

# MARION PROGRESS

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

ESTABLISHED 1896.

MARION, N. C., THURSDAY, DEC. 16, 1915.

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## EDUCATIONAL COLUMN

Maud Barnard, Editor.

### School Notes.

A Community meeting will be held at the Chapel Hill school on Thursday, December 23.

Miss Rosa Houck, who has finished her school at White Pine, is now teaching at Fairview.

John Elliott has resigned as principal of Garden City school and B. F. Horton has taken his place.

Messrs. B. F. Horton and Jock Lonon have just closed a very successful school term at Flat Creek in Broad River township. The patrons claim that this is the best school taught there for several years.

The new school building near the Clinchfield mill has just been completed and the desks and blackboards are being put up. This is one of the best built and equipped buildings in the county. The school will open for work January 3rd with Misses Elsie Stacy, Olivia Patton and Effie Hicks as teachers.

A number of people from Marion are planning to attend the opening of the Old Fort graded school building at Old Fort Friday night. Among the number are Misses Eva Keeter, Elsie House, Martha Decker, Maud Barnard and Supt. Byron Conley. Miss Frances Womble of Greensboro, who will be the week-end guest of Miss Barnard, will also attend the exercises.

### To the Teachers of McDowell.

The December meeting of the McDowell County Teachers' Association will be held in the auditorium of the graded school building at Marion on Saturday, December 18, at 11 o'clock. The teachers are requested to be present and report on all betterment work, moonlight schools, music clubs, domestic science work, corn clubs, agricultural work, etc. The chief address will be delivered by Dr. E. W. Knight of Trinity College. Other prominent educators will be present.

BYRON CONLEY, Supt.

### Baptist Statistics.

A summary of statistics for the Baptist State Convention, which met in Charlotte last week, shows 64 Associations with 2,136 churches and 268,088 members, not including 19 churches that have not reported to their Associations. The membership gain for the year was 11,489, and there was a gain of 43 in the number of churches.

There were 17,900 baptisms, a gain of 3,187 over the previous year. There were 573 churches which reported no baptisms.

Money raised for all Convention purposes aggregates \$208,195, a gain of \$13,536 over the previous year.

There are 1,212 active women's missionary societies, including the junior organizations. They raised \$42,598 for regular purposes and a special fund of \$6,273 for the Judson centennial and home church building fund.

Sunday school enrollment is 220,000, a gain of 13,785 with a net gain of 68 in the number of Sunday schools.

### Facts About the County.

Chapel Hill, Dec. 13.—McDowell has one thing to be very proud of; she ranks first in the State in school equipment per \$1000 worth of school property, the average being \$26 for every \$1000 for improvements, while the State average is only \$8 per \$1000 worth of school property." Such was the statement of C. B. Landis of Marion before the Rutherford-McDowell County Club meeting in the Y. M. C. A. building at the University on December 11. Mr. Landis presented several other very interesting facts about the county.

It was decided that a small booklet of facts about each county would be issued as soon as possible. Much interest is being manifested in the county club work by the boys of McDowell and Rutherford.

R. E. Price, president of the club, read a very interesting paper on "Facts About Wealth and Taxation in Rutherford County." After a series of speech-making and discussions, refreshments were served and a very nappy and profitable social hour was spent.

McDowell only has five boys here and Rutherford seven, but no county in the State has a bunch of representatives who are more interested in their home county than are the young men of the two counties above mentioned.

Christmas holidays begin December 22 and end January 4.

### Features in The Message of President to Congress.

Urges that America's standing army be no larger than is necessary for the purpose of peace, but that a body of free citizens be made ready and sufficient to defend the country.

Insists Congress sanction and put into effect the plans of the War and Navy Department for adequate national defense.

Declared the gravest threats against the country's peace and safety had been uttered by naturalized Americans, and that they had poured the poison of disloyalty into the very arteries of America's life.

Urges Congress to enact laws that would enable the Government to crush out such creatures of passion, disloyalty and anarchy."

Ownership of adequate ocean transportation facilities declared to be a question of independence.

Federal aid to industrial and vocational education was asked, and some provision for rural credits recommended.

Suggested it would be wise to provide a commission of inquiry to ascertain whether the laws are as serviceable as they might be in the solution of the railway transportation problem.

The States of the Americas are not hostile rivals, but co-operating friends, the President declared.

### NOTICE!

To Sullivan Bros' Debtors:

All persons indebted to Sullivan Bros. are hereby notified that I have levied upon all their store accounts. Payment must be made to me at once, or I shall have to advertise and sell.

This Dec. 15th, 1915.

J. A. LAUGHRIDGE, Sheriff.

### NEWS FROM THE COUNTY

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

#### MACEDONIA

Dysartsville, Dec. 11.—Mrs Mary Wise spent the week-end with her mother, Mrs. Buchanan, at Gilkey.

A number of his neighbors assisted John Watkins at a "house raising" last Wednesday and enjoyed a delicious dinner.

The Macedonia school is progressing nicely with Miss Mamie Goforth as teacher. Many things are being done to beautify the school room—curtains put up, window panes replaced, etc. On Thursday a Mothers meeting was held with several mothers present. After the inspection of the exhibits, which attracted much attention, an old-time spelling match was given which proved interesting, and also that the Macedonia school children are hard to be spelling.

There will be a box supper at Macedonia school house Friday night, the 17th. The girls are asked to bring a box and the boys cash to buy them. The proceeds are to be used for the benefit of the school. Everybody cordially invited.

An entertainment will be given by the school Friday afternoon, December 24, beginning at 2 o'clock.

#### HANKINS

Hankins, Dec. 13.—Born to Mr. and Mrs. L. G. Hollifield, December 11th, a daughter.

Miss Maggie McNeely of Marion spent Saturday and Sunday here with home folks.

Miss Belle Hunter of Woodlawn spent Saturday and Sunday here with her sister, Mrs. J. J. Lewis.

Miss Myrtle Brown visited homefolks at Ashford last week.

Miss Daisy Barnes spent last week in Marion with relatives.

Miss Delia Gibbs spent Saturday and Sunday at Garden City with homefolks.

Horace Stroud of Toms Creek spent the week-end here with friends.

Percy Barnes returned to Marion one day last week after spending a few days here with homefolks.

J. J. Lewis recently moved his saw mill from Nebo to his farm near Hankins. The lumber business in this part of the community seems to be picking up considerably and prospects for the future are better.

#### RED TOP

Red Top, Dec. 13.—We are having some cold weather.

Farmers are through gathering corn and are sowing grain.

O. E. Hudgins has sold a half interest in his mercantile business here to W. E. Hudgins.

H. W. Elliott made a business trip to Marion and Asheville last week.

J. D. Elliott has returned from the Rutherford hospital and his friends are glad to learn he is improving rapidly.

O. E. Hudgins made a business trip Black Mountain last week.

Chicago was selected by the Republican National Committee Tuesday night as the meeting place of the 1916 Republican National convention, to be held June 7, one week before the Democratic convention in St. Louis.

In order to get anywhere with a wheelbarrow you should push it. Same way with business.

The McDowell Building & Loan Association paid off its 9 series in October when \$2300.00 was paid out to shareholders. Series No. 23 will open on January 1st. Now is the time to come in. Invest your savings. One dollar a month will give you one share. This is an ideal way to lay up money for a rainy day. A large number of residences have been built through the Building and Loan. Come in now. For further particulars apply to J. E. Neal, secretary, at the First National Bank.

### STOP THE FIRE WASTE

Fire Proof Construction Costs Vary Little More Than the Ordinary Inflammable Kind.

Fireproof construction of buildings as a whole has been so reduced in cost in recent times that the difference between the prices of such a building, and that of the ordinary inflammable kind is far from being so serious as it formerly was. But without going to that expense, the risk of fire can be reduced in an almost insignificant fraction of what it now is. The great thing to be aimed at is the isolation of the fire, the prevention of its spread from the point at which it originates. This can be accomplished as regards the cellar furnace and its neighborhood, by fireproof floor construction separating the cellar from the first story. A concrete or steel and tile floor can be easily put in at an increase of cost over ordinary wooden joist construction that would hardly be noticeable in the total cost of a large building. In addition to this, and especially in places where the services of a fire department cannot be promptly obtained the installation of some simple system automatic sprinklers or fire extinguishers in basement near the heating apparatus and also in kitchens and laundries, commends itself as an obvious safeguard and offers no great difficulty in the way of expense.

The construction of a fire proof division wall as a means of preventing the spread of fire is recommended by some men who have specialized in fire prevention work. Such a wall may be built of brick or concrete, running right through the house from cellar to roof. Concealed metal sliding doors are furnished at all openings and can be entirely hidden within partitions. The National Fire Protective Association has issued a number of pamphlets on reducing fire dangers, which can be obtained on application to Mr. Franklin H. Wentworth, Secretary, 87 Milk St., Boston, Mass.—Safety Engineering.

### KEEP SCHOOLHOUSES CLEAN.

The North Carolina Insurance Commissioner is of the opinion that danger of costly fires could be reduced if schoolhouses, at the end of each term were left in a good, clean condition. In a statement for the press just issued by Commissioner Young, he says:

"Very frequently an investigation has shown that schoolhouses are not in good condition during the vacation period. It seems to be the idea that schoolhouses should be put in order and cleaned up, etc., at the beginning of each term, but at the close of the term it is all right to leave scattered about in the building, piled up in corners and stored in closets any kind of material, such as we used in the exercises and has accumulated during the session. The result is frequently a fire, started from spontaneous combustion or other causes.

"All school committees should adopt the rule of seeing their buildings are thoroughly cleaned and put in order at the close of the school term. In this way many buildings will be saved from burning.

### Mystery of the Light Not Yet Solved

A report from the Lenoir expedition that went in search of the mysterious light in Burke county,

says:

"That the light on Brown mountain is the result of local causes was determined by the party of men who last week set out from Lenoir to learn the nature of the illumination to be observed there. Mr. H. C. Martin, who led the expedition, said the light was not the reflection of a locomotive headlight or anything else he could think of. Some of the local scientists profess to believe that a plentiful supply of phosphorous in that locality is the cause. Another trip will be made later to investigate more thoroughly.

### STATE NEWS OF THE WEEK

Items Concerning Events of Interest and Importance Throughout the State.

The First Methodist church of Salisbury has appointed a publicity man and instructed him to by space in local newspapers to be used from week to week to set forth the work and purposes of the church.

Fire at the orphanage of the North Carolina Methodist Conference in Raleigh Monday morning destroyed the barn, entailing a loss of \$2,500, protected by \$1,000 insurance. The live stock were saved.

W. D. Davis, of Washington county, has just been married the fourth time at the advanced age of 92, the bride only 39. Mr. Davis has had 41 children, 33 of whom are still living, and has 192 grandchildren.

After January 1st only "single dipped" or safety matches can be used in North Carolina to conform to the "uniform match law" passed by the Legislature. This law was adopted by the State authorities as a precaution against fire losses and merchants are now working off their stock of strike easy matches.

T. J. Robertson, who has edited The Messenger at Morganton for nearly four years, has moved his plant to Madison where he will establish another paper. The good will and subscription list of The Messenger were purchased by The News Herald. Mr. Robertson issued a good paper, but the county proved to be too small to maintain two papers of the same political faith.

The State has chartered the Alaska Valley Railroad Company, having its home office in Bryson City. The corporation purposes the construction and operation of a railroad to extend from Bryson City, on the Murphy branch of the Southern, to the Falls, on Alaska creek, a distance of 12 miles. The road will be entirely in Swain county.

### North Carolina Apples in the North.

At the ninth annual Fruit Show of the New York College of Agriculture at Ithica, N. Y., North Carolina apples added another victory to their long list. The Division of Horticulture of the North Carolina Department of Agriculture entered eight plates and the judges awarded the blue ribbon to seven out of the eight. The varieties which won first prize were: Stayman, Winesap, Gano, Bonum, Virginia Beauty, Rome Beauty, Missouri Pippin, Royal Limbertwig.

### Ask Congress to Submit Prohibition

Washington, Dec. 13.—Congress will be urged at its coming session to submit the question of a national prohibition amendment to the states for ratification. This was decided on at a mass-meeting held here late yesterday when resolutions were adopted.

The meeting was under the auspices of the National Women's Christian Temperance Union.

START the new year right. Take stock in the McDowell Building & Loan and own your own home. New series opens January 1st.