

MARION PROGRESS

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

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THE INTERNED GERMANS

Are Enjoying Life at Hot Springs Camp—554 at Mountain Park Hotel.

Hot Springs, June 29.—There are now interned in the government camp in this city in and around Mountain Park hotel 554 German sailors who were taken from the interned German vessels at the beginning of the war.

These Germans are principally officers of German steamers and merchant ships. They are most comfortably located in the Mountain Park hotel and seem to be happy and contented. They have the privileges of the grounds and are allowed to go anywhere about the same at will. They are not permitted to leave the grounds under any circumstances and visitors and strangers are not permitted to confer or communicate with them.

These Germans are under the control and management of the United States department of labor. The inspector in charge is Thomas V. Kirk, a well known North Carolinian, who formerly resided in Stanley county, North Carolina. At present he is assisted by Robert O'Donnell and F. W. Berkshire, both inspectors for the department of labor.

This camp is at the present time a most interesting place. Although it has been only a few days since the last allotment arrived, which consisted of about 450, the entire place has been put in order and there is a complete and perfect organization about the entire management.

The entire lot of 554 sit down to the table in the dining room at one time, with the exception of a few who act as cooks and waiters. A hospital has been equipped in charge of a government physician; a barber shop is maintained; the billiard and pool rooms are used constantly, while games of tennis, croquet, ball, cards and other sports are indulged in.

These interned Germans are men of very high order of intelligence. They are co-operating with the government officials in every way possible to make their internment pleasant and agreeable. They have organized an officers' council consisting of nine members, and to this council is brought all questions which would be for the betterment and entertainment and pleasure of the men.

One of these officers, Captain Miss, is president of the council, while some of the other members of the council are Captain Meyer Diercks, a fine old gentleman, who has been a sea captain for more than thirty years, and is the ranking captain of those present of the Hamburg-American line. Captain Doyer, another gentleman of intelligence and refinement, is a member of this council also. He is the ranking captain of the North German-Lloyd line.

A fine band, consisting of thirty-five pieces, which was taken from the interned German transport Tsingtau, makes splendid music. This band gives concerts two or three times a week.

Among those present are some very fine singers who entertain the others with songs of high order. Altogether these Germans are

as happy as could be expected under the circumstances. Each one of them is drawing pay from the steamship company by which they were employed, equivalent to 3-4 of their regular salary and none of them seem to desire to get away. They know that should they make an effort to escape that they will lose their pay; will also lose any right to pensions to which they may be entitled and in addition to that will run the risk of being recaptured and sent back to Ellis Island, which they say they were very glad to leave on account of crowded condition and lack of privileges which they are now enjoying.

These officers express themselves as highly pleased with the treatment they are receiving and are delightful and charmed with Hot Springs and their surroundings. The wives and children of these interned Germans will soon visit them at Hot Springs and it is said that many of them are making arrangements to remain there for an indefinite length of time.

Mr. Conley's administration is regarded as a most successful one and his many friends throughout the county will regret to learn that he will no longer be connected with the school work in McDowell as he was exceedingly popular. Mr. Conley hereafter will be actively connected with the Marion Novelty company.

Miles P. Flack was elected a member of the board of education to succeed J. C. Conley, resigned, and J. K. Cowan of Old Fort succeeds T. J. Gibbs, Mr. Cowan having been appointed recently by the Legislature. The new board organized by electing T. W. Stacy, a member of the old, as chairman, after which the election of the new superintendent was made. No action was taken as to the election of rural supervisor of schools. The appointment of township committees were made and other routine business transacted.

Exemption Board Organizes.

The exemption board for McDowell county met Monday and organized for its work. Geo. C. Conley was made chairman, J. W. Pless secretary, and the physician is Dr. G. B. Justice. The exemption boards will have to make out duplicate cards of the numbers of all the registered men in their territory and forward cards to the government at Washington. These numbers have to reach the war department by July 7, therefore it is surmised that the drawing of the draft is not far distant, but will occur about the 10th.

NEWS FROM THE COUNTY

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

DYSARTVILLE

Dysartville, July 2.—Miss Effie Walker of Arkansas is here for some time visiting her father and other relatives.

Mrs. Mamie Erwin, of Morganton, Mrs. Sophia Beck of Table Rock and W. N. Giles and son, Emmet, of Bridgewater visited their sister, Mrs. J. M. Goforth during the week.

Mrs. E. J. Higgins of Shelby spent the week-end here with relatives.

Misses Ethel and Virgie Hutchins of Marion visited their mother last week.

J. C. Goforth came home from Woodlawn for the rest of the summer.

The Children's Day was well attended here Sunday. Had a lengthy program in which the children did nicely.

Mrs. Rena Laughridge and family of Marion spent Sunday here.

F. J. Satterwhite of Spencer spent the week-end here with his bother, T. E. Satterwhite.

Misses Viney Raburn, Ethel Pyatt, Bertha England, Hattie and Goodloe Haney, Maggie Byrd; also Messrs. John and Ben Goforth, E. S. Brown, Parks Morris, Chas. Haney and others of Nealsville attended Children's Day here Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Landis and son, Clinton, of Marion spent the week-end with relatives here.

Miss Mamie Goforth and Emmett Giles motored to Morganton last Thursday to visit their aunt, Mrs. Mamie Erwin.

Quite a number of the young folks of Harmony Grove attended Children's Day Sunday.

Miss Addie and Guy Daves of Thermal City were visitors here Sunday.

M. P. Flack and family also H. F. Nanney and family of Vein Mountain were visiting relatives here during the week.

Z. V. Daves and family spent several days in Marion last week with relatives.

Tom Hall and Gertrude Hall were married here Sunday, Rev. M. W. Heckard officiating.

HARMONY GROVE

Harmony Grove, July 2.—Miss Hessie Simmons of Raleigh is at home for a while.

A large crowd of the people of this community attended the Children's Day exercise at Dysartville Sunday.

Miss Cora Gibbs spent a few days with relatives here a short time ago.

Born, to Mr. and Mrs. I. C. Crawley, June 29, a son.

Ed Crawley was in Bridgewater on business Saturday.

Mrs. John Biggerstaff is visiting her daughter here.

I. C. Crawley made a business trip to Marion one day last week.

Alexander Crawley was in Marion on business Saturday.

Building and Loan Meeting.

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the McDowell Building and Loan Association was held at the court house Monday night. The report of Secretary Neal was very satisfactory and the stockholders seemed well pleased with the year's showing.

Officers and directors of the association were re-elected as follows: Thomas Morris, president; R. F. Burton, vice-president; J. E. Neal, secretary and treasurer; D. E. Hudgins, attorney; Thomas Morris, R. F. Burton, D. E. Hudgins, J. Q. Gilkey, J. L. Morgan, Geo. I. White, W. M. Sweeney, J. E. Neal and G. S. Kirby, directors.

Work will begin, August 1st, on the old Jamestown exposition site, to create on Hampton Roads one of the greatest naval bases in the world. Work on a naval training station to accommodate 10,000 recruits is to begin immediately.

Mrs. Thomas Morris Passes Away.

Mrs. Mary Morris, wife of Thomas Morris, Clerk of Superior Court of McDowell county, died at her home on Morgan street Tuesday morning at 4 o'clock. Mrs. Morris had been in ill health for several months and her death came not unexpected. Mrs. Morris 49 years old and is survived by her husband and eight children, all of whom were present at the time of her death with the exception of the eldest son, E. H. Morris, of Portland, Oregon; three brothers, A. E. Neal of Marion, John Neal of Montfords Cove and W. C. Neal of Lockhart, S. C., and four sisters, Mrs. H. P. Keeter and Mrs. A. L. Bright of Marion, Mrs. A. C. Gardin of Nealsville and Mrs. Robt. G. Howard of Rutherfordton.

For many years Mrs. Morris was an active and devoted member of the Presbyterian church, being one of the most highly esteemed and best known women in this section. She was a most estimable woman, and her passing will bring regret to a large circle of friends and relatives who knew well her good deeds and lovable character.

The funeral services were conducted from the residence on Morgan street Wednesday afternoon by Rev. J. C. Story, assisted by Rev. G. A. Martin, pastor of the Baptist church, and interment was made at Oak Grove cemetery.

Chicken Law for McDowell County

The Progress is requested to call attention to the fact that the recent session of the legislature passed a bill entitled "An act to prevent the depredation of domestic fowls in McDowell County," making it unlawful for chickens and other domestic fowls to be permitted to run at large upon any land under cultivation. The act reads as follows:

Section 1. That it shall be unlawful for any person or persons in McDowell County to permit any turkeys, geese, ducks, chickens or other domestic fowls to run at large upon any land that may be cultivated in any kind of grain or feed stuff, or for gardens or for ornamental purposes after being notified as provided in section two of this act.

Section 2. That any person or persons so permitting his or her fowl as aforesaid to run at large after three days' notice to keep them up, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be fined not exceeding five dollars or imprisoned not exceeding five days, in the discretion of the court.

Section 3. That this act shall apply to McDowell County only.

Section 4. That this act shall be in force from and after its ratification.

Commissioners Meet.

The county commissioners held their regular monthly meeting at the court house Monday at which time the usual routine business was transacted. In order to raise funds sufficient to pay the indebtedness of the county for roads and bridges, it was decided to borrow \$20,000, and bids will be received on July 6th for this amount of funding bonds.

STATE NEWS OF THE WEEK

Items Concerning Events of Interest and Importance Throughout the State.

Mrs. Charles Tate died at her home in Morganton on Wednesday morning of last week. Before marriage she was Miss Jennie Hunter of McDowell County. She was 66 years old and is survived by her husband and four children.

C. D. Dehaven was killed and one of the brakemen was slightly injured when two freight trains on the C. C. & O. railway near Bostic, N. C., met in a head-on collision Sunday. Dehaven was engineer on one of the trains, and his death was instant.

Four trainmen were killed and two others injured early Saturday when two fast freights on the Seaboard Air Line collided head-on south of Franklin, about 20 miles north of Raleigh. The dead are Engineer H. Gaskins and Samuel G. Linkous of Portsmouth, Va., and Raleigh respectively, Fireman Oscar Wells of Raleigh and Brakeman George Napier of Portsmouth. Wells and Napier are White. G. S. Jacobs of Durham, telegraph operator at Franklinton, who it is charged was responsible for the wreck because he failed to hold the northbound train, is still in jail at Raleigh in default of a bond of \$2,000.

State's Wheat Crop May Pass 10,000,000 Bushels.

Raleigh, July 1.—Reports from all sections of North Carolina are that the harvesting of the grain crop of the state has been practically completed. Despite the fact that the wheat crop was damaged during the winter by the unprecedented freeze, indications are that the total production will be at least as much as it was last year while it may pass the 10,000,000 bushel mark. The increase in the wheat acreage was especially noticeable in eastern North Carolina where it has been popularly thought that wheat would not grow satisfactorily. In a few instances the estimated yields as high as 40 bushels per acre, have been reported from that section.

OAT CROP FAILURE.

The production of rye will also equal last year's crop. The oat crop is reported as a failure in practically all parts of the state because of the winter killing. W. C. Crosby, chief of the bureau of community service, who has just returned from a trip through the piedmont section of the state, expresses the belief that the campaign of the Food Conservation commission for an increase in the acreage of stubble lands planted in food and feed crops will meet a hearty response throughout the section he visited.

Brazil in the War.

Brazil having revoked her policy of neutrality the Brazilian navy has begun co-operations with the American fleet in South American waters in hunting down German sea raiders and watching for German submarines. Without formal declaration of war, Brazil thus practically has joined the United States against Germany.

Conley succeeded by N. F. Stette