

MARION PROGRESS

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

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MARION, N. C., THURSDAY, DEC. 18, 1919

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PENSION MONEY ARRIVES

Over \$3,000 Will Be Distributed in the County—All Pensions Have Been Increased.

Arriving just a little more than a week before Christmas, the vouchers for the pensions for old Confederate veterans of this county and the widows of those who have already "crossed the river" will come as a Christmas gift from the State of North Carolina to these wearers of the grey and their relicts.

In All \$3,685.00 will be distributed by Clerk of the Court W. H. Hawkins on these vouchers, which can now be secured by those entitled to them, by calling at the office of the clerk in the court house.

The vouchers and the amounts are as follows: For one veteran, J. W. Marsh, in the second class, \$45; two veterans in the third class, \$35 each, total \$70. 68; veterans in the fourth class, \$30 each, total \$2,040; 51 widows in the fourth class, \$30 each, making a total of \$1,630.

Under an act passed by the last general assembly, and which is in force now, the veterans and widows are paid the pensions in two installments, in December and in June, in place of all in a lump in December as heretofore, has been the practice. The state pays the pensions in advance, therefore, with the installation of this change, one-half is being paid and equal amount will be paid next June. The general assembly also took advantage of this opportunity, when the matter was up, to increase the pensions and each class received a little boost. For instance in the fourth class, last year the veterans of that class received only 45 as a total, while now they will receive \$30 and in June another \$30, making \$60 in all.

Mica Mine Caves in, Two Injured.

Asheville, Dec. 14.—News reached here tonight of an accident in Mitchell county where two miners were seriously injured by the cave-in of a large mica mine.

The miners, George Young and Kelse Grindstaff, and a number of others had been at work in the mine and were just preparing to leave the shaft for the day, Saturday, when the cave-in, which is believed to have been caused by the heavy rains in that section occurred.

Relief parties were soon organized and the injured rescued. It will be impossible to operate the mine for some time, pending repairs.

Do You Know Them?

Checks have been returned to the Bureau of War Risk Insurance, payable to the following:

Ed. Harvey, formerly of Spartanburg or Kelton, S. C.; Rutil Cannon, Ashford or McCall; Emma Carroll and Louise Harriet Gilbert, Old Fort.

Anyone knowing the whereabouts of the above named persons please communicate with Mrs. J. C. Williams, Secretary Home Service, American Red Cross, Marion, N. C.

Do your shopping now. Christmas won't wait.

Graded School Closes Friday for Holidays—Honor Roll.

The Marion graded school will close Friday, the 19th, for the Christmas holidays and remain closed until January 5th.

The primary grades will give an operetta, "Christmas at the Pole," in the school auditorium Thursday night, Dec. 18, at 7:30 o'clock. Admission ten cents to all. The public is cordially invited to attend. The proceeds from the entertainment will be used to purchase play ground apparatus.

The honor roll for December follows:

Primary department: Fred Conley, Mike Cowan, Edward Little, Henry Abernethy, Thomas Branch, J. W. Kendrick, J. D. Finley, Jodie Henline, Pansy Garland, Ada Ross, Lila Sheep, Alvin Banks, Charlie Boone, Kenneth Whitener, Thurley Franklin, Mary Goldsmith, Paul Branch, Edgar McCall, Luther Ross, Kate Cowan, Alice Jaunitta Brown, Katherine Cannon and May Hill.

Grammar grades: Loui Bird, Earl Howell, Phillip Ruth, Hobart Willis, Mary B. Blackburn, Edith Biddix, Bonnie Michael, Grace Tate, Una Mathis, Lila M. Lonon, Mary Alice Laughbridge, Hugh Bowden, Floyd Glenn, Clyde Moody, Mary Tate, Helen Franklin and Ben Wilson.

High school: William Neal, William Story, Essie M. Gettys, Elizabeth Reid, Pearl Wilkerson, Ray Curtis, Edna Brown, Irene Franklin, Brownie Giles, Alda Norton, Mae Curtis, Robert N. Holmes, Kate M. Ellis, Johnnie Conley, Viola Giles, Leona Bush, Pauline Conley, Ola Gibbs and Mayo Laughbridge.

Distinction Honor Roll: Robert Smith, Fern Beard, Mary G. Carr, Jeannette Gilkey, Doris Hill, Mildred Hutto, Millard Wall, Benson Davis, Margaret Craig, Kathryn McCall, Harry McCall, Everett Henley, Lucile Conley, Walker Blanton, Jack Justice, Josephine Bush, Alice Roane Cross, Paul Story, Hettie M. Cannon, Pauline Hawkins and Ruth Cowan.

Eugene Hall Killed in Benton, Ill.

Eugene Hall, son of Higgins Hall, whose home was near Marion, was killed last Friday at Benton, Illinois, where he had been engaged in construction work.

Full details of his death are not available but it is understood that he fell from a scaffold, breaking his neck. News of the tragic death of Mr. Hall was received in Marion the first of this week and was a great shock to his many relatives and friends.

The body arrived in Marion Tuesday morning on train No. 36. It was immediately carried to the home of the parents of the deceased to await the arrival of a sister living in Detroit, Mich., for the funeral which will be conducted Thursday by Rev. J. C. Story. Interment will be made at Halltown cemetery.

Young Hall was known to a large circle of friends who will be grieved to learn of his untimely passing. The sympathy of the community is extended to the sorrowing relatives in their great distress.

NEWS FROM THE COUNTY

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

OLD FORT

Old Fort, Dec. 15.—Joe Crawford spent the week-end in Black Mountain. Miss Pearl Evans spent Saturday in Montreat.

Carl Greene was visiting in Asheville Sunday.

The basket ball team of Old Fort was defeated by the Black Mountain team at Black Mountain Saturday by a score of 34 to 5.

A party given in honor of Miss Maggie Allen at the home of her parents Friday night. Those present were Misses Gertrude Dula, Pearl Evans, Mayme Wadley, Mary Hoffman, Inah Blalock, Annie White and Jennie Stirewalt; Messrs. Carl Greene, Joe Crawford, Robt. Belle, William Stirewalt and Jack Hoffman.

Dallas Burgin was in town on business Saturday.

Rev. R. F. Mock visited relatives at Jupiter during the week.

Miss Olla Swann was in Marion during the week.

Mrs. M. Holtzclaw of Canton is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Sherrill. Miss Ella Noblitt has returned from Hickory where she has been visiting relatives.

The sixth and seventh grades of the graded school will give a play Friday night, December 19.

The Ladies' Aid Society of the Methodist church met with Mrs. S. F. Mauney Wednesday afternoon and elected new officers.

ASHFORD

Ashford, Dec. 15.—J. H. Brown made a business trip to Marion last Friday.

T. O. Crockett was a visitor at Linville Falls Sunday.

J. P. Dodge, Jr. spent the week-end at Ashford.

Oscar Wilson went to Marion Friday on business.

Todd McCall of Spruce Pine visited homefolks here Wednesday.

Mrs. Claude Laughbridge of Bostic visited homefolks here Saturday.

Mrs. R. H. Hennessee spent the week-end with relatives at this place.

Mrs. J. A. Brown is spending a few days with her daughter, Mrs. Avery.

The Ashford school is planning to give an entertainment on Christmas eve. The program will consist of songs, recitations, drills, etc. Everybody is cordially invited. Patrons are urged to bring presents for the Christmas tree.

PEPPER'S CREEK

Pitts, Dec. 15.—Clay McKinney and George Brown visited Mark Swofford last Sunday.

The box supper at the school house last Saturday night was well attended. The proceeds amounted to \$28.50.

The school is progressing nicely. It is expected that patent desks will be installed soon.

Miss Virgie McKinney spent the week-end with Miss Cartha Lowery.

Misses Annie Swofford, Ida Cresson and Carrie Biddix spent the week-end with Mrs. Nora McKinney.

James McKinney has discovered a mica mine on his property here.

Sam Brown and George Brown spent Monday in Marion.

Julius McKinney is erecting a new building which he hopes to complete at an early date.

Joe McKinney of Spruce Pine spent the last of the week with homefolks.

J. M. Morgan was a visitor at the home of S. A. Lowery, Sunday.

Yancey Place Leased.

Mrs. M. W. Yancey has leased her property at Woodlawn to Macon and Max Corpening for an extended period of time. The Corpening brothers will engage in general farming and live stock business. It is also announced that the owners will also stock the farm with Chinese pheasants. The Woodlawn house will be opened to the public at all times.

State Will Not Pay Teachers Who Do Not Hold Certificates.

Supt. N. F. Stepps received in one mail one day last week letters from three superintendents asking for from ten to thirty teachers to fill vacancies. Press dispatches from Raleigh last week stated that there were nearly one thousand short in the State.

The low salaries is the main cause of such a dearth, though not the whole cause. The failure of a number of teachers to meet the requirements of the State Board of Examiners for certification is keeping a number out of the schools.

The State appropriation for teachers' salaries is based on the grade of certificate held and in force. The department of statistics in checking up the county budgets finds, according to records of the department, that numbers of teachers hold no certificate of any sort, while numbers of others have expired. School committees and boards of education anxious to secure teachers in order to get the schools taught will in many cases find their appropriations cut short in instances where teachers failed to secure certificates. A number of schools will have had their full six months term of school, the teachers having taught out the terms and having been paid their salaries before the facts were known. The counties in these instances will no doubt be the losers, as the state will not appropriate for teachers who do not hold certificates.

COUNTY FINANCE SYSTEMS

Asheville Citizen.

An encouraging sign of the awakened interest in better government was demonstrated at Chapel Hill, when the State and county council endorsed proposals for a uniform and efficient system of county financing.

A criticism of long standing against public business is that it is not conducted in a business-like way. The people know in a general way that private enterprises could not survive if handled as most government affairs are. But, with the fatalism or indifference which is a characteristic of young countries blessed with boundless resources, these abuses have been regarded for the most part as inevitable wastes incident to popular government. The people have not demanded nor have they been willing to pay for better methods or able officials.

Chairman George G. Scott, of the State board of accountancy, and Dr. E. C. Branson, of the university, asserted that under the present system of county bookkeeping it is impossible to tell whether an administration is doing well or ill, and that there are no statistics for comparison of one county with another.

This judgment pronounced on existing methods of county finance was endorsed by the officials of 76 counties present, this action giving strong reason to hope for improvement in a matter which means the accounting of millions of dollars. Why should counties handle their funds in a way that would mean bankruptcy for private enterprises?

Notice to Subscribers.

Owing to the fact that newspaper stock has doubled in price during the last few weeks and is scarce and hard to get at any price it's absolute-necessary to conserve by striking from our list all subscribers in arrears who do not pay up immediately. Please see that your subscription is paid in advance if you desire the paper continued.

The Southern regional coal committee, Atlanta, Ga., acting on authority from Washington, Saturday, suspended all restrictions on the use of fuel and restored train service, which had been curtailed on account of the coal strike.

STATE NEWS OF THE WEEK

Items Concerning Events of Interest and Importance Throughout the State.

Governor Bickett has appointed Miss Martha Haywood a member of the board of the Soldiers' Home.

While out hunting near Asheville Saturday afternoon and in attempting to shoot a bird, Eugene Gregg shot and instantly killed his companion, Fred Cordell.

Albemarle experienced a \$25,000 fire Sunday morning when the two-story brick building of W. T. Hucabee was destroyed. The building was also occupied by a large dry goods store, several law firms and studio upstairs.

Reports received at Baptist headquarters, Raleigh, from North Carolina Baptist churches show pledges for the Baptist 75-million campaign amounting to \$7,106,000. This is more than a million dollars over the State quota. Many churches have not yet reported.

Mr. Wm. S. Pearson, a former assayer of the Charlotte Mint, was instantly killed Thursday afternoon when struck by a street car. Mr. Pearson was for a number of years a lawyer at Morganton and at one time was connected with the Morganton News-Herald. He leaves a wife and three children.

R. W. H. Stone, of Guilford county, was elected president of the North Carolina Farmers' Union at the meeting in Greensboro the past week. Paul Jones, of Edgecombe county, received 57 votes against 58 for Stofie. Dr. H. Q. Alexander, of Mecklenburg county, retiring president, received 22 votes; Rev. J. M. Lyerly, of Rowan 11, and Dr. C. J. Templeton, of Wake 3. The election came on the fourth ballot. Dr. Templeton was re-elected vice-president.

Clyde Hoey Elected to Congress in Ninth District.

Charlotte, Dec. 16.—Clyde R. Hoey, democrat, of Shelby, was chosen in the special election in the Ninth district today to the seat in congress vacated by E. Yates Webb, who was recently appointed to the federal bench, defeating John M. Morehead, of Charlotte, republican, on the face of incomplete returns from practically all the larger counties, the democratic majority ranges between 1,500 to 2,000.

Mr. Hoey said tonight over long distance telephone that he estimated his majority at 2,000 at least. Mr. Morehead said reports received at republican headquarters here indicated a majority of 1,300 to 1,400 for Hoey.

In the 1918 regular election, Mr. Webb received a majority of 4,152 over his republican opponent, Chas. A. Jones, of Lincoln.

The league of nations was one of the chief issues in the campaign, Hoey being an advocate of the plan, while Morehead is an opponent.

Services at St. John's church next Sunday evening at 7 o'clock. Christmas tree at 3 o'clock Wednesday afternoon, Dec. 24. Services on Christmas day 11 a. m. Offering for nation-wide campaign.