

MARION PROGRESS

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

ESTABLISHED 1896.

MARION, N. C., THURSDAY, MAY 18, 1916.

VOL. XX—NO. 38

MARION TO SECURE A PUBLIC BUILDING

Chances Appear Good for Approval of Bill Providing \$65,000 for Site and a Structure.

The delegation from the Marion Board of Trade returned last week from Washington and brought with them every assurance that Marion is to have a government building. The members of the delegation were received by Congressman Britt and Senators Overman and Simmons most cordially and everything was done by them to advance Marion's interest before the committee on public buildings and grounds. Congressman Britt has charge of the bill in the House, where it originated, he being its author, and Senator Overman will introduce a like bill in the Senate.

The bill calls for an appropriation of \$65,000. The delegation appeared before a sub-committee of the House and presented reasons why Marion should have a public building. Mayor J. W. Streetman and Mr. I. C. Griffin, secretary of the Board of Trade, addressed the committee. The facts about Marion that justifies her claim for a building as presented to the committee are found in the Washington correspondence of the Greensboro Daily News, as follows:

1. Population—there are more than 2,000 people living within the corporate limits of Marion, and there are 2,000 people in the two mill villages just outside of the limits, and there are 2,000 more people who get their mails at the postoffice, making a total population of approximately 6,000 served by this postoffice. This does not include the rural routes which originate here and cover the entire county.

2. Present building—the amount of space in the building now occupied by the postoffice is not only inadequate, for the efficient handling of the daily mails, but is not creditable to the town and to the government.

3. Departmental offices—not only do we need a building to serve as postoffice, but we also need offices for the department of forest service, at least four offices; also for the demonstrator in charge of the work of the agricultural department, at least eight offices; and for the division deputy, who has charge of six counties, at least two offices. It does seem that the erection of a building to accommodate these different departments would not only be convenient but also absolutely economical.

4. Present necessity—the offices of the departments of the government are scattered all over town, and there is a waste of time and energy in the transaction of the government's business.

5. Postoffice receipts—the receipts are approximately \$10,000 a year, and are constantly increasing, on account of the rapid development of our industries.

6. Industries—Two cotton mills with an investment of \$1,350,000. With the assurance that the present capacity will be doubled within a year indicate the progress of the development of this industry within five years. Two hosiery mills, four furniture factories, a veneer

plant, a tannery, two flour mills, a crude drug factory, a novelty factory, two planing mills, two lumber companies, a bakery and some smaller industries are served by this postoffice and deserve better postoffice facilities than we now have.

7. Trade—A large jobbing concern, doing over \$500,000 worth of business annually, three wholesale concerns, and 50 retail stores patronize this postoffice.

8. Banks—We have two banks with total resources of over \$800,000 and clearings in proportion.

9. City improvements—At considerable expense this town has built concrete sidewalks, covering practically the entire town.

We have more mileage of concrete sidewalks per capita than any other town in the state. We have an ample supply of mountain water brought to us by a gravity system, pronounced absolutely pure by the state chemist. The town has recently erected a modern and up-to-date state high school building, equipped with every modern convenience. We have a modern hotel that meets every demand of the traveling public.

10. Summer tourists—On account of its altitude and climate and attractive surroundings, Marion is rapidly becoming a summer resort. Visitors from other sections of the country are surprised that a public building has not already been erected in Marion.

11. Power—Development—A large corporation has recently invested over half a million dollars in land in this vicinity with a view to developing a large amount of electrical power. It is proposed to spend \$5,000,000 in this development and upon its completion many industries will be immediately established. This means more demands upon the postoffice facilities here, for Marion is the logical place and the geographical center for the location of all business in connection with this development.

12. Railway center—Two competing railway lines, extending in five directions, with 18 passenger trains and 16 mail trains daily make Marion an important railway center.

It now behooves every member of the Board of Trade and every citizen of Marion to work enthusiastically and in close co-operation in order to secure this much desired and much needed building. The Board of Trade has successfully inaugurated the movement, but it needs the co-operation of every citizen in order to be certain of success.

A New Mountain Trail.

Old Fort Sentinel.

Another mountain trail is being constructed by Daniel W. Adams in Catawba Falls neighborhood. This new stretch of road will extend from Rock Camp falls to Ridgecrest, and when completed will enable people to make the trip from the latter place to Old Fort by way of Catawba Falls over a picturesque route embracing points of exceptional scenic beauty. For some distance this new trail will follow the first stage-coach road constructed through the mountains of Western North Carolina.

To-day is always the best day to clean up.

STATE NEWS OF THE WEEK

Items Concerning Events of Interest and Importance Throughout the State.

President Wilson has definitely decided to attend the Mecklenburg celebration at Charlotte next Saturday. He will arrive in Charlotte Saturday morning at 10 o'clock, deliver an address at 12:30 and board the train for Washington in the evening.

Ivin Heavener had a leg broken and Ernest Leonard and Dan Johnson were badly scalded Saturday afternoon when a boiler at Frank Fulbright's sawmill in Bandy's township, ten miles from Hickory, exploded. Fire followed the explosion and the mill was destroyed.

The Gilbert-Hopkins case, involving \$1,500,000, was compromised in United States district court at Asheville Saturday, before Judge Boyd. This is said to be the most famous land litigation in the South, and has been in the courts for 20 years. The compromise means the development of the lumber interests of Graham county, held in abeyance for 20 years.

A. Tankersley, engineer in charge of No. 38 when that train crashed into the rear of the football special in Salisbury yard, on November 24, killing two and injuring 22 passengers, was sentenced in Rowan superior court to serve four months in the county jail. Tankersley last week was found guilty of manslaughter, the jury recommending leniency. The court granted the commissioners permission to hire out the defendant. Tankersley is at liberty on \$1,000 bail, his counsel having given notice of appeal to the supreme court.

Shooting Affair Saturday Night.

H. B. Mullenax was shot and seriously wounded by Harve Presley at the latter's home near the Marion mill last Saturday night. It is said that Mullenax was drinking, that after repeated threats to kill Presley he went to the latter's home Saturday night and, calling him out, began snapping his pistol at Presley, whereupon Presley shot him. The wounded man was carried to the Rutherford hospital and it is reported his chances for recovery are favorable. Presley gave himself up to the sheriff and is now in jail. He will be given a hearing Monday.

To Build Hotel.

The C. C. & O. is preparing to build a large hotel near the Bostic yards. Surveyors and contractors were on the ground this week and work is expected to begin within a few weeks. The hotel will be located just west of the union station and will be used principally by employees of the road. The erection of a new hotel is made necessary by the constantly increasing force of men at the big coal yards.—Forest City Free Press.

Ex-Congressman R. P. Hobson tried to come back in Alabama last week but he was defeated for the congressional nomination in the tenth district by W. B. Bankhead by a majority estimated at 153. Hobson claims the nomination, however, and threatens contest.

Born, to Mr. and Mrs. John M. Tate, May 15th, a daughter.



HON. SOLOMON GALLERT

Announces His Candidacy For The Democratic Congressional Nomination in The Tenth District.

Rutherfordton, N. C., May 8th, 1916. To the Democrats of the Tenth Congressional District:

I am a candidate for the Democratic Congressional nomination in the Tenth Congressional District at the primary to be held on June 3rd, and I respectfully solicit your support of my candidacy.

With more than twenty-five years of active service for the Democratic party, during which time, in addition to redeeming Rutherford county from Republican rule, I have repeatedly canvassed every county in this district in support of the nominees of the party and have made political speeches in more than one-half of the counties of the State, and have served several terms as a member of the Democratic State Executive Committee as well as attended two Democratic National Conventions as a delegate from this district, I think I can claim an unparalleled service to the party in advocacy of my selection to this position. In addition to all this, I believe I am correct when I say that, of all of those who were active in wresting the State from negro domination, I am about the only Democrat west of Raleigh who has not received recognition at the hands of the party. Do you think I am unreasonable in expecting that a political party which has been generous and kind to those who were associated with me in those trying times will, now that the opportunity offers itself, bestow upon me the only political reward I have ever sought?

I believe that it was Governor Vance, and later on Governor Glenn, who publicly proclaimed the doctrine that "The horse that pulls the plow should have the fodder," and it seems to me that the people have so persistently affirmed and ratified this doctrine that I can with propriety refer to my political services. With all due respect to the other gentlemen who have announced their candidacy for this position, none can point to similar party service or more efficient results.

However, I do not expect you to bestow this nomination upon me solely on account of my party service. Were I not able to demonstrate my ability to wage an aggressive campaign for election and to properly fill the office, after election, I would not offer myself for this nomination. Realizing that it is the desire of the Democrats of this Congressional District to nominate the strongest man with the pur-

pose of redeeming the district and retaining it in the Democratic column, where it belongs, I want to call attention to some reasons why my candidacy should commend itself to you.

In the first place, I could organize the Democrats of the district so efficiently that the party would poll the largest possible vote. My long experience as an active worker in the party and the many victories of the party in campaigns which have been managed by me ought to commend me for this work. None of the other gentlemen who are aspirants to this nomination can lay claims to any experience which would qualify them to efficiently organize the district for the election campaign.

In the second place, I would be able to give my entire time to the campaign for the success of the Democratic party and would not be compelled to consume any time at all in defending my own public record, because, not having been an office-holder, I have no public record to defend. Some of the other gentlemen who are aspiring to this position have been holding office for some time and, naturally, their public opinions and official conduct are subjects which might be criticized and, if criticized, would require time to defend, which time ought to be consumed in promulgating Democratic principles instead of defending personal views upon public questions or official acts. It seems to me, as an available candidate for this nomination this year, this should be a strong ground for my nomination.

In the third place, my long experience in debating public questions and making Democratic speeches upon the political issues has been greater than that of any other aspirant to this nomination. It has been my pleasure and privilege to debate public issues with some of the strongest Republican campaigners of the district and State and I have always been able to give a good account of myself in political debate. Therefore, if the Democratic nominee should be allowed the privilege of debating public issues with the Republican nominee, and I should be your choice, I would be in a position to creditably maintain the principles and policies of our party. What record have the other aspirants to this nomination which could give you the same assurances, should either of them be nominated?

In the fourth place, the office of

(Continued on page eight.)