

GATES COUNTY INDEX

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(One Week Nearer Victory)

12 Pages This Week

High Winds Leave Property Damage In Sunbury Area

Winds of gale force ripping through Gates county in gusts up to 45 miles per hour early Monday afternoon left a considerable amount of damage in the Sunbury vicinity. No other property damage was reported in the county.

At the home of E. E. Parker, two sheep were killed when the storm tore the roof from a large outbuilding used for livestock and farm equipment storage. The building, 70 by 25 feet, was also otherwise damaged. Mr. Parker said the same thing happened at his home in a similar storm two years ago.

At the home of George Lassiter another outbuilding was unroofed and upset while Mr. Lassiter, his son and a friend were in it. The three people escaped injury, however.

Several big trees were uprooted in the yard at the home of Miss Essie Whedbee, and in other parts of Gates county the storm accompanied at one time by a deluge of rain, blew branches from trees, overturned garbage pails and tore small signs from their moorings.

Negro Shot From Ambush Suffers Shoulder Wounds

Opening a week of unusual violence in Gates county, Claude Savage, proprietor of Savage's place, Negro establishment north of Gatesville, was the victim of an ambush shooting late Christmas night.

Sheriff L. F. Overman who investigated, said Savage was walking between his place of business and his home a short distance away, when a shotgun blazed and embedded a full load of shot in his shoulder, face and arm. He was treated in the offices of Dr. T. L. Carter and is not considered to be seriously injured.

The sheriff said that Savage believes he knows who did the shooting, but no arrests had been made in connection with the ambushing Monday.

Two Are Fined After Accident

Following a two-car collision near Sunbury Sunday night, two Negroes, Meredith Riddick and Clinton Matthews of Sunbury, were found guilty of reckless driving in Gates county recorder's court and fined \$10 each. Matthews also paid a ten dollar fine for driving without permit.

The cars, Sheriff L. F. Overman said, were heavily damaged, and one Negro passenger suffered slight injuries.

Gas For Trucks

Since the time for buying motor vehicle licenses has been extended to February 1, the Gates county rationing board will issue first-quarter gasoline for trucks on old license plates provided the trucks have 1944 license plates are in operating condition.



GENERAL ARNOLD MEETS AIR ACES — Gen. H. H. ("Hap") Arnold talks to group of recently returned war-zone pilots at football game in Los Angeles Coliseum. He is being congratulated upon his promotion to the rank of "General of the Armies".

Negro Escapes Prison Camp; Commits Rape

Escaping from the Gates County Prison Camp last Tuesday afternoon, John McGee, 50-year old negro serving 20 years for rape in Wilson county, was recaptured Thursday night between Whalleyville and Holland by Sheriff L. F. Overman and Superintendent E. D. Dickens of the prison camp. Within a few hours after he went over the prison fence, however, McGee at the point of a knife allegedly raped Mary Riddick, colored woman who lives near the camp, and at hearing before Judge E. S. A. Ellenor Tuesday of this week he was bound over to Gates county Superior Court for trial in March for the latest crime.

As recently as two months ago, McGee was tried in Manteo on a similar charge, but was found not guilty. A detachment of prisoners from the Gates county camp was working on roads

See NEGRO ESCAPES, Page 4

Opening Of Eure And Gatesville Schools Delayed

The re-opening of white schools at Gatesville and Eure which had been indefinitely postponed due to boiler trouble at the Gatesville school, will be on Thursday, January 4, Superintendent W. Henry Overman stated Tuesday. The same buses serve both schools, transporting high school students from Eure to Gatesville, so both schools were closed.

All other schools in the county opened Monday as scheduled, Superintendent Overman said.

Back In States

Cpl. Mike P. Lawrence, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Frank Lawrence of Windsor, Va., formerly of Gates county, was wounded in France in September and has been transferred back to the States. Two brothers and a nephew, all formerly of Gates county, are also in the armed forces. They are Lieut. Ray F. Lawrence and Major George E. Lawrence, the brothers, J. H. Lawrence, Jr., the nephew.

Banded Canada Goose Bagged By Thomas E. Parker

One of Jack Miner's banded Canada geese was shot by Ed Parker of Gates on a recent hunting trip to Lake Mattamaskeet in Hyde county. William Lassiter and Ed Lilley of Gates, accompanied him and the party took a total of three geese.

Mr. Parker sent the band to Jack Miner at Kingsville, Ontario, Canada, and in return received a letter from Miner's bird sanctuary thanking him for reporting the kill. The bird was banded in the spring of 1944 and weighed 12 and three-quarter pounds.

Miner's object in banding birds is to study their exact migration route; to learn how long they live and how far they travel. The information is valuable from an educational and scientific standpoint.

There's an interesting story in connection with the Jack Miner Bird Sanctuary. On the band was a verse of scripture from the Bible. The Bible verse has been invaluable among the Eskimos and Indians who shoot an occasional goose. Miner's letter said. They take the band to their

See BANDED GOOSE, Page 4

Rountree Cited For Action With AAF In Pacific

Tech. Sgt. Thomas B. Rountree, the son of Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Rountree of Hobbsville, has received a letter of commendation from St. Clair Streett, Major General, U. S. Army, Commanding, according to information from headquarters of the 13th AAF, Southwest Pacific.

The commendation said in part: "I wish to extend my personal congratulations for your superior performance as a combat crew member of a magnificent air team during the recent South and Southwest Pacific campaign."

The letter also contained quotations by General MacArthur and General Arnold to Major General Streett and the members of his command.

Farmers Vote This Month On Entering R-C Soil Conservation District

Gates county landowners will be given an opportunity the week of January 15-20 to vote on the question of Gates county organizing and becoming a part of the Roanoke-Chowan Soil Conservation District which now is comprised of Northampton, Bertie and Hertford counties. There is an advertisement in this issue of the Index to this effect.

The State Soil Conservation Committee authorized Gates County landowners to organize on September 2, 1944. During the week of December 11, 1944, five hearings were conducted in the county where the plan of organization was explained, together with the benefits that landowners could receive by organizing. No opposition to the movement was registered at any of the meetings held.

The farmers will receive technical assistance without any extra cost either to themselves, the county or district in the way of increased taxes, costs or assessments for such services. The trained men furnished the county will aid farmers in developing good farm plans including farm ditches, tile drains, good soil management practices, crop rotations and forestry management.

Every landowner will receive through the mails before January 15 a self-addressed card which requires no postage on which to vote a preference. The landowner is requested to sign his name on the ballot or card and drop it in the mails. It will be returned to the county agent's office. It is urged that all landowners vote in this referendum. Unless the landowner signs his name to the ballot it will not be counted.

"Farmers have all to gain and nothing to lose by bringing this service to Gates county," declares John Artz, the county agent.

Thomas G. Hayes Funeral Rites Held Saturday

Funeral services for Thomas Hayes were held Saturday morning at St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Gatesville, the Rev. John H. Bonner, Jr., officiating. Interment was in the Parker family cemetery at "Elmwood."

A life long resident of Gates County, Mr. Hayes was prominent in civic affairs, a director of the Bank of Gates for many years, vestryman of St. Mary's Church and outstanding for his generosity.

He was married in 1905 to Miss Hulda Parker.

Eight Register

During December, the following boys registered with the Gates County Selective Service Board on reaching their eighteenth birthdays:

George Phil Jackson, Marvil Astor Harrell, James Preston Hassell and Herman Riddick McCarthy, white; and Willie Mack Boone, Algernon Lorenza Lassiter, Arthur Conrad Bond, and Claude Matthew Johnson, colored.



LEAVES OPA. — W. Hance Hoffer, above, of Durham, native of Gatesville and son of Mrs. J. L. Hoffer, Sr., of Gatesville, has resigned his position with the Raleigh OPA district.

Attempted Rape Charge Lodged Against Negro

Lonnie Jordan, colored, of Middle Swamp, was permitted to post bond last Tuesday following a hearing before Judge E. S. A. Ellenor where grounds for probable cause were found charging attempted rape on Carrie Winborne, wife of Nelson Winborne, Negro.

Sheriff L. F. Overman who found Jordan at home and served the warrant, said that the woman had waited several days after the alleged crime took place on December 23 before she sought a warrant.

The sheriff said that the woman was taking a bath in her home alone when Jordan approached her and threatened her with a knife. Jordan is a farmer and works in pulpwood operations.

The Winborne woman said she thwarted Jordan by accepting a dollar from him and promising to see him the next day.

Fined For Missing VD Treatments

For failing to submit to treatment for a venereal disease, Richard Boone, 18-year-old Gates Negro, was given a jail sentence in Magistrate J. A. Eason's court Saturday. The jail sentence is to be suspended upon payment of fine and costs totaling \$19 and upon condition that he reports to the health department in the future.

Bring The Record

Service men making application for the one gallon of gasoline per day allowed them, must bring form No. R-534 when applying for gasoline. This means that the rationing record must be presented for the automobile that is to use the gasoline, and applies to all rations of gasoline as well as special rations.