MAKE EVERY PAY DAY WAR BOND DAY
STOP SPENDING—SAVE DOLLARS

THE LEDGER & TIMES

New Series No. 1079 | COMPLETE COVERAGE EVERY WEEK OF ALL CALLOWAY COUNTY NEWS | Murray, Kentucky, Thursday Afternoon, July 1, 1943 | YOUR PROGRESSIVE HOME NEWSPAPER FOR OVER HALF A CENTURY | Vol. LXIII; No. 23

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GENE PITTMAN OF STELLA DIES FROM GUNSHOT

Happened Near Farm Home On Tuesday Evening

Eugene M. "Gene" Pittman, 52, of Stella, was found dead near his home at Stella Tuesday evening of gunshot wounds. Death was believed instantaneous. Beside the body, which was found about 100 yards from his farm home, lay a single-barrel shotgun.

Coroner Max Churchill held an inquest the same evening, and the jury decided that Mr. Pittman's death was caused by a self-inflicted wound, and happened about 6 p.m.

Funeral arrangements were not complete at press time.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Ethel M. Pittman; his father, George Pittman, of this county; three daughters, Mrs. Lora Edwards and Mrs. Grayl Smith, both of Calloway county, and Mrs. Rubye Bray of Hattiesburg, Miss.; a brother, Will Pittman, of this county; four sisters Mrs. Laura Guerin and Mrs. Lola Falwell, both of this county, Mrs. Nancy Lovett of Wewokis, Okla., and Mrs. Lucy Rushing of Detroit, Mich.; and one granddaughter.

300 Lugs Packed During First Day of Tomato Season

The green wrapped tomato season opened here Tuesday, with members bringing in about 300 lugs for packing—enough to make a truck load. More tomatoes will be packed tomorrow, and packing will begin daily Monday.

The quality this year is mighty good, it is reported, and the demand is strong with prices considerably better than last year. It is expected that a carload will be packed tomorrow, which is about 800 lugs.

Fruit Growers To Meet Thursday

Farmers interested in the spraying, harvesting and marketing of peaches and apples are being urged, according to an announcement by Associate Agent C. O. Bondurant, to attend the Fruit Growers Meeting at the 7-acre orchard of Alvin Downs on Thursday, July 8, at 2 p.m.

The Downs farm is located three miles Southeast of Murray in the Outland school neighborhood.

W. W. Magill, Fruit Specialist from the College of Agriculture, University of Kentucky, will lead the discussion at the meeting.

Lieut. Jones Now Wears Army Wings

Aviation Cadet Richard Ernest Jones, son of Mr. and Mrs. Commodore Jones, of Murray, is a member of class 43F of Student Officers and Aviation Cadets recently graduated from the Army Air Forces Advanced Flying School at Yuma, Arizona.

The graduates were commissioned as Second Lieutenants and Flight Officers in the Army of the United States, and were given the coveted silver wings, symbolic of the aeronautical rating of pilot. They have been placed on active duty in their new rank with the Army Air Forces.

Before entering the final and advanced training course at Yuma Army Air Field, Cadet Jones completed his primary and basic training at Ryan Field, Tucson, Arizona and the Marana Army Flying School, Marana, California.

He graduated from Lynn Grove High School and earned his bachelor of science degree at the University of Kentucky. He is a member of Kappa Delta Pi fraternity.

WINGO TO SPEAK AT COLLEGE TOMORROW

James G. Wingo, noted interpreter of Philippine - American relations, will deliver an address in the college auditorium on July 2, at 10 a.m. This chapel session was originally scheduled for July 7, but the date was changed to July 2.

Mr. Wingo was born in the Philippines, the son of an American soldier from Texas who helped conquer the islands for the United States. Until the occupation of Manila, he was the Washington correspondent of the Philippines Free Press, one of the most powerful Far Eastern newspapers.

ITALIAN BOYS WORK TO PREPARE SICILY FOR INVASION

London, Eng.—Although Mussolini has been telling his people for months that Sicily was in no danger; that the island was well fortified and ready to repel any Allied threat, this photo, just received in London, seems to give the lie to Il Duce. It shows men and boys laboring to harry fortifications on Sicily. They were pressed into service from all civilian classes, regardless of health, to do the work. Poster in rear reads (translation): "By our deaths we will conquer." Latest reports indicate that Allied fliers have been trying to cut off communication between Sicily and the mainland.

Kentucky Collects 13,101 lbs. Old Hose

From November 16 through May 15, Kentucky collected 13,101 pounds of silk and nylon hosiery. Many people are under the impression that there is not much hosiery still to be contributed, but this is not correct. The manufacturers sold 540,000,000 pairs in the year prior to Government restrictions, and since the salvage of hosiery began in November, 1942, only about 20,000,000 pairs have been turned in.

It takes from 15 to 43 pairs of silk hose to make a powder bag.

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for firing big guns depending upon the size of the bag, and it takes approximately 222 pairs of nylon hose to make an average parachute for our aviators.

The women of every comunity in Kentucky are urged to do all that they posibly can on this salvage.

Nurse's Aide Class To Be Organized

A new Red Cross Nurse's Aide class will be organized Tuesday, July 6, at 1:30 o'clock at the Keys-Houston clinic hospital. Mrs. H. J. Fenton will be the instructor.

Nurse's Aides are badly needed in both hospitals in Murray, it is reported.

For further information about the new class, phone 387.

Emmett Churchill Dies in Texas

Emmett Churchill, former resident of this county, died at Ft. Worth, Texas, Sunday, according to word received here by Ronald Churchill, his nephew. Funeral and burial services were held at Ft. Worth.

Mr. Churchill was one of five brothers. All were reared here, and all went to Texas, but one, the late J. H. Churchill, returned to live here and establish the J. H. Churchill Funeral Home in Murray. Only one of the five brothers is still living. He is Moore.

Two Murray Boys Finish Pre-Flight Training in Texas

SAN ANTONIO AVIATION CADET CENTER, TEX., June 30—Seventy-two aviation cadets from Kentucky were included in the latest class to complete pre-flight training for pilots at the San Antonio Aviation Cadet Center. Included in the class were two from Murray, Ky. They are Aviation Cadets Jean G. Crawford, 1107 Olive street, and Louis G. Starks, South Twelfth street.

The future pilots headed for primary schools and first flights in training planes which they hope will carry them to assignments as pilots in the Army Air Forces.

Wheat Harvest Now in Full Swing

The harvesting of wheat in Calloway county is well under way now. Although the 1943 wheat crop was cut considerably by the hard winter, it appears that a large amount of grain will still be harvested. Combines and binders are operating daily in all parts of the county.

Fifty farmers seeded last fall, on recommendation of the Agricultural Extension Service, one to two acres of the Thorne variety of wheat. This is a new variety that has not been grown to any extent in this county and each of the farmers growing it have agreed to report yields in comparison with the rest of their wheat acreage.

Reports already in indicate that the new variety will yield from 5 to 20 bushels more per acre than varieties commonly grown. Mr. C. C. Roberts of the Liberty District reports a yield of 41.5 bushels per acre as compared to 22 bushels per acre from his old variety on the same type of soil. Other demonstrators are reporting yields ranging from 30 to 40 bushels per acre.

A complete report of crop yield will be available when all of the 50 farmers have made their reports to the County Agents Office.

STUBBLEFIELD TO HEAD KILGORE CAMPAIGN HERE

Frank Albert Stubblefield, Murray, has been selected as Calloway County campaign chairman for Ben Kilgore, candidate for the Democratic nomination for Governor, it has been announced by Harry L. Waterfield, state chairman.

Mr. Stubblefield is well known in Calloway County and throughout this section of the state. He has been prominently identified with the Democratic party and is one of the leading citizens of Calloway County.

"We will promote a vigorous campaign in the interest of Mr. Kilgore, a free people's candidate," Stubblefield said when accepting the appointment. "Conditions at Frankfort in our state government have become intolerable to citizens of Kentucky who believe in government of, by and for the people. Ben Kilgore is a free candidate sponsored and financed by free citizens of Kentucky whose purposes have always been and are now in the interest of good government for all and special privileges for none," Mr. Stubblefield continued.

His primary purpose is "To build Kentucky and not a political machine," the chairman said. "People are thinking today as never before about the blessings of genuine free Democracy and if our boys must fight for free government all over the world, surely we must live and work and vote to safeguard and strengthen Democracy here at home. Victory for Mr. Kilgore this year means destruction of a powerful and corrupt political machine and selfish, perpetuating political bosses at Frankfort. I call on all friends of good government to join me in this crusading campaign," Stubblefield concluded.

First Concert of Summer Tonight

The first band concert of the summer session at Murray State College will be given this evening (Thursday) at 7 o'clock, Prof. Price Doyle, head of the fine arts department, has announced.

Each summer, the fine arts department presents one or more summer concerts, open to the general public. The program will include a variety of selections that will interest all music-lovers, it was announced.

The grand and glorious July Fourth will be observed—not celebrated, in most cases—Sunday, with more people staying at home than usual because of gas and tire shortages. Pine Bluff is having its last picnic. No other public celebrations are planned in this county, as far as we know.

Business will be resumed as usual Monday in Murray; it is indicated. The banks may be closed, but no other business houses will be, according to reports received by this newspaper.

A. B. Austin New Rotary President

A. B. Austin took office as president of the Murray Rotary club at its regular weekly luncheon meeting today at the Woman's Clubhouse. He succeeds Dr. O. C. Wells, who has served during the past year.

Harold Van Winkle took office as secretary, succeeding Mr. Austin.

Two new members, Alvin Gibson of the Western Kentucky Stages and Price Doyle of Murray College, were admitted at the meeting today.

Luther Graham Dies In Texas

Luther Graham, former resident of Calloway county, died in Amarillo, Texas, Monday morning, according to word received here. Funeral services and burial were in Amarillo.

Mr. Graham was born and reared in Calloway county and engaged in the clothing business here in Murray for some time. His place of business was at one time between the Bank of Murray and Jones Drug store. That building has since been remodeled so that the Bank of Murray now occupies all of it.

Mr. Graham left Murray about 16 years ago, and has lived in Amarillo since. Among the survivors are Mrs. Mary Thomas of Murray, Mrs. A. Cain and Mrs. Mack Boyd both of this county, and Mrs. Will Cain of Detroit, Mich., all sisters of his; and several other relatives in this county.

Last July 4 At Pine Bluff to Be Whopping One

TVA will begin flooding the reservoir area in January, according to latest reports; therefore Pine Bluff with its well-known fish frys and July 4 celebrations will be no more after this year.

This year on July 4 the Steele brothers are planing a whopping finale to their annual picnics, with Paul Howard and his Arkansas Cotton Pickers from the Grand Ole Oprey and Mack and His Dixie Playboys from WHOP taking the spotlight.

As usual there will be plenty to eat and drink, motor boat rides and raees, and the better than usual entertainment.

James H. Orr Dies Suddenly; Buried Monday

James Humphreys Orr died very suddenly at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Isell Wilson, in Murray Sunday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock following a heart attack.

Funeral services were held Monday afternoon at 3 o'clock at Sinking Springs with the Rev. S. P. Martin and the Rev. J. H. Thurman in charge. Burial was in the Sinking Springs cemetery.

Mr. Orr would have been 72 years of age on July 14. He had once been deputy sheriff, had been on the Murray police force, and had once operated a grocery here. During the past three years he had not been in good health, but his death was unexpected.

Survivors include two daughters, Mrs. Lela Saunders and Mrs. Isell Wilson, both of Murray; a brother, Bethel Orr; and six grandchildren.

Air Raid Wardens To Meet Friday

Harold L. Pryor, OCD chairman, has called a meeting of all air raid wardens and their assistants for Friday (tomorrow) night at 8 o'clock at the courthouse.

The wardens at present are W. B. Moser, Guy Billington, R. H. Thurman, John E. Miller, H. M. Fulton, C. B. Ford, Ralph Wear, Bun Ray, Elliot Wear, Glyco Wells, Harry Sledd, Van Valentine, Joe Carson and Frank Lancaster. Bryan Tolley is chief air raid warden for the city and Everett Jones is a block leader. Each warden has a number of assistant wardens.

FISCAL COURT APPROVES LOWER BUDGET FOR 1944

Report Shows County In Good Financial Shape

The Calloway county fiscal court, in its second meeting in June, Tuesday approved a budget of $80,184.25 for the year 1943-44 which begins today.

This amount is smaller than actual expenditures in recent years. Last year (1942-43) estimated expenditures amounted to $60,984.47 and actual expenditures in 1941-42 were $65,677.72.

The treasurer's report for the year just closing showed that the county had a balance of about $5,000 left. The fiscal court alloted about $3,500 of this for county roads. The remainder will be used as a cash balance for operating expenses until tax collections for the present fiscal year. In recent years the county has had to borrow from $7,500 to $10,000 during the early part of each fiscal year for this purpose. During the year just ended, about $4,500 was borrowed. With the present surplus, the county will try to get along without any borrowing.

The report at the meeting Tuesday showed the county in a sound financial condition. Expenditures during the past year under jails, renewals and repairs, showed $1,290.45, which is approximately the cost of the new county jail. This new jail was of course all paid for; and in addition the county still owns the old jail and the land it stands on. This land and building will probably be sold one of these days. Much of the metal in the old jail was used in the new jail, and the remainder sold for scrap.

Practically all items on the new approved budget are less than they were last year. Under general government, the item for fiscal court committee service was increased about $600—a necessary increase, it was pointed out during the meeting.

The cost of upkeep of the jail will be smaller this year, located as it is in the courthouse; and with fewer prisoners these days expenditures by the jailor are smaller. Another item that has reduced the budget this year is WPA rentals, with WPA being abolished.

Each year the county pays into a sinking fund something over $14,000. This is the only debt the county has, and it was incurred some years ago in a road building program. As this debt is gradually reduced, expenditures for this purpose become smaller.

Tuesday's meeting was the second of the fiscal court during June, so that it could come at the end of the fiscal year. Therefore, there will be no monthly meeting in July.

Covel Myers Wins Army Silver Wings

Headquarters Army Air Force Gulf Coast Training Center, Randolph Field, Texas, June 28—Frederick, Okla., today hatched its first brood of Pilots to swell by hundreds of flyers the graduation total of the Gulf Coast Training Center's sixth 1943 crop of aerial destruction experts.

The addition of Frederick's new school to the Gulf Coast Training Center brings to eleven the pilot factories operating in the great Southwest Bomber and fighter pilots, trained to hair-trigger perfection in the art of modern warfare, receive silver wings today, not only from Frederick, but from Altus, Okla., and from Aloe, Brooks, Pampa, Lubbock, Blackland, Ellington, Eagle Pass, Moore and Foster Fields, all in Texas.

Today's simultaneous graduation exercises add thousands of American youth from all over the nation to the throbbing AAF armada which is carrying relentless warfare to the Axis over measureless global areas.

In the current graduating class is Covel W. Myers of Murray, who took his training at Brooks Field, San Antonio, Texas.

MRS. WALSTON TO GIVE LESSONS ON CANNING

Mrs. J. H. Walston will give two home canning demonstrations next week.

The first will be at the home of Mrs. Noble Fuqua at Backusburg Monday, July 5, at 1 o'clock. The second will be at the home of Mrs. Jennings Turner at Coldwater Tuesday, July 6, at 1 o'clock.

Murray County Seat For 100 Years

Site Chosen After Much Log Rolling And Dickering

When Calloway county was formed in 1822, there were very few white settlers in this area west of the Tennessee river. These settlers wre located in the neighborhoods that developed into New Concord and Wadesboro, both of which became prosperous towns. Wadesboro was made the county seat, and, of course, had the first court house. This court house was 33 feet square, a story and a half high, and covered with clapboards. The floor was made of undressed plank; the whole was constructed of hewd logs, "notched down close." The furniture, in keeping with the house itself, consisted of a judge's bench three feet high, three feet wide, and 12 feet long; one large beneh for the jury and one "good seat" for the use of the council." The building was completed according to contract and formally received by the court March 13, 1823.

The first sheriff of Calloway county was W. B. Duncan; the first county clerk, William Curd; and the first county judge, Elisha Hardy.

The first jail for the county was erected at Wadesboro in 1823. William Jones, Eli Cochran and Henry Darnell were appointed Commissioners to let the contract. They let it to Hins Derrington who built it according to these specifications: "Building to be 12 feet square, of hewd logs and to be covered with a cabin roof." The building was completed at a cost of $177, and was in use until 1827 when a new building was ordered. The second jail was also of log structure built by Samuel Peter for $498.88. It was abandoned, however, in 1833, and in 1836 a third jail was erected, costing about $1,600.00. The building was well constructed of oak blocks securely spiked and enclosed in a brick wall. Afterward a negro prisoner kindled a fire therein and was himself burned to death in the flames. No other jail was built until the removal of the county seat to Murray in 1842.

The removal of the county seat was made necessary by the forming of Marshall county. The movement for a new county was advocated especially by Hon. James Brien. The dividing line between the newly formed Marshall and the original Calloway ran right through Wadesboro. Briensberg was named for James Brien. A commission was appointed to locate a new county seat and Murray was selected after much log rolling and dickering. Many of the business concerns were removed to Murray, and Wadesboro gradually declined until the railroad was built, and now is hardly a wide place in the road.

I drove through there a few years ago and I did know when I did so. I was driving east from Mayfield. After going down the hill and not finding Wadesboro I inquired of a woman sitting on a porch if that was the road to Wadesboro. With a disgusted look she said "yes," but also said "you are going the wrong way; you just passed Wadesboro up there on the hill."

A new court house and other necessary public buildings were erected and Murray soon became a prosperous inland town. It was named for Hon. John L. Murray, then a member of Congress from the First District. The town was incorporated in 1844. It had from the beginning a high type of citizenship. They were interested in education and religion.

An early law in Kentucky pertaining to education was that certain lands in the State should be reserved for the endowment and use of seminaries of learning throughout the commonwealth. The county courts of the several counties were ordered to have surveyed and patented within their respective counties, the requisite number of acres, all of which was exempt from taxation. The seminary land of Calloway County was sold about the year 1842, and from the proceeds were erected two buildings, one at Murray and one at New Concord.

The Murray building was a two story brick structure, and contained four school rooms. It was erected in 1851 and stood until 1870 at which time it was sold by an act of the State Legislature.

The house at Concord was a two story frame building, completed in 1856. It was destroyed by fire several years later.

The Murray Institute was erected in 1871 by a stock company, the proceeds arising from the sale of the old seminary building, serving as a financial basis for the enterprise. The company was incorporated with a capital of $5000, which was found inadequate for the erection of the proposed building, whereupon the school district proposed to pay the additional amount required in six years by local taxation, as security for the district. The county issued bonds to the amount of $6000, which were purchased by private individuals. These bonds were all paid by the district when they became due. The school building was the most handsome school building west of the Tennessee river when it was erected. It cost $17,500. The school was organized in 1872 with Prof. Henry Nold as principal. It was my privilege to be a student under him.

His daughter, Miss Fannie, was one of my teachers. She is now the widow of John C. McElrath. By the way, she cast the characters of our class play my last year there and she gave me and Miss Rubene Matthewson the leading roles. She was a young heiress and I was her suiter. I was to make love on the stage. She was very deaf and I had to talk very loud to her. I have always thought (and still do) that Miss Fannie wanted the audience to hear what we said, and selected us because

Rev. John Wright Holsapple

This article was written especially for The Ledger & Times by the Rev. John Wright Holsapple of Temple, Texas, who is the author of the occasional column in this newspaper entitled "Some Early History." Brother Holsapple is a native of Calloway county, was formerly a minister here, and is an authority on the early history of this county. Further articles on the centennial of Murray will appear in future issues of this newspaper. Contributions by readers of this paper on this subject are especially welcomed at this time.

of our willingness and ability to make ourselves heard.

Schools at that time were just beginning the transition from the old to the new education. Calloway was in the vanguard, and still leads. Then there were no high schools, now the county boasts of six. These are located at Hazel, Lynn Grove, New Concord, Kirksey, Almo, and Faxon as well as in Murray. Individuals and communities maintained a few schools which were altogether equal to our modern high schools. Good examples of this type were found at Concord, Temple Hill, Hico and perhaps at other places. The last school I taught in Calloway was at Temple Hill, in 1877.

Murray has been a church town from its beginning. One of the first houses erected in Murray was the Christian church. The church building was completed in the fall of 1844. Prior to this time members of the Christian church had been meeting from house to house on Lord's days to observe the Lord's Supper. They finally had regular meetings in the school house which stood in the neighborhood of where the seminary now is.

They soon built "a meeting house." It stood on the lot on which was located the residence of the late Nat Ryan. The following names have been handed me as members of that first organization: Peyton Utterback, Rachel Utterback, and their sons Albertus and John, John Trimble, Henry B. and Caroline McCarthy, Mrs. Ella Green, Martin Johnson, James and Martha McNight, David and Ella Robertson, Mr. and Mrs. David Douglas, James Caldwell, Mr. and Mrs. Jona Shultz, Sally Wear, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. H. Curd, Sarah A. Ryan, Joel H. Curd, W. H. Cutchin, James Martin, Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Baldwin, Abe Thompson. Peyton Utterback died and the church had no report for a while

Town Incorporated In 1844; Named For Congressman

Then a record was started again by Wm. H. Curd. He began it in these words: "The congregation of Christ at Murray, Ky., was organized out of the fragments of a similar body, heretofore existing in Murray, but for the last seven or eight years disorganized and broken up by the removal and death of some of the members and lukewarmness of others. In the interval of time anterior to the collection of the present body of disciples, there has been occasional preaching by transient brethren of the Reformation, with no very apparent good results, and without an effort at reorganization, until the advent of Brother James Lindsay of Marshall county, Ky., in the vicinity. Having been engaged by the congregation at Green Plain for them last year (1857), he would occasionally stop by the way and preach for the people and scattered brethren in and about Murray.

The church was reorganized at Murray April 8, 1858. Meanwhile there had been several additions. Among them were Mrs. Emily Malone, Wm. H. Curd and A. M. Wadlington. The congregation having outgrown its modest little building sold it to Dr. Sherwood and joined the Odd Fellows in erecting the old brick building which stood where the present church stands. The church bought the interest of the lodge in the building and erected the present beautiful structure now standing on the same ground. I have been told that Major Cutchin gave the lot with the restriction in the deed that when and if it ever ceased to be used for church purposes it was to revert to the Cutchin heirs.

(See "Murray Is 100", Page 6)

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