

# THE JOURNAL-PATRIOT

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Opportunity is here to erect a modern hospital for only 22 per cent of the cost. Vote for the Hospital Sept. 28.

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North Wilkesboro has a trading radius of 50 miles, serving 100,000 people in Northwestern Carolina.

Vol. 43, No. 39 Published Mondays and Thursdays NORTH WILKESBORO, N. C., Monday, August 30, 1948 Make North Wilkesboro Your Shopping Center

## Fair Here Will Have Many Entertaining Events

### Leonard Miller Is Acquitted

#### Millers Creek Resident Cleared In Court Friday

#### Sensational Case ended Friday After 5 Hours Deliberation By Jury

Leonard Miller was acquitted in Wilkes court Friday afternoon of the charge of poisoning his wife to death at their Millers Creek home February 22.

The jury fled back into the courtroom at 4:20 p. m. after deliberating since 11 a. m. Miller was tense as he awaited the verdict and smiled broadly as it was announced by the jury foreman.

Throughout the day, the man whose life hung on the decision of the jury, expressed confidence that he would be acquitted.

Morning session of court until 11 o'clock was consumed by charge of Judge John H. Clement to the jury. The presiding judge reviewed the evidence and the contentions of the prosecution and defense. He also stated that under the law the jury could return either of four verdicts: murder in the first degree, murder in the second degree, manslaughter or acquittal. This came as a surprise to many court observers who were of the opinion that the only verdict could be guilty of first degree murder or acquittal.

The trial began Monday morning with selection of a jury and 33 of the special venire were examined before the jury box was filled. Evidence in the case was completed Wednesday and Thursday was consumed with arguments of counsel.

The prosecution contended that Miller had planned and executed the poison murder of his wife. The state's evidence, some of which was refuted, contended that Miller purchased a quantity of strychnine here on February 9, and that on the day of his wife's death he gave her a headache powder envelope containing strychnine. An autopsy performed in June revealed more than a lethal dose of strychnine in Mrs. Miller's body. The state also introduced evidence tending to show that Miller had sought information prior to his wife's death about the amount of strychnine necessary to cause death.

Miller himself went on the stand and made a blanket denial of the charge that he poisoned his wife. He stated that his wife took the headache powder envelope from the fireboard in the room, and he was supported in this evidence by their six-year-old daughter. Miller said that he purchased strychnine for rat poison and that when he went to the drug store he asked for rat poison.

Members of Miller's family and others were on the stand to quote Mrs. Miller in statements which indicated that she wanted to die, or would die in a short time. Thus the defense introduced the suicide theory, which evidently had great weight with the jury, and the prosecution was unable to convince the jury of Miller's guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

The closely contested case was considered a victory for the defense. Miller's attorneys were Eugene Trivette, Bill Mitchell, J. E. Holshouser, J. H. Whicker, Sr., and J. H. Whicker, Jr.

Solicitor Avalon E. Hall and former Solicitor John R. Jones vigorously prosecuted the case for the state.

The Miller trial ended three weeks of court, during which many of the more than 250 cases awaiting trial were disposed of.

The next term for trial of criminal cases will be in December.

W. F. Gaddy and daughter, Miss Geraldine Gaddy, of this city, and Mr. and Mrs. Doc Whitley, of Albemarle, spent the week-end at Manteo and attended a showing of "The Lost Colony."

### H. D. C. Meetings

Cricket Home Demonstration club will meet Wednesday, September 1, with Mrs. Archie Lee Osborne at two p. m.

On Thursday Pleasant Ridge club will meet with Lydia Baugus at two p. m.

### Theatre At Millers Creek Has Opening

Millers Creek drive-in theatre opened Friday night before a capacity crowd.

The new theatre, owned by Roy and Neil Cashon, is located on Highway 421 at the intersection of Pads Road one mile east of Millers Creek postoffice. The theatre is modernly equipped, including speakers with individual volume control.

### Garden Club Here Will Meet Tuesday

North Wilkesboro Garden club will meet at the Woman's Club house Tuesday, three p. m., for a business meeting. At 3:45 the district president will give a demonstration on making corsages and the public is cordially invited to this session.

### Republicans Will Meet On Tuesday

Eight P. M. at Courthouse; Campaign Plans To Come Up

Republicans from all parts of Wilkes county are invited to attend a party meeting to be held Tuesday, August 31, eight p. m., at the county courthouse to discuss campaign plans.

J. E. Broyhill, Republican National Committeeman, will attend the meeting and a large attendance is desired by the GOP organization.

### L. M. Greene Is Suicide Aug. 19

Funeral service was held at Patton's Ridge church August 21 for Lane McKinley Greene, who ended his life August 19 by firing a shotgun load into his heart. The act took place near his home in Jobs Cabin township.

He was a son of Mr. and Mrs. Mitch Greene. Surviving are his parents and three brothers, Blaine, Otis and Dewey Greene.

Guy Frank Taylor, Jr., who has been with his mother, Mrs. Mont Livingston and maternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Hoppers, Laurel Springs, N. C., returned to Charleston, S. C., Sunday. His father, Dr. G. F. Taylor, Charleston, S. C., and Guy Frank will attend school together this winter in San Francisco, Calif. Dr. Taylor is specializing in plastic surgery.

### LENOIR EDGES OUT WILKESBORO IN HARD-FOUGHT BOONE GAME

Lenoir high school Bear Cats just did edge out the Ramblers of the Wilkesboro high in the first football game in North Carolina for the 1948 season in Appalachian stadium in Boone Saturday night. With only about 15 seconds to go, Lenoir pushed over a touchdown to take the game by the close score of 12 to 9.

The game was the climax of two weeks' training at Boone for both squads, and Lenoir was rated to take the Ramblers by several touchdowns by virtue of superior weight and plenty of reserve strength. However, the scrappy Rambler team, led by the fast running of Jack Groce and Ray Triplett, made it plenty tough for the big, heavy Lenoir eleven.

With only a minute and one-half to go, Lenoir ran up a first down on about the Ramblers' thirty-yard line. Then they succeeded in executing a beautiful pass play, carrying the ball to the Ramblers' two-inch line.

Summary of the game: Wilkesboro 20-7-0-9 Lenoir 0-6-0-12 Touchdowns: Lenoir—Pennell, Holcomb, Wilkesboro—Triplett. Point after—Groce.

### Registration On Hospital Election Is Started Today

Today marked the opening of the period of registration for voting on a bond issue to erect a municipal hospital in North Wilkesboro.

The election will be on the proposal for a North Wilkesboro bond issue of \$275,000, for which a modern, 100-bed hospital costing about \$1,200,000 can be erected with aid of state and federal funds.

James M. Anderson is registrar and he will have registration book at the office of Insurance Service and Credit Corporation Monday through Fridays. On Saturdays, September 4, 11 and 18 he will register at the city hall from 9 a. m. to 6 p. m. Date of the election is September 28.

With sentiment preponderantly in favor of taking advantage of the opportunity to erect a hospital for only 22 per cent of the cost, it is expected that the bond issue will be voted by a large majority.

### Registering For Draft Under Way

Registration for Selective Service began today in the municipal building at Wilkesboro, which is the only registration point for men in Wilkes county.

Men are asked to register only on the days designated for their particular age group.

Those born in 1923 must register Tuesday or Wednesday of this week. Thursday and Friday will be dates for men born in 1924.

The office personnel is not large enough to register those of all ages on all dates, and men must register on the dates prescribed for their respective ages.

Miss Muriel Coykendall has returned to the city after spending a month with her mother, Mrs. Anna Coykendall, at Penn Yan, N. Y. Miss Coykendall is to be a member this year of the city school faculty.

Gordon Finley, Jr., left Sunday for Grand Rapids, Mich., where he will attend the Christian Youth Conference of North America, as one of the twelve young people from the Presbyterian Synod of North Carolina. The Conference is interdenominational, and is held every four years. There are 5,000 expected to attend.

If you haven't been gyped by a fake mail-order advertisement, had either your appendix or tonsils removed, and been made a fool of by one of the opposite sex, you are not a true American citizen. These are the minimum requirements.

Mr. Ned Moser, of Lewisville, has returned home, after having spent the past week in the home of his grandfather, Mr. W. M. Duncan, on the Moravian Falls Road.

### North State Lumber Yard Here Is Moved

North State Lumber Co., yard has been moved from Vance street in North Wilkesboro to a part of the Gaddy property east of this city, adjoining C. C. Wingler's store on Highway 268. The company purchased the property where the yard is now located and began operations there today.

In the new location the company will operate a complete plant, where logs and lumber will be purchased and processed in manufacture of various types of lumber. A. T. Lott is owner of North State Lumber Co.

### Large Crowd Is Expected To Hear Broughton In City

J. Melville Broughton, former Governor and now nominee for the U. S. Senate, will deliver an address here on the afternoon of September 14, which will be Farmers' Day and opening day of the Wilkes Agricultural Fair.

Address of the former governor will be a highlight of the afternoon program and will be delivered from a stage to be set up on Ninth street between Main and C streets.

It is expected that a large throng will want to hear the speaker, who for many years has been keenly interested in agriculture in North Carolina and who during his administration as governor showed particular interest in agricultural activities and industries in Wilkes county.

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Farmers' Day program will get under way with a mammoth parade at ten a. m. The parade, with many interesting and varied units, will form in Wilkesboro, march to North Wilkesboro by way of Memorial Park, travel west on Main street and over Tenth and D streets to Ninth street.

Following the parade will be a series of highly entertaining contests at the corner of Ninth and C streets.

In addition to the address of former Gov. Broughton there will be several other features for the afternoon program. Prizes will be awarded winners in the 4-H timber thinning contest. A string band will give an open air show.

In addition, many valuable prizes to be given by participating merchants will be given away. Tickets will be available at the stores, where the public may get full information on how the prizes will be given away.

### Hearing Tuesday On Demonstration At Baseball Game

The demonstration here Friday night at the North Wilkesboro-Galax baseball game will be aired Tuesday, 1 p. m. at a hearing to be held before Judge E. C. Bivins, president of the Blue Ridge league, in Mount Airy.

Following Friday night's game Judge Bivins suspended North Wilkesboro Manager Henry Flash Loman pending the hearing set for Tuesday.

The demonstration was staged by a large group of fans who were incensed at the manner in which Plate Umpire Camia called the game. In the seventh inning Camia called Tommy Young out at third when Field Umpire Oliver had given the "safe" signal. Young was temporarily knocked out and when Loman was returning from third base to the dugout he passed to protest with Camia about the decision, which was not only a surprise but a shock to the North Wilkesboro team and fans.

When the fans swarmed onto the field the umpires were given adequate and complete protection by more than half a dozen officers, players of the North Wilkesboro team and some of the fans. Following the game they were escorted through a side entrance from the park and along the highway toward Galax for many miles. At no time were the umpires assaulted.

Business Manager Larry Moore stated today that affidavits will be presented Judge Bivins tomorrow and that witnesses may be heard on a true account of events here Friday night. It was learned here that Umpire Camia had reported "inadequate" protection at the game and reported that Manager Loman protested long and often about decisions, when as a matter of fact he had protested only once before the seventh inning incident and was on the field at that time because of the injury to Young at third base. It is expected that a group of local fans as witnesses will attend the hearing.

Registrations may be accepted until Wednesday of this week, and those who enter by Wednesday may qualify for a certificate.

Mrs. Della R. Putnam, of the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, will be the instructor.

Ninety-five have already enrolled, with indications that the enrollment will go well over 100 before the middle of the first week.

Mrs. Rawley M. Baldock, of Roanoke, Va., spent several days last week in the home of her father, Mr. W. M. Duncan. Mrs. Baldock has now joined her husband at Ft. Belvoir, Va., where he is taking two weeks' training.

### RIFLE AND SKEET CLUB FORMED BY JUNIOR CHAMBER COMMERCE

Sam Vickery, president of the Wilkes Junior Chamber of Commerce, today announced that the Jaycee Rifle and Skeet club would be open some time during the next week. This new Rifle Club has been built under the supervision of the Jaycees, Ike Eller, Edd Bell, Forrest Jones and Highway Patrolman Sid Carter.

The range is located on the Hunt property about two miles down Highway 268 toward Elkin. Facilities for small bore shooting in a modern and complete 100-yard range is available as well as complete facilities for skeet and pistol shooting.

Memberships in the Jaycee Rifle and Skeet Club will be available to any interested sportsmen in this area. Membership in the club will cost \$15 per year, which will allow use of all facilities of this club. Arrangements will be made so that targets, clay pigeons, and ammunition may be purchased at the range.

### Shoun Kerbaugh Is With Sentinel Insurance Agency

Shoun Kerbaugh, a well-known young man here, has resigned his position in the office of Reins-Sturdivant to accept a position with Sentinel Insurance Agency, beginning September 1.

Mr. Kerbaugh was with Reins-Sturdivant for six years with exception of 18 months which he served in the Navy during World War II. For several years he has been active in civic work in the community. In his new position Mr. Kerbaugh will devote his time to sale of insurance for the agency.

### Merchants Raise Trade Promotion Funds For Year

Budget group of the Trade Promotion committee of the Wilkes Chamber of Commerce this week will begin calling on merchants for their annual contribution to defray expenses of Farmers' Day, Christmas opening, Christmas decorations and lighting.

Each place of business in the Wilkesboro will be invited to pay their proportionate share of the cost of the two outstanding events in the way of trade promotion.

As a suggested amount the committee is asking on the average of one dollar per front foot for business houses, with the amount varying according to type and size of business.

### Flashers Gaining On Galax Leafs

After dropping two slam-bang games to Galax here Thursday and Friday the North Wilkesboro Flashers rebounded to take two from the Abingdon Trips Saturday night 9 to 2 and Sunday afternoon 7 to 2.

Willard Kops, who was batted out by Galax, came back to pitch a three-hitter against Abingdon. The two Abingdon runs in the sixth were on two walks, a hit batter and a single by Krudlow. Doug Shore with four hits and Troy Stanley with a double and triple were the big guns for North Wilkesboro at bat as Shore drove in three runs and Stanley four. Joe Santamaria, Abingdon manager, was ejected from the game by Umpire Swan in the seventh.

On Sunday, Dick Long, who had been playing second base, pitched a neat victory over Abingdon 7 to 2. It was a mound duel until the sixth when the Flashers exploded with four runs. The game was called by agreement at the end of the seventh because of the extreme heat with the temperature at the century mark. Sam Gibson, who played first, and Jack Cooper had two hits each. Tagliarino slammed a long triple in the fifth.

Meanwhile Galax divided a double bill at Mount Airy Saturday night and lost to Mount Airy Sunday, narrowing the gap between North Wilkesboro and Galax to three games.

The remaining schedule will take North Wilkesboro to Radford for double headers Tuesday and Wednesday and the Rockets in that series it is expected that first, second and third places will be virtually decided. North Wilkesboro will go to Wytheville Saturday and Sunday and the regular season will end here with a double header with Wytheville Monday, September 6.

It is expected that the play-off between the four top teams will be arranged by league officials this week, probably Tuesday at Mount Airy.

Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Benton and daughter, Robin, have returned home after spending a few days in Wytheville, Va.

### Support Community Recreation

### Sales Institute Under Way Here

Sales Institute under sponsorship of the Wilkes Chamber of Commerce began today and will continue through September 10 with sessions on Monday at 2:00 and 3:15 p. m. and Tuesday through Friday at 9:00 and 10:15 a. m. at the North Wilkesboro city hall.

Registrations may be accepted until Wednesday of this week, and those who enter by Wednesday may qualify for a certificate.

Mrs. Della R. Putnam, of the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, will be the instructor.

Ninety-five have already enrolled, with indications that the enrollment will go well over 100 before the middle of the first week.

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### September 13-18 Are Dates Set For Annual Event

Marks Shows on Midway; Full Fledged Fair To Be Staged 5 Days

A full-fledged fair, with midway, grandstand acts, exhibits and a great display of fireworks every night, will hold forth on the horse show grounds near this city throughout the week, beginning September 13.

The fair, which began last year on a small scale, is sponsored by the North Wilkesboro Kiwanis Club to promote agricultural interests of Wilkes county.

On Monday, September 13, all exhibits are to be placed on the grounds and the John Marks Shows, one of the biggest midway aggregations in the business, will move in. The midway will be in operation Monday night, the 13th, with numerous shows and rides.

Tuesday, really the opening day of the fair, will be Farmers' Day in North Wilkesboro, with a full program of events morning and afternoon. The morning program will include a long parade, and a series of hilarious contests. The afternoon Farmers' Day program will be featured by an address by former Governor J. Melville Broughton, string band show and concert and other events.

Tuesday at 8:00 p. m. the fair will get under way with full steam, including grandstand acts and fireworks in addition to the shows.

Wednesday will be livestock day with judging of livestock in the afternoon.

Colored school children will be admitted free on Thursday afternoon.

Friday will be white school children's day with school children admitted free until the night session.

Saturday will have a full program at the fair, beginning with a dog show at 10:30 in the morning. At 1:30 will be a show of draft horses and mules, followed by a horse show of horses of Wilkes and adjoining counties at three o'clock. The champion stake classes of the horse show will be at 7:30 p. m. Saturday night.

Numerous Cash Prizes

Several thousand dollars in cash prizes will be given exhibitors at the fair. In every department there are many cash prizes. The entries are open and no fees are charged. All farmers and homemakers are invited and urged to show their products and help make the fair the success it should be in the community. A premium list and program of 78 pages has been printed and is being distributed to prospective exhibitors.

Co-chairmen for the fair are W. K. Sturdivant and Paul E. Church, with Dr. Wm. K. Newton, vice-chairman. G. Sam Winters and J. B. Carter are secretaries for the fair. Those who wish a premium list are urged to contact any of the fair officials or the office of the county or home agent in Wilkes county.

### New Management At Wilkes Vulcanizing

On July 3, 1948, the Wilkes Vulcanizing Company was purchased by J. H. Crawford from A. E. Hodges.

Mr. Crawford has recently secured the distributorship on Gillette tires, tubes, batteries, etc., for Wilkes, Ashe, Watauga, Alleghany, Surry, Alexander, Caldwell and Burke Counties. He now has in stock a complete line of tires in all sizes, with a lifetime guarantee, and invites you to see these tires and ask for prices before you buy.

Mr. Crawford has employed as general manager, Mr. Claude Key, also T. W. Blackburn, both with years of experience in recapping.

They invite you to see them before you have your tires recapped.

Watch for ad in this paper for specials on Gillette's.

### Help Hospital Drive

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