

# THE JOURNAL-PATRIOT

THE JOURNAL-PATRIOT HAS BLAZED THE TRAIL OF PROGRESS IN THE "STATE OF WILKES" FOR OVER 88 YEARS

VOL. XXXIX, No. 3

Published Mondays and Thursdays

NORTH WILKESBORO, N. C., MONDAY, MAY 8th, 1944

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

## T. Sgt. Triplett Gets Air Medal For Air Combat



### T. SGT. JAKE TRIPLETT Purlear Man Engineer On Bomber Which Destroyed Japanese Ship

Technical Sergeant Jake Triplett, son of Mr. and Mrs. P. G. Triplett, of Purlear, has been awarded the Air Medal for courageous service in combat. T. Sgt. Triplett, who has been in service two years and overseas for one year, is an engineer on a bomber in the South Pacific. The Air Medal award was for members of the crew of a bomber which scored a direct hit on a Jap vessel. Mrs. Triplett, mother of Jake, received the following letter from Lieutenant General George C. Kenney, commanding officer of the Fifth Air Force:

Dear Mrs. Triplett: Recently your son, Staff Sgt. Jake Triplett, was decorated with the Air Medal. It was an award made in recognition of courageous service to his combat organization, his fellow American airmen, his country, his home and to you. He was cited for meritorious achievement while participating in an aerial flight over Hansa Bay, New Guinea.

He was assistant engineer of an aircraft engaged on an armed reconnaissance mission when an enemy vessel was sighted. Despite anti-aircraft fire from the ship, a bombing run was made and a direct hit was scored, setting the vessel on fire. When last seen, the enemy vessel was listing badly and in a sinking condition. Almost every hour of every day your son, and the sons of other American mothers, are doing just such things as that here in the Southwest Pacific. Theirs is a very real and very tangible contribution to victory and to peace.

I would like to tell you how genuinely proud I am to have men such as your son in my command, and how gratified I am to know that young Americans with such courage and resourcefulness are fighting our country's battle against the aggressor nations. You, Mrs. Triplett, have every reason to share that pride and gratification.

Very sincerely,  
GEORGE C. KENNEY,  
Lieut. General.

## Meredith College Expansion Work Is Launched Here

### Representatives of Several Counties Meet With T. E. Story, District Chairman

Meeting to launch the seventh district organization for the Meredith College expansion program was held at Hotel Wilkes here with representatives of several northwestern North Carolina counties present.

Attorney T. E. Story, of Wilkesboro, is chairman of the seventh (See Meredith—Page eight)

## Wilkes Men Named By the Democrats

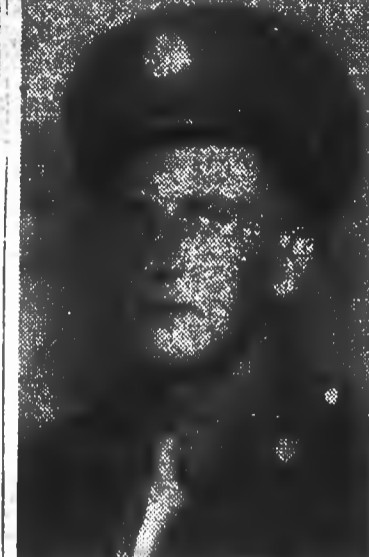
Four Wilkes Democrats were named to committees by the state convention held in Raleigh last week. J. R. Rousseau was elected as Wilkes' member on the state executive committee, Claude C. Paw a member of the congressional committee, Attorney J. H. Whicker, Jr., to membership of the judicial district committee, and C. B. Eller as a member of the senatorial committee.

In addition to the names of those published in Thursday's issue, Postmaster J. C. Reins, C. C. McNeill, and E. R. Spruill also attended the state convention.

## Churches Will Be Open 'D' Day For Prayer For Victory

Churches in the Wilkesboros will be open for prayer and meditation on the day the invasion of Europe begins. This decision was announced following the meeting of the local ministerial association on Sunday night. The churches invite all to prayer for victory throughout the first day of the invasion, which may be in the near future.

### Now In Italy



Pfc. Mack Bell, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Bell, of State Road, is now in Italy. Mack entered service September 29, 1942, received his basic training at Camp Wallace, Texas, and Camp Hulen, Texas, before going overseas a year ago. Since that time he has been in England, Scotland, North Africa and Italy.

## William Noah, 16, Wounded In Back; Clyde Call Jailed

### Youth In Critical Condition After Wounds From Both Barrels of Shotgun

William Noah, age 16, is in a critical condition from wounds received Saturday afternoon when both barrels of a 20-gauge shotgun discharged their full loads into his back. Clyde Call, age 38, was arrested by county officers and is being held in Wilkes jail without bond pending outcome of Noah's injuries.

The altercation occurred Saturday afternoon near Rob Segraves' service station at the home of Mrs. Ida Glass several miles east of Wilkesboro.

Call told officers that he and the boy were scuffling with the gun when it discharged. The shotgun loads entered Noah's back under his shoulder blade. There were also reports that Call struck Noah with the gun during the scuffle.

Noah was carried to the Wilkes hospital, where physicians describe his condition as critical.

Mrs. W. R. Hix and Mrs. Dorothy Hendren left Saturday for a ten-day visit with their daughter and sister, Mrs. W. D. Trader, in Yonkers, New York.

### Money can fight, buy bonds.

### Now In England



Pfc. John Arthur Sebastian, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. Z. Sebastian, of Halls Hills, is in England. He entered the army on December 21, 1942, and went overseas in November, 1943. In a recent letter home he said he was well and getting along fine. His wife is the former Miss Lane Shumate.

### At Pacific Base



Pfc. Sherman Canter, who is serving in the marine corps, is now resting up at a Pacific base after participating in the Gilbert Islands invasion. Sherman enlisted in the marine corps three years ago and has been overseas for 21 months. He is a son of Mr. and Mrs. H. S. Canter, of North Wilkesboro.

## Commencements Are Under Way In Wilkes Schools

### Wilkesboro To Close 16th; Five High Schools Ended Term Last Week

Wilkes county schools are in the midst of the commencement season.

Five schools, Millers Creek, Mount Pleasant, Roaring River, Mountain View and Ferguson, ended the term Friday and Saturday with appropriate commencement programs.

Ronda high school will close on May 13 and Wilkesboro will have its final program on Tuesday, May 16.

The commencement season opened in Wilkesboro during the past week with recitals by Mrs. R. E. Prevette's music classes on Thursday night, Friday afternoon and Friday night.

The baccalaureate sermon will be delivered by Dr. John W. Kincheloe, Jr., pastor of the First Baptist church of North Wilkesboro, in the school auditorium on Sunday afternoon, May 14, three o'clock.

Rev. J. S. Hiatt, of Statesville, district superintendent of the Methodist church, will deliver the literary address at the graduating exercises in the school auditorium on Tuesday, May 16. The program will open at 11 a. m. Fifty seniors will receive diplomas of high school graduation. Lincoln heights colored school will close with graduating exercises on Tuesday, May 9.

One feature of commencement programs this year is the awarding of a medal to the outstanding boy and girl in each graduating class by the Wilkes post of the American Legion. To promote better scholarship and citizenship, the Legion post has expanded the awards program to include a medal for the boy and girl voted the most outstanding in each school.

Although handicapped by wartime conditions, schools of the county have operated successfully during the year. Enrollment and average attendance have been maintained at high levels throughout the term.

## Two Wilkes Men Are Reported As German Prisoners

### St. Sgt. Ceber M. Creech and Pfc. Willard Hamby Taken In January

Two Wilkes men have recently been reported as war prisoners in Germany.

Staff Sergeant Ceber M. Creech, tall gunner on a B17 bomber, is now reported as a prisoner. He had been missing since January 24. He is the husband of the former Miss Merle Owens, of North Wilkesboro.

Mrs. Roxie Hamby, of Purlear, has received a letter from her son, Pfc. Willard Hamby, who was taken prisoner in January. He stated that he was well and in good health and asked that she and other relatives and friends send him packages of food through the Red Cross.

Pfc. Thornton Staley, who has been a prisoner for several months, stated in a recent letter to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Staley, of Wilbar, that he and Pfc. Hamby were in the same camp.

# 7,000 Planes Bomb Nazis

## SEVASTOPOL LASHED BY RED PLANES

Waves of Soviet bombers attacked besieged Sevastopol day and night Saturday, battering shipping, artillery batteries and troop concentrations, Moscow announced last night, and Berlin reported that a powerful Red Army land drive toward the battle-scarred Crimean port had pushed the Germans and Romanians back to a "new defense line".

The broadcast Moscow operational bulletin which reported the second shattering raid on Sevastopol in four days failed to confirm German claims of a major ground battle there, and reported for the 16th successive day that there was no change on any sector. The German-controlled Vichy radio said that Russian troops had achieved several penetrations of German lines north of Sevastopol.

### At Camp Edwards



Cpl. Ivory L. Felix, who was recently promoted to his present rank, has returned to Camp Edwards, Mass., after spending an 11-day furlough with his wife, the former Miss Virginia Myers. They were married on April 25. Cpl. Johnson is the son of Mrs. Flora Johnson, of Radical.

### Returns From Italy



Pvt. John R. Hayes has returned to service in the States after engaging in the campaign in North Africa, Sicily and Italy. He received wounds in Naples, Italy, and since his return to the United States he has been stationed at Fort Bragg. Pvt. Hayes, whose home is on North Wilkesboro route one, received his basic training at Fort Jackson in 1940 and went overseas in 1942.

### Gets Promotion



Technical Corporal Royal Johnson, who was recently promoted to his present rank, has returned to Delaware, where he is in training, after spending several days in North Wilkesboro with his wife, the former Miss Lorena Jones, and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Johnson. Cpl. Johnson entered the army in December, 1942, and is serving in a medical detachment.

### CHAPEL IN NEW GUINEA JUNGLE



Here is an official navy photograph of the chapel erected in New Guinea's jungles under direction of Chaplain Watt M. Cooper, pastor of the North Wilkesboro Presbyterian church now serving with the Seabees in the navy. The accompanying article tells about the near miraculous construction of the place of worship at the advanced Seabees' base.

## NORTH WILKESBORO MINISTER BUILDS CHAPEL IN NEW GUINEA

### THE NAVY DEPARTMENT SENDS OUT ARTICLE ABOUT CHAPLAIN

Washington, D. C.—The General Commission on Army and Navy Chaplains, Washington, D. C., has received an interesting account from Chaplain Watt M. Cooper, U. S. N. R., of the erection of a chapel in the jungles of New Guinea. Chaplain Cooper, who spent his boyhood in Graham, N. C., was graduated from the local high school and later from the University of North Carolina. He served as student pastor of the Presbyterian church in Chapel Hill, N. C., later became principal of the high school at Blackey, Ky., and after completing his Theological course at Yale Divinity school, became pastor of the Presbyterian church at North Wilkesboro, N. C. Mrs. Cooper is the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. J. C. Gambill, of West Jefferson, N. C.

Chaplain Cooper spent four months on Woodlark Island before being stationed at an advance base in New Guinea. Of the manner in which the "Seabees" built the chapel in the jungle, Chaplain Cooper writes:

"Among the first permanent buildings to go up at this advanced base in New Guinea was the Seabee Chapel. No sooner had the camp site been surveyed and the first roads cut through the thick brush by the bulldozers than work was begun on the church. Slabs were soon obtained from the sawmill, posts and rafters were cut from small saplings, palm leaves were brought in from the coconut (See Chapel—Page eight)

## Eshelman Attends Regional Meeting War Labor Board

P. W. Eshelman went to Atlanta, Ga., Thursday evening to attend a two-day session of the Fourth Regional War Labor Board. The meeting was held at the Georgian Terrace Hotel.

Mr. Eshelman is a panel member representing industry. Some of the subjects up for discussion were arbitration, War Labor Disputes Act, National Labor Relations Act, the relation of the Conciliation Service and the War Labor Board.

Panel members representing industry, labor and the public attended, also the staff of the War Labor Board, U. S. Conciliation Service, National Labor Relations Board and other governmental agencies dealing with War Time labor problems.

Technical Corporal Royal Johnson, who was recently promoted to his present rank, has returned to Delaware, where he is in training, after spending several days in North Wilkesboro with his wife, the former Miss Lorena Jones, and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Johnson. Cpl. Johnson entered the army in December, 1942, and is serving in a medical detachment.

### Now In Kentucky



Pvt. Otha Call, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. Call, entered the army in March, 1942, received his basic training at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., was on maneuvers in Louisiana, spent a short furlough with his wife and parents and then reported for duty at his present station at Camp Breckenridge, Ky.

## PATROL BOATS DAMAGE SHIP IN JAP CONVOY

Naval Catalina flying boats on routine patrol over the island-dotted Dutch East Indies damaged a 5,000-ton Japanese freighter in intercepting an eight-ship enemy convoy off Celebes Island late Friday, General Douglas MacArthur announced today.

### Now In England



Pvt. Tam Hall, who is now serving in the infantry, has arrived in England, according to a letter received by Lonnie Brown, of Halls Mills. Pvt. Hall entered the army September 1, 1942, and received training at Camp Van Dorn, Miss., and Fort Dix, N. J. He is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Bob Hall, of Halls Mills.

## WEEK-END IS A NIGHTMARE FOR HITLER

Huge Allied air fleets bombed Berlin and Bucharest and 19 other targets in a week-end series of thundering day and night raids. It was perhaps history's greatest demonstration of air power.

The raids climaxed a week-end general offensive in which more than 7,000 Allied planes from Britain and Italy attacked Axis Europe from Saturday noon until dusk last night.

German radio stations flashed warnings of "many enemy planes" approaching the northwest German coastal area shortly before midnight last night indicating that the Allied assault was rolling on.

Additional warnings from other Axis radios indicated that night raiders also were over the Paris area.

Heavy bombers of the U. S. Eighth Air Force flew two missions yesterday, with a force of 1,000 planes escorted by an equal number of American and Allied fighters, smashing at Berlin and raiding Munster and Osnabruck in subsidiary attacks early in the day. Later, another force of Liberators escorted by Thunderbolts and Mustangs smashed unannounced targets in Belgium.

## Monroe Pierce, 49, Is Killed Sunday In Auto Accident

### Car Ran Off High Embankment Near Roaring River

Monroe Pierce, age 49, was killed Sunday when the car he was driving overturned off a country road near Roaring River.

Mr. Pierce, a resident of the Roaring River community, died at four p. m. Sunday at the Wilkes hospital, five hours after the accident occurred. He was alone at the time of the accident and was brought to the hospital by a motorist who arrived at the scene shortly after the accident took place.

Surviving Mr. Pierce are his wife, Mrs. Tinclo Pierce; one daughter, Georgia Lee Pierce, of Roaring River; and one son, Hardin Monroe Pierce, who is in service and is stationed at Charleston, S. C.

Funeral service will be held Wednesday, 11 a. m., at Whitehead in Alleghany county. Rev. James Bryant will conduct the service.

## Softball Fans To Meet Friday Night To Organize Clubs

### Representatives Of All The Churches In Wilkesboros Asked To Attend Meet

A mass meeting of softball players and fans has been called to meet at the North Wilkesboro town hall on Friday night, May 12, 9:00 o'clock, to organize a softball league for North Wilkesboro and Wilkesboro.

The softball league will be organized with the churches of the two towns as sponsors and representatives of all churches are desired at the meeting.

## RATION NEWS

SHOES — Airplane stamps No. 1 and No. 2 (Book 3) valid indefinitely.

GASOLINE—Coupons No. 9 in a book good for three gallons became effective Feb. 9 and will expire May 8.

SUGAR—Sugar stamps No. 30 and No. 31 (book 4) good for five pounds indefinitely.

CANNING SUGAR — Sugar stamp No. 40 good for five pounds of canning sugar until February 28, 1944.

FOOD—Book 4 stamps good for 10 points each for which tokens are used as change. Meats and fats: A6 thru Q6 red. Meats and fats: A8 thru T8 red. blue.