

NEWS-STAR-TIMES
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

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

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

VOLUME 54, NO. 22 \$1.00 a Year in Alleghany County SPARTA, NORTH CAROLINA \$1.50 a Year Out of County THURSDAY, FEB. 5, 1942

Marines, Sailors Aid McArthur; Japs Raid Singapore; Reds Gain

Germans Planning Gigantic Spring Offensive, hampered By Disease, Weather

American have seen action on more war fronts this week as furious fighting continues on both land and sea.

A detachment of sailors and marines—a naval battalion—has been organized on Luzon and is aiding General Douglas MacArthur's army defenders of the Bataan peninsula, the Navy department disclosed Tuesday.

It was understood that this was not a new unit sent in from outside, but was made up of men who had been in or near the battle area for some time. First impressions that a landing had been made were thus corrected.

Word that MacArthur was being aided by a fresh body of troops—small though it was—was accompanied by a navy announcement that in a night action an American motor torpedo-boat under heavy fire and spotlighted by the enemy vessel, had loosed two torpedoes against a Japanese warship in Manila bay and probably had hit it.

The Japanese continued to rain death on Singapore, while this British post bravely fought off a five-day siege.

The governor of the Straits Settlement, Sir Shenton Thomas, worked in his shirt-sleeves with other civilians to help put out the leaping flames set off by squadron after squadron of enemy planes.

Despite the fury of the enemy's raids, in which both high-level and dive bombers came over to drop their thunderous loads, the Wednesday communique of the British command announced that military casualties had been slight.

The offensive arm of the R. A. F. meantime was striking back; in overnight raids the Japanese-held Malayan airdrome at Kluang (Continued on Page Four)

4-H Clubs To Be Formed In County

Groups Meet At Little Pine And Rich Hill To Be Organized

Farm boys and girls of Alleghany county are going to have the opportunity of 4-H club work, as the county agent and home demonstration agent are now making plans for the organization of 4-H clubs in the county.

R. E. Black and Miss Margaret Lawhorne met with groups at Little Pine and Rich Hill last Saturday, and reported that much interest was shown. Clubs are to be organized at these places, according to the agents, within the next few weeks.

Enrollment cards are to be returned to the office of Mr. Black or Miss Lawhorne, and the groups will meet once each month. Projects are to be developed by the 4-H clubbers, with Miss Lawhorne meeting with the girls and Mr. Black working with the boys.

County Agent Black is expected to attend a meeting at the Reeves theatre in Elkin of February 14, when a 4-H dairy and beef cattle program for Alleghany, Surry, Wilkes and Yadkin counties is discussed.

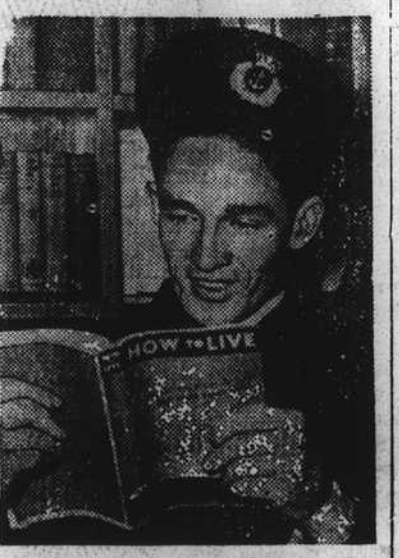
MORE BOOKS ARE NEEDED FOR VICTORY

Those who have any books they can contribute in the "Book for Victory" campaign to collect books for the men now in service are asked to do so once.

Books may be brought to The Alleghany News, Alleghany County Library, Smithy's and Hardin's, or to any of the high schools of the county. High school principals are asked to bring any books which they have collected, to the Alleghany County Library in Sparta.

The aim of the campaign is to collect ten million books for the men now in service. The campaign is national in scope and each county is expected to collect a representative amount.

Torpedoed 4 Times



This calm young man is Allan Harvie, a British seaman who was torpedoed four times. One of these sinkings was directly traced to a spy ring in England. Seaman Harvie thinks that a similar spy ring may be at work here.

Alleghany Men Named Who Will Be Called Soon

Seven Registrants Enlist Recently Into Military Service

Selectees to be inducted into service soon have been announced by the local Selective Service board, who also gave the names of seven registered with the Alleghany board who have recently enlisted for military service.

The enlistees are James Paul Higgins, R. A. Wagoner, Jr., Wade Thomas Choate, Kern Oder, Joiners, James Kemp Hawthorne, and Joe Emmett Doughton, all of Sparta, and Raymond Benjamin Lowery, of Shelby.

The selectees, who will be the first to be inducted since America has been at war, are:

- Bryon Cox, Laurel Springs.
- James Young Evans, Ennice.
- Reece Williams Billings, Sparta.
- Howard Wayne Hendrix, Laurel Springs.
- Robert Rudolph Crouse, Piney Creek.
- Ernest Earl Taylor, Furches.
- Stafford Lee Nichols, Ennice.
- George Ray Long, Citron.
- Garnett Walton Nichols, Sparta.
- Arvel Gene Murray, Toughkenamon, Pa.
- Reggie Willard Vanhoy, Piney Creek.
- Walter Corner Hines, Stratford.
- James Weaver Sturgill, Stratford.
- Talmage Linville Brinegar, Laurel Springs.
- Robert Lee Nichols, Sparta.
- Wade Lake Miller, Laurel Springs.
- Lawrence Clarence Crouse, Whitehead.
- Clay Edwin Joiners, Sparta.
- Ernest Harrison Taylor, North Wilkesboro.

Dr. Groundhog Says Six More Weeks Winter Joke On Hitler

"Six weeks more of winter," roared Dr. George P. Groundhog in a terrible voice Monday as he braced himself, received a handful of ultra violet rays, and cast an appraising eye at his shadow.

The snow was falling when Dr. G. P. first arose here Monday morning, which caused some to shout with glee that the rough wintry days would be no more. And the little woodchuck was just beginning to stretch himself from the long stay in his winter quarters when, lo, the snow stopped falling and the sun shone.

The sun peeped coyly through the atmospheric fuzzi, and there the dread shadow showed, pointing to the northwest, from whence blizzards and sleet storms and chilblains and frosted noses were to issue until income tax paying time—March 15.

"Some folks say the groundhog has to see his shadow at sunrise on February 2 to make the transaction binding on the next six

S. A. Choate, 80, Dies At Home Of Son Here Tuesday

Former Sheriff Of County And Prominent Horse And Cattle Dealer

Funeral services for S. A. Choate, former sheriff of this county and one of Alleghany's most influential citizens, who died at 8:30 p. m. Tuesday here at the home of his son, Dr. P. L. Choate, were to have conducted this Thursday morning at his son's home at 11 o'clock by Eld. Charlie Kilby of Sparta, assisted by Eld. Ed Davis of West Jefferson. Interment was in the local cemetery.

Active pallbearers were Walter Osborne, Floyd Crouse, T. Roy Burgess, Amos Wagoner, Dr. C. A. Thompson, and W. C. Thompson.

Serving as honorary pallbearers were A. F. Reeves, Crockett Duncan, Gov. R. A. Doughton, J. L. Joiners, S. C. Richardson, Jay Hardin, Jim Wagoner, and Garfield Edwards.

Mr. Choate, who was 80 years old, had been seriously ill for a few days prior to his passing, and his condition had gradually become worse.

The deceased served as sheriff of this county for two terms, and was elected by the largest majority ever given a candidate in Alleghany prior to that date. He was a prominent horse and cattle dealer, and breeder of fine livestock.

He is survived by his wife, formerly Miss Laura Edwards of this county; six sons, Dr. B. O. Choate, Dr. P. L. Choate, and A. Vance Choate, all of Sparta, and Dr. Glenn Choate, Dr. J. W. Choate, and Dr. E. C. Choate, all of Salisbury; two daughters, Mrs. Russell W. Whitener, of Newton, and Mrs. D. J. Whitener, of Boone; 26 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Home Nursing Be Taught In Sparta By County Nurse

A home nursing class has been organized in Sparta and meetings will begin as soon as text books arrive, according to Mrs. R. L. Berry, chairman of this division in the Red Cross chapter.

Two classes in home nursing are already being taught at Piney Creek by Miss Ola Collins, county nurse, who will also teach the Sparta class.

The maximum number for a home nursing class is 20, Mrs. Berry said, and as 20 have already enrolled and more have stated their desire to attend, another class will probably be organized. Anyone wishing to enroll in the second Sparta class should notify the chairman at once, Mrs. Berry said. The cost for the course is 75 cents, which pays for the text book to be received upon enrollment.

WORK SHOP READY GO UP AT SCHOOL

Material for the work shop at Sparta high school has been cut, all farming has been prepared, and the structure will be erected as soon as footing ditches can be dug, school officials said yesterday.

Deadly 'Eggs' for Enemy Raiders



Somewhere along the Atlantic coast army air corps men load a medium bomber before its take-off on a patrol flight over the ocean under the direction of a joint army-navy headquarters, which, operating at a secret location somewhere in the metropolitan area of New York, has perfected a closely coordinated land, sea and air defensive and offensive network.

Will Hold Selective Service Registration February 16 In Every Township In This Co.

All Men Between Ages Of 20 And 44 Must Register. Places Given

Registration of men between the ages of 20 and 44, inclusive, who are not already registered, will be held in every township in this county on Monday, Feb. 16, according to registration plans that have already been worked out by the local draft board and approved by General Metts, state director of the Selective Service Act.

W. C. Thompson has been named superior of the registration in the county, and school teachers will be registrars. The county schools will have a holiday on the 16th, Mr. Thompson said, in order that the registration might be made.

Ten places have been announced where the men will register, and each place will have a local director. They are: Piney Creek school, L. K. Halsey; New Hope school, Dan Jones; Laurel Springs school, Eugene Shepher; Sparta courthouse, Chas. R. Roe; Whitehead school, Lonnie Ed-Little Pine school, T. C. Osborne; wards; Vox school, Gwyn Truitt; Glade Valley school, H. M. Bryant; Roaring Gap post office, Burton F. McCann; and Turkey Knob school, Fred Osborne.

Specific age requirements include all young men who were 20 years old on or before December 31, 1941 and all men who have not attained their 45th birthday on or before February 16, 1942.

"A person subject to registration may be registered before the day set herein for his registration if arrangements therefor are made by the local board under rules and regulations prescribed by the Director of Selective Service. Whenever such arrangements are made, public notice thereof will be given by the local board," the President's proclamation states.

"A person subject to registration may be registered after the (Continued on Page Four)

Another Attempt To Steal Tires

Motorists Again Warned To List Serial Numbers Of Casings

All motorists in the county were again warned this week to list the serial numbers of the tires on their vehicles following another attempt to steal tires from an automobile in Sparta on Tuesday night.

Town Officer R. D. Gentry said, "Everyone who has not yet listed the serial numbers of their tires should do so at once, because this is the only way tires can be found once they are stolen."

Sheriff DeWitt Bryan asked county automobile owners to take their serial numbers when sale of new tires was first stopped.

The attempted theft here Tuesday was thwarted but Mr. Gentry said three tires has been stolen in this county because the owner did not have the serial numbers.

"Many persons have heeded the request," Mr. Gentry declared, "and have taken down the numbers on their tires. Others who have not should do this at once."

New Frozen Cars To Be Sold Soon

All cars that were purchased but not delivered before January 1 may be sold between February 12 and February 26, according to an announcement from Washington. No plans for releasing trucks have been announced.

It is understood that local dealers have several of those orders on hand. Dealers and manufacturers now have around 524,000 automobiles on hand. The rationing program for new cars will be listed after Feb. 28.

Criticism Kills WPA Conservation Project In Alleghany County

Parkway Work Now Halted For Duration Of War

National Park Service Says All Plans Are Stopped For The Duration

Washington. — Plans for completing the Blue Ridge Parkway in North Carolina and Virginia have been shelved for the duration of the war, Representative Zebulon Weaver has been informed by the National Park Service.

"No new construction is contemplated," acting Director A. E. Demaray wrote Weaver, but the "graded sections which have not yet been paved will be maintained in as dust-free condition as possible through use of calcium chloride."

Approximately three-quarters of the highway has been completed, but there are 156 miles of road in North Carolina still to be constructed.

Demaray said that "existing balances and proposed 1943 fiscal year funds will provide for administration, protection, and maintenance of the constructed sections only, plus a limited amount of advance planning to set up a reservoir of contracts for postwar construction in accordance with the 'plans-on-the-shelf' program."

Although projects now under construction will be completed Demaray explained that the 1942 fiscal year authorization of \$6,000,000 for parkways has been impounded and no new construction projects contemplated under the contract authorization have been undertaken.

The \$45,000,000 Blue Ridge (Continued on Page Four)

Ag Teacher Is Still Unnamed

The vocational agriculture teacher to succeed Harold H. Higgins in the Sparta schools was still unnamed this week by local school officials, but it was understood one applicant was being seriously considered.

Mr. Higgins, who is resigning the position here to become assistant farm agent of Yancey county, has said he will remain in Sparta until his successor is named.

Income Returns Be Filed Here

A representative of the Treasury department, internal revenue service, will be in Sparta at the Alleghany county courthouse on Tuesday, Feb. 17, to assist the taxpayers in filing their income tax returns, according to Collector C. H. Robertson, of Greensboro.

"We, of course, are anxious to serve as many taxpayers as possible during this time," Mr. Robertson said. The federal income taxes must be filed by March 15.

Heavy Mails, Bond Sales And Car Stamps Rush Post Office

Silas Nichols and Robert Gambill are highest in Civil Service Exams.

The Sparta post office was almost deluged with work during the past week, according to acting postmaster, Sam Brown, due to several reasons.

Clerk Oder Joiners left last Thursday, after volunteering for army service in the Quartermaster's division. He had been in the local office for six years. For two days Mr. Brown had no assistant until he called upon Robert Gambill to be temporary clerk.

While Mr. Brown had no assistance, the mails were heavy, including the approximately 1,800 newspapers sent out Friday morning by The News. Then, the first of the month mail came in over the week end.

District WPA Manager Stops Work; Reports Severe Criticism

Criticism directed at the WPA labor crew working on a soil conservation project in Alleghany county has succeeded in stopping this project, and the crew will return to work on county roads effective tomorrow on order from C. M. Crutchfield, district manager of WPA in Winston-Salem.

Mr. Crutchfield said this week, "As criticism which we are receiving is extremely severe, therefore, I am requesting Mr. Arol Choate, our county superintendent, to arrange for the transfer of workers to the county-wide road project effective February 6."

Who launched the criticism at the local project was not revealed by Mr. Crutchfield, but it was understood to have been locally.

This is a severe blow to the 45 farmers who are already cooperating with the New River soil conservation district, and to 119 other farmers who have signed applications for assistance. It was understood these farmers are protesting the stoppage of this project, and some were considering circulating a petition of protest.

The farmers are aroused because like projects have been underway in surrounding counties for sometime. One county farmer pointed out that one or more such projects are being pushed in Wilkes, Ashe, and Surry counties, and a CCC camp is assigned to soil conservation in Grayson county, Virginia.

The soil conservation district will continue to function in this county, according to D. M. Edwards, and Alton Thompson, supervisors of the local unit. Losing the crew will materially slow down the progress and demonstrational value of the soil conservation practices being established, it was said, but farmers of Alleghany county will continue to receive all aid possible from the local soil conservation unit.

Both supervisors expressed keen disappointment over losing the work crew so quickly and (Continued on Page Four)

'March Of Dimes' Passes \$70 Here

Funds Raised By President's Birthday Be Used Fight Infantile Paralysis

The Infantile Paralysis drive in Alleghany county raised between \$70 and \$75 for the President's Diamond Birthday celebration, according to Mrs. Alton Thompson, chairman.

Two of the Wishing Well containers were still out yesterday, Mrs. Thompson said, and exact final report could not be given.

The Infantile Paralysis funds were made possible by a benefit basketball game, a President's dance, and contributions in the containers to the March of Dimes.

The basketball game between Sparta and Fries, Va., teamed \$25, Mrs. Thompson reported, while \$22 was cleared from the President's dance. Balance of the amount was through the March of Dimes, with the high school contributing \$12 of this amount.



"SILAS NICHOLS AND ROBERT GAMBILL ARE HIGHEST IN CIVIL SERVICE EXAMS."