

...making the Attack!  
WITH WAR BONDS

GIVE MORE IN '44  
RED CROSS WAR FUND

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

VOLUME 55, NO. 27      \$1.50 a Year in Alleghany County      SPARTA, NORTH CAROLINA      \$2.00 a Year Out of County      THURSDAY, MAR. 23, 1944

## Red Cross War Fund Far Short Of Goal

### Local Merchants Adopt Rules At Meeting Friday

Opening And Closing Hours, Holidays And Wed. Afternoon Closing Discussed

Local merchants held a short meeting Friday night after the Sparta Chamber of Commerce meeting, when they made several regulations concerning the opening and closing hours, holidays on which the stores would close and Wednesday afternoon closing.

It was unanimously decided that the following holidays would be observed by Sparta stores: Easter Monday, July 4, Labor Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas.

The group decided that the stores would be closed on Wednesday afternoons at 1 o'clock beginning the first Wednesday in April through the last Wednesday in August. This step was taken in order to give employees of the local stores time for victory gardening, it was explained.

Closing for funerals was also discussed and it was ruled that each store would close one hour and 15 minutes.

The group voted to petition the  
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### Lt. Mitchell Is Given An Award

Husband Of Sparta Girl Is Awarded Honor By Commanding Officers

First Lt. James S. Mitchell, who is married to the former Miss Virginia Gentry, of Sparta, recently received the Third Commendation in the eight-weeks on maneuvers at Murfreesboro, Tennessee, an honor similar to the Distinguished Service Medal in combat.

The commendation by Major General E. P. Parker, Jr., is as follows:

"I commend you for your exemplary conduct, devotion to duty and loyalty to your 'team' as shown in O-5 of the current maneuvers. Following the counter-attack by the 1st. Battalion, 311th Infantry, on February 29, which ended in its being cut off from the rest of that Regiment, your getting through the enemy lines provided the Commanding Officer, 311th Infantry the first information of the exact situation of his 1st Battalion and how he could assist in its escape. Your repeated voluntary returns to the 1st. Battalion and your assistance in its guidance to its escape route aided materially in the success of that operation. This loyalty to the unit for which you are Liaison Officer is greatly appreciated by those concerned in the 311th. Infantry and is highly gratifying to me."

Lt. Mitchell was also commended by Brigadier General Frank Camm.

### Snow And Sleet Initiate Spring

Spring officially arrived a day earlier this year, on Monday, because of leap year; but the weather man failed to recognize this and allowed King Winter to continue to hold sway.

The heaviest sleet of the season, following rain, initiated Spring with a new ice coat in this section. Telephone and power lines were damaged and in some instances were out of use for several hours.

Transportation was greatly slowed down for a while because of the freezing rain and sleet; accompanied by a heavy fog.

While the sun melted most of the ice away, Monday, snow flurries were felt on Monday night and so far, Spring has been a cold season in this section.

### Write Home In Red Cross Club



Country school desks serve as writing tables in a Red Cross club in Italy. For many men of the Fifth Army, this was their first chance to write home and read at leisure since moving up to the front.

### Emirau Island Taken By Americans; Reds Are Now Near Prut

Bitter Struggle On Cassino Hill; New Drive May Be Underway

With the talk of another invasion of Europe in the background, fighting continues with renewed vigor on all fronts this week.

In a battle recently timed with the Japanese bombardment of the Japanese base of Kavieng, American forces landed Monday on Emirau island in the St. Mathias group, above New Ireland, for the northernmost penetration by the allies in this theater, it was announced yesterday.

Emirau island is only 580 miles south of Truk.

Russian troops sweeping across the Dniester river into Bessarabia on a 50-mile front cut the Cernauli-Baltsy trunk railway yesterday, and stormed through 40  
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### Robert Andrews Prisoner Of War

Private Robert Cleve Andrews, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Andrews, of Sparta, Rt. 2, wrote his parents on February 10 from a German war prison camp.

Although no official information has been received by his parents from the War Department, it was concluded that Pvt. Andrews is being held a prisoner of war. No word had been received from him since January 8.

Pvt. Andrews was listed as "missing in action" by the War Department in the North African area on September 13, 1943, but was later listed as wounded in action. He had written his parents regularly until January.

### Pfc. Vernon Miles Drowned On N. African Coast

Son Of Mr. And Mrs. Paul Miles, Of Cherry Lane, Is Drowned In Landing

Private First Class Vernon Carl Miles, 21, son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Miles, of Cherry Lane, was drowned on March 3 in North Africa, just off Cape Corbin, Algiers, according to a message received by his parents from the War Department last Friday.

The message stated that Pfc. Miles was drowned when a landing craft overturned.

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### Sanitation And Attendance Are Discussed By Teachers

At the county-wide teacher's meeting held in the reading room of Sparta high school, Saturday morning, with Supt. Clyde Fields, in charge, Mr. Wade Eller, of the district health department of Alleghany, Ashe and Watauga counties, discussed with the teachers the health situations of the schools.

Mr. Eller will inspect all schools in the county in the near future in view of checking them on prevailing health conditions, such as general cleanliness, water supply and toilet facilities.

Swanson Edwards, county superintendent of public welfare, in a talk to the teachers, gave his point of view on what the teachers and principals should do to co-operate with him in compulsory school attendance. He supplied blanks on which the teachers may report absences to the welfare department.

R. E. Black, county salvage chairman, appealed to the teachers for their co-operation in carrying out the waste paper drives in the different communities of the county and also he explained to them the new market in Sparta for waste fats.

Also present at the meeting was Carl Hash, of Piney Creek, a member of the Board of Education.

After the business session of the teacher's meeting, the group divided into departments, primary, grammar grade and high school, and adjourned to different rooms for interesting discussions on current school matters.

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### County Board Of Elections Named; Meetings Planned

Amendments Suggested By State Board In Handling Of Absentee Ballots

At a meeting of the State Board of Elections, held in Raleigh, Saturday, county election board members were named and two amendments to the regulations governing the soldier absentee ballot bill, designed to simplify the mailing and handling of these were suggested.

Named on the election board for this county were L. E. Edwards, Elmer Edwards and S. S. Landreth.

The board also set dates and meeting places for county board chairmen with members of the State board. Handling of the absentee ballots will be discussed at these meetings, Col. W. L. Joyner, chairman of the board said.

First of the meetings will be held at Edenton, March 27, and others will follow at Greenville, March 28; Asheville, April 3; and Statesville, April 4.

The amendments to the absentee regulations provide that a separate register be set up for absentee voters (servicemen only)

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### OPA Check Shows Food Stores Here Are Cooperating

Merchants Asked To Correct Minor Violations Before Second Check

Mrs. Robert Fleetwood, clerk of the Alleghany ration board, announced this week that as a result of the check made by the price panel board on all stores in the county, only nine minor violations were found in eight of the stores. It was pointed out that most of the stores were cooperating in practically all of the regulations.

Another check will be conducted this week, she stated, for those eight stores in violation of the OPA rulings. If the violations have not been corrected when this second check is made, the store owners will be called before the local ration board, it was pointed out.

Mrs. Fleetwood explained that two stores were in violation because of failure to comply with posting regulations and that six stores were reported charging slightly over the ceiling price for canned milk, tomatoes, peas and peanut butter.

"It is hoped that all violations will be corrected before the second check is made," Mrs. Fleetwood stated.

### Honor Roll Board Completed Mon.

Sponsored By American Legion; Carries Names Of Men In Service

The Honor Roll board containing the names of all those Alleghany men and women in the armed service, on the courthouse lawn, was completed Monday afternoon.

The board, which contains a list of 524 names, was erected under the sponsorship of American Legion Post "98", with Jess Moxley, commander and S. R. Nichols, adjutant, heading the drive to raise funds for the project. More names will be added later as the county's service roll grows.

The board, 8x16 feet, and with the caption "Those from Alleghany county who are serving in the armed forces", is constructed of steel plates with white letters painted on a black background.

The names of those who have died in service or have been killed in action are designated by a gold star; those who are missing or have been taken prisoners of war are designated by a silver star. A "C" is placed beside the colored men in service and a "D" by those who have been discharged.

The list contains three nurses, two Wacs and one Wave.

### Five File In Senate Race; Other Candidates Named

Raleigh — The list of Democratic candidates seeking the U. S. Senate seat now held by Robert R. Reynolds swelled to five here Saturday and a third candidate filed for the Office of Lieutenant Governor as filing books in the office of Secretary Raymond Maxwell of the State Board of Elections closed for the 1944 primaries.

Giles Yeoman Newton of Gibson is the new Democratic candidate for the Senate. His opponents are former Governors Clyde R. Hoey of Shelby and Cameron Morrison of Charlotte. The other candidates are Marvin L. Ritch of Charlotte and Arthur Simmons of Burlington.

In the race for Lieutenant Governor, James T. Lyda of Greensboro added his name to the list which already includes L. Y.

### Watched Los Negros Invasion



Gen. Douglas MacArthur (left), who personally directed the invasion of Los Negros island, Lieut. Gen. Walter Krueger, Sixth army commander (center), and Vice Adm. Thomas Kinkaid, commander of the U. S. navy forces, Southwest Pacific, return to a forward base on a PT boat after witnessing the successful U. S. assault on the Admiralty islands.

### Enthusiastic Meeting Held By Merchants, Business And Professional Group, Friday

New Organization To Be Called Sparta Chamber Of Commerce

At an enthusiastic meeting here on Friday night, the merchants, business and professional group decided to name their newly formed organization, The Sparta Chamber of Commerce, which got underway with 52 charter members.

President Floyd Crouse was in charge, and in addition to the naming of the organization a number of other business matters relative to starting work were brought before the group.

Following the report of C. R. Roe, chairman of the committee on constitution and by-laws, it was unanimously decided that the organization which is to combine the function of a civic club, merchants association and chamber of commerce would be known as the Sparta Chamber of Commerce.

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### Pfc. Bert Richardson Recovers From Wounds Received



Pfc. Bert Richardson, who is now recovered from wounds received on the Italian front.

### Barrett Man Injured While In Action In Italy; Released From Hospital

Pfc. Bert Richardson, son of Mr. and Mrs. T. T. Richardson, of Barrett, has been released from the hospital and has returned to his unit after recovering from wounds received in action in Italy, it was learned this week.

Pfc. Richardson, who was engaged in the battles of Tunisia and Sicily and later in the Italian campaign, was interned in the 45th General hospital in Italy for 15 days, due to injuries sustained.

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### Report Sommers Missing In Action

Mrs. Virgil O. Sommers, Aberdeen, Maryland and formerly of Piney Creek, received official word from the War Department, Monday, March 13, that her husband, Corporal Virgil O. Sommers, was "missing in action" in Italy. He had been missing since January 30.

Cpl. Sommers volunteered for service, entering the army in May, 1942. He was transferred overseas in April, 1943, and served in North Africa and Sicily before engaging in the Italian mainland conflict. He was a member of the Ranger Battalion and was wounded once during the invasion of Italy.

Mrs. Sommers is the former Miss Ella Phipps, of Piney Creek.

### Rationing Guide

**MEATS AND FATS**  
Book Three Brown Stamps Y and Z valid through March 20. Red Stamps A8, B8, C8 in Book Four became valid February 27 and are good for 10 points each through May 20. Book Four 10-point Red Stamps D8, E8 and F8 good through May 20. Brown one-point stamps may be used as change through March 20; Red tokens are good indefinitely.

**PROCESSED FOODS**  
Book Four Green Stamps K, L and M valid through March 20. Ten-point Blue Stamps A8, B8, C8, D8, and E8 are valid through May 20. One-point Green Stamps good as change through March 20; Blue tokens good indefinitely.

**SUGAR**  
Book Four Stamp 38 good for five pounds indefinitely. Stamp 31 becomes valid April 1, valid indefinitely. Stamp 48 is good for five pounds of canned sugar until February, 1945.

**GASOLINE**  
8-A coupons good for three gallons through May 8. Plain "B" and "C" and "D" coupons good for two gallons; "E" and "F" coupons are worth five gallons; "G" and "H" coupons are valid for five gallons.

**SNOWS**  
Book One Stamp 18 valid through April 30. Book Three airplane stamp 1 good indefinitely. A new stamp becomes valid May 1.

### Alleghany Has Not Yet Raised Half Of Quota

\$1,915.54 Still To Be Raised Before County's Quota Of \$3,400.00 Is Reached

Reports late yesterday revealed that \$1484.46 has been raised so far in the Red Cross Campaign in Alleghany county. This leaves \$1,915.54 yet to be contributed before the goal is met.

"With contributions not yet reaching the half-way mark of our quota, we still have a long way to go but I feel sure that we can make it if those who have not made liberal contributions will do so at once", Chairman W. O. Hooper stated.

Mr. Hooper also again reminded the citizens of the county that their rural letter carriers were taking contributions. Reports from all the carriers have not been received but it is understood that the patrons are co-operating splendidly in the drive.

A Red Cross rally is being held at the Rich Hill school, Saturday night when a movie will be shown and string music furnished by the Smith brother's band.

A box supper, proceeds to go to the Red Cross, is being held Friday night at the Vox school house, it was announced.

The Sparta school is planning an entertainment for the camp (Continued on Page Four)

### New Rules For Gasoline Stamps

Regulations Governing The Use Of "R" Stamps Cited By The OPA

Beginning April 1, no service station or garage will be able to accept R ration gas stamps unless they have a delivery system for delivering gas to storage places and have the approval of the district ration office to carry on the delivery, Mrs. Robert Fleetwood, ration clerk, announced today.

Persons who have R stamps on hand may apply at the local ration office and have them exchanged for E stamps, she pointed out. The E stamps may be used as R stamps have been used heretofore. However, it was explained, the local ration board must first approve the exchange before it is made.

This step is being taken in an effort to curb black market sales of gasoline on R stamps, she said.