

is dedicated to covering the News and to the promotion of progress for all of the people in Sparta and Alleghany county.

The Alleghany News

AND STAR-TIMES—(CONSOLIDATED ON SEPTEMBER 2, 1941)—ALLEGHANY COUNTY'S ONLY NEWSPAPER.

SPARTA NEEDS NOW . . .

an industrial plant, a modern hotel, a federal post office building and a civic club. Let's go after them!

VOLUME 54, NO. 12

\$1.00 a Year in Alleghany County

SPARTA, NORTH CAROLINA

\$1.50 a Year Out of County

THURSDAY, NOV. 20, 1941

Temporary Vocational Shop Planned For Sparta High School

People YOU KNOW In Alleghany
By Staff Writer



LON MAC REEVES

Go past Twin Oaks about three-quarters of a mile towards New River and you'll see a large, two-story, white house on the right. Surrounding the house is a white picket fence, and at the foot of a hill are several sheds surrounding a new barn. From the appearance of the place, you know a progressive farmer lives there.

This is the home of Lon Mac Reeves, who certainly is a progressive farmer, as well as one of Alleghany county's 10 rural mail carriers. In fact, to many people, Mr. Reeves is better known as a mail carrier than a farmer, because he has been carrying the mails about 22 years.

Drove Horse and Buggy

He first carried mail using a horse and buggy, and many times had to ride noseback when the weather was bad. Then came the days of the Model T, although Mr. Reeves owned a "tin lizzie" some time before he began using it on his mail route. Folks who drove those early models will remember many stops to repair a flat tire, or to clean the spark plugs.

But let's go back to the beginning when Lon Mac was born on April 9 in 1898. He was born and raised on the farm where he now makes his home, being the son of the late Van W. Reeves, and Mrs. Reeves who now lives in Sparta.

He helped out on the farm (Continued on Page Four)

Red Cross Drive Short Of Quota

Several Workers Not Yet Reported and Response Has Been Good.

The Red Cross drive for membership is continuing in Alleghany county this week and the remainder of the month with early reports showing the roll call is meeting with fine response but with prospects the drive will fall short of the \$400 quota for this county, according to Chairman Ernest Edwards.

Mr. Edwards reported yesterday the sum of \$79.70 had been turned in thus far by workers, with several workers yet unreported.

High school girls will be on the street in Sparta this Saturday to accept contributions to the Red Cross fund. Persons not contacted by workers were asked by Mr. Edwards to join at the Register of Deeds' office.

All the names of members joining were not turned in this week, but the following were reported: Gov. R. A. Doughton, Dr. N. D. Fox, Mrs. Crystal Heinz, William Sprinkle, Jay Hardin, Ben Reeves, Ed M. Anderson, Jimmy Mitchell, Chas. R. Roe, Farmers' Hardware, R. Floyd Crouse, S. C. Richardson, D. C. Bledsoe, Sam Brown, Miss Selma Dickson, Mrs. Sally Vass.

Richard Griggs, Mrs. Mayme Halsey, Mrs. Ella Gentry, Miss Mary Margaret Bates, Mrs. R. E. Black, Ernest Edwards, Mrs. Roy Burgess, T. Roy Burgess, Ralph Evans, Hugh Perry, Amon Edwards, Mrs. Geo. Reeves, Miss Ann Worth, Mrs. Hugh Choate, Glenn Duncan, Mrs. C. A. Reeves, W. A. Hooper, Mrs. A. V. Choate, Jas. B. Anderson.

Curtis Blackburn, O. C. Duncan, D. F. Sturdivant, Mrs. E. O. Choate, Elder C. E. Bartley, F. G. (Continued on Page Four)

An Editorial

It isn't often that we publish an editorial on the front page and consequently when this is done we feel that the subject about which we are writing is of eminent importance and justifies immediate action on the part of the public.

During the last election we elected a President of the United States and members of Congress to run our government in a Democratic way. To preserve Democracy in the world, the President, the Congress and a majority of the people of this nation decided that we should make the armed forces of our nation so strong that all of the combined powers of the globe could not lick us and that we should give all possible aid to the nations defending themselves against the aggression of Dictator nations.

With utter disregard for these objectives and with selfish motives more apparent than a spirit of patriotism, certain labor union leaders have been and are now seriously retarding the defense program.

During the past few days John L. Lewis, C. I. O. Dictator, has defied the President and the Government. The coal mine strike now threatens to tie up everything, civilian as well as defense activities!

Who's running this nation anyway, the President and the Congress, or John L. Lewis? If it's Mr. Lewis, we're ready to move out at once!

Certainly a crisis has been reached in the government-labor union defense program and it is high time for the Congress to clamp down good and strong on strikes and strikers in defense industries and mines.

The war today is still in Europe and Asia, but unless immediate action is taken, we'll have a war here, too. Won't you ask your Congressman and Senator for prompt action?

Thanksgiving Day Is Being Quietly Observed In Sparta

Joint Service At Methodist Church This Morning At 9:00 O'Clock.

STATES DIFFERENT

Thanksgiving Holiday is being observed here quietly today with many taking advantage of the opening of the hunting season, some going away to witness football games and others going to church or observing a day of rest here at home where practically all business will be at a standstill.

Business houses, city and county offices, stores and banks will observe the national holiday, as will the schools, most of which closed yesterday afternoon for the remainder of the week.

A Thanksgiving service was held at the Methodist church this morning at 9 o'clock for all denominations of Sparta. Rev. C. R. Allison delivered the sermon.

The observance of Thanksgiving here and in North Carolina marks the first time the state has observed the early date under Roosevelt. Thirty one other states including Alabama, California, Connecticut, Colorado, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Ohio, Oregon, Rhode Island, Utah, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin and Wyoming are giving thanks officially today. The other remaining states will observe next Thursday.

President Roosevelt's proclamation for Thanksgiving day is as follows:

"I, Franklin D. Roosevelt, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate and set aside Thursday, the twentieth day of November, 1941, as a day to be observed in giving thanks to the Heavenly Source of our earthly blessings.

"Our beloved country is free and strong. Our moral and physical defenses against the forces of threatened aggression are mounting daily in magnitude and effectiveness.

"In the interest of our own future, we are sending succor at increasing pace to those peoples abroad who are bravely defending their homes and their precious liberties against annihilation.

"We have not lost our faith in the spiritual dignity of man, our proud belief in the right of all people to live out their lives in freedom and with equal treatment. The love of democracy still (Continued on Page 4)

Let Contracts To Revamp N'west Electric Systems

Work To Start At Once. Urgent Appeal For Materials Placed Before OPM.

MET IN WASHINGTON

Contracts have been let by the Blue Ridge Electric Membership corporation directors and work is expected to commence at once on the \$150,000 improvement program of the electric systems in Alleghany, Ashe and Watauga counties, formerly owned by the Northwest Carolina Utilities.

The contract to supply materials was awarded to the Westinghouse Company, in the amount of \$17,553.43. Bouigny Construction bidder on the labor, \$51,984.10, and a company in Spartanburg, S. C., received the order for 1,400 new poles, at \$13,687.70.

"Our engineering survey shows that the entire Northwest system which was obtained recently by the REA co-op needs to be revamped," Supt. G. F. Messick stated.

"This work will go forward as rapidly as possible, but we may have some difficulty in getting necessary materials because of the OPM restrictions," he said.

The co-op now has some materials on hand and an application was filed this week with the OPM of approval of all other materials needed to complete the improvement job.

"Our state-wide REA committee (Continued on Page Four)

Electric Users Will Meet Here Next Wednesday

REA Co-op to Hold Important Meeting To Discuss Future Plans.

There will be an important meeting of all electric customers in Sparta, Roaring Gap and Alleghany county at the courthouse here next Wednesday night, November 26, starting at 7:30 o'clock. Supt. G. F. Messick, of the Blue Ridge Electric Membership corporation, announces.

The R. E. A. plans, privileges and regulations will be discussed at the meeting by Mr. Messick. D. P. Nanney, REA co-op bookkeeper, will discuss the billing and accounting system. This will be followed by an open forum and remarks by local citizens.

An interesting movie will then be shown and R. M. McGirt, local project utilization specialist, will talk briefly on the REA co-op's utilization program.

One of the highlights of the program will be a food demonstration by Miss Margaret Lawhorne, Alleghany county home demonstration agent. She will make whole wheat biscuits and serve them with coffee and other good things to eat.

A number of free attendance prizes will also be awarded.

All electric customers are urged to attend.

Work Shop Built By School Boys



A portion of the interior of the new work shop at the Glade Valley school is shown above, with two Alleghany county boys operating tools which are used in woodwork. Guy Darnell, of Laurel Springs, is in the foreground (right) running a shaper, while Dale Shores, of Sparta (left) is at a jig saw. (Staff photo).

Manual Training Shop Built By Boys Glade Valley School

"LAURELS" TO Glade Val. Boys

The boys of the agricultural department at the Glade Valley school did a swell job in building themselves a work shop, in which classes were begun this week.

To all the boys who helped build this shop, The Alleghany News this week, presents "Laurels" for their accomplishment.

Army "Guarded" Town Last Week End On Maneuver

Town "Invaded", Bridge "Blown Up" And "Guarded" Against Enemy.

Sparta was "invaded" last Saturday by army troops who "took" the town with two trucks and a motorcycle.

Bridges to Roaring Gap and to Jefferson were theoretically "blown up" by the six soldiers who moved in here as a part of the maneuvers in North Carolina. Coming here to stop possible movements of an "enemy" force were a sergeant, corporal, and four privates.

The soldiers were in communication with headquarters by means of radio, and they were well manned with fire-power. After "blowing" the bridge at Little River, a sentry was placed there as a watchout.

Passersby wondered why a (Continued on Page Four)

Turkey Farmers Get Good Prices



The turkeys shown above were on an Alleghany county farm last week in the Turkey Knob section, but today they may be the main course of a Thanksgiving dinner in a northern city. In the background is the farm of John Delp, who raised hundreds of gobblers and hens this year.

Alleghany farmers have received several hundred dollars during the past week for sale of turkeys to be shipped to northern markets for Thanksgiving.

Largest buyers in the county have been Smithey's and Carl Kennedy, who have purchased more than an estimated 8,000 of the Thanksgiving fowls. The turkeys have been bringing the grower about five cents more per pound than last year's price.

Kern Wagoner, manager of Smithey's said the turkeys are of better quality and larger than in the past few years. He attributes this to the dry weather, in which turkeys thrive. Mr. Wagoner said out of 500 turkeys he found only eight culls, which he pointed out as being unusual.

Smithey's purchased 21,523 pounds of turkeys at an average price of 20.5 cents per pound in two days, last Friday and Saturday. These were shipped to Philadelphia by truck.

There are not as many turkeys as usual in Alleghany county this year, according to report.

WPA Project Is Shelved But To Build Work Shop

Will Erect Shop To Keep Agricultural Course In High School

MEETING HELD HERE

The WPA project for a vocational building, which was approved for Sparta high school last Spring, was shelved at a meeting here Tuesday afternoon of the county commissioners, WPA officials, and school officials, and in place of the planned building will be erected or built a temporary shop for boys taking an agriculture course at the local high school.

C. M. Crutchfield, of Winston-Salem, district WPA director, told the county commission there was no skilled labor to be obtained in Alleghany county. The commissioners in turn were faced with the probability of having the project held up because of delay in receiving orders for building supplies, they said. These two factors caused the decision to delay the vocational building project, the commissioners reported.

Attending the meeting in the commissioner's room were Mr. Crutchfield and R. C. Faucett, of North Wilkesboro, construction engineer, who were representing WPA; the county commissioners, Victor Phipps, Johnny Gambill and Mack D. Wagoner; W. C. Thompson, county superintendent of public instruction, and Dr. T. R. Burgess, chairman of the county board of education.

Superintendent Thompson said yesterday the type of temporary shop to house equipment for vocational training would be announced in the near future. The project, which had been approved and which called for WPA labor with the county furnishing supplies, was for a brick veneer building, 30 by 80 feet, to house a shop, classroom and office.

Tal H. Stafford, of Asheville, (Continued on Page Four)

A Big Christmas Shopping Season Is Planned Here

Streets To Be Gaily Decorated and Santa Is Invited to Come Here Early.

Sparta merchants are now making plans for a big Christmas shopping season.

If present plans are carried to completion, the streets here in the business section will be gaily decorated with laurel roping, colored wreaths and multi-colored lights. An urgent invitation is being sent to Santa Claus to pay an official visit here the first part of December.

The Blue Ridge Electric Membership corporation has agreed to order materials and erect decorations.

A committee, composed of Kern Wagoner, Dr. T. R. Burgess and Ed Anderson, plans to solicit contributions. The total expenses is estimated to run around \$85.00.

The Alleghany News proposes to get out its annual "opening Christmas shopping season edition" on December 4.

Next week local merchants plan to start displaying Christmas merchandise.

'42 Farm Truck License One-Half Price, Black Says

1942 licenses for trucks that are owned and operated by farmers may be purchased for one-half of the regular registration fee if such trucks are used for transporting farm products and farm supplies, County Agent Black reminded farmers in Alleghany this week.

"This law was enacted during the last General Assembly and our farmers can take advantage of it by signing an affidavit when they purchase 1942 tags," he said. "This new law was one of the enactments of the last legislature.

Peckham Rye, in the heart of South London, has produced a crop of hay valued at \$320.