

MARION PROGRESS

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

ESTABLISHED 1896.

MARION, N. C., THURSDAY, AUG. 26, 1915.

VOL. XIX—NO. 52.

"AN EVENING IN DIXIE"

Pleasing and Successful Entertainment Last Friday Night for U. C. and Marion Band.

Despite the inclemency of the weather, quite a crowd gathered at the school auditorium last Friday night to enjoy "An Evening in Dixie," and if the enthusiastic applause was an indication of appreciation the entertainment was a success.

The first number, "The Mocking Bird," sung by twelve little tots, was especially good, each little one singing her best and going through the figures of the march with childish grace.

On account of the bad weather, only two of "the men who fought for us" could be present, but hearty applause greeted Col. William Blanton and Major J. C. Brown.

Miss Elma Carson's impersonation of the "mammy" was perfect. Miss Carson has a sweet, well trained voice, admirably suited to the charming melodies of "war times."

The monument to the women of the Confederacy which was recently unveiled in Raleigh was splendidly carried out in tableau by Mrs. B. B. Price and Master Albert Blanton, the effect of the colored lights making the draped figures appear as chiseled marble. After this scene, Miss Eudene Gilkey, a recent graduate in Expression, read effectively "The Conquered Banner."

The choruses sung by "the men in gray" gathered around a real camp fire "sang out sweetly on the night air" and one could easily imagine that it was genuine "Music of the Rappahannock" to which they listened.

Old time scenes were made wonderfully realistic by having on the stage in pantomime the spinning wheel skillfully manipulated by Mrs. G. R. Masters, cards deftly handled by Mrs. T. A. White and Mrs. Price; knitting, Mrs. M. L. Justice; winding yarn from "blades," Mrs. Bird, while Mrs. J. Q. Gilkey and little daughter, Jeannette, who was clad in genuine war time costume, presented a striking picture as she held a skein of yarn to be wound by her mother.

Six girls attired in homespun with palmetta hats spiritedly sang "The Homespun Dress."

In "The Girl I Left Behind Me" Mrs. Hubert Poteat looked charming and winsome in a handsome silk costume of the sixties, while Mr. Poteat sang in his usual pleasing manner the soldier's parting song.

The last number on the program, "The Southern Cross," was effectively carried out by thirteen young ladies, each representing a state and star on the Confederate flag. Mrs. J. L. C. Bird read "The Bonnie Blue Flag" while Mrs. Pless softly played the air, and as each seceding state was called, the young lady representing that state took her place on the stage, the cross being formed. All were gowned in white Grecian robe with red regalia on which was printed the name of her state in large white letters.

The band boys did well their part and the leader, Mr. W. F. Wood, deserves much credit for the painstaking training of the boys. Each number given by the band was heartily received, and

Miss Julia Burton as accompanist, played in her usual charming style.

Much of the success of the evening was due to the untiring efforts of the president, Mrs. J. W. Pless, and thanks are due to the visiting ladies and gentlemen, among them Mr. and Mrs. Hubert Poteat, Misses Carson, Castex, Dabney, Trogden, Yancey, and Mr. Gordon Ambler, who so willingly helped to make the entertainment a success.

Social Affairs.

Mesdames G. S. Kirby, W. W. Neal and Minnie Blanton entertained at a "42" party Wednesday afternoon from five to seven o'clock at the home of Mrs. G. S. Kirby, in honor of their sister, Mrs. Sam Yancey, of New York City, who has been their charming guest for the past two months. The attractiveness of their home was magnified by the use of great bowls and baskets of sunflowers and hydranges placed in the hall, dining-room and porch where ten tables were arranged for playing this absorbing game. A very tempting salad course was served by Misses Marjorie Kirby and Mary Yancey.

Mrs. Edgar McCall was at home Tuesday afternoon, the 17th, to many friends complimentary to her sister, Mrs. Self, and Miss Eugenia Wilson. Misses Crawford and Blanton served punch on the porch. Mrs. McCall and the honorees received in the hall. Nine tables were placed in the hall, parlor and dining-room where the guests enjoyed the game of "42" for two hours. When the scores were counted Mrs. Ambler, of Winston, held highest score and was awarded a lovely hand-made handkerchief. The hostess, assisted by Mrs. Clifton McCall, served a delicious ice course.

Mrs. J. L. C. Bird entertained at her lovely home "Bird's Nest," Tuesday morning, August 17, in honor of her two charming guests, Mrs. C. A. Lee, of Lincolnton, and Mrs. Sue Hutchinson, of Baltimore. Mrs. Bird and the honorees welcomed the guests and they were invited to the lovely punch bowl, very attractive in its dress of perfect clusters of purple grapes, placed in one corner of the large veranda presided over by Misses Nelle Blanton and Pearle Gibbs. The popular game of "42" was thoroughly enjoyed, eight tables playing for two hours. Mrs. D. E. Hudgins received the consolation and the guests of honor each a box of correspondence paper. A delicious salad course was served by the hostess, assisted by her daughter, Miss Josephine, and Misses Blanton and Gibbs.

Singing Convention.

The Burke County Singing convention convened at Mountain View church August 21-22 with W. P. Patton presiding as president. The two choirs represented, Mountain View and Smyrna, did splendid singing. There was a large attendance on both days, especially on Sunday, and there was plenty of good things to eat. Stirring addresses were made Sunday by Rev. J. S. Gwaltney and W. P. Patton which were enjoyed by all. The time and place of the next convention will be decided upon later by the committee.

NEWS FROM THE COUNTY

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

BRIDGEWATER

Bridgewater, Aug. 24—Mrs. G. P. Coulter is visiting friends at Claremont.

W. Lyerly left last week for Boston and New York where he will spend several days on business.

Miss Cecelia Ballew is the guest of Miss Lou Giles at Gibbs, this week.

Miss Charlotte Anthony went to Grace hospital at Morganton last week where she will take treatment.

Miss Norah Ballew spent the week-end at Fonta Flora with the Misses Moore.

Mrs. Ben Martin entertained a number of young people Friday evening in honor of her sister-in-law, Miss Hattie Martin, of Asheville.

H. H. Mills spent a few days last week with friends at Connelly Springs.

Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Hemphill attended the singing convention at Mountain View last Sunday.

Miss Annie Boyd of Grant Falls spent last week here with homefolks.

A singing school is in progress here at the Presbyterian church this week conducted by Prof. Ferry of Haywood county.

George Hunter left yesterday for Praise, Ky., where he has accepted a position.

Miss Marguerite Anthony spent several days in Marion last week with relatives.

DYSARTVILLE

Dysartville, Aug. 24—Miss Hattie Laughridge and Clyde Smalley, both of this place, were happily married Sunday morning, Esq. W. B. Daves officiating.

Miss Mary Mangum of Morganton is spending a few days here with homefolks.

Key Landis spent last week in Raleigh attending the Boys' Corn Club meeting.

W. L. Duval died this morning after an illness of several weeks.

Misses Allie Scroggins and Ruby James of Marion are visiting at the home of T. B. Landis.

Miss Irene Dysart and her brother, Carrol, of Hickory, are visiting their aunt, Mrs. W. H. Taylor.

Miss Mayo Laughridge of Marion is visiting relatives here.

Frank Upton has entered school at Round Hill.

Mrs. Ransey Daves has returned home from Marion where she has been for medical treatment for some time.

Mrs. James Upton is much improved.

Cronje Laughridge spent several days in Marion last week.

NEBO

Nebo, Aug. 23.—The protracted meeting at the Methodist church closed last Tuesday night, resulting in about seven conversions.

Mrs. J. A. Parish and sister, Blanche Mann, of Greensboro are visiting their brother, Rev. M. V. Mann.

Miss Tracy Sigmon of Chapel Hill and Miss Cheley Sigmon of Ridgecrest spent the week-end with homefolks.

H. H. Hendley and daughter, Myrtle, of Charleston, S. C., were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. G. D. Taylor last week.

Mrs. Matilda Allen and grandson, Ernest Dixon, of Marion visited Mrs. T. W. Alexander several days during last week.

Prof. L. L. Hargrave has moved his family to Nebo and is making preparations for the fall term of school, which begins August 26th.

Mrs. H. D. Blant spent a few days last week with her uncle, Caleb Kincaid, of Bridgewater.

Misses Maggie and Mamie Goforth

spent the week-end with their sister, Mrs. G. D. Taylor.

Miss Essie Hemphill was shopping in Marion one day last week.

Misses Nita and Georgie Sigmon visited relatives and friends in Hickory during the week.

Miss Allie Setzer of Morganton was the guest of Mrs. W. J. Bowman the latter part of last week.

Mrs. G. D. Taylor was shopping in Marion, Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Weaver left last Thursday for Roper, where Mr. Weaver will be principal of the school there. The Nebo people regret the loss of Mr. Weaver, as he has been in Nebo for six years and has done so much for the school here.

Mr. and Mrs. Roland of Cincinnati, Ohio, are the guests of Mrs. John Sigmon this week.

HANKINS.

Hankins, Aug. 23.—Mr. and Mrs. John Tate and children of Marion were visitors at the home of T. B. Conley, Sunday.

Miss Myrtle Brown visited homefolks at Avery Saturday and Sunday.

The school at Hankins is progressing nicely. There will be an ice cream and box supper at the school house Saturday night, August 28. Everybody is invited to attend. The proceeds will go for the benefit of the school.

Leonard Epley left Saturday for Knoxville, Tenn., where he has accepted a position.

Mrs. M. M. Burnett of Chesnee, S. C., is visiting her mother, Mrs. W. W. Morgan.

Misses Maggie and Flossie McNeely visited friends at Carlyle, Sunday.

Miss Delia Gibbs spent the week-end with her parents at Garden City.

Misses Edna and Hessie Whetstille, Messrs. Mills Craig and Lee Morgan spent Saturday in Marion.

Eugene Butt of Bakersville spent the latter part of the week with his grandmother, Mrs. C. McNeely.

C. R. Whetstille has returned home from a visit to friends at Swannanoa.

Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Craig of Marion spent Sunday here with the formers' parents.

Several loaded cars of a freight train were derailed Friday morning above the North Fork bridge on the C. C. & O. railroad. One man was seriously injured.

Friday morning closed a series of meeting at the Baptist church, with several conversions. Rev. Ridenhour assisted Rev. D. P. Loudermilk in the work.

GREENLEE

Greenlee, Aug. 23.—Our school is progressing nicely and several improvements have been made on the school house and grounds.

Misses Elizabeth H. and Elizabeth L. and Elizabeth Allen of Goldsboro are visiting at the home of Mrs. J. D. Blanton.

Miss Texie Buchanan returned Sunday from a two week's visit to friends and relatives in Ellenboro.

Miss Blanche Steppe of Siloam spent Saturday and Sunday with her sister, Mrs. E. M. Tate.

Miss Marie Carson of Marion spent Saturday and Sunday with her grandparents here.

Miss Grace Finley of Marion is visiting relatives and friends at this place.

Miss Mary Lou Moody has returned to her home in Black Mountain after a visit to friends and relatives here.

The revival meeting at the Presbyterian church closed Sunday night.

Fred Moody of Miami, Fla., is visiting relatives here.

There will be an ice cream and box supper at Greenlee school house Saturday evening, August 28. The public is cordially invited. The proceeds will go for the benefit of the school.

We wish to correct the error Prof. Giles made in reporting the scores of the ball game between Old Fort-Siloam Sluggers and Greenlee school boys. It was 6 to 5 in favor of Old Fort-Siloam.

CROOKED CREEK

Old Fort, Route 2, August 18.—Early Wednesday morning a large party of Crooked Creek folks left for a mountain

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STATE NEWS OF THE WEEK

Items Concerning Events of Interest and Importance Throughout the State.

Miss Emily K. Perry, who recently came to North Carolina to work in behalf of woman suffrage, is holding meetings in Asheville—speaking on the streets.

A contract has been awarded the Elliott Building Company of Hickory for the building of the big dam for the Morganton Light & Power Co. across the Catawba river, at a point near Nebo. The contract price is \$110,000.

John Greene was arrested in Boone last week, charged with trying to kill his little stepchild. He is said to have thrown the child against the wall and broken its thigh and to have attempted to poison it with carbolic acid.

Following the killing of his wife, daughter and son on May 1, P. L. Phillips, a well-to-do farmer of Graham county, living five miles from Tipton on the Murphy branch of the Southern Railway, was shot and almost instantly killed yesterday morning, near his home. He was shot from ambush, his assassin making good his escape.

Progress of the War.

The moves on the European war board during the last few days have been fast and brilliant.

The Germans have beaten down with their big 16-inch guns the great Russian fortress of Novogeorgevsk and captured 80,000 prisoners and 700 guns. A naval battle in the harbor of Riga, in the Baltic sea, Russia has gained the most important naval battle of the war. Eleven German war vessels were sunk and the German fleet has withdrawn. In giving up the capture of Riga, a severe blow has fallen on the German plans of striking at Petrograd. One of the ships sunk was the Molke, one of Germany's largest and finest battle cruisers, having a displacement of 23,000 tons. Three other cruisers and seven torpedo boats were lost. The Russians lost three small warships.

The proclamation of Great Britain and the other members of the quadruple entente, making cotton contraband of war is a move on the warboard of such magnitude that its consequences cannot yet be foretold by either party to the war or by the people of the United States.

But the most important event of all is the declaration of war by Italy, on Turkey. For weeks the relations between these two countries have been strained on account of Turkey's refusal to allow Italians to leave Asia Minor. Italy's ultimatum was not answered, and war was declared Saturday.

Will Deposit Gold for Cotton.

Secretary McAdoo announced during the week that in view of the action of the allies in putting cotton on the contraband list he would, if it become necessary, deposit \$30,000,000 or more in gold in the Federal Reserve Banks of Atlanta, Dallas and Richmond for the purpose of enabling the reserve banks to re-discount loans on cotton secured by warehouse receipts made by national banks and State banks belonging to the Federal reserve system.