

MARION PROGRESS

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

ESTABLISHED 1896

MARION, N. C., THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1929

VOL. XXXIII—NO. 32

COUNTY BONDS SOLD MONDAY

Issue of \$50,000 Sold to Bray Brothers of Greensboro at a Premium of \$650.00.

A special meeting of the Board of County Commissioners was held at the court house in Marion on Monday, February 11th, for the purpose of considering the question of permanently financing floating indebtedness of the county as required by the General Fiscal Control Act, applicable to all counties in North Carolina. This indebtedness is an accumulation of necessary and permanent improvements made from time to time through the last fifteen years.

The representatives of several bond buyers were present and after competitive bidding, Bray Brothers of Greensboro, N. C., offered to take the issue of \$50,000.00 worth of bonds at an interest rate of five percent, and pay a premium of \$650.00 and all expenses in connection with the issue, whereupon the board accepted the offer. On this floating debt the county is paying six percent interest, thus a saving on one percent will be assured. This funding debt was attempted by the Board of Commissioners in 1927, but owing to legal complications, was not consummated. These legal complications made it necessary that action be deferred until the Legislature convened, at which an enabling act may be obtained.

MARY KELLAH OULTZ HEADS G. C. STUDENTS

The following clipping from the Greensboro Daily News of February 12th will be of interest to the many friends of Miss Mary Kellah Oultz, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Oultz of Marion:

"Miss Mary Kellah Oultz, of Marion, was last night elected by the Greensboro College student body as president of the students' governing association for the ensuing year. Miss Mildred Cross, of Sanford, was named president of the athletic association. Miss Joyce Flippin, of Pilot Mountain, was made president of the college Y. W. C. A.

"The election, held in strictest secrecy of ballot, one week after nominations had been made, provoked a very intense interest, practically every student being present.

"In the student government association, Miss Oultz' victory was of the greater interest because of the fact that her name was the only one presented from the floor for any office in any of the three organizations

MEETING OF WOMAN'S CLUB

The Woman's Club held a very interesting meeting last Friday in the Kiwanis room with the president, Mrs. J. Q. Gilkey, presiding. Twenty-five members responded to roll call and one new member, Mrs. Wm. Treverton, was welcomed.

The book committee asked that a book shower be given the library, and members are asked to donate a book from their private library and bring or send to the tournament, which will be given in the Kiwanis rooms on the afternoon of Feb. 14th, or to Mrs. R. F. Burton. Books from others than club members will also be appreciated.

Mrs. Annie Miller Pless gave a most interesting account of her trip to Europe and Mrs. John Decker read a letter from a travel club that was most enjoyable.

During the social hour, Mesdames E. C. McMillan, J. G. Beaman and L. E. Browder, hostesses, served refreshments.

LEGION AUXILIARY MEETS

The Legion Auxiliary met the first Monday in this month at the home of Mrs. Annie Miller Pless. There were eighteen present. After the business meeting was over Mrs. Pless read her diary of her trips abroad, which was very interesting. Delicious refreshments were served. Mrs. R. J. Noyes and Mrs. Pless were joint hostesses.

The next meeting will be at the home of Mrs. H. E. Noell on the first Monday in March.

KILLS FINE PIG

Joe A. Hensley of Nebo placed on the market a few days ago a six months old Red Duroc pig which weighed 190 pounds net.

WILLIAM GLEN LONG CLAIMED BY DEATH

William Glen Long of East Marion died at the Marion Hospital last Saturday morning with double pneumonia after an illness of several weeks. Mr. Long was 23 years of age and a son of Mr. and Mrs. R. G. Long of East Marion. He was converted when a young man and united with the East Marion Methodist Church, of which he remained a faithful member until the end. He was a member of the young men's Bible class and served as president. He took an active part in church affairs and will be greatly missed by the class as well as the church.

Besides his parents, Mr. Long, is survived by his wife and one son, Gene Arthur; two brothers, Deffice and James Edward Long, and one sister, Miriam Hope Long, all of East Marion.

The funeral services were conducted from the East Marion Methodist Church Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock by Rev. J. N. Wise, assisted by Rev. H. C. Brackett, Rev. A. A. Walker and Rev. W. F. McMahan. A large crowd attended the services. A quartet from the Cross Mill Baptist Church rendered several selections, after which appropriate remarks were made by Rev. H. C. Brackett, Rev. A. A. Walker and Rev. J. N. Wise. Interment was made at Providence cemetery.

HAWKINS-HARRILL

It comes as a surprise to their many friends to learn of the marriage of W. B. Harrill, principal of Glenwood High School, Nealsville, N. C., and Miss Thelma Hawkins, Home Economics teacher of Clinchfield School of Marion, at the home of the Baptist minister, in Nealsville, Friday afternoon, February 1, at five o'clock. Rev. J. M. Brown officiated, the ring ceremony being used in the presence of only a few relatives and close friends.

The bride was beautiful in a tan georgette ensemble with accessories to match.

Immediately after the ceremony Mr. and Mrs. Harrill left for a weekend trip, and returned Monday to take up their work in their respective schools, where they will remain until the end of the school term.

Mrs. Harrill is the daughter of Mrs. Etta Stroud of Dover, N. C. She is a graduate of N. C. C. W. and has taught several years.

Mr. Harrill is the son of Rev. and Mrs. I. D. Harrill, of Lattimore, N. C. He is a graduate of Wake Forest College and has had one year at Columbia University. He was principal for two years in his home county and is now closing a second successful year as principal of Glenwood High School.

MARION STARS DEFEAT HENDERSONVILLE 25-24

The Marion All Stars defeated the Hendersonville All Stars in a close and hard fought battle on the high school court here last Friday night. The game ended with Marion leading 25 to 24. Both teams displayed a lot of fight. The play of Anderson at center for Marion was the feature of the game.

Canton defeated Marion Monday night by a score of 34 to 3. The accurate shooting of the Canton team was the only feature of the game. The guarding of Howard and McCall featured for Marion while the shooting of Brink for Canton was exceptional.

"SEVENTEEN", HIGH SCHOOL PLAY, MARCH 1

"Seventeen", by Booth Tarkington, will be presented by the Senior Class of the Marion High School at the high school auditorium on Friday evening, March 1st. It is a four act play of youth, love and sunshine, with Dalas Duncan as "Seventeen", Miss Margaret Lawrence as "The Baby Talk Lady", Woodrow Lemmond as janitor and Miss Hazel Parker as Jane. In fact an all star cast has been chosen from the senior class. Do you think love is blind, deaf and dumb? Ask "Seventenn". He knows the answer.

COURT NEXT WEEK

The civil term of McDowell Superior Court will convene here on next Monday with Judge T. B. Finley presiding. There are 22 cases listed for trial on the court calendar.

Raspberry culture will be started in Avery county this year by boys belonging to the 4-H clubs.

W. N. C. COUNTIES GET ROAD FUND

Allocation In Some Counties More Than Was Spent on Roads During the Past Year.

Raleigh, Feb. 8.—Western North Carolina will receive a substantial land tax relief from the gas tax bill to create a county maintenance system, which passed the house today with only one dissenting vote after about five hours of the warmest kind of debate.

Buncombe's allotment under this fund of \$3,000,000 set up by the bill to aid the counties and which must be used for road maintenance, is \$57,270.

Other western counties will receive amounts as follows: Avery, \$13,380; Burke, \$30,090; Cherokee, \$22,890; Clay, \$9,600; Graham, \$12,030; Haywood, \$30,570; Henderson, \$21,270; Jackson, \$23,404; Macon, \$23,370; Madison, \$25,200; McDowell, \$23,460; Mitchell, \$13,170; Polk, \$12,940; Rutherford, \$35,160; Swain, \$24,780; Transylvania, \$17,160; and Yancey, \$18,030.

Several counties will receive under this allotment a larger amount of money than they spent last year for highway maintenance by direct taxation.

TAX VALUATIONS OUGHT TO BE CORRECTED NOW

I am more than ever convinced that relief ought now to be given the great majority of the people of McDowell county in the matter of the present assessed valuation of property for taxes. I think our Representative, and our Senator ought to be asked to give the Board of County Commissioners power by a special act of the present Legislature to reduce, or raise, valuations, and that certainly many farms and small properties especially, which are assessed at much more than sixty percent of their actual value, ought to be reduced, and that the valuation in a number of instances of large, and money-making properties, where the valuation is ridiculously low, ought to be raised. But I am informed that a closed—or at least not a public—meeting of the County Democratic Executive Committee has lately been held and that it passed a resolution opposing the giving of any authority to the Board of County Commissioners to look into and remedy any injustices and inequalities in the valuation of property, which may exist, until the expiration of the regular four-year period. This does not meet the wishes of the great majority of our people, in my opinion. I believe they want all such injustices righted, now.

I do not feel that the executive committee of any political party has any right to determine what ought to be done in the matter of adjusting tax values. There is, or should be, no shadow, even, of politics in such matters. It is a tax-payer's proposition.

I have been advised that my published utterances in this connection heretofore has, by some, been taken as relating to, or aimed at, only one certain large company, against which I have appeared as counsel in a number of law suits. That is not true.

And just here I want to be fair enough, with that company, and with the public, to say that I am reliably informed that the report that its land, including fine river bottoms, is assessed at only ten or eleven dollars per acre, is not true. I have made no personal investigations of any individual or company's tax assessment, for the reason that I am employed as an attorney by nobody in that connection. I have expressed myself as a citizen, and not as attorney for anybody. The general information upon which I have based what I have said has come to me entirely unsought, and is but common information to all who are concerned.

W. T. MORGAN.

SCHOOL PROPERTY IN N. C. VALUED AT \$100,000,000

Raleigh, Feb. 11. — Figures published in a recent issue of "School Facts", issued by the State Department of Public Instruction, show that North Carolina has completed the bulk of her school building program, which began shortly after the World War. Public school property used for secondary and elementary education is valued at \$100,929,265.

FARMERS DISCUSS FARM PROBLEMS

Program for Better Agriculture Discussed at Series of Meetings Held Recently.

A series of meetings have recently been held throughout the county for the purpose of discussing with the people the agricultural problems of the farm, the remedies for these problems, and the making of a program of work for each community in solving these problems. Meetings were held at West Marion, Sugar Hill, Glenwood, Macedonia, Dysartsville, Harmony Grove, Nebo, North Cove, Pleasant Garden, Old Fort and Cherry Springs. Each of the meetings were addressed by the County Agent along the lines mentioned above, after which the meetings were turned into a "round table discussion" for the expression of opinions and suggestions by those attending for meeting the agricultural problems of McDowell county. The small income per farm, the cause, and remedies were discussed.

The average cash income per farm in McDowell county is probably less than \$500.00. This is due to the fact that so many of our farms do not produce very much to sell, due to the low per acre yield of many of our crops, and to the lack of the proper operation of the farm so that profitable employment is given to every member of the family throughout the year. In order to increase the income on the farm, we must have more stuff to sell, and to make money, the cost of production must be lower than the selling price. The average yield of many of our crops, and the average production of livestock products, is near the cost of production, so we cannot expect to make much money with the margin of profit so close. We cannot expect to increase the income much while producing only one or two crops for sale during one or two periods of the year, such as corn and wheat. But if we are producing crops which bring in cash every day in the year, being produced at a cost less than the selling price, then we can expect to increase the income on the farm.

In order to lower the cost of production of the field crops, we must increase the fertility of the soil, and take advantage of the use of improved machinery. By the proper rotation of crops, growing a plenty of the summer and winter legumes, such as the clovers, vetch, soybeans, etc., we can easily double the yield of our crops within a few years. Along with the proper rotation of the crops, we must include the use of ground limestone and the proper use of fertilizers.

In providing the best market for the crops grown in the proper crop rotation plans for each farm, no doubt but that good livestock offers the best market. Fine dairy cattle, fine hogs, fine poultry, with the proper management, will pay more than the market price for corn, wheat, hays, and other field crops. A small flock of sheep may be added to profit to some of the farms.

The proper rotation of crops and the necessary livestock to provide a market for the surplus crops will do much in providing profitable employment for every member of the family throughout the year. The average farm should keep from 5 to 6 milk cows, 50 to 100 hens, and the number of hogs to take care of any surplus corn, or skim milk. The cows would bring in more cash than the average farmer is receiving at this time.

Much of the success of farming depends upon a satisfactory market. Farmers should study the markets, determining what markets are available for the products which should be produced, in what form the market wants these products, the time, the quality, the quantity, and other factors of marketing and then co-operatively meet the requirements of the markets.

In the marketing of dairy products nearby creameries are offering a satisfactory market for butter-fat. This market was used satisfactorily by T. W. Wilson, B. J. Hensley, and others years ago, and is being used by J. M. Haney, I. C. Crawley, W. M. Conley, L. G. Hollifield, E. E. and Jay English, W. G. English, S. M. Avery, W. E. Willis, J. H. Greenlee and others at this time. A survey is being made

at this time to determine to what extent the people of the county are interested in producing enough milk to operate a cheese factory in Marion. If we had the milk, we could locate a cheese factory, or some kind of a butter factory in Marion. It seems the farmers have not increased the number of cows for the apparent lack of a market, while the market has not developed locally for the want of the product in volume sufficient to make the operation of a dairy plant profitable. However, the first step in successful dairying is the establishing of permanent pastures, the growing of the necessary feeds, and the breeding up of the dairy herds by using fine pure-bred bulls, and in using the available markets while volume in production is being obtained.

The marketing of poultry is being taken care of very satisfactorily by the co-operative car shipments of poultry. When there is a surplus of eggs on the local market, eggs are also sold through the poultry car sales which helps in the marketing of eggs.

The packing company at Asheville pays the Chicago market price for hogs every day in the week, thus providing us with one of the best markets for our hogs. What we probably need in this line is for the farmers to co-operate in the production of hogs by the car load, have a certain day to have a hog car in Marion and sell our surplus hogs similar to the manner in which poultry is being marketed.

If the farmers co-operated in the production and storage of Irish potatoes and sweet potatoes, these products could probably be marketed profitably by the car load method. Many sections of the county can produce apples profitably. By pruning, spraying, cultivating, fertilization, and the proper handling of the orchard, apples can be marketed very satisfactorily by trucks to nearby towns and cities. Some perishable truck can be grown and sold to nearby markets at a profit in meeting the demands of the market.

It seems that the time is here when the farmers should co-operate in the production of all crops, and then a market will be found. It is best to begin this co-operative action right at the bottom, starting out with the individuals grouped together in community organizations to work out their problems.

Meetings will be held as nearly monthly as possible at the above places for the purpose of working together in carrying out a definite plan of work. The meetings will be advertised through the local papers, and otherwise, and the people of the county are urged to co-operate.

J. H. Greenlee, of Marion, purchased a pure-bred Jersey bull calf from E. S. Frisbie of West Marion during this week. Edgar Morgan of Glenwood has also purchased a pure-bred Jersey bull from J. D. Wilson, of Sugar Hill.

H. R. Niswonger, Extension Horticulturist, was in the county on Wednesday and Thursday giving pruning demonstrations, and making appropriate talks on the proper care of orchards. Demonstrations are being held on the farms of G. C. Conley, Claude Fortune, M. L. Good, E. E. English, Henry Croom, I. L. Knupp and A. B. Burgin.

W. L. SMARR, County Agt.

PREPARING FOR CENSUS

The census bureau is preparing to start enumerating the people of the United States the first of January for the 1930 census. North Carolina is to be divided into 12 districts, instead of 11 as in 1920.

A bill pending in the senate provides for the force necessary to take the census. It will give jobs to several hundred people in the state. Charlotte, Asheville, Greensboro, Raleigh, Wilmington, and other towns will be headquarters for supervisors. Already applications for these offices are coming in.

LOCAL BILLS

Senator W. F. Wood has introduced bills in the Senate to permit the city of Marion to issue bonds for a town hall, and to permit the city of Marion to issue bonds for water and sewer lines.

Jos. M. Wall, aged 63, died at his home in Linville township, Burke county, Monday and was buried at Oak Hill cemetery Tuesday afternoon at 2 o'clock. Mr. Wall was a prominent merchant of the community and has three brothers residing in Marion.

SENATE ADOPTS SECRET BALLOT

Senate Passes Secret Vote Bill Upon Its Second Reading—More Amendments Ahead.

Raleigh, Feb. 13.—The state senate passed a compromise Australian ballot bill at two o'clock this afternoon, on second reading, after adopting the Canaday-Broughton amendment by a vote of 38 to 9.

The battle of amendments, however, is not over, for Senator Whedbee, of Perquimans, announced in explaining his vote that additional amendments would be necessary to secure his vote on the third ballot, and other senators are known to share his position.

The Canaday amendment, which was responsible for the support given the bill by the eastern Democrats, provides that in primaries a voter may, at his own request, be accompanied into the voting booth by any member of his family, or by any person he designates to accompany him into the secret voting booth, with the approval of the election officials.

NEW FORD FINANCE PLAN

Messrs. C. F. Barnes and W. S. Shiflet, of the McDowell Motor Company, local Ford dealers, returned yesterday from Asheville, where they received details of the new Ford finance plan.

The new finance plan will be operated by the Universal Credit Company, and affiliated specialized organization controlled by the Ford Motor Company and operating solely for the purpose of financing Ford products on a "time" basis. The branch office serving this territory is located at Charlotte, N. C.

This is of special interest to prospective purchasers of Ford products on a "time" basis. Under this authorized finance plan, Ford customers will have a finance service available which is sound and in keeping with Ford policies and standards. The plan is nation-wide in scope and for the exclusive use of Ford dealers.

It is another step of the Ford organization in reducing costs by controlling operations from the mine to the consumer. The cost of this service will be lower than any heretofore available to Ford customers on a national basis, and automatically reduces the price of Ford cars purchased on a "time" payment basis. It is a further expression of the established Ford policy of giving outstanding values and complete service to the consumer at the lowest possible cost.

The plan also contemplates the purchase by Universal Credit Company of sound and adequate fire and theft insurance, protecting the joint interests of the purchaser, the dealer and the company in the car.

The purchaser receives a policy of standard form insurance providing protection for one year. Such policies are issued by the Home Insurance Company of New York, the largest fire insurance company in the United States. The policies provide for settlement based on the actual cash value of the car at time of loss.

The Universal Credit Company and the Ford dealer will work together in making this new economical Ford service available to all purchasers of Ford products on a "time" basis. The McDowell Motor Company, local Ford dealers, will be glad to explain all the details of the plan, which applies to both new and used cars purchased from Ford dealers.

P. O. S. OF A. NEWS

Washington Camp No. 40, P. O. S. of A., met Monday night, Feb. 11th. Brother Russell of Statesville, state organizer, was present at the meeting. He proposes to organize a county association comprising Hickory, Whitnel, Morganton, Bethlehem, Le-noir and Marion. A delegation from each of the camps mentioned is to meet at Morganton one night next week to plan for the new association. Next Monday night Brother Russell will be with the Marion Camp again and will let us know the date to meet at Morganton. A contest is now on in our Camp to procure new members and reinstate old members who have been dropped from the roll. At our next meeting, Feb. 18th, Bethlehem Camp is invited to meet with us and hear Brother Russell.

ROY J. ELLIS, Pres.