movie will be shown. The entire course is covered in one two-hour period, which will be given at the Reins-Sturdivant Chapel on Tuesday evening, May 19th, from 7:30 to 9:30. It is the wish of the district committee that all civic and church leaders, and any others who are interested in and come in contact with our youth, be present at this session.

Doctors Attend Medical Society In Charlotte

Wilkes Medical Society was well represented in the convention of the North Carolina Medical Society held Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday in Charlotte.

Those from here attending part or all the sessions were Dr. F. C. Hubbard, Dr. John W. Morris, Dr. J. H. McNeill, Dr. H. B. Smith and Dr. W. K. Newton.

Duncan Active In Saint Louis

Isaac Duncan, former Scoutmaster of Boy Scout troop number 35 here and who went to St. Louis a few months ago to take a responsible position with a large electrical firm there, is now Scoutmaster of troop number 79 of the Third Baptist church of St. Louis, of which he is now a member.

Before leaving North Wilkesboro Mr. Duncan, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Duncan, was active in Red Cross work here. He is now first aid instructor for 45 air raid wardens in the city of St. Louis.

AT COURTHOUSE— Democrats Will Meet Saturday

County Convention Will Convene In Wilkesboro Saturday, 2:00 P. M.

Democrats of Wilkes county will meet in their county convention at the courthouse in Wilkesboro Saturday afternoon, May 16, 2:00 o'clock.

Call for the convention was issued recently by J. R. Rousseau, chairman of the Wilkes county Democratic executive committee.

Precinct meetings were held throughout the county on Saturday afternoon, at which time precinct organizations were set up.

At the county convention the county organization will be perfected and delegates will be named to the state convention to be held next week.

LOCAL MEN— Like Fishing Boat—Buy It

Johnnie Hall and Beech Blankenship, local business men, enjoyed a fishing trip during the week-end around Norfolk and Newport News, Virginia.

They liked their 22-foot boat so well and hated so badly to leave it that they just bought it.

On Saturday afternoon they will launch their boat on Oxford lake near Taylorsville. Mr. Blankenship said it will be the biggest craft on the lake.

The boat is very conveniently arranged and has sleeping quarters, kitchen and many conveniences.

—BUY WAR BONDS—

LEAVING SOON— Gentry Will Take TVA Position In Knoxville June 1

Manager Employment Office To Take Position As Assistant Personnel Officer

B. G. Gentry, since 1937 manager of the employment service office here, will leave North Wilkesboro the latter part of this month and on June 1 will assume his duties as assistant personnel officer for TVA at Knoxville, Tennessee.

Mr. Gentry came to North Wilkesboro as manager of the employment service office in December, 1937, from Reidsville. Prior to his joining this government service he had practiced law in Reidsville and in Lynchburg, Virginia.

He has been very active in civic and public life in North Wilkesboro. He is chairman of the NYA advisory council, secretary of the WPA advisory council, president of the Men's Brotherhood of the North Wilkesboro Methodist church and vice president of the men's Bible class, and has been actively affiliated with civic and fraternal organizations here.

The position Mr. Gentry will take with the TVA is a responsible one. Today he said that he will leave North Wilkesboro with reluctance because he had enjoyed his work here and was appreciative of the splendid cooperation shown by local people.

Mr. Gentry has a splendid record in the employment service and was often commended for the record made by the branch here under his management by job placements and for finding labor as requested by many employers.

His family will remain here temporarily.

FINALS MAY 29— Commencement Programs City School Outlined

49 Seniors At North Wilkesboro School Anticipate Commencement Season

Calendar of commencement programs at North Wilkesboro high school was announced this week by Paul S. Cragan, superintendent of city schools.

Dr. W. A. Alexander, pastor of the First Presbyterian church in Charlotte, will deliver the baccalaureate sermon in a union service at the First Baptist church here on Sunday evening, May 24, eight o'clock. The high school chorus will furnish music for the service.

The final commencement program will be on Friday evening, May 29, eight o'clock, in the school auditorium. Members of the senior class will present their own program and high school diplomas will be presented to 49 graduates.

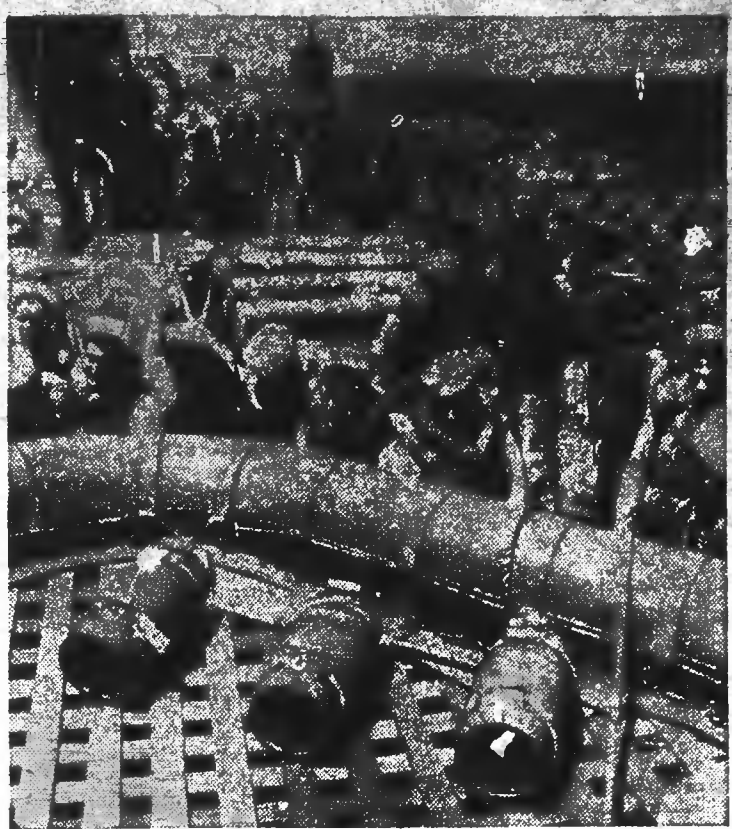
The list of seniors given in order of their scholastic ratings as compiled by senior class officers follows:

Margaret Rhodes, Mildred Stafford, Meneta Wellborn, Hill Carlton, Mildred Elledge, Betty Hill, Mary Anderson, Grace Miller, Joe Clements, Jackie Frazier, Christine Byrd, Margie Beaman, Alma Elledge, Ruth Hayes, Ruth Lovette, Joyce Kilby, Lillian Miller, Jeanne Moore, Rose Zell Caudill, Elsie Hudson, Jessie Foster, Mabel Kilby, Mollie Wilkins, Frances Bowman, Wayne Gentry, Frances Finley, Joe Hunt, Blanche Hall, James Shepherd, Johnnie Johnston, John D. Hall, Bryce Sebastian, Billie W. Estes, Ruby V. Pardue, Jack Foster, J. H. Joiner, Rosa Lee Myers, Louise Kerley, Helen Wyatt, Vernon Byrd, Bruce Hall, Holt Hudson, Mildred Miller, Jack Hadley, Frank McHone, James Anderson, Jane Jones, Alene Lockhart and Justus Brewer.

Attend Convention

Dr. and Mrs. E. S. Cooper and daughter, Lelia Julia, and Miss Janie Hudson were in Hickory Friday and Saturday. Dr. Cooper attended the two-day convention of the North Carolina Chiropractors association, which was held at Hotel Hickory.

'Abandon Ship' Drill on Atlantic Convoy



At Sea . . . You are somewhere on the broad Atlantic aboard a unit of the U. S. navy's Atlantic task force, currently doing a job of convoying. What you are now looking at is an "abandon ship" drill, in which the ship's personnel go through all the motions without actually going over-side. In the background are other ships of the convoy. (Approved by U. S. navy.)

TODAY'S War News

MacArthur's Planes Smash 3 Jap Ships

Melbourne, Australia. — Gen. Douglas MacArthur's flying fortresses and Catalina-Consolidated bombers, opening a new phase of their offensive, have sunk one Japanese ship, damaged two, and smashed 15 Japanese bombing planes in attacks over a 1,750-front, it was announced today.

Defensive fighters, newly arrived from the United States, shot down two and damaged one of a formation of Japanese Navy-O fighters which vainly attempted to raid the allied airdrome at Port Moresby, New Guinea.

MacArthur announced in a general headquarters communique that his planes had sunk a 3,000-ton enemy invasion ship and obtained direct bomb hits on one of 3,000-ton tons and another of 2,200 tons in a punishing raid on Ambotna, Japanese naval base 600 miles north of Darwin in the Netherlands East Indies.

Axis Raiders Sink Three Cargo Ships

The U. S. Navy revealed Wednesday that three United Nations merchantmen have been sunk by Axis submarines—one off Africa, one in the Gulf of Mexico and one within sight of an Atlantic Coast town—while the Canadian government disclosed that two vessels have been torpedoed in the St. Lawrence River instead of one announced previously.

Sinkings revealed at Washington and Ottawa brought to around 185 the cargo ship losses revealed in this nation and Canada since the war began. Two of the latest victims of U-boat warfare were American vessels.

IN WILKESBORO— Federal Court To Open Monday

Judge Hayes To Preside Over Regular May Term United States Court

May term of federal court will open in Wilkesboro on Monday, May 18, for the circuit composed of Wilkes, Ashe, Alleghany and Watauga counties.

Judge Johnson J. Hays, of Wilkesboro, middle North Carolina district judge, will preside over the term, which may be for two weeks.

Included on the calendar for trial are many cases involving alleged violations of the federal liquor tax laws.

CHAIN

The Lenoir county pig chain, started two years ago with 14 boys receiving Poland China gilts, has been responsible for 21 additional boys receiving gilts.

IN EASTERN STATES—

Rationing Of Gasoline Will Begin On Friday

Singing May 31 At Mountain Valley

Stone Mountain union singing will meet with Mountain Valley church two miles west of highway 18 on Sunday, May 31, one p.m. All singing classes and others who render gospel music are invited to take part in the program, J. A. Gilliam, chairman, said today.

APPLY NOW— 2 New Aircraft Courses to Begin In Near Future

Sheet Metal and Riveting Courses Begin At School Here June 1 and 15

Two new classes in aircraft sheet metal and riveting will begin at North Wilkesboro school next month, it was announced today.

One class will begin on June 1 and another on June 15. Wm. H. Corum, instructor for the present class which will soon complete its course, will teach one class and W. B. Collins, industrial arts instructor in the city schools, will teach the other.

One class will begin in the morning and the other in the afternoon, each lasting for eight hours daily. All men interested in becoming skilled aircraft sheet metal and riveting workers are invited to make application to take the course. The North Wilkesboro office of the U. S. Employment service, located over Duke Power company, will accept the applications.

Registration books will be open at polling places Saturday, May 16th

FEW CONTESTS— Saturday Is Last Day To Register For Primary 30th

Registration Books Will Be Open At Polling Places Saturday, May 16th

Saturday, May 16, will be the last day to register for the primary to be held May 30.

Registration books have been open in the various precincts the past two Saturdays and reports from some precincts indicate that registration has been unusually light. In order to vote in the primary, persons who have not registered previously must register on Saturday, May 16.

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Registration Of Auto Drivers Is Completed Today

Value of Unit On All Rationing Cards Now Is Three Gallons

Task of registering motorists for gasoline rationing ended today.

Beginning tomorrow, Friday, May 15, motorists who buy gasoline must use their rationing cards.

They may use the gasoline allowed by their cards as fast as they wish but when the card is exhausted that will be all the gasoline they will be allowed to buy before July 1, when a more permanent system of gasoline rationing will begin.

Trucks were not required to register and will not have to have a card to purchase gasoline. The same applies to pickup trucks.

Rationing cards were issued in five classes: A, B1, B2, B3 and X.

The A card has seven units, each good for purchase of three gallons or a total of 21 gallons. B cards were issued according to mileage necessary in going to and from work and in work. B1 is good for 11 units, or 33 gallons; B2 for 15 units, or 45 gallons; B3 for 19 units, or 57 gallons. X cards are good for any amount of gasoline necessary.

Service stations were busy today as motorists said "fill 'er up", getting their tanks full before having to start on the precious cards.

Heavy penalties are provided for violation of rationing regulations, one violation in particular cited being transfer of gasoline from a truck to a car.

Teachers did the work of registering motorists, volunteering their services patriotically and without pay as they did in selective service and sugar registrations.

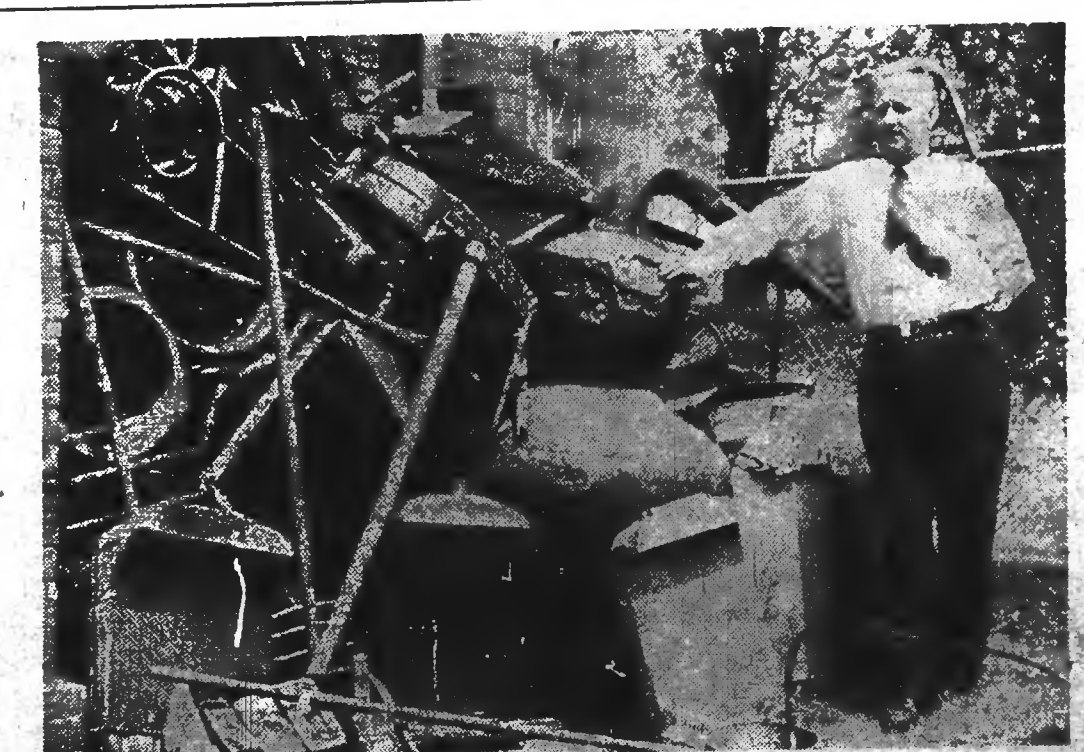
FUNERAL TODAY— M. J. Scroggs, 85, Claimed By Death

M. J. Scroggs, 85, for decades a well known citizen of North Wilkesboro, died Wednesday morning at his home at 509 C street. Death was attributed to shock and toxic poisoning from a fall on the porch at his home last week.

Funeral service was held at the residence ten o'clock this morning in charge of Rev. A. C. Wag-

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BIG PILE OF COPPER AT WILKES JAIL— METAL IN STILLS MAY GO INTO WAR GOODS



J. B. Snipes, Wilkes farm agent and chairman of the salvage committee for Wilkes county, has been investigating the possibility of the sale of metals in the captured stills piled against the Wilkes jail. Most of the metal in the stills is copper, one high up on this list of metals needed in war industries and which has a higher price than that paid for scrap iron and steel. R. C. Jennings, a Wilkes officer who helped in the seizure of many of the stills in the pile, looks over the pile of scrap.—Photo by Dwight Nichols.