

MARION PROGRESS

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

ESTABLISHED 1896.

MARION, N. C., THURSDAY, JAN. 4, 1917.

VOL. XXI—NO. 19

COMMISSIONERS MEET

Farm Demonstrator Discontinued—New Bridge Ordered Built—February Jurors.

The board of county commissioners held a busy session at the court house this week. The usual bills and routine business was looked after and several other matters of importance given attention.

The commissioners ordered that a new wooden bridge be built across the Catawba river at or near Hunter's mill, in Nebo township. It will be a low type bridge and is to be completed by the first of next month.

Register of Deeds Parker was instructed to have the register of deeds office repainted and otherwise improved.

The board ordered that the county farm demonstrator "be discontinued for the year 1917 on account of recent floods."

T. W. Wilson, N. F. Steppe and R. L. C. Gibson were appointed as members of the finance committee.

Jurors were drawn for the February term of superior court, which convenes on February 19, as follows:

First week—J. L. Ledbetter, J. O. McDaniel, W. W. Guy, J. Q. Gilkey, A. Blanton, W. S. Haynes, J. W. Jarrett, J. G. McCall, P. A. Ledford, A. C. Gardin, T. L. Gibson, C. C. Gibbs, R. C. Nanney, L. A. Chapman, J. E. Williams, T. C. Green, J. L. Laughridge, C. R. McCall, W. H. Hunter, G. E. Mace, R. L. Bowman, John Rich, G. H. Silver, H. H. Gibson, J. H. Hemphill, G. M. Laender, W. J. Bowman, J. H. Hensley, E. J. Laughter, J. S. Whitener, J. G. Godfrey, M. C. Sigmon, D. C. Bateman, Sam Morgan, J. L. Arrowood, B. M. Bright.

Second week—M. G. Burgin, J. B. Lonon, A. L. Suttlesmyer, A. L. Gardin, L. G. Price, S. L. Copeland, P. C. Smawley, J. A. Gallion, J. C. Sandlin, T. W. Early, Will Henline, J. P. Hennessee, S. L. Brown, R. A. Marlow, W. T. Moffitt, N. S. Davis, J. D. Hunt, A. E. Noblitt.

Students Home During Holidays.

The following students were home for the holidays: Misses Mary and Sarah Hudgins, form Randolph-Macon Institute, Danville, Va.; Miss Frances Wood and Wilmer Corpening, Salem College, Winston-Salem; Miss Fay Conley, Greensboro College for Women; Misses Anna Conley and Mary Poteat, State Normal, Greensboro; Roy Giles, John Elliott and J. W. Streetman, Trinity College, Durham; Will Pless, Davidson College, Bill Lonon, Donaldson, Fayetteville; Alexander White, Cecil Little, Clinton Landis and Isaac Giles, University, Chapel Hill.

The County Board of Health, composed of County Superintendent Byron Conley, Mayor Streetman and J. L. Nichols, chairman of the board of county commissioners, met Tuesday and elected Dr. G. B. Justice of Marion and Dr. D. M. McIntosh of Old Fort as members of the Board of Health. The board will meet next Monday to elect a county physician.

Social Affairs.

J. W. Pless, Jr., entertained a number of his friends at his home, Viewpoint Bungalow, on Monday night. About fifteen couples devoted the evening to dancing, while others enjoyed various card games. During the pleasant hours delightful refreshments were served by Mrs. J. W. Pless, assisted by Misses Nelle and Annie Laurie Blanton.

A number of the young ladies of the town gave a leap-year dance in the honor of the young men of their set last Thursday night at the Marianna Hotel. The young ladies played the role ordinarily played by young men in taking the initiative in making for the occasion also for dances. The dance was a pleasant affair and was very much enjoyed by all those present.

The young men of the town gave a dance at the Marianna hotel Christmas night, which was perhaps the most enjoyable event the young people of Marion have enjoyed this season. Music was furnished by the Symphony orchestra of Morganton. Fourteen couples were present. The out of town guests were Miss Dorothy Jones, of Nashville, Tenn., and Messrs. Max Corpening, of West Point, N. Y. and Harry L. Sheep, of Baltimore. Chaperons: Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Pless.

Miss Elizabeth Swindell entertained her young friends of the town at the home of her aunt, Mrs. D. E. Hudgins, Tuesday night of last week, in honor of her house guest, Miss Dorothy Jones, of Nashville, Tenn. The home was beautifully decorated for the occasion, in evergreen and Christmas colors. After various games and contests, the guests—about forty in number—enjoyed refreshments, which were served by Misses Sarah Hudgins, Mary Hudgins and Gertude Jones.

Miss Maude Elliott was hostess to a number of friends at the country home of G. W. Chapman last Friday evening. Rook, finch and other games were played after which delicious refreshments were served. Toasting marshmallows created much fun and amusement, Miss Thessa Jamerson being voted the champion toaster. The time passed so pleasantly and swiftly that it was with reluctance the guests bid farewell to their gracious when the clock pointed to the wee small hours. Those present were Misses Mary Burgin, Thessa Jamerson, Delia, Dora and Nellie Gibbs and the Misses Elliott; Messrs. Garland Williams, Thomas Gowan, John Elliott and W. R. Bailey.

Hosiery Mill Pays Good Dividend.

The regular annual stockholders meeting of the Carolina Hosiery Mill Company was held Tuesday. An excellent report was made for the preceding year, which showed the net earnings of the mill to be 40 per cent. The directors ordered an 8 per cent dividend paid the stockholders. The officers of the company are R. L. Greenlee, president; Byron Conley, vice-president; J. W. Streetman, secretary and treasurer, and C. F. James, superintendent.

MURPHY MADE SPEAKER

Democrats in General Assembly Perfect Organization for Session of 1917.

Raleigh, Jan. 2.—Walter Murphy was named unanimously tonight by the caucus of democratic members for speaker of the house of representatives of the 1917 legislature and his election will take place at noon tomorrow when the legislature organizes for its biennial sixty days' session. Galatin Roberts of Buncombe and Henry A. Page of Moore withdrew from the race for speaker during the afternoon, leaving Murphy with a clear field.

Mr. Murphy's nomination was made by R. A. Doughton of Allegheny, who told of his past legislative service covering six sessions and the speakership of the 1914 extra sessions, and of his exceptional qualifications.

For principal clerk Alex Lassiter and Frank Hackett tied, 47 to 47, on the first ballot, and Lassiter won on the second, 52 to 41. Other officers of the house nominated were:

Engrossing clerk, O. P. Shell, Harnett; sergeant-at-arms, J. H. Morreng, Wake; reading clerk, D. P. Dellinger, Gaston.

H. P. Grier of Iredell was made permanent chairman of the house caucus, and J. E. Pegram of Durham secretary, to serve throughout the legislature.

The senate caucus chose F. C. Harding of Pitt president pro tem; R. O. Self, principal clerk; David Gastor, Cumberland, sergeant-at-arms; J. W. Alexander, Clay, assistant sergeant-at-arms; C. C. Broughton, reading clerk; T. W. Hughes, Beaufort, engrossing clerk.

Senator McNider of Hertford was made permanent chairman of the senate caucus and Elmer Long of Alamance secretary.

The legislature republican caucus agreed on J. N. McCrary of Davidson as minority leader in the house. He will be given complimentary nomination for speaker.

Fruit Growers to Organize.

Realizing the need for an organization to promote the interest of the fruit industry of the county, a number of fruit growers have asked that a meeting be held for the purpose of perfecting such an organization. Saturday, January 6, has been set for the date for the meeting and everyone interested in orcharding is urged to be present. The meeting will be at the court house at 10:30 a. m.

Entertainment at Stroudtown.

Friday night, Dec. 22, the pupils of Stroudtown school gave a very interesting entertainment. Songs, plays and recitations were well rendered, showing much careful training by the teachers as well as ability of the pupils. From the large number of school patrons present it is evident that Mr. Davis and his efficient assistants, Misses Gibbs and McCurry, have the cooperation of the people of Stroudtown.

The regular January meeting of McDowell county Board of Education will be held next Monday. The meeting was postponed from last Monday on account of the absence of Chairman T. J. Gibbs.

Entente Allies Rejects Germany's Peace Proposal.

Paris, Dec. 30.—The allies today flatly refused to consider Germany's peace proposals.

The recent suggestion of the German government was branded as a military maneuver, rather than a peace proffer.

The ten nations of the entente declared the war must go on until Germany is ready to state her terms.

Germany was again charged with responsibility for the war.

Peace is impossible, the allies declared, until reparation is assured.

There must be guarantees for the future peace of the world.

The free existence of small countries must be recognized.

The German proposal was branded as "insincere," and the determination of all entente powers to reject the proposal and to continue the war until their aims are attained pronounced in the strongest terms.

Germany's proposal was declared to be an attempt to bring about a German-made peace.

The allies charged it was made to disturb opinion in neutral countries and to reaffirm German public opinion.

Germany was referred to as the empire which "proclaimed that treaties were scraps of paper."

Offers based upon the present war map do not express the true situation nor the real strength of the combatants, it was declared.

The reply of the allies was made in one note which was handed to the neutral diplomatic representatives in Paris at 7 o'clock this evening.

In addition to the note signed by France, Belgium, Great Britain, Italy, Japan, Montenegro, Portugal, Rumania, Russia and Serbia, appended was a special Belgian protest against the crimes committed by Germany against that country. In this statement, Belgium declared the king and the people of the country desired no peace that does not include legitimate reparation and guarantees of security for the future.

The conclusion, which carries Belgium's protest, puts forward certain considerations as showing the special situation as regards Belgium.

It then recites that as a result of international treaties signed by five powers, including Germany, Belgium enjoyed before the war a special status, rendering her inviolable and placing her under a guarantee outside all European conflicts.

"In spite of these treaties Belgium was the first to suffer from the aggression of Germany," the note declares. "For this reason the Belgium government thinks it is necessary to define the aims which Belgium has never ceased to pursue while fighting under the entente for right and justice.

"Belgium, before the war, asked nothing. For the re-establishment of peace, and justice, surely, it is that country's legitimate right to demand reparation and guarantees of safeguards for the future."

A total eclipse of the moon is scheduled to begin on the morning of January 8 at 12:50 and will continue about three hours.

STATE NEWS OF THE WEEK

Items Concerning Events of Interest and Importance Throughout the State.

Greensboro is to have a \$350,000 hotel very soon.

Country club, tourist hotel and golf link are the talk of the Hickory boosters.

Revenue officers raided an illicit still in a graveyard in the Sugar Hill section of Haywood county Sunday night, capturing two men and destroying 500 gallons of beer.

General Edward Lewis Hayes, a cousin of President Rutherford B. Hayes, and at one time governor of North Carolina, died at his home in Verona, N. J., Monday. He was ninety-seven years old last Friday.

R. H. Sykes, of Durham, former judge of Durham City Court and prominent in legal circles of North Carolina, will be assistant attorney general under Attorney General J. S. Manning, it has been announced.

Dependent families of convicts in North Carolina, 615 in number, received \$10 each from the funds of the State's Prison for the Christmas season. The board took this action upon recommendation of Governor Craig.

Rev. Milton Webb, father of Congressman E. Y. and Judge James L. Webb, is quite ill at the home of the judge in Shelby. He was 85 years of age in November and has been one of the most active pioneer Baptist ministers in the state.

The latest official statement of the United States government shows that the R. J. Reynolds Company of Winston-Salem manufactures more cigarettes and chewing and smoking tobacco than any other company in the world.

The Lenoir News says that Dr. A. W. Dula has sold his watchmaking and jewelry establishment at Lenoir to W. H. Dingler of Maiden. Dr. Dula retains the glass-fitting department, however, and it is understood he will give his entire time in the future to this line of work.

Robt. M. Davidson, 43 years old, a farmer of Swannanoa township, Buncombe county, was shot and killed by his neighbor, Horace Clark, a farmer, Friday afternoon. The men quarreled, it is said, over a road and there had been ill feeling between them for some time. Clark is in jail and claims self-defence. Davidson is survived by his wife and seven children. Clark is a widower with one child.

Only a Few Violated Parole.

Sixty-sixen trusty convicts were released from the State's prison for Christmas by order of Gov. Craig and all returned except two. The two who failed to return are Wallace Bradley of Swain county, serving 16 years for murder; and Littleton Bergert of Warren county, serving 15 years for murder.

Of the county convicts released on parole all made good except two or three, who were guilty of misconduct or failed to return.

The high cost of living continues both high and costly.