

MARION PROGRESS

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

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NEWS FROM THE COUNTY

Brief Mention of Some of the Happenings in McDowell County—Items About Home People.

BRIDGEWATER

Bridgewater, June 1.—Miss Pink Tate was the guest of Miss Ada Conley near Marion last week. Miss Cecelia Ballew left Saturday for Burnsville, where she will spend several weeks with relatives and friends. She was accompanied by her aunt, Mrs. R. L. Riddle, of Marion Junction.

Miss Belle Bright of Connelly Springs is visiting friends here.

John Tate and family of Marion spent last week here with relatives.

Miss Jennie Hunter is visiting at Glenwood this week.

J. W. Ballew of Haysi, Va., spent the week-end here with his family.

Ben Martin and family spent last week in Marion.

Miss Lucy Alexander of Hildebran is visiting relatives here.

Miss Gladys Atwell of Marion was the guest of Miss Norah Ballew, Sunday.

Homer Beaman of Marion was here on business one day this week.

Miss Ruth Martin is spending the week with her aunt at Sevier.

Miss Cleone Ballew is visiting at Marion Junction.

There will be quarterly meeting at Snow Hill Methodist church Saturday and Sunday, June 5 and 6. Also service at the Presbyterian church Sunday at 11 o'clock.

DYSARTVILLE

Dysartsville, June 1.—Last Saturday the people of this place met and cleaned off the Methodist cemetery nicely. Memorial Day services were held Sunday and an abundance of flowers were placed on the graves. Addresses were made in the forenoon by Rev. J. C. Richardson and Rev. Mr. Beaty, of Rutherford county. A bountiful basket dinner was served which was enjoyed by the entire congregation. Mr. J. F. Parker made an interesting talk in the afternoon. The choir, led by L. G. Price, rendered good music and the services were much enjoyed.

Miss Ethel Cowan has returned home from the Normal and Industrial College at Asheville.

Crawford Landis of Buck Creek is visiting his parents here.

Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Hicks and Chance White and family of Harmony Grove attended the Memorial services here Sunday.

Zay Walker gave a birthday dinner Sunday, the 30th. Over one hundred guests were present. Rev. Mr. Hull preached a splendid sermon and Walker brothers pleased all by singing several selections. There was an abundance of every thing good to eat.

J. S. Upton has returned to his work in Spencer after some time here with homefolks.

SUNNYVALE

Sunnyvale, May, 29.—It is still raining and farmers are getting behind with their work.

Roscoe Westall of Celo is visiting W. H. Simmons.

Ephriam Haynes had the misfortune to cut his foot last week, inflicting a painful wound.

Mrs. N. A. Padgett is very ill with rheumatism.

J. P. Padgett was in Marion last week. It is nearly time for school to begin.

An effort will be made to put in better seats in the school room this year and improve conditions about the school house.

There will be services at the Sunnyvale baptist church next Saturday and Sunday.

HANKINS.

Hankins, May 31.—Miss Effie Burnett of Sugar Hill, spent last week here with relatives and friends.

Mr and Mrs S. W. Cannon spent Saturday in Marion.

Miss Jane McNeely spent Sunday with Mrs Robert Barnes.

Little James Brinkley has been on the sick list for several days.

H. M. Bigelow of Ky., is here on a visit.

Robt Burgin Jr., of Marion spent Sunday here.

Misses Daisey and Gertie Barnes visited friends in Marion Sunday.

Mr and Mrs Vance Alford, of Sugar Hill, spent Saturday and Sunday here with relatives.

EDUCATIONAL COLUMN

Maud Barnard, Editor.

The attention of the teachers is called to the interesting article in this issue of The Progress on "The Peace of Ghent," by Dr. Calvin S. Blackwell, of Norfolk, Va., who recently conducted a meeting at the Baptist church here.

Nebo Study Club.

The Nebo Study club met Friday eve between the hours of 4 and 6. The program was enjoyed, especially the "History of the Locust." One new member was taken in, Miss Estelle Wilson. The following program was made out for next meeting, Friday June 4th: Daily Schedule. Games for social entertainment. Short Story by each member. Outlines for teaching agriculture. Songs and games.

ESSIE HEMPHILL, Sec.

Marion Study Club.

The fourth meeting of the Marion Study Club was held last Thursday afternoon. Another new member was added to our number, Miss Lurline Hicks, who we feel will be a help to us in our meetings. The Sunday School work of teachers was thoroughly discussed, some of the teachers giving their experience as workers in the Sunday School. Every teacher, as a community worker, finds it her duty and it should be her pleasure, to put forth her best efforts to keep the Sunday School moving onward. It not only helps her on Sunday but in her every day school work. Pictures for school room decoration were planned, it being decided that every picture have a story. The interesting story of "Number Seven Flanagan" was given by Miss Barnard.

All teachers are invited to join us every Thursday afternoon, at Supt. Giles' office. The program for Thursday follows: History Story, by Miss Mamie Lusk. Teaching Hygiene in Primary Grades. Story Telling, Misses Effie Hicks, Vera Corpening and Rosa Houck. "Study Corn Lady." Daily schedules for different school work, Misses Lurline Hicks, Blanche Houck and Grace Lusk. Outdoor Games.

ROSA HOUCK, Sec.

Begin to get ready now for the McDowell County fair, October 14, 15 and 16, the big event of the season.

GERMANY REFUSES FINAL DECISION

WITHHOLDS HER INTENTIONS UNTIL UNITED STATES REPLIES TO HER NOTE.

ACTING IN SELF-DEFENSE

Reasons For Sinking Lusitania and Other Ships.—Tone of Reply is Friendly Throughout.

Berlin.—Germany withholds its final decision on the demands advanced by the United States Government in connection with the sinking of the Lusitania, until the receipt of an answer from the United States, to the note which Herr von Jagow, the Foreign Minister, has delivered to Ambassador Gerard in reply to the American note received by the German Government on May 15.

In its reply the German Government declares that it is not its intention to submit neutral ships in the war zone, which are guilty of no hostile acts, to attacks by submarine or aeroplanes, that it is investigating the circumstances in connection with the attacks on the American steamers Cushing and Gulfight and that in all cases where neutral vessels, through no fault of their own have been damaged, Germany will pay indemnification.

The reply urges that in the case of the Lusitania, which Germany alleges, was armed and carried large stores of war munitions "it acted in justified self-defense in seeking with all the means of warfare at its disposition to protect the lives of its soldiers by destroying ammunition intended for the enemy."

The German Government recalls the proposals submitted by the United States Government to Berlin and London, designed to end the submarine warfare and the shutting out of food supplies from Germany which, it declares, failed of their purpose because of the refusal of the British Government to agree to them.

Text of Note.

The following is the text of the German note:

"The undersigned has the honor to submit to Ambassador Gerard, the following answer to the communication of May 15, regarding the injury to American interests through German submarine warfare.

"The Imperial Government has subjected the communication of the American Government to a thorough investigation. It entertains also a keen wish to co-operate in a frank and friendly way in clearing up a possible misunderstanding which may have arisen in the relations between the two Governments through the events mentioned by the American Government.

"Regarding, firstly, the case of the American steamers Cushing and Gulfight. The American Embassy has already been informed that the German Government has no intention of submitting neutral ships in the war zone, which are guilty of no hostile acts, to attack by a submarine or submarines or aviators. On the contrary, the German forces have repeatedly been instructed most specifically to avoid attacks on such ships.

Isolated Cases.

"If neutral ships in recent months have suffered through the German submarine warfare, owing to mistakes in identification, it is a question only of quite isolated and exceptional cases, which can be attributed to the British Government's abuse of flags, together with the suspicious or culpable behavior of the masters of the ships.

"The German Government in all cases in which it has been shown by its investigations that a neutral ship, not itself at fault, was damaged by German submarines or aviators, has expressed regret over the unfortunate accident and, if justified by conditions, has offered indemnification.

Cushing and Gulfight.

"The cases of the Cushing and Gulfight will be treated on the same principles. An investigation of both cases is in progress, the result of which will presently be communicated to the

Embassy. The investigation can, if necessary, be supplemented by an international call on the international commission of inquiry as provided by Article III of The Hague agreement of October 18, 1907.

Sinking of Falaba.

"When sinking the British steamer Falaba the commander of the German submarine had the intention of allowing the passengers and crew a full opportunity to escape. Only when the master did not obey the order to heave-to, but fled and summoned help by rocket signals, did the German commander order the crew and passengers by signals and megaphone to leave the ship within 10 minutes. He actually allowed them 23 minutes time and fired the torpedo only when suspicious craft were hastening to the assistance of the Falaba.

Lusitania Disaster.

"Regarding the loss of life by the sinking of the British passenger steamer Lusitania, the German Government has already expressed its keen regret that citizens of their state lost their lives.

"On this occasion the Imperial Government, however, cannot escape the impression that certain important facts having a direct bearing on the sinking of the Lusitania may have escaped the attention of the American Government.

An Auxiliary Cruiser.

"In the interest of a clear and complete understanding which is the aim of both Governments, the Imperial Government considers it first, necessary to convince itself that the information accessible to both Governments about the facts of the case is complete and in accord. The Government of the United States proceeds on the assumption that the Lusitania could be regarded as an ordinary unarmed merchantman. The Imperial Government allows itself in this connection to point out that the Lusitania was one of the largest and fastest British merchant ships, built with Government funds as an auxiliary cruiser and carried expressly as such in the 'Navy list' issued by the British Admiralty.

"It is further known to the Imperial Government, from trustworthy reports from its agents and neutral passengers, that for a considerable time practically all the more valuable British merchantmen have been equipped with cannon and ammunition and other weapons and manned with persons who have been specially trained in serving guns. The Lusitania, too, according to information received here had cannon aboard which were mounted and concealed below decks.

Prizes for Ramming.

"The Imperial Government further has the honor to direct the particular attention of the American Government to the fact that the British admiralty in a confidential instruction, issued in February, 1915, recommended its mercantile shipping not only to seek protection under neutral flags and distinguishing marks, but also, while thus disguised to attack German submarines by ramming. As a special incitation to merchantmen to destroy submarines the British government also offered high prizes and has already paid such rewards.

"The Imperial government in view of these facts, indubitably known to it, is unable to regard British merchantmen in the zone of naval operations specified by the admiralty staff of the German navy as 'undefended.' German commanders consequently are no longer able to observe the customary regulations of the prize law, which they before always followed.

Carrier War Material.

"Finally the Imperial government must point out particularly that the Lusitania on its last trip, as on earlier occasions, carried Canadian troops and war material, including no less than 5,400 cases of ammunition intended for the destruction of the brave German soldiers who are fulfilling their duty with self-sacrifice and devotion in the fatherland's service.

"The German government believes it was acting in justified self-defense in seeking with all the means of warfare at its disposition to protect the lives of its soldiers by destroying ammunition intended for the enemy.

"The British shipping company must have been aware of the danger to which the passengers aboard the Lusitania were exposed under these conditions. The company in embarking them, notwithstanding this at

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STATE NEWS OF THE WEEK

Items Concerning Events of Interest and Importance Throughout the State.

The condition of E. Carl Duncan, who was seriously ill in New York, is improved.

Ex-Gov. Jarvis, who has been seriously ill at his home at Greenville for several weeks, is reported improved.

Congressman Britt of this district is preparing a bill to establish a fish hatchery in western North Carolina to stock fresh water streams with trout, etc.

J. A. Porter of Asheville, who owns considerable property, has been placed under bond to explain about the operation of a distillery on his land; and the operation of the distillery must also answer.

Arrangements have been completed to begin work this week on the new sewerage system for Old Fort. The work of construction will be pushed to completion very rapidly.

Announcement of the engagement of Miss Margaret Merriweather and Mr. R. R. Williams of Asheville has been made. Mr. Williams is a Catawba man, a son of Editor Williams of the Newton Enterprise.

A verdict of not guilty was returned by the jury last Friday in Buncombe Superior court at Asheville in the case against Walter Bryant, charged with the murder of Henry Ingle several weeks ago near Ridgecrest.

Rev. W. S. Wilson, for several years pastor of the First Presbyterian church of Mooresville, has been called to the pastorate of the Presbyterian church at Lincolnton. The Lincolnton pastorate recently became vacant by the resignation of W. R. Minter, who accepted a call to Texas.

Terpentine for the Blight.

A friend tells us that the apple tree blight, that seems to be quite prevalent this season, can be stopped by simply opening about three little places in the bark of the tree, at different points about the tree on opposite sides and dropping into these three drops of terpentine. In other words, vaccinate the trees with terpentine at three places, using three drops of terpentine in each place. This is simple and is said to have stopped the blight in some instances. It will not cure the twigs already blighted, of course, but it is said to stop the ravages of the disease.—Lenoir News.

Rural Carrier Examination.

The U. S. Civil Service Commission has announced an examination for this county, to be held at Nebo on the 26th of June, to fill the position of rural carrier at Nebo and vacancies that may later occur on rural routes from other post-offices in the county. The examination will be open only to male citizens actually domiciled in the territory of a postoffice in McDowell county and who meet the other requirements set forth in Form No. 1977. This form and application blanks may be obtained from the postmaster at Nebo.