

MARION PROGRESS

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

ESTABLISHED 1896.

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TWO FIRES DURING WEEK

Rev. J. L. Smith Loses Furniture, Etc.—Residence of Mrs. Blanton Saved by Prompt Action.

Rev. J. L. Smith, pastor of the North Catawba circuit, had the misfortune of losing all his furniture and wearing apparel by fire last Friday. The fire was discovered between six and seven o'clock in the morning, and was so far under way when discovered that it was impossible to save the house or any of the contents. Mr. Smith had no insurance, and the loss falls on him very heavily at this time. His friends in town, however, have responded liberally, and the members of the different churches in the country will, no doubt, help him out so that he will not feel the loss very greatly.

The roof of Mrs. Minnie Blanton's house on Henderson street was discovered to be on fire on Sunday morning a little after 12 o'clock. There were many people on the streets at this time, the different churches having just dismissed their congregations. The men were at the house in just a few minutes after the fire was discovered, and succeeded in extinguishing the fire without any great amount of damage being done. The fire company, however, responded quickly, and were at the nearest hydrant with fire wagon and hose in less than five minutes after the fire bell began to ring. Their services were not needed in this fire to any extent, though it gives the citizens of the town much confidence to know that we have a fire company which can respond quickly and willingly. Mrs. Blanton had the house and furniture covered by insurance.

News from the Mayor's Office.

The Board of Aldermen met in regular monthly session on Tuesday night, December 5th last, William Sweeney, C. E. Prestwood and J. R. Ledbetter being present. Nothing out of the routine procedure came up for consideration, except the election of a chief of the fire department to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of E. H. Dysart, the former chief. As the members of the fire company had already endorsed J. A. Finley for chief of the fire department, the board did nothing more than ratify their endorsement by formally electing Mr. Finley to this office.

This is an important office carrying with it great responsibilities. The duties are set out in the general law relative to the conduct of this department and will be performed as near as may be.

Special mention was made in this connection of the prompt response and excellent service rendered by the fire company in the two recent fires, one of which was the burning of the house occupied by Rev. J. L. Smith on the morning of December 1st, when the raging flames were checked and near-by houses saved. The other fire occurred on Sunday morning at the residence of Mrs. Blanton, but was extinguished before serious loss was sustained.

Marion has a well equipped fire company and its members, while rendering a voluntary service, are loyal and deserve the support and praise of all good citizens of the town.

Mr. Guy Cashier.

Friends of Mr. J. E. Guy, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Guy, of this place, will be interested in the following from the Erwin, Tenn., Magnet:

"At a recent call meeting of the Board of Directors of the Bank of Erwin J. C. Love tendered his resignation as cashier to take effect Dec. 1, and J. E. Guy, the assistant cashier, was elected to succeed him. The Directors unanimously expressed regrets of the action of Mr. Love, as they have been more than pleased with his services and find the Bank in a growing and prosperous condition under his management as cashier, but Mr. Love stated that he had a business offer which he could not well afford to turn down. He will represent the well known firm of Cowan, McClung & Co., of Knoxville, and will carry a specialty line and travel several states.

Mr. Guy, the newly elected cashier, has been assistant cashier since the Bank first opened for business, and has given general satisfaction to the officials of the Bank, and the Magnet predicts a most successful management of the affairs of the Bank by cashier Guy and associates."

Sub-soiling Demonstration.

The Jefferson Powder Company of Greenville, S. C., will give a demonstration of sub-soiling, stump and tree pulling by dynamite on December 12, on and near the school grounds of the Garden City School, which is located just beyond the Thos. Morris farm on Buck Creek. One acre of land for cultivation will be broken by dynamite, and more than 50 trees from six to fifteen inches in diameter will be blown up.

All citizens are urged to be present and see this test, and especially those farmers who are interested in larger yields per acre. It is claimed by the leading agricultural journals that this method of sub-soiling will in many cases increase the yield more than 100%.

This first experiment of this kind in McDowell county will be watched with a great deal of interest, and many farmers no doubt will be present to see the demonstration. All will be welcomed.

Thanksgiving at Harmony Grove.

Thanksgiving day was observed at Harmony Grove church—Rev. A. P. Sorrells, pastor of the church, held a song service, and a goodly collection was taken for the Thomasville Orphanage. Prof. W. Hill, of Forest City, made a specially interesting educational address, also G. W. Taylor, principal of the new school, had something to say in the interest of education. The Laurel Hill choir added to the program of the day by their excellent singing, rendering a number of selections which were greatly enjoyed. The Harmony Grove choir also sang well some lovely pieces.

At 12 o'clock dinner was eaten on the grounds, and the tables were bountifully filled. We felt indeed thankful that this was a year of plenty, and that we were among the blessed. A box supper was given by the students of the new school that night, the proceeds of which are to be used for equipments needed for the building. This school has fifty-seven students on roll.

FROM ALL OVER THE STATE

A Column of Short Paragraphs That Have Been Collected by the Editor For the People.

Raleigh.—Senator Henry Cabot Lodge of Massachusetts addressed 3,000 people here at a public meeting of the North Carolina State Library and Historical Society. His subject was "The Making of the Constitution."

New Bern.—Messrs. R. A. Richardson, Herman West and a young man by the name of Rogers, who live in and near Dover were assailed by an unknown negro while possum hunting two miles from Dover and were shot at three times with a shot gun by the unknown assailant.

Salisbury.—The first round-trip for Nos. 15 and 16, the new passenger trains recently put on between Salisbury and Asheville has been made. The trains are a great convenience to parties traveling between New York, Washington and Asheville and the inauguration of the new service greatly pleases here.

Elizabeth City.—A young white man named Ben Jethro was knocked overboard by a jibbing boom on the schooner Irene near Simons' Landing in Scuppernon River and was drowned. The young man helped to load the vessel at some point on the Scuppernon River between Columbia and Crosswell, and was making the trip with Captain Goodwin on the Irene when the accident happened.

Washington.—Following changes in North Carolina postmasters were announced: Falcon, Cumberland county, Perry J. Israel, vice G. F. Taylor, resigned; Osmond, Caswell county, Miles B. Smith, vice J. B. Hudgins, resigned; Queen, Montgomery, Arlindo L. Hill, vice O. L. Reynolds, resigned; Volga, Buncombe county, Robert R. Riddle, vice J. F. Pike, resigned.

Greensboro.—A petition in involuntary bankruptcy was filed here against the German-American Company, cotton manufacturers of Draper, N. C., against whom a suit in equity for the foreclosure of \$4,000,000 deed of trust in favor of the New York Trust Company is now pending. Judge Boyd gave the defendant company until December 6 to show cause why it should not be adjudged bankrupt.

Wilmington.—Roseboro is a growing town in the Nation's Garden Spot and the reason why it is developing into a thrifty place in that it is in the eastern portion of the fertile old county of Sampson. Roseboro is a new town, as the age of places go in this country, for it was not in existence till the Cape Fear and Yadkin Valley Railroad was extended from Fayetteville to Wilmington about eighteen years ago.

New Bern.—News was received here of a horrible accident which occurred at J. B. Lee & Sons cotton gin at Arapahos in which one young man lost his life and another, who tried to save him, was badly injured. In some way Mr. James Bennett, the twenty year old son of Mr. Ed Bennett, of that place and who was employed at the cotton gin became entangled in the shafting of the gin and was whirled around for a number of times.

Newton.—The "farming by dynamite" demonstration given on Mr. Lee Cline's farm by the Dupont powder representatives was witnessed by 150 interested farmers and town people. Stumps were demolished, big rocks shivered and the land sub-soiled to a depth of several feet by sticks of the explosive placed at intervals of about 10 feet. A number of farmers at once ordered several hundred pounds of the dynamite, which costs 15 1-2 cents a pound, and there will be a lot of experimenting in the county this fall.

Statesville.—Some time during the past summer a colored convict, Claude Vines, who was at work on the Statesville Air Line Railroad, finished his term and was discharged. When given his freedom, he came to town, wandered aimlessly around for a few days, having no acquaintances except the convicts, then returned to the camp and asked for work. But later he decided to go to his home in eastern North Carolina. Nothing was heard of Vines until a few days ago when news was received from the sheriff of Pitt county stating that Vines was serving a ten years' sentence for highway robbery.

Garden City Tidings.

Garden City, Dec. 6.—Quite an interesting sermon by preacher Smith at Carson's Chapel Sunday.

We regret so much to hear that George Chapman's house, occupied by Rev. J. L. Smith, was destroyed by fire early Friday morning.

Born, to Mr. and Mrs. George Duncan, a fine boy.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Curtis, of Marion, visited Mrs. Curtis' parents Sunday.

Miss Ammie Lou Bomar, of Marion, visited at Lee Chapman's the latter part of the week.

Garden City school suspended two days for Thanksgiving.

Miss Thessa Jimerison, of Nebo school, spent Thanksgiving with her parents.

J. E. Jimerison, one of our most progressive farmers, sowed on his farm this year seventy-five bushels of wheat. This is more than the farmers generally sow in our county.

Quite a number of our boys have joined the corn club. We wish them success. —MIKE.

Bethlehem School Notes.

Old Fort, Dec. 1.—Bethlehem school opened November 20 with 33 pupils and Miss Effie Gibson as teacher. We now have 48 enrolled and the average daily attendance for the past two weeks have been 35. Many of the children have quite a distance to walk and are attending well for the cold weather, especially the smaller ones. Our school house is nice and comfortable. We have new patent desks and a new stove. The room has recently been furnished with shades for the windows.

We have been doing some work on the yard which has helped the looks of the surroundings.

This afternoon we had a spelling match which was very interesting to us all.

The school attended the funeral services of William Hogan, Thursday.

We are all studying hard and are busy preparing for an entertainment to be given the night of December 23.

STUDENT

Greenlee News.

Old Fort, Dec. 5.—We were glad to have the parents and friends with us last Wednesday evening at the school house at a Thanksgiving exercise.

Mrs. C. Mackey gave a candy pulling last Thursday evening which was enjoyed by all present.

Thomas Tate gave a corn shucking last Friday.

Misses Pearl Dobson and Mary Greenlee spent the latter part of last week at home.

Mrs. W. H. Greenlee, Miss Effie Cannon and Prof. A. T. Ledbetter spent Saturday in Marion.

R. L. Bowman and W. H. Greenlee made a business trip to Old Fort last Wednesday.

Mrs. M. M. Burgin and daughter and son, Miss Mary and Edward, spent Sunday with Mrs. W. H. Greenlee.

Rev. Doggett will fill his appointment at the M. E. church at Greenlee next Sunday morning.

STUDENT

Rocky Pass News.

Rocky Pass, Nov. 29.—A number of citizens met at Harmony Grove church Saturday and cleaned off the cemetery.

Miss Mary Bridges has returned home from a visit to her aunt, Mrs. Bright, near Glenwood.

A number of young folks enjoyed a corn shucking at John Creswell's last Friday.

Henry Pyatt has accepted a position as clerk in J. G. Pyatt's store at Glenwood.

Miss Emma Higgins, after a long stay with relatives near here, has returned to South Carolina to spend the winter.

Clyde Sorrels has gone to Asheville for an operation.

Frank Witherow has gone to Mitchell county to accept a position with Howard & Co.

ROSA

What's the news of McDowell? The Progress, for \$1.00 per year, tells it all. Subscribe.

OLD FORT HAPPENINGS

Two Accidents—Brass Band Organized—Folks Coming and Going.

Old Fort, Dec. 6.—A number of the young men and boys of Old Fort have organized a brass band. Much talent is displayed. Many mysterious sounds can be heard at all times of both day and night issuing from the homes of the many "joiners." We hope soon to have first-class band music.

Garfield Turner, while out hunting Thanksgiving day, accidentally shot himself in the foot. The wound is very painful but is hoped not to be very serious.

Gilbert Stepp, while working in the tannery last Friday, had a narrow escape from serious injury, when he fell the distance of about sixteen feet into an empty leach. His right arm was broken and he received several other painful bruises.

Miss Mary Crater, one of the teachers of the Old Fort graded school, was called away last week by the death of her aunt.

Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Bradley gave a Thanksgiving dinner at their home Thursday, to which a number of the older gentlemen of the town and vicinity were invited.

Quite a number of the Old Fort boys and girls who are away at school this winter, spent Thanksgiving with the loved ones at home. Among them were Misses Maude and Louise Green and Frances Artz, all of St. Genevieve's Convent at Asheville, and Miss Evelyn Crawford of the Normal. John Artz and Earl Bradley also spent the week-end in town.

Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Rock and little daughter, left here last week for Spartanburg, S. C., where they will make their home for the present.

Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Britt, who were recently married in Asheville, spent a few days here last week visiting Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Green.

Mrs. G. W. Brown spent a few days in Asheville last week visiting relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. B. M. Stepp, of Marion, spent Thanksgiving with their sister, Mrs. Trexler.

Mrs. W. P. Artz spent a day shopping in Asheville last week.

Mrs. P. H. Mashburn went to Asheville last week for a day's shopping.

Mr. George Sandlin, Jr., spent a few hours with relatives here last week.

Mrs. Ella Clark has gone to Asheville to spend the week with her sister, Mrs. Locke Craig.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Sherrill are visiting Mr. and Mrs. Lonnie Sherrill.

J. L. Sherrill, of Hickory, spent a few hours with friends here last week.

Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Cowen spent Thanksgiving with relatives in the eastern part of the State.

J. C. Green has gone to Bakersville to visit his parents.

T. L. Grant was called to Union Saturday night by the illness of his sister, Mrs. Joe Davis.

W. F. Grant, of Nebo High School, spent Thanksgiving with relatives and friends here.

—RITA.

The supplement in this issue of THE PROGRESS contains a full page ad. for The Peerless Store announcing a great bargain sale. The sale commences next Wednesday and will continue ten days. It will be well worth your time to read this ad. and consider the special inducements offered by this enterprising firm.