

MARION PROGRESS

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

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COUNTY SCHOOLS HOLD CONTESTS

The Contests at East Marion, Clinchfield and Old Fort Draw Capacity Audiences.

The contests of the county schools held last week at East Marion, Clinchfield and Old Fort schools drew capacity audiences. The weather was favorable and the schools were taxed beyond their limit to provide seating space for the large crowd of visitors.

The chorus contest took place at East Marion on Wednesday evening, and all of the large elementary schools and high schools came together for this contest. The children were well trained and sang to the delight of the large crowd of visitors. No decisions were rendered as to the winning school but many expressions of praise were heard for the very excellent singing given by the schools.

The recitation contest was held at the Clinchfield auditorium on Thursday evening. Competitors from all the elementary and high schools took part. The readings all proved interesting and each contestant vied with the others for the best impression on the audience. As each one concluded her recitation, she was given enthusiastic and prolonged applause.

The declamation contest engaged in by boys from both elementary and high schools was given at the Old Fort High School on Friday evening. Each boy was a winner notwithstanding the fact there was no decision announced. There was a capacity audience composed of people from Old Fort and from visiting schools. The elementary contests were given first place on the program and when they had finished, they were followed by the high school boys. The selections were all of high order and each piece was well done. While no medals were given this year in any of the contests the quality was of the very highest and our schools are well pleased with the showing that has been made. They are eager for the next contest, even though it is to occur one year hence.

THEATRE BUILDING NEARING COMPLETION

Work on Marion's new theatre building is rapidly nearing completion. The scaffolding at the front of the building has been removed and the plastering and interior decoration was begun by workmen this week. The front of the building is constructed of white stone with attractive decorations. The building is a two story structure and will have a large seating capacity. It will be the finest theatre in Western North Carolina outside of Charlotte and Asheville.

The Lonon building adjoining the new theatre building on Court street will be occupied by Dean Tainter for a new drug store as soon as completed. It will be known as Tainter's No. 2. Mr. Tainter announces that a full line of drugs, toilet articles, novelties and gifts will be carried. A large new fountain and modern furniture and fixtures will be installed. All prescription work will be taken care of at the old store, No. 1.

MARION HIGH BEATS NEWTON OUTFIT, 8-0

Marion High continued its winning ways Friday when they swamped Newton 8 to 0 for their third straight win of the season. The Marion boys unloosed a barrage of hits in the first inning and continued their onslaught on the hapless Newton pitcher for four innings when they decided to rest awhile. Murray and Clay led in the hitting. Murray got a home run and two singles while Clay lammed out a double and single. Clay also contributed some pretty stops to take fielding honors of the game. Conley and Williams each handed in two pretty catches in the outfield.

Arrowood pitched another beautiful game of ball, turning in his third win of the season. He fanned fifteen men and allowed five hits, two of these being infield hits.

Marion will play Charlotte here Saturday afternoon at 3 o'clock at the Cross Mill Park.

See and Hear NANCY CARROLL and GARY COOPER in "THE SHOPWORN ANGEL" at Oasis Theatre Thursday and Friday.



MISS MARGARET CRAIG Student President.

This Marion girl was recently elected president of the Meredith College Student Government association. She will have charge of the organization's activities during the college year 1929-30 — her senior year. Miss Craig, who is the daughter of Mrs. W. R. Chambers, of Marion, has already held numerous college offices, among them that of president of the junior class, treasurer of the student government association, and member of the student council. — Asheville Times.

TWO MEN SHOT IN A GUN BATTLE SUNDAY

Two men are suffering from minor bullet wounds here and officers are seeking John Lail following a shooting which occurred a few miles south of Marion Sunday afternoon about 3 o'clock. Lail himself was said to have been shot in the leg.

George Duncan of Marion received a flesh wound in the arm, and Fate Burnett, of this county, a companion of Lail's at the time of the shooting, was shot in the leg. Both were out of the hospital Monday.

Sheriff O. F. Adkins, Deputy Sheriff Ben Hensley, George Duncan, B. L. Robbins and Federal Prohibition Agent John Banks raided Lail's filling station four miles west of Marion Sunday morning and reported finding seven gallons and 20 pints of whiskey. The officers arrested Floyd Hyatt, said to be a clerk in the filling station, but Lail escaped.

Sunday afternoon Hensley and Duncan were on the Dysartsville road in search of a man named Lewis, when they came across Lail near the county home. As the officers approached Burnett started to run, and as Duncan followed, it is stated Lail opened fire, emptying his revolver in the direction of the officer and wounding Duncan and Burnett. Mr. Duncan returned the fire, but it is not certain whether Lail was wounded or not, as he again escaped while Duncan and Burnett were being taken to the hospital.

Lail, officers stated, had four liquor cases pending against him in the federal court and he has been out under \$4,000 bond.

CHARLES D. CURTIS CLAIMED BY DEATH

Charles D. Curtis, aged 30, died at the home of his mother, Mrs. S. M. Crooks, at Clinchfield on Sunday, April 7th, after an illness of several months. Mr. Curtis was a World War veteran and a member of the McDowell Post of American Legion. Members of the local Post attended the funeral and took part in the services.

The funeral was conducted from the residence Monday by Rev. J. N. Wise, assisted by Rev. A. A. Walker and Rev. P. D. Mangum, and interment made in Oak Grove cemetery.

Besides his mother, Mr. Curtis is survived by one sister, Mrs. A. J. Jarratt, of Marion; and two brothers, M. L. and R. M. Curtis, of Clinchfield.

FIRE AT CLINCHFIELD

The fire department was called out about four o'clock Tuesday morning when the Conley boarding house on Baldwin avenue at Clinchfield was discovered on fire. When discovered the kitchen was ablaze but the fire department was soon on the scene and had the blaze under control. The origin of the fire is unknown. Considerable damage was done to the building and furniture, the loss being estimated at several hundred dollars.

Next Monday and Tuesday BERT LYTELL in "THE LONE WOLF'S DAUGHTER" at Oasis Theatre. And two good vaudeville acts.

CRASH IS FATAL TO OLD FORT MAN

L. C. Harris Dies in Statesville Following Accident on The Mocksville Highway.

Statesville, April 9.—L. C. Harris, 29, of Old Fort, died at Long's Sanatorium here this morning from the effects of injuries sustained in an automobile wreck occurring last night on number 90 highway between Statesville and Mocksville. William M. Darlington, of Winston-Salem, who was at the steering wheel when the car overturned on a curve, was severely shocked and had several cuts on his face and head.

Mr. Darlington, night clerk at the Robert E. Lee Hotel, Winston-Salem, and Mr. Harris who holds a position in a coffee shop next door to the Robert E. Lee Hotel, had been to Mooresville and were on their way back to Winston when their automobile left the road on a curve. An examination of Mr. Harris at the local hospital revealed that his neck had been broken and he was paralyzed from his shoulders down.

Mr. Harris, son of J. R. Harris, Old Fort merchant, is survived by his wife and four children. His body was taken to Old Fort for burial today.

WOMAN'S CLUB MEETS

The Woman's Club held their regular meeting in the Kiwanis rooms last Friday afternoon with the president, Mrs. J. Q. Gilkey, presiding.

The club voted to send \$15.00 to the Sally Southall Cotton fund to help with the education of a worthy girl.

Mrs. Gilkey read "Club Ethics," a chapter from the state book club which was interesting and very instructive.

Mrs. Annie Miller Pless had charge of the garden program. Mrs. Eugene Cross read a very interesting paper in which she told of a dream of beautifying the town, especially the school grounds and a park. Mrs. Geo. McCall read a paper giving information as to the planting and with the growth of vines and told how many a place can be beautified.

During the social hour which followed, Mrs. P. D. Sinclair, Mrs. J. C. Rabb and Mrs. J. C. Story served refreshments.

Hostesses for the next meeting will be Mrs. W. R. Chambers, Mrs. Geo. S. McCall and Mrs. D. F. Giles.

VITAL STATISTICS FOR MONTH GIVEN

A. E. Denton, registrar of vital statistics for Marion Township, reports 29 births and 11 deaths for the month of March. During the month of February there were 21 births and 16 deaths in the township, while 22 births and five deaths were recorded in January.

The report shows that births outnumbered deaths by forty during the first three months period of the year, there being 72 births and 32 deaths.

NATIONAL GUARD UNIT FOR McDOWELL COUNTY

There is underway preparations for organizing a National Guard unit in McDowell County. As this is being sponsored by Reserve Officers of the 322 Infantry, also by McDowell Post No. 56 of the American Legion, the McDowell Post invites all ex-service men as well as all young men between the ages of eighteen and thirty-one years old, who are interested in such an organization, to be present at 7:30 p.m. Friday night, April 12th, at the Kiwanis Club room.

TEACHERS' TRAINING SCHOOL APRIL 22-25

Every Sunday School teacher and superintendent ought to take the course in Teacher Training to be conducted by Prof. C. T. Carr in the First Presbyterian Church, April the 22nd to April 25th.

Professor Carr is one of the most successful teachers of Sunday School work in our state today. He will use Weigles book, "The Teacher and the Pupil." Secure the book beforehand from the undersigned and read carefully the first two chapters. This school is free and open to everybody interested in Sunday School work. Hours 8 p. m. to 10 p. m.

J. C. STORY, Pastor First Presbyterian Church.

MARION WINS IN MUSIC CONTEST

Charles Sinclair Winner in Cornet Solo Contest at District Contest at Lenoir.

On last Friday representatives from several counties of Western North Carolina met in Lenoir as contestants in the state music contests. Heretofore these contests have been held in Greensboro and all contestants have gone to that city for competition. The plan this year calls for preliminary district contests to determine those who are to compete further in final contests at Greensboro on the 17th and 18th of April.

These contests include all phases of music that are studied in the high schools of the state, bands, orchestras, glee clubs, piano, violin and other instruments.

The Marion High School, entering these contests has qualified two contestants for the finals at Greensboro. Charles Sinclair won in preliminary competition for the cornet solo, while Bettie Wilson will compete in the finals on the violin. Mr. Sinclair has received his training chiefly under the tutelage of Mr. J. L. Greene, director of the Marion Band and Orchestra. Miss Wilson has been studying violin with Mrs. A. A. Morris who teaches public school music and stringed instruments in the Marion Schools.

FOUR STILL CAPTURED DURING THE PAST WEEK

Deputy Sheriff Chas. Tate and Wm. Bradley report capturing an illicit distillery in Old Fort township last Thursday. About 500 gallons of beer and five gallons of whiskey were found at the still. No arrests were made.

Deputy Sheriff R. H. Hennessee also captured a small copper still in North Cove township during the past week.

On Friday morning Sheriff O. F. Adkins, accompanied by Deputy Sheriff Ben Hensley and T. B. Conley made a successful raid in Higgins township where they captured a steam outfit and three hundred gallons of beer. The officers arrested Frank Wells who was placed under a bond of \$400 on a charge of manufacturing whiskey.

A steam outfit was also captured in Nebo township on Monday of this week.

UNIVERSITY AWARDS 26 TEACHING FELLOWSHIPS

Announcement was made at Chapel Hill last week of the award of 26 teaching fellowships by the graduate school of the University of North Carolina for the next scholastic year, 1929-30. These fellowships carry an annual stipend of \$500 each plus free tuition. Philip M. Cheek was awarded the fellowship in classics, with Benson W. Davis of Marion as alternate.

SPRING CLEANING AT JAIL

The McDowell County jail has recently been given a spring cleaning. The walls, windows, floors and bedding have been thoroughly cleaned and renovated, affording the prisoners better sanitary conditions. The prisoners have also assured the jailor they will co-operate in helping to keep the jail clean. New mattresses and slips, cups and spoons have recently been purchased for the jail.

PLAY AT GLENWOOD

The Grammar grade of Glenwood High School will give an entertainment at Glenwood school on Friday night, April 12. The program will consist of songs, drills, duets and a play entitled, "Crowning the May Queen".

DAUGHTER BORN

Mr. and Mrs. William O. Gibbs announce the birth of a daughter, Rene Henderson, at the Marion Hospital on Wednesday, April 10th.

Hear NANCY CARROLL sing "That Precious Little Thing Called Love" in "THE SHOPWORN ANGEL", Thursday and Friday at Oasis Theatre.

Rowan county has broken the record for the state in that 20,000 acres of small grain land was seeded to some kind of clover this spring. Sweet clover was planted on much of the acreage.



J. QUINCE GILKEY Reappointed.

Governor Gardner Wednesday afternoon reappointed Mr. Gilkey, of Marion, as a member of the State Board of Conservation and Development for a term of six years. Mr. Gilkey has taken a leading part in the conservation program in Western North Carolina, particularly with reference to fish. In place of G. L. Hampton, of Canton, whose term also expired, the Governor appointed J. J. Stone, of Greensboro. The third appointee to the board is W. C. Ewing, of Fayetteville. — Asheville Times.

JAS. AYERS SAILS FOR PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

New York, N. Y., April 5.—Private James V. Ayers, of Marion, N. C., who recently joined the Regular Army, sailed today on the United States Army Transport "Cambrai" on a 12,000 mile trip to join the American Garrison in the Philippine Islands. The transport cleared the Brooklyn Army Base at noon, carrying a full list of soldier passengers bound for foreign stations.

Private Ayers, who volunteered for duty in the Philippines, selected the Infantry branch of the army for service and will join one of the regular units stationed in the Islands. His trip, practically a world tour, will take nearly three months, and he will have the opportunity to see, at no personal expense, some of the world's greatest wonders.

Special provisions have been made by the War Department for the reception of Private Ayers and his comrades at every port of call. The itinerary calls for stops at Panama, San Francisco, Honolulu, and Guam. Upon his arrival in Manila, the great trade center of America in the far East, Private Ayers will be assigned to a permanent organization in the Philippine Islands.

Before sailing today, Private Ayers was a member of the garrison at Fort Slocum, N. Y., an historic army post on Long Island Sound, where he received his basic instruction and training.

GOOD PROGRAM AT OASIS

The Vitaphone equipment recently installed at the Oasis Theatre is now working perfectly and the talking and sound pictures presented are just as good as may be seen and heard in largest places. These features have been secured at heavy expense and the management deserves the liberal and hearty support of the people of Marion in order to continue this high class service.

On Thursday and Friday nights of this week Nancy Carroll and Gary Cooper will appear in "The Shopworn Angel", a talking and singing feature. The program will also include two Vitaphone acts. The program for Monday and Tuesday will include Bert Lytle in "The Lone Wolf's Daughter" and two good Vitaphone vaudeville acts.

FISH LICENSES HERE

Fishing licenses were received here Tuesday and are now on sale at the McDowell Hardware Store, J. D. Blanton's Store and the office of the Clerk of Court, it was announced yesterday by County Game Warden T. M. Gowan.

The fishing season will open April 15. The cost of the licenses for the season will be \$1.10 each or 50 cents for each fishing day desired. A fine year has been predicted, since last year the swollen streams all summer made fishing impossible for a number of days.

Hear NANCY CARROLL sing "That Precious Little Thing Called Love" in "THE SHOPWORN ANGEL", Thursday and Friday at Oasis Theatre.

PASTURE EXPERT HERE NEXT WEEK

J. R. Sams, Extension Specialist, to Give Demonstrations in County April 15-17.

J. R. Sams, extension specialist in pasture work at the State College in Raleigh, will be in McDowell county during the coming week, and announcement is made by County Agent W. L. Smarr that meetings and demonstrations will be held as follows:

Monday, April 15 — L. G. Hollifield's, Nebo, 10:30 a. m. J. D. Wilson's, Sugar Hill, 2 p. m.

Tuesday, 16—T. W. Goforth's, Glenwood, 8:45 a. m. W. M. Conley's, Dysartsville, 10:30 a. m. (Meeting at Greene's store). J. H. L. Miller's, Pleasant Garden, 2 p. m. T. A. Porter's, Old Fort, 4 p. m.

Wednesday, April 17—S. M. Avery's, North Cove, 9 a. m. J. A. Burgin's, Crooked Creek, 2 p. m.

Some pasture work has been started at the above places, and meetings will be held "right out in the pastures" where a study will be made of the grasses and clovers to be found growing. Mr. Sams will tell of his experience and observations in the making of successful permanent pastures. Time permitting, visits will be made to other farmers in the county during the above time at which time Mr. Sams will be glad to discuss with you the making of a pasture to meet your individual conditions. Cut these dates out, and plan to attend the meeting most convenient to you. You will enjoy hearing Mr. Sams, and he will have something worth while.

PROSPECT ENCOURAGING FOR PAPER BOX FACTORY

According to a report from the Chamber of Commerce the project for a paper box plant that was adopted last fall is beginning to look very promising. The Chamber of Commerce has made a thorough survey of the situation, having gathered data on paper box manufacturing from a great many sources. Committees have visited nearby plants, getting facts that have been helpful in bringing the project to its present status. Manufacturers of new and rebuilt machinery have been consulted, and one company has sent a representative here to confer with those interested. Another machinery manufacturer is sending a man here this week to submit a list of paper box machinery.

Earl Browder, secretary, says that the project is almost assured thru one of six prospects who are interested. Two of the interested parties are local men and it is hoped that at least one of them will see his way clear to start the business. Paper box manufacturers in Cleveland, St. Louis, New Jersey, and Winston-Salem have been in touch with the Chamber of Commerce about the proposition. Representatives from each of the above named cities have signified a desire to come to Marion to look the situation over, but in each case the secretary has written them that local men will very likely set up the business.

CATAWBA VALLEY NEWS

Old Fort, Rt. 1, April 8. — J. A. Silver of Mount Airy is spending a while with his family here.

Mrs. Lonnie Brown and two children of Marion spent the week-end with the former's mother, Mrs. J. Souther.

Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Bradley and Mrs. Thomas Fleming and children and Miss Daisy McDaniel of Old Fort were visitors here yesterday. Alfred Carr and Mrs. Carr have been on the sick list. They are slowly recovering.

Miss Annie Porter of East Marion spent the week-end with her parents here.

Austin Harris has recovered from an attack of tonsillitis.

James Luther and family of Swannanoa visited relatives here Sunday. Mrs. Wm. Tisdale has been on the sick list for a while.

Mr. and Mrs. P. C. Williams of Garden City spent Sunday with the latter's parents.

Mr. and Mrs. R. H. McCall of Greenlee spent Sunday at the home of J. W. Bradley.

Farmers are making good use of the fine weather getting ready to plant corn.