

MARION PROGRESS

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A GREAT WAR SPEECH

Governor Bickett Delivers Thrilling Patriotic Address to a Big Crowd in Marion.

With laughter for his wit, tears for his pathos, and deep earnest attention to his argument for earnest participation by all in the great war effort of our people, a great crowd was held captive for two hours by Governor Bickett, on Monday, in one of the greatest speeches ever delivered in Marion.

Governor Bickett was escorted from the residence of Mr. J. Q. Gilkey, whose guest he was, to the court house by the Home Guard in full uniform. He was presented to the audience by attorney J. W. Pless, with a brief statement, in which he said that history would accord Governor Bickett a position with Governor Vance as one of the great "War Governors."

On account of the fact that Governor Bickett desired especially to speak to the country people, many of whom could not get into the court house, the children under fifteen years of age, after a five minutes' talk by Governor Bickett, were requested by the committee to give room to many women and men who were unable to hear the Governor until the children vacated. Governor Bickett, without any preparation, made a very delightful talk to the children, and then proceeded with his great speech. He was able to show that this country, led by the President, had done everything in the power of mortal man to avoid this war, except to sacrifice the honor of the nation and its safety. He quoted from the records, showing that it was undoubtedly the desire of Germany to conquer France, Russia and England, and then land in Mexico with a great army and Germanize America. He showed that Germany had so planned and on its world map had written in large letters over the territory of the United States and Canada the word Germania. Germany thought that America would not fight. The audience greatly cheered him when he stated that Germany would not only have to write in red over this country, but, before it could Germanize this country, it would have to drench it in the red blood of this people.

He paid his respects or disrespects to the slacker. According to the Governor, when this war is over, no one will be held in such great contempt as the soldier slacker who attempts to hide behind his wife's skirts and avoid service or attempts by any other means to keep out of the army. He also showed that those who failed to contribute assistance to soldiers by purchasing bonds and aiding the Red Cross and other great works organized for the boys "over there" would be held by the boys who returned as great slackers, as the boys who avoided or attempted to avoid service. Records are being kept of what every man and woman is doing and these records will be scanned closely by the soldiers to see what has been done while they were offering their lives. For those who failed the Governor stated that it were better that a mill-stone were hanged about their necks and they cast into the sea. He paid a beautiful tribute to the

patriotism of the women, they were offering their husbands, sons, sweethearts, relatives and friends, without grudging, overcoming their tears with their smiles so that the boys might serve their country without worry as to conditions at home.

He showed that the statesmen of all other great nations in war with Germany, as well as neutral nations, and all of the great men of this country—Democrats and Republicans—were looking to our great President for guidance and all were recognizing him as the one great and preminent statesman of the world. He made a great plea that all participate in the great Liberty Loan now asked by the Government. It should not be by the rich alone, but that, even at great sacrifice, the poor should participate. It is an honor and privilege even though it brings hardship. It cannot bring to any such hardship as the boys are willing to make in offering their lives in behalf of this country and behalf of women and children and the civilization of the world.

His closing description of Liberty bonds was eloquent.

Led by the choir and Mr. J. G. Stikeleather, who is assisting the Governor in his campaign in the west, patriotic songs were rendered, after which the campaign for subscriptions was started by a subscription of \$10,000 announced by the Governor as being made by Mr. Hugh F. Little. Many thousands of dollars subscriptions were obtained in the afternoon, and the committees throughout the county will be earnestly at work throughout this week.

Old Fort Graded School Goes Over The Top.

The new allotment of war savings stamps to the schools was sent out about two weeks ago. The amount allotted to Old Fort Graded School was \$2000. It required but about two afternoons for the boys and girls of this school to secure pledges for the school's quota. They not only secured pledges for the total amount allotted, but about \$600 in excess, making the total pledges amount to a sum of about \$2600, thus being first among the schools to "go over the top."

The Old Fort school organized a war savings society during last year. The students did very effective work in selling war savings stamps and liberty bonds. The student-body is very enthusiastic and always does well any task assigned to it.

The management of the school is very much pleased with the school and work as started off this year.

Linen Shower for Red Cross.

The Red Cross commissioner for France has cabled that the hospitals are in urgent need of the following supplies: Bath towels, hand towels and handkerchiefs, and has decided to ask our chapter to share in providing these articles. Every family is asked to contribute one article, or a set of articles of household linen from its reserve stock. The articles wanted should be new, or substantially new, and of strong texture, and should be laundered before being sent in.

The articles are to be delivered at the Red Cross room any time on Thursday afternoon, Oct. 3, or by 10 o'clock Friday morning. The allotment for the Marion chapter of the Red Cross is: One hundred and three bath towels 18x38 inches, 205 hand towels 15x30, and 143 handkerchiefs 18x18.

NEWS FROM THE COUNTY

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

STROUDTOWN

Stroudtown, Oct. 1.—A number of the people here attended the singing convention in Marion last Sunday.

Miss Maggie Byrd spent the latter part of last week with relatives at Nealsville and Old Fort.

Rev. Wacaster who has been here for several weeks is still conducting a very successful revival meeting at the Methodist church, and has succeeded in having one hundred conversions up to this time.

The school at Stroudtown is still progressing nicely with a large enrollment of seventy-five pupils. The W. W. Society which has recently been organized with 40 members gave a very interesting program on Friday, Sept. 27, to the mothers of the community.

Sergt. Eugene Byrd who has been overseas for six months, and who has been sent here as an instructor made a short call to see relatives here last week.

George Hawkins of Cleveland, South Carolina, has again moved to Stroudtown. We are very glad to have him back as a neighbor.

There will be a quarterly meeting at the Methodist church here next Thursday and Friday.

Misses Maggie Byrd and Ethel Wilson with many others attended the speaking by Gov. Bickett at Marion on last Monday.

Following is the Stroudtown school honor roll for the month of September: Ray Bowman, Jessie Bowman, Shirley Flowers, Hubert Flowers, Elva Frisbie, Buford Elliott, Dora Hensley, Kate Hensley, Isabelle Vanderburg, Helen Frisbie, Clarence Nichols, Reid Hill, Albert Hensley, Don Nichols, Winslow Pendergrass, Floyd England, Robert Hill, Marie England.

NEBO

Nebo, Oct. 1.—The Literary Societies have postponed their program for Friday night on account of the revival services which are in progress.

Rev. D. S. Richardson, of Harris, placed his little daughter, Vivian, in the dormitory Monday.

Mr. C. Whiton of Washington spent Sunday night at the boy's cottage and left his son in school.

Roscoe Pyatt of Old Fort entered school Monday.

Board at the dormitory the past month was \$8 25. Everyone was surprised at the cost and well pleased with the fare. We doubt whether anyone but our efficient manager, Mrs. Masters, could have brought the high cost of living and low rate of board together.

HONOR ROLL

In order to be on the honor roll pupils must have perfect attendance and have made an average of 90% on their work.

First grade: Louise Boyman, Vestal Teague, Emma Walker. Second grade: Sara Brown, Jack Headrick, Mabel Pyatt, Eunice Stacy. Third grade: Billy Bowman, Pauline Frye, Mary Alice Headrick, Katherine Hunter, Ruth Kincaid. Fourth grade: Vinolin Teague, Edna Drake, Bonnie Padgett. Fifth grade: Mary Eula Wick, Hazel Brown, Lucile Hemphill, Velma Penland, Anna Faye Cuthbertson. Sixth grade: Vivian DeVault, Lola DeVault, Mattie Bailey, Betty Radford. Eighth grade: Daphne Spratt. Eleventh grade: Lillie Landis.

THOMPSON'S FORK

Thompson's Fork, Sept. 30.—Mrs. John McNeely of Hankins visited her father, James Hemphill, last week.

Misses Mary Lou and Jessie Coe McNeely visited their sister, Mrs. Leila Morris, in Johnson City last week.

Ben Hemphill was in Marion on business Thursday.

Mrs. Ivy Gibbs and children were visitors in Nebo, Sunday.

Mrs. S. C. McNeely and son, Sewell, were shopping in Nebo Friday.

Mrs. Maude Cuthbertson and two children of Marion were visitors here last week.

Tom Cuthbertson of this place has

purchased the Sorrels' farm near Harmony Grove.

John Hemphill attended the singing convention at Marion Sunday.

Miss Bena Hemphill was shopping in Nebo last week.

Mrs. J. N. Yelton and daughter, Ruth, were visitors in Nebo Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Henline and little daughter of Marion visited relatives here Sunday.

Miss Mary Lou McNeely has returned to Morganton after a vacation spent here.

James Henline visited his daughter in Marion Sunday.

Bryan and Sewell McNeely spent Monday in Bridgewater.

GREENLEE

Greenlee, Sept. 30.—Mrs. R. W. Tate spent last week with her sister in North Cove.

Mrs. W. H. Greenlee is visiting her brother, who is very ill, in Georgia.

Melvin Burnett spent last Friday in Asheville.

A number of the people of this community attended the singing convention in Marion Sunday which was enjoyed by all.

Troyal Moody of Virginia spent last week with his brother here.

Miss Rebecca Greenlee, who has been in school at Nebo, is at home for a few days.

Miss Margaret Dobson spent the week-end with homefolks here.

Born, to Mr. and Mrs. John Hennessee, Sept. 26, a daughter.

Mrs. Lamb and little daughter are both in the hospital at Marion for treatment.

Miss Annie Wells, who is teaching at the Chinchfield cotton mill spent the week-end with homefolks.

Miss Camilla Dobson spent Saturday and Sunday with her parents here.

Lyceum Course for Marion.

This announcement comes, I am sure, with much interest and genuine pleasure to the citizens of Marion. To have a high class Lyceum course is a credit to and speaks well for any town. Do you care to patronize that which brings before you the highest ideals, the finest entertainments, the greatest inspiration, the noblest of our arts, in short the truest and best to which man has yet attained? Then you are immediately interested in the high class course which is to be had here this year. It is our purpose to do good, to inspire the intellectual and moral tastes for better things. We confidently expect your patronage; you owe it yourself, to your town, and to the public spirited citizens of your town who have made it possible that a Lyceum course is to be here this year.

The course will be held in the Graded School auditorium. Tickets for the season, or any number of the course, may be had from any member of the guarantors. Look them up before they call.

The course comes through the Redpath Lyceum Bureau and consists of five attractions, via: The Maritime Quartet, Marvel Miller, Altha Concert Company, Robert Manlove and the St. Claire Sisters. The first number will be The Maritime Quartet on Thursday evening, October 10. Don't miss it.

Now, dear citizen, attend all the attractions and support the ones who have most willingly made the course possible. They are W. W. Neal, Ceph Blanton, E. B. Clark, C. F. James, W. C. Smith, J. L. Morgan, F. F. Gwin, Eugene Cross, T. J. Halliburton, W. L. Morris, R. L. Gilkey, W. W. Guy, Hugh F. Little and Byron Conley.

Thanking you in advance for your patronage, I am

very sincerely,
T. A. HOLTON, Sec'y.

BURGARS SURRENDER ALL

Withdraw from War While Victory After Victory Rests on Banners of the Allies.

Bulgaria is definitely out of the war and Turkey, virtually cut off from communication with her allies and her armies in Palestine almost annihilated, likely soon will be forced to sue for a cessation of hostilities against her.

Meanwhile the entente allied forces from Belgium to Verdun on six battle fronts are registering victory after victory over the Teutonic arms, and the enemy front almost everywhere is crumbling, notwithstanding the desperate resistance that is being offered on various sectors.

Seeing eventual defeat staring her in the face through the swift progress of the Serbian, Italian, French and Greek troops in the reclaiming of Serbia and the invasion of Bulgarian territory, the Bulgars begged for an armistice, reserving to themselves no conditions. All the territory now held by King Ferdinand's men is to be evacuated; the Bulgarian army is to be immediately demobilized and all means of transport inside the kingdom, even along the Danube, is to be given over into allied hands.

Thus, in addition to the isolation of Turkey, the back door to a direct invasion of Austria Hungary is flung open to the allies and doubtless the time is not far distant when advantage to the full will be taken to the new avenue through which the enemy can be reached. With the debacle in Serbia and Bulgaria complete, the Austro-Hungarians in Albania soon will be put to the test, and when their evacuation to their own borders is accomplished, the allies will have welded an iron semi-circle about the central powers from the Black sea to the North sea.

Viewing the situation in all its aspects—the success of the great offensive in Belgium and France; the blotting out of the war zone in the Balkans; the cutting off of the Turks from intercourse with Germany and Austria-Hungary except by the long route through the Caucasus and southern Russia and the steady gains that are being made by the allies in making Russia once more a factor in the struggle—the darkest days of the war seemingly are faced by the Austro-Germans.

On all the sectors under attack from Belgian Flanders to the region of Verdun the German front is gradually bending back under the violence of the attacks of the British, Americans, French and Belgians. In Belgium the advance of the troops of King Albert and of Field Marshal Haig have proceeded so deeply eastward that Germany's submarine bases on the North sea are in jeopardy, through the impending cutting of the lines of communication behind them. The famous Messines-Wytschaete ridge has been captured and the allied guns dominate the plains beyond.

In the region of St. Quentin, where the Americans are fighting with the British, the old Hindenburg line has been cut and penetrated to a depth of three miles over a front of eight miles.

St. Quentin has at last been taken by the French after bitter fighting.