

MARION PROGRESS

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

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BOYS' CORN CONTEST

Effort Being Made to Have Contest for Boys in McDowell County This Year.

Mr. Charles W. Mason, agricultural agent of the Southern Railway for Western North Carolina, with headquarters in Asheville, and E. S. Millsap, district agent farm co-operative and demonstration work for Western North Carolina, were in Marion last Saturday in the interest of the Boys' Corn Contest which have proven to be of great value in a number of other counties in this and other states. A meeting was held here Saturday with quite a number of boys and teachers from the country present, and an effort will be made to have a contest of this kind in McDowell this year. Mr. Mason returned Monday and he is visiting this week a number of the school districts in the county, explaining in detail the workings of the contest. He will be at Old Fort Friday at 9 a. m. and Greenlee Friday afternoon. Let those who would like to see the contest started say so at once.

The general idea behind the contest is to stimulate the interest of the boys on the farm by giving them a specified work to do in competition with other boys in the county. The contests are held under the general rules laid down by the state department of agriculture, and at the end of the season the prizes are awarded by officials of this department under the rules.

In brief the rules provide that each boy entering the contest shall plant one acre in corn to compete in the contest for the prizes. On this acre the boy shall do all the work by himself (with the exception of preparing the soil) selecting his own seed, distributing such fertilizer as he sees fit under the limitations of the rules, cultivate the acre, and gather the crop. To the boys raising the largest number of bushels on the acre will get the first prize, to the one raising the largest number the second prize and so on.

Each boy in each county is entitled to enter the contest for the whole state, and to the winners in each state are awarded special certificates by the United States department of agriculture.

Good corn can be raised in this county. It has been done, and can be done again. The boys of this county are just as intelligent and industrious as the boys anywhere, and a corn contest for the county boys should stimulate interest in better farming among the boys, and should result in incalculable good for the county.

The McDowell County Fair Association has offered four prizes in the contest, and while they are not large, at the same time the honor of winning will add to their value. Considerable interest is being manifested and quite a number of boys will likely enter the contest.

If the contest idea takes hold of the boys of the county, and enough will enter to make it worth while, THE PROGRESS will offer a special prize for the boy writing the most interesting account of his experiences in raising the crop.

If you get a sample copy of THE PROGRESS it is an invitation to subscribe. Best value for the money.

Gilkey-Kirby Nuptials at Charlotte.

Charlotte Observer, 5th.

At the home of the bride's father on North Graham street last evening at 6 o'clock, the wedding of Miss Hattie Kirby to Mr. W. K. M. Gilkey of Marion, was solemnized by Rev. Gilbert M. Rowe, pastor of Tryon Street Methodist church. The beautiful and impressive ring ceremony was used. Before an improvised altar of palms ferns, and white cut flowers, in the parlor, the vows were spoken. The bride entered upon the arm of her father, Mr. M. F. Kirby, who gave her away. The made of honor was Miss Mary Kirby, a sister of the bride. Mr. J. Q. Gilkey of Marion, a brother of the groom, was best man. The ring bearer was little Miss Wilma Myers Kirby of Gastonia, a niece of the bride, who entered with the ring upon a silver tray. At the entrance of the bridal party, Miss Mary Sims played Mendelssohn's wedding march, and the "Melody of Love" during the progress of the ceremony. The bride was gowned in a beautiful creation of white marquisette over white satin entrain. Her tulle veil was caught with a sprig of orange blossoms, and she carried a shower bouquet of Bride roses and lilies of the valley. The gown worn by the maid of honor was of white batiste, embroidered with pink massaline. She carried Killarney roses and ferns.

The bride of yesterday is well known in Charlotte for her beauty and charm of personality. She carries with her the best wishes of a host of friends in the city.

The groom is prominent in the business life of his home city, where he is engaged in manufacturing industry.

Immediately following the ceremony, Mr. and Mrs. Gilkey left for Marion, where they will make their future home.

[THE PROGRESS joins with the many friends of the bride and groom in extending congratulations and best wishes.]

Joyner-Andrews.

Rev. Edmund N. Joyner, rector of St. James Parish, Lenoir, left here last Friday for South Carolina where he expects to be married tomorrow, 10th, to Miss Elizabeth Andrews. The marriage will take place near the home of the bride, in St. Stephens Episcopal church Willington, and the newly wedded pair are expected here on next Thursday. Miss Andrews is an accomplished young woman of cultured South Carolina family and has been quite active in religious work in her own state and in North Carolina. She will be welcomed as a resident of Lenoir.—Lenoir News.

Both Mr. Joyner and Miss Andrews are well known in Marion, she having spent a year or more here doing mission work while Mr. Joyner was rector of St. John's Episcopal church for a period of several months.

You can't afford to miss this offer. A handsome 42-piece dinner set and THE PROGRESS one year for only \$4.00. The very cheapest kind of ware will cost you more money elsewhere. Why not take advantage of this offer and get the paper a year in addition?

BANKS ARE PROSPEROUS

Both Merchants and Farmers and First National in Flourishing Condition.

The stockholders of the First National Bank held their regular annual meeting in the banking rooms on Tuesday afternoon. Notwithstanding the bad weather, a majority of the stockholders were present. The Cashier's report of the condition of the bank and of the business transacted during the past year was read and was exceedingly satisfactory to the stockholders. The volume of business transacted during the last year was in excess of any previous year.

The old board of directors was re-elected as follows: W. A. Conley, J. L. Morgan, B. B. Price, A. Blanton, Geo. F. White, T. J. Gibbs, D. E. Hudgins, J. Q. Gilkey, and D. D. Little. After the adjournment of the stockholders meeting, the directors met and re-elected the old officers, viz: W. A. Conley, president; B. B. Price, vice-president; George I. White, cashier, and J. E. Neal, assistant cashier. A. L. Gilkey was re-elected bookkeeper and Miss Jessie Ratliffe, stenographer. D. E. Hudgins and J. W. Pless were re-elected attorneys.

The usual dividend was declared and the remainder of the undivided profits was placed to the surplus fund, making the total surplus of the bank \$16,000.00.

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Merchants & Farmers Bank was held Tuesday night and although the weather was most unfavorable, almost all of the stock was represented in the meeting. The report of the condition of the bank, as made by the officers, was a very satisfactory one in every particular, showing the institution to be in first-class condition and under safe and conservative management.

The following were elected as a board of directors: T. F. Wrenn, G. W. Conley, J. W. Streetman, J. E. Decker, W. T. Morgan, and J. D. Ledbetter. The officers re-elected for the coming year are T. F. Wrenn, president; Geo. W. Conley, vice-president; R. F. Burton, cashier; W. F. Wood, assistant cashier, and W. T. Morgan, attorney.

The meeting was characterized by a spirit of complete harmony and good will, the stockholders and management being as a unit in the determination to put forth every effort to make the year of 1912 one of the most prosperous in the bank's history. A cash dividend of eight percent will be mailed to each stockholder by the bank today.

Box Supper.

There will be a box supper at Reel's School House on Saturday night, January 13. Everybody cordially invited, especially the girls with well filled boxes and boys with plenty of change. Proceeds will be used to purchase new books for the library.

The democratic national committee completed its work in Washington Tuesday with the selection of Baltimore as the convention city. June 25 was fixed as the date of the national gathering.

Blakeley-Thomas at Charleston.

Among the weddings of Christmas week was that of Miss Martha Reynolds Thomas and Mr. George David Blakeley, of Spartanburg, which was celebrated in Grace church Thursday evening, December 28, at 9 o'clock, the Rev. William Way, rector, performing the ceremony. It was a choral wedding, the choir singing Mendelssohn's wedding chorus for the entire of the bridal party, who came in as follows: Mr. John P. Thomas, a brother of the bride; Mr. C. Bissell Jenkins, Jr., and Mr. John Thomas Jenkins, her nephews, and Mr. Jesse G. Barkley, ushers, after whom were the two flower girls, Elizabeth Lucas and Katherine Robertson, who stood at the first arch in the middle of the aisle until the bridal procession had assembled at the chancel, then they took their places at the arch at the head of the aisle until the ceremony was ended. The little ring bearer, Sue Rivers Thomas, a niece of the bride, came next, carrying the ring a calla lily, then the dame of honor, Mrs. Tristram T. Hyde, a sister of the bride, after whom was the maid of honor, Miss Rose Ballenger of Spartanburg, who was followed by the bride on the arm of her brother, Mr. H. Rivers Thomas. They were met at the altar by the groom and his best man, who was his brother, Mr. Lowery Blakeley. The bride was elegantly gowned in white crepe meteor trimmed with real lace and sprays of orange blossoms, while her veil was caught with lilies of the valley. Her bouquet was a handsome one of bride roses and lilies of the valley.

After the ceremony the bridal party returned to the home of the bride's sister, Mrs. C. Bissell Jenkins, on Montague street, where the bride changed her wedding gown for her traveling suit, leaving shortly afterward for her wedding tour. The beautiful church was lovely in its Christmas dressing, to which were added special decorations for the wedding in palms and cut flowers, the scheme being white and green.—Charleston Post.

The bride is a sister to Mrs. A. J. Gilkey of this place. She has visited in Marion often and is well known here.

COMMISSIONERS MEET

Jurors Drawn for February Term of Court—School Tax Election—Finance Committee.

The board of county commissioners in session last week ordered that a special school tax election be held in School District No. 1, Montford Cove township, on March 2. Carl Wilkerson was appointed registrar with C. Y. Banning and Grant Harris as judges. An order was made that the special school tax election in Crooked Creek township be postponed until such time as the boundary line of the district may be satisfactorily set out.

Messrs. H. A. Tate, D. F. Giles and T. W. Wilson were appointed as finance committee to settle with the county officers for 1911.

For the two weeks' term of McDowell Superior Court which convenes February 19, with Judge Foushee presiding, the jury list was made up as follows:

First week—J. A. Gallion, A. Blanton, J. D. Ledbetter, J. H. Lewis, J. D. Patton, W. C. Nesbitt, B. F. Tisdale, J. F. Foster, L. L. Walker, M. F. Tate, A. B. Halford, Burgin Walsh, J. G. Garrison, J. R. McNeely, B. F. Corpening, J. H. Raburn, J. E. Conniff, W. T. Nichols, J. A. Gibson, J. M. Mashburn, Jas. M. Haney, John H. Davis, W. H. Hudgins, C. S. Burgin, A. C. Gardin, F. M. Bradley, M. Q. Morgan, E. L. Greenlee, A. O. Mashburn, G. R. Satterwhite, Miles P. Flack, D. W. Dobson, G. M. Anniss, J. A. Logg, A. K. Weaver, R. D. Barnes.

Second week—C. J. Lytle, G. W. Conley, O. A. Davis, J. C. Upton, C. C. Bradley, J. M. Goforth, E. G. Goforth, John C. Burgin, J. D. Daves, C. P. Lytle, G. W. Lytle, J. G. Patton, John Bird, C. M. Hemphill, J. W. McCall, T. C. Morgan, J. W. Edwards, H. W. Gibson.

After Charlotte Mint.

Washington, Jan. 6.—The House committee on appropriations carrying out its plan of economy is after the Charlotte mint again. Representative Webb will try to hold it. Representative Page, who is a member of the committee on appropriations will assist. An effort to abolish the Charlotte mint was thwarted by Mr. Webb during the last Congress.

Judge Conner, of the United States District Court for the eastern district of North Carolina, has appointed Major Hiram L. Grant, of Raleigh, clerk of the court for the district and Major Grant has appointed S. P. Collier at Willington, Geo. Greene at New Berne, Arthur Mayo at Elizabeth City deputies.

Stylish Bookmarks.

A woman who reads a great deal and who always keeps two or three books going at the same time, hit upon the notion of using fashion paper ladies' bookmarks, the modish little personages being clipped from a fashion magazine that uses a heavy cream paper for its pages. The idea proved so successful that now she makes paper doll bookmarks for her friends, providing each little paper lady with a back of white cardboard and sometimes touching up the figures with transparent photograph color.

WHY YOU SHOULD TAKE THIS PAPER

BECAUSE it gives you the neighborhood news.

BECAUSE it gives you the county news.

BECAUSE it gives you the state news.

BECAUSE it gives you the general news.

BECAUSE it gives you up to date pointers on your business.

BECAUSE it furnishes entertainment for you and your family.

BECAUSE it tells you where to get the best bargains.

BECAUSE it helps you to be a good citizen.

BECAUSE it booms the town and helps the community.

BECAUSE it stands for better roads, better streets, better homes, better farms and better business.

BECAUSE your patronage will help to make it a better paper and one more able to promote these and other desirable things.

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