

## Yanks Gaining Across Rhine

### HITLER'S RHINE LINE CRACKED IN SMART MOVE

With the U. S. Ninth Army.—The famous "Old Hickory" 30th Division broke clear through Hitler's Rhine defenses into open country north of the Ruhr yesterday in one of the most brilliant infantry successes in the war.

The 30th troops found German resistance apparently completely disintegrated at a point eight miles from the Rhine, and jumped on tanks shortly after noon and took off.

Every element of a breakthrough such as characterized the armored-infantry gallops after the Rhine River crossing and in dashes through France—was indicated. Field officers of the 30th said the division had gone clear through organized German lines and "broken into the open."

### 3RD CROSSES RIVER AT TWO NEW POINTS

Paris.—Three U. S. armies surged toward Berlin in breakthrough yesterday, with Third Army tanks setting the pace in a 27-mile sweep that carried 40 miles beyond the Rhine and across a captured bridge over the river main possibly 235 miles from the enemy capital.

The U. S. Army broke into the open through the enemy's line crashed eight miles or more beyond the Rhine, was within reaching distance of a Berlin suburb and was but 10 miles from the industrial heart of the Reich.

The U. S. First Army burst the bonds of its Remagen-Erpel bridgehead between these two fronts in a general assault on a 35-mile front that ground nine miles east in a massive attack on the road to Berlin and was roaring on unchecked.

### REDS RIP 28 MILES THROUGH NAZI LINES

London.—A Second Russian army, joining the Vienna-bound offensive, has ripped 28 miles through the German lines along the south bank of the Danube river and other Red Army forces have blasted to within 79 miles of the occupied Austrian capital, Moscow announced last night.

Moscow dispatches said the threat to Vienna was growing by the hour as two Soviet army groups of almost 1,000,000 men swept over the Hungarian plains on a broadening 50-mile front.

## RATION NEWS

**MEATS, FATS** — Red Stamps Q5, R5, S5 will expire March 31; Red Stamps T5, U5, V5, W5, and X5 will expire on April 23; Red Stamps Y5, Z5, and A2, B2, C2, D2 will expire June 2; Red Stamps E2, F2, G2, H2, J2, K2, L2, M2, N2, P2, Q2, R2, S2, will expire June 30. New stamps will be validated April 1.

**PROCESSED FOOD** — Blue Stamps X5, Y5, Z5, and A2 and B2, will expire March 31; Blue Stamps C2, D2, E2, F2, and G2 will expire April 23; Blue Stamps H2, J2, K2, L2, M2, N2, P2, Q2, R2, S2, will expire June 30. New stamps will be validated April 1.

**SUGAR STAMP** — 35 will expire June 2. No new stamp will be validated until May 1st.

**FUEL OIL** — All coupons valued 10 gallons. Period 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 coupons for current heating season valid through current season.

**SHOWS** — Airplane Stamps 1, 2, and 3 in Book Three, good indefinitely.

### Killed in Action



PVT. ALVIN W. PEARSON

### Pvt. Alvin Pearson Is Killed In Action On Iwo Jima Island

Millers Creek Marine Casualty in Battle; Message Received Sunday

Pvt. Alvin W. Pearson was killed in action on Iwo Jima March 2. News of his death was received Sunday by Pvt. Pearson's mother, Mrs. Ross Pearson Holcomb, of Millers Creek. He served in the Fourth marine division and has a brother, Sgt. Henry M. Pearson, in the Fifth marine division on Iwo Jima.

Pvt. Pearson entered the marine corps last year and was in training at Parris Island, S. C., and at New River. He went overseas during the latter part of 1944 and into action with the invasion of Iwo Jima. Surviving Pvt. Pearson are his wife, Mrs. Mabel Kilby Pearson, his mother and the following brothers and sisters: Mrs. Lin Bumgarner, Millers Creek; Hilton Pearson, Millers Creek; Pvt. Raymond Pearson, in the army at Lakeland, Fla.; Fred Pearson, Lenoir; Mrs. Dwight Nichols, North Wilkesboro; Pvt. Joe Pearson, in the army in Europe; Miss Eulalia Pearson, North Wilkesboro; Sgt. Henry M. Pearson, in the marine corps on Iwo Jima. Pvt. Pearson's father was the late G. E. Pearson, of Millers Creek.

### Deadline April 10 On Application For Insurance on Crops

The "big push" on Federal crop insurance is under way in Wilkes county. The county AAA office reports that individual rates and yields are now available for the farms in the county. Only 15 days remain before the deadline date for taking applications.

The deadline date for each farm is when seeding starts, or April 10, whichever is earlier.

Through federal crop insurance, farmers have an opportunity to make sure of some returns from their efforts and investments. Two contracts are available. One covers a maximum of 50 percent of the farm average yield and the other covers 75 percent.

Any person who expects to have an interest in the 1945 cotton crop at seeding time may insure his interest in the crop. Premiums are figured on the acreage actually seeded.

While crop insurance is available for Wilkes farmers, there is one "if" that must be satisfied before the farmers in any county can share the benefits of this protection. That "if" is the requirement provided by congress that crop insurance applications be received from at least 50 farms or one-third of the farms normally producing insurable crops in the county before crop insurance becomes effective in the county.

All producers interested in this protection on their 1945 cotton crop should contact their local AAA committees, or agents who have been authorized by the AAA, at once.

BUY MORE WAR BONDS

### Rural Scouting Meeting Is Held Here On Thursday

National Director of Rural Scouting Addresses Group of Wilkes Citizens

Local Scout leaders and several from rural areas interested in expansion of the Boy Scout organization in Wilkes met at the town hall here Thursday to hear E. H. Bakken, national director of rural Scouting, discuss the subject of "The Rural Boy Needs Scouting."

One outstanding fact brought out by Mr. Bakken was that 82 percent of boys in rural communities do not have a leisure time program.

The local committee in charge of the program for the meeting was composed of Paul Osborne, W. F. Absher, Gordon Finley, C. J. Swofford, Robert S. Gibbs, Jr., G. R. Andrews and C. B. Eller. Among those present from rural areas were Charlie Miles and D. B. Swearingen, of Trap Hill; Grady F. Miller and E. R. Eller, of North Wilkesboro Route 1. From North Wilkesboro were G. R. Andrews, Robert S. Gibbs, Jr., and J. B. Carter. Scout Executive W. E. Vaughn-Lloyd and J. H. C. Thomas, of Winston-Salem, also attended the meeting.

### Softball Meeting Thursday Night

A meeting will be held Thursday night, eight o'clock, at the North Wilkesboro town hall for purpose of organizing a softball league. All persons interested in softball are asked to attend.

### Lloyd Griffin Is Speaker Friday at Kiwanis Meeting

Representative of Citizenship Association Tells of Progress in the State

Lloyd Griffin, of the Citizenship Association, Raleigh, delivered an interesting address Friday before the North Wilkesboro Kiwanis Club. Robert Morehouse was program chairman and presented the speaker.

Mr. Griffin prefaced his speech by relating some travels he has recently made throughout the state from the coastal plain to the mountains and the observations he had made of the people of the state and the progress they have made in recent years. He observed that the people are much alike throughout the state. They believe in the state and they believe in themselves.

He stated that the progress in the state since 1900 has been especially noticeable, both from the material and the spiritual standpoint and also in other lines of endeavor.

In a large measure he ascribed this progress to interest in schools and roads. He paid high tribute to Aycock and his educational program. "His was the voice of one crying in the wilderness for a schoolhouse on every hill, and literally the people of the state did for a period build a schoolhouse every day. But at that time everything was done from the local standpoint. The local taxes were high and the matter of conforming to constitution and at the same time provide for a desirable school term was for the courts to decide and in 1907 the court did decide that taxes beyond what had previously been understood could be levied.

"In 1918 the people voted on an amendment to the constitution providing for the six-months term. In 1927 under the taxing system of that time it was found that the six-months term could not be financed. At that date the legislature set up the equalizing fund of three million dollars to help finance the system. The equalizing fund was increased from biennium to biennium until 1931 when the state took over the full support of the school system and provided the funds from a state system of taxation. In 1943 a nine-months term was voted and the annual cost of operating the public schools is now more than \$30,000,000 per year."

At the meeting Friday C. C. Sidden was received into membership in the club. J. R. Hix made the induction talk and presented Mr. Sidden's membership button. Guests Friday were as follows: Dr. B. E. Dougherty, of Boone, with T. E. Story; Lawrence Shumate with Paul Osborne; Capt. J. P. Bingham with Dr. A. C. Chamberlain.

### Killed In Germany



CAPT. ROBERT WOOD FINLEY

### Captain Finley Is Killed In Action In Germany March 7

Was in Army Intelligence Service; Message Received Here Thursday

Captain Robert Wood Finley, age 24, was killed in action in Germany March 7, according to the War Department telegram received Thursday evening by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Finley, prominent residents of this city.

Captain Finley was commissioned a second lieutenant in R.O.T. C. at Davidson College, where he received a degree at graduation in 1941. In March, 1942, he was called to active duty and was in training at Fort Benning, Ga. Later he was sent to Oregon and then to cadre at Shelby, Miss., in May, 1944, he went to the European theatre as a captain in infantry, where he served in army intelligence.

Captain Finley early in life showed qualities of leadership and was one of the most favorably known young men in North Wilkesboro. He was president of the student body of North Wilkesboro high school, where he graduated in 1937, was a leader in Boy Scout activities and at the time he entered the service was Scoutmaster of Troop No. 36, sponsored by the Presbyterian church, of which he was a member. In high school he was awarded the American Legion citizenship medal given to the student showing the most outstanding qualities of citizenship.

Surviving Captain Finley are his father and mother, one brother, Major Edward S. Finley, now serving in the army air corps in China, and one sister, Mrs. Chalmers McCutchen, of Wytheville, Va.

### Committee To Assist OPA In Clothing Prices

OPA Seeking to Get More Lower Priced Clothing on Market This Summer

"The job of calculating ceiling prices for apparel, dry goods and house furnishings will be greatly simplified by the pricing charts made in accord with the new retail price regulation mailed to all local retailers today," C. P. Walter, chairman of the War Price and Rationing board, said. Each retailer must prepare a pricing chart showing the costs and selling prices of the goods he offered for sale on March 19, 1945, (base date). A merchants' committee has volunteered to help the price panel provide accurate information about how to make these charts to all retailers. The members are L. S. Spaulding, R. S. Gibbs, Harvell Howel, Maurice Walsh and Frank Crow.

Mr. Walter, chairman of the committee, said, "We welcome this simplification of our pricing procedure. We are pleased to cooperate with our price panel to make sure that every merchant quickly gets the information he needs to make his pricing chart."

"Copies of the regulation which explain how to prepare these charts will be sent to all local retailers of clothing and house furnishings. Additional copies are available at board headquarters in the Reins-Sturdivant building for all merchants who desire them," Mr. (See O. P. A. GROUP—Page 4)

### Four Truck Loads Paper Gathered in City on Wednesday

Town Truck Will Canvass Residential Parts of City Wednesday Each Week

If people of North Wilkesboro keep the pace in paper salvage which they set during the past week they will add substantially to the paper stockpile.

Wednesday was the first day of scrap paper collection by the town truck and four big truckloads were gathered from the residences in North Wilkesboro.

That amount was in addition to the paper and cardboard gathered from business firms.

The residential canvass will be carried out each Wednesday and paper will be collected daily from business firms or on call to the town clerk's office.

Meanwhile, housewives in North Wilkesboro are asked to save tin cans from which food is used and prepare them for the salvage collector, who will make a canvass for tin at a date to be announced later.

### Pvt. Fred Miller Gets Two Bullets On Iwo Jima Isle



Local Marine Miraculously Escapes With Life in Thick of Combat

Pvt. Fred C. Miller, member of the Fourth marine division fighting on Iwo Jima, in a recent letter to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Miller, of North Wilkesboro, attributed his life after receiving two Jap machine gun bullets to providence of God.

In a heavily censored letter under date of February 27 to his parents, Pvt. Miller recounted his experiences as follows:

"This is to let you know that I am alive and kickin', although I am doing most of my kickin' in bed.

"By the grace of God, I got back alive but there were times when I was not so sure I would get back.

"If you get a telegram in a few days don't be alarmed. You see, I got in the way of two Jap machine guns and caught a couple of slugs. A bullet went through my left leg about six inches above my knee and another through my shoulder. Luckily, no bones were broken and I have not suffered.

"It is impossible to tell you all of the thousands of things which I have seen in the last couple of weeks, so I'll give you the highlights. . . . We ran up the beach about 150 yards and started digging in. The Japs began to shell us almost immediately and I tell you it didn't take me but a very short time to get that foxhole finished. Martinez and I dug in together and that was the beginning of the most miserable four days I hope I ever experience. . . . They shelled us day and night and the first night they made a direct hit on a jeep about ten yards in front of our hole. It burned all the rest of the night. The second night they blew our ammunition dump about 20 yards behind our foxhole. I can tell you truthfully that I was doing some praying. The ammunition dump was blown up again the next day.

"During the night there were three or four flares in the sky continuously to direct our naval supporting fire. About the third night the Nips gathered troops on top of the ridge for a counter-attack. About that time our big naval ships opened up and I could see dead Nips fly several feet into the air. That counter-attack never came. I also saw one of (See PVT. MILLER—Page 4)

## RED CROSS WAR FUND \$21,476.28

### Missing In Action



Staff Sergeant Rex M. Handy, engineer - gunner on a B-24 Liberator bomber with the 15th air force in Italy, has been reported missing over Czechoslovakia since March 8. He had been in Italy since September and at the time of his last letter home he had completed 45 missions and expected to return home on furlough in the near future. S. Sgt. Handy entered the army in May, 1943, and received training in Mississippi, Arizona and Texas, before going overseas. His wife, Mrs. Della Walsh Handy, and son, Eugene, of Banner Elk, are now spending some time here with his father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Handy.

### Liberal Response Given Appeal For Red Cross Funds

Figures Given For Divisions Which Have Exceeded Quotas in Campaign

With several reports yet to be received, the Red Cross War Fund campaign has gone "over the top" in Wilkes by a wide margin.

The total contributions as listed Saturday evening was \$21,476.28, which exceeds the county's quota of \$19,400 by \$2,076.28.

Rev. Howard J. Ford, War Fund chairman, said that practically every division has exceeded its quota assigned for the campaign and that the Red Cross appeal had received generous response from the people of Wilkes.

On Saturday Rev. Mr. Ford listed some of the division returns as follows: Special gifts' quota \$8,430, raised to date \$9,174; North Wilkesboro residential quota \$1,060, raised \$1,275.20; Wilkesboro business section quota \$651, raised \$764.65; Wilkesboro residential quota \$421, raised \$740.25; rural quota \$4,475, raised \$4,628.33; funds from miscellaneous sources \$461.50.

When returns are complete the rural figures will be given for each township and the name of each chairman and amount raised.

Any workers who have not made their returns, and any individuals who have not been contacted but who wish to contribute to the Red Cross War Fund are urged to send their contributions to the office of the Wilkes chapter of the American Red Cross, located on the second floor of the Tomlinson Department Store building in North Wilkesboro.

### Five-Day Study Course Baptist Pastors Is Held

Annual Conference Study for Baptist Pastors of County Closed Friday

Annual study course for Baptist pastors of Wilkes county closed Friday afternoon after being in a very successful five-day session at Reins-Sturdivant chapel.

A total of 25 ministers attended the five-day conference. Some of the Baptist leaders on the program were Rev. J. C. Canipe, of Boone; Rev. J. R. Moseley, Rev. G. C. Pipes, Rev. E. O. Shew, Rev. Howard J. Ford and Dr. David E. Browning.

The course was held under auspices of the Wilkes County Baptist Pastors' Conference, which holds regular meetings monthly. The group by unanimous vote set the same week in March, 1946, for the next five-day conference.

### Sale of Easter Seals in Progress Here During Week

Announcement that Mr. Paul S. Cragan and Mr. C. B. Eller have accepted the chairmanships of the annual Easter seal sale for North Wilkesboro and Wilkes county was made today by Mr. Paul Osborne, president of the Kiwanis Club.

In accepting the chairmanships, Mr. Cragan and Mr. Eller stressed the importance of intensifying the efforts of voluntary organizations in the field of social welfare.

"The program of correcting the physical defects of handicapped youth fits admirably well into the over-all plans for improving America's physical fitness," Mr. Osborne said. "We can all do our part to support this splendid movement by buying Easter seals and using them on our stationery."

All local business firms are urged to use Easter seals on their outgoing mail all this week. Those desiring seals can obtain immediate delivery by telephoning the North Wilkesboro High school office number 133.

### To Organize Grange At Boomer Tuesday

A. Crouse Jones, of Winston-Salem, State Grange deputy, will be at Boomer school Tuesday, March 27, eight p. m., to organize a local Grange. All farmers are invited to be present.

### Holy Week Series Services Begins

Holy Week services in the Wilkesboro for the pre-Easter season opened Sunday night with Rev. Louis J. Yelanjian, supply minister of the Presbyterian church, conducting a service before a large congregation at the Wilkesboro Methodist church.

The schedule of the remaining union services with ministers alternating among the five churches is as follows:

Monday, Rev. A. C. Waggoner at Wilkesboro Baptist; Tuesday, Dr. David E. Browning at First Presbyterian; Wednesday, Rev. J. O. Ervin at the First Methodist; Thursday, Rev. Howard J. Ford at First Baptist.

All services begin at eight p. m. and congregations of all churches and others are invited to attend. Bus service will be operated to and from the services between the Wilkesboro, leaving North Wilkesboro at the corner of D and Eighth streets and in Wilkesboro from the school building.

Offerings will be received at each service for the crippled children's fund.

### Sacred Concert Sunday Night

A sacred concert featuring special Easter music will be given at the Wilkesboro Methodist church Sunday evening at eight o'clock. The concert is sponsored by the Pearl White Circle of the church, and the public is cordially invited to attend.

Rev. Howard J. Ford, pastor of the Wilkesboro Baptist church, will make a short talk. During the service a silver offering will be taken for benefit of the Hammond organ fund.

### Chicken Supper At Union Church 31st

A chicken supper and basaar will be held Saturday evening, beginning at six o'clock, at Union Methodist church west of this city. Evelyn Stokes circle of the Woman's Society of Christian Service will be sponsor and plates will be 75 cents each. Everybody is invited.

Mr. and Mrs. M. N. Yates and Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Bailey and two daughters, Barbara and Janet, of Winston-Salem, spent last Sunday in Wilkesboro with Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Yates and Mrs. J. M. Yates.