

# MARION PROGRESS

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

ESTABLISHED 1896.

MARION, N. C., THURSDAY, DEC. 11, 1919

VOL. XXIV—NO. 15

## DEC. 19TH AYCOCK DAY

County Schools to Observe Day Friday—A Few Schools Near-End of Term.

The schools of the county will observe Aycock Day on Friday, December 19. Appropriate material to be used in the preparation of a program dealing with the life and work of the educational governor has been sent out from the office of Supt. N. F. Steppe to every school in the county with the request for a collection, as a part of the program, to be sent to the Aycock Memorial Commission to aid in the erection of a monument to the memory of Governor Aycock. From the responses coming to the county superintendent it is thought that practically every school in the county will carry out the suggested program. A number of schools have promised a nice contribution to the memorial fund and it is expected that the schools of McDowell will do their share in paying for the monument.

The amount to be raised is \$15,000. The treasurer of the memorial commission reports that he has on hand about \$10,000. It is expected that the school children of the state for whom Governor Aycock did more than any other governor, will contribute the balance of \$5,000 on Aycock Day.

A number of schools beginning in July are nearing the end of the term. The people are greatly pleased with the increased term. The attendance has been by far the best in the history of the schools. The compulsory law has worked with practically no friction whatever. The interest taken by the teachers is the best that the schools have ever known. The teachers are exerting not only every effort to make the actual school work as thorough as possible but have been instrumental in providing libraries, reference work, etc., in a large number of schools. The maximum State appropriation for libraries for one year has already been applied for, leaving a number of schools to wait until next year.

Practically all the schools will be closed during Christmas week. Already the Christmas spirit is being felt by pupils and teachers. A number of schools will give Christmas programs and Christmas trees. But owing to the high cost of living and the many calls for charity it is not expected that a great deal of lavish giving of presents on the part of teachers and pupils will be indulged in.

## Live Woodmen Camp at Old Fort.

Old Fort, Dec. 6.—Among the many good things that has recently come to Old Fort is a good, live camp of the Modern Woodmen of America. Some of the leading business men of Old Fort are the office holders and regular weekly meetings are held on Friday nights. The membership is growing rapidly and we predict that it will be but a short time until the new camp will number 100 or more members. On Friday night of last week the membership of the camp, after a hard, initiatory battle with a choice piece of "fresh meat" in the person of Willard Crawford, partook of a sumptuous feed at the Van Wagoner Cafe.

## North Carolina Asked to Adopt 3,334 Orphans.

Raleigh, Dec. 7.—In response to the cry for help from destitute women and homeless orphans of Armenia and Syria in the near east, North Carolina has been asked to adopt 3,334 orphaned girls and boys who are to be housed, clothed and fed during the severe winter months and until the countries can again get on an industrial footing. The Near East Relief committee has again undertaken to care for the suffering Armenians and Syrians.

The state responded nobly and generously in the last campaign and the people of North Carolina are going to be given another chance to show their spirit of charity when the adoption campaign is inaugurated February 1 for a period of 22 days.

Although the near east relief is already doing its best to care for between 70,000 and 80,000 Armenian and Syrian children in its orphanages, there are still 250,000 homeless babies to be housed, clothed and fed. Many of these little children are sleeping in the streets.

Five dollars a month will feed a child in the near east. Ten dollars will insure him food and a place to sleep and clothing for the cold weather now approaching. Fifteen dollars will give him a home, clothing, food and education. Those who can not afford to adopt a whole child may adopt any fraction of a youngster they wish.

## Government Will Cease Control of Sugar December 31.

Attorney General Palmer announces that the government will not attempt to control the distribution and sale of sugar after the dissolution of the sugar equalization board December 31.

While Mr. Palmer's action was generally accepted as opening up the sources of more sugar supplies by permitting refiners to pay more for the Cuban raw stock, it also was believed to mean that sugar prices would soar. The department will continue to hunt down profiteers, but without means of checking up on the cost to the refiners or without control of the price at which the supplies come into this country, it was believed domestic consumers would be forced to pay higher prices after January 1.

## Jurors Drawn for January Court.

The county commissioners at their regular meeting on the first Monday drew jurors for the January term of McDowell Superior court as follows:

First week: C. H. Gilliam, J. W. Edwards, W. H. Hawkins, Frank McCurry, G. W. Lytle, B. F. Carpening, C. S. Briggs, G. W. Chapman, W. C. Morris, J. D. Patton, J. M. Henley, R. W. Jenkins, B. L. McKelvey, O. H. Biggerstaff, W. F. Nichols, J. A. Taylor, H. C. Hare, J. W. Ross.

Second week: Reid Conley, H. A. Kanipe, W. S. Pyatt, R. C. Nanney, A. J. Bass, Henry Croom, W. B. Lessiter, J. Y. Gilliam, C. F. Steppe, G. C. Hall, D. F. Pritchard, I. E. Marlow, T. H. Bartlett, Ed. Buchanan, D. C. Whisnant, L. R. Swofford, G. F. Rhom and T. J. Gibbs.

## NEWS FROM THE COUNTY

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

### ASHFORD

Ashford, Dec. 8.—W. H. Swofford and E. E. English spent Monday in Marion on business.

Miss Mabel Crockett and Oscar Wilson attended the teachers' meeting at Pitts last Saturday.

Earl Swofford, Fred Conley and Dewey Brown left Sunday for Dante, Va. J. M. Carpenter spent the week-end in Johnson City, Tenn.

Mrs. Clarence Wiseman went to Linville Falls Sunday to spend a few days with relatives.

F. A. Keefe and son have gone to Virginia on business.

Charles McCall of Pitts was a visitor here Sunday.

Earl Wiseman spent the week-end with homefolks here.

### PITTS

Pitts, Dec. 8.—Rev. J. M. Washburn has moved into his new house.

J. A. Washburn has moved from Sevier to this neighborhood.

Aubrey Lowery has moved to Little Switzerland.

Mrs. J. M. Lowery is suffering from burns she sustained a few ago when a pot of boiling water over turned upon her.

Mrs. J. M. Washburn and two sons were guests of Mrs. Edgar Sumlin yesterday.

Mrs. Dewey Washburn is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. D. Cox, near Estatoe.

Mrs. Perley Lowery was the guest of Mrs. Edgar Sumlin, Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Abe Mace and Miss Etta Mace spent Saturday and Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. M. L. Lowery.

The new trestle on the C. C. & O. railway between Altapas and Switzerland is nearing completion.

### GREENLEE

Marion, Route 2, Dec. 8.—The five-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Parker is very ill.

Miss Hattie Pendergrass and niece spent week-end with the former's brother at Stroudtown.

Mrs. John Hogan and little daughter of Marion spent the week-end here with her father, J. R. Ledbetter.

Mrs. W. L. Crisp and children are visiting relatives near Topton.

Mrs. W. H. Greenlee was shopping in Marion last Saturday.

Misses Maggie Taylor and Olivia Patton spent Saturday and Sunday with homefolks in Nebo.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hall are visiting relatives here.

There will be services at the Methodist church at Greenlee next Sunday afternoon at 4 o'clock.

### STROUDTOWN

Stroudtown, Dec. 8.—The people of this community proved their eagerness to enter into that which tends to up-build the community by the large number present at the Community Club meeting on Monday evening. Convey Agent J. L. Thurman opened the meeting with a short but very forceful talk. One of the spiciest debates ever given in this community was staged by C. C. Lisenbee and W. H. Odum. An entertaining feature of the program was the songs and recitations by the pupils of the school and community. The music rendered by a string band was also much enjoyed. The manner in which the program was rendered gave evidence that much is yet in store for the Stroudtown community. Everyone is cordially invited to attend the next meeting on Monday night, January 5.

We are sorry to learn that Miss Ida Pool has been quite ill for the past week. We wish her a speedy recovery.

Mrs. Wm. Clark is visiting relatives in Washington, D. C.

Walter Noblitt has moved to Marion mill village.

Stroudtown school is making good progress with the highest attendance record in the history of the school.

### NEBO

Nebo, Dec. 8.—George D. Taylor, who

has been engaged in the mercantile business here for some time, has sold his entire stock to R. V. McGimsey & Company, Inc.

Mrs. M. A. Rudisill of Henry visited relatives and friends here during the past week.

Rev. T. A. Drake has moved his family to Easley, S. C. Rev. J. M. Brown of Glenwood has been called to the pastorate of the Baptist church here to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr. Drake.

Mr. Morrow, who recently moved into our community, went to Harmony Grove Monday where he will be principal of the school there.

Rev. P. H. Brittain attended the first quarterly conference at Murphy's Chapel last Saturday and Sunday.

### OLD FORT

Old Fort, Dec. 9.—Capt. and Mrs. J. H. Payne have returned from Asheville where they visited friends during the week.

Geo. W. Sandlin has returned from a visit to friends in Asheville.

Bonnie Fortune spent the week-end in Asheville.

The basket ball game between the girls of Old Fort and Montreat Saturday resulted in defeat of the former by a score of 2 to 0.

The following persons enjoyed a party given by Joseph Crawford last Friday night: Misses Jennie Stirewalt, Margaret Allen, Essie Mashburn, Gertrude Dula, Mrs. A. H. Spencer and Mrs. T. M. Chaney, Messrs Jack Hoffman, William Stirewalt, Carl Greene, Reid Grant and Robert Bell.

Miss Mary Burgin, one of the primary teachers in the graded school, has been ill for the past week with tonsillitis.

George E. Marshall spent the week in Mount Airy on business.

Miss Francis Artz spent the week-end with friends in Asheville.

Rev. Mr. Ray, the new pastor of the Presbyterian church, arrived last week and preached his first sermon here on Sunday.

Thadens Bradley, who recently completed a course in college, has accepted a position with the Old Fort Drug Co.

A party of young folks chaperoned by Mrs. Charles Steppe enjoyed a 'possum hunt during the week, notwithstanding the fact they caught a wildcat instead of a 'possum. The party included Misses Pearl Evans, Margie Allen and Madeline Wilkerson, Messrs. Jack Hoffman, Clarence Nanney and William Stirewalt.

### GRADED SCHOOL HONOR ROLL.

First grade: Pressley Connor, Beulah Calloway, Lula Brown, Eula Brown, Gordon Lonon, Christina McDaniel, Clyde Nesbitt, Vera Oates, Russell Oates, Paul Pitte, Irene Jordan, Mary Sue Grant and Edith Poteet.

Second and third grades: Cecil Burgin, Sanie Burgin, Elaine Mashburn, Caroline McIntosh, Pauline Noblett, Francis Sheriff, Florine Harris, Mary Cowan, Margie Lytle, Roe Nichols, Gordon Grant and Van Hughes.

Fourth grade: Elizabeth Strickland and Helen Nesbitt.

Fifth grade: Carroll Sawyer.

Sixth grade: Gordon Kanipe, Albert Noblitt and Olive Whitmire.

Seventh grade: Natalie Epley, Janie Parker, Dorothy Oates, Lizzie White and Mary Hoffman.

Eighth grade: Sallie Epley and Estelle Lavender.

Ninth grade: Kumball Miller.

Tenth grade: Essie Mashburn and James Miller.

Eleventh grade: Cleto Tate.

### Limiting Train Service.

"The shortage of coal has reached a point where it is vitally necessary to reduce passenger train service and to call upon the public to assume the inconvenience and discomfort which this action will inevitably entail" says Director General Hines of the railway administration.

"Certain passenger trains will be annulled and a large number of parlor cars will temporarily be discontinued."

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

## STATE NEWS OF THE WEEK

Items Concerning Events of Interest and Importance Throughout the State.

Fire, Thursday, did \$15,000 to \$20,000 damage to the Woolworth store in Charlotte.

A Michigan company is to set up business in Wilmington to manufacture ready-built houses.

The Burke Tanning company has been compelled to close their vast extract plant at Morganton, indefinitely, owing to lack of coal.

Durham county has also decided to erect a Durham county cottage at the Jackson Training school, the building to cost about \$15,000, and will accommodate boys from Durham county.

P. W. Patton, a prominent citizen of Morganton and clerk of the court of Burke county for a number of years, died at his home in Morganton Sunday night after an extended illness. He leaves a widow and several children.

## Diphtheria Death Rate Decreases.

Figures compiled by the state board of health indicate that deaths in North Carolina from diphtheria between December 1, 1917, and November 30, 1918, were 227 out of a total of 1,389 cases. For the same period ending November 30, 1919, a reduction of 162 cases and that there were 1,533 more cases the present year than the twelve month period prior thereto.

The reduction of the death rate is attributed by state health officials to the increased use of antitoxin over the state. It is pointed out that 80 per cent of the physicians in North Carolina now obtain their supply of anti-toxin from the state board of health which furnishes it at cost of production.

## Pensioners Growing Fewer.

Washington, Dec. 8.—A record-breaking sum in pensions was paid by the federal government during the last fiscal year despite the fact that the number of pensioners was the smallest of any year since 1890.

This was revealed by the annual report today of the commissioner of pensions, who said \$222,292.70 was paid to 624,427 persons during the year, as compared with \$179,835,328.75, to 646,895 pensioners the year before. The largest number of persons ever on the pension roll was 999,446 in 1902, and they received a total of \$137,502,267.99.

## Hoey in Marion.

Hon. Clyde R. Hoey, democrat candidate for congress in the Ninth district, passed through Marion last Sunday on his way to Burnsville, where he spoke to the people of Yancey county on Monday.

Mr. Hoey was recently nominated in the primaries to succeed Yates Webb, who is now federal judge. Mr. Hoey is making a strong campaign and it is predicted that he will carry his district by the largest majority ever given a congressman of that district. He is opposed by John M. Morehead.

China has more suicides than any other country in the world. In a single year as many as half a million cases of self-destruction have been recorded.