

MARION PROGRESS

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

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COMMENCEMENT AT NEBO

Exercises Will be Held April 10th and 11th—Fourteen Girls Compose Graduating Class.

The commencement exercises of Nebo High School will be held this year on April 10th and 11th in the school auditorium. The school has had an exceptionally good year, continuing to hold the distinction of being one of the very best rural high schools in the state.

Some of the state's most prominent speakers will take part in the commencement exercises. Their names and full particulars will be announced later. The usual medal contests will be held.

The class and graduating exercises will be exceptionally attractive this year. Fourteen compose the graduating class, the personnel of which follows: Mary Estell Wilson, Winnie Bertie Wilson, Vallie Malinda Wilson, Eva Lonon Stacy, Iowa Edna Sigmon, Olive Lee Annis, Nebo; Olive Edward Young, Bridgewater; Olivia Patten, Patten; Margaret Lenore Stepp, Mary Margaret Greenlee, Old Fort, R. F. D. No. 1; Thessa Ann Jameson, Garden City; Lillian Rebecca Lonon, North Cove; Donnie Ava McGimsey, Fonta Flora; Ada Rebecca Brown, Rocky Pass.

The average age of the class is nineteen and it is the best in the history of the school not only in number but in quality as well. Almost every part of the county is represented in the graduating class, and every part is represented in the school enrollment.

Everybody is invited to attend the commencement exercises.

School Apportionment.

The following school apportionment was made by the Board of Education at a call meeting in February.

Glenwood township, District No. 1, \$375.00.

Higgins township, District No. 1, \$250.00.

Marion township, District No. 1, \$1200.00; No. 2, \$250.00; No. 3, \$250.00; No. 4, —; No. 5, \$375.00; No. 6, —; No. 7, \$125.00; No. 8, \$240.00; No. 9, \$250.00; No. 10, \$250.00; No. 11, \$130.00; No. 12, \$120.00.

Old Fort township, District No. 1, \$375.00; No. 2, \$175.00; No. 3, \$225.00; No. 4, \$120.00; No. 5, \$240.00; No. 6, \$120.00; No. 7, \$125.00.

Nebo township, District No. 1, \$750.00; No. 2, \$130.00; No. 3, \$125.00.

North Cove township, District No. 1, \$125.00; No. 2, \$125.00; No. 3, \$125.00; No. 4, \$125.00; No. 5, \$120.00; No. 6, \$250.00; No. 7, \$250.00.

Brackett township, District No. 1, \$120.00; No. 2, \$120.00.

Dysartville township, District No. 1, \$375.00; No. 2, \$130.00; No. 3, \$130.00; No. 4, \$120.00; No. 5, \$130.00; No. 6, \$120.00.

Montfords Cove township, District No. 1, \$130.00; No. 2, \$250.00; No. 3, \$120.00; No. 4, \$130.00.

Crooked Creek township, District No. 1, \$120.00; No. 2, \$250.00; No. 3, \$130.00; No. 4, \$130.00; No. 5, \$120.00.

Broad River township, District No. 1, \$125.00; No. 2, \$125.00; No. 3, \$130.00; No. 4, \$125.00; No. 5, \$125.00.

Roosevelt Forces Meet, and Formally Organize.

Greensboro, March 8.—Pursuant to a call issued two weeks ago by Mr. Richmond Pearson, some of the Roosevelt supporters of the Republican party in North Carolina met in the chamber of commerce rooms here today and formulated plans for organizing the Roosevelt forces of the State. Including the Greensboro representatives, there were forty or fifty men present at the two sessions.

Col. V. S. Lusk of Asheville presided over the gathering and the chief speakers were Mr. Richmond Pearson of Asheville, Mr. Jake F. Newell of Charlotte, Judge S. B. Adams of Greensboro and Mr. Zeb Vance Walser of Lexington. Prominent among others present were W. E. Snow of High Point and a few others.

Aside from the speech-making, the principal matters were the adoption of resolution endorsing Roosevelt and formulating plans for a State-wide Roosevelt club. There was much said condemning the President for withdrawing the nomination of postmasters in North Carolina and many other faults of the administration were pointed out.

Greensboro Gets Teachers' Meeting.

Raleigh, March 9.—The executive committee of the North Carolina Teachers' assembly, this afternoon selected Greensboro as the place, and Thanksgiving week as the time for the next annual session of the assembly.

Greensboro won out in competition with Winston-Salem and Raleigh. The executive committee, with Prof. F. C. Brooks as president and R. D. W. Conner as secretary, is planning to have the biggest attendance and most notable program this year in the history of the organization.

In connection with the executive committee meeting there was the presentation to the state of a fine oil painting of Dr. J. Y. Joyner, state superintendent of public instruction, painted by Mr. Jacques Busbee, the well known artist of this city. The painting is the gift of the teachers' assembly in honor of the completion of ten years' service to the state by Dr. Joyner as state superintendent.

Miss Viola Allen in "The Herfords."

There are few American actresses more highly esteemed than Viola Allen who returns to Asheville Saturday, March 16, for a matinee and night performance, when she will appear in Rachel Crothers' new play "The Herfords." The play may be accepted as a powerful preachment against the modern tendency of many women to neglect the duties of wife and mother by engaging in worldly work that would better be left to the men.

The action of the play is rapid, dramatic and teeming with human interest. An exceptionally strong cast of players will interpret the different characters. In support of Miss Allen will be found Charles Waldron, late star of "The Fourth Estate," John Westley late star in "The Upstart," George Fawcett who has starred in "The Great John Ganton," Miss Grace Elliston who was featured in the original production of "The Lion and the Mouse," Jessie Izett who was Arnold Daly's leading lady and who followed Eleanor Robson in the title role of "Salomy Jane." Matinee prices are 50c, 75c, \$1.00 and \$1.50; night prices are 50c, 75c, \$1.00, \$1.50 and \$2.00. Ticket sale opens Thursday morning.

ROAD WORK DISCUSSED

Law Not Generally Complied With by Overseers—The Law Will Be Enforced.

At a meeting of the Roads Commission for Marion township on Monday a discussion was had of the general condition of the roads in the township, and especially the macadam road from the town to the river, and from the town to the C. C. & O. station, and of the roads which were graded by the convict force and turned over to the overseers and hands in excellent condition. The frequent complaints being made to the Commission that these roads have been allowed to get worse from time to time, and especially during the last twelve months, so that parts of them at times have been almost impassable, was discussed at some length, and it was determined to have these conditions remedied, and the law strictly enforced. The Commission was unable to account for the fact that in many instances the overseers and hands have not seemed to appreciate the work done by the convict force in building them a road enough to keep it in good repair, after it was built and turned over to them.

The law requires the overseers to work their road in this township when notified by the Roads Commission (since the Supervisor of roads was done away with), and some member of the Commission will see in person, or otherwise confer with each overseer in the township, at some early date, with reference to the time of the working of their road, and will try to arrange to have each road in the township worked out from one end to the other, when work begins on it, instead of a "patch" worked here and there.

The law also requires that each hand who does not work when warned shall pay his one dollar per day, by noon of the previous day, to the overseer, and that the overseer shall turn this money over to the Chairman of the Roads Commission (who is T. J. Gibbs.) The law also provides how this money shall be spent by the Roads Commission, which having tools, road machine &c. can put it to better use than the overseers can do. The law in this respect has, for some reason, not generally been complied with by overseers.

Roosevelt Will Take the Stump.

Oyster Bay, N. Y., March 9.—Colonel Roosevelt has about made up his mind to take the stump and personally make the fight, in various parts of the country for the presidential nomination. He said today that he probably would be forced to do so, although he has been reluctant to decide upon some course.

The Charlotte News has closed its straw presidential election, which was conducted for ten days. A total of 376 votes was cast, which "considering that there was no particular reason for anyone to vote we consider good," the News says. The result is announced as follows: Woodrow Wilson, 174; Harmon, 64; Taft, 44; Roosevelt, 36; Bryan, 21; Underwood, 16; Clark, 8; Debs, 8; Kitchin, 3; Hoke Smith, 1.

E. Spencer Blackburn Dead.

Statesville Landmark.

Hon. E. Spencer Blackburn, former member of Congress from this district, died suddenly Sunday night at Elizabethton, Tenn., where he had recently located. Death supposed to have resulted from heart disease.

Blackburn was native of Watauga county and was 43 years old. His remains will be taken to Watauga for burial. He married a daughter of Col. Parker, of Washington, and his wife and two children live in Washington.

Blackburn began the practice of law at Jefferson, Ashe county, and soon became prominent in Republican politics. He was defeated for solicitor by W. C. Newland, later served in the Legislature and as assistant district attorney, and in 1900 was elected to Congress from the old eighth district, succeeding Hon. R. Z. Linney. When the State was redistricted Blackburn was defeated in 1902, by Hon. Theo. F. Klutzz. In 1904 he was elected in the district, defeating Mr. Newland, who had defeated him for solicitor. In 1906 Blackburn was defeated by Hon. R. N. Hackett.

Some years ago he moved to Oklahoma and recently he located at Elizabethton, Tenn.

Bridgewater News.

Bridgewater, March 11.—Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Tate of Asheville are visiting relatives on Muddy creek this week.

Miss Louise Dysart returned to her home in Marion Saturday after a visit of several weeks here to her sister, Mrs. B. Martin.

S. P. Tate was in Glen Alpine on business last week.

Miss Pink Tate has been quite ill for the past week.

Albert Hobbs spent Tuesday in Marion.

School was closed Wednesday until the following Monday on account of bad weather.

Miss Annie Waters was taken to Statesville for an operation for appendicitis.

J. H. Tate of Marion spent Sunday here with homefolks.

Miss Annie Lewis has been spending a few days at her home in Union Mills.

S. Murphy of Nebo spent Tuesday here with relatives.

There will be preaching at the Presbyterian church Sunday the 17th.

John Tate of Marion spent Sunday and Monday here with homefolks.

W. Lyerly and Eugene Boyd were in Morganton on business last week.

Miss Carrie Tate of Hankins spent Saturday and Sunday here at home.

Mrs. W. L. Hilderbrand is visiting home folks in Nebo this week.

J. W. Ballew made a business trip to Marion Tuesday.

An engineering corps of the Piedmont and Northern Railway Company is quietly making a survey of a proposed interurban line from Kings Mountain to Shelby and it is very probable, says the Charlotte Observer, that this is the chief reason nothing is being done on the original line from Gastonia to Kings Mountain. Changes may be in the minds of the promoters that will necessitate a revision of of the original plans to connect Charlotte and Kings Mountain over the survey which was made some years ago.

FIVE PERSONS ARRESTED

In Connection With The Hawkins Murder Mystery at Hendersonville.

Hendersonville, March 8.—A profound sensation, surprising even that on September 10 last when the body of Miss Myrtle Hawkins, aged 20, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Hawkins of this place, was found in Lake Osceola, two miles from Hendersonville after three days' absence from her home, death being the result of a criminal operation, was sprung here today at 5 o'clock when, after an investigation of three days, the Henderson county grand jury returned true bills against four men and one woman, who have been arrested, charging them with guilty knowledge of the crime.

George Bradley, said to be an old sweetheart of the murdered girl, is charged with being the principal. Abner McCall and wife, Beatrice McCall, the latter being a chum and old schoolmate of the deceased, and who lived near Lake Osceola, are also charged as principals to the murder. Dan W. McCall, father of Beatrice McCall, and who lives near the lake, is charged with being an accessor after the fact, it being alleged that he disposed of the corpse. Boney Bradley, brother of George Bradley, is charged with being an accessor before the fact, it being alleged that he consulted Dr. J. H. Williams, a prominent physician of Asheville, as to Myrtle Hawkins' condition, her photograph being identified by the doctor, who also identified Boney Bradley as consulting him about the case. Another person whose name is unknown to the grand jury, is mentioned in these bills of indictment, and although no arrest has been made in this connection, feeling is high here tonight and Solicitor Johnston and other officers and interested parties are in consultation, and other sensational developments are confidently expected shortly.

Nearly all the defendants had been subpoenaed, it is said, since the futile inquests held by the coroner directly after the body was recovered. Dan W. McCall late tonight was released on \$10,000 bond.

BRADLEYS TO ASHEVILLE.

Hendersonville, March 9.—The most interesting developments in the Myrtle Hawkins case were the denial of bail for three of the defendants and the taking of George and Boney Bradley to Asheville for safe keeping in the Buncombe county jail on an order of Judge Howard A. Foushee, acting upon motion of Solicitor Johnston, who asked for such action on account of the crowded condition of the Henderson county jail.

Boney Bradley, charged with being accessory to murder before the fact, failed to give \$10,000 bond required. His brother, George Bradley, Abner McCall and wife, Beatrice, are held as principals without bond. Dan McCall, father of Beatrice, charged with being an accessor after the fact, furnished \$10,000 bond. Judge Foushee denied motion of counsel for defense for bill of particulars.

Solicitor Johnston is unprepared to say whether or not all will be tried for murder in first degree.