

MARION PROGRESS

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

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NEBO SCHOOL CLOSES

Most Prosperous Year in History of School—Special Tax Election Carried by Big Majority.

The annual commencement of Nebo High School began with the annual sermon by Rev. G. A. Martin, pastor of Marion Baptist church at the Nebo High School auditorium on Sunday, May 5th. A large audience was present to hear Mr. Martin, who delivered a strong message to the class of 1918, taking as his subject "Life's Tasks," from his text as follows: "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God." Rev. Martin spoke of the two conceptions of what should constitute a life. He urged upon the members of the class the great importance of living a life of service; a life that would mean much toward the betterment of humanity, warning them that the successful career is not always the one most applauded by men.

On Tuesday night the primary department rendered a very beautiful program. The children had been well trained for the occasion and the audience gave evidence of its appreciation of the program by prolonged and continued applause. After the conclusion of the program by the school Supt. N. F. Stepp introduced Mr. B. B. Price, Chairman of the high school board, and Attorney D. E. Hudgins, of Marion. Mr. Price spoke of the importance of education, telling of the work that has been done, not only at Nebo, but in the county for the past several years. Attorney Hudgins made a strong plea for the upbuilding of the school work at Nebo. He told the Nebo folks that the entire county has its eyes on the school at Nebo, and in order for the school to render the service that is being required of it, it would be necessary to continue its up-building progress.

On Wednesday morning the commencement exercises were held. The graduating class consisted of nine—seven young ladies and two young men; the salutatorian being Mr. Bruce Tate, and the valedictorian, Miss Katherine Yoder. The other class parts were as follows:

Class History, Miss Helen Wilson; Class Poem, Miss Maggie Parks; Class Song, Miss Margaret Dobson; Class Prophecy, Miss Lillian Hunter; Class Will, Miss Deller Patton; Statistics, Miss Mattie Hunter.

The young graduates were attired in pleasing and appropriate costumes. They presented a very beautiful appearance to the large audience present. After class parts had been rendered the bugle call was sounded and roll call and presentation of service flag were given by Mr. Bruce Tate. Principal H. B. Craven then announced the names of the graduating class and requested that Mr. B. B. Price, chairman of high school committee, to deliver the diplomas. Mr. Price in a few well chosen and appropriate words awarded each one their diploma.

After the conclusion of the graduating exercises, Mr. D. F. Giles, former principal of Nebo High School and County Superintendent

of McDowell County, spoke to a large and enthusiastic audience at the school auditorium. Mr. Giles spoke of the beginning of the school work at Nebo, telling of his personal experiences and pleasures in watching the school grow and develop to its present stage of usefulness. He also spoke of the future possibilities for Nebo and urged upon the folks that they be not lax or lukewarm in their efforts to keep pace with the educational requirements of Nebo and McDowell county.

On Wednesday night the high school department gave its annual play, "Claim Allowed." The parts were well rendered and held the audience spellbound to the conclusion.

The Nebo school has had the most satisfactory year in its history. The school opened up in August, with Mr. John M. Tyler as principal, who resigned in February to accept a position in Marion. Mr. H. B. Craven was secured to finish up the year's work. So well had Mr. Tyler organized the school and put it in operation that little disorganization was brought about with the change in principals. The lady teachers were Miss Nannie McCall, lady principal; Miss Mary Greenlee, high school teacher, Miss Louise Brown and Miss Estelle Wilson, grade teachers, and Miss Pearl Gibbs, music teacher, who have rendered excellent service to the school during the past year. The success of the school has been due to the cooperation of the teachers, principal and people in the Nebo community.

The affairs of the dormitory were ably taken care of by Mrs. Tyler during the fall and winter months and Mrs. Masters during the spring months. The expenses of the students for board at the dormitory were very low considering the high price of food stuff.

The feature of the Wednesday program was the special tax election for the purpose of determining the wishes of the voters relative to the issuing of \$20,000.00 bonds, for the purpose of building a modern school building for Nebo and an increase of 20 cents on the special levy for maintenance. The voters of Nebo turned out in solid phalanx. The measure carried early in the morning by a great majority. The new building will be erected at the earliest possible moment.

Pinnacle School District to Vote Special Tax for Schools.

Pinnacle school district in Dysartsville township is asking for an election to vote a special tax on all property and polls in that district to supplement the school fund for their school. The petition was presented to the county commissioners at their meeting on last Monday, being practically unanimous, and little if any opposition to the measure is expected.

The Pinnacle section is one of the most progressive communities in the county. It is one of the best farming sections in Dysartsville township. The people are wide awake and take great interest in everything pertaining to the welfare of the neighborhood.

Born, to Mr. and Mrs. Seawell Avary, April 29th, a daughter.

NEWS FROM THE COUNTY

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

OLD FORT

Old Fort, May 5.—With an organized effort on the part of Hugh F. Little, manager of the Third Liberty Loan campaign, for McDowell county and the local citizens, headed by F. M. Bradley, W. M. Treverton, I. H. Green, J. M. Kanipe and others, Old Fort not only subscribed her quota but has doubled it, and there is a fair chance of the little town at the foot of the Blue Ridge getting two stars in her honor flag.

The local committee is rejoicing over the loyal spirit shown by the citizens of the town in responding to the needs of the government. In justice to a number of those who did not subscribe to Liberty bonds it can be said that they are doing more than their part in buying War Savings stamps. Several of only modest means having purchased the limit for themselves and families. The town has already subscribed more than a third of its quota of the stamps.

The local committee is rejoicing for its annual commencement which will be on date of May 23 and 24. Rev. W. F. Powell, of Asheville, will deliver the annual sermon Thursday morning, May 23. It is expected that a large crowd will be present to hear Dr. Powell since several years ago he served as pastor of the local Baptist church.

The school has made wonderful progress during the past year under the able superintendency of Prof. M. S. Giles, formerly superintendent of McDowell county schools and an efficient corps of teachers. The Old Fort school is one of the leading High schools in the western part of the state. Only a few years ago the town voted bonds and erected a handsome and modernly equipped twenty thousand dollar building. The people of Old Fort are heartily in favor of any thing pertaining to the upbuilding of the cause of education in the town and community.

Memorial Day Program.

Following is the program for the Memorial Day exercises of the United Daughters of the Confederacy to be held at the court house Friday, beginning at 10:30 a. m.:

Invocation, Rev. B. S. Lassiter.
Song, America.
Welcome Address, Mrs. J. Q. Gilkey.
Roll Call, Mrs. R. F. Burton.
Presentation of Gavel by Mr. T. Y. Lytle.

What I Owe to the World's War, and Why, Rev. J. C. Story.
The Old South, Rev. W. L. Hutchins.
Red Cross War Fund, Rev. G. A. Martin.

Memorial Service for the Confederate dead.
Song, Star Spangled Banner.

AFTERNOON PROGRAM, 2 P. M.

The presentation of the Honor Flags. The honor flags of the city and county will be presented unfurled and accepted. The county flag will be presented by Chairman Hugh F. Little and accepted Mr. D. E. Hudgins. The city flag will be presented by Mrs. J. W. Winborne, vice-chairman, and accepted by Mayor Ratliffe. The county flag will be unfurled by F. Frances Lytle, Jr., and the city flag by Albert Blanton.

The flags were given to the city and county by the Government for the honor of oversubscribing their quota to the third Liberty loan.

This will be a great day for McDowell and all are invited to attend. Music will be furnished by the Morganton band.

The county exemption board has received instructions to entrain 45 white men for Camp Jackson on May 25. The list of men will be published next week.

Christian Charity—One Hundred Million Dollars in Mercy.

During Red Cross week, May 20 to 27, the American people will be asked to give \$100,000,000 for the relief of the world's suffering—victims of cruel war. This will be both a gift and a loan. A gift in that not a single giver will expect to receive one cent in return. Unlike war savings stamps and Liberty bonds, this will be a simple gift and yet in a higher and holier sense it is a loan from which the giver may receive great gains. "He that giveth to the poor lendeth to the Lord." The Lord never repudiates an honest claim. Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these, my brethren, ye have done it unto me. Enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

Of this \$100,000,000, the Marion chapter with its auxiliaries is asked to raise \$3,500, apportioned as follows: Marion \$2,000, Old Fort \$500, and Burnsville and vicinity \$1,000. Every preacher in the two counties is expected to preach a sermon on the Red Cross work on May 19th and take an offering for this worthy cause. Pastors with more than one church will have to preach on other days. Rev. G. A. Martin, speakers' chairman for these counties, will be glad to furnish speakers to any community wishing such service for a rally day between this and the closing of the campaign on May 27. He is trying to get to each pastor suggestive material for Red Cross addresses. Should any pastor fail to receive supplies for same he will appreciate a request by card for such matter.

McDowell county went over the top on the Third Liberty loan and proved her patriotism. Now we have a chance to exhibit our Christian charity. This, no less than the other, is a test of loyalty, both to our country and to our Christ.

The committee to assist in the Red Cross War Fund campaign, May 20 27, is composed of the following named citizens:

Marion: B. B. Price, chairman, J. Q. Gilkey, J. W. Winborne, J. G. Beaman, R. F. Burton, W. W. Neal, Dr. P. D. Sinclair, H. F. Little, D. E. Hudgins, E. H. Dysart, Rev. G. A. Martin, W. C. Smith, S. E. Whitten; Mesdames J. W. Pless, J. Q. Gilkey, J. G. Beaman, P. D. Sinclair, E. H. Dysart, R. F. Burton, D. E. Hudgins, J. W. Winborne, G. S. Kirby, W. W. Neal, Minnie Blanton, H. F. Little and Miss Moss.

McDowell Goes Over The Top.

McDowell went over the top last week in subscriptions to the third Liberty Loan. The county quota was over-subscribed about twenty-five per cent, the county allotment being \$90,000 and the total subscribed is reported to be \$110,000.

The campaign was carried to all parts of the county and participated in by all classes of citizens, bonds being bought by laborers, business and professional men and women in general. Honor flags have been secured by Chairman Little for Marion, Nebo and Old Fort. The latter place will have one star in its flag for one hundred per cent over-subscription. The flags have been mounted on attractive poles at the personal expense of Chairman Little, the flag for Marion to be presented to the women's committee for its persistent and aggressive work in the campaign.

STATE NEWS OF THE WEEK

Items Concerning Events of Interest and Importance Throughout the State.

Fifteen thousand cans—a car load—of home-canned tomatoes were shipped from Catawba county a few days ago, says the Enterprise. They were shipped to Atlanta. The price for the car load averaged \$1.25 a dozen.

Rev. Daniel A. Dortch, a Baptist minister and a hymn writer, was held under \$200 bond after a hearing before a United States commissioner in Charlotte, to answer the charge of using seditious language in a sermon he preached in Amity Presbyterian church, Mecklenburg county.

At Goldsboro Mildred Gurley, 12 years old, was accidentally shot and killed by Jesse Lyndall, aged 8. The boy pointed a 22-rifle at the girl, calling her a German spy, and pulled the trigger. The bullet entered the girl's forehead and she died almost instantly. The children were playing, it is said, and the weapon was supposed to be unloaded.

Liberty Loan Four Billion or More.

While the exact total of the third Liberty loan subscriptions in the whole country will not be known for near a week, it is believed that the actual total will reach \$4,000,000,000 or more. The last tabulations reported show \$3,316,528,250. As subscriptions closed Saturday night at midnight, many reports are yet to be received.

Analysis of the reports show that probably 17,000,000 persons bought bonds—7,000,000 more than in the second loan and 12,500,000 more than in the first.

The subscriptions in North Carolina, up to Saturday night, amounted to \$21,118,150, which is \$2,467,150 in excess of the minimum allotment to the State.

Graded School Commencement.

The Senior class of the Marion High School will present its play, "Claim Allowed," Tuesday night, May 14. This is a patriotic play and in keeping with the spirit of the times. On Wednesday night the Senior class exercises and the commencement address will be the program. The address will be delivered by Prof. A. Currie of Davidson College.

Admission on Tuesday night will be ten cents for children and fifteen cents for adults. Admission on Wednesday night is free.

Ascension Day.

The most wonderful event of Christ's life receives the least attention. The Ascension is the completion of the Resurrection, the opening of the doors, (Rev. 4) exalting human nature, womanhood and manhood above the inconstant changing moon (Rev. 12). It influenced profoundly the latter writings of the new testament (Col. 3, 2 Cor. 4: 18) It does not influence us so much. We have lost the vivid scene, but the words remain true, "So I am with you always." He is everywhere present to us all, Ps. 46., and when the veil is removed "Every eye shall see Him." As the sun by its ascension is present to all, so is the ascended Lord of Glory present.

Today (Thursday) is Ascension Day, when Christ ascended up into the heavens. Services at St. John's at 8:30 p. m.