

MARION PROGRESS

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

ESTABLISHED 1896.

MARION, N. C., THURSDAY, JUNE 28, 1917.

VOL. XXI—NO. 44

TO ASK FOR NEW COUNTY

Black Mountain Wants New County Which Would Take in Parts of McDowell and Rutherford.

Insisting that the township does not receive its share of benefits from the county, although it turns into the coffers of the county more money than any other township except Asheville, citizens of Black Mountain township are preparing to ask the next general assembly to cut off parts of Buncombe, McDowell and perhaps Rutherford and form a new county, with Black Mountain as the county seat. Several Black Mountain citizens are here today, including W. C. Hall and C. C. Boone, in which they are seeking legal advice regarding the proposed establishment of the new county.

According to these gentlemen and others from Black Mountain, the citizens of that township are practically unanimous in their decision to ask the legislature to give them relief from Buncombe. They also state that the citizens of those sections of McDowell and Rutherford, who have been interviewed are heartily in favor of the plan for a new county.

The new county would include a strip cut off of east Buncombe, including all of Black Mountain township; Broad River township in McDowell county and a small strip of Crooked Creek township in the same county, in addition to a small part of Rutherford county which runs into what is proposed to form a new county. In the Broad river township of McDowell it is stated that the citizens nearly all trade at Black Mountain and that Marion, the county seat of McDowell is about twenty-five miles from this section, so that few connections are maintained. Crooked Creek township of McDowell is much in favor of the new county, the Black Mountain men state, and they too, do their trading at Black Mountain, it being easier to reach than Marion in McDowell county. That part of Rutherford county, which it is proposed to use in the new county, is also closely allied with Black Mountain and the citizens come there to do their trading. The east line of the new county would extend to Old Henry station, below the fountain at Round Knob; to the top of Mt. Mitchell and would run near Hickory Nut Gap. It would include the great assembly grounds located near Black Mountain; Montreat, Ridgecrest and Blue Ridge.

Two years ago the assessed valuation of property of Black Mountain township was one million, one hundred and seventy thousand dollars, and this of course has greatly increased since that time. This too, in spite of the fact that ten years ago the township was the poorest in the county. It was the first township in North Carolina to assume local bonded indebtedness for roads, when the citizens of the township voted to tax themselves \$40,000 to build good roads. From their own efforts, the Black Mountain men maintain they have built up a thriving town and community and they insist that they have received very little encouragement from the county authorities at any time, in regard to what they want

ed to do.

Last spring a large number of the citizens of the township chartered a special train and came to Asheville to ask the county commissioners to build a road between the two places, but so far, it is stated, only one mile of this road has been built and the prospects for building the remainder do not look bright, a citizen of Black Mountain stated today. "More than 30 public service automobiles were purchased in Black Mountain this year, for use between that place and Asheville, but owing to the failure of the county commissioners to help us with the road work, they cannot make the trip to Asheville and the only connection we have is by rail," Mr. Boone stated today, in talking with a Times reporter.

The voting population of Black Mountain township is 500 and the citizens of this township, added to those from McDowell and Rutherford who want to create the new county, will make a county of a good sized population.

It is expected by the Black Mountain delegation that much opposition will develop to the plan to create the new county, but the men from that town insist that they will secure the best legal advice and will be able to form an organization, which they believe will be able to land the new county. No name has been suggested for the proposed county.

Exemption Board for McDowell.

Gov. Bickett last Monday wired three McDowell county men that they had been appointed by the president of the United States as members of the exemption board for this county, to pass upon the young men who are called to the colors under the selective draft act, for which the men registered on June 5. J. W. Pless, G. C. Conley and Dr. G. B. Justice constitute the exemption board for this county.

Just when the board will meet and the details of what the duties of the members will be, cannot be learned now, but it is presumed that they will meet at the same time that similar boards are in session in all sections of the country. The names of those who are called to the colors, as a result of the registration of June 5, will be drawn and those for Marion and McDowell county will be sent here. Where the person drawn desires to enter a plea for exemption, it will be necessary to appear before the local board and state the reasons for exemption. The board will then decide the case on its merits. If the decision is against the man who has been drawn, he can then appeal his case to the federal board, which it is believed will set in each district. Then an appeal can be taken from that board to the president, it is understood.

Singing Convention.

The McDowell Singing Convention will be held with the East Marion choir, near the Marion Manufacturing company's mill, on Sunday, July 29. All choirs in McDowell county and adjoining counties are invited to attend and take part in the singing contests. John C. Burnett is president of the association.

NEWS FROM THE COUNTY

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

DYSARTVILLE

Dysartville, June 25.—Miss Willie Daves visited relatives in South Carolina recently.

Will Landis has resigned his position with Gaston & Tate of Marion and has enlisted in the navy. He is at home at present and will be here until called for. Elijah Fortune of Hendersonville visited his mother here recently.

D. O. Brackett and family, accompanied by his mother, all of Forest City, visited the former's brother, H. B. Brackett, during the week.

Born, to Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Fortune, June 7, a daughter.

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Gunter of Spruce Pine lost their only child, a son one year old, on June 8th. The remains were carried to Pinnacle cemetery for burial. Mrs. Gunter is at home with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Mangum. She has been seriously ill, but is improving we are glad to learn.

Misses Mull and Lafever of Glen Alpine visited at the home of Mr. Carswell recently.

Miss Hattie Mangum of Shelby is visiting relatives here.

Hunter Cowan got his hand cut badly while at work at a saw mill last week. One finger was cut entirely off while the others sustained deep cuts.

J. C. Upton and family, Eugene Upton and Miss Sophronia Roper spent several days in Blacksburg, S. C., last week.

Born, to Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Laughridge, June 23, a son.

C. N. Duval of Marion spent the week-end with homefolks here.

Rev. J. A. Frye of Nebo attended quarterly meeting here Saturday and preached a splendid sermon Saturday night.

Miss Myrtle Cowan is visiting her sister, Mrs. W. P. Knox, in Statesville. Mrs. Sharpe of _____ is visiting relatives here.

NEBO

Nebo, June 26.—An entertainment will be given by the young people of Nebo at the High School auditorium on the night of the fourth of July. An admission fee of fifteen and twenty-five cents will be charged and the proceeds will be for the benefit of the Methodist church. There will be a box supper after the entertainment. Let everybody come and have a good time.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Drake and little son of Hendersonville spent the week-end here with the former's brother, Rev. T. A. Drake.

Mrs. John Edwards and children have returned to their home at Canton Ohio, after an extended visit to relatives here.

Mrs. G. W. Hunter is spending a while with her son in Asheville.

Mrs. J. L. Padgett and daughter, Miss Faye, spent the week-end with the former's sister, Mrs. Clyde Mashburn, at Marion Junction.

Ralph Drake and sister, Miss Belle, are visiting relatives in Hendersonville.

Mrs. W. J. Bowman was shopping in Marion last Friday.

CARLYLE

Carlyle, June 25.—There will be a picnic at Oak Grove church the 4th of July. Everybody is cordially invited to come and bring dinner.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Edwards were in Marion on a business trip yesterday.

Miss Maude Arrowood attended a birthday dinner at the home of J. S. Hemphill last Sunday. A large crowd was in attendance.

Gardin Davenport and Gudger Lewis were in Longtown Sunday.

J. W. Edwards gave a singing at his home Sunday afternoon.

Walter Murphy was shopping in Marion Saturday.

The Sunday School at Oak Grove is progressing nicely.

Miss Myrtle Arrowood has been ill for several days but is improving some.

GREENLEE

Greenlee, June 25.—The farmers of this section are very busy harvesting

wheat.

Mrs. H. A. Tate has been on the sick list but glad to say is improving.

Miss Bertha Padgett has returned home from Marion to spend the summer.

Charlie Marsh met with a serious accident the other day when he fell out of a tree and broke his arm.

J. W. Hennessee spent Sunday with homefolks at Morganton.

A. F. Hoke has returned home for a stay of several weeks.

Mrs. W. H. Greenlee has been on the sick list but is improving.

Mr. Gilkey Reappointed Director of N. C. Railroad.

Governor Bickett has reappointed six of the directors of the North Carolina railroad, Mr. J. Q. Gilkey of Marion being one, and named two new men. Word H. Wood of Charlotte is retained as president. Bruce White of Wake Forest succeeds J. P. Cook of Concord as secretary and treasurer.

The new directors are C. M. Vanstory of Greensboro and T. L. Gwynn of Canton. The reappointments are: J. M. Allen of Louisville, John P. Yount of Newton, John Quincy Gilkey of Marion, W. T. Brown of Winston-Salem, C. S. Tomlin of Statesville, Word H. Wood of Charlotte.

Col. P. M. Pearsall of New Berne is reappointed attorney, Robert Hairston of Reidsville is made State's proxy, J. G. Steed of Mount Gilead is named State expert.

The appointments are much sought, as all the directors get passes. The president gets a salary of \$1,000 a year and the secretary and treasurer \$2,000 and passes.

W. F. McPeeters Passes.

Mr. W. F. McPeeters died at his home on Henderson street Saturday night about 12 o'clock. Mr. McPeeters had been in ill health for several months, having never fully recovered from a severe attack of the measles last February. He was forced to take his bed recently and during the past few weeks his condition had been such that little hope had been entertained for his recovery. Mr. McPeeters was 34 years of age and besides his wife and two children, the youngest child an infant of only four weeks, is survived by his parents and two sisters.

Mr. McPeeters was a native of Yancey county. He was a son of Mr. and Mrs. John C. McPeeters, of Pensacola, who were with him when the end came. He came to Marion about seven years ago and for the past three or four years has been engaged in the grocery business here. He enjoyed the high esteem of a large circle of friends and the family have the sincere sympathy of the community in their loss.

The funeral services were conducted from the residence Sunday afternoon at 4 o'clock by Rev. G. A. Martin, pastor of the Baptist church, assisted by Rev. J. C. Story, and interment took place at Oak Grove cemetery.

AS AN INVESTMENT the Build-and Loan has no equal. The 26th series opens July 1. Join the goodly throng of savers in this association. Remember, your savings here are tax free and net you 6 per cent on your money, the very best savings return with the greatest safety.

STATE NEWS OF THE WEEK

Items Concerning Events of Interest and Importance Throughout the State.

North Carolina's subscription to the Liberty loan bonds aggregated \$9,413,900.

Rev. Edward Long, pastor of the First Baptist church at North Wilkesboro, has resigned to accept a call to South Carolina.

Automobile license taxes are due July 1st. It is estimated that the State has 50,000 automobiles and that the taxes collected this year will amount to \$275,000.

Prof. Geo. W. Hahn, teacher, author of history of Cotawba soldiers and esteemed citizen of Hickory, died Sunday. He was in his 77th year.

Registrations officials at Raleigh thus far have received 70 acceptances and four refusals to serve on exemption boards, during the draft period. One hundred and seven exemption boards were named Monday.

With a population of only 1,500, and having already furnished the army and navy 76 men, one male out of every 20 of its population, Andrews, Cherokee county, claims to have set a record in recruiting that has not yet been equaled in the United States.

Increase of food and feed crop acreage in North Carolina will amount to a million and a half acres, according to estimates of Mr. J. M. Johnson, of the office of Farm Management of the North Carolina Agricultural Extension Service.

Train Load German Prisoners.

Statesville Landmark.

Five hundred and fifty-six Germans, prisoners of war, passed through Statesville about 9 o'clock Friday morning on their way to the detention camp at Hot Springs, in western North Carolina. The prisoners were aboard a special train of 10 cars. The men, some of them young, boyish-looking fellows, others older, were a clean-looking set. They had intelligent faces and good physiques. They were plainly pleased with their trip and curious as to the new quarters which they will permanently occupy until the close of the war. One man, addressing a bystander in excellent English, inquired as to the nature of the country in which they were to be detained. The prisoners were composed of naval officers, marines and wireless telegraph operators, interned at the outbreak of the war.

The advertisement of the North Carolina State College of Agriculture and Engineering appears in this issue of the Progress. That great institution offers comprehensive courses in Agriculture, Chemistry, Civil, Mechanical, and Electrical Engineering, and Textile Industry. At no time in the history of our country has the value of training in technical lines been so clearly understood and appreciated. Young men who desire to fit themselves for personal success and for efficient service to their country, will do well to investigate the courses offered at the State's technical college.