



The Mountain Eagle.

VOLUME NO. 37.

WHITESBURG, LETCHER COUNTY, KENTUCKY, THURSDAY EVENING, April 13, 1944.

NUMBER 40.

Grand Jury Reports To Judge Fields

Whitesburg, Ky., April 8, 1944.
Hon. R. Monroe Fields, Judge Letcher Circuit Court, Whitesburg, Kentucky
Dear Sir:

We, the grand jury of Letcher County, wish to report that we have been in session six days and have made a good examination of crime conditions in Letcher County as time will permit. We have examined 78 witnesses and made 70 indictments, of which 54 are misdemeanors and 16 are felonies.

We find that crime conditions in the county are no worse than usual, but that roadhouses are the worst source of crime.

We have examined the courthouse and jail and find that sanitary conditions are very bad. The toilets in the basement of the courthouse are in an unsanitary and unusable condition. Sanitary conditions in the jail are also very bad. Bed clothing and mattresses are scant and unsanitary. Also the jury room in the courthouse where guarded juries are kept is an unclean and unsanitary condition. We have made one indictment along this line and recommend that the next grand jury make the proper investigation and if conditions have not changed that the next grand jury make further indictments.

We hereby recommend to the Fiscal Court that immediate steps be taken to make the necessary repairs to the courthouse and jail which together with the cooperation of the Jailer will make a clean and sanitary courthouse and jail.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. H. BROWN,
Foreman of the Grand Jury

Six Letcher County men are receiving their initial naval indoctrination at the U. S. Naval Training Station, Great Lakes, Ill.

Their "boot" training consists of instruction in seamanship, military drill and general naval procedure. During this period a series of aptitude tests will be taken by recruits to determine whether they will be assigned to Naval Service Schools or to immediate active duty at sea.

Their recruit training completed, these men will spend a period of leave at home. They are: James West, 25, husband of Mrs. Margaret West, Dunham; Elster McCown, 34, husband of Mrs. Lois McCown, Jenkins; Herbert Rowlett, 33, husband of Mrs. Ruth Rowlett, Jenkins; James Ables, 29, husband of Mrs. Dixie Ables, Kona; William Spears, 27, husband of Mrs. Mae Spears, McRoberts; Clark Combs, 32, husband of Mrs. Jane Combs, Whitesburg.

We wish to thank all the individuals, companies, Local Unions, Postmasters and Farm Agent and his Organization for their cooperation in making Letcher County American Red Cross War Fund Drive, a success. Every group and organization in this county subscribed to their goal and in some areas exceeded their goals to a great extent which made it possible for the County to reach the quota, for the first time in any American Red Cross War Fund Drive. We will publish names of all workers and the amount collected in the next issue.

—Dr. Lee Moore,
War Fund Chairman.

Ben M. Webb Passes From Time

Ben M. Webb of Potter's Fork, Ky., died on Monday, April 3, 1944 at his residence. He was born on October 3, 1873, aged 71 years 6 months. He had been in poor health for the past year but his sudden death resulted from a heart attack. He is the son of Dave L. and Sally Webb and was married to Laura Spangler, to which union was born ten children: Eight of whom survive him and two deceased: Ballard, Alfred and two boys deceased. Mrs. Blain Adams, Mrs. R. B. Wright, Mrs. Willie Stallard, Mrs. Ellis Anderson, Mrs. Sam Anderson and Mrs. Curtis Anderson. Uncle Ben was a good father, a devoted husband and an out-standing citizen and will be missed by his many relatives and friends as well as the community in which he made his home. He is survived by several brothers and sisters: J. Matt Webb, Ermine; Joe Webb, Louisville, Ky.; Urias Webb, Mayking, Ky.; Mrs. Jane Craft, Millstone; Mrs. Nannie Polly, Whitaker, Ky.; Mrs. Letha Davis, Foriston, Ky.; and Mrs. Maudie Weaver and Mrs. Maudie Weaver and Mrs. Florence Riddle, Alan, Ky. Funeral services were held at the Residence on Potter's Fork, Ky., Thursday, March 6, 1944 at 1:00 P. M., O'clock with Rev. G. Bennett Adams, Rev. Willis Tolliver and Rev. Dewey Sexton officiating. Burial in the Brose Wright Cemetery. Craft Funeral Home in charge of Funeral Arrangements.

An Eighth AAF Bomber Station, England— Technical Sergeant Edgar Lay, 21, of Whitesburg, Ky., has been awarded the Air Medal by his group commander, Colonel Hunter Harris, Jr. He is the radio operator and gunner on the plane, "Rumboogie" at this Eighth AAF Flying Fortress base in England.

Sgt. Edgar is the son of Mrs. S. E. Lay of Whitesburg. His wife, Mrs. Dessie Mae Lay, lives at the same address with their two year old daughter, Patricia Ann. Sgt. Lay graduated from High School in Evans, Ky., and while there took part in football, basketball, and baseball activities. Prior to entering the AAF in November, 1942, Sgt. Lay was a store manager in Whitesburg for one year.

The citation read, "For exceptionally meritorious achievement, while participating in five separate bomber combat missions over enemy occupied Continental Europe. The courage, coolness and skill displayed by Sgt. Lay upon these occasions reflect great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States."

With the Fifth Army, Italy—First Lieutenant Warren F. Sergeant, Whitesburg, Kentucky, physician, has been promoted to captain. He is a battalion surgeon in an infantry unit of the Fifth Army in Italy.

Captain Sergeant was commissioned at the Carlisle Barracks medical field service school in Pennsylvania last July 14 and formerly was stationed at Fort Sam Houston Texas. The doctor's wife, Mrs. Henrietta Z. Sergeant, lives in Whitesburg.

Passenger traffic on American railroads was almost four times as great in 1943 as in 1939.



PFC. B. E. WILLIAMS



MRS. NETTIE WILLIAMS

Mrs. Nettie Williams Receives Purple Heart Awarded To Her Son

Mrs. Nettie Williams formerly of Flat Gap, Va., but lately of Dayton, Ohio, recently received the Purple Heart which was awarded to her son, Pfc. Burley E. Williams who was wounded in battle in Italy and is now normally improving in North Africa.

Mrs. Williams also has two other sons in the service. Both are stationed in England. Cpl. Rudolph Williams and Sgt. James M. Williams.

Laborers are Urgently Needed At Patterson Field, Dayton, Ohio

A representative of Civil Service will be at the Court House in Whitesburg, Ky., on Friday, April 14, from 9:00 A. M. to 4:00 P. M. for the purpose of hiring workers. Good wages and good living conditions. Transportation paid by employer.

Only persons who are not now employed in essential war work will be considered.

Tom John, Restaurant Proprietor Dies In Asheville, N. C.

Many of our citizens were saddened this week when the news arrived stating that Tom John well-known restaurant proprietor here for many years had passed away in a sanatorium in Asheville, N. C. Mr. John had been in ill health for many months and had been taken to Asheville for treatment and where everything was done to restore his health but to no avail.

Mr. John is survived by his widow and three children. Funeral arrangements have not been completed as we go to press.

Electrical Storm Hits Kentucky

An electrical storm hit Letcher county and a large portion of Kentucky Tuesday night and from reports the damage is more than \$100,000 to property.

At Nortonville, Ky., Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Thoms, is reported to have lost her life when the roof of her home collapsed. Seven other persons in the house escaped injury.

Tobacco and other crops are said to have been severely damaged in various sections of the state.

Ft. Thomas, Ky.—Fess Polly, Linefork, Ky., has been sent to 1584th Service Unit, Camp Atterbury, Ind. Maurice J. Lewis, Whitesburg, Ky., has been sent to 1532nd Service Unit, Ft. Benjamin Harrison, Ind.

Jenkins Schools Make Excellent Red Cross Showing

According to a report from Superintendent C. V. Snapp the pupils and teachers at Jenkins City Schools contributed \$550.00 to the Red Cross in the campaign which just closed. This is unusually good when compared to the total of \$106.90 in the 1943 campaign. No teacher in the school system and no custodian paid less than \$2.00 and several principals and teachers paid as much as \$10.00.

The total amount contributed by the school personnel of 58 members is \$175.25. The amount contributed by the classrooms is \$354.47. The amount contributed by school units is as follows: Jenkins \$155.52, McRoberts \$140.08, Burdine \$76.00, Dunham \$42.25, All Colored Schools \$115.87, and Administrative Offices \$20.28.

TWO TO BE TRIED ON FALSE VOTING CHARGE

Mrs. Rhoda Rose and John Batimch, both of Cumberland River section, Harlan County, are scheduled to go on trial in Letcher Circuit Court today according to information reaching The Eagle. They are charged with false swearing in connection with the local option election held on May 31st.

The two are also accused of registering as residents of Letcher County while actually living in Harlan county.

Five other defendants are to be tried on similar charges during the present term of court.

WAR NEWS BRIEFS

Americans are still pounding Germany from the air. Chinese troops pushing south into Mogaung Valley. Japanese on New Guinea get pounding. German army in retreat from Crimea. Hannover is smashed by RAF bombers. Swiss get check for one million dollars on bomb losses. Yugoslavia takes big German base of Gradina. Italian King to step from throne after fall of Rome. Japs who refuse military service go on trial.

Uncle Larkin Collins Is Called by Death

Larkin Collins, aged 85 years passed from time after an illness of several months, at the home of his son, Blaine Collins, Isom, Ky. Uncle Larkin had been in failing health for some time but was able to be up and around visiting with and among his children until three weeks ago when he was compelled to take to his bed to stay. He is a well-known citizen of Letcher county and has many friends. Many years ago he became a member of the Regular Baptist Church and until his death lived a devoted Christian life. Early in life he was married to Elizabeth Collins and to this union was born thirteen children, six of whom survive him: Blaine, of Isom, Ky.; Beve of Smoot Creek, Ky.; Jasper of Cumberland, Ky.; Jimbo of Whitesburg; Leander of Isom, Ky.; and Mrs. Patsy Smith of Hot Spot, Ky. His wife Elizabeth preceded him in death a good many years ago, he then married Randy Combs and to them was born seven children, four of which survive him: Mrs. Mallie Steels, Hardburly, Ky.; Mrs. Mildie Tyree, Dry Fork, Ky.; Mrs. Rachel Collins, Battle Creek, Mich.; and Garlin Collins of Battle Creek, Mich. After the death of his second wife he was married to Myrtle Willis who preceded him in death three years ago. Since that time Uncle Larkin has been making his home among his children. He will be sadly missed by his family and many friends. He always had a cheerful word and friendly hand-clasp for those with whom he came in contact. Funeral Services are not complete at the time of this writing. Burial will be in the Family Cemetery at Smoot Creek, Ky. Craft Funeral Home in charge of funeral arrangements.

John Banks Goes On Trial

John Banks is scheduled to go on trial today for the murder of Pearl Bowling on Bull Creek on March 11th. Banks was indicted for wilful murder for the slaying of the rural mail carrier. He has been held in Whitesburg jail without bond since his capture.

MEMORIAL SERVICES CAMP BRANCH CHAPEL

On Sunday, May 21, 1944, an all-day service will be held at the Camp Branch Chapel. Everyone is invited and ministers have a special invitation. This is an annual service of fellowship, worship, and a day of special blessing.

Everyone is urged to bring a covered dish and let us enjoy our lunch together.

—Mrs. A. J. Clay.

DEFEATED CREEK GIRL PROMOTED

Homestead Field, Fla.—Pfc. Marie Sparkman, daughter of J. D. and Isabella Sparkman, of Defeated Creek, was promoted to the rank of Corporal. It was announced by her headquarters recently. She is an administrative clerk at Base Headquarters.

Joining the WACS in April of '43, Cpl. Sparkman took her basic at Daytona Beach, Fla. She was assigned to her present unit in July of '43. She was awarded ribbon for serving in the Woman's Auxiliary.

WANTED—Used typewriters. Phone Mt. Eagle.

More Red Cross Contributors

- CARBON GLOW: Local Union No. 7504 ...\$434.00
- FARRADAY: Local Union No. 5810 ... 371.00
- MILLSTONE: Local Union No. 5824 ... 404.00
- Local Union No. 5860 ... 230.00
- WHITESBURG: Local Union No. 5977 ... 724.00
- Local Union No. 5809 ... 566.79
- BLACKKEY: Local Union No. 6043 ... 85.00
- SECO: Local Union No. 5790 ... 865.00
- FLEMING: Local Union No. 6800 ... 254.00
- HAYMOND: Local Union No. 5794 ... 313.00
- JACKHORN: Local Union No. 6848 ... 2,147.00
- FLEMING: Dr. E. G. Skaggs 50.00
- Dr. A. B. Carter 15.00
- Miss Myrtle Parks 3.00
- Edgar Hall 3.00
- Dorothy Breeding 3.00
- Margarelle Lusk 3.00
- Mrs. Ray Parks 3.00
- SKYLINE: Clint Cornett 2.00
- WHITESBURG: N. R. Day 1.00
- B. P. Sergeant 15.00
- Charlie Banks 1.00
- Russell Royce 1.00
- Mrs. Martin Proffitt 2.00
- W. J. Collins 2.00
- Mrs. S. A. Nichols (Mrs. A. J. Leach) 5.00
- Masonic Lodge 754 1.00
- Johnny Adams 1.00
- Cro Car Adams 1.00
- Luther Collins 1.00
- Tocage Tolliver 1.00
- Mrs. Wilma B. Adkins 5.00
- Mrs. B. C. Collins 1.00
- DEANE: F. B. Isaacs 5.00
- Wallie Quillen 1.00
- Mary Yonts 1.00
- Oluha Short 1.00
- Howard Yonts 1.00
- Mrs. G. P. Isaac85
- Miss Butch Ray06
- Raymond Isaacs29
- PARIS: E. C. Terrel 1.00
- DONGOLA: Fritz Maggard 1.00
- WHITESBURG: Sam Sexton 1.00
- BLACKKEY: Arch Cornett 1.00
- MAYKING: Wardie Stacy 2.00
- Marvin Stacy 2.00
- KODAK: Johnnie Centers 1.00
- KINGS CREEK: Harrel Stamper 1.00
- SLEMP: W. M. Ratliff 1.00
- POLLY: Arlie Bowens 1.00
- ISOM: Granville Bailey 1.00
- Monroe Collins 1.00
- ERMINE: F. T. Stacy 1.00
- BLACKKEY: Mrs. G. M. Hogg 2.00
- Charley Ross 1.00
- Mrs. Jim Williams 1.00
- Wittson Adams 1.00
- Mr. R. Estep 1.00
- Mrs. Mose Adams, Jr. 1.00
- Jno. D. W. Collins 5.00
- Mrs. Lida B. J. Collins 5.00
- POLLY: Henry Cook 1.00
- R. B. Cook 1.00
- Mallie Cook 1.00
- Arthur Cook 1.00
- Frank Holland 1.00
- Ed Cook 1.00
- Monroe Cook 1.00
- Hubert Maggard 2.00
- EOLIA: Julia Maggard 1.00
- Don Reid 2.00
- P. H. Hensley 1.00
- Olga Stidham 1.00
- D. F. Maggard 1.00
- COLSON: Mrs. Maggie Collins 1.00
- Watson Collins 1.00
- Miss Lava Collins 1.00
- Peggy Lou Collins 1.00

(Continued on page four)

Hon. J. F. Williams To Address High School Graduates

On Friday evening, April 21st, at eight o'clock the Hon. John Fred Williams, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, will address the graduating class of Whitesburg High School. The class as well as the citizens of Whitesburg are highly honored to have so distinguished a personality to come to our community. Preceding the address the Salutatorian, Kendall Boggs, will give the Welcome Address and Miss Joy Raye Frazier, the highest honor student, will give the Valedictory Address. The High School Glee Club will sing.

Other programs of the Commencement week, preceding graduation night are as follows:

On Sunday night, April 16, at 8 o'clock, at the Baptist Church, the Rev. L. O. Griffith will deliver the baccalaureate sermon to the graduation class. The High School Glee Club will sing, with Mrs. Albert Jones at the piano.

On Monday evening, Mrs. Albert Jones will present her music class in formal recital. The Glee Club will be presented in their annual Spring Concert.

On Wednesday evening, April 19th, at 8:00 o'clock in the school Auditorium forty-two boys and girls will receive their diplomas from the Eighth Grade. Nell Vermilion will give the Valedictory. Cecil Webb, Jr., the Salutatorian, will read by Frances Maggard.

Mary Eva Prichard will be Giftoorian. Patsy Ann Fields will sing a solo. The diplomas will be presented by Miss Martha Jane Potter and Prof. Edgar Banks will preside. Mrs. Lewis Ammerman is the Instructor of the Eighth Grade.

Wilkie Quits Race For G.O.P. Nomination

Wendell L. Wilkie, one of the nation's smartest men and a favorite of many leading Republicans for President of the United States, has quit the race.

Mr. Wilkie failed to get the Wisconsin support which he had hoped to receive in the recent primary in that State. Thomas E. Dewey seemed to have had the edge over him in that contest. Wilkie stated that it was obvious that he himself could not be nominated, so he withdrew from the race with the following statement:

"As I have said many times, this country desperately needs new leadership. It is obvious now that I cannot be nominated."

"I am therefore, asking my friends to desist from any activity toward that end and not to present my name at the convention."

"I earnestly hope that the Republican convention will nominate a candidate and write a platform which really represents the views which I have advocated and which I believe are shared by millions of Americans. I shall continue to work for these principles and policies for which I have fought during the last five years."

LOST—No. 3 Ration Books in names of Dorothy and Douglas Wood. Finder please return to Arthur Wood, Neon, Ky.