

# MARION PROGRESS

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

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## NEW SCHOOL BUILDING

Dedicated at Old Fort Friday Evening—Many Noted Educators Present—Reception.

Notwithstanding the inclement weather, a large crowd filled the auditorium of the new graded school building at Old Fort on last Friday evening, the occasion being the formal dedication of the new building. The exercises were in the hands of Supt. N. F. Steppe, whose successful labor in this community has brought about this splendid achievement—a school building modern and up-to-date in every respect—a school of which the citizens of Old Fort are justly proud.

The exercises began with an invocation by Rev. W. H. Goodman, followed by the chorus "Carolina" sung by the high school pupils. Mr. W. M. Treverton, chairman of the building committee, presented the keys of the new building. He spoke of the interest manifested on the part of the citizens of the town and the pleasure of his committee in their finished work. In accepting the keys Mr. J. M. Kanipe, chairman of the school board, thanked the building committee in behalf of the school board and the patrons of the school and pledged loyal support to the educational development of the town.

State Superintendent J. Y. Joyner was then introduced by Supt. D. F. Giles of Wake county. Dr. Joyner congratulated the taxpayers and citizens upon their magnificent new building and told of his visit to Old Fort many years ago and the old building then in use. Dr. Joyner's address was along general educational lines. His appeal to the people in behalf of the children was very effective.

Several colleges sent representatives to bear greetings; from The State Normal College, Pres. J. I. Foust; Davidson College, Dr. L. W. Lingle; A. & M. College, President D. H. Hill; Trinity College, Dr. E. W. Knight; Merideth College, Dr. E. McK. Goodwin. Supt. Byron Conley spoke in warmest terms of the future work of this school for the entire county in helping to train the rural teachers.

Following the exercises a reception was held at the Charles Hotel in honor of the distinguished visitors. In the receiving line were: Supt. and Mrs. Steppe, Dr. Joyner, Dr. Hill, Supt. Conley, Dr. Goodwin, Dr. Lingle, Miss Barnard, Mr. and Mrs. Bradley, Dr. Knight, Supt. Giles, Miss Womble, Dr. Robinson, Messrs. Kanipe, Marley, Mauney, Traverton, Foust and J. Ed. Kanipe. Misses Crawford and Greene presided at the punch bowl. The guests were taken to the dining room where a delicious two-course luncheon was served. Pink and white carnations, galax and mistletoe were used in the decorations.

The new building dedicated on this occasion is built of hard brick with stone base, very effective in appearance. The inside is finished in hardwood in Early English style, and plaster sand finish throughout. There are eleven class rooms, Superintendent's office, teachers' rest room, and an auditorium with a capacity of five hun-

dred. A very large basement has been constructed for general purposes. Each class room is equipped with patent single desks and the building is heated throughout with steam and lighted by electricity. The total cost is \$16,000. The growth of the school has been steady but exceptional progress has been made during the past four years under the superintendency of Mr. Stepp. The history of the school has been one of out growing its quarters, adding new rooms until the point was reached where no more additions were possible. A bond issue was voted without much opposition, and today Old Fort can boast of a complete, modern, well equipped school building. There is no doubt about the co-operative spirit of the community and the pride these people have in their school.

### Home for Holidays.

Among the young folks home from college for the holidays are Misses Caroline Yancey, Wilma Corpening and Mary Yancey, from Salem College; Miss Annie Gibbs, from Bristol, Tenn.; Miss Josephine Bird, from Fassifern, Hendersonville; Miss Mabel Tate, from the State Normal at Greensboro; Malcolm Sinclair, Tannie White, Robert Morphew and Carl Buchanan, from Oak Ridge; Will Pless, from Davidson, and William Lonon from Donaldson Military School at Fayetteville. Clinton Landis and Lawrence Morris will arrive today from the University, Chapel Hill.

### District Stewards Meeting.

The Morganton District Stewards met in annual session at the Marion Methodist church last Wednesday afternoon. The Presiding Elder's salary was designated and an every-member canvass in interest of benevolences was recommended for the churches of the district. A laymen's rally was held at the evening hour and topics of vital interest to the church were discussed. There were delegates and preachers present from Morganton, Old Fort, Henrietta, Burnsville, Thermal City and other places. Last year was by all odds the best year the Morganton district has ever had.

### Camp Fire Meeting.

Last Monday evening the Camp Fire Girls had a ceremonial meeting at the home of "Jaunita" (Morgie White). As soon as the members arrived a candle lighting ceremony was held by the guardian, Nantahala, assisted by Cherokee (Mary Hudgins), who lighted the candle of Work, Ishkoodah (Martha Bobbitt) who lighted the candle of Health, and Jaunita (Margie White), who lighted the candle of Love. This was followed by the Camp Fire song, "Wohelo." Nantahala presented the game of "Indian Duets" which proved very interesting. A piano solo was rendered by Izega (Frances Wood) and a recitation given by Jaunita, after which a selection was played by Nawaka (Helen Lonon) and sung by all. Nantahala, guardian, then told many interesting stories, after which refreshments consisting of toasted marshmallows, nuts, oranges, apples and candy were served. Nawaka.

Solomon Gallert, of Rutherfordton, candidate for congress in this district, was a visitor here last Friday. Mr. Gallert is of the opinion that the Democrats will redeem the district next November and he expressed himself as much pleased with the encouragement he has received with reference to his candidacy for the nomination.

## NEWS FROM THE COUNTY

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

### NEBO

Nebo, Dec. 20.—Rev. Mr. Bradshaw of Hickory and Rev. A. P. Sorrels will conduct a revival meeting at the new Baptist church, beginning December 27, and will continue through that week.

Vance Wilson has been very ill for the past two weeks, but is improving. Mrs. G. D. Taylor was shopping in Marion Saturday.

Misses Estelle Wilson and Faye Padgett spent the week-end with homefolks. Burette Holler of Marion spent Sunday with his uncle, J. E. Sigmon.

Miss Essie Hemphill has closed her school at Cowan's and is at home.

Mrs. R. A. Hemphill and Miss Essie Hemphill were shopping in Marion Saturday.

Nebo High School will close Wednesday for the Christmas holidays.

Mrs. J. L. Wilson and daughter, Lottie, were shopping in Marion one day last week.

Lee Lavendar spent the week-end in Marion.

### GREENLEE

Greenlee, Dec. 20.—Miss Mollie Williams, who has been in school at Asheville, is home to spend the holidays.

Miss Mary Greenlee and Ethel Hennessee of Pitts, spent Saturday and Sunday with friends and relatives here.

Mrs. E. A. Allanach of Crestmont was a welcome visitor in Greenlee the latter part of the week.

A. T. Ledbetter spent Saturday in Asheville.

Misses Belle and Marguerite Dobson were shopping in Marion, Monday.

Miss Clara Byrd, who has been in school at Asheville, was a welcome visitor at the home of Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Tate Friday night.

Miss Annie Silvers returned home last week from Marion to spend Christmas, accompanied by Miss Nettie Curtis.

Mrs. M. E. Jordan, who has been on the sick list for a few days, is improving.

Miss Essie Ledbetter is visiting in Marion.

Fred Hunter and family have moved to Glenwood.

There will be a Christmas tree and entertainment at Greenlee school house Thursday night, Dec. 23, beginning at 7:30. The public is cordially invited to attend.

### Tom's Creek School Closes.

Tom's Creek, December 17.—Tom's Creek school closed last Friday. The teacher, Miss Blanch Houck, deserves much praise for the splendid work she has done at this school, this being her second term here. She has taken great interest in the children and has done much to win the co-operation of the people of the community. This school has led in a few of the good things that go to make up a progressive school. One thing worthy of mention was the exhibit at the fair which was awarded first prize—\$20. This money will be spent for the school library.

We wish Miss Houck much success in her future work, believing her to be one of the county's best teachers. H.

### Miss Bessie Tate Entertains.

On last Friday evening Miss Bessie Tate entertained a number of her friends at her home on Sweeney Hill. The decorations were in keeping with the holiday season, holly and mistletoe being used, and the lights were shaded in red. After playing Rook for a while and singing several songs, the guests were called into the dining room, which was beautifully decorated, where different kinds of fruit were served. The guests then departed voting this one of the most enjoyable of recent parties.

### Interested in Marion.

E. A. Thorne, of Belding, Mich., who has recently made frequent inquiries about Marion with a view of locating here, in a letter to The Progress, says: "I have enjoyed your paper very much the past year and feel as though I were pretty well acquainted with your city and its people. I expect to come to your state as soon as I can arrange my business affairs so as to get away, and I shall surely want to see Marion."

"We are all frozen up here in Michigan. Have had snow since the week before Christmas and north of us they have good sleighing. Last Friday it was six degrees above zero and today it is very cold."

### Big Bear Killed Near Old Fort.

Old Fort Sentinel, 10th.

A big black bear was killed last Monday evening on Jarrett's creek about five miles northwest of town. Bruin's tracks were first discovered in the snow near Dendron, and it was not long until quite a crowd of Nimrods were on its trail. It was finally overtaken by Big Bill Allison, Jake Silver and Henry Allison, who shot it to death after a lively chase of two or three miles. Altogether eight men took part in the hunt, but only one dog was in the crowd, rendering little or no service. After being skinned about 300 lbs. of carcass was divided among the capturers.

### North Carolina Publications.

Raleigh, Dec. 14.—That there are 326 newspaper publications in North Carolina having a total circulation of 1,406,214 is the showing made by the annual report of the commissioner of labor and printing today. There are 132 of these publications owned by individuals, 30 by co-partnerships and 104 by joint stock companies. Names of ten publications and the editorship of sixty publications changed during the year. Total value of the plants reported by 200 of the publications was \$1,438,540. Employees reported aggregate 1,466 persons with a payroll of \$785,802. There are 135 typesetting machines in use.

The special Christmas program which Mrs. J. Q. Gilkey had planned for the Philathea class at the Methodist church last Sunday was very good indeed. After the lesson Mesdames Childs, Bumgarner, Pless, Blanton and Maud Kirby, and Miss Gladys Goodson read selections from "The Song of the Angels Translated into Words." All enjoyed Longfellow's "Christmas Bells" read by Mrs. Hudgins. Then Miss Barnard, in her usual attractive manner, told the story of "The Other Wise Man" by Henry Van Dyke, which is always a Christmas favorite. The Philathea has a number of interesting programs planned for 1916. V.

The Ladies Aid Society of the Baptist church wish to thank the people for their liberal patronage at their bazaar, from which they realized \$184.00

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

Send The Progress for a year to that friend as a Christmas present. It will be appreciated by the recipient.

## STATE NEWS OF THE WEEK

Items Concerning Events of Interest and Importance Throughout the State.

Abel Pitts, a citizen of Glen Alpine, Burke county, died a few days ago, aged 90 years. He was a native of Catawba county but had lived at Glen Alpine for more than a quarter of a century.

News comes from Raleigh that Judge Mike Justice of Rutherfordton will be urged by friends to make the fight for congress in this district. It is stated that there is much sentiment for him and that he may allow his name to go to the primary next spring if the district does not happen to be crowded with candidates. It is also stated that former Solicitor A. Hall Johnston and J. W. Pless "have been given a good deal of favorite support;" that "each has said 'much obliged' but talked for Judge Justice."

Prof. T. E. Browne, in charge of the Boys' Agricultural club work, states that a "Rotation club" is to be organized at once by the department of Boys' clubs. The method at present followed by the corn growers of North Carolina tends to exhaust the land of humus and reduce the fertility of the soil each year. The new plan of Prof. Browne is to have each boy follow a standard crop each year, thereby improving the fertility of the soil instead of decreasing it. Schemes of rotation for the mountain, piedmont, and coastal sections of the state have been tested out by the state department of agriculture and the scheme will be recommended by the West Raleigh office for the boys in the club.

### Morganton Fears for Her Sidewalks

Morganton, Dec. 16.—Judge Shaw handed down a decision this week which is giving the town authorities grave concern and which may have the effect of suspending all city improvements.

For years here, as in other places, the property owners have been taxed with half the cost of permanent cement sidewalks.

Upon refusal of Dr. E. S. Warlick to pay his half for a sidewalk in front of his residence and of Mrs. A. C. Avery, in front of Hotel Morgan, the town brought proceedings to collect, holding the property liable, and under Judge Shaw's ruling nothing can be collected and the officials fear a general refusal to pay for improvements.

It is contended by the fearful that the owners of the lot between the two in question had paid their part, so they will probably demand the amount refunded and if the decision stands in the Supreme Court the town as well as other towns throughout the State will be swamped with suits.

Attorneys Huffman and Avery for the town announced an appeal to the Supreme Court and the outcome will be anxiously watched by the city officials and will likely cause State-wide interest.

IF you are looking for a safe investment, take stock in the Building & Loan. New series will open January 1st.

LOTS of GOOD THINGS to Eat for Christmas now on sale in Gaston & Tate's Grocery department.