

MARION PROGRESS

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

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RELIEF COMMITTEE WORK

Report of McDowell Relief Committee—General Statement of Flood Damages.

Governor Craig has requested each county in the flood district to send representatives to a conference to be held in his office at Raleigh on Friday of this week. McDowell will be represented by W. M. McNairy, representing the County Commissioners; Byron Conley, representing the schools, and I. C. Griffin, representing the Relief committee. The following is the report of the Relief Committee as submitted to the representative of the War Department of the Federal Government:

BRIDGES, ROADS, CROPS AND SOIL.

Thirty-eight bridges entirely destroyed and the remaining one badly damaged.

Fifty per cent of all public and country roads destroyed by the high waters and land slides.

Seventy-five per cent of all the grain produced in this county is grown along the streams, and 90 per cent of all the present crops along the streams were completely destroyed.

Seventy-five per cent of all lands along streams have been permanently damaged, and a large per cent completely destroyed.

PRESENT CONDITION OF POPULATION

The Relief Committee has given immediate relief to 121 families, and the committee has definite and reliable information that 80 more families are destitute and in need of immediate relief at an average expenditure of \$12.00 per family. There are, in addition to the 200 in immediate need, at least 300 families that will be in need in the immediate future. The most urgent need at present is the opening up of roads that have been utterly destroyed. We submit two reasons for this statement. (a) Many families are completely shut off from the markets and have to pack their provisions over the rough mountains in trains; furthermore, many farmers have teams that might be used to help support the family, but it is impossible in hundreds of cases to get these teams away from home; on the other hand, feed for them must be packed in by the owner. (b) The immediate rebuilding of these roads would give employment to many of these citizens. At present many of these citizens are employed by the railway companies, but this work will not continue longer than thirty days hence. These people will then be cut off from their usual winter work, such as hauling acid wood, tanbark, cross ties, etc., unless the roads are opened up.

WHAT WE NEED NOW.

Two thousand dollars to supplement the present earnings of the 200 destitute families, and this amount must be duplicated monthly unless conditions change. Seeds, such as rape, turnip, cabbage, millet, rye, etc., enough to supply 500 families. Roads repaired in order to reach the destitute families with provisions and that destitute farmers may use their teams. Employment for all heads of the destitute families until the roads are opened up and conditions approach the normal.

DISTRIBUTION DEVASTATION AND OF RELIEF.

North Cove Area—Number of families destitute 68, families relieved 50, families needing seed and partial aid 150. All roads destroyed.

Clear Creek—Number of families destitute 15, families relieved 4, families needing seeds and partial relief 15. All roads destroyed.

Buck Creek—Number of fami-

lies destitute 15, families relieved 7, families needing seeds and partial relief 30. All roads destroyed.

Crooked Creek—Number families destitute 40, families relieved 22, families needing seeds and partial relief 80. All roads destroyed.

Broad River—Number families destitute 50, families relieved 21, families needing seeds 100. All roads destroyed.

Miscellaneous but principally in the Catawba Valley—Number of families destitute 22, families relieved 17, families needing seeds and partial relief 125. Fifty per cent of the roads in the county will have to be rebuilt.

Total number families destitute 210, number relieved 121, partially destitute 500.

Mr. Harry C. Smith, a government engineer, visited McDowell county this week and will report conditions directly to the Government. Mr. Smith personally investigated some of the flood stricken areas in order to substantiate the report made to him by the Relief Committee.

The County Schools.

In reply to the many questions and rumors which have gained headway throughout McDowell County to the effect that there will be no schools in the county this year, I take this means of informing the citizens and patrons of every district in McDowell county that schools will be run as usual. The disastrous flood will cost the Board of Education a great deal of money in repairing school houses, building bridges and other repairs necessary for the carrying on of the schools. Our school fund will be cut short because of the necessity of exempting many unfortunate farmers from paying taxes; just how much we will lose by reason of tax exemptions it is impossible to tell at this time; but it is safe to estimate the decrease of the school fund at about 25%. I am advised by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction that we will receive sufficient additional aid from the State Board of Education to enable all our schools to run the same number of months as would have been the case.

Most schools will begin about September 4th. Where conditions are such that it is possible, we have already begun work, and are continuing to open others as fast as it is possible to do so.

BYRON CONLEY,
County Superintendent.

Seeds for Flood Sufferers.

Turnips, rape and bean seed for those who have suffered from the flood will be found at the Price Hardware store. All these should be planted on rich land and have phosphate and manure. Phosphate stimulates early maturity. Rape is fine for salad, also is good for hogs, chickens and cattle. Sow about three pounds per acre in rows.

Buckwheat and millet is expected in a few days. This is for the most needy who should call for it now so as to get it in promptly. Prepare good land well and use 400 lbs acid phosphate per acre.

W. R. BAILEY,
Farm Demonstrator.

Friday it was announced that more than 1,000 children had died and nearly 5,000 had been stricken with infantile paralysis in New York.

ACTS TO HELP FARMERS

Federal Farm Law and Good Roads Law Will Aid People of Rural Districts.

Washington, Aug. 3.—Two acts of the present congress promise to help the farmers of North Carolina and other southern states rebuild the sections injured by the floods. They are the federal farm law and the good roads law which, although separate measures, may be made to work together in this emergency as soon as the requirements are complied with. The machinery with which they are to be operated is being set in order now, and if the plans work out on schedule time the benefits will be available within a few months.

Both of these acts require co-operation among those who are to participate in their benefits.

The federal farm law will allow loans to farmers in sums of not less than \$100 or more than \$10,000, and for not less than five years or more than forty years. The interest will not exceed six per cent., and the loans may be made for not more than fifty or sixty per cent. of the value of the farm.

Members of congress are giving attention to the requirements of the system, and recommendations will be made to farmers in the flooded sections to make their plans to take advantage of it. They will be asked to form loan associations as soon as possible. These associations must be composed of ten or more natural persons who are the owners of farm land qualified as security for a mortgage loan. Only borrowing farmers may join this association. Each farmer must pay in \$5 for one of its shares for each \$100 he wishes to borrow. He will have one vote per share in this association, but not exceeding ten votes in all. At least \$20,000 of loans must be applied for in order to incorporate such an association under the new act. This association invests that money in shares at par of the federal land bank for its district.

The farmer applies for his loan to the National Farm Loan association of which he is a member. If its committee approves the loan and the loan is ratified by vote of the directors the association indorses the farmer's note (secured by first mortgage on his farm) and sends the papers to the land bank of which the association is a member. The land bank sends the full amount of the mortgage note to the association and it pays the money over to borrowing farmer. No commission, brokerage or rake-off is charged the borrower.

The road bill provides only a starter for the next fiscal year, but the amount provided will be doubled in another year, and predictions have been made that congress when it sees how popular the law is will make a big increase in the amounts available. North Carolina will receive more under this law than the apportioned sum of \$114,380.92 for the fiscal year ending next June, because North Carolina has forests which have been purchased by the government. One million dollars will be divided among the National forests and make possible the construction of many badly needed roads. This

sum will help in certain of the mountain counties injured by the flood, assisting in the development of the resources.

Bandits Escape With \$34,000 Payroll.

Detroit, Aug. 4.—Five unmasked automobile bandits this afternoon held up an automobile in which \$50,000 pay roll money was being taken to the plant of the Burroughs Adding Machine Company and before astonished guards could offer resistance snatched five of six bags in the car, said to have contained \$33,000 or \$34,000 and escaped.

The hold-up took place on Burroughs, between Woodward and Cass avenues in view of hundreds of employes of nearby automobile factories and the usual afternoon throngs on Woodward avenue.

Rudolph, a Burroughs guard, was shot through the thigh and struck on the head with the butt end of a pistol, when he tried to intercept the robbers.

Three Million for Forest Conservation.

Washington, Aug. 4.—The House today voted to accept the Senate amendment to the agricultural bill providing \$3,000,000 for the purchase of land to enable the forestry service to take the necessary steps to conserve forests at the heads of mountain streams, which will to a great extent prevent a re-occurrence of the disastrous floods that have swept Western North Carolina and several other neighboring states lately.

The forestry service has already acquired 1,732,000 acres in the Southern Appalachian region and in order to complete the project say it will be necessary to purchase nearly 5,000,000 acres more. 249,778 acres of the Southern Appalachian reserve is located within the State of North Carolina, and the government paid an average price of \$6.26 per acre for it.

It was expected there would be a fight in the House when the motion was brought up to concur in the Senate amendment, and Representatives Small, Britt and Doughton were prepared to advance some convincing information, but the amendment was unanimously carried.

Cloudburst at Asheville.

Asheville, Aug. 6.—Asheville was without power or street car service for about two hours today as the result of a cloudburst in the Beaverdam section which turned the Beaverdam Creek, a small stream, into a raging torrent, flooded a large area in the vicinity of the creek and destroyed a number of poles of the Weaver Power Company which supplies the city with power at present.

The Nebo High School will begin this year Wednesday, September 6th, with Mr. John Tyler as principal. The other teachers are Miss Mary Greenlee, Miss Nannie McCall, Miss Pearl Gibbs, Miss Louise Brown and Miss Estelle Wilson with Mrs. W. S. Masters as matron. Several improvements are being made on the school buildings, and the prospects are unusually bright for a fine opening.

STATE NEWS OF THE WEEK

Items Concerning Events of Interest and Importance Throughout the State.

Saturday was pay day, the first since mobilization, at Camp Glenn for the First Infantry. A total of \$38,000 was disbursed.

Archdeacon W. H. Hardin of Salisbury was rendered unconscious for awhile by lightning, which struck a tree at his home in Salisbury Friday.

Notwithstanding its own losses from the recent floods in North Carolina and with the desire to see the entire fund contributed by citizens go to relieving actual necessities in the storm-stricken district of Western North Carolina, President Fairfax Harrison, of the Southern Railway, has authorized the free transportation of shipments from the State Relief Committee of clothing and other supplies consigned for gratuitous distribution among those who suffered.

Campaign on for Weaver.

Asheville, Aug. 7.—Meeting at Asheville, with Senator Zebulon Weaver, democratic candidate for Congress in the Tenth District, present, members of the Tenth District Democratic Congressional committee perfected an organization last week, electing Donald S. Elias, of Asheville, as chairman of the committee.

The election of Mr. Elias meets with the warmest approval of Senator Weaver, as the new chairman is one of the best organizers in the Tenth District, and is a fighting democrat of the younger, aggressive type, who will push the interests of the party at every opportunity.

Zebulon Weaver's record for constructive legislation while serving two terms in the lower house and two in the state senate of the North Carolina General Assembly makes him a formidable candidate to start, and his ability as a "vote getter," coupled with the aggressive policy of Mr. Elias, presages a great victory for the Democrats in the Fall elections, and practically assures the redemption of the district from the present grasp of the Republicans.

Headquarters have been opened in Asheville in the Brown building, and the committee, under the leadership of the new chairman, is preparing for an aggressive fight between now and the election November 7th.

Infantile Paralysis Hits Spartanburg

Spartanburg, S. C., Aug. 5.—A case of infantile paralysis has appeared in Spartanburg according to official announcement made by the public health authorities this afternoon. The child is the four-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Young, of No. 137 Carlisle street and while the announcement is to the effect that the case is mild in form, the strictest quarantine has been established and a ban has been placed upon children under sixteen years of age attending moving picture shows or going to Sunday schools. This is the first case reported in this city though there have been three in the county.