

# THE MONROE JOURNAL

PUBLISHED TWICE EACH WEEK — TUESDAY AND FRIDAY

VOL. 27. No. 20.

MONROE, N. C., FRIDAY, APRIL 15, 1921.

\$2.00 PER YEAR CASH

## MARSHVILLE WON 5 OUT OF 7 SCHOOL CONTESTS

The Town is Highly Elated Over the Record Made by Its Youngsters During the Commencement

### REFLECTS CREDIT ON FACULTY

Marshville, April 14.—The town of Marshville, particularly the faculty and patrons of the school, are gratified this morning following the close of the county commencement exercises in Monroe Wednesday evening. Out of the eight contests scheduled in the commencement the Marshville school participated in seven, and was the winner of five of the contests. Beginning at Marshville on last Friday evening with the declamation contest, Hal R. Marsh of Marshville won over seven other contestants, his closest rival being Mr. Clark of Wesley Chapel. Misses Bonnie Harrell and Virginia Griffin, also of Marshville, were announced as the winners of the short story and essay contests, respectively. On Saturday evening Marshville sent a reciter, Miss Marjorie Marsh, and a speller, Mr. Furman Little, to Waxhaw to battle for the honors of that occasion, and it was very gratifying to know that while Monroe won the reciter's prize, yet Marshville's representative ran her a close second, and it was necessary for a second ballot to be taken by the judges to finally award the prize. In the spelling match Furman Little missed one word outright, but was called down on the word indorse, which the dictionaries say may be spelled either endorse or indorse.

### Demonstrates Efficiency of School.

Tuesday evening Mr. Sebron Blair of the high school senior class won the debaters medal at Union school house, and on Wednesday evening the glee club added still another victory by winning a unanimous decision from the judges in the contest with two other schools of the county.

The results of the county commencement demonstrate the efficiency of the present faculty of the Marshville high school, also the cooperation of students, teachers and parents, which is absolutely necessary for the success of a school. To begin with, Marshville is the only school in the county whose every teacher holds the highest certificate the county can give. Then there has been the most splendid team work among the teachers throughout the year, and they have succeeded in inspiring in the student body an unusually strong school spirit, ambition and loyalty. The student body also has the advantage of public school music, which during the two years that it has been taught in the school, has done a great deal to develop musical appreciation not only among the students but in the town in general. Piano is also taught by a graduate, and expression and public speaking is being studied by a number of the pupils. So, taking it all together, Marshville feels justified in being unusually proud of the success of her school.

### Dr. Weaver to Deliver Commencement Address.

Messrs. Seaborn Blair, Hal Marsh, Edwin Griffin and Byron Williams left early Thursday morning for Chapel Hill to enter the preliminaries for the final debating serap.

The commencement exercises of the school will begin on Sunday morning, the 17th, with a sermon to the graduating class in the Baptist church. On Monday evening the music departments will give a program, and on Tuesday afternoon there will be the declaimers' contest, followed by an address by D. C. C. Weaver of Monroe. That evening will be devoted to the reciters' contest and the high school debate. Wednesday evening the play, "An Average Man," will be staged, and readings given by members of the expression class. The public is most cordially invited to attend all of these exercises.

### Presbyterian Church.

A cordial invitation is given to the following services: 9:30 a. m., Sunday school, 11 a. m., Worship and sermon, 7:45 p. m., Praise service and sermon.

The morning sermon will be on the Second Coming of Christ. As the pastor is invited to preach on this interesting theme at the annual meeting of Presbytery, he thinks it will be a good thing to practice on his own congregation as a preparation. Mecklenburg Presbytery will meet with the Ramah church, near Huntersville, on Tuesday of next week, continuing through two days and a half. Elder W. H. Norwood has been elected representative, and Elder W. A. Henderson is his alternate.—Reporter.

### Death of Mrs. Baucum.

Mrs. Ethel Baucum, wife of Mr. D. Baucum, died Wednesday at her home six miles north of Monroe. She was a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Taylor and was 21 years old. She married Mr. Baucum last June. She was a young woman of splendid character and she was of such a fine disposition that she made many friends. Her young husband has the sympathy of all in his great bereavement. Mrs. Baucum leaves her husband and an infant son, her father and mother, a brother and two sisters. Funeral was held yesterday afternoon at Union Grove church. Elder Henry Taylor conducted services.

Stocks are apt to recover from a fall quicker than the operator does.

## BODY OF DEAD HERO IS BROUGHT BACK TO AMERICA

"If I Don't See You Again, Be Good," Were the Parting Words of John Luther Garland

### TO BURY REMAINS AT SMYRNA

From Flanders field, where he fell fighting with the famed first division, the remains of John Luther Garland, Monroe boy, have been taken up and brought to this country. His mother, Mrs. A. L. Garland, who lives on Wadesboro Avenue, received a telegram to this effect Tuesday, and it is believed the body will be shipped to Monroe from Hoboken in a day or so. The remains will be carried to Smyrna church, in Lanes Creek township, to rest in the vicinity of the



John Luther Garland.

young hero's boyhood home where he used to roam care-free with no thought of the great conflict in which he made the supreme sacrifice.

Young Garland was in Co. F, 119th Infantry, and was killed in action Sept. 24, 1918, shortly after the beginning of the great offensive that broke the Hindenburg line, forcing the Germans back towards the frontier, and resulting in the signing of the armistice on Nov. 11th of the same year.

His family has been unable to secure details of his death. A short telegram from the Adjutant-General stating that "I deeply regret to inform you that your son, John L. Garland, fell in action on Sept. 29," is all the information that Mrs. Garland has received from the war department concerning his death. Whiteford Tomberlin, son of Mr. Will Tomberlin, of the Mt. Pleasant community, was in the same company with young Garland, but he was sent back of the lines for hospital treatment before his comrade went into his last engagement.

Horace Harrell, a baker at Jack Herwig's, was probably the last Union county man to talk with Garland. He was coming out of the front lines as Garland was going in, and they chatted for a few minutes before rejoining their respective marching columns. "If I don't see you again, be good," were Garland's parting words.

### Almost Invisible Screws.

The smallest screws that are made—those that are turned out in a watch factory—are cut from steel wire by a machine. As the chips fall from the knife it looks as if the operator was simply cutting up the wire to amuse himself. No screws can be seen, yet a screw is made at every third operation.

The smallest of the screws, says the New York Herald, are next to invisible; to the naked eye a pile of them resembles dust. With a good microscope, however, you can see that each tiny object is a screw with no less than two hundred and sixty threads.

Those tiny screws are four one-thousandths of an inch in diameter, and the heads are twice as large. An ordinary thimble would hold a thousand of them. About a million are made in a month. No attempt, however, is ever made to count them. To determine the number, one hundred of them are placed on a very delicate balance and weighed, and then the weight of the whole divided by the weight of the hundred shows how many hundreds there are. The number of all the small parts of the watch is ascertained in that way.

## Sikes and Parker Address Jury in Famous Will Case

Attorneys For Propounders Urge Jurors to Disregard Color Line, While Caveators' Counsel Ask That Property Be Given to "Natural Heirs"

Mr. J. J. Parker, of counsel for the caveators, completed his address to the jury this morning in the Ross will trial, and Mr. W. B. Love, one of the attorneys for the propounders, is now speaking. He will be followed by either Mr. Stack or Mr. Clark. The jury will probably get the case late this afternoon, but it is not likely that a decision will be reached before Saturday morning. The propounders rested shortly before noon yesterday.

The late republican candidate for governor was in fine fettle yesterday afternoon and this morning, and he made a powerful plea for a favorable decision. Seeking to remove the impression created by the propounders that the caveators were shouting "nigger" to win their case, Mr. Parker said that the 100-odd relatives were seeking to break the will because they considered themselves the natural heirs, and replying to Mr. Sikes' hope that no one would make an effort to set aside a written instrument of his, he said: "I hope that if I ever become weak in body and mind and designing people take advantage of my disability that my friends will come into court and cry out against the injustice perpetrated against me."

### The Three Issues in the Case.

There are three issues for the jury to pass upon, explained Mr. Parker. They are: 1. Was the will executed according to the formalities of the law; 2. Did Maggie Ross possess sufficient mentality to make a will; and 3. In the making of the will was she unduly influenced by others.

"It is not a question of Bob or Mittie Bell, he said. 'If you find that others used undue influence, a species of fraud, under your oath you must break the will.' The duplicate wills, which Mr. Candler was pleased to call mutual reciprocal wills, were a suspicious circumstance, he argued. 'If I made a will tomorrow,' he continued, 'I can tear it up any time I see fit, but with duplicate wills, one of them reposing in the safe of an attorney, it is a different matter. I've made wills for people owning more property than the Ross women and they seem to think that one will is enough.'

Mr. Parker, without calling names, sought to show that the wills of the two Sandy Ridge spinsters, were the work of an interested party; but growing bolder, he charged that Maggie was brought to Monroe after the death of her sister to make a will giving \$1,000 to Mr. Hudson, mentioning the testimony of John Parks to the effect that Miss Mag "would do anything Dick Hudson said."

Strange Redwine Didn't Draw Will. "It is strange," he continued along the same line, "that Mr. Redwine was not asked to draw that will. He was their attorney. He had won a case before the supreme court for them. Why not him instead of Mr. Adams? Because Mr. Adams was Mr. Hudson's lawyer."

Mentioning several of Maggie's bequests to charitable institutions, he said: "Poor old soul! She left \$500 for a library yet she never read a book in her life." Discussing the first issue in the case, Mr. Parker said that the law required that three people must witness the signature or acknowledgment of the maker of the will. Ezzell and Sutton, two of the witnesses to the Ross will, say Maggie Ross didn't sign the will. Did she acknowledge it as her will? She did not. If you believe the witnesses, Mag was crying like her heart would break when Sutton, Ezzell and McWafine were at her home for the purpose of witnessing her will. Old man Charlie McWafine, who was a biased witness, said "there was right much excitement" on this occasion.

### The Cause of Mag's Tears.

What was she crying about? Making a will ought to be a matter of pleasure; it should be a great satisfaction to know you are making provision for your loved ones. I can tell you, she was crying either because she didn't have sense enough to make a will or because she was being influenced by other parties to do something contrary to her wishes. Her tears were a protest against that will, not a acquiescence. If you say that was her will you'll say something she never did."

Another suspicious circumstance, Mr. Parker said, was that Sallie brought out the will folded up instead of opening it for the inspection of the witnesses. Why such great secrecy? Didn't Mr. Sutton ask her if they hadn't better read it? And didn't she say: 'It isn't necessary. The law says secrecy is good evidence of undue influence.'

"They say," he continued, "that their kins-people haven't a right to the property because they didn't help make it. The Ross women didn't acquire any property. They inherited it from their grandfather, mother and brother. Although they owned 1400 acres of land at their death, they didn't acquire an acre after the passing of their brother, Dick Ross. If they hadn't left a will the law

would have given it to their kinsmen who are descendants of the original owners of the land.

### The Circus and the Dance.

"The propounders tell you they brought forty-odd citizens of the Marvin community to testify to the competency of the Ross women and not alienists from Richmond and Morganton. Who were these men? Jim Crane took her to the circus in Charlotte to see the animals and women in fights; while another one of their witnesses, a fellow by the name of Rogers, went with her to a dance when she was 47 and he was but 17. Many of her other witnesses had tried to get money out of Miss Mag. Did they put up a witness who testified contrary to their interests? We did. Mrs. Harriet Taylor, who gets \$500 under the will, says she didn't have enough sense to make a will. Her daughter, Mrs. Moore, likewise swore against her interest.

"Dr. Crowell, who ate at their table for twelve months, said that back in 1896 Maggie didn't have any sense. 'Poor, simple-minded soul! She even realized her simplicity. She frequently called on a man by the name of Baker to come to her house and fiddle while she danced. So poor was her memory that he had to be introduced to her on each occasion. She couldn't remember the most trivial things; she couldn't repeat a conversation. There's no evidence that she ever wrote a check; she made no contracts. It was all done by His Majesty Dick Hudson. Every figure in her account book was made by him.'

### Her Belief in Ghosts.

"Picture this aged and infirm woman with thousands of dollars in the bank telling her neighbors that she had to live on her eggs and chickens. She told Harriet Grier that she was afraid she would die in the poor house. Dick Hudson said she lived no better than the poorest people in the community."

Mr. Parker laughed at her belief in ghosts. "The age of witches," he said, "has passed. The world has become more intelligent. Children believe in ghosts, so do people of childish minds. One competent to dispose of a hundred thousand dollar estate doesn't believe in ghosts. Miss Maggie saw angels hovering over the body of her dead sister. Under her great grief she harbored these delusions. She heard the flutter of angels' wings and saw little birds flying in the room. None but the child-like hear the flutter of the angel's wings. 'Her incompetency to make a will, beyond all peradventure, is shown by her association with Bob Ross and Mittie Bell Houston. Dr. McCain told you of finding her fondling a kinky-headed little negro. He said he wanted to bat her in the head with a base ball bat. But I take a more charitable view. If I should find a white southern woman sleeping with a negro, eating at a table with one, I'd feel like supplicating God to remove the blight from her mind.'

### Blight Upon the Community.

"Maggie's association with these negroes shows a lack of moral character; it is a blight upon the community in which she lived. 'Pathetically, they speak of Bob Ross. All the services they have shown that he rendered was to haul a little wood and hay upon one or two occasions. He had his land rent free; he was given money, Mr. Hudson having recently paid debts for him to the extent of \$1200. He is a modern illustration of the wisdom of Solomon: 'Treat a servant like a son and you will see the day when he becomes the master.'

"My high opinion of Mr. Hudson was lowered when he admitted that he acted as business agent for a woman who acknowledged a negro as her son-in-law. 'Do you tell me that a southern white woman, living near the South Carolina line, would allow a negro woman to give birth to an illegitimate child in her home? Maggie Ross allowed Mittie Bell to bury her shame in her own quilts and bedclothes. She didn't say, like the Biblical character, 'go and sin no more.' She let her stay on."

"They connived to keep secret the birth of the child. They offered Dr. Potts money for his silence, thus committing a grievous offense. It is a felony to conceal the birth of a child. Mr. Parker ended with an attack on the Ross women for neglect of some of their kin who had done them service. "Tirzah Coan, who closed the eyes of Dennis Ross when he died," he said, "who nursed them in sickness, comforted them in their grief, wasn't left anything. Jennie Helms, who did their calculating, was not remembered; nor were the Gribbles who visited her often when she was rich and when she was poor, and who were kissed on their arrival, being told by Maggie that she loved them dearly. She couldn't leave but \$500 to Mrs. Taylor who was a com-

### How Jean Makes Hash.

Jean, the negro chef at a certain country club, makes hash that has no equal. The fame of the dish is great, but the secret of its excellence eluded everyone until one day a member of the club complimented Jean on his skill. "How do you do it?" he asked. "I never got hash like yours anywhere else." Jean's black face glowed with pleasure at the compliment. "Beef is nothin'," he replied, "potatoes is nothin', peppah's nothin', onions is nothin'; but when I frowes myself into de hash—dat's what makes it what it is!"

## SHOULD FERTILIZE WHEN MOON IS "DESCENDING"

Goose Creek Correspondent Says Strength of Fertilizer Evaporates at Other Times.

### CAT CAUGHT IN A STEEL TRAP

Indian Trail, R. F. D. No. 1, April 14.—The thermometer registered 39 degrees above here Monday morning, and as a result most all of the fruit was killed. This is bad news for those who are fond of cider. Beans were also badly damaged.

Miss Lula Helms of Unionville was the guest of Miss Pearl Hill Saturday and Sunday, and Miss Lillie Hill of Monroe passed those same days with Miss Rena Furr. Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Rowell have returned from an extended visit to friends and relatives at Wintgate. Mrs. R. P. Rowell spent last Friday at Midland with friends. Mr. Gerthy Williams, who sustained a broken leg when he fell some days ago, has returned from a Charlotte hospital where he has been under the care of a specialist. He is improving rapidly.

Mr. Lucas Stegall essayed the role of the Good Samaritan to a passing negro man, who had the appearance of being an imbecile, and who was in destitute circumstances, here recently. The negro, who said his name was Montgomery, was hatless, shoeless, and otherwise very thin clad. Mr. Stegall supplied him with the missing articles of wearing apparel, gave him some warm underclothing and sent him in the direction of Monroe. It is believed here that the man escaped from a county home or some other kindred institution.

Mr. Hugh Wiley and Mr. Fairley Watkins have been discharged from the navy and are now here with their folks. A fishing party will be given Saturday night, April 30, on the banks of Crooked Creek, near the Belmont school, by Messrs. Payne Helms, Lewis Belk, Flynn Price, Melbourne Clontz, Marshall Baucum and Dewey Duncan. Everybody invited.

"Resolved, That the steam and gasoline engine are more useful than the printing press," was the subject for discussion at the last meeting of the Belmont debating society. The negative, upheld by Misses Annie Mae Helms, Ora Little and Cora Baucum, was declared to be the winner. The affirmative debaters were: Misses Selma Furr and Pearl Hill and Mr. Payne Helms.

Mr. J. A. Dixon is suffering from an infection on his left thumb. Mr. Santord's Haigler's cat, after an absence of sixteen days, returned home the other night in a starving condition dragging a steel trap, the jaws of which were firmly fastened around its rear legs. The cat was very thin, and from the ravenousness of its appetite it was believed that it had been without food for the period of its confinement.

Mr. J. H. Cunningham will conduct prayer services at the Union Grove Methodist church next Sunday evening at 7 o'clock.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Benton of Charlotte spent several days here last week with friends and relatives.

Miss Vera Helms was a recent visitor in Charlotte.

Rev. T. J. Huggins will preach at the Union Grove Methodist church next Sunday morning at 11 o'clock.

Messrs. William Ormand and Roy Simpson, representing the Furr schools, will participate in the athletic events at the county commencement at Monroe Saturday.

An invitation received here the other day announces the marriage of Miss Mary Moser Misenheimer, of Concord, to Mr. John Warren Yarbrough, Jr., of High Point. The bride is a cousin of your scribe and is well-known in this community.

The late George Long used to predict that frost would follow when the new moon changed its orbits if there was a sign in the head. His predictions usually proved correct. On the seventh of this month, observers will recall, the new moon changed its orbits, and a killing frost followed on the 11th. Mr. Long placed implicit faith in the predictions of the Salem almanac, which is a favorite forecast in this section. The writer keeps one in his home and has found by experience that its predictions usually prove true. We depend on it to give us the relative strength of fertilizer and stable manure, when to plant and when not to plant. We find that when the moon is descending it is the best time to fertilize your crops, as the moisture of the fertilizer is absorbed by the ground. When there is a "little moon," as we call it, we can tell by the scent in the air that our fertilizer goes up into the air; so if you want good results distribute your fertilizer when the moon is descending.

When Uncle Ben Went Without The neatest house-keeper in Madison Village was Aunt Martha Giddings—in fact, she was "pizen" neat. She had no mercy whatever on her husband, Uncle Ben. The poor old gentleman was not disorderly himself, but Aunt Martha had browbeaten him into thinking he was and had forced him meekly to accept all her own standards of cleanliness and order. How well trained she had him the following incident shows: One afternoon Uncle Ben tip-toed into the kitchen and, crossing to the sink, stood there looking over his spectacles at the shining faucets and the carefully scrubbed slate. Then he turned to Aunt Martha, who was darning socks by the window. "Guess ye've just washed up the sink, ain't ye?" he asked. "Yes, I have," she replied. "Why?" "Well," said Uncle Ben with a gentle sigh, "I did think I'd relish a drink of water, but I guess I can get along without it."

## UNABLE TO UNDERSTAND GREEN'S SILENCE ON ROADS

He Was Secretary of the Meeting and One of Those on Committee to Draft New Law.

### FOLKS PLEASED WITH ROADS

Marshville, Rt. 4, April 14.—Monday and Tuesday mornings were an effective antedote for the spring fever, frost and ice, and tadpoles looking up through glass windows, and all kinds of tenderest garden plants killed, and peaches as long as bird eggs killed and falling off are some of the records.

Over here in New Salem township where we have no thermometers it is impossible to say how low the mercury went, but we all hunted our old last winter coats.

Everybody hereabout is making preparation to plant some cotton; however the best friends cotton has are those who have depended on cotton until they are so poor they can't quit it.

Our community was not so hard hit when the bottom fell out of cotton prices, as was the case with communities that depend almost entirely upon cotton. Owing to the fact that everything consumed on the farm is, as nearly as possible, produced on that farm or in the community, whiskey not excepted.

Now, then, that brings us up to The Journal news item about a community still having been discovered in New Salem township. We do not think any one man would take all the hazard of operating a still single-handed and alone; but after all is done and said, there is a very great risk. There are usually one or more men in a community who would not think of joining in such an undertaking as making whiskey, and the danger of their locating a still and taking the proper steps to get it out of the community is imminent and must be recognized with all times; therefore the only safe way to deal with whiskey is to let it entirely alone.

Messrs. D. V. Griffin and H. E. Williams, contractors, have completed their work on the Marshville-Euro road. The part of this road built by them was from Marshville almost to the New Salem township line and included the semi-mountainous hills about Negrohead creek and was a slow and tedious job.

The old road did not only go over these hills, but it went over the highest part of the hills and must have been established in the days of the horse-cart when there was very little to haul to or from Marshville, or may be before the days of Marshville and was as much out of date as the harvesting implements of the days of Ruth and Boaz.

We now go around these hills and think how foolish we were to go over them so long when we can go around them on a grade about equal to the average grade from Jerico up to Jerusalem, and southern New Salem township is within 15 minutes of Marshville—"Ford time."

We have not been able to understand Editor J. Z. Green's silence on the approaching road election. He was secretary of the mass meeting that demanded remedial road legislation, and stuck his neck right in the yoke with Jim Price and others who wanted a fair distribution of the money derived from the sale of the bonds and it seemed that the burden was easy and the yoke light. But he comes out this week and defends the interest of the farmers who live on the "C" roads, and we infer that he thinks the farmers would get a fairer distribution of road funds at the hands of the county commissioners.

### Midway News.

Monroe Route 7, April 14.—Reuben, the little son of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Mattox, is recovering from an attack of whooping cough and pneumonia.

Mr. Charlie Lowery suffered a broken arm while trying to crank a Ford Wednesday morning.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. B. J. Munn, March 26, a son.

Our efficient teacher, Miss Maud Jones, spent last week-end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Jones of Marshville.

Mr. Frank Thwaitt is slowly recovering from a relapse of whooping cough.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Mattox, April 6, a daughter.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Plyler are recovering from a relapse of whooping cough.—Gyp.

### When Uncle Ben Went Without

The neatest house-keeper in Madison Village was Aunt Martha Giddings—in fact, she was "pizen" neat. She had no mercy whatever on her husband, Uncle Ben. The poor old gentleman was not disorderly himself, but Aunt Martha had browbeaten him into thinking he was and had forced him meekly to accept all her own standards of cleanliness and order. How well trained she had him the following incident shows: One afternoon Uncle Ben tip-toed into the kitchen and, crossing to the sink, stood there looking over his spectacles at the shining faucets and the carefully scrubbed slate. Then he turned to Aunt Martha, who was darning socks by the window. "Guess ye've just washed up the sink, ain't ye?" he asked. "Yes, I have," she replied. "Why?" "Well," said Uncle Ben with a gentle sigh, "I did think I'd relish a drink of water, but I guess I can get along without it."

Continued on Page Eight.