

MARION PROGRESS

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

ESTABLISHED 1896.

MARION, N. C., THURSDAY, JUNE 10, 1915.

VOL. XIX—NO. 41

ARREST OF MR. WILLIAMS

Defendant Held for Trial at Fort Smith, Arkansas, This Month—Gives Bond.

Asheville Citizen, 4th.

In the capture of S. L. Williams, at Greenlee, yesterday, officers of the United States marshal's office brought to a close a long and systematic search which has been conducted for him, Williams being wanted at Fort Smith, Arkansas, to answer to a charge of participating in a conspiracy which is said to have defrauded the United States government of approximately \$100,000. He was required to furnish bond in the sum of \$5,000 to guarantee his appearance at Fort Smith June 15, to answer the charge which has been preferred against him at the June term of the United States District court there.

Williams was arrested by Deputy M. D. Justice, near the home of the defendant's father, and furnished bond upon short notice.

According to Marshall Webb, Williams is charged with the crime jointly with John L. Casper and Internal Revenue Agent Booth Knox. The government alleges, it is understood, that through the co-operation of certain officers of the government, distillers in the Fort Smith community were permitted to manufacture great quantities of whiskey upon which no tax was paid, the distillers paying one or more officers a handsome sum each month for this privilege. It is charged that Williams was interested in the scheme and was one of the active participants.

A warrant was issued for Williams sometime ago and was received at the marshal's office here. A few days ago, it is said, Deputy Justice went to Greenlee with the belief that Williams was there, but learned that the defendant had left. However, he is said to have returned yesterday, and the officer made the arrest with but little trouble.

Fatal Results of "Unloaded" Gun.

A sad accident occurred on Pepper's Creek, North Cove township, last Wednesday when the 11-year-old son of Sam McKinney shot his little four-year-old brother. He was playing with the gun, he says, when it was accidentally fired, with the result that his little brother was shot in the back of the head and instantly killed. The parents were away from home when the accident occurred.

A similar accident occurred at Vein Mountain last Thursday when Turner Radford, aged 10, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Radford, killed his little seven-year-old brother. The boys were sent to the house on an errand by their parents who were at work a short distance away, and while at home Turner got down the gun—not loaded because it had been snapped at other time without firing. However, when he pulled the trigger this time the gun fired, and with fatal result. Willis, the younger brother, a short distance away, was shot in the back of the head and instantly killed.

The Grand Theatre will be given over to the local chapter U. D. C. next Thursday night when an interesting program will be given and refreshments will be served. The proceeds will go to purchase crosses for veterans.

Marriage of Miss Hallie Gibbs is Announced.

Tuesday afternoon at four o'clock the hospitable country home of Mr. T. J. Gibbs was the scene of a very delightful gathering, when his daughter, Miss Pearle, who has just graduated from Virginia Intermont College, Bristol, entertained a number of her friends for her sister, Miss Hallie Gibbs. While Miss Hannah Gibbs played the "Bridal Chorus" from Lohengrin, score cards were distributed, daintily decorated with cupids and bearing the following interesting announcement: "Miss Gibbs—Mr. Tyler, June 30, 1915."

Miss Gibbs is the eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Gibbs. She is a very bright and attractive young woman and is deservedly popular among a host of friends. After congratulations a game of Hearts was enjoyed. Refreshments in two courses were served, Mrs. Gibbs being assisted by Mrs. J. L. Morgan and Mrs. W. P. Craig. Music rendered by Misses Pearle Gibbs and Julia Burton was much enjoyed. The guests were: Misses Martha Whitten, Joyce Decker, Martha Decker, Ellen and Ethel Crawford, Annie Laurie and Nelle Blanton, Marguerite and Elsie House, Annie Little, Gladys Goodson, Moffitte Sinclair, Eva Keeter, Mary Gordon Greenlee, Jennie Davis, Julia Burton, Mrs. W. H. Moore, Mrs. J. H. L. Miller and Mrs. Ben Price.

Church Sociable.

On Friday, June 4th, the members of the Presbyterian church enjoyed a most delightful evening at the home of Mr. and Mrs. I. C. Griffin, the occasion being a Church Sociable.

This hospitable home was more than usually attractive, the piazza and lawn being hung with Japanese lanterns, and the interior tastefully decorated with red roses and feathery trailing vines. In the rear hall Punch was served by Mrs. John Hopper and Miss Mary Gordon Greenlee. An Advertisement "Guessing Contest" was entered into with much interest. The musical program arranged was a special feature of the entertainment. Miss Julia Burton, a pianist of acknowledged ability, rendered two solos, there were duets by Misses Eurine and Lois Gilkey, Mrs. Reid and Miss Edith Laidlaw, and Misses Burton and House.

The company considered themselves fortunate in having with them Mr. F. H. Baker, leader of the Davidson College Orchestra. His violin solos, with Miss Burton as accompanist, were indeed enjoyable. Miss Mary Griffin's reading added another pleasant feature to the program. Her interpretation of the "Negro Mammy" being excellent.

Ice cream and cake were served in the dining-room by Mesdames Burton and Hopper and Misses Ratliffe, Finley and Laidlaw.

There was a good crowd present, every one seemed to have a "good time," and it is the intention of the ladies to continue these affairs from time to time.

Have you been to the Skating Rink? If not, you are missing a lot of fun.

NEWS FROM THE COUNTY

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

WOODLAWN

Woodlawn, June 7.—James Mathis, aged 19, son of Avery Mathis, was killed by the explosion of a dynamite last Thursday morning while working on the public road near here.

Martin Denny and T. T. Wright made a business trip to Marion today.

Mrs. Duncan, aged 82 years, mother of Wm. Duncan, died near Sevier Saturday morning and was buried at Hick's church.

Robert Brinkley has returned to Welch, W. Va., to take a position.

Jas. C. Goforth went to Nebo and Marion Sunday to visit relatives.

Crops are looking fine in this section of the county, but on account of so much rain farmers are getting behind with their work.

Misses Mary Greene and Anna Brinkley have gone to Boone to attend the summer school for teachers.

J. B. Ward has been on the sick list, but is better.

We all ought to stand by our county paper; it is getting better all the while.

CHAPEL HILL

Chapel Hill, June 5.—Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Swann of Spruce Pine visited friends and relatives here during the week.

Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Poteet of Lawn Dale spent the week here with the former's parents.

Mrs. W. B. Randolph of Marion, Va., was called home during the week by the death of her mother.

Albert Poteet has returned to Asheville.

Mrs. G. P. Poteet died at her home here May 31st, after an illness of several weeks. Mrs. Poteet was 51 years of age and is survived by a husband and thirteen children—nine sons and four daughters. Funeral services were conducted at the residence by Rev. J. C. Story and interment was made in Chapel Hill graveyard. Mrs. Poteet was a member of the Baptist church and a faithful christian. The bereaved family have our heartfelt sympathy.

The Cove.

W. R. Bailey, Farm Demonstrator.

There are coves and coves but this is about North Cove. Here are some of the best land in the county—lands full of great possibilities. Here will soon be found great fields of alfalfa, clover and corn to make silage for fat cattle. And out of the cove will roll many cars of the lowly tuby for here is some wonderful potato soil. J. D. Avery will plant peas and then rye to turn for potatoes next spring. Already he has made some large yields. W. M. McCall has a beautiful field of red clover and is determined to use cheap lime and phosphate to get more of it.

C. F. Spencer will join the alfalfa club and give us a lead on this valuable plant. He, too, has realized his need for a silo and hopes to build this fall.

Farmers in the cove are fortunate in having a lime plant in their midst.

Speaking of soys the following is interesting. The Tennessee Experiment Station found that an acre of corn fed two steers 54 days and made 203 pounds of beef. An acre of cow peas fed two steers 54 days and made 327 pounds of beef. An acre of soy beans fed two steers 80 days and made 540 pounds of beef.

Southern Railway will operate a low round trip fare excursion from Charlotte, Statesville, Hickory Morgnton, Marion and intermediate points to Asheville, N. C., Wednesday, June 16. The round trip fare from Marion is \$1.25.

Big Land Case.

The title to about 10,000 acres of Linville Mountain land was involved in the case of Percy McGeorge vs. The Realty Load & Guaranty Co. of Morganton, on trial before Referee W. D. Turner of Statesville, in Marion last week. Mr. McGeorge claims his title under the old Mockridge grants, dated about 1872. The Morganton Company had the old Tate grants, more than 100 years old, covering this land but hard to locate. It appears from the testimony that an investigation as to the merits of the Mockridge grants was made by John M. Houck, who filed a report in 1889 indicating that the Mockridge grants could not be located, so new grants were taken out by Walter Brem, in 1889, and it is under these grants that the company has been holding the land ever since. It is claimed by the company that the Mockridge grants, which call for stakes at all points and run to the Burke-McDowell county line, were never surveyed and cannot be located, hence are of no force. The plaintiff holds and attempted to show by evidence as to the typographical conditions, that the Mockridge grants fit the ground sought to be held, from Bynum's Bluff on the north to the point on Dobson's Knob where the county line turns down off the mountain. The old Yellow mountain road cuts a large figure in this attempt to locate, as it is claimed that an old county line white oak at that point was also a corner of one of these grants, and the plaintiff's theory is that if one of the grants can be located definitely, all the others can be located, as they call for each other.

The case has been pending for many years and an enormous amount of surveying has been done by both sides in trying to establish their claims. Both claimants have paid taxes on these lands for many years. Many witnesses, mostly surveyors, were examined in regard to these old lines and land marks, making a very interesting case. Able counsel on both sides contended for every point and the Referee will be required to make many rulings as to the admissibility of evidence. The trial occupied nearly five days, and at the conclusion of the evidence an agreement was reached whereby the Referee will hear the arguments of counsel in Marion June 28, after the court reporter, Miss Lizzie Perkins of Morganton, has the testimony transcribed. The plaintiff is represented by S. J. Ervin of Morganton and Pless & Winborne of Marion. The defendant's attorneys are Avery & Ervin of Morganton, W. B. Council of Hickory, W. T. Morgan and D. E. Hudgins of Marion.

K. of P. Officers.

Mt. Ida Lodge No. 58, Knights of Pythias, at their regular meeting last week elected the following officers for the ensuing term: E. B. Baber, chancellor commander; R. L. Gilkey, vice chancellor; E. P. Foy, prelate; J. F. Williams, master of works; A. U. Wall, master at arms; H. H. Tate, inner guard; W. W. McConnell, outer guard.

J. F. Sprague received for repairing this week a watch from Sante Cruz del Monte, Cuba.

STATE NEWS OF THE WEEK

Items Concerning Events of Interest and Importance Throughout the State.

Three townships in Burke county Saturday voted in favor of issuing \$50,000 bonds each to build a railroad from Morganton to Casar, Cleveland county.

Congressman James J. Britt has been notified by the bureau of pensions of the granting of a pension of \$10 per month from May 10, 1813, to William B. Raper of Oak Park, Cherokee county. Mr. Raper served about ten years in the United States army.

Announcement is made by officials of the Southern Railway company to the effect that passenger train No. 21, now running between Goldsboro and Asheville, is to be extended on to Waynesville. This change will become effective on Sunday, June 27. It is also announced that on the same date the chair car service between Raleigh and Asheville on trains 21 and 22 will be restored.

The Clinchfield Mill.

The Mill News, published at Charlotte, in its issue of June 3, contained the following about Marion's new cotton mill—The Clinchfield:

In the finest mountain cotton mill village in the State, near the foot of the Blue Ridge, good railroad facilities to point in any direction, operatives houses of nice construction, three and four-room cottages laid off in a "V" circle through and around a large oak and mountain laurel grove, with plenty of room for the development of parks and play grounds within the circle—these are some of the things here. The mill is of the most modern construction and the best architecture, especially adapted to manufacture of print cloths. The mill contains 26,000 spindles and 600 40-in. Draper looms. The erecting forces are nearly through with carding and spinning. There are about 35 families here, happy and contented and in a few weeks there will be places for as many more.

This organization is headed by D. D. Little of Spartanburg, S. C., president; Hugh F. Little, general superintendent, who is a favorite among his operatives. He is assisted by A. F. Hunt, a big-hearted man and leader in the spiritual affairs of the village. The carder is the ugliest man in town; he is from South Carolina, and is assisted by O. C. Copeland as second hand, formerly of Spartan Mills, S. C. L. M. Summey, of Henrietta, N. C., is roving section man. J. A. Duncan, of Henrietta N. C., is card grinder and looks after the picker room. Joe F. Miller, overseer of spinning, formerly of Saxon Mill, S. C.; James W. Rogers, second hand, formerly of Saxon Mill; Gus Henson, of Saxon, warp section man; D. M. Withers, of Gastonia, filling section man; G. S. Watkins, of Caroleen, spooling and warpers; J. V. Hendricks, master mechanic, assisted by Mr. Hicks, of Caroleen; Lee Gilbert, weaver, has not arrived on the job yet.

A full report of the Marion Township Highway Commission is published in this issue of The Progress, giving itemized statement of receipts and disbursements for a period of two years.