

MARION PROGRESS

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

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MUSICAL AT OLD FORT

Piano Recital by Pupils of Miss Marguerite Grant Thursday Night—The Program.

Miss Marguerite Grant's music pupils will give a recital in Old Fort Thursday, February 22, at 8 p. m. in the graded school auditorium. The public is cordially invited to attend. The following program will be rendered:

PART I

Chorus—The Mermaids.

Duet—After the Charge—Misses Cunard Graham and Madeline Mashburn.

Solo—The last hope—Miss Cunard Graham.

Duet—The Beetle's Dance—Misses Madeline Mashburn and Estelle Epley.

Solo—Concert Valse—Miss May McCurry.

Trio—Grand Galop Brilliant—Misses Grant, Madeline Mashburn and Cunard Graham.

Two Little Pieces—Misses Christina Brown and Eva Goodman.

Recitation—Josiah and Symantha—Emily Mashburn.

Duet—Rustic Dance—Misses Inah Blalock and Mae Jordan.

Solo—Ripples of the Alabama—Miss Estelle Epley.

Duet—Little Neighbors—Jack Howard and Banks Moore.

Trio—Hazel March—Misses Mabel Crawford, Mabel Greene and Inah Blalock.

PART II

Chorus—Aunt Dinah's Quilting Party.

Duet—Selections from Erminie—Mrs. Finch and Miss Miller.

Solo—With Song and Jest—Miss Gladys Harmon.

Duet—Le Petit Carnaval—Misses Grace Nichols and Jessie Coe Curtis.

Solo—La Baladine—Mrs. Finch.

Duet—Qui Vive Galop—Misses May McCurry and Madeline Mashburn.

Solo—Memories of the Dance—Miss Emily Mashburn.

Duet—Two Juveniles—Misses Gladys Harmon and Grace Nichols.

Recitation—The Kindergarten Tot—Miss Thelma Graham.

Duet—En Route March—Misses Grace Arney and Inah Blalock.

Solo—Grande Polka De Concert—Miss Madeline Mashburn.

Trio—A May Day—Misses Madeline Mashburn, Florine and Mabel Crawford.

To Adopt History Textbook.

Raleigh, Feb. 16.—The State Textbook Commission, which, in the adoption of textbooks for use in the public schools for the next five years, made last fall, left open until after the new year the adoption of a United States history, gives notice that all histories offered for adoption must be filed in accordance with the rules by April 1, together with all bids and other matters for the commission to consider, and that the copies of the histories submitted must be in complete printed form just as they are to be used in the schools in the event they are adopted. Notice is also given that the commission and sub-commission will take action in the adoption of a history April 18.

Paying Off Old War Claims.

Washington, Feb. 17.—War claims aggregating \$1,550,000 were approved today by the house through the passage of the omnibus claims bill presented by the war claims committee. An attempt to attach to the bill an amendment for payment of the \$800,000 French spoliation claims was unsuccessful.

The bill would pay 1,057 separate claims for damages to property, back pay to officers, and payments for supplies and ammunition furnished during the civil war.

Farmers Union Gaining Strength in McDowell.

George Rhom, county organizer of the Farmers Union for McDowell county, reports a rapid growth of the organization in McDowell during the past year. He says that the first branch of the Farmers Union in McDowell was organized at Patton in 1910. Since that time eleven local unions have been set up in the county, at the following places: Laurel Hill, Fairview, Macedonia, Chapel Hill, Carlyle, Belfont, Old Fort, Glenwood, Greenlee, Linville and Stroudtown. The last four were recently organized by Mr. Rhom; Glenwood with fifteen members, Greenlee with twenty-two, Linville with nineteen, and Stroudtown, February 8, with a membership of twenty-one.

There are at present about 400 Union members in McDowell county. The county meeting of the Union will be held with the Macedonia local March 16. Good speakers will be present to address the people on matters of interest to the farmers, and a large gathering is expected.

It is hoped that every farmer and farm laborer will become a member of the Union which will aid to educate our people to raise their home supply of farm products and better conditions on the farm. One of the great principles of the Union is "To teach the people the best mode of farming, home economy and love toward all mankind."

State Sunday School Convention.

The Twenty-ninth Annual Convention of the North Carolina Sunday School Association will convene in Asheville, April 23-25. Among the speakers will be Rev. Franklin McElfresh, D. D., Teacher Training Superintendent of the International Sunday School Association; Rev. Chas. D. Bulla, Superintendent Wesley Adult Bible Class Department of the M. E. Church, South; Judge Joseph Carthel, General Secretary of the Tennessee Sunday School Association.

Each County is entitled to as many delegates as there are townships in the County. This does not mean that every township must be represented, but that the basis of delegation shall be the number of townships in the county. Delegates shall be chosen by the county officers or Executive Committee. Those desiring to be appointed should send their names to their County Sunday School Secretary, or to J. Van. Carter, Raleigh, N. C.

Entertainment will be provided all delegates by the citizens of Asheville.

Every delegate will pay a registration fee of \$1.00. This will be paid at Asheville, when assignment to home is made. All registered delegates will receive: Entertainment during the convention, a reserved seat in the convention with county delegation, a convention badge, a convention program, a right to a voice and vote in all the deliberations of the body.

The railroads will grant reduced rates. These will be announced later.

Wednesday was Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent. Easter falls on April 8th.

SOUTH FOR LIVE STOCK

What the South Offers to Live Stock Raisers and Dairy-men—Dairy Products.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 17.—"The south offers over \$100,000,000 yearly to live stock raisers who will locate in that section and supply the demand for meats. The south consumes more meat per capita than any other section of the country. Fifty southern cities are offering over \$22,000,000 yearly to dairymen who will supply their demand for dairy products."

These startling statements are made in an unusual attractive booklet devoted to stock raising in the southeast which has just been issued by the Southern Railway System for distribution among stockmen and farmers of the west and northwest in an effort to induce them to move into this region and take up the raising of cattle, horses, mules, sheep and hogs, thereby enriching themselves and keeping in the south the vast sums now being paid other sections for meat and dairy products. Attention is also given to the great opportunities for profit in raising poultry.

So important to the interests of the people of the south does the Southern Railway feel the live stock and dairy industry, that in addition to advertising to the outside world the great field open for profitable development in this direction, it is now operating a "Dairy Instruction car" over its line in the states served by it for the purpose of giving all possible information to the people at home about raising live stock and the production of milk, cream and butter.

The booklet is filled with splendid illustrations of stock, forage crops, ideal dairies and pasture lands, and live reading matter telling of the exceptional advantages awaiting the practical dairyman and stockman in the Southeast. The wide circulation which this handsome booklet will be given by the Southern Railway and affiliated lines should prove an effective boost for the South.

Cotton Mill News.

The new looms furnished by the Draper Company have arrived and D. A. Jolly of the Draper Company is erecting the work. Mr. Jolly expects to finish the erection about the first of March.

Mr. Rube Hay of the Dixie Spindle & Flyer Company is erecting the new spinning frames which were furnished by Fales & Jenks.

Five new cottages have been completed and families are moving to help in starting the new machinery.

Hugh F. Little, Supt., attended court in Rutherfordton last week.

Mr. J. T. Davis has removed to Marion and is now in charge of the Cloth room.

Wm. Clay and J. R. Frye attended court at Rutherfordton last week.

The Directors at their meeting a few days ago discussed very favorably the painting of all the houses and outbuildings during the coming spring also of building a handsome church and school house on the ridge above the mill which will afford nice play grounds for the children. The day school now has about 50 pupils and the Sunday School over 100 scholars.

Hawkins Case Will Go to the Grand Jury.

Asheville Citizen, 16th. Solicitor Hall Johnston, who was in Asheville yesterday stated in answer to an inquiry by The Citizen that the case of Myrtle Hawkins, and such evidence as has been adduced since the coroners' verdict was returned last October, would be presented to the Henderson county grand jury when it meets three weeks from now. Solicitor Johnston stated that he has spent much time, although he has been unusually busy with other court matters, and some of his own money, in an effort to sift the Hawkins mystery to the bottom.

It was learned from other sources last night that Mr. Hawkins, father of the dead girl, had employed an eminent criminal lawyer to assist in the solution of the mystery and the prosecution of the case, but no report of his progress has yet been made. It is believed, however, that when the grand jury convenes he will co-operate in the prosecution.

Solicitor Johnston wrote twice to Governor Kitchin asking for the use of state funds for the search of Myrtle Hawkins' slayer but was informed by the governor that there was no law covering such emergencies, although an effort had been made at the last legislature to have such a measure enacted.

Bridgewater News.

Bridgewater, Feb. 19.—A. A. Tate, of Asheville, spent several days here on the creek with relatives last week.

Mrs. J. L. Gibson spent last week in Glenwood with her daughter, Mrs. John Flowers.

R. A. Abernethy made a business trip to Hickory Tuesday.

Miss Gertrude Gibson has returned home from Dr. Long's Sanatorium where she has resigned nursing.

Sam Riddle of Marion was in Bridgewater on business last week.

Dan Orders of Glen Alpine spent Thursday here with friends.

Mrs. J. Q. Blackburn and children from Buck Creek are here visiting relatives.

Rev. D. S. Richardson will hold services at Snow Hill on Saturday at eleven o'clock instead of two in the afternoon as stated last week.

Mr. and Mrs. M. L. Haskins is visiting the former's parents in Greenville, S. C.

Misses Carrie Tate of Stroudtown and Eldie Young of Nebo spent Saturday and Sunday here with homefolks.

There was a treat given at the school building Friday afternoon. All the pupils in the advanced room had been divided into two sides.

Edna Gibson and Cecelia Ballew were the captains. The students have been racing on spelling, history and grammar, the side that made the most points, was to be treated by the other side. Edna's side won the treat. Many interesting games were played and refreshments served.

Ernest Seagle was in Marion for treatment last week.

Walter Rust, of —, Va. has been spending a few days here with homefolks. BERRY.

Mr. James H. Tucker, a prominent lawyer of Asheville, died suddenly Thursday.

WONDERFUL ENTERPRISE

John C. Pool Retires as a Farmer to Become a Financier—A Cat Ranch.

Mr. J. C. Pool, better known as "John Pool," will shortly advertise his farm for sale, or that part of it that is tillable land, and he, with a number of his friends, contemplate starting a Cat Ranch. Besides those that are on the inside, named in the letter below, others of the elect will be given a small block of stock. Before securing stock, however, they will have to show a record of good behavior for the past two years, and make a written promise to never be guilty of such an act again.

A gentleman by the name of Fleming has been secured as general manager and promoter, and a Mr. Ferguson will be secretary and treasurer. All those of good record desiring stock can make application to any or all of the incorporators named in the letter herewith, and which explains itself: "Mr. John Pool, Marion, N. C.

Dear Sir: "Knowing that you are always interested and open for an investment in a good live business proposition, I take the liberty of presenting to you what seems to me a most wonderful business, and in which, no doubt, you will take a lively interest, and perhaps write me by return mail the amount of stock that you will want me to reserve for you towards the formation of this company.

"The object of this company is to operate a large Cat Ranch near some good town like Marion, N. C., say out about "Habersham," near your place, where we can secure some cheap land for that purpose. To start with we will collect say about one million cats. Each cat will average twelve kittens a year. The skins will run in price from ten cents each for white ones to seventy-five cents for pure black ones. This will give us twelve million skins a year, to sell at an average of thirty cents a piece, making our revenue about Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) a day gross.

"A man can skin about fifty cats per day at a cost of two dollars. It will take about 100 men to operate the ranch and, therefore, the net profit will be about \$9,800 00 a day. We will feed the cats on rats and will start a Rat Ranch next to the Cat ranch. The rats multiply four times as fast as the cats. If we start with one million rats, we will have, therefore, four rats per day for each cat, and this is a plenty.

"Now then, we will feed the rats on the carcasses of the cats from which the skins have been taken, giving each rat a fourth of a cat.

"It will thus be seen that the business will be self-acting and automatic all the way through. The cats will eat the rats and the rats will eat the cats, and we will get the skins.

"Now if you would like to come in on this proposition (which I feel that you will do without much loss of time) I do not think that it would hardly be right to slight some of our Marion friends, and would suggest that you see some of them and tell them of this chance, and let them in on the ground floor. I would suggest that you see our friend A. Blanton, Dr. Morphew, George White, R. F. Barton, R. H. Bennett, Sam Clay and a few others that will appreciate such favors.

"I will be up before long and hope to see you and talk the matter over personally with you.

"Your friend,
R. A. Obern."