

MARION PROGRESS

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

ESTABLISHED 1896.

MARION, N. C., THURSDAY, DEC. 10, 1914.

VOL. XIX—NO. 15

YOUTH KILLED BY TRAIN

Alvin Nichols Killed by Freight Train at C. C. & O. Junction Sunday Afternoon.

One of the saddest funerals ever witnessed in Marion was that of Alvin Nichols, the sixteen-year-old son of Mrs. J. A. Finley, which took place from the residence of his mother on Court street Monday afternoon. It was sad because it robbed a mother of a faithful son; it was sad because it took away from the young people of the town one of their favorites; it was sad because the town and the community has lost a worthy young man who gave every promise of becoming a leader; it was especially sad because so unexpected. Within a moment he was snatched from the presence of his playmates, without a word of warning.

Sunday morning he observed the day as usual by attending Sunday School and church, and in the afternoon he went out to the C. C. & O. station to visit his brother Robert, who holds a position with the C. C. & O. Railway company. While there he heard of the wash-out at the end of the tunnel opposite the station, and in company with others he went down through the tunnel to see the place where the track was damaged. When the track had been cleared, a freight passed, and in attempting to board it to go back to the station, he slipped in some way and fell under the wheels. His body was found in the mouth of the tunnel, entirely crushed and torn to pieces. Quickly the news spread, and many people gathered on Main street to await the coming of the body, hoping against hope that some spark of life might have been left. However, death must have been instantaneous.

At home Alvin was almost an ideal son, ever striving to give some fit expression of his great love for his mother. Her slightest wish was his command, and his daily life was an example of a devoted son. The development of these qualities appeared in his daily conduct at school, where he was one of the favorites of all the pupils and the teachers. Of a most pleasing disposition, he seemed to study how to please those in authority over him, and no one of his school mates ever laid a complaint against him. He was president of the senior class. In the community men of all trades and professions frequently complimented him upon his manly ways and his uniform good behavior.

The heartfelt sympathy of the whole town goes out to the grief-stricken mother and the whole family in their great and sudden loss.

Loman Nichols, a brother, who is living in Los Angeles, Calif., did not attend the funeral, it being impossible on account of the distance. His cousins, John Nichols, of Raleigh, and Miss Estelle Nichols, of Asheville, together with other relatives of the family were present for the exercises.

Rev. W. H. Moore, pastor of the Baptist Church, conducted the services. The floral offerings were beautiful, and their number attested the high esteem in which he was held by a great number of friends.

EDUCATIONAL COLUMN

Maud Barnard, Editor.

Cotton Mill School.

The Thanksgiving program given at the cotton mill school was a decided success. A number of interesting drills, songs and recitations were given by the children. After the exercises the children's work for the past month was exhibited. About fifteen mothers were present. The next Mothers' Day program will be given some time before Christmas.

To the Teachers.

Please try to send as many of your school boys as possible to Marion next Wednesday, December 16, to take part in the horse-back parade of the Corn Club. We want all of the old members and as many new members as possible enrolled before January 1914. If any of your boys wish to join and can't come please send their names in right away.

Letter From Mr. Browne to Corn Club Members.

The following letter from T. E. Browne of Raleigh, assistant in charge of the Boys' Corn Clubs, has gone out to McDowell county boys:

"My dear Corn Club Member:

"We are planning to have a great parade and Corn Club 'Round-Up' at Marion, Wednesday, December 16th, and we have secured Mr. I. W. Hill of Washington, D. C., to speak for us. Mr. Hill is very much interested in you boys and will be glad to meet you personally. We want every boy in McDowell county to come to Marion on December 16th and bring ten ears of corn, the best corn you can select from your pile. This corn is to be judged and will count 20% on your final report. Be sure to bring the corn and your final report to the meeting, if you have not already sent in your report.

"We want to have a horse-back parade of the boys on that day and show Mr. Hill what McDowell county can do. Get as many of the people of your community to attend this meeting as you can. There will be no free lunch provided, so each boy must bring his lunch. Miss Barnard will also notify you of this meeting.

"Hoping to see you in Marion, I am,

"yours very truly,
"T. E. BROWNE."

"The Million Dollar Mystery."

The first installment of that famous story, "The Million Dollar Mystery," appears in this issue of The Progress. The first episode of this story will also be shown at The Grand Theatre Thursday, matinee and night. The matinee today is free to everybody, tonight ladies only admitted free. Love, romance and adventure have been combined by the author in a most pleasing manner and as the story progresses a startling mystery is unraveled. Read the story. See the pictures tonight.

If you will subscribe to The Progress or renew your subscription, we will include three standard magazines, all one year, for only 25 cents extra.

NEW OFFICERS SWORN IN

County Commissioners Organized Monday with Mr. Conley as Chairman—Jury List.

The county officers began their new terms of office Monday. The county commissioners met at 10 o'clock and organized by electing Geo. C. Conley chairman and W. M. McNairy attorney. In addition to the regular monthly routine business, there was the swearing in of new county officers for the ensuing term, the hearing of reports, the accepting and filing of bonds, the drawing of juries for the January term of court and numerous other matters of business to be attended to.

Prior to the convening of the board Clerk of the Court Thomas Morris administered the oath of office to the three commissioners elected in November, namely Geo. C. Conley, Miles P. Flack and W. H. Taylor. Mr. Conley has served on the board before and it seemed quite natural to see him at the commissioners' table again after a lapse of several years.

Other officers were sworn in as follows, each tendering the required amount of bond and the same being accepted and filed: Surveyor, Geo. M. Bird; Register of Deeds, R. L. C. Gibson; Clerk of the Court, Thomas Morris; Sheriff, J. A. Laughbridge; Treasurer, W. H. Hawkins; Coroner, James Gibson. Several magistrates and constables also were sworn in by Clerk Morris.

Jurors for the January term of court were drawn as follows:

First Week—J. W. Mashburn, G. B. Woody, W. C. Stroud, C. L. Dellinger, C. R. Wilkerson, R. L. Bowman, H. A. Gibbs, W. B. Rumpf, S. F. Walker, J. P. Ward, John M. Parker, Grant Harris, J. I. Banning, W. L. Davis, S. C. Jimison, J. C. Conley, L. T. Walker, A. E. Hollifield.

Second Week—J. B. Bridges, Geo. W. Earley, C. W. Krause, D. M. Denney, W. T. Moss, Geo. W. Young, W. J. Bowman, W. S. Burgin, J. D. Hogan, T. B. Ledbetter, W. L. Morgan, S. A. Hensley, F. M. Harris, R. M. Pendergrass, A. W. Gilliam, J. Ledbetter, J. D. Mashburn and W. S. Parker.

U. D. C. Officers Elected.

The McDowell Chapter U. D. C. held its regular monthly meeting at the home of J. Q. Gilkey on Monday, December 7. This being the time for the election of officers no program was rendered. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Mrs. J. W. Pless; first vice-president, Mrs. J. Q. Gilkey; second vice-president, Mrs. G. S. Kirby; secretary, Mrs. D. E. Hudgins; historian, Mrs. J. L. C. Bird; registrar, Mrs. W. N. Neal.

The next meeting will be held with Mrs. G. S. Kirby.

Germans Occupy Lodz.

London, Dec. 7.—After a long battle fought with the greatest stubbornness the Germans have succeeded in occupying Lodz, Poland, an unfortified city. According to the Berlin report the Russians suffered severe losses and are in retreat.

Miss Merrell Becomes Bride of Rev. Wm. H. Moore.

A pretty home wedding was solemnized Wednesday evening, December 2, at 8:30 o'clock at the residence of the bride's mother, Mrs. Henriette Paxton Keeter, when Miss Baxter Adeline Merrell was married to Mr. William Herbert Moore.

The event was a quiet affair and relatives and a few intimate friends witnessed the ceremony. The home was prettily decorated with cut flowers and ferns.

The bridal party entered as Miss Nell Blanton played Mendelssohn's wedding march. First came Miss Eva Keeter, sister of the bride, with Mr. Lester Morris. The bride, unattended, wearing a blue going-away gown and carrying a bouquet of bride roses, entered next. She was met at the parlor door by the groom and they marched to the altar, where the vows were spoken, the beautiful ring ceremony being used. Rev. J. C. Story, pastor of the Presbyterian church, officiated. Immediately following the ceremony the guests were taken to the hall, where Misses Hallie Gibbs and Maud Barnard served punch. The many handsome presents of silver, cut glass, linen and china were displayed in the sitting room. The groom's gift to the bride was a beautiful lavalier of diamonds, onyx and pearls.

Owing to the recent illness of Miss Merrell the wedding journey was postponed and Mr. and Mrs. Moore are now at home on Court street, Marion.

Taylor-Pendergrass.

Of interest to friends in this county will be the following from the Journal and Tribune, Knoxville, Tenn., 26th:

"Engraved cards bearing this formula have been issued: Mr. and Mrs. M. Grayson Pendergrass announce the marriage of their daughter, Mary Louise, to Mr. Robert David Taylor, Tuesday, November the twenty-fourth, nineteen fourteen, First Baptist Church Knoxville, Tenn. At home after December tenth, 1704 Jefferson Ave, Park City, Knoxville, Tenn.

"Mrs. Taylor is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. M. G. Pendergrass, of Old Fort, N. C., but has been a resident of Knoxville for some time and she has a wide acquaintance and a great number of friends here. "Mr. Taylor is the son of Gen. James P. Taylor, of Washington county, and the nephew of the late Senator Robert L. Taylor. He is an attorney of Knoxville."

Knights of Pythias Elect Officers.

Mt. Ida Lodge No. 58, Knights of Pythias, elected officers last Thursday night for the ensuing term as follows: Chancellor Commander, H. H. Tatt; vice-chancellor, E. B. Baber; prelate, B. P. Davis; keeper of records and seal, J. F. Conniffe; master at work, G. W. Earley; master of finance, William Sweeney; master of exchequer, I. W. Saunders; master at arms, E. P. Foy; inner guard, A. U. Wall; outer guard, W. W. McConnell. These officers will be installed the first Thursday night in January.

The short and final session of the 63rd Congress convened at noon Monday.

STATE NEWS OF THE WEEK

Items Concerning Events of Interest and Importance Throughout the State.

J. E. Hill of Duplin county is said to have raised 128 bushels of corn on one acre at a cost of little 11 cents per bushel.

The Landmark says that counterfeit silver dollars and Buffalo nickels have made their appearance recently in Statesville.

Durham has decided on the business manager form of government and a fight is being made for a commission form in Asheville.

C. H. Mebane, editor of the Newton News, has been elected judge of the Catawba county court to succeed Oscar Sherrill, resigned.

Asheville is considering the adoption of the commission form of government. Several civic and business organizations at a joint meeting held last week decided to take the matter up and push it vigorously.

The United States Supreme Court has refused to issue a writ to review the case of Leo M. Frank's conviction of the murder of Mary Phagan, an Atlanta factory girl. The only hope for Frank now is in the Governor of Georgia.

Chief Justice Walter Clark became suddenly ill, from acute indigestion, it is said, while in the bathroom of his home in Raleigh Friday night and was found unconscious by his son. His condition was very much improved next day and he is expected to be on duty this week.

At the session of the North Carolina Literary and Historical Association at Raleigh Wednesday night a bronze tablet to the memory of Sidney Porter, known in the literary world as O. Henry, was presented to the State. Henry was a native North Carolinian, having been born in Greensboro. Dr. C. Alphonso Smith, of the University of Virginia, delivered a superb address on the life and work of the author, who was the speaker's playfellow at Greensboro in boyhood. Dr. Archibald Henderson, of the State University, made the presentation speech. It was accepted by Governor Craig.

NOTICE!

Notice is hereby given that application will be made to the next General Assembly to amend the charter of the town of Marion.

This Dec. 8th, 1914.
J. W. STREETMAN, Mayor.

Notice—Re-Sale of Land.

North Carolina, Superior Court, McDowell County, Before the Clerk. By virtue of a judgment of the Superior Court of McDowell County in the Special Proceedings entitled Robert S. Curtis and others vs. Katherine Curtis-Crawley and husband, D. S. Crawley, an advanced bid of 10% having been placed upon the price bid at a former sale, the undersigned will sell to the highest bidder, for cash, on Wednesday, December 23rd, 1914, at the court house door in McDowell County, the following described land:

Beginning on a large pine in a flat on the east side of John Beaver's old place supposed to be Beaver's northeast corner and running south 60 poles to a stake; thence east 62 poles to a stake; thence north crossing the Mill creek with the line of the Martin place 130 poles to a stake, John Morris line; thence west with his line 80 poles to a pine, his corner; thence north 40 poles to a stake; thence west 74 poles to a stake; thence south 100 poles to a stake on Beavers' line; thence east 92 poles with said line to the beginning, and known as the Jason Curtis lands, containing 200 acres, more or less.

This 8th day of December, 1914.
W. T. MORGAN, Commissioner.