

MARION PROGRESS

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

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SECOND ANNUAL FAIR

For McDowell County Was Larger, Better and Very Successful—Large Attendance.

McDowellites have cause to be proud and the management have reason to be congratulated on the exceedingly successful conduction of the second annual Fair. It was larger and better in every way; the arrangements more satisfactory and the attendance very large.

The weather man was the only fellow who did not play fair. He threatened early in the week; then gave three bright days; then one night of rain which necessitated the cancellation of the amusement features such as the live stock parade, tournament, etc., for Saturday.

In opening the Fair formally, Secretary D. F. Giles made appropriate remarks in his masterly manner and introduced Hon. C. F. McKesson, of Morganton, who delivered the set speech for the occasion. It was good beyond question but no one ever fails to "get a good one" when Hon. Charles speaks.

The live stock exhibit amply proved the possibilities in this line for the breeding of perfect animals. There were some splendid horses, mules and hogs.

And what a most interesting exhibit the poultry was. It was surprising to find so many persons as fanciers in this line. They even had a sample of the "wild" as evidenced by Bunyan Hensley's two gobblers which he had raised after finding the eggs in the woods. There were many exhibits which seemed fully entitled to an award but Mr. Harrill, the judge, would not class any exhibit where it lacked in the least being full standard. He could not as no exceptions are allowed by the Poultry standard of perfection rules.

M. H. York, traveling passenger agent of the L. & N. railroad, judged the agricultural exhibit. It kept him busy, there was so much—and so good. He spoke highly of the corn, wheat and potatoes.

The fruit was tempting and there was plenty of variety as evidenced by William Clark's exhibit of twenty-one in the peach family.

The ladies easily held their own with the men for in the floral, fancy work and cookery exhibits there was sufficient to cause one to wonder where it all came from and how so many good things could be fetched together. Ever so many persons who had visited the Asheville and Waynesville fairs remarked that this one far exceeded them in the fancy work exhibit.

And as you went along through the exhibit rooms there was always something to attract specially. There was the Marion Knitting company's hosiery plant on a small scale. Here was M. L. Good's two very large Poplar and Oak boards. In another place, were the small adze and hammer made by Adam J. Helms, of East Marion. He is 12 years old and made the tools by hand in a blacksmith shop.

An extremely odd growth was that small branch cut from a Spanish Oak (growing on his farm near Old Fort) by W. S. Parker. The branch had intertwined about its

stem, twigs and leaves what appeared to be long hairs from a horse's tail. Taking off one of the threads it was found to be quite strong. Mr. Parker stated that he had been told that it was a form of moss. The whole tree has it pretty well scattered among its branches. He first noticed the growth (should it be called such) about twelve years ago.

Mr. Parker also had some June apples on exhibit. They were not large but well-nigh perfect and are some of the second crop for this year. He also had a chinquapin exhibit from his cultivated orchard of chinquapins.

Then in the bakery line was the City Bakery's exhibit of three large decorated cakes. They were wonderful creations of the confectioners' art.

And for those who love flowers, there was three beautiful displays arranged by Mesdames H. A. Tate and J. W. Pless and by Dr. J. G. Reid.

And, of course, there were amusements of all sorts. The choir contest was especially good. There were four choirs competing, viz: Old Fort, Laurel Hill, Bridgewater and Carlyle. The judges awarded first honor to the first named and second honor to the second named but so good were they all that they recommended an equal division of the premium.

And the Morganton concert band should not be forgotten. Excellent players, good looking, gentlemen, all, they did much to add to the general pleasure and gaiety. A notable feature of the management's arrangement of the Fair is that no entry fee is charged for any exhibit. This is exceptional but undoubtedly works to a good advantage as the Fair is not to make money but to promote good fellowship, a broader acquaintance throughout the county in our business of living and working and a greater interest to reaching out and up for better things and making for a higher standard.

The revenue which would accrue from an entry fee is supplied by donations from the merchants and private citizens in the town and county and all who contribute feel well repaid. No mention is made in this story, in a special way, of winners as a full list of the ribbon and premium winners will be published next week, the management not having the full list ready for this week.

However in concluding, reference should be made to the boys corn contest. Clarence Pool, with the Pool Prolific, raised 118 bushels on one acre, and Rom Houck got 104 bushels on his acre using the Batts seed corn. Both boys had a uniformly good yield judging by the standards which govern.

Let the third annual next year be better. You can, you who did your part this year and others will join you next year.

Have You Registered?

Every citizen should see that his name is on the registration books so that he will be able to vote in the approaching election. The use of the ballot is a sacred privilege which no citizen should be deprived of by reason of his own oversight or neglect.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Mr. Gibson's Official Data as it Will Be Submitted to Corporation Commission.

Continuing, as was stated last week would be done, a review of McDowell county's resources for taxable purposes for 1912, the following facts are taken from another of the yearly reports which the Register of Deeds prepares for the Corporation Commission.

The state will be paid the sum of \$7,187.08. This is \$370.24 less than last year. The amount is figured as follows, viz: On 295,425 acres valued at \$1,372,193; the value of manufacturing property outside of corporate towns is \$75,750; the acreage for mineral lands is 400 with a value of \$750; and the number of town lots is 1580 at a value of \$517,252. Then there is a valuation of \$803,939 covering all other property. The tax rate on all these valuations is 21 cents per \$100.

For pensions a valuation of \$2,768,884 is used with the tax rate of 4 cents per \$100; to which is added a tax rate of 12 cents on a poll, the total number of which is 1953. To complete the total for the state is added \$29 received from incomes reported which is \$1 per \$100.

The estimated revenue for schools will be \$14,557.85. Last year it was \$14,459.16. This, of course, does not include what comes from the state school fund. To get the above total there is the \$1.50 on the polls, 1953. Then on the following valuations is figured a tax of 22 cents for every \$100, viz: for Railroads, etc., \$2,363,691.34; on Bank stock, \$151,847.43; Corporation excess, \$190; listed property (white and colored) \$2,769,884.

Now for general county purposes, we find the following, viz: property valuation \$5,285,612.77 with a tax rate of 22 cents per \$100, and for the polls (1953) 38 cents each.

For the railroad bonds, the tax rate is 5 cents per \$100; for the interest on these bonds, a rate of 4 cents per \$100; for dirt roads, a rate of 10 cents per \$100; and for court house bonds, a rate of 10 cents per \$100. These several rates are figured on the property valuation of \$5,285,612.77.

For the chain gang the property valuation for Marion township, only, is figured. This is \$1,802,309.11. The tax rate is 30 cents per \$100.

The total for the county is then \$33,105.72, exclusive of school purposes.

Last year this amount was \$34,768.26.

The difference between the grand total of \$54,850.65 as is shown by this report and the total of \$63,260.63 as given in the item last week is the amount, approximately, which is collected in such districts which have the special school tax. This amount, of course, goes direct into the school fund, properly divided, for the special school purpose in the district where collected and in accord with the amount of tax voted upon themselves.

John Nichols, of Rutherfordton, visited relatives and attended the fair here last week.

Court Convenes.

His honor, W. J. Adams, on Monday, convened a special term of Superior Court here for the purpose of clearing up the criminal docket, which was somewhat congested. He is presiding in his usual calm and able manner and Solicitor Johnston is conducting the presentation for the State with vigor and dispatch. Both gentlemen impress the observer as being fully aware of the dignity and demands of their official positions and are acting in accord therewith.

Owing to the necessary absence of important witnesses, etc., many cases are continued. Also in many cases a nol proas was taken.

Among those tried and some action taken were the following, viz: George Moore, of Old Fort, charged with assault with deadly weapon. Fined \$10 and costs.

Charles Bright, of Rutherford county, charged with retailing. Judgment continued and to pay costs.

John Bridges, charged with an affray. Not guilty.

Sherman Giles, charged with assault with deadly weapon. Judgment suspended and to pay costs.

Robert Lawing, charged with assault with deadly weapon. Fined \$15 and costs.

Will Caldwell, (colored) charged with assault with deadly weapon. Found guilty and judgment yet to be passed.

Roy Thomas and Lonnie Curry, charged with assault with deadly weapon. Not guilty.

T. Maxwell, charged with assault with deadly weapon. Guilty and judgment yet to be passed.

W. M. Watkins, charged with carrying concealed weapon. Guilty and fined \$10 and costs.

The Grand Jury is in session with T. L. Tate, of Greenlee, as forman, and Wheeler Davis, of Crooked Creek, as officer.

The Presbyterian Synod—Foreign Missions and Orphans' Home.

The Presbyterian Synod, in session in Goldsboro, decided to hold its next meeting in Greensboro. The report on foreign missions shows the aggregate contributions to be \$82,886, an increase of \$10,446 over last year. The per capita for the church membership is \$1.78 against \$1.57 last year, an increase of 21 cents per member. Wilmington Presbytery led, with an average of \$4.97 per member. The report recommended that salaries of missionaries be fixed at not less than \$1,000 per year.

The report on the Barium Orphans' Home showed the receipts of the year amounted to \$21,000, an increase. The number of children in the home is 185. Water, sewerage and electric lights have been put in during the year. There is urgent need of the \$50,000 pledged by Synod a year ago for enlargement and improvement.

There are 475 Presbyterian churches in the State, embracing all counties except 15, with a membership of 49,532. The increase in membership during the year was 3,567. The average salary of pastors is \$1,000. The home mission work embraces 76 mission fields with 217 organized churches and 92 mission points; 65 are supplied with pastors and 11 vacant. During the year 10 new churches and 46 Sunday schools were organized.

'NEED OF CO-OPERATION

Mr. E. S. Millsaps Says That Co-Operation in Farming is Greatly Needed.

Charlotte News.

Mr. E. S. Millsaps, representing the United States department of agriculture in the western part of North Carolina, is a firm believer in the need of co-operation among farmers, both along lines of production and marketing, and when in the city a few days ago he talked interestingly of the subject to a News man. He said:

"Farming is successful only when it is coupled with sound business methods in the handling of the farm itself and the produce from the farm. The farmer of today is just emerging from the methods of the pioneer of former days. The pioneer farmer had his fertile soils, few wants, and them easily supplied; he grew on the farm the grains and other feeds he and the farm animals consumed; he grew also the cotton, flax, or the wool required to make his clothing; and the housewives of that day spun and wove and made into garments the clothing worn by the family. Not so with the modern farmer; he markets his products and buys the family supplies. He does this to the extent of horses and mules to work the farm, feed for them, largely; the farm implements and machinery; then the groceries, clothing, school and doctor bills, church expenses and taxes draw heavily on the family exchequer. The same methods that were applied on the virgin soils fail to respond when applied to the worn, galled and washed soils of today, so the returns from the farms are not sufficient to meet the requirements of modern life; debts are incurred, and interest and time prices are added to the list of expenses already named.

"In the olden time each individual farmer acted on his farm on his own initiative; his seed time and harvest, the consumption or marketing of his produce, if indeed he had a market, were all questions for plantation decision. The modern farmer is a community man; he must meet the requirements of a new civilization, and does not know he is not yet prepared for them.

"The conditions of the modern farmer are so different that he must solve many problems not known by the farmer of the old school. He not only has the production side of farming, but he has the problem of soil maintenance and the problem of marketing. When the business side of modern farming is finally worked out, it will be on a basis of co-operation, not co-operation alone in the marketing of the produce, but in the production as well. It is idle to talk about marketing, or working out market problems without production. There is no known instance in the world where the production of any commodity has grown to large proportions, that there were not created adequate market accommodations. Sometimes these accommodations are not favorable to the producer, but that is the fault of the producer, usually, and not of the market. Without the immense cotton crop of the South there would be no