

MARION PROGRESS

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

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CONCORD PRESBYTERY

Summary of Annual Meeting Held at Old Fort Last Week—Interesting Session.

The regular fall meeting of Concord Presbytery convened in the Presbyterian church at Old Fort Tuesday evening, Sept. 14, with twenty-two ministers and twenty-nine ruling elders in attendance. The opening sermon was by the retiring moderator, Rev. J. C. Story, of Marion. Elder H. I. Woodhouse of the First church of Concord was elected moderator and Elders C. H. Hamilton of Gilwood and Rev. J. C. Grier were elected clerks. The Presbyterian sermon was preached Wednesday morning by Rev. Dr. C. E. Raynal of Statesville.

An overture from Rev. Edgar Tufts asking Presbytery to cede the counties of Caldwell, Burke and McDowell to the new Synod of Appalachia provoked lively discussion, but was almost unanimously voted down. Mr. Tufts' desire was to add these three counties to the four already set off—Yancey, Mitchell, Avery and Watauga—and form a new Presbytery in North Carolina.

An interesting conference on schools and colleges was led by Dr. W. J. Martin of Davidson, chairman of the committee. Rev. Edgar Tufts made an interesting address telling of the wonderful work which is being done by Lees-McRae Institute; Rev. C. E. Raynal spoke very forcibly in the interest of Statesville Female College and Dr. Martin spoke in the interest of Davidson College.

Rev. E. P. Bradley of Mocksville presided over a meeting held in the interest of foreign missions. Several addresses were made.

Rev. J. Harper Brady of Statesville was examined and ordained by the Presbytery as a minister of the Southern Presbyterian church. For the past two summers Mr. Brady has supplied the pastorate of Fifth Creek, Bethesda and Elmwood churches in Iredell county, and the three churches have now called him as their regular pastor. The Marion Presbyterian church was represented by Mr. I. C. Griffin.

It is learned that the next regular meeting of Presbytery may be held in Marion.

Germans Occupy Vilna.

Berlin, Sept. 19.—(Via London)—The Russian city of Vilna, at which the armies of Field Marshal von Hindenburg had been driving and which was stubbornly defended until nearly surrounded by hostile forces, has been occupied by the Germans, it was officially announced by German army headquarters today.

Vilna, a city of some 170,000 inhabitants on the Warsaw-Petrograd railway line, has been the object of a German offensive movement for weeks past in the course of the widespread operations of Field Marshal von Hindenburg on the northern end of the extended battle line in the east.

J. Edgar Poag announces that the auction sale of the Fleming Hotel property will take place next Thursday, Sept. 30.

The Boy Preacher Visits Marion.

Charles Turner, the boy preacher, preached at the Baptist church Saturday evening and Sunday afternoon, at the cotton mill Sunday morning and Monday night, and to the colored folks Sunday night. He was heard by unusually large congregations at all five services. At the Baptist church Saturday evening every available seat was taken, many stood through the service and others left because they could not find standing room.

In many respects the boy's sermons at the Baptist church were good and some who heard him at the cotton mill Monday night say his sermon was equal to that of any evangelist they ever heard. At the latter service fifteen conversions are reported. He reads and quotes Scripture readily and preaches on the style of the professional evangelist. He talks very earnestly. He displays much enthusiasm and, no matter how his training has been acquired, he is a good pulpit speaker. He is indeed a wonderful child.

The father of the boy, Rev. F. M. Turner, who occupies the pulpit with him, declares that the child is divinely inspired; that his power to preach is a direct gift of God. The father, who is an evangelist of the "Holy Baptist Church" of Florida, says Charles was seven years old last November; that he was converted in a meeting conducted by his father in 1913 and began preaching immediately thereafter without any preparation.

At each service conducted by the boy a collection is taken to defray the family expenses. After the service the boy sells pictures of himself to raise funds for his education. Mr. Turner says he will take his son to their home in Orlando, Fla., within a short time to put him back in school.

Fair Attractions.

The McDowell County Fair Association has completed all arrangements for the fifth annual fair, which begins in Marion on October 14th. This promises to be the biggest fair yet held in McDowell county. Agricultural, educational, special and fancy exhibits will be better than ever before. The Catawba Creamery Company of Hickory will have an exhibit of creamery products, and will also do some special work in cream testing and separating. Plans are being made to have a parcel post exhibit placed in order by the United States Post-office Department.

In the amusement line, there will be plenty doing all the while. The King Brothers famous wild west show will exhibit afternoon and night throughout the fair. This attraction carries 26 horses and 21 people and is very probably the best attraction of this sort that has ever been brought to Marion. Other thrilling and exciting attractions have been booked that will furnish clean, wholesome entertainment.

Every man, woman and child should plan to see these exhibits, displays and demonstrations; which so strongly evidence the growth of this great and growing country.

Services at St. John's church next Sunday at 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m.

NEWS FROM THE COUNTY

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

BRIDGEWATER

Bridgewater, Sept. 21.—Mr. and Mrs. Wilfong Tate and little daughter, Virginia, of Hickory are here visiting the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. P. Tate.

R. D. Schoonmaker of New York was the guest of the Misses Ballew last week. Roby-Conley, Harry Hunter and Ben Stacy of Nebo spent Sunday here.

Miss Carrie Tate spent last week in Norfolk, Va. She was accompanied by her brother, John Tate, of Marion.

Born, to Mr. and Mrs. Abner Seals, on the 18th, a daughter.

Miss Kary Tate has accepted a position as milliner with the Misses Davis.

Mrs. John Hopper of Marion spent last week here with her sister, Mrs. Ben Martin.

W. J. Ballew and John Renfro of Marion spent Wednesday here.

Mrs. Herndon Justice and little son, Beverly, have returned to their home in Hickory after spending a few days here with relatives.

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

Miss Lula Kincaid, who is teaching at Table Rock, is home for two weeks.

Miss Katherine Rocket spent Saturday and Sunday with friends at Rutherford College.

Miss Cecelia Ballew and little sister, Kate, spent Monday in Glen Alpine.

Miss Julia Rust left last week for Berea, Ky., where she will enter Berea College.

Mrs. Ben Martin and sister, Mrs. John Hopper, spent the latter part of last week in Asheville.

Born, to Mr. and Mrs. Sam Blackburn, September 21, a daughter.

HARMONY GROVE

Harmony Grove, Sept. 20.—A number of our people attended the baptizing here Sunday. Six persons were baptised.

Luther Eatman of Raleigh was a visitor here last week. He also made a business trip to Marion one day while here.

Miss Cordia Simmons of Raleigh spent last week here with her mother, Mrs. Anna Simmons.

Miss Minnie Lawing, who has been employed at the State hospital in Raleigh, is at home on her vacation.

The farmers are very busy trying to get their fodder sowed as it will soon be time to begin to sow wheat and greater corn.

Mrs. W. J. Snipes, and Miss Mattie Snipes spent the latter part of last week with relatives at Marion and Greenlee.

The members of Harmony Grove Baptist church met last Saturday and elected as their pastor for a year Rev. Fletcher Simmons. Hope how well he may do.

THOMPSON'S FORK

Thompson's Fork, Sept. 20.—Paul Rhyme of Morganton visited relatives and friends here last week.

Hettie Crawley and her sister, Della, of Harmony Grove visited their sister the latter part of last week.

Luther Eatman of Raleigh visited friends here last week.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Janes were in Marion one day last week.

Mrs. Mattie Tate visited relatives at Nebo Sunday.

Debate at Stroudtown.

A public debate will be given by the West Marion Literary Society at Stroudtown school house Tuesday night, Sept. 28. Question: "Resolved, That there is more pleasure found in single than married life." Affirmative, John Pool, Arthur Early, E. K. Hild; negative, Dave Bowman, Clarence Pool and Woody Poteet. There will be no charges for admission and the public is invited to attend.

Boost the fair; in doing so you boost your town and county.

Ice Plant for Marion.

At a recent meeting of the Marion Board of Trade to consider a proposition from outside parties to establish an ice plant it was agreed to reject the offer and to proceed with a canvass for subscriptions to a local stock company to own and operate the plant. It is stated that enough capital is in sight to guarantee the establishment of the plant.

Walter Crocker, editor of the Forest City Free Press, was held up in his office Friday night by two men and robbed of \$23. The suspects have been arrested.

The Interest of The Citizens of All Towns

Is to protect, boost and build up the town. If the citizens are not interested in the progress of their own town how can they expect outsiders to think much of it? If dirt on Main street in the heart of any town is not valuable whose fault is it and what is the matter? If the heart of any thing is unsound or worthless what must we expect of the surface? All towns prosper and grow according to the management and interest the citizens take in them. When property sells well in any town it is considered a live town not only at home but abroad. The talk of outsiders is what counts most. I am trying to impress it on the minds of the citizens of Marion that it is their interest to boost their own town. I expect to sell to the highest bidders soon some of the finest available Main street property in your lovely little city, and it would make me feel good to see its citizens start to boosting your town on this property. Those who buy are bound to receive handsome profits by the enhancements from the fact the town is almost compelled to grow this way. If you don't want all of it see that the part you do want brings a good price. Notice the environments of this fine property. If good company counts then this property should bring big prices. Surely the wealthy neighbors to this nice property are not going to stand up and see it go for a song and let cheap buyers erect cheap shacks that will damage nearby property. The building that stands on this fine property today should be torn down and buildings erected that will be in keeping with the neighborhood. Various kinds of business can be conducted at a profit on this valuable property that will not only be a credit to the town and community but to Western North Carolina. There are plenty of people in Marion who are able to do, all that is necessary is for them to make up their minds that they are going to buy this property and erect structures that will be a credit to them and an ornament to the town. Make a start on this and build something modern and fine. If this property brings a big price, same as it sells for in many other good towns, the entire country would turn their attention to Marion and commence recommending it as a good place for investments.

J. EDGAR POAG, Broker,
Marion, N. C.

"Cuts the earth to suit your taste."

COURT NOW IN SESSION

Convened Here Monday With Judge Harding Presiding—Emory Case Is Set for Trial Thursday.

The September term of McDowell Superior court convened here Monday with Judge W. F. Harding, of Charlotte, presiding and Solicitor Michael Schenck, of Hendersonville, prosecuting on behalf of the State. J. F. Wilson was made foreman of the grand jury with N. C. Jones officer in charge. The court room was filled with citizens who listened closely to the judge's charge. His remarks were plain and pointed and in the course of them he called especial attention to the county jail which was condemned in no uncertain terms by the grand jury of the previous court.

The docket is made up of the usual number of minor cases, several of which have been disposed of. The principal case on the criminal docket is that of the State against E. H. Emory, who is charged with the killing of Clyde Terrell at Old Fort last spring. The sheriff was ordered to summons a venire of 100 men and the trial is set for today. Much interest has been aroused in the case and it is expected that the court room will be crowded throughout the hearings.

EDUCATIONAL COLUMN

Maud Barnard, Editor.

School Rally at Tom's Creek.

The people of Tom's Creek community enjoyed a good old-fashioned school rally last Thursday. In the morning the pupils gave a very delightful program consisting of songs, recitations and plays. Supt. Conley explained the compulsory attendance law and its enforcement, and Miss Barnard spoke for a few minutes on Moonlight schools. Then came one of the bountiful picnic dinners for which this community is noted.

After dinner County Demonstrator Bailey talked on the work of the Boys' Corn Club and the community exhibits for the fair.

The address of the day was delivered by Mr. D. E. Hodgins of Marion. His subject was "Good Books."

The violin and banjo music for the occasion was furnished by Messrs. Burgin and Riddle and was thoroughly enjoyed by every one present.

Miss Houck and the pupils and the patrons of the school are to be congratulated upon the success of this gathering and the splendid spirit of co-operation manifested.

The first teachers' meeting for this year will be held at the graded school building in Marion next Saturday. A good program has been prepared and an interesting meeting is expected.

The date for the ice cream supper which was announced for Friday evening at the Clinchfield has been changed to Saturday evening, September 25. The patrons are asked to be present by 7:30.

The Toe River Fair will open at Spruce Pine October 5th with an address by Congressman Britt, followed by an address by Congressman Webb on the second day.