

MARION PROGRESS

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

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JUSTICE ENTERS RACE

Rutherford Judge Consents to Make Race for Congress—Sentiment Strong for Him.

Judge Michael H. Justice, who is holding Superior court here this week, has given consent for the use of his name as a candidate for the democratic nomination for representative from the tenth congressional district. The announcement was made in a letter from Judge Justice to J. Q. Gilkey of Marion in reply to a letter from Mr. Gilkey in which he appealed to the judge as a man qualified to redeem the district for the democratic party in the coming election. The correspondence is as follows:

"Marion, N. C., Feb. 12, 1916.

"Hon. M. H. Justice,

"Rutherfordton, N. C.

"My dear Judge:

"As you know, my business is in the commercial line and takes me all over the tenth congressional district and I think I am in an unusual position to know the feelings and sentiments of the majority of the democrats in this district. The vote for United States senator at last election showed a majority of more than 1200 democrats in this district. On account of dissensions as to congressman, we have now a republican congressman. I believe that practically every democrat in the district believes that if you will become a candidate, the younger men will be content to defer their ambition and that you will not have opposition in your party.

"You can, of course, get practically every vote in Rutherford county. I am sure the same is true in McDowell and Polk and this side of the ridge will feel that the western side should in justice to us yield to our claim for recognition, and I also know that vast numbers of the leading democrats in Buncombe and other counties in the west feel that they really need your service to make the race against Mr. Britt. I recognize that you already have a highly honorable position and may feel content with it. There is, however, I think a real demand that you make whatever sacrifice is necessary to make the race for congress.

"If you agree with me that you are in position to render unusual service to your party and are willing to yield to the request of great numbers of your friends, trust you will permit me to say that your announcement should indicate to your friends that you really wish the support of your friends. There are many of your friends who may feel that you are content to stay where you are, and even though you should announce that you are willing to submit to the wishes of the party, there might be some feeling that loyalty and fondness for you did not require them to really work for you when you were indifferent as to whether you should change your position from judge to congressman. It is my opinion that you should state your position to the public at an early date.

"This letter is prompted by sincere friendship to you and great interest in the democratic party.

"Your friend,

(Signed) "J. Q. GILKEY."

JUDGE JUSTICE'S ANSWER.

"Carthage, N. C., Feb. 16, 1916.

"J. Q. Gilkey, Esq., Marion, N. C.

"Dear Sir:

"I have your esteemed favor of the 12th instant. I appreciate the friendly sentiment that prompts it. I have had many letters and many urgent requests to allow my name to be run for congress in the tenth district. I want to take you and the voters of the district into my confidence and to be entirely frank.

"I am not seeking the nomination, and am in no sense a candidate for the position, and would be glad if the party could see the way clear to nominate some one of the young men who are avowed candidates.

"That is one side of the case. Another side is this: I have been a democrat all my life, and have tried to serve the party to the best of my ability. The party has in return been kind to me.

"Now, if the democrats of the district think it my duty to run for congress, and desire me to do so, they can let me know by their action in the primary. In the meantime, I trust that my friends will not expect me to make any effort to influence the action of the party in the primaries. The people know what they want, and I shall leave them entirely free to express their will without my interference. I have confidence that they are fully capable of managing their own affairs.

"With sentiments of high esteem, I am, "Your friend,

(Signed) "M. H. JUSTICE."

It is stated by the friends of Judge Justice that an active campaign will at once be inaugurated in his behalf, that the attention of democrats will be called to Judge Justice's eminent fitness. It is urged that the judge is an able statesman and lawyer; that he has not been identified with either of the factions in the democratic party, whose antagonisms caused the defeat of Congressman Gudger in 1914; that his long service of 14 years as a Superior court judge and his earnest support and approval of President Wilson's administration together with the fact that he is the candidate of those earnest, intelligent democrats of the counties which lie east of the Blue Ridge, make him the very strongest democrat who can be nominated.

In any event, the democrats here are jubilant over the judge's announcement, and they assert with great confidence that Rutherford, McDowell, Polk, Henderson and Transylvania are already for their candidate and that the rest of the district will soon be equally as strong and enthusiastic for him.

Court in Session.

McDowell Superior Court convened Monday with Judge M. H. Justice presiding, and Solicitor Michael Schenck prosecuting on behalf of the State. T. W. Stacy was made foreman of the grand jury and Garland Williams officer in charge. Judge Justice's charge to the grand jury was full of practical, helpful suggestions and was unusually interesting. The docket is made up of the usual number of minor cases, many of which have been disposed of. The case against John T. Marsh, charged with the murder of J. R. Ray last November, will be taken up this morning.

Bill to Clear French Broad.

Washington, Feb. 18.—Representative Britt today introduced a bill to appropriate \$250,000 for plans in the French Broad river, at Buck Shoals. The work is to blast out a channel or by other proper engineering projects to remove constructions hitherto placed in the river by the United States government and to take such other steps as may be necessary at that point to drain the lands located between Asheville and Brevard.

Mr. Britt also introduced a bill to provide for the relief of Carrie B. Moore, former clerk of the United States court.

Gudger Wants to Succeed Atkinson

Washington, Feb. 18.—Senator Overman has asked Attorney General Gregory to appoint former Congressman James M. Gudger, jr., of Asheville, to the United States court of claims to succeed Judge Atkinson, whom it is reported will retire within a short time. Judge Atkinson is eligible to retire under the age clause. He is past 70 years.

J. H. L. Miller Clothing Company's big clearance sale begins Friday, affording an opportunity to buy clothing at a great saving. Read advertisement on page 8.

NEWS FROM THE COUNTY

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

ASHFORD

Ashford, Feb. 21.—Ashford school closed last Friday night with a splendid entertainment. A large crowd was present for the closing exercises.

Mrs. A. W. Gilliam of Old Fort is visiting her daughter, Mrs. Sam Brown. Miss Madge Brown spent the latter part of last week with her mother, Mrs. James Brown.

Misses Cozle and Ruby Carpenter and brother Robert were visitors here last Friday and Saturday.

Carl Brown spent Saturday at Linville Falls.

Miss Estelle Wilson, who has been teaching here, left Saturday for Spruce Pine where she will spend a few days before returning to her home at Nebo.

Mrs. Ellen Dockery has returned home after spending several weeks with relatives at Ashford.

Joe Carpenter spent Saturday and Sunday with homefolks at Altamont.

Mrs. Laura English and niece spent the week end with Mrs. S. H. Brown. Clarence Wiseman of Linville Falls spent the week-end with relatives and friends here.

Miss Mabel Wiseman passed through Ashford yesterday, returning home from Nebo where she has been in school.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Brown, Mrs. Gilliam and Mrs. Stamey spent Sunday with Miss Ethel Wilson.

THOMPSON'S FORK.

Thompson's Fork, Feb. 21.—Wesley James of Irish Creek visited his brother here last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Tate of Nebo were visitors here Monday.

Quite a number of our folks attended the entertainment at Harmony Grove Friday night.

Mrs. W. M. Wilson of Sugar Hill visited her parents here last week.

George Simmons of Harmony Grove spent Sunday with Will Toney.

Dallas Rowe made a business trip to Marion one day last week.

D. C. Brown and family have moved to their farm on Thompson's Fork.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Brown visited relatives here Tuesday.

B. B. Morgan of Harmony Grove was a business visitor here last week.

NEBO

Nebo, Feb. 21.—Nebo High School resumed work on last Wednesday. All of the boarding students have returned. Impetigo has about played out. The patients are now confined to one family and they have about recovered.

Misses Iowa Sigmon and Hattie Taylor are at home, having finished their school work at Harmony Grove.

Born, to Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Beach, February 21, a daughter.

Quite a number of our young people attended the school entertainment at Harmony Grove Friday night.

J. L. Padgett has located at Valdese, where he will engage in the mercantile business.

Britt Asks for Fish Hatchery.

Washington, Feb. 19.—An effort is being made by Representative Britt to have a fish hatching and fish cultural station established somewhere in the tenth district. He introduced a bill today that would provide \$75,000 for the purchase of a site, construction of buildings, preparation of ponds and equipment at a suitable place to be determined by the United States commissioner of fish and fisheries. He believes the streams of the mountain territory stocked with fish will add immensely to the value of that section of state. He has introduced bill for pension of \$25 per month to Mrs. Emma Woodward, of Almond, and was notified today of increase for Thomas Green, of Old Fort, to \$20 monthly.

School Notes.

Hankins school, with Misses Della Gibbs and Myrtle Brown as teachers, closes with another week of work. These pupils and teachers seem happy in their work, and eager for anything new and helpful.

The school at Woodlawn, with Miss Louise Brown as teacher, has two more weeks of work. Miss Brown has done much to keep up the attendance at this school and has been very successful in her efforts. Woodlawn is in great need of a new school building and the teacher and pupils say they are going to have it within another year.

The Stroudtown community knows the value of a school. When their public school money is out and school is out, they band together and make up a subscription school, giving to it their earnest support. Miss Addie Elliott has charge of this work, with grades from the first through the seventh, and they are doing hard honest work and going at it with enthusiasm.

Garden City school closes Friday, February 25. There will be a medal contest by the boys and girls, beginning at 10 a. m. and lasting until 3:30 p. m. There will be dinner for all and everybody is cordially invited to attend. At night, beginning at 7:30, an entertainment will be given by the children. An interesting program is promised.

The Ashford school closed Friday night, February 18, with an entertaining program given by the pupils of the school, under the direction of Mrs. B. H. Lewis and Miss Estelle Wilson, the successful teachers. Among the selections given, the Grandmother's Drill and the boys guessing game, "Who is Who," gave the crowd opportunity for a laugh. The play, "Maidens Forlorn," was also very good. The entire program was entertaining, but the three numbers above, with the school song, deserve especial mention. If the spirit of the song, "Ashford," is as much in the hearts of the pupils as it seemed from the whole souled way in which they sang, then truly Ashford school has nothing to fear for its future.

The cultivation of a community spirit and a true love for the school are two of the things that every county school teacher must look well to in her work with the boys and girls. It is future citizens that she is training, and future homes and farms that she must keep in mind.

Ashford is a splendid community. The school is the first country school in the county to introduce cooking into its course. The girls of this school gave a successful demonstration of this work at the State Teachers' Assembly in Raleigh last fall. We hope that more work will be done later.

Notice!

The McDowell County Farmers' Union will hold its regular meeting at Stroudtown school house Saturday, March 4. The speaker of the occasion will be Mr. J. Z. Greene, of Marshville, N. C. The meeting will open at 10:00 o'clock. A full attendance is desired.

B. F. CORPENING, Pres.,
C. M. POOL, Sec'y.

STATE NEWS OF THE WEEK

Items Concerning Events of Interest and Importance Throughout the State.

Strong winds at Ridgecrest Friday night damaged two cottages and entirely wrecked a third.

The nine district Republican congressional convention met at Newton Saturday, but made no nomination for congress.

Seven convicts made their escape last Thursday night when a gang of 27 were being transferred from Whitney to Old Fort township to work on the unfinished mountain section of the central highway.

So far, 638 Moonlight schools have been organized and conducted in 50 counties of North Carolina and 1,000 teachers have been engaged in teaching 5,540 pupils, says Mr. N. C. Newbold, the state rural school agent, in the Washington Daily News.

W. A. Hildebrand has sold his interest in the Asheville Gazette-News to United States Marshal Chas. A. Webb, Postmaster Gudger of Asheville and others. Under the new management the name of the paper is changed to The Asheville Times. It will be Democratic. Mr. Hildebrand will devote his attention to the Greensboro News.

Farm Notes.

The new clover drills mentioned in The Progress two weeks ago have disks about three inches apart. Of course it is an advantage to get the ground so nearly covered with seed. But McDowell county farmers already have wheat drills and spacing being wider there are some advantages. If clover has never been grown on the field before inoculated soil can be drilled in with seed. Then if ground limestone, basic slag or bone meal is added the clover will be given a good send off. Then, too, the wider spacing permits putting the seed in a deeper furrow, where the baby plant will stand more cold and more drought. The regular clover drills put in seed only and of course with such close spacing seed cannot be planted very deeply. Until our lands are well limed and inoculated the drills at hand will be the better. Even with the wider spacing the clover will easily cover the ground.

The last Legislature, realizing the great part lime plays in profitable, permanent agriculture and the need for farmers to get it as cheaply as possible, passed a bill giving the commissioner of agriculture power to buy lime quarries and to equip and operate lime plants. The lime was to be sold at cost to farmers. After thorough investigation it seemed wise to make the best possible contract with private plants already in operation. This was done and a high grade finely ground limestone can be had for \$1.20 per ton plus the freight, which is 65c to 75c per ton to points on the Southern. The above price is in bulk. Add 85c per ton if wanted bagged. Minimum car is fifteen tons. Send orders to Commissioner of Agriculture, Raleigh, N. C., enclosing the cash, or order will not be booked. There is likely to be a rush soon, so that if wanted any time this spring it will be well to act promptly.