

GATES COUNTY INDEX

The Only Newspaper Published in and for Gates County

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Gatesville, N. C., Wednesday, April 4, 1945

(One Week Nearer Victory)

12 Pages This Week

Five-Day Fire Loss Hits \$30,000



MISSING.—Sgt. Herbert M. Gatling of Gates, son of Mrs. Nell M. Gatling, has been missing in action over Germany since February 16. He was serving in the Army Air Forces as an aerial gunner.

War Fund Up Over The Goal

Complete returns in the Red Cross War Fund have reached a total of \$4,003.93. This is \$503.93 above the chapter goal set for the chapter by the area headquarters, according to the Rev. T. Sloane Guy, Sr., chapter chairman.

This is a very fine showing, and speaks in a fine way of the splendid spirit of Gates county people, and the fine way they discharge their duty and meet their obligations," he said.

"Our negro friends also did fine work in oversubscribing the goal set for them. They raised a total of some \$530.00," he added.

The chapter chairman also expressed his personal thanks to all who aided in bringing about the final results.

Lawrence Appeals To Supreme Court; \$10,000 Bond Set

Douglas P. Lawrence appealed to Supreme Court after a Gates county jury found him guilty in Superior Court last week of passing a forged check. Three other check charges were continued. Judge John J. Burney, presiding, has fixed Lawrence's sentence at four to five years in the State's penitentiary at hard labor.

Represented by Herbert Leary of Edenton, C. Wallace Jones of Winton, and T. W. Costen of Gatesville, Lawrence's case had attracted a considerable amount of interest in Gates county. Judge Burney gave him 60 days to perfect his appeal and set his appeal bond at \$10,000. Lawrence was still in Gates county jail Monday evening.

John McGee, inmate of the prison camp near Gatesville, was

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Seventeenth Gates County Marine Is Killed In Overseas Action

Gates county mourned its seventeenth son killed in action Saturday when it was learned that Pfc. Bernard E. Hobbs, son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter E. Hobbs of near Gates, died in the fighting on Iwo Jima.

Pfc. Hobbs, U. S. Marine Corps, was wounded on March 1, and died while enroute to a hospital ship, his parents were advised by the War Department. Pfc. Hobbs' name appears today on the Index Roll of Honor.

Twenty years of age, he was in the Fourth Marine Division, and received his training at Parris Island, S. C., and New River. He entered the service in June, 1944, and arrived in Honolulu on Thanksgiving Day.

In addition to his parents, he is survived by three sisters and three brothers, one of whom is in the Pacific with the Maritime Service.

Lieut. Roy B. Hall

Another casualty related to Gates county, is that of Lieut. Roy

LIEUT. HALL KILLED

Mrs. Hall was advised by letter from another lieutenant Tuesday morning that Lieut. Roy B. Hall was killed on the morning of February 11 when his ship was torpedoed en route from New Guinea, the Index learned at press time.

B. Hall of Canaan, Vt., husband of the former Miss Eleanor Glenn, daughter of Mrs. John M.

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132 Sign Up For Current

"Property owners in the county who are without electric lights should be mightily pleased with the announcement in the Index of March 21 by the Virginia Electric and Power Company outlining its expansion program for rural service when material and labor becomes available," John Artz said Monday.

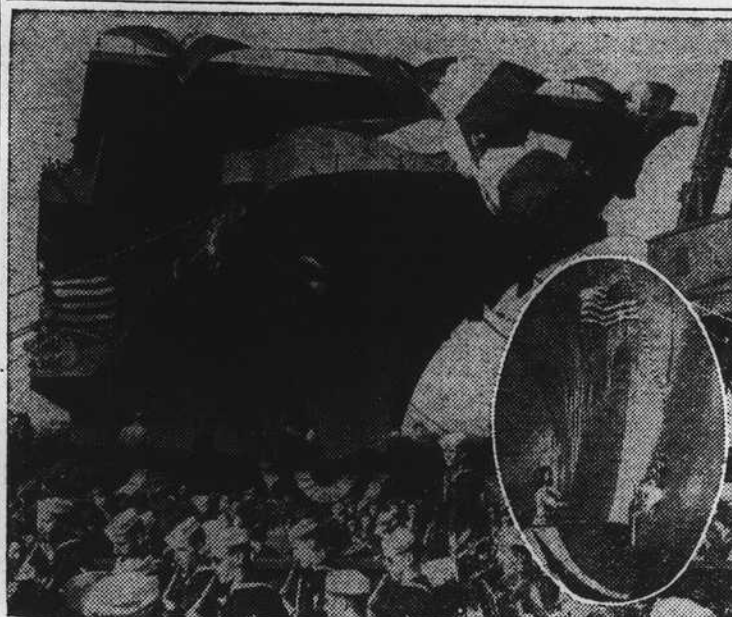
"It is hoped that the proposed expansion of the V. E. P. along with the extension proposed by the R. E. A. will materialize as planned. The services of these agencies with the cooperation of the people should enable Gates to be one of the best lighted rural counties in the state. It appears now that electric current in the near future will be available to the majority of our rural homes. It may be a realization

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In Science Club

Mars Hill, (Special) — Miss Lillian Parker, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Parker of Gates, has been selected to membership in the science club, the honor club in science and mathematics, at Mars Hill college.

Miss Parker is a second honor roll student and is a member of the Nonpareil Literary society.



MIGHTIEST CARRIER LAUNCHED—The world's largest warship, the U. S. S. Midway, 45,000-ton aircraft carrier, which was recently launched at the Newport News drydocks. The Midway will be the home of a "1945 model aircraft", so new it has not yet seen combat action. The combination will not be a pleasant one to be contemplated by the Japanese war lords.

Sawney C. Eure On Missing List

Pfc. Sawney Cecil Eure of Gates has been missing in action in the German theatre of war since February 24, according to information recently received by his parents from the War Department. He had left the United States for overseas duty less than a month earlier.

Son of Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Eure of Gates, Pfc. Eure entered the armed forces in April of 1943.

L.C. Hand Commands Destroyer Escort

Lieut. L. C. Hand, Jr., of Gatesville, has been promoted to commander of his ship, a destroyer escort operating in the Atlantic on which he served as executive officer last year.

Lieut. Hand has been in service since the fall of 1940, leaving Wake Forest College at the end of two years and going directly into service. He was home for a short while three weeks ago.

Flier, Husband of Gates Girl, Dies On Wedding Anniversary

Lieut. Frank Ray Aheron, 25, was killed in the European theatre of operations on March 11, according to a War Department message received by his wife, Mrs. Eileen Matthews Aheron of Norfolk, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Matthews of Gates.

A native of Spray, he got his Army Air Force wings in April and went overseas in September. Lieut. and Mrs. Aheron had been married exactly one year on the day he was killed as his plane

Clothing Drive Is Underway

The United National Clothing Collection for the destitute people of liberated countries will be conducted in Gates County April 1-30. The home agent and home demonstration county council will take the lead in sponsoring the drive. Every home demonstration club member is asked to bring at least one garment and more if possible to the April club meeting where the war service chairman, and clothing leader will receive it and prepare

See CLOTHING, Page 3

TO PREACH SUNDAY

H. H. Powell of Suffolk will conduct preaching services at Eureka Church Sunday; Sunday School at 11 o'clock and preaching at noon. The Reverend R. P. Ferguson of Mt. Airy has been extended a call to the field of three churches and will begin the pastorate in June.

Dozen Warrants To Be Served, Ranger Declares

Eighty thousand dollars is the estimated loss in pulpwood, mining timbers, piling, saw-logs and young growing trees as the result of a dozen separate fires that swept over more than 4,000 acres of Gates county woodlands during the period from Wednesday through Sunday.

As a further result of the fires, District Ranger B. B. Powell said Monday that at least a dozen warrants will be served on the first rainy day, when the 16 deputy fire wardens in Gates county can spare the time from their fire-fighting activities to furnish proof against those who started brush and ditch fires without permits.

Timberlands in Reynoldson, Gatesville, Hunters Mill and Holly Grove townships were among those the hardest hit by fire. Individual loss in timber property was sustained by Chesapeake Camp Corporation, Ernest Turner, C. E. Lang, W. A. Lassiter, Ed Miller and Mrs. Sallie Jenkins among others.

Few Hours Sleep

Powell, who has been pinch-hitting for County Warden Paul Taylor during his illness, and at the same time performing his own duties as district ranger, said that few of the 16 regular deputy wardens in addition to 80-odd volunteer fire fighters, have had more than a few hours sleep since the first fires were detected last Wednesday. Only two fires were burning Monday afternoon, however, and these had been surrounded and were under control.

Not since April 5, 1943, when

See FIRE LOSS, Page 7

Opa Price Program Tuesday

The government's new and far-reaching textile-apparel and house furnishings program and the part the retailer will play in that program will be explained to merchants in the Gates county trade territory at a meeting to be held at the agriculture building in Gatesville Tuesday night at 8 o'clock. This meeting will be conducted by a Mr. Houston from the OPA Price Division, Raleigh.

All retailers of any item of apparel, dry goods, shoes, furniture, bedding, lamps and floor coverings should arrange to attend this meeting as the provisions of the new regulation which will have direct bearing on the future conduct of their business, will be discussed and explained in detail.

Theodore S. Johnson, District OPA Director at Raleigh has said that plans for the organization of a merchants' committee in each locality to help War

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