



The Alleghany News

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

Alleghany County Is . . .
Outstanding Livestock, Agriculture and Tourist Center,
With A Population of 8,341.

VOLUME 57, NO. 13

\$1.50 a Year in Alleghany County

SPARTA, NORTH CAROLINA

\$2.00 a Year Out of County

THURSDAY, DEC. 13, 1941

Alleghany Has Severe Winter Weather

School Planning Official Views Building Site

Consideration Given For Proposed New Elementary Building For Sparta

W. F. Credle, with the school-house planning department of the State Board of Education, and Lindsey M. Gudger, architect, were in the county yesterday, principally in the interest of looking over the situation for making suggestions for a new elementary school building for Sparta school, Supt. Clyde Fields announced.

Both Mr. Credle and Mr. Gudger plan to return to Alleghany within a few weeks when they will meet with the County Board of Commissioners and the County Board of Education to discuss plans for the new building.

Patton May Be Brought To U. S.

Condition Is Still Grave; Mrs. Patton Is Now With Him In Hospital

Heidelberg, Germany — The condition of Gen. George S. Patton was still "grave" Wednesday night, three days after his neck was fractured in an automobile accident. But physicians hoped he was winning his fight for life and that it might be possible to remove him to the United States if his improvement continued.

Patton was still paralyzed from the neck down. But though physicians said his condition was still grave, they defined that as meaning an improvement over the previous "critical."

If it is decided later to remove him to the United States, it was said, he may be taken in a plaster cast, possibly by plane. Patton received messages from President Truman and Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, wishing him a speedy recovery.

Mrs. Patton is Patton's only regular visitor in his heavily guarded first-floor room at the hospital. One of two bulletins issued during the day by a staff of famous nerve specialists attending the 60-year-old general said that the arrival of Mrs. Patton Tuesday cheered him.

Nurses called Patton a perfect patient who said that he did not want to be bothersome.

Physicians said that every aid was being given Patton and that the rest was largely up to him.

Mrs. Patton, who made a transatlantic airplane flight to be with him in the biggest fight of his life, visited him at the 130th Station Hospital.

"I am very handy to be here with my husband," she said. "Now that I have seen and talked with him, I am not the least worried. He looks very well. His care has been of the finest and I thank everybody from the bottom of my heart."

What Japs Did To Cpl. Walter Bell



After three and one-half years' internment in a Japanese prison camp, Cpl. Walter L. Bell, hero of Bataan, has returned home bringing with him a story of horror and torture and privation. He also brought a picture of himself, taken by the Japs for identification. Shown on the left is a picture of Bell before the war and on the right, a picture taken while he was a prisoner of war.

Basketball Season Will Be Officially Opened Tuesday As Sparta Meets Piney Crk.

Record Crowd Expected For Opening Game; Good Season Predicted

The basketball season will be officially opened in Sparta on Tuesday night, December 18, when the Piney Creek boys and girls will meet the Sparta boys and lassies in a double-header at the Sparta gymnasium.

Coach Joe Bill Reed said this week that both the Sparta boys and girls teams had some outstanding players and that a big season is expected. No schedule of games has been given but the local teams are expected to meet a number of teams from surrounding schools.

With the end of a successful football season, all eyes have turned to the basketball courts. However, few games are expected to be played before the Christmas holidays, it is understood.

Due to increased travel facilities. (Continued on Page 4)

Bus Routes Are Inspected Here

D. J. Dark, state bus route inspector, was in Alleghany during the first of the week, inspecting school bus routes of the county. Mr. Dark made a number of recommendations for slight changes in the routes, shortening a few of them because of rough roads and due to the fact that according to state law, children may walk one and one-half miles to meet a bus.

Mr. Dark also made some recommendations to the state Highway Department for graveling sections of the bus routes.

Johnston Will Speak To C. of C. Here On Friday

Special Christmas Music Has Been Arranged; Good Attendance Expected

Ira T. Johnston, prominent lawyer of Jefferson, will speak before the Chamber of Commerce here, Friday night at the regular December meeting.

Mr. Johnston, well-known throughout Alleghany county, is a noted speaker and is expected to bring an entertaining message.

In addition, Walter Johnson, of Sparta and Winston-Salem, will give a vocal solo, "O Holy Night." He will be accompanied at the piano by Mrs. Johnson. James Story, of West Jefferson, will be heard at the piano during the dinner hour.

A large number of members and guests are expected to be present for the meeting when a turkey dinner will be served.

Youth Reminded Fireworks Not To Be Shot Here

Boys Given Sentence For Lighting Firecracker In Local Theater

Youngsters were reminded this week that the shooting of firecrackers in the town of Sparta is absolutely forbidden, when Johnny Hoppers, 15-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Everette Hoppers, of Whitehead, was tried before juvenile judge S. O. Gambill, for shooting a firecracker in the local theater last Saturday night.

Young Hoppers, who was sitting in the theater, struck a match to a 9-inch firecracker, which (Continued on Page 8)

GETS ITALIAN CROSS



S. Sgt. Arthur Dean Taylor, son of Mr. and Mrs. D. L. Taylor, of Laurel Springs, was awarded the Italian Cross for military valor in the Italian campaign.

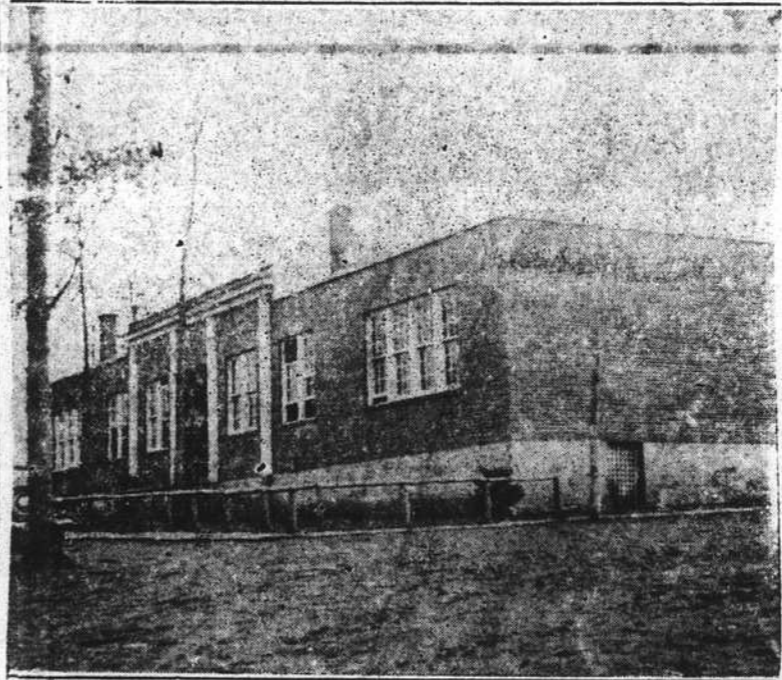
Fred Hart Still Active In Manila

Manila—Although war operations have ceased, Army activities are still continuing on a large scale. Among the busiest organizations are Ordnance units, which have the task of salvaging, reclaiming and rebuilding of thousands of war damaged vehicles. Pvt. Fred Hart, Jr., whose parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hart, Sr., reside in Laurel Springs, is a member of such an Ordnance organization.

Pvt. Hart is with the 141st Ordnance Base Automotive Maintenance Battalion, which operates several large base shops in this city for the purpose of rebuilding of engines and other automotive units. This rebuilt equipment is issued to the armed forces in the forces in Japan. At the present time, he is guarding Japanese prisoners of war, who are now being used for labor work in the construction of the area.

Before entry into the service, he was employed as a truck driver by the State Highway Department.

Destroyed By Fire Yesterday Morning



Nathan's Creek School, which was totally destroyed by fire yesterday morning. The loss was estimated at \$50,000.00.

Nathan's Creek School Bldg. Destroyed By Fire; Damage Is Estimated At Around \$50,000

Nichols Named Commander For American Legion

Membership Drive Underway; Discuss Plans For World War II Memorial

Robert Lee Nichols, veteran of World War II, was named commander of the Alleghany American Legion Post 98, at a meeting in the courthouse on Tuesday, it was announced yesterday.

Appointed to serve as adjutant was Ernest Edwards, also a veteran of World War II and now registrar of deeds of this county.

The two young men succeeded Jess Moxley as commander and S. R. Nichols as adjutant, it was pointed out. Other officers will be named at a meeting of the American Legion planned for January, it was explained.

Plans are also underway for a (Continued on Page 4)

Leaf Sales Good On Boone Mart

Reports through Tuesday night reveal that a total of 1,591,000 pounds of tobacco have been sold on the Boone Market, through the Mountain Burley Tobacco Warehouses since the season opened on December 3.

Roscoe Coleman proprietor said that prices were holding up unusually good on all the better grade tobacco, particularly. Prices on lower grades were slightly off this week.

"We appreciate the cooperation of the farmers and want you to know that we are happy to (Continued on Page Four)

Fire Broke Out Yesterday Morning Before School Opened

Nathan's Creek — (Special)—Nathan's Creek High School building, one of the most modern in Ashe county, was totally destroyed by fire of an unknown origin early yesterday morning, resulting in an estimated loss of \$50,000.00.

While it could not definitely be determined, it is believed that the fire, which originated in one of the rear rooms, was the result of a short circuit in the electric wiring. The smoke was first discovered by A. B. Hurt, principal, in a routine check on all of the rooms shortly before time for school to open. Help was sought in the neighborhood and the West Jefferson fire truck was brought into action immediately, but the shortage of water made it impossible to curb the blaze, which spread quickly throughout the building.

Members of the fire department worked with others and saved much of the movable equipment on the first floor. None on the basement floor was saved. School officials estimated the loss of the building, on which there was no insurance, and the equipment to be around \$50,000.

School officials said yesterday that it was too early to announce any plans, but it was hoped that some arrangements could be made to complete the school year as well as to erect a new building as soon as possible.

School children and teachers who started to school joyously, arrived to find their building in flames and smoke. Many wept openly over the loss. Others stood by and with the true spirit (Continued on Page Four)

More Snow Falls While Ground Is Still Covered

Low Temperature Makes Heating A Problem; Some Sickness Reported

Sparta and Alleghany county experienced another prelude to a "White Christmas" as snow began falling early this morning and continued through the day, laying another white blanket over the snow that remained from last week's flurry.

Throughout the week, the county has been experiencing the coldest weather of the season, with the mercury falling as low as seven degrees at many points.

After being closed Tuesday, school reopened Wednesday but the reports stated that the heat situation had been a big problem during the past week. A number of absences were reported, due to the extreme cold.

Highways remain open but are reported to be very slick, making travel dangerous. Buses made their usual rounds today. Communications also remain open.

With the snowfall today, people are reminded of the blizzard (Continued on Page 8)

County Schools To Close Dec. 19

Some To Resume Work On December 31; Others On January 2

Most Alleghany county schools will close on December 19 for the Christmas holidays, while others will not close until January 2.

It was explained that schools which are not affected by transportation, may choose their own closing date. Many schools, in an effort to get out early in the spring and to make up for time lost during "bad" weather, will teach until the last possible day before the holidays.

The schools will resume work after the holidays at various dates, according to the time they dismissed, Miss Fields said. Many will end the holiday vacation on December 31, while others will not take up school work again until January 2.

Sparta schools will close on December 19 and resume work on January 2, it was announced.

The two weeks' vacation, which will be enjoyed by most of the schools, is a longer period than was given last year, it was pointed out, but with many servicemen returning and peacetime schedules again taken up, it was considered fitting.

TO HOLD SERVICE

Revs. Troy Baker and C. L. Billings will preach at Pine Fork Baptist church on Sunday night, December 16, it was announced this week.

The public is cordially invited to attend the service.

Behind Your Bonds
Lies the Might of America

SHEEP AND CATTLE
New Mexico's 41,368 farms, containing 94,577,000 acres valued at over \$178 million, produce corn, wheat, cotton, fruits and vegetables worth millions annually. 12 1/2 million sheep and lambs and 1 million cattle add millions more to national wealth that guarantees Victory Bonds.

U. S. Treasury Department

Twins Win Same Awards In Army

Heroism is a family trait with the Longmore twins of Pittsburgh, Pa. Sons of Mrs. Charles Longmore, both were presented with the bronze star, won in Italy while fighting with the U. S. mountain troops. William is at left and his twin Charles at right.

Most Of India Still Travels On Foot; Vehicles Described

By "Buck" Rader

(Editor's Note: This is the second of a series of articles written by Jennings Buckley Rader, who for many months was with the First Air Commandos in India. His observations of that country are both interesting and informative.)

Two thousand years ago in Hindu-stan, the poor walked, the rich rode horses or gharries, and the very rich, sedan chairs or elephants. The masses, being poor, made them a nation moving on foot.

Today in India, of the British, it's much the same, they still walk. They make long trips on foot and it is common practice for the whole family to walk to market each week and transport their wares on their head or balanced on their shoulders. When carried on their shoulder, they divide the load into two baskets and suspend them on a flexible bamboo pole and trot along in such a way that the load bobs up and down, when they get synchronized to the rhythm the load is only on their shoulder half the time. Thus, they can go great distances with apparent ease.

The sedan chair ranges from a chair carried on a pole by two coolies to elaborate closed sedans with as many as four or more coolies, depending on the wealth of the owner. Today, they are usually rented for weddings and special occasions.

While on foot travel, the old stand-by, the ricksha, must be mentioned. The ricksha is nothing more than a two-wheeled sulkie drawn by human power. Between the shafts is a coolie, not a horse. Some have tops that resemble the old-fashioned bugie.

(Continued from Page 1)

Behind Your Bonds
Lies the Might of America

SILVERWARE
One factory at Providence, R. I., manufactures more sterling silverware and more ecclesiastical articles than any other plant in the world. The city has the largest foundry for casting bronze statues, memorial tablets and wrought iron doors. It is always busy making essentials, which add wealth to the Nation to guarantee Victory Bonds.

U. S. Treasury Department