

MARION PROGRESS

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

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DRAFT MEN HONORED

Exercises Held on Lawn at Home of J. Q. Gilkey, Address is Delivered and Dinner Served.

There can now be no doubt about the loyalty of the people of McDowell in this great war, nor can there be question that they love the soldiers and would do them the greatest honor. On Monday the largest crowd that Marion has seen at any celebration came here to bid the soldiers God-speed. The celebration was arranged and managed by the County Council of Defense, aided by the ladies of the Red Cross. The management had secured Hon. W. A. Self, of Hickory, as speaker of the occasion, and had arranged dinner for the drafted men and the Confederate Veterans. Before the hour arrived, it was seen that the court house would not accommodate one third of the crowd, and the porch and shady lawn of Mr. J. Q. Gilkey was selected as the place for speaking and assembly.

The exercises opened with a song by the ladies, "America." Dr. Scroggs then offered a beautiful prayer most suitable to the occasion. Mr. J. W. Winborne, Chairman of the County Council, had charge of the program, and welcomed the drafted men and soldiers. He gave reasons for the celebration and in doing so departed from his usual custom of simply talking sense, by adding eloquence to it. Mr. G. C. Conley, Chairman of the Board of Exemption, in a most excellent manner presented Mr. Self, who spoke for nearly an hour. Mr. Self is a remarkably forceful speaker, and while the crowd had to stand, no one realized the time and all stayed. When people hear Mr. Self they must think that no other speaker can equal him. He stirred the patriotic feelings of the audience, and he would have been heard attentively had he spoken several hours.

On behalf of the Ladies of the Red Cross, Rev. J. C. Story made a most earnest and forceful presentation of pocket New Testaments to each of the drafted men. The exercises were brought to a fitting close by the ladies singing "The Star Spangled Banner," followed by the band playing "Dixie." Dinner was served at the McDowell Hotel and the soldiers expressed their appreciation for its excellence and the hotel management is to be congratulated upon the service. The colored soldiers were served dinner at the colored Old Fellows Hall.

It was a great day for the people of the county. The patriotism coming from the songs, music and speaking was shared by all present.

Red Cross in Need of Funds.

The Red Cross needs funds to carry on the making of surgical dressings and to buy wool for the knitted articles which the Marion chapter is asked to furnish. One donation of five dollars has been received for this purpose and any one wishing to make other donations of any amount are requested to see Mr. J. W. Winborne, Mrs. R. F. Burton or Mrs. Beaman.

Services at St. John's next Sunday at 11 a. m. and 7:45 p. m.

"Patrons of High Art" Presented by Associated Charities.

The Associated Charities made their bow to the public on Tuesday evening, August 28, in the role of "Patrons of High Art." Rarely has a home talent program been presented here that has proved more convincing as to the talent that can be assembled within our own borders, and in so saying we are gratefully acknowledging the generosity of those who, from time to time, sojourn with us. The fine pipe organ and the hospitable auditorium of the Methodist church are prerequisites of such a program. Equally with those who gave of their talent and energy, we would thank the appreciative and sympathetic audience with its jingling coins.

There is a growing disposition to turn over all cases of need to the care of this society, and, while we willingly accept the charge, we beg the public to remember that the financing must keep pace with the responsibilities, and that if we relieve individuals of the calls formerly made upon them we must look to the public as a whole to stand behind our activities.

In attempting a formal appreciation of the program we are reminded of a desperate examinee—a victim of the new State Board of Examiners for teachers' certificates. Asked to give in his own words the thought in a certain profound quotation he replied, "The poem make it so plain that words of mine is unnecessary."

We are sure that those who enjoyed the whole program will supply their own comments of praise as they review the several numbers. The program follows:

Instrumental Solo—Sextette from Lucia; Julia Burton.

Vocal Solo—(selected), Hubert Poteat.

Instrumental Solo—(selected), Mrs. Logan Reid.

Vocal Solos—Swallows, At Dawning, Mrs. D. F. Giles.

Instrumental Solo—Grand March from Aida, Hubert Poteat.

Presentation of the cause of local charities, Mr. Winborne.

Sextette—Tenting Tonight, Farewell to Thee, Messrs. Poteat, Burton, Cutlar, Smith, Gwinn, A. Gilkey.

Instrumental Solo—Last Hope, Mrs. Logan Reid.

Vocal Solos—Until, O, Dry Those Tears, Sarah Kirby.

Instrumental Solo—Barcarolla (from Tales of Hoffman), Julia Burton.

Vocal Solo—The Young Warrior, Hubert Poteat.

The Associated Charities will hold their regular monthly meeting in the Methodist church on Monday, September the 10th at three o'clock.

Laughridge-Burleson.

Mr. Walter E. Laughridge of this place and Miss Viola Burleson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Burleson, of Spruce Pine, were quietly married at the Methodist parsonage in Old Fort Wednesday evening, August 29, Rev. R. F. Mock officiating. Mr. Laughridge is a son of Mrs. J. M. Laughridge and has been in the employment of J. D. Blanton for some time. We join his many friends in extending congratulations and good wishes.

NEWS FROM THE COUNTY

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

DYSARTVILLE

Dysartville, Sept. 3.—Miss Maude Cowan is spending some time with her sister, Mrs. W. P. Knox, in Statesville.

B. T. Daves and family have recently moved in the Curtis house.

R. E. Roper made a business trip to Marion today.

Miss Mayo Laughridge of Marion is visiting relatives here.

J. S. Cowan of Marion visited his father J. L. Cowan here Sunday. He was accompanied home by his family.

J. M. Laughridge and family are visiting parents and other relatives here.

Mrs. W. A. Dysart and children of Hickory returned home Monday. Mrs. Dysart was accompanied home by her sister, Mrs. W. H. Taylor; also her daughter, Miss Irene Dysart, who has spent more than three months here with her aunt.

J. S. Upton of Spencer spent the week-end with relatives here.

J. B. Cowan of Water Valley, Miss., came in Sunday to spend his vacation with parents and other relatives.

T. B. Landis took his daughter, Miss Lillie, and Daphne Spratt to Nebo Monday where they will go to school this year.

E. B. Satterwhite and W. H. Taylor made a business trip to Marion Monday.

C. N. Duval of Marion is visiting relatives here.

CAMP CREEK

Camp Creek, Sept. 3.—The Harmony Grove school is progressing nicely with a splendid attendance. We have the same teachers we had last year—J. A. Gettys and Miss Zelta Yelton. The attendance average is about fifty.

J. B. Lawing and son, Floyd, visited relatives at Casar the latter part of the week.

W. W. Huskins and J. J. Holland were in Marion on business Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Hensley and little son, Charlie, visited relatives at Mud Cut one day last week.

Bulow Simmons of Gastonia spent a few days with relatives here last week.

Miss Thelma Bowman spent last week with her sister in Marion.

Vince Anderson made a business trip to the Southern Power company's works during the week.

Miss Jessie McNeely was a visitor here Sunday.

Ben Gibbs of Fletchers is visiting his cousin, Carl Simmons.

J. M. Hensley and daughter, Miss Tina, were in Glenwood Tuesday.

Mrs. Annie Anderson and Miss Fannie Gardin visited their sister, Mrs. John Poteat, near Marion, last week.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Withers and little daughter of Marion visited homefolks here Sunday.

The Thompson's Fork string band played at the home of Miss Annie Bowman Saturday night. The music was enjoyed by all present.

CATAWBA VALLEY

Catawba Valley, Sept. 3.—Mrs. Ola Pendergrass and little son, George Edward, have returned to their home in Georgia after spending the summer months with relatives here and in Rutherfordton.

Miss Carrie Morgan and niece, little Miss Alice Morgan, of Rutherfordton, are visiting relatives here.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert D. Taylor came over from Knoxville, Tenn., last week on a visit to the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. M. G. Pendergrass. Mr. Taylor has returned home but Mrs. Taylor will continue her visit for several weeks.

Mrs. Rebecca Tate visited relatives in Stroudtown last week.

Mr. and Mrs. G. G. Pendergrass were visitors in the Valley Sunday.

H. A. Tate is visiting homefolks here.

There will be an ice cream supper at Glenwood school house Saturday night, Sept. 8. The proceeds will go for repairs on the school building.

Fine Map to School Having Largest Enrollment.

As a stimulus to enlarge the enrollment in every public school in McDowell County this year, Congressman Zebulon Weaver, through Supt. N. F. Steppe, has offered a large colored map of the United States to the school having enrolled the highest percentage of its school census.

Mr. Weaver expects to make this offer year after year until every school in McDowell County has one of these maps. To accomplish this it will be necessary to eliminate from the contest each year the school winning the map the previous year.

Supt. N. F. Steppe is sending out a circular letter this week to all teachers of the county announcing Mr. Weaver's offer and explaining the rules of the contest.

School Notes.

The enrollment and attendance at Greenlee have grown to such proportions that another teacher has become necessary. Miss Iris Ruth, of Marion, has been secured as assistant with the lower grade work.

An entertainment and box supper was given at Siloam school Saturday night for the benefit of the school. A neat sum was realized, which will be used for school improvements.

A number of schools report that buildings and grounds have been improved, and several have put in sanitary drinking fountains and cups.

Hankins school opened Monday with Miss Blanche Houck as principal. A community fair is being planned for this school. Further notice will appear later.

The mill schools will open Monday, September 17. Competent and experienced teachers have been secured, and prospects are bright for good schools at both places.

Notice to High School Students.

The high schools at Nebo, Marion and Old Fort are schools receiving aid from the State High School Fund. No charge for tuition will be made for students entering the high school department in any one of these schools. Every boy and girl in McDowell County prepared for high school and wishing to attend a good high school should enter one of these schools as early as possible.

No county in the State can boast of better high school advantages than McDowell.

N. F. STEPPE, Co. Supt.

Notice to Primary Teachers.

The primary manuals for Free & Treadwell's first reader have been secured for the use of primary teachers in the schools of McDowell County. No charge is made for the manuals, but teachers wishing a copy sent out by mail will kindly enclose 6c for postage. Every teacher in the primary grades should secure one of these manuals at once, as it is invaluable as an aid to the proper teaching of the first reader, Free & Treadwell series.

N. F. STEPPE, Supt.

The Twentieth Century Club will meet with Mrs. R. F. Burton Thursday evening at 4 o'clock. A full attendance is desired.

STATE NEWS OF THE WEEK

Items Concerning Events of Interest and Importance Throughout the State.

The 5-month-old baby boy of W. B. Craig, a farmer living near Belmont, Gaston county, choked to death on a piece of bread.

Gus. Lydia, a lineman employed by the telephone company at Hendersonville, was instantly killed when his neck came in contact with a heavily charged wire, as he was working on a terminal pole. He was 29 years old and married.

To supply the great demand for typewriters and stenographers in the government service, civil service examinations will be held Saturday, 8th, at a number of places in the State—Asheville, Charlotte, Greensboro and Salisbury among others.

William Hicks, aged 21, shot and killed his brother-in-law, Calvin Faison, aged 28, in Wake county. When overtaken by officers several hours later Hicks said that Faison was advancing on him in a threatening manner after he had rebuked him for mistreatment of Mrs. Faison, Hicks' sister.

A telegram from Dr. Yen of China, Medical Director of Mines of that country, to the State Board of Health, states that this Chinese physician is on his way to North Carolina to study the prevention of soil pollution, particularly hookworm disease. Dr. Yen was directed to North Carolina's method of soil prevention work by the International Health Board. He is now in New York City.

Not Only a Duty, But Opportunity.

Every acre owes its capacity, and every farmer his energy in growing the needs of our country's rescue of liberty. Not only patriotism appeals, but profit guarantees the results. This county should increase its acreage of wheat and rye 25% and its method of planting 50%. Break as long before planting as possible. Fine the land; use good seed; have fertilizer on hand, and plant at the right time.

Save all good brood animals. The world's shortage is appalling—110,000,000 less cattle, sheep and hogs than three years ago.

There is nothing offering greater promise of big profits than raising lambs and sheep for wool. There is no better place adapted to sheep raising than McDowell county. Don't wait, nor be frightened about dogs. They have had their day. Patriotism and good business will decide the fate of the dog.

J. L. THURMAN.

Percentage of Killed.

Washington, Sept. 1.—Eleven out of every 11,000 men on the western front in Europe are killed in action, according to French official figures which Secretary of War Baker made public today. The percentage of killed, is much less now than earlier in the war. The high mark of casualties in the French army was at the battles of Charleroi and the Marne, when 541 men in every 10,000 were killed or wounded. The killed have not exceeded 20 per cent of the total casualties.