

GATES COUNTY INDEX

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(One Week Nearer Victory)

Pages This Week

Nation Rallies To New Chief

Truman was Farmer, Soldier and Senator

Winton.—

"There is reason to be encouraged, and we are all praying for President Harry S. Truman," Judge Leo Carr said in Hertford County Superior Court Monday morning after eulogizing the late President Franklin Delano Roosevelt in an impromptu address to the April Grand Jury. "His record is not spectacular, but those who have watched, say there is probably no man in Washington who has fewer enemies," Judge Carr added.

Harry S. Truman, the man who didn't want to be vice president, was sworn in as president of the United States last Thursday night within three hours after President Roosevelt died suddenly at Warm Springs, Ga. President Truman solemnly pledged himself to the policies of Franklin D. Roosevelt, and issued this statement: "The world may be sure that we will prosecute the war on both fronts, east and west, with all the vigor we possess, to a successful conclusion."

Truman, The Man

Harry S. Truman, new president of the United States, was born in Lamar, Barton county, Mo., on May 8, 1884.

Both parents, John Anderson and Martha Ellen (Young) Truman, were natives of Jackson county. His grandparents were of Kentucky origin.

When he was 6 years old, the family moved to Independence, Mo.

See TRUMAN, Page 4

Truman Farm Boy, World War Major; Not College Grad

1884, May 8—Born Lamar, Mo., son of Mr. and Mrs. John Anderson Truman, farm folk.

1902—Just out of high school, took first job as drug store clerk at \$3 a week.

1906—Back to family farm.

1917 - 18 — In France with American troops first as captain of field artillery, later major.

1919—Married Miss Bess Wallace, childhood sweetheart.

1922—Elected judge of Jackson County (Mo.) Court.

1924—Defeated for re-election.

1924 — Daughter Margaret born.

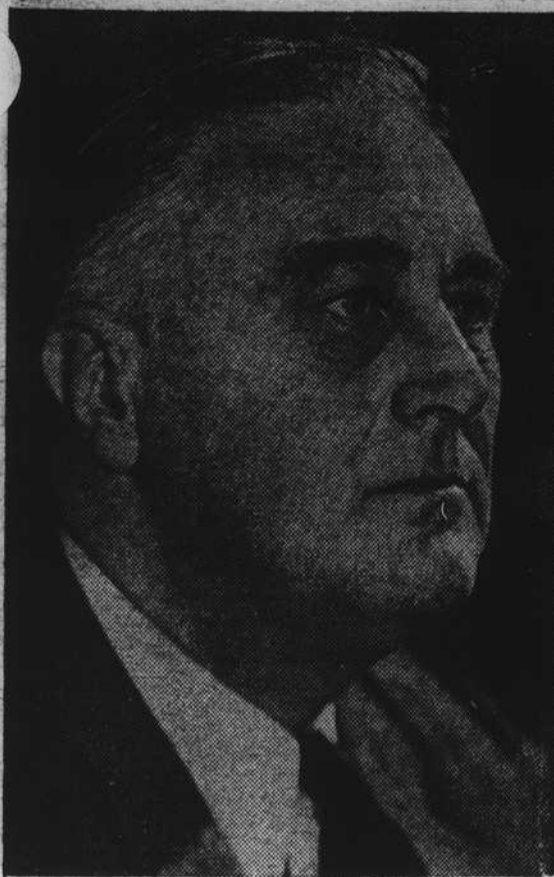
1926—Elected President Judge of Jackson County (Mo.) Court.

1934—Elected to U. S. Senate.

1940—Re-elected to Senate.

1944 — Won Democratic Vice Presidential nomination in contest with Henry A. Wallace; elected Vice President on ticket with President Roosevelt.

1945, April 12—Took oath as President.



WORLD MOURNS FOR HIM. President Franklin Delano Roosevelt who died suddenly Thursday afternoon at Warm Springs, Ga., where he was spending a short vacation.



NEW CHIEF. Vice President Harry S. Truman, who was sworn in as President of the United States last Thursday night. He pledged all his energies to carrying the war through to victory.

Bunch Is Cited As War Hero

With the Fourth Armored Division.—Corporal Garland J. Bunch, 26, husband of Mrs. Mary E. Bunch of Hobbsville, instrument operator with the 94th Armored Field Artillery Battalion, has been cited for gallantry in action and awarded the Silver Star by order of Major General Hugh J. Gaffey, commanding the Fourth Armored Division.

The citation reads in part: "The Silver Star Medal is awarded to Corporal (then Private First Class) Garland J. Bunch, 34178839, Battery 'A', 94th Armored Field Artillery Battalion, U. S. Army, for gallantry in action against the enemy on September 24, 1944, at Juvelize, France.

See BUNCH, Page 6

Walter N. Perry Buried Friday

Hobbsville. — Funeral services for Walter N. Perry, 70, who died at his home near here after a short illness Tuesday night at eight o'clock were conducted at the grave side in the family cemetery Friday afternoon by the Rev. Sloane Guy, Sr., pastor of the Sandy Cross Baptist Church.

The body was removed to the Rountree and Hoffer Funeral Home, Gatesville, where it remained until the hour of the service.

He is served by three brothers, O. M. Perry, Cleveland, Ohio; P. D. Perry, Portsmouth; and H. G. Perry, Wallace; one sister, Miss Mary Perry of Portsmouth.

Early Strawberries

Gatesville. — Large, juicy strawberries, bigger than a half-dollar, appeared ripened two or three weeks earlier than usual in L. C. Hand's patch last Wednesday morning.

He brought two to the Index office where they are on display, and said that he could have picked a gallon from his patch that morning. Unseasonably warm weather back in March is said to be the reason for early ripening.

GATLING IS CHAIRMAN

Gates.—G. D. Gatling is serving as chairman of the Cancer Control drive in Gates county.

Where Clothing For War Victims May Be Delivered

Gatesville. — Mrs. John W. Artz and Mrs. Walter Harrell, chairmen of the United National Clothing Collection for Gatesville, request that all garments be brought to the agricultural building, Gatesville, at the earliest moment. Clothing brought in by the Gatesville school children will be received by Mrs. Stanley Carter. It will be stored in the room opposite the principal's office.

See CLOTHING, Page 6

Major Cowper Awarded Silver Star for Gallantry In Action; Led Fighters on Record-Breaking 1,900 Mile Flight; Broke Own Non-Stop Distance Record

Headquarters, 13th AAF, Philippines. — "For gallantry in action in the vicinity of Ambon Bay, Netherlands East Indies, on October 2, 1944" the Silver Star has been awarded Major William R. Cowper, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. William R. Cowper, Sr., of Gatesville.

The Gatesville fighter pilots a P-38 Lightning for Brigadier General Earl W. Barnes' 13th AAF Fighter Command's White Knights unit. The citation for his decoration stated:

"This officer, leading his squadron of ten P-38's dive-bombed Laka airdrome through heavy anti-aircraft fire, and in pulling away noticed 40 to 50 enemy ships ranging in size from 100 to 1,000 tons in Ambon Bay.

"He strafed and set afire one large lugger, then led his squadron on a strafing sweep through an intense hail of anti-aircraft fire.

Great Destruction

"This attack resulted in the destruction of six merchant ves-



MAJ. WILLIAM COWPER

sels and a loaded barge, and damage to eight other merchant

vessels and barges. Major Cowper personally accomplished the destruction of three 500 to 1,000 ton vessels. He then led every plane in the formation safely back to base, although three of them had been damaged by the intense enemy fire.

"The gallantry and leadership displayed by Major Cowper are in keeping with the finest traditions of the Army Air Forces."

One of the veteran fighter pilots of the Pacific war, Major Cowper has flown combat missions against the Japanese from the Solomons to Rabaul, the East Indies, Philippines and Formosa. He flew on one of the first Pacific-island based fighter sweeps of the China Coast in February of this year.

Major Cowper has one Jap bomber to his credit. Since joining the Jungle Air Force—the veteran 13th—in the South Pacific, he has flown with both the Dirty Dozen and White Knights units.

See MAJOR COWPER, Page 6

To Help File For Sugar

Gatesville. — Women in the various neighborhoods of Gates county have volunteered to help the Gates County War Price and Rationing Board with the current canning sugar registration. Issuing the sugar will probably begin about May 1, according to W. Norfleet Hoffer, chief clerk of the board.

Registrants when calling on any of the following women for aid in making their applications are reminded to take with them Ration Book No. 4 for each person for whom canning sugar is required.

Hoffer said that he hopes soon to have a list of colored persons who will also help with the registration.

At present these are the women who will help:

Sandy Cross, Mrs. T. J. Stallings; Hobbsville, Mrs. W. L.

See SUGAR, Page 6

Little Action In Recorder's Court

Indecent exposure, assault and driving without permits featured the recent term of Gates county Court. All persons involved were Negroes.

Bertha Saunders of Gates was fined 10 dollars and costs for driving without a permit; Thomas L. Riddick of Gatesville, was fined 5 dollars and costs on the same charge.

Clinton Cofield of Gatesville was fined 50 dollars and costs for assault with a deadly weapon. Eddie Colson was sentenced to serve 15 months on the roads for indecent exposure.