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## MARION MAN IS NAMED LUTHERAN BOARD PRESIDENT

### Vernon T. Eckerd Elected To Office; County Property Con- sidered For Bible Camp.

Vernon T. Eckerd of Marion was elected president of the board of governors of the Southeastern district Lutheran Laymen's League at its annual convention held in Conover Monday night. Mr. Eckerd has been active in Lutheran church work in this part of the state for some time. Rev. Paul A. Boriack, pastor of St. Matthew's Lutheran church here, will serve as spiritual advisor to the board.

Other officers elected were R. K. Bolick of Conover, vice-president; W. E. Frye of Hickory, treasurer; L. L. Flowers of Hickory, secretary; and George McRee of Hickory, additional member of the board.

One of the main issues before the convention was the report of the Bible Camp committee composed of George McRee and Grover Herman of Hickory and P. M. Dellinger of Conover. The committee report showed that approximately 30 different properties in Western North Carolina had been inspected. After a lengthy discussion, all but three properties were eliminated as being undesirable for a Lutheran Bible camp.

One of the sites that has impressed the committee very much is Lake Tahoma, a 300-acre artificial lake near Marion.

Local Lutherans have pointed out however, neither they nor members of the committee will recommend purchase of the lake and the surrounding land at the \$100,000 price asked by the Kistler estate heirs, who now own it.

The Lutherans say they would gladly consider the lake and the 1,626 acres in the surrounding tract, not including the dam, at a figure nearer the \$20,560 valuation at which the property is listed in the county tax books, or at a figure set by a jury of impartial appraisers.

Among the other places now under consideration are sites elsewhere in McDowell and in Buncombe and Rutherford counties, said the Rev. Paul A. Boriack, pastor of St. Matthew's Lutheran church here.

According to Mr. Eckerd, the Bible Camp would serve churches in the Carolinas and Virginia and also be open to Lutherans in other sections of the country. It may take several years to get the Bible Camp fully established, he added, then the church probably would expand the facilities to make the place serve as a general church assembly ground.

Whether a ministerial college can be added to the place, Mr. Eckerd observed, is still problematical, but the church needs such a school to replace the one at Conover that burned eight or 10 years ago.

Mr. Eckerd, J. H. L. Miller of Marion, and Rev. Ross Mennen of High Point, were appointed additional members of the Bible camp committee. The appointees together with the original committee will study the possibilities of the three properties and with the board of governors are expected to decide upon the location of the Bible camp by the first of the year.

Prominent speakers at the convention included Rev. George Mennen of Conover, second vice-president of the Southeastern Lutheran district; Rev. Ross Mennen of High Point, president of the Walther League; Mrs. C. O. Smith of Conover, president of the Lutheran Woman's League; Martin Daib, field secretary of the International Lutheran Laymen's League; Charles Hefner of Hickory, president of the Laymen's League; Dr. H. Nau of Greensboro, president of Immanuel Lutheran College; Rev. F. A. Freed and Rev. J. L. Summers, executive secretary of the Southeastern district; Rev. Fred Rockett of Conover, editor of the Southeastern Lutheran Woman's League Bulletin; Rev. C. O. Smith of Conover and Rev. Leslie Frerking of Charlotte.

Mr. Martin Daib, guest speaker at the meeting, was introduced by Mr. Eckerd.

## SCHOOLS OF CITY AND COUNTY CLOSE DEC. 20

Christmas holidays for school children of Marion and McDowell county will begin with the close of classes Friday, December 20, and end with the beginning of classes on Monday morning, January 6, Superintendents N. F. Steppe and H. F. Beam announced this week.

The vacation for school children lasts for 16 days. Colored schools in the city and county will observe the same closing and opening dates.

## ATHLETIC SCHEDULE FOR 1941 ANNOUNCED FOR MARION SCHOOL

A total of 17 games have been scheduled for the Marion high school basketball team this season, announced H. C. Holland principal of the high school this week, after returning from a meeting of the Western Athletic association in Hickory. Also attending the meeting from Marion were Hugh F. Beam, superintendent of Marion city schools, and Art Ditt, coach at Marion high.

The Marion basketball schedule opens with Cliffside there on Friday, January 10, Mr. Holland stated. During the season the local high school team will play nine home games. With the exception of Hendersonville, the Marion five will meet only members of the Western Conference this season.

Last year the local high school team won the Western Conference championship in basketball. Most of the stars of last year's team are returning and prospects are said to be favorable for another conference victory.

The 1941 schedule for the Marion high school basketball team is as follows:

- Jan. 10, Cliffside, there
  - Jan. 14, N. C. S. D., Marion
  - Jan. 17, Morganton, Marion
  - Jan. 21, Hickory, there
  - Jan. 24, N. C. S. D., there
  - Jan. 28, Rutherfordon, Marion
  - Jan. 31, Hendersonville, there
  - Feb. 4, Cliffside, Marion
  - Feb. 7, Shelby, there
  - Feb. 11, Lincolnton, there
  - Feb. 14, Faculty, Marion
  - Feb. 18, Hendersonville, Marion
  - Feb. 21, Morganton, there
  - Feb. 25, Lincolnton, Marion
  - Feb. 28, Hickory, Marion
  - Mar. 4, Shelby, Marion
  - Mar. 7, Rutherfordon, there
- The 1941 football schedule for Marion high has also been announced with the local team scheduled to play nine games during the season. Hendersonville, Waynesville and Canton, non-conference members, will be played.

The football schedule is as follows: Sept. 19, Hendersonville, Marion; Oct. 3, Waynesville, there; Oct. 10, Morganton, there; Oct. 17, N.C.S.D., there; Oct. 24, Forest City, Marion; Oct. 31, Canton, there; Nov. 7, Newton, Marion; Nov. 14, Cherryville, there; Nov. 21, Lincolnton, Marion.

## COTTON GROWERS OF COUNTY FAVOR QUOTAS

Cotton growers of McDowell county unanimously approved cotton marketing quotas for the year 1941 in balloting conducted here on December 7, County Agent S. L. Homewood has announced.

Nineteen farmers in McDowell were eligible to vote in the referendum, said Mr. Homewood. Of this number, seven cast their ballots for cotton quotas. No votes were cast in this county against the continuance of marketing quotas.

Marketing quotas will be in effect throughout the South next year, a large majority of cotton farmers in the nation having voted for their continuance.

## DR. J. F. MILLER HEADS COUNTY MEDICAL GROUP

Dr. J. F. Miller of Marion has been elected president of the McDowell County Medical Association and chief-of-staff of the Marion General Hospital, it was announced here this week. Dr. Miller was elected at a recent meeting of the McDowell Medical Association. Dr. William L. Hagna of Marion was elected secretary-treasurer of the Association.

At a recent meeting of the Board of commissioners of McDowell, Dr. Miller was re-elected a member of the county board of health.

## PLANS COMPLETED FOR CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

### Local Clubs Expect To Entertain 200 Boys And Girls Here Tomorrow Night.

Final plans for the annual Francis Marion club Christmas party for underprivileged children of McDowell county have been completed and club members expect to entertain approximately 200 boys and girls at the Community building here tomorrow night. The party will begin at 6:30 o'clock.

During the past several weeks members of the Francis Marion club and other civic organizations of Marion have been collecting used toys and repairing them at the community building. These toys, after being repaired, have been set aside and will be distributed to children at the party.

Boys and girls of all ages will be at the party. The names of underprivileged children in the county have been distributed to members of the Rotary, Kiwanis and Francis Marion clubs during the past few days and each member of one of the clubs will be expected to bring three or four children to the party.

Santa Claus will be at the party to greet the children and to take charge of the distribution of gifts.

In arranging for the annual party, the Francis Marion club has received the support of all civic clubs of Marion, which have contributed time and money to make the event a success. A benefit movie was held at the Marion Theatre here last Saturday morning, the proceeds of the show being turned over to the Francis Marion club to help finance the party.

The Christmas party is an annual event sponsored by the Francis Marion club for the children of this county who might not otherwise receive the things which all children expect and associate with Christmas. The party will provide these children with a night of fun and carry out the slogan which the sponsor has adopted for the occasion, "The Children must be happy this Christmas."

Arrangements for the annual event have this year been under the direction of Joe Noyes.

## PRICE CHOSEN HEAD OF LOCAL MASONIC LODGE

V. E. Price of Marion has been elected worshipful master of the local Mystic Tie Lodge No. 237 A. F. and A. M., it was announced this week. Mr. Price was chosen worshipful master at the annual election meeting of the lodge held here recently.

Other officers elected were N. F. Steppe, senior warden; R. W. Burslen, junior warden; B. H. Laughridge, treasurer; and A. H. Mitchem, secretary.

The last regular communication of the Mystic Tie Lodge for this year will be held in the lodge hall here on Friday night at 7:30 o'clock. Officers will be installed at the meeting and all members have been requested to attend as important business is scheduled to come before the lodge.

## FEDERATION TO PAY DIVIDEND JANUARY 1ST

A semi-annual dividend of three per cent payable January 1, 1941, to stockholders of record December 16, 1940, has been declared by the directors of the Farmers Federation, Inc.

More than 4,500 stockholders in Western North Carolina will share in this disbursement which is the Federation's 14th consecutive semi-annual dividend. Checks will be mailed to the holders of preferred shares while the majority of common stockholders will be paid in cash at the nearest Farmers Federation warehouse.

The directors also announced a dividend of three per cent payable on partial paid stock in the federation. These shares have been accumulated by means of the patronage dividend which for several years the Federation has distributed in stock to cash purchasers. The dividend on partial paid stock will be paid in credits toward full stock shares.

## VOLUNTEERS AT DRAFT OFFICE NOW TOTAL 52

### Registrants Are Expected To Fill Second Quota For Mc- Dowell County.

Fifty-two McDowell county men have signed at the local draft office for voluntary induction since the national draft lottery was held, Mrs. C. S. Finley, chief clerk at the local office, has announced.

Three of the volunteers made up the first draft quota to leave this county and the next quota is expected to be drawn from the group. According to Mrs. Finley, the time when the next quota will be called up from McDowell has not been announced, but it is expected that approximately 20 men will be required from this county. A total of 122 men will be sent to military camps from this county before the end of June, 1941.

The following McDowell men have signed for voluntary induction in the order named. Registrants are from Marion unless otherwise designated.

- Edgar George Hollifield, Marion
- Route 3, James Beau Burnette, Arlie
- Junior Davis, Earl B. Silver, Jack
- Lee Gibbs, Joe Byrd McKinney, Bill
- Claude McIntosh, Melvin Good, Mar-
- tion Route 3, Macky Leroy Boone,
- Francis Howard Ellis, William Rus-
- sell Mues, Thurman Lowery, George
- William Johnson, Marion Route 4,
- Frank Calvin Loftis, Marion Route
- 3, Paul Vincent Lee, Clinchfield,
- Earl Lloyd Fox, Clinchfield, Charles
- Emmett McFalls, Old Fort, Raymond
- Randolph Johnson, Old Fort, Lloyd
- Ellen Banks, Old Fort, Charlie Pat-
- ton Chapman.

- Earnest Edwards, Old Fort, S. B.
- McFalls, Old Fort, William Norman
- Harris, Marion Route 3, Robert
- Woody, Old Fort, William Bruce
- Laughridge, Nebo Route 1, James
- Floyd Banks, Old Fort, Isaac Brit-
- tain Martin, Sam Franklin Fairchild,
- Nebo, Leon Lewis Lawson, Colvin
- David Thomas, Old Fort, Eugene
- Patton Biddix, Ashford, Jason Shu-
- ford McKinney, Marion Route 3, Lu-
- then Gentry Huffman, Jonas M. How-
- ard, Eugene Washington Duncan,
- Marion Route 3, Robert Jay Sumlin,
- North Cove, Corbit Arrowood,
- Clinchfield, James Grady Smith, E.
- Marion, Jones William Kaylor, Mar-
- ion Route 1, Lee O'Connor Biddix,
- Ashford, Horace Elmer Wall, Clinch-
- field, Boyd Alvin Turner, Walter
- Frank Noles, East Marion, Lawrence
- Lee Queen, Marion Route 3, Rom
- Huskins, Marion Route 4, Robert
- Howard Causby, Vein Mountain,
- Jay Milton Willis, David McAbee,
- Patton Garland, Nebo Route 1, Roy
- Henry Taylor, Clinchfield, Jack Ed-
- ward Lonon, Cross Mills, James
- Charles Noles, Garland Marvin Wil-
- liams, and Robert Henry Wilkinson,
- Old Fort.

## SANTA PAYS VISITS TO SCHOOLS IN COUNTY

Santa Claus is visiting in the city and county schools of McDowell this week, taking time out from his visits to local stores to talk with children in all parts of McDowell. Santa's schedule took him through the county schools yesterday. Today he will visit children in the Marion city school system. On his rounds he is visiting only first and second grade children.

On completing his visits throughout the county Santa will return to Marion and will be at local stores every shopping afternoon and night between now and Christmas. He visits local stores until they close at 8:00 o'clock at night and may be found in one of them by his admirers any afternoon or night during the week.

## OFFICERS INSTALLED BY OLD FORT LODGE

At a meeting last week officers were elected and installed by Old Fort Joppa lodge No. 401, for the year as follows: Roy McDaniel, worshipful master; R. L. Smith, senior warden; Hugh Hensley, junior warden; W. W. LeFevre, treasurer; F. M. Bradley, secretary; M. V. Carswell, senior deacon; T. C. Bradley, junior deacon; D. Farney and W. A. Fleming, stewards; J. A. Swann, tiler.

## PROGRESS TO BE ISSUED ON TUESDAY

Next week's issue of The Marion Progress will be placed in the mails Tuesday morning, December 24, instead of Thursday morning, as has been the custom. The full staff of the paper will observe the Christmas holiday.

Advertisers and news contributors are requested to have their copy for next week's paper in The Progress office not later than Noon, Monday, December 23. News or advertising copy received after that time will be too late for publication next week.

## MRS. MARTIN, MEMBER OF LOCAL LIBRARY BOARD

Mrs. Barron Caldwell has resigned as a member of the board of directors of the Marion public library and has been succeeded in the office by Mrs. Zeno Martin, it was announced this week. Other members of the board are Mrs. Homer Beaman and Mrs. Walker Blanton.

Approximately 75 new books for children and adults have recently been received by the library, stated Mrs. Blanton this week, and several new features are being planned for the library. Most of the new books will be placed on a rental shelf and may be taken out by the public at the rate of 10 cents a week, she said. A new circulation desk and a file will soon be added to the library and a clipping file will be started in the near future.

Miss Marjorie Beal, state librarian paid a visit to the local library recently and commended local officials on the progress made and being made at the library.

At present approximately 1,000 persons are registered to take books from the library. The library custodian is Mrs. Jessie Morgan.

## POULTRY SCHOOL WILL BE HELD IN MARION

A district poultry school for McDowell and eight other counties in this section is being arranged to be held in Marion on January 21, announced County Agent S. L. Homewood this week.

A full day of discussion of poultry problems and their remedies will be held under the direction of Clifton F. Parrish, extension poultryman of State College in Raleigh.

An egg show is expected to feature the program for the day, which will begin at 10:00 o'clock in the morning. Among the topics to be discussed and taught are the rearing of chicks, housing, and control of insects.

McDowell poultrymen will be hosts to visitors from Avery, Mitchell, Yancey, Burke, Buncombe, Henderson, Polk and Rutherford counties at the meeting.

## SAFETY IS SUBJECT AT ROTARY MEET HERE

A movie and illustrated talk on bicycle safety were presented at the regular weekly meeting of the local Rotary club last Friday by R. C. Duffin, representative of Western Auto Stores, of Greensboro. Patrolman C. A. Beard spoke briefly to the Rotarians and guests on general highway safety, answering questions asked by the group.

Lee W. Erwin, Marion police chief, spoke briefly on the work being done here to promote safety by a safety patrol that has been organized at Marion high school. Approximately 20 members of the patrol attended the Rotary program after the club luncheon. Chief Erwin complimented members of the patrol on the constructive contribution they were making to the community.

The Rotary program was under the direction of John Abee.

## VACCINATION REQUIRED FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

All parents having school children who have not been vaccinated against diphtheria are requested to have their children treated during the Christmas holidays, stated H. C. Holland, principal at Marion high school, this week.

A north Carolina law requiring that all school children be vaccinated against diphtheria goes in effect on January 1, he stated, and parents have been asked to cooperate to eliminate the danger of disease among school children.

## REPORT GIVEN ON SOCIAL AID FOR M'DOWELL

### Figures Show \$292,442 Paid Out In County During Two And One-Half Years.

Approximately \$297,442 has been distributed in McDowell county through operation of nine of the ten divisions of the Social Security Act, from its beginning and through June 30, 1940, it is estimated, on a basis of official figures, by Charles G. Powell, chairman of the N. C. Unemployment Compensation Commission.

Normally, Unemployment Compensation, or benefits to workers temporarily out of jobs, is the largest item in the program, except in agricultural counties. The more and larger the industries a county has, the more jobless benefits it gets. In the 2½ years of benefit payments, through June 30, these benefits reached \$172-405.41, included in 25,736 checks issued to residents of McDowell county, N. C.

Chairman Powell reports that state agencies handling phases of the Social Security Act cooperate with him in supplying figures of their activities, which gives him an accurate picture of distributions in counties of the state.

Old Age Assistance, help for needy residents past 65 years of age, in the three years of distribution, through last June 30, amounted to \$89,516.50 in this county.

Aid to Dependent Children, help for those deprived of their normal breadwinners, amounted to \$23,966.50 in the same period in this county.

Aid to the blind, in the same 36 months, amounted to \$7,299 in the county.

In these three divisions of the Social Security Act, the Federal Government provides one-half of the funds and the state and counties one-fourth each, with a state equalizing fund to help the smaller counties.

No county figures are available for Old Age and Survivor's Insurance. Monthly payments in this division started after January 1, 1940, due to a 1939 amendment, after lump-sum payments for three years.

With practically accurate figures, it is evident, Mr. Powell points out, that about \$293,187 was distributed in this county to July 1 in four of the five major divisions of the Act, exclusive of Old Age and Survivor's Insurance.

In the other five divisions, classed as "services", approximately \$4-255.00 has been distributed in this county, including about \$1,445.00 in Child Welfare Services and about \$2,810.00 in Vocational Rehabilitation.

Disbursement of funds in the other three "services" is made through county or district health departments and only 76 of the 100 counties having such departments June 30, 1940, participated in this distribution.

McDowell county, with no health department, received nothing for Maternal and Child Health services; nothing for Services to Crippled Children; and nothing in Public Health Work.

Those five "service" division reports are approximate. The 1940 census figures of 3,561,990 for the state and 23,401 for this county were used in prorating the funds, made up of Federal allotments, matched by the state and counties.

McDowell county, central UCC office records show, has 47 resident employers subject to the Unemployment Compensation law and 3,177 workers protected by it. Liable resident employers paid \$181,843.51 into the state fund in 3½ years, ending last June 30, as compared with \$172,405.41 in benefits drawn in 2½ years, also ending June 30, by resident workers in the county.

The records show that in 30 months of payments, unemployed workers in the county filed 6,580 initial claims—the first claims filed after becoming unemployed—and 51,600 continued claims—claims filed weekly after the initial claims.

Employment Service records indicate that in the 3½ years, through June 30, 6,585 registrations for work and 1,365 placements in jobs were handled in the county.