

MARION PROGRESS

A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER DEVOTED TO THE BEST INTEREST OF THE PEOPLE OF McDOWELL COUNTY.

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PEOPLE'S FORUM.

[This department is reserved for letters from the people on various topics. THE PROGRESS is not responsible for the views of its correspondents. All communications must be originally signed for our protection though the name may be withheld in publication.]

The Farmers' Need.

I was very much interested in an article appearing in the Peoples Forum of this paper last week, "The American Farmer is the Man Behind the Gun," by one who styles himself "A Farmer."

I want to join him in his sentiment that the American Farmer is the very "Bone and Sinew of our Nation." He is the basis from which our government was founded, the solid foundation on which The Ship of State rests at present, the Rock of Safety of our Republic in the future. He it is who composes the majority of the great Middle Class, the most important part of every true government, he it is who has just claims to the rewards and honors of his country. Let no one despise his horny hand, his overalls, his coat of tan; let no one disdain his most honorable calling. Agriculture has always been honored by the race of man, the history of civilization. The Bible shows this: Why is it that the Hottentots of Africa, the Savages, and the Indians are not and were never farmers? Man must advance several steps in the onward march of civilization before he reaches the stage of Agriculture. The Book of Genesis put agriculture and sheep raising above the vocation of the city and music and rightly so. Not never has farming been dishonorable, then let him remember the poets' words:

"Honor and Shame from no condition arise,
Act well your part, there all the honor lies."

If I remember correctly (and I quote him in no spirit of controversy) the writer said that the farmer was no better off today than he was ten years ago, that he wore the same grade of overalls and carried the same load of debts. This is true to a great extent, sadly true, and by this I am reminded of an incident which is said to have occurred in Burke County during the recent Congressional campaign, when the Republican spell binder asked for an old local character who when he was there before said he couldn't afford any better than patched trousers, (it was at the close of the Cleveland Administration); somebody spoke up "Oh! he is in bed now and can't be with us today, his trousers are entirely worn out."

But in all seriousness is all this deplorable state of affairs due to the Republican administration? Now, don't misunderstand me, I am a Democrat and I believe in Tariff for Revenue; but haven't we prospered in spite of the Republicans? As never before has the vista opened up to the farmer; he gets good prices for his products, the R. F. D., the telephone, and good roads are bringing him closer to the city. Friend look on the bright side, what we need is not pessimism but organized, intelligent and progressiveness among the farmers.

If you are wearing the same

patches your father wore, aren't you making the same mistakes your father made, although you have more advantages? Do you systematize your business, do you use time, labor, and money-saving machines, do you stand for good roads, good school houses and good officials? Are you in favor of Union and co-operation between farmers, a County Fair, and progressiveness and economy in McDowell County?

As the farmers compose a majority, from them should come the impulse of advancement. Arise, compell recognition of your rights, demand your just dues; and let us work together for the betterment of our communities, our county, our state, and our country.

A FARMERS' SON.

Meeting of County Board.

The county commissioners were in session Monday and Tuesday. Among the business transacted was the drawing of the jury for the July term of court which is as follows:

First Week—B. P. Hensley, W. J. Searcy, C. M. Huskins, J. A. Nanney, C. L. Dellinger, J. G. Price, R. W. Davis, E. P. Foy, L. C. Blackwelder, R. L. Daves, J. W. Edwards, John W. Kirby, W. L. Allison, A. W. Grayson, A. W. Hogan, J. C. Sandlin, B. G. Gettys, E. J. House, S. P. Curtis, A. C. Garden, Jessie Hollifield, B. T. Daves, J. G. Pyatt, J. L. Wilson, J. W. Horton, A. L. Beach, T. J. Gibbs, James H. Brown, G. W. Chapman, C. M. Hicks, J. M. McCall, T. J. Barnes, C. L. Melton, A. A. Burgin, W. E. Watson, W. C. Tate.

Second Week—Johnson Ledbetter, J. W. Bradley, C. M. Hemphill, I. H. Greene, L. W. Whitener, J. H. Taylor, B. L. Nanney, D. J. Dobson, C. E. Decker, J. W. Buchanan, J. D. Avery, J. L. Padgett, T. W. Gowan, R. S. Clay, M. H. Grant, C. D. Corpening, H. A. Gibbs, J. L. Fortune.

The board appropriated \$25.00 toward defraying the expenses of the preliminary work of the Central Highway.

J. N. Yelton, L. H. Whitener and T. B. Landis were appointed road commissioners for Dysartsville Township to succeed G. D. Taylor, R. H. Cowan and Horace Crawley, resigned.

Road commissioners were appointed for Marion Township for a period of two years as follows: Geo. C. Conley, T. J. Gibbs and H. H. Tate.

The finance report was accepted and ordered recorded and published.

Dogs Listed for Taxes.

I desire to call attention to the fact that all owners of dogs are required, under the town ordinance, to list their dogs for taxation with the Secretary of the Board of Aldermen between the first and 20th days of June 1911, whose duty it shall be to collect a tax of one dollar and deliver to the owner of each dog so listed, a tag marked "Tax Paid" which tag shall be fastened to the collar of the dog.

All persons failing to comply with this ordinance shall be fined five dollars. And the Town Marshal will impound all such dogs as are not listed as above required and also kill said dog or dogs.

D. L. CARLTON, Mayor.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MEETING

Important Subjects Discussed with Much Interest Manifested.

A most interesting and enthusiastic meeting of the Chamber of Commerce was held in the court house Monday night. The various committees made reports showing that good work had been done along several lines. Several new members were added to the list, making the total membership 56.

The matter of extending the Blue Mont train to Marion was discussed and the secretary was authorized to take the matter up with the Asheville Board of Trade at once. It is very probable that the Southern Railway will put on the additional train from Asheville to Marion.

Secretary Gray was also instructed to take up the matter with the Southern Railway regarding a siding for the Whisnant Lumber Company. It is understood that a site for the siding has already been secured and in all probability the company will locate their plant here.

Another matter of interest was that of securing a fish hatchery. An encouraging letter was read from Congressman Guder on the subject and a committee, with D. F. Giles, chairman, was appointed to keep in touch with the Bureau of Fisheries and to press the matter of establishing a fish hatchery near Marion.

W. T. Morgan, chairman of the Highway Committee, reported great enthusiasm in the project. H. H. Tate was endorsed for road commissioner of Marion township.

A committee composed of W. T. Morgan, R. F. Burton and J. Q. Gilkey was appointed to secure permanent quarters for the Chamber of Commerce.

EYE OF THE CAMERA.

Washed Out Blood Stains Cannot Escape the Ultra Violet Rays.

Even before it had been adapted exclusively, by means of special lens construction and combination, to the reception of the invisible ultra violet rays, the camera eye, owing to its peculiar sensitiveness to this light, has played a strikingly dramatic role on various occasions. One of these occurred a few years ago in Lausanne, Switzerland.

It appears that a handkerchief formed an exhibit at a murder trial and was regarded as a crucial bit of evidence. The closest inspection failed to reveal a stain on the immaculately white cloth even with the aid of a powerful microscope. But it occurred to a professor of Lausanne university to photograph the handkerchief, when the image obtained clearly disclosed the presence of great blotches, or, rather, of what had been such, showing ghostlike in the carefully washed fabric. The photograph proved the turning point of the trial, and the result was conviction.

Blood, as was scientifically explained at the time, happens to be one of the substances that absorb ultra violet rays, and when any of these substances have found their way to a receptive surface no amount of erasing or cleansing can hide its presence from the camera eye. When the latter is equipped to utilize only this invisible light the result is much more marked. Should the neatest erasure be made in writing done with substances specially absorbent of the rays the ultra violet photograph would show the traces of the erasure as plainly as the writing itself.—New York Tribune.

Cheap.

Howell—Every man has his price. Powell—Well, I wouldn't have to borrow to pay yours.—New York Press.

BOYS CORN CLUB CONTEST

About \$1,000 to be Given to the Boys Who Excel in Growing Corn.

SPECIAL TO MARION PROGRESS.

Raleigh, June 3.—At the December meeting of the Board of Agriculture there was appropriated \$500 for prizes to the boys of the State who made the most corn on an acre of ground. Rules and regulations governing the contest were sent to all applicants. Since then there has been subscribed by manufacturers of fertilizers about \$500 more, making about \$1,000 to be given to the boys who excel in growing corn. In many counties the number of boys entering the contest has been disappointing. In view of this I am going to hold my books open through the month of June, and will enroll any boy of the right age who sends in his application. There is yet a fine opportunity for some boy who has not entered to do so and win a prize. There will be about \$100 worth of prizes to each Boys Corn Club district. Only 170 boys have sent in their applications from the Eighth District, as follows: Surry 3; Alleghany, 3; Wilkes 132; Alexander 17; Ashe 1; Watauga 2; Caldwell 11; Burke 0; McDowell 1; Mitchell 0; Yancey 0.

So far Wilkes is the banner Corn Club county in the State. The County Superintendent of that county, Mr. C. C. Wright, has sent in 132 applications. If every county in the State would do as well as Wilkes we would have more than 10,000 boys in the contest studying corn growing and laying the foundation for better and more profitable farming against the day when they shall become men and undertake the responsibilities they will then assume. What a state, agriculturally, North Carolina might become in a few years if we had 10,000 of her best boys now studying how to grow

more corn and incidentally learning the foundation for better farming along all lines! Enough county pride should possess every progressive person in the district to encourage him to give the movement the benefit of his or her influence. Let the fathers and mothers of the boys in the district encourage them to enter the contest and see how much corn they can grow on an acre. The experience will be worth a great deal, even though they should not win a prize. Besides, we hope to continue this work, and if a boy fails to get a prize this year he stands a better chance of getting one next year if he enters the contest now than if he waits until 1912 to enter.

I shall be pleased to send blanks to any boy who wishes to enter the contest. Do not write to me to enter your name, but ask for a blank to fill out, as only those who have signed applications in my office will be considered members of the corn club. I will send with the application blank one of our Boys Corn Club buttons.

T. B. PARKER,
Director Boys Corn Clubs.

Will Laning reports killing a whopper rattle snake on Mackey's Creek near Greenlee, one day last week. It measured 3½ feet and had 20 rattles and a button.

NEWS OF THE STATE

Happenings of General Interest Condensed for Busy Readers.

High Point is the latest office named in this State as a postal depository.

The North Carolina Retail Merchants Association meets in Hendersonville June 20, 21 and 22.

Asheville has raised the privilege license on drug stores that handle liquors from \$100 to \$1,000.

Mr. E. J. Justice, who has had considerable experience in railway legislation, extra sessions, etc., is spoken of as the campaign manager for Chief Justice Walter Clark.

The Missionary Conference of the Western North Carolina conference will meet in convention at Lexington this week, beginning Thursday. It will be in session until Monday. About two hundred delegates are expected and will be entertained in the homes of that city.

Col. W. B. Rodman, of Charlotte, division counsel of the Southern railway, representing the legal interests of the system in the state of North Carolina, has resigned, effective July 1. Colonel Rodman on that date becomes assistant general solicitor of the Norfolk Southern railroad and general solicitor of the Roper Lumber company, with headquarters at Norfolk, Va.

An idea of the importance of the sweet potato crop in Catawba county can be formed from the fact that one firm in Conover, P. E. Isenhour & Son, has shipped within the last three months 11,300 bushels, says the Newton Enterprise. The average price paid the farmers was 72 cents a bushel, or \$8,163 in the aggregate. The most of these potatoes went to Cincinnati, Louisville and Knoxville.

At a recent commencement of the State Normal College at Greensboro it was stated that of the 4,049 students who had matriculated at the Normal from its founding to the graduation of the class of 1910, two-thirds of them had become teachers in the State. The alumnae includes 50 trained nurses, one physician, one lawyer, one chemist, a few who hold chairs in colleges, several actresses, and despite the criticism that many bachelor girls are produced therefrom, the college has sent out 1,500 students who are now wives and mothers.

Bridgewater News.

Bridgewater, June 5.—Wade Hennessee and family of Buck Creek, visited at Mrs. Hennessee's father, M. F. Tate, last week.

A. A. Tate and family of Marion are visiting on the Creek this week.

Mrs. Ben Connelly of Marion who has been visiting relatives here returned to her home Thursday. She was accompanied home by her little daughter, Mary Olive, who has been spending a few months at her grandfather, M. F. Tate's.

Rev. Johnson and wife of Kentucky are visiting Mrs. Johnson's parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Pool near Bridgewater. W. Lyerly was in Hickory and Charlotte last week on business.

Misses Kary and Pearl Tate were shopping in Marion last week.

BETTY.

Get the good roads enthusiasm.