

MARION PROGRESS

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

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J. A. LAUGHRIDGE PASSES

Popular Ex-Sheriff Died Suddenly Thursday Evening—Funeral Services Sunday.

The people of this community and the entire county were greatly shocked to learn of the sudden death of Ex-Sheriff John A. Laughridge, which occurred about 10 o'clock Thursday night. He was in his office in his usual spirits during Thursday, no one of course thinking that the end of the venerable officer was so near. His illness was of only a few minutes' duration. He had retired, and his wife, upon coming to his bed room, found him struggling for breath. In a few seconds, before anyone could reach him, he had passed away.

Sheriff Laughridge was a man of powerful physique. He had always enjoyed the best of health. Descended from a family of sturdy stock, remarkable for long lives, he could have reasonably expected, barring accidents, to have lived many years more. The cause of his death is unknown.

Sheriff Laughridge, as he has been known to his friends for many years, was one of the most popular and influential citizens of McDowell county. Prior to his coming to Marion he lived at Dysartsville where he was engaged in farming and business. About sixteen years ago he was elected county commissioner and has continued in office since that time, serving several terms as register of deeds and the last eight years as sheriff of the county. As an officer he was diligent and assiduous in the performance of his duty. His integrity and honesty have never been questioned or doubted. The fact that he was never defeated in a close county bespeaks the high esteem in which he was held, not only by his own constituency but by his political opposition.

As a friend and neighbor John Laughridge was loved by all. His home was always open to his many friends and his pocket book to anyone in distress or want. Many a poor widow has been helped by this kind man in his plain, unassuming way—the world knowing nothing about it. He was a great lover of home and family. When not on duty he could always be found at his own fireside.

A short funeral service was held at the home on Garden street by Rev. J. T. Bowden of the Baptist church, the final service being concluded at the Methodist church at Dysartsville, the home church of the deceased, by Rev. W. L. Hutchins. The Masonic fraternity, of which the deceased was a member, had charge of the exercises which were extremely beautiful and impressive. A large delegation from the Marion lodge accompanied to remains of the departed brother and participated in the last sad rites.

Owing to the great popularity and large circle of friends of Mr. Laughridge the funeral was largely attended. More people, it is said, were present at his funeral than at any one ever held before in the Dysartsville section. The large Methodist church was inadequate to take care of the immense crowd on hand to pay their

last respects to a fellow citizen and popular officer.

Mr. Laughridge was 62 years old and is survived by his wife and the following children: Claud Laughridge, of Bostie; Mrs. P. D. Spratt, of Burke county; Mrs. Robert M. Wilson, Charles, Coy, Mary Alice and Florine Laughridge; five brothers, William A., David, Mark, Collett and Lark Laughridge; also one sister, Mrs. Lou Dysart, of Lawndale.

The sympathy of the entire citizenship of the county goes out to the bereaved relatives in their sad loss.

Successful Revival Closes.

The revival meeting which was conducted at the Methodist church by Rev. Tom P. Jimison, of Mount Airy, came to a close last Thursday night. The meetings were very successful. There were a number of conversions and several additions to the church.

The preaching was done by Rev. Jimison and was very able. His sermons were preached in a language that everyone could understand. His propositions were always to the point and well established.

The concluding service on Thursday evening was very touching. Talks were made by the pastors of the various churches of Marion, commenting upon the great work which had been done in the meetings. It is the consensus of opinion that the people of this community have been stirred from top to bottom; that they have been given new visions and higher ideals.

Officers Elected at Quarterly Conference Monday Night.

The fourth quarterly conference for Marion station was held at the parsonage Monday night. Prof. T. A. Holton was elected Sunday School superintendent with E. H. Dysart, assistant. B. L. Lunsford was elected leader for the charge. The following will compose the official board for the ensuing year: Eugene Cross, A. H. Giles, J. H. Tate, H. H. Tate, E. H. Dysart, J. M. Tate, R. W. Jenkins, D. E. Hudgins, C. F. James, J. Q. Gilkey, Dr. J. F. Jonas, J. Robt. Davis, J. Chapman and C. R. McCall. Eugene Cross was elected recording steward, and A. B. Gilkey district steward. The reports submitted indicated progress.

The annual conference meets in Greensboro on October 22, which is one month earlier than usual.

Musical Recital at Nebo Sept. 13.

Miss Anniegra Boyette, graduate of Davenport College and piano teacher of Nebo High School, will give a recital at the Nebo high school Saturday evening, Sept. 13, at 8:30 o'clock. Miss Boyette will be assisted by Miss Maude Dobson, soprano. The program follows: Piano: "Whims," Schumann, Miss Boyette.

Vocal: (a) "Love, I Have Won You," (b) "The Winds Are Calling," Ronald; Miss Dobson. Piano: "Kamennoi-Ostrow," Rubenstein; Miss Boyette. Vocal: Good bye, Tosti; Miss Dobson. Piano: Prelude, Rachmaninoff, Op. 3, Miss Boyette.

The Presbyterian Sunday School pupils will be given a picnic on the graded school lawn Thursday evening at 8 o'clock.

NEWS FROM THE COUNTY

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

OLD FORT

Old Fort, Sept. 9.—Miss May Anderson left Wednesday to spend a few days with friends in Murphy.

R. O. Anderson has returned to Nashville.

Fronz Strickland, Elizabeth Strickland and Margaret Anderson spent the week-end in Asheville.

W. A. Silver has recently purchased the house and lot on _____ street from Taylor Greene and moved in.

Mrs. Nodine Spencer spent Tuesday in Marion.

Mrs. C. B. Rock, formerly of Manchester, Ga., left Monday for Smyrna, Fla., her new home, after spending the summer in Old Fort.

Miss Gertrude Dula is having her millinery store remodeled for the fall trade.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Norton have moved to Old Fort and are occupying rooms at Miss Gertrude Dula's.

Capt. and Mrs. Lum Burgin are returning to Old Fort to make their home.

Frank Thomason has returned from overseas service.

Mrs. E. Zackay of Asheville is spending a few days visiting Mr. and Mrs. Norton.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles have moved up to the Nichols neighborhood in the house formerly occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Gus Silver.

Mrs. J. C. Greene has returned from Asheville.

Mrs. Beam went to Asheville Monday for a few days.

Joe Crawford of Hazelwood spent Sunday in Old Fort.

Miss Clara Artz will leave Friday for Brunswick, Ga., to resume her work as teacher in the Brunswick schools.

Mrs. Salisbury and daughter, Miss Travis returned to Morristown, Monday.

Rev. R. F. Mock and Rev. Mr. Starnes are conducting a revival meeting at Greenlee this week.

ASHFORD

Ashford, Sept. 8.—Miss Eya Fink of Johnson City was a visitor here last week.

Harry Caldwell of Sevier was a pleasant visitor here Saturday and Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Keefe made a business trip to Asheville, Saturday.

Robert Hennessee and family visited relatives here Sunday.

Miss Ellen McGhee of Marion spent the week-end with homefolks here.

Fred Phillips of Spruce Pine spent a few days here last week.

Misses Tracy Sigmon, Nell Gibbs and Dora Gibbs spent the week-end in Johnson City and Erwin, Tenn.

Robert Carpenter made a business trip to Marion last Friday.

Mrs. E. R. Stair of Dunganon is visiting relatives at this place.

Mrs. Walter Brown and daughter, Clara, are spending a few days in Marion and Greenlee.

Mr. English of Asheville spent a few days here last week.

Misses Alda and Bessie English left last week for Brevard where they will enter school.

Miss Beatrice Brown left last week for Nebo, where she will enter school.

Tom Wilson of Nebo is visiting his brother, Joe Wilson.

Miss Doris Franklin of Linville Falls was a visitor here Friday.

TOM'S CREEK

Marion, Route 3, Sept. 2.—Mrs. W. L. Nanny and daughter, of Old Fort, has returned home after spending a few days with relatives in this community.

Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Hensley has returned from an extended visit to Bakersville.

Mrs. Asbury Hicks left Saturday for Fremont, Va., where she is expected to make her home for awhile.

Hugh Gurley has returned home after spending a few days in Asheville.

A. M. Hensley has returned home from an extended visit to Bakersville.

Miss Edith Stroud spent the week-end with her sister, Mrs. Proctor, in Marion. Miss Addie Lavender spent the week-

end with friends and relatives in Marion.

The box supper held at Tom's Creek school Friday night for the benefit of the school was enjoyed by a large crowd. The proceeds amounted to \$40.

DYSARTSVILLE

Dysartsville, Sept. 8.—A large crowd attended the funeral of John Laughridge, Sunday.

Miss Lona Goforth is spending a few days with homefolks, her school having suspended one week for fodder pulling.

Miss Grace Cowan is spending a few days with home people here.

Cronje Laughridge entered school at Rutherford College last Monday.

Frank Cowan and Miss Mary Kirksey entered high school at Winston-Salem this week.

Clyde Satterwhite, of Bridgewater, who recently returned from overseas, is visiting friends and relatives at this place.

J. M. Goforth is very sick today, but hope that he will soon recover.

GREENLEE

Marion, Rt. 2., Sept. 7.—A crowd of folks, both young and old, enjoyed the singing at the Greenlee school house Sunday afternoon.

W. J. Snipes has been on the sick list for several days.

Mason Ledbetter made a business trip to Asheville last Saturday.

Mrs. R. W. Tate and children returned home Thursday after spending a week with relatives in Stroudtown.

R. H. McCall made a business trip to Old Fort last Saturday.

Miss Hattie Prndergrass has returned home after spending two weeks with her sister in Knoxville, Tenn.

Thomas Fleming has returned from overseas.

CHAPEL HILL

Chapel Hill, Sept. 8.—Mrs. Matt M. Kee of Lincolnton, Mr. and Mrs. Coy Cranford and children of Rockwell and Mr. and Mrs. Colet Benfield and little little daughter, Edna, of Bridgewater, were visitors at the home of J. H. Barnes during the week.

Miss Lena Swann of Marion spent the week-end with homefolks here.

School has suspended for one week on account of the rush of farm work.

Mrs. J. S. Lewis Dead.

After a long and patient illness this good woman passed away last Saturday morning, Sept. 6th, at the home of her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Page, on Logan street. Mrs. Lewis was thirty years and six months old, a splendid Christian woman and before her illness was an active worker in the Baptist church where she held her membership. Her funeral was preached before a large gathering of friends and loved ones at the Stroudtown church Sunday afternoon by her pastor, Rev. J. T. Bowden, and her body laid to rest in the cemetery there. She was twice married, first to J. L. Sullivan, who died some years ago, leaving her with two children, John L. Jr. and Mary E., who survive her. Later she married J. S. Lewis who also survives her. To these and other near relatives great sympathy is extended by the community.

The following relatives from a distance attended the funeral services: Mrs. W. H. Sullivan, Charlotte; Mrs. J. A. Beach and W. A. Beach, Morganton; Mrs. S. G. Brazell, Rock Hill, S. C.; M. C. Teeter and wife, Hickory; Mr. and Mrs. Slager, Charlotte.

The fall term of McDowell Superior court will convene next Monday with Judge J. L. Webb, of Shelby, presiding. The term is for two weeks, the first three days to be devoted to the trial of criminal cases. According to the calendar arranged, work on the civil docket will begin on Thursday.

STATE NEWS OF THE WEEK

Items Concerning Events of Interest and Importance Throughout the State.

The executive committee of the North Carolina Farmers' Union has selected Greensboro for its 1920 meeting, to be held December 10 and 11.

Tom Sweezy, a farmer of Cleveland county, tied fodder all night one night recently, tying 1,125 bundles. He stopped for breakfast and then worked all day.

The week of October 9 has been designated as clean-up week throughout the State. Special effort will be put forth at that time to eliminate all waste that might start a fire or detract from a clean appearance of all premises.

Well Known Baracca and Philathea Workers to Be in Marion.

N. Buckner, secretary of the Asheville Board of Trade, and Mrs. Buckner, his wife, general secretary of the North Carolina State Baracca Association and Philathea Union, will be in Marion next Sunday, Sept. 14th, to address the Baracca and Philathea Bible classes of the Marion Baptist Church. These Bible classes are looking forward to the coming of these well known Baracca, Philathea, and Sunday School workers, with a great deal of enthusiasm. It is expected that Mr. and Mrs. Buckner will be warmly received and that a large crowd will be on hand to hear them at the regular Sunday School hour.

First Baptist Church Services.

Preaching next Sunday at 11 a. m. and 8:15 p. m. Subject of morning sermon, "Things That Make a Church Strong." Evening subject: "The Man That Thinks Himself Better Than Others."

Sunday School at 9:45 a. m. B. Y. P. U. at 7:15 p. m. Sunbeams at 3 o'clock in afternoon.

Mid-week prayer meeting at 8:30 Wednesday evening. A hearty welcome to all of these services.

Be sure to hear Mr. N. Buckner, Asheville's secretary of Board of Trade, at our Baracca Class Sunday morning at 10 o'clock. Mrs. Buckner, president of the North Carolina Philathea and Baracca State Union, will speak to our young ladies' Philathea Class in the church parlor at the same hour. This is a rare opportunity for the young people of the church and congregation and they should avail themselves of it. Bring your friends.

J. T. BOWDEN, Pastor.

Lawyers Meet.

The lawyers of Marion met last Monday, Sept. 8th, and perfected a local Bar Association, the officers elected being J. W. Pless, president; D. E. Hudgins, vice-president, and W. R. Chambers, secretary. Thereupon, a civil calendar was formed, for the September term of McDowell County Superior Court, which convenes on the 3rd Monday. After the transaction of other minor business the association adjourned.

Weather Report.

Thomas McGuire, Sergeant U. S. Army, reports the temperature and rainfall at Marion station for the week as follows:

Maximum	91 degrees
Minimum	51 degrees
Rain	0.00 inches
Sunshine per cent	92