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NORTH WILKESBORO, N. C., Monday, November 28, 1949

Make North Wilkesboro Your Shopping Center

E. M. Blackburn, Pioneer Leader, Taken By Death

Funeral Will Be Held Tuesday, Two P. M., at First Baptist Church

E. M. Blackburn, 85, a business, church and civic leader whose career and influence figured largely in the building of North Wilkesboro from a village into a thriving city, died Sunday evening, five o'clock, at the Wilkes hospital.

Active throughout his long and useful life, Mr. Blackburn became ill only a week ago. Born October 18, 1864, Mr. Blackburn was a son of the late E. Spencer Blackburn and Mrs. Sylvia Wilkes Blackburn, who resided in Rock Creek township. He received his education in public schools and at Moravian Falls Academy, where he later was an instructor. He also taught in public schools while a young man.

Soon after the founding of North Wilkesboro, Mr. Blackburn entered the mercantile business here and over a period of more than 35 years operated the widely known Absher and Blackburn clothing firm with the late W. R. Absher. After his mercantile career Mr. Blackburn entered the real estate business, which he operated until his death.

In addition to mercantile and real estate business, Mr. Blackburn was associated with other successful business enterprises and for a quarter of a century was a director of the Bank of North Wilkesboro.

Being one of the best known citizens of Wilkes county, Mr. Blackburn held a number of positions of leadership. In 1896 he was elected register of deeds, in that office succeeding his father-in-law, the late Robert Edwards. He served in that office for two terms. Later he was mayor of North Wilkesboro, and here he had also served on the city council and as a member of the city board of education.

In the First Baptist church he was for more than 30 years Sunday school superintendent and was a member of the board of deacons for several decades, being made a life member of the board.

He was also active in fraternal groups, being a Mason and a member of the Knights of Pythias over a long period. Mr. Blackburn was married to Miss Myrtle Edwards, who died in 1944. The surviving members of his family are two sons, Jeter M. Blackburn, of North Wilkesboro, and John Kermit Blackburn, a furniture merchant and civic leader in Waynesboro, Va.; one daughter, Miss Ruby Blackburn, of North Wilkesboro; and two sisters, Mrs. J. A. Sebastian, of North Wilkesboro route two, and Mrs. John A. Burcham, of Roaring River.

Funeral service will be held Tuesday, two p. m., at the First Baptist church, Dr. John T. Wayland, pastor, will be in charge of the service, with former pastors participating. Burial will be in Mount Lawn Memorial Park north of this city.

Young Democrats Will Form Club Tuesday Night

Wilkes Young Democrats Club will be organized in a meeting to be held Tuesday, November 29, 7:30 p. m., at North Wilkesboro city hall.

The YDC has not been active in Wilkes for some time and the meeting has been called by an interested group to perfect a county organization.

Young Democrats from all precincts in the county are invited and urged to attend the meeting, the announcement said.

Ralph Davis Has Moved His Office

Ralph Davis, attorney at law, moved his law office from the Carter building on Ninth street to quarters over Payne Clothing Company on Main street.

In his new location Attorney Davis will also be manager of the Credit Bureau, which had been operated from an office on the second floor of the Deans Building.

Died Here Sunday



E. M. BLACKBURN

Several Injured In Collision Near City Sunday Eve

A number of persons were injured and two vehicles were badly damaged Sunday evening, six o'clock, in a collision of a pickup truck and an automobile two miles north of this city on highway 18.

The pickup truck was traveling north and was driven by Mrs. Mabel Taylor Johnson, 37, of Laurel Springs. With her was her mother, Mrs. Alice Dancy Taylor, and her daughter, Rose Ellen Johnson, 15.

The car involved in the accident was traveling south, and was driven by Thomas Gordon Foster, of North Wilkesboro. With him was his wife, Mrs. Fern Helms Foster, and two children, Joe B. and Judy Foster, and Mrs. Lorraine Shumate, of North Wilkesboro.

Patrolman R. H. Dillard and C. R. Shook investigated the accident. Mrs. Johnson, driver of the pickup, was quoted as saying that she was following a car and that the driver in front of her apparently gave a signal as if to turn or stop. She said she pulled toward her left to avoid hitting the car ahead of her and the collision occurred with the car traveling south on the highway. The accident occurred in front of W. B. Beaumont's home. The pickup overturned off the west side of the road.

Mrs. Taylor in the pickup received severe cuts on her head and Rose Ellen Johnson had minor injuries. Mrs. Shumate in the car was severely cut on her head and face and sustained some chest injuries. None of the other occupants were seriously hurt.

District Banquet Scouters Tuesday

The arm of Liberty has been strengthened through Scouting during 1949. The exact extent of their activities will be reported at the annual district banquet to be held Tuesday, Nov. 29th, at 6:30 at the Carolina Restaurant.

Reports will be made by the professional staff of the Old Hickory Council and the principal speaker will be Mr. Stanley Harris, a former professional scout connected with the National office.

All Scouters, their wives or sweethearts and friends of Scouts are invited to attend and, if their name is not in the pot, they are asked to notify Sam Vickery or Robert Gibbs.

Bobby Eller Member Of Bowl Game Team

Bobby Eller, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. P. Eller, plays left tackle on the Fork Union Military Academy football team at Fork Union, Va.

Fork Union this year was undefeated in its conference and won the military academy championship for the state of Virginia. Fork Union will be one of the teams in the Orchid Bowl game to be played December 1 in Chattanooga, Tenn.

Bobby, whose weight is now 185, has been a pillar of strength in the Fork Union forward wall this fall and has added much to the team's successful play during the season.

Support The Scouts

LOCAL NEWS

Mr. and Mrs. D. L. Crook spent Thanksgiving Day in Albemarle with Mr. Crook's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Crook.

Mr. John E. Justice, III, student of Yale University at New Haven, Conn., spent the holidays here with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John E. Justice, Jr.

Mr. Bobby Eller, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. P. Eller, returned Sunday to Fork Union Military school at Fork Union, Va., after spending Thanksgiving at home.

Mr. Gordon Finley, Jr., student of Leas McRae College at Banner Elk, was here for Thanksgiving with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Finley.

Miss Margaret Anderson, student at Woman's College in Greensboro, visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Anderson, during the holidays.

Miss Margie Gabriel, a member of the Greensboro city school faculty, was here for the holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Gabriel.

Miss Agnes Kenerly, a student at Greensboro College, came home for Thanksgiving to be with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Thurmond Kenerly.

Miss Betty Ruth Morrison, a student at Cabarrus School of nursing in Concord, was here for the Thanksgiving holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Luther Morrison, of Wilkesboro.

Mrs. D. S. Lane, formerly of North Wilkesboro, has been recovering splendidly from an operation for appendicitis performed a few weeks ago in Washington, D. C.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Hoover and daughters, Misses Patricia and Anne Hoover, spent Thanksgiving Day in Newton with Mrs. Hoover's mother, Mrs. W. F. Rader.

Miss Elizabeth McNeill, who holds a position with the Y. W. C. A. in Greenville, S. C., was here for the Thanksgiving holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. M. B. McNeill.

Mr. Bob Hubbard, a student of Richmond Professional Institute, Richmond, Va., was at home for the holiday season with his parents, Dr. and Mrs. F. C. Hubbard.

Miss Mary Hannah Walker, who teaches in the Training School at the Appalachian State Teachers College at Boone, spent the week-end here in the home of Mrs. C. L. Sockwell.

Miss Sue Landon, who is attending the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, was here for the Thanksgiving holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Landon.

Friends regret to know that Mr. Paul Richardson is very ill in Mercy Hospital in Baltimore, Md., and is not expected to recover. Mr. Richardson is a former resident of the Fairplains community here.

Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Miller spent Thanksgiving Day with relatives in Shelby. They were accompanied by their son, Mr. Lawrence H. Miller, who is at home from State College for the holidays.

Miss Irene Richardson and Miss Sara Jane Judy spent Thanksgiving Day at Mars Hill College with Miss Carol Richardson, sister of Miss Richardson, who is a student at the college.

L. M. Nelson, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. L. M. Nelson, and Mr. Phil Mitchell, son of Mr. and Mrs. S. P. Mitchell, were at home from Davidson college during the Thanksgiving holidays.

Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Long and children, and Mrs. W. E. Long, of Cornelius, who was spending the week in her son's home, all spent Thanksgiving Day at Harmony with Mrs. W. T. Long's mother, Mrs. R. L. Reid.

Visitors on Thanksgiving Day at the home of Mr. and Mrs. M. F. Bumgarner were their children as follows: Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Prevette and two daughters, of Salisbury; Mrs. Hutchy Friend and two sons, of Roanoke, Va.; Mr. and Mrs. Howard Cannon and two sons, of Guilford College; Mrs. George Pitts and little son, of Tampa, Fla.; M. F. Jr., at home for the day; and George Bumgarner of Phiffer Junior College at Misenheimer. Other callers during the day were: Rev. J. L. A. Bumgarner, Rev. and Mrs. G. W. (Bill) Bumgarner, of Newton, Mrs. Allie Hayes, and Mr. Ralph Kirby, of Asheville.

Fines And Prison Terms Meted Out In Federal Court

Many Cases Tried In U. S. Court In Wilkesboro During Past Week

Prison terms and heavy fines were meted out to a number of federal liquor law offenders in the November term of United States court held in Wilkesboro during the past week. Judge Johnson J. Hayes presided.

Robert Glenn Johnson, who plead nolo contendere to a charge of possessing illicit whiskey, gave notice of appeal from a sentence of 18 months in Petersburg, Va., prison and fine of \$1,000. The appeal was based on a motion to quash because of the search for whisky involved.

Vaughn Blackburn was fined \$3,600 and drew a sentence of 18 months suspended while he was placed on probation. Conrad Eller paid a fine of \$2,500 and his sentence of a year and a day was suspended.

In other cases the following sentences were meted out: Hardin Simpson, year and a day; Chester Billings, execution of prison sentence suspended until next term; William Henry Smith, 18 months in prison; Marvin Billings, year and a day in Petersburg prison; Henry Edgar Clouch, year and a day in Petersburg prison; Robert Wayne Bray, year and a day in Petersburg; Frank Hutchison, year and a day in Ashland, Ky., prison; Phoebe Hutchinson, \$300 fine; Ollie L. Brown, year and a day in Petersburg; Carl Dean Cothren, 18 months in Chillicothe, Ohio, reformatory; Hardin Wesley Simpson, year and a day in Petersburg; Justus Odell Richardson, 18 months in Petersburg; Archie E. Pruitt, year and a day in Atlanta prison.

Walter Hague, two years in Atlanta; James Willie Sales, two years in Atlanta; Vestal Tyre Holloway, year and a day in Chillicothe; Richard Lucien Chambers, year and a day in Chillicothe; Garnett Anderson, Ernest Dowell and Billy Mack Todd, \$300 fine, year and a day suspended, probation; Edmund Clay Holbrook, year and a day in Atlanta; Spurgeon Cheek, \$500 fine and six months in jail; Russell Cheek, year and a day in Atlanta; Vestal Lee Pardue, year and a day in Petersburg; Commodore Triplett, discharged on restitution \$200 to Veterans Administration; Otis Jones, four months in jail.

The following defendants were placed on probation for members of varying lengths: Hubert Hawkins, Clay Holbrook, Banner Billings, Dean Baugues, Dean Forest Bowers, Vaughn Blackburn, Charles Odell Ledbetter, Ira W. Nicholson, Baxter Mack Spears, Ellus Brown, Phoebe M. Hutchinson, Ted Smith, Opal Dora Eller, Irene Blackburn, Harry Lee Gentry, Dwight L. Mathis, Robert Childress, Lester Adam Davis, Gene Harry Smitley, Roy Anderson, Lottie Fay Cardwell, James Irvin Cothren, Bill Hayes, Richard Wilmoth, Lawrence Allen Pruitt, Jesse McCarter, Dwight Staley, Sid Walsh.

Throng Expected For Christmas Program

Christmas Season Proclamation

WHEREAS the Wilkes Chamber of Commerce has arranged appropriate and attractive Christmas seasonal features in North Wilkesboro and Wilkesboro from November 25th through December 24th, and

WHEREAS a special Christmas Program has been scheduled at Memorial Park for the evening of December 2nd at which time Santa Claus will make his first official visit to the Wilkesboros, and

WHEREAS local merchants have taken great care in having available for their customers a wide and attractive selection of merchandise for the Christmas season,

WE, THEREFORE, designate the period of November 25 to December 24 as the official Christmas season in the Wilkesboros, and

We join the Wilkes Chamber of Commerce in inviting our customers and friends to visit the Wilkesboros during this Christmas season and to be our guests at the special Christmas program at Memorial Park on Dec. 2nd.

R. T. McNIEL,
North Wilkesboro
W. E. SMITHEY, Mayor
Wilkesboro.

Will Be Held On Friday, Dec. 2 At Ball Park, 6 P. M.

Several Groups Will Sing Carols; Band to Play; Santa Will Arrive

Santa Claus will make his first official visit to the Wilkesboros at a special Christmas program to be held in Memorial Park in North Wilkesboro Friday evening, December 2, six p. m.

This program, in which many groups will participate, is expected to attract a record crowd and will be held in the ball park where there are seating facilities for several thousand people.

Tom Jenrette, manager of the Chamber of Commerce; Richard Johnston, chamber president; Gilbert Bare and W. G. Gabriel, Trade Promotion and Christmas program chairmen; Rev. C. J. Winslow, Wilkesboro Methodist minister; and Dr. John T. Wayland, pastor of the First Baptist church here, who will deliver a Christmas message.

Carols will be sung by groups from Pleasant Hill, Musical Arts club, colored group, Wilkesboro high school glee club group, Millers Creek glee club group, North Wilkesboro glee club and numbers by the entire group, with accompaniment by the North Wilkesboro high school band.

Santa Claus will arrive in a big sleigh atop a tractor trailer and will distribute candy and gifts to children. His arrival will be during the singing of "Jingle Bells" by the entire group, and his departure will be to the tune of "Silent Night", by the entire assembly.

Santa Claus will be invited back to the Wilkesboros to meet children on the streets and in stores Saturday, December 3. He will pick up Santa Claus letters at the special program at the ball park and while here Saturday.

The Christmas season officially opened here Friday. Street lighting and decorations have been turned on and the decorations have been subject of much favorable comment. Vari-colored lights on evergreen and aluminum garland streamers, with stars and other symbols make a very attractive pattern of street lighting and decorations.

Roy Crouse And C. B. Eller Head Alumni Of State

Elkin, Nov. 23.—The following new officers were elected for the current year when Northwestern State College Alumni Club met Saturday evening at Gilvin Roth Y. M. C. A. The Northwestern area includes Surry, Wilkes, Yadkin, Alleghany and Ashe Counties.

Roy Crouse of North Wilkesboro was elected president; H. M. Willis of Elkin, vice president; and C. B. Eller, superintendent of public instruction of Wilkes county, secretary-treasurer.

Chicken Supper At Gaither Store 3rd

The women of Friendship church will serve a chicken supper at the J. M. Gaither store building, five miles west of North Wilkesboro on 421, Saturday evening of Dec. 3, beginning at six o'clock.

Everybody is invited there to enjoy a warm supper in a warm room and receive a warm welcome. Proceeds of the supper will be applied to the building fund of the church. Plates will be \$1.00 for adults and 50 cents for children.

There will also be an auction sale of home baked food, and articles suitable for Christmas gifts.

Mrs. L. A. Hauser left Wednesday to visit her son, Mr. Walter Hauser, and Mrs. Hauser in Washington, D. C.

The Rural Church Topic Of Speech At Kiwanis Meet

Key Club Charter Will Be Presented At N. Wilkesboro School Dec. 9

North Wilkesboro Kiwanis club held an enjoyable meeting Friday noon at Hotel Wilkes. President W. H. McElwee presided and invocation was spoken by Rev. W. N. Brookshire.

It was announced that the charter for the newly organized Key Club in North Wilkesboro high school will be presented at the school on December 9. Kiwanians are asked to attend the presentation ceremonies.

T. E. Story introduced Rev. J. Earl Pearson, missionary for the Brushy Mountain Baptist Association, who gave an interesting talk on the subject, "The Rural Church." Mr. Pearson pointed out that the rural church is a most vital institution in our whole scheme of things. Its economic importance is most noticeable and its means of shaping the thought of our great rural people is not to be measured.

In the past year the strictly rural churches of the Brushy Mountain Association expended more than \$100,000.00 in their religious endeavor. Twenty-two of the thirty-four churches in this Association have within the past year carried on a building program. The rural church has had and continues to have many problems; their location, equipment, absentee pastors, and untrained leadership offer some of the barriers to more rapid progress.

Directors meeting was announced for Thursday evening, December 1. Guests at Friday's meeting were as follows: John E. Justice, III, with John E. Justice, Jr.; Bob Hubbard with Dr. F. C. Hubbard; Bob Eller with H. P. Eller; L. M. Nelson, Jr., with L. M. Nelson; Joe Barber, Jr., with Joe Barber; Bill Caroon, Jr., with W. J. Caroon; Dr. F. L. Gibbs and George Childers with H. L. Snyder. R. E. Gibbs, of Anniston, Alabama, a former president of the club here, was a visiting Kiwanian.

Kills Giant Porker

John Smitley, of the Oakwoods community, has an enviable reputation for producing large porkers. He recently butchered one that tipped the scales at 653 pounds. This hog was a Berkshire-poland china cross about one year old.

Friends will be glad to learn that Mrs. Jesse W. Yale, of North Wilkesboro, Route 1, who has been confined to bed for about five weeks, is improving.

Horror Thriller By Little Theatre This Week



Mrs. Robert Foster, seated, and Bill Gabriel are shown here enacting a scene from "Night Must Fall" the horror thriller to be presented Friday and Saturday nights here by the Community Little Theatre. The drama is filled with suspense and the cast members are ready for excellent performances.