

# MARION PROGRESS

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

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## COURT PROBE IS NEARING AN END

### Defense Begins Testimony in Case—Denials Made That Officers Fired First Shots.

Judge W. F. Harding, as a magistrate in the special investigation into the death of five men, who lost their lives as the result of a riot at the Marion Manufacturing company mill last Wednesday morning, Wednesday had before him contradictory testimony.

Taking the witness stand soon after the defense began presenting its side of the case Tuesday, Charlie Jenkins, mill employe, told the court that the first shots last Wednesday came from the "crowd of strikers". He was questioned shortly after the state had completed presentation of its evidence.

Jenkins' testimony was intended to refute that of witnesses for the prosecution, most of whom testified that Sheriff Adkins and his party fired the first shot.

Between 50 and 60 strikers, charged with rioting, helped clear the way for a speedy end to the investigation of Judge Harding by waiving preliminary hearing and being bound over to the Superior court of McDowell county.

The five men were killed during the fighting last Wednesday, when a "surprise strike" was called at the Marion Manufacturing company. Governor O. Max Gardner ordered Judge Harding to conduct a special investigation into the case and sitting as magistrate, the judge has heard a number of witnesses and listened to a lot of testimony.

Developments Tuesday included completion of the state's evidence and beginning of defense testimony, when counsel for Sheriff O. F. Adkins and 16 deputies, held on a charge of murder, began defense of their clients. Charges against T. M. Gowen, deputy sheriff, and John Snoddy were non-suited Tuesday.

The defense witnesses adhered to the outline of the state's story in some details, but introduced contrary testimony on numerous points. They charged the first shots were not fired by the sheriff's posse but by the union men in the crowd in the roadway before the mill gates. Among the defense statements were that Sheriff Oscar Adkins, who the state witnesses had maintained was one of the first to shoot, never drew his gun but was occupied at all times in a hand to hand encounter with George Jonas, who attacked him with a club.

That violence around the mill had taken place throughout the early morning hours, mill windows were broken, people were cursed and workers threatened.

Eight witnesses were examined for the defense during the afternoon.

Yesterday Sheriff Adkins went on the stand and swore that he never fired his pistol. He testified that he was engaged in a scuffle with John Jonas (also killed by a bullet during the battle) all during the shooting and that he did not see any of his deputies fire; neither did he know that Jonas was shot until the man had been taken to town.

Witnesses who testified that the sheriff did some shooting swore that he had a blue steel pistol. The Sheriff testified yesterday that he carried pearl handle, nickel plated revolver; had carried it for some time and that he had it on the morning of the shooting but did not get it out of his pocket.

While Judge Harding was proceeding with the investigation of witnesses, attorneys for the Clinchfield mill were instructed by B. M. Hart, president of the mill, to prepare eviction notices immediately for the occupants of 59 houses in the mill village. These houses were occupied, it was said, by persons who are not working in the Clinchfield mill.

This action was taken by Mr. Hart as a result of the refusal of union leaders here to assist mill officials in persuading individuals who are not employed at the Clinchfield mill to move out of mill-owned houses, it was said.

When a strike was settled at the Clinchfield mill four weeks ago union leaders agreed that all persons not working at the mill would move

out of mill-owned houses within 15 days, Mr. Hart said. This agreement, he added, had not been kept. No action to evict occupants of these houses is likely to be taken before next week, it is stated.

## SOLDIERS ARE URGED TO APPLY FOR BONUS

If there are any soldiers in McDowell county who served their country in the late war and have not filed for their bonus or insurance certificate, they should do so at once as the date for making application ends on January 1, 1930.

On June 30 the Veterans' Bureau had received 3,888,363 applications for benefits under the World War Adjusted Compensation Act. Of these applications benefits were approved in 3,650,093 cases, involving the issuance of adjusted service certificates and cash settlements. These were divided as follows: Army 3,141,397; Navy, 442,988; Marine Corps, 65,708. The gross value to all beneficiaries amounted to \$3,514,104,574.78.

With approximately 1,000,000 veterans as yet not having applied for the benefits of the Act, and with the time limit of January 1, 1930, rapidly approaching, a warning is being broadcast to veterans generally to get their applications in to the respective departments without further delay.

## PHILATHEA CLASS MEETS; NEW OFFICERS ELECTED

The Philathea class of the First Baptist Church met with Mrs. B. F. Ruth on Tuesday evening. A large number of the members were present and important business matters were discussed. New officers were elected for the next quarter as follows:

Mrs. Robert McCall, president; Mrs. Walter Nichols, first vice-president; Mrs. W. F. Grant, second vice-president; Miss Nelle Simmons, third vice-president. Miss Gladys Corpening was unanimously re-elected secretary and treasurer.

During the social hour delicious refreshments were served by Mrs. Ruth and Miss Gladys Corpening.

## RESIDENCE DAMAGED BY FIRE ON MONDAY NIGHT

The fire department was called out Monday night about 12 o'clock by a fire at the residence of W. W. Neal on Henderson street, which is occupied by Frank Yarborough and family. The fire was quickly extinguished by the fire department, but considerable damage was done to the building. The fire is said to have started in the kitchen and had made considerable headway when discovered. The damage to the building and furniture is estimated at about \$850 which is partially covered by insurance.

## HALL-OWENSBY

A beautiful but simple wedding took place Sunday morning at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Hall, when Miss Ruth Hall became the bride of Mr. Zackary Owensby. The ceremony was performed by Rev. W. O. Goode the ring ceremony being used. The ceremony was witnessed by only the immediate family and a few friends.

Following the ceremony the young couple left for a short honeymoon trip in East Tennessee.

Mrs. Owensby is the eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Hall, and Mr. Owensby is a son off Mrs. Mary Owensby. Their many friends wish them much happiness.

## ALUMNI MEETING

There will be a meeting of the local Alumni Association of the University of North Carolina on Friday night, Oct. 11th, at 7:30 in the room of the Kiwanis Club, and each alumnus is requested to be present, and to notify other alumni. While Saturday, the 12th, is University day the meetings this year will be held on Friday evening, the 11th. The football game between Carolina and Georgia-Tech takes place on this day at Atlanta and President Chase, of the University, and Governor Gardner are scheduled for addresses over the radio.

## RECENT MARRIAGES

Oct. 2. Mr. Jack C. Whetstone and Miss Ethel M. Roper, both of Marion, were married at the Manse, Rev. J. C. Story officiating.

Oct. 5. Mr. G. B. Lipe and Miss Frances Thomason, both of Old Fort, were married at the County Treasurer's office, Rev. J. C. Story officiating.

## GOVERNOR NOT TO INVESTIGATE

### Governor Gardner Declares He Has No Authority in Law to Call Probe in Marion

Raleigh, Oct. 7. — Governor O. Max Gardner, in a statement issued late today said he had reached the conclusion "that the Governor has no authority of law to make an investigation of the subjects" which the Marion labor delegation asked Saturday night that he have investigated.

The Governor's statement replying to the Marion request presented Saturday night by F. J. Gorman, vice-president of the United Textile Workers and others, which asked an investigation by an impartial committee of the deputies who took part in the "Marion Massacre"; whether the employers violated their agreement; actual wages and hours of the workers; and profits and losses of the company over a period of years, said that he cannot delegate authority to investigate the troubles to any committee he could appoint.

The creation of such a committee, the statement continued, would not be effective nor would it contribute to the solution of the problems inherent in the Marion situation, so far as the Governor can see. The responsibility of the Governor in the matters is the responsibility of making recommendations to the General Assembly, the Governor said.

## MARION TO PLAY FAST SALISBURY TEAM FRIDAY

After being idle for the past week-end, the Maroon and Black grid warriors of Marion high school settled down to hard work in preparation for the hardest game of the season Friday with the fast Salisbury eleven. The foe will be met on foreign soil and it will require perfect team work for the boys to bring home a victory.

It might be contended that the local lads are the underdogs for Friday's fray, but when the opening whistle sounds Captain Gilkey will lead a fighting team through enemy territory, seeking the throne deserved by Marion's 1928 football eleven which downed all opposition coming its way.

The local coaches, Joby Hawn and Hugh Beam, are doing everything in their power to have the team in excellent condition for the big game Friday. They realize that it will take fight to win the game and are working the boys to that end. Much stress is being given to forward passing, both offensively and defensively. Blocking, tackling, slipping and punting are receiving their share of consideration, and by the end of the week the teamsters should be able performers.

A slight injury to Forest Roper, halfback, is causing Coach Hawn much worry. The reserve backs are weak, and if Roper fails to come through within the next few days, Coach Hawn has a grave problem to solve. Assistant Coach Beam is spending a lot of his time with the flank positions, which appear to be the weakest spots in the line. Williams, Ledbetter, Hennessee and Neal are receiving instruction for these posts.

The lineup for Friday's tilt will probably be: Bowditch, center; Moore and Mashburn, guards; Captain Gilkey and Clay, tackles; Williams and Ledbetter or Hennessee, ends; Ouzts, quarterback; Rabb and Roper or Finley, halfbacks; Martin, fullback.

## BOY STRUCK BY TRUCK AT PLEASANT GARDENS

Avery Harris, nine year old son of Joe Harris of Tom's Creek section, received a broken leg and some other minor injuries Monday, September 30, when he was struck by a Ford truck, driven by Hall Smally of Bostic. The youth had just dismounted the Pleasant Gardens School truck, which had just pulled out, when the accident occurred. Mr. Smally, who is said to have been driving at a very moderate rate of speed, helped to rush the victim to the Marion Hospital where he received treatment. After two days here he was taken to his home where he is reported to be recovering rapidly.

## FINE REPORT FIRST METHODIST CHURCH

### Splendid Progress in All Departments Past Year—The Board Stewards Re-elected.

The fourth quarterly conference for the year was held at the First Methodist Church Monday night, October 7th. —A splendid report of the year's work was made by the pastor, Rev. Watson O. Goode, covering all the splendid activities of each department of the church.

The outstanding things of greatest significance were covered in the items of Women's Work, Sunday School, Young Peoples Societies, new members and finances. Both Missionary societies and the Ladies Aid Society, whose splendid loyalty and constant activities have kept this church among the best and strongest in the Western North Carolina, were commented upon.

The Sunday School has had the best year in its history in every department. The Young Peoples Societies are making unparalleled progress. During the year a number of members have been added. The finances will be paid in full this year for all objects. And the best of all is that in First Church there is a wonderful spirit of interest and good fellowship prevailing.

The official board was re-elected with two additions: Mr. Carter Hudgins to succeed his lamented and deceased father, who had been an official on the board for many years, and Mr. Frank Richardson, superintendent of Marion Schools, to succeed Mr. N. F. Steppe, who has accepted a position in Raleigh, N. C.

Mr. J. H. Tate was elected superintendent of the Sunday School and Mr. C. F. James, assistant superintendent.

## DAIRY SPECIALIST NOW ON VISIT IN COUNTY

F. R. Farnham, Dairy Extension Specialist, of Raleigh, is in McDowell county this week. Meetings are being held throughout the county in interest of dairying. Thursday afternoon at 1:15 a meeting will be held at Drusilla church, and at 3:30 p.m. at W. M. Conley's, Dysartsville. At 9 a. m. Friday morning a meeting will be held at Chas. McCall's, in North Cove.

W. S. Haynes, Nealsville, Rt. 1, and Geo. Marlowe, Marion, Rt. 2, both of Montford Cove township, have recently purchased soybean harvesters. Others who have purchased this season are Fred Lawing, Nealsville; John Trinks, Marion Rt. 2; J. H. L. Miller, Marion; and Avery Jameson and John Bledsoe, Marion, Rt. 1, purchased one co-operatively.

Next week will be State Fair Week at Raleigh. Why not make up a party with your family and friends and attend? Plans are being made to make it one of the best fairs ever held.

How about your bees? If they do not have as much as 15 pounds of honey, better feed them. Use a mixture of half sugar and half water by measure. Put in a fruit jar, cover with thin cloth and turn bottom side upwards in the hive on two strips of wood. Or punch small holes in a friction top syrup bucket, put the mixture in the bucket, put the lid on tight, and invert in the hives as the fruit jar would be inverted.

Now is a good time to sow crops for grazing, for hay next spring, for a cover crop, or for making improvements in the pasture. A combination of wheat, oats, barley, rye, and vetch, or some of these, are recommended. A bushel each of barley and rye to the acre will make a good grazing crop. A bushel of wheat, from a half bushel to a bushel each of barley and oats with 20 pounds of vetch will make a fine hay crop for next spring.

W. L. SMARR, County Agent.

## BIG PUMPKIN

Jas. P. Jordan is exhibiting a fine large pumpkin grown on his place this year. It takes five and one-half feet of twine to go around it and it tips the scales at 88 pounds.

If you want to enjoy one of the best pictures in a long while, see "THE RAINBOW MAN" at Marion Theatre Thursday or Friday.

## INTERESTING FACTS ON NORTH CAROLINA

Raleigh, Oct. 8. — North Carolina has 49,676 dogs, nearly 500 to the county, valued at \$289,558, an average of \$6 each.

North Carolina has 14,663 goats, about 147 to the county, valued at \$26,348, an average of about \$1.80 each.

North Carolina has 120,889 horses about 1200 to the county, valued at \$5,599,946, an average of \$46.31 each.

North Carolina has 283,871 mules about 2340 to the county, valued at \$18,421,357, an average of \$64.89 each.

North Carolina has 290 jacks and jennies, nearly three to the county, valued at \$8,492, an average of \$29.89 each.

North Carolina has 450,996 cattle, about 450 to the county, valued at \$11,676,491, an average of \$25.88 each.

North Carolina has 860,600 hogs, 8,606 to the county, valued at \$5,331,829, an average of \$6.19 each.

North Carolina has 96,036 sheep, 960 to the county, valued at \$419,259, an average of \$4.36.

North Carolina has livestock valued at \$41,070,712, each county, \$410,707.

North Carolina has stocks of merchandise and fixtures valued at \$109,206,058, an average for each county of \$1,092,060.

North Carolina has net solvent credits of \$150,840,169, an average of \$1,508,402 to the county.

North Carolina has a total valuation of personal property of \$590,085,397, an average of \$5,900,854 to the county.

North Carolina has a total valuation of real and personal property of \$2,637,659,074, an average of \$26,376,591 to the county.

North Carolina has 29,045,848 acres of land, average of 290,458 to the county, valued at \$954,025,294, or \$32.84 an acre.

North Carolina has 443,854 acres of mineral, timber and water power properties, valued at \$20,877,275, average of \$47 an acre.

North Carolina has 506,826 town lots, about 5,068 to the county, valued at \$971,228,982, an average value per lot of \$1,916.28.

North Carolina has a total valuation of real estate of \$2,047,573,677, an average of \$20,475,737 to the county.

In 1927, the year to which these figures apply, North Carolina had many things, some strange and surprising, which may be found in the sworn statements of North Carolina citizens, as compiled from returns on file in the State Department of Revenue.

For instance, Catawba, Lee, Madison and Rutherford counties had no goats; Caswell and Polk had one each, Avery had two, Alexander had five, Mitchell six, Yancey eight and Graham ten. Randolph led with 794 and Chatham was second with 628.

Lee and Yadkin had no dogs, Greene had one, valued at \$25, Chowan had 10, valued at \$50 each. Perquimans had 11, valued at about \$29 each. Clay had 15, valued at about \$20 each. Wake county leads Cleveland by one dog in numbers, with 2,918, but values them at only 72 cents each, while Cleveland's 2,917 are valued at \$6.40 each. Johnston had 2,578 valued at \$2.18 each, while Davidson had 2,547 valued at \$2.42 each. Hertford had the highest priced dogs, \$56.16 each; Chowan's are \$50 each and Currituck's \$45.

## P. O. S. OF A. NEWS

There will be a meeting of the Blue Ridge District Association, P. O. S. of A., at Morganton next Saturday, Oct. 12th. All members of Marion Camp are urged to attend. Also any members interested in the Rough Riders are invited to attend this meeting.

At the next P. O. S. of A. meeting in Marion of Washington Camp No. 40 there will be refreshments and also it is planned to put on the side degree. The next meeting will be held in the P. O. S. of A. hall on Monday night, Oct. 14th. It is very important that all members of our local camp attend.

ROY J. ELLIS, Past President.

## BIRTHS

Born, to Mr. and Mrs. Ben Simmons, Oct. 3, a daughter, Sarah Elisabeth Ann.

Born, to Mr. and Mrs. Edward F. Taylor, October 9th, a daughter.

## STATE DENTIST VISITS COUNTY

### Dr. Branch Gives Series of Interesting Lectures to School Children in the County.

Dr. Branch, from the State Department of health, Raleigh, N. C., was in the McDowell County schools last week. He worked in the county for two and one-half days and lectured to approximately three thousand children, and teachers. His lectures were very instructive as well as entertaining.

Since McDowell has been spending lots of time with physical education and health for several years, this work fits in very well with the school system. The schools have been following the State Course of Study for physical education and health for a number of years and have done and are doing some very effective work along this line. There are no recess periods for the teachers are always with the pupils and give them supervised play as well as calisthenic exercises. The State Department of Health is doing some very fine work in educating the future citizens of the state in regard to their health.

## DR. BLANCH LECTURES AT PLEASANT GARDENS

Pleasant Gardens, Oct. 7. — Dr. Branche, of the State Department of Health, paid a visit to Pleasant Gardens School Monday, October 1, delivering a most valuable and interesting address on the care of the teeth. He has a remarkable ability to interest children in his subject from the first grade through the high school. He illustrated his lecture graphically and used common sense terms. He also announced that the school would soon be offered the services of a dentist from the state department. It is indeed a wonderful thing to have our various state departments offer us so much service.

## SINGING CONVENTION IN MARION ON NEXT SUNDAY

The annual meeting of the McDowell County Singing Convention will be held at the court house in Marion next Sunday. Mr. Jesse Price president of the association announces that an interesting program is being arranged and a large attendance is expected. The program will consist of solos, duets, quartet music, and selectins by church choirs from various points throughout the county. A number of singers are also expected from other counties.

The convention will convene at 10 o'clock and continue throughout the greater part of the day. All who enjoy good old-time singing are urged to attend and take part in the convention.

## NEBO NEWS

Nebo, Oct. 8.—Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bland of Caroleen visited the latter's mother, Mrs. Eliza Wilson, Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. R. V. Wilson and family spent Sunday in Rutherfordton visiting friends.

Mr. and Mrs. R. V. McGimsey visited relatives and friends in Linville recently.

Miss Essie Hemphill and Miss Ebrun of Caroleen spent the week-end here at the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Hemphill.

Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Wade of the eastern part of the state spent several days during the week with the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. M. C. Sigmon.

Mrs. J. B. Robertson of Burnsville is spending a while here with her daughter, Mrs. Watson Wilson.

Miss Mabel Parks, of Morganton, accompanied by Miss Ruth Hartley, spent Sunday here with Mr. and Mrs. L. C. Parks.

Mr. and Mrs. K. E. Simpson of Rutherfordton, spent Sunday at the home of the latter's father, J. F. Wilson.

Miss Millie Kanipe spent the week-end with homefolks in Old Fort.

Miss Goodloe Haney spent the week-end with her mother at Glenwood.

Don't miss AL JOLSON in "THE JAZZ SINGER" next Monday or Tuesday at Marion Theatre.