

# MARION PROGRESS

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

ESTABLISHED 1896.

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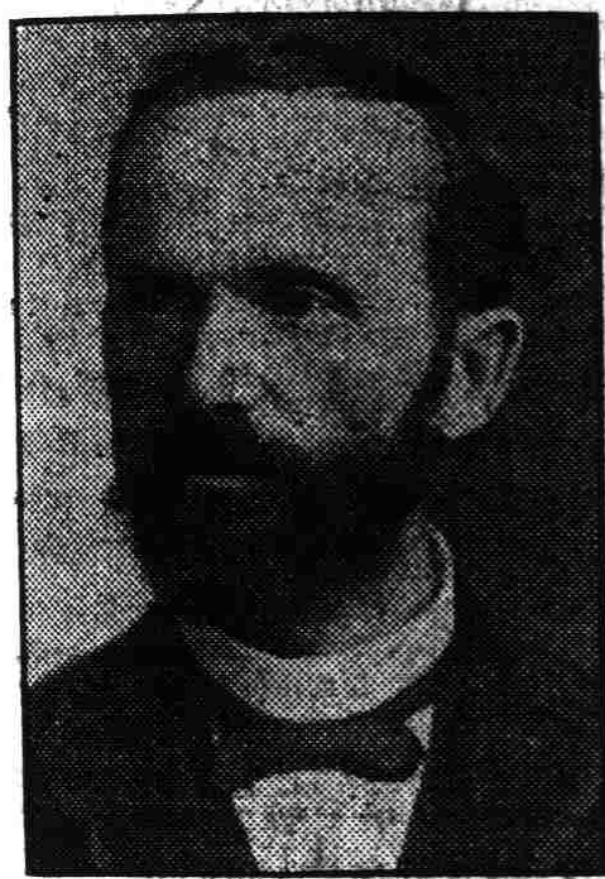
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## DAVIS AND GILES CHOICE

Nominated for the State Senate by Democrats of the 34th District at Morganton.

Democrats of the 34th Senatorial district met in Morganton last Saturday and nominated B. F. Davis, of Burke, and D. F. Giles, of McDowell, for the State Senate. The district is composed of these two counties and Caldwell and Alexander.

The convention was called to order at 2 o'clock by C. M. McDowell, chairman of the executive committee. Edmund Jones, of Caldwell, was made chairman of the convention, with T. G. Cobb, T. J. Robertson and S. E. Whitten as secretaries. On motion, the temporary organization was made



B. F. DAVIS,  
Democratic Nominee for State Senate.

permanent and following the roll call nominations for Senators was announced in order. Mr. Davis was placed in nomination by J. E. Erwin and his nomination seconded by J. F. Spainhour. Mr. Giles was then placed in nomination by Byron Conley and W. C. Newland and A. C. Payne seconded his nomination. The nominations were made by acclamation. There was no contest, Burke settling her preference in caucus before the convention met by balloting, the man receiving the highest number of votes being declared the choice of



D. F. GILES,  
Democratic Nominee for State Senate.

the delegates. The convention was largely attended and was most harmonious.

Mr. Davis formerly represented the district in the State Senate and is a popular and influential man. Mr. Giles was formerly superintendent of McDowell county schools and ranks as one of the State's leading educators. He is a son of Rev. Mark Giles, formerly of Burke county. Both Mr. Davis and Mr. Giles are able men and

well known in the district.

At the convention an executive committee was named as follows: A. C. Payne, Alexander, C. M. McDowell, Burke; Edmund Jones, Caldwell; and A. Blanton, McDowell. Mr. McDowell was re-elected chairman of the committee.

## Gov. Craig Exonerates Road Commissioners of McDowell County.

Raleigh, July 13.—After an investigation of the sensational charges made against road commissioners whom he had appointed in Nebo township, McDowell county, Governor Craig announces that he fully endorses the conduct of the road commissioners, finding that the charges against them are unfounded. The commissioners exonerated are W. G. Hunter, J. L. Padgett and T. J. Hemphill. The governor says his investigation showed that the commissioners are discharging their duties conscientiously, building the roads in their township economically and with the purpose and effect of securing for the people full value for the money expended. He finds that the commissioners have themselves done very little work for which they have received compensation and what compensation they have received has been entirely warranted by the services performed.

## Superior Court in Session.

The two week's term of McDowell Superior court for the trial of both criminal and civil cases convened Monday morning with Judge Jas. L. Webb, of Shelby, presiding and Solicitor Michael Schenck prosecuting. Judge Webb delivered a clear, forceful charge to the grand jury, calling their attention most especially to the principles that were to guide them in taking cognizance of wrong doing and violation of law, and the bringing in of bills of indictment against those who are guilty of violations of the law. E. M. Tate was named as foreman of the grand jury and G. W. Duncan is officer. Quite a number of cases on the criminal docket have been disposed of, including the following:

- D. O. Melton, trespass, judgment suspended on payment of costs.
- Will Glenn, assault with deadly weapon, fined \$5 and costs.
- Lee Denny, assault with deadly weapon, fined \$5 and costs.
- Abe Pitts and Andy Bartlett, affray, fined \$5 each and costs.
- Ross Proctor, affray, judgment suspended on payment of costs.
- Arthur Jones, assault with deadly weapon, fined \$10 and costs.
- Jasen Rhodes, assault, fined \$5 and costs.
- Ben Hogan and Marvin Morris, assault with deadly weapon, fined \$20 each and costs.
- T. W. Brackett, assault with deadly weapon, fined \$3 and costs.
- S. M. Wilkerson, larceny, judgment suspended on payment of costs.
- Tom Caldwell, carrying concealed weapon, judgment suspended on payment of costs. Sam Pittman, for the same offence, was fined \$3 and costs.
- Charles Haney and E. F. Morgan, false pretence, not guilty.
- George Williams, disturbing religious congregation, not guilty.
- N. Y. Lahey, assault with deadly weapon, not guilty.

The doctors say Mr. Roosevelt needs four months of rest. Certainly the country does.

## TO PREVENT BLINDNESS

Principal Ray Discusses the State of the Blind and Advances Some Timely Suggestions.

One of the most distressing misfortunes which can befall a person is to lose one's sight. The large number of this class of our citizens is very great—one hundred thousand in America alone. There are nearly two thousand in North Carolina.

The question naturally arises is there any means to prevent this? Can anything be done to lessen the number of those thus afflicted? Not many can be fully and entirely relieved or cured. By skillful operations a few can secure at least partial relief, but the vast majority are doomed to a life of physical darkness. What, then, can be done to lessen the evil?

### PREVENTION.

It is much more easy to prevent an evil than to cure, or eradicate it. Who can stay the ravages of the "White Plague"; who stop the progress of typhoid, malaria, or yellow fever? The only hope is in preventing them. So with blindness. Well, how?

Let us consider some of the most prolific causes of blindness. The statistics gathered by the authorities of the State School for the Blind at Raleigh show that of the 404 students enrolled during the biennial period 1910-1912, thirty became blind by accident; seventy-five were born blind (congenital); ninety-three are blind from ophthalmia neonatorum (blindness of the new-born), and ninety-nine from causes not named. The question occurs: Are any of these preventable? Yes; many of them. If parents had kept from their babies sharp-pointed instruments or objects—scissors, knives, pencils, sticks, etc.—and explosives, many of their children would now possess sight. If fewer cousins had married, if fewer congenitally blind persons, the number would have been decreased considerably. And if the eyes of every new-born baby had received proper attention within twenty-four hours after its birth; if they had been thoroughly washed in a solution of boracic acid, and then one drop of a one-per-cent solution of silver nitrate had been put in each eye, at least one-fourth of all these children would now have normal sight.

These latter are the offspring of parents at least one of whom has led an impure life, or has come in contact with some one who has. In this day, then, of germ theories, and germ transmission, would it not be wise that the eyes of every child, however pure and clean may have been the habits of its parents, should receive such care and treatment? Properly treated there can be no danger; neglected, no one knows what may result.

And the treatment will cost not more than ten cents and require only a few moments of time. Is it not worth the time? And yet I wish to throw out one warning, raise one danger signal. Never should a stronger solution of silver nitrate be used than one per cent. And never should a midwife, nurse, nor even a general practitioner undertake to prepare the prophylac-

tic. This has been done by the experts in the profession and can be secured from any well equipped drug store in such quantity and shape as to render a mistake almost impossible. The little ampules contain two small receptacles, each containing eight drops, these ampules being hermetically sealed and the light entirely excluded. They are also dated, so as to insure against age and deterioration, and may be exchanged for new ones, if not used within the prescribed period.

I have not referred in the above to trachoma (granulated lids). This is a most painful and distressing disease of the eye, and there seems to be no known remedy. And it is also very contagious. Only recently an epidemic of trachoma has broken out in certain counties in southwest Virginia, and in West Virginia. At last accounts there were four hundred and fifty cases of this frightful malady. Is there no relief for those thus afflicted? Isolation should be practiced in the most stringent form.

JOHN E. RAY,  
Principal State School for the Blind,  
Raleigh, N. C.

## Woman Confesses Killing Husband; Life Unbearable.

Raleigh, N. C., July 9.—Mrs. Joseph Johnson, of Martin county, who was arrested Tuesday on the charge of killing her husband last Saturday night, while the two and their baby were driving to church near their home, this afternoon confessed to having shot and killed her husband, according to the police. The confession was made in the presence of a newspaper correspondent and Sheriff J. C. Crawford.

"I am going to tell the whole truth about the matter," the authorities say she said. "I killed my husband because he had made my life unbearable for me by constantly accusing me of infidelity." "Saturday afternoon I looked into one of the drawers of his bureau and found a pistol there. Later he said he was going to take me to church and told me to get ready. I wrapped the pistol up in the shawl which was around my baby. As soon as we left home he started talking about me. I stood it until I thought I had rather be dead than alive like I was doing. My husband was slightly stooped shouldered and was leaning forward in the buggy. I held my baby in my left arm, unwrapped the pistol with my right hand, held it close to the side of his head and pulled the trigger. He fell to the road and the horse started running, it being stopped at the church where I stated that someone had shot my husband."

In the course of her alleged confession Mrs. Johnson said she had parted from her husband three times and gone to live with her mother. After each separation, she said, her husband came to her and persuaded her to go back with him. "Several times lately he has said that he would kill me the first time he saw me with any man other than himself. I was afraid he would carry this threat into execution."

Mrs. Johnson stated in her alleged confession that her husband's charges of infidelity were baseless.

## STATE NEWS OF THE WEEK

Items Concerning Events of Interest and Importance Throughout the State.

The Lexington bar has endorsed Chief Justice Walter Clark for the place on the United States Supreme Court bench made vacant by the death of Justice Lurton.

Rowan commissioners will build a workhouse at the county home, where women and boys sent up from the Superior Court can be detained. The building will be of brick and modern in all respects.

The president of the North and South Carolina Hardware Dealers' Association, in his address to the members at the meeting in Raleigh this week, stated that all members of the association reported prosperous times in their communities.

Hail storms last week in Surry, Catawba, Iredell and Gaston counties did great damage to growing crops. In places the hail was the most severe ever known and in all probability more ice fell in the State than ever fell on a summer day since records have been kept.

At a meeting of the Buncombe County Democratic executive committee held in Asheville last Wednesday strong resolutions were adopted placing the Democrats of that county on record as favoring the proposed amendments to the State Constitution and a legalized primary for all political parties.

State Commissioner of Insurance James R. Young announces the appointment of S. Sherwood Brockwell of Raleigh as a deputy commissioner of insurance to give his attention especially to the inspection and training of the fire-fighting organizations of the various cities and towns in the State. His work for the State is to begin August 1.

Rowan county commissioners have decided to maintain the old court house as a social center. The building will contain a public county library, rooms for the farm demonstration work, rest rooms, toilet rooms, rooms for other general use of the people of the whole county and an auditorium. It will be the only place of its kind in the State.

The stockholders of the North Carolina Railroad met at Greensboro last Thursday and elected the following directors: W. H. Wood, W. T. Brown, J. Q. Gilkey, J. M. Allum, J. D. Yount, C. S. Tomlinson, L. Banks Holt, J. E. Curray, Bennehan Cameron, Alex Webb, and Hugh MacRae. Old officers were reelected, including W. H. Wood, president, J. P. Cook, secretary-treasurer, P. M. Pearsall, attorney. Reports of officers show the affairs of the company to be in good shape.

## Picnic Last Saturday.

Carson's Chapel Sunday School had a most delightful picnic at the river bridge near J. L. Morgan's place last Saturday. Practically all the members of the Sunday school were present and all seemed to enjoy the occasion. A bountiful dinner prepared by the good ladies was served. During the afternoon ice cream and cantaloupes were served, through the generosity of G. W. Chapman, for which the school desires to express thanks.