

# MARION PROGRESS

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

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## HIGH SCHOOL FINALS HAVE COME TO CLOSE

### Successful Term Closes With Interesting Exercises — Fifteen Graduates.

The commencement exercises of the Marion High School began on Friday night, May 27th, when the annual recitation and declamation contests took place. The recitation contest was the first on the program, and the contestants were: Misses Mary McConnell, Mildred Hudgins, Mary Sue Cannon, Kate Frisbie and Charlie Mae Epley. Each girl displayed true elocutionary talent combined with careful training, and the contest was, therefore, a close one. The announcement of the judges' decision gave Miss Mildred Hudgins first place, and she was awarded the recitation medal given by Col. J. M. Houck. Miss Mary Sue Cannon won second place and received the recitation medal given by Mr. J. M. Coldwell. These announcements were received with enthusiastic applause by the large audience.

The boys striving for the declaimers' medal were: Robert Potat, Carter Hudgins, Vernon Chapman, Frank Miller and Bob McCurry. The boys were remarkable for their stirring and eloquent speeches, and the contest was a spirited one. Bob McCurry won first place, receiving the medal given by Hon. D. E. Hudgins, while Vernon Chapman won second place, receiving the medal presented by Mrs. H. F. Little. The judges in both contests were: Miss Ethel Terrell, County Superintendent of Buncombe; T. L. Sigmon, County Superintendent of Burke County, and Mr. Terrell.

Two chorus selections and a piano duet added much to the enjoyment of the program.

The annual baccalaureate sermon was preached on Sunday night at the Methodist church by Rev. J. C. Story. A large congregation was assembled to hear Rev. Story, who preached an unusually fine sermon, taking his text from the third chapter of Philippians, 14th verse: "I press toward the mark." Rev. Story impressed upon the young graduates the fact that success could be achieved only by conscientious effort and the inspiration of a high calling in life.

On Monday night the play, "Some Class," was given to a large and appreciative audience. The dramatic personae included every member of the Senior class. The play was full of spice and fun, and each actor performed his part admirably. Especially worthy of mention was Alna Rader's interpretation of Prof. Collins Cleveland—"Some Prof." The play was in four acts, embracing the Freshman, Sophomore, Junior and Senior years of a typical high school class. Class politics, athletics, dramatics—in fact every phase of high school life was depicted in these four acts. Between acts the pupils of Miss Julia Burton entertained the audience with piano selections.

Tuesday afternoon was Class Day. Kirby Hoover, as president, opened the exercises with an address of welcome. Following the president's address, the History of the class was read by Kate Mae Ellis; Johnnie Conley as "The Grumbler" told of the class' sins of omission and commission; Alna Rader read the class poem; Ermon McConnell presented each graduate with a useful souvenir from the class Scrap Bag; Viola Giles gave an inventory of the class, and Ruth Cowan read the last Will and Testament of the Class of '21. The class exercises closed with the singing of the class song.

Then followed a unique feature of the program—"The Story Telling Contest" and "The Spelling Match." In the Story Telling contest, five little tots from the Primary department had been selected as the best story tellers of their respective grades. They were: Rose Atkins, Charlotte Winborne, James Steppe, Kelly Gilkey and Charles McCall. Each child

told his story in a natural, unassuming manner which completely captivated the audience. The prize, a huge story book, given by the teachers of the Primary department, was awarded to Charlotte Winborne. The judges in the contest were: Mrs. S. L. Copeland, Mrs. P. D. Sinclair, and Mrs. Claude Cochran. In the spelling match Kate Cowan, Virginia Mae Hunt, Carlton Gilkey, Jack Cowan and Kathryn McCall were selected to spell against James Hendley, Fern Beard, Benson Davis, Paul Steppe and Annie Fay Hunt. The spellers met defeat one by one, but Annie Fay Hunt remained invincible and received the prize, a Winston Simplified Dictionary, given by the teachers of the Grammar grades.

The graduating exercises were held on Tuesday night. Hon. W. H. S. Burgwyn, of North Hampton county, was the speaker of the occasion. Mr. Burgwyn made a fine address to the boys and girls on "The Ideal Life," and impressed upon them that a life of service is the only life worth while. At the conclusion of the address the diplomas were awarded by Superintendent T. A. Holton. The class roster is as follows:

Lucius Eugene Biddix  
Pearle Alice Bomar  
George Vernon Chapman  
Johnnie Garden Conley  
Mary Olive Conley  
Ruth Elizabeth Cowan  
Kate Mae Ellis  
Clara Viola Giles  
Verna Wahlee Greene  
Charles Kirby Hoover  
John Ray Jameson  
Mary Ruth Martin  
George Frank Miller  
Alna Carson Rader  
Ermon Elizabeth McConnell

Perfect attendance certificates were awarded to the boys and girls who had not been absent or tardy during the school year. Certificates were given to those boys and girls who had completed the Commercial Course. In each grade in school a scholarship prize was given by the teacher to the pupil making the highest average, as follows: First B grade, Alfred McCall; 1st A grade, Dula Hawkins; 2nd B grade, Frank Bolton; 2nd A grade, James Steppe; third grade, Thurley Franklin; fourth grade, Louise Tate; fifth grade, Jeanette Gilkey; sixth grade, Benson Davis; seventh grade, Mildred Holton; ungraded grade, Glenn Laughridge; eighth grade, Simmie Cross; ninth grade, Pearl Lewis; tenth grade, Alice Roane Cross; eleventh grade, Kate Mae Ellis. The English prize, given by Mr. C. F. James, was awarded to Vernon Chapman. The Scholarship medal, given by Mr. W. R. Chambers to the student making the best scholarship record, was awarded to Miss Ruth Cowan.

After the awarding of certificates Mr. D. E. Hudgins made a short talk on the question of the bond issue to build a new high school. The present building has become inadequate to the needs of the school, and it is absolutely essential to have additional building and equipment.

The school year just closing has been an unprecedented one for the Marion school. The attendance has been the largest on record, and the spirit of cooperation on the part of pupils, teachers and parents has been ideal. The Parent-Teacher Association has played an important part in securing this spirit of cooperation, and has been the means of bringing the teachers and parents into closer association. Mr. Holton, who has been superintendent of the school for the past three years, continues to grow in favor with the patrons of the school and they are glad to learn that he will serve again next year. The teachers for the past year have been unusually capable and it is hoped that they will serve on next year's faculty.

### Perfect Attendance for 1921

Anna Kate Craig  
Clyde Pearson  
Roy Hensley

(Continued on last page)

## ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM THE COUNTY

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

#### MARION MILL.

Marion, May 31.—Children's Day exercises were held at the M. E. church Sunday. A large congregation was in attendance and the songs and recitations of the little ones were much enjoyed. Much credit is due Miss Cora Ross and Mrs. C. C. Fisher in training the little folks.

The Clinchfield Ladies Aid Society will meet with the Marion Ladies Aid Tuesday night. After the business session refreshments will be served.

A protracted meeting will begin Sunday, June 5th, at the M. E. church. The services will be conducted by Rev. J. P. Hornbuckle and Rev. E. J. Jones. Everybody invited.

Quite a number of our folks attended the Sunday school rally at Chapel Hill Sunday which was a success from every standpoint. McDowell county needs more Sunday school rallies like this.

Supt. A. F. Hunt lost a very fine cow last week.

Born, to Mr. and Mrs. Frank Mills, a son.

Rev. E. J. Jones has returned after ten days rest at Tryon, much improved.

A ten days meeting is now in progress at the Pentecostal Holiness church. Rev. A. H. Butter of Kinston, N. C., is doing the preaching. The public is invited to attend.

R. W. Baldwin returned Monday from Baltimore, Md.

#### CATAWBA VALLEY

Old Fort, Rt. 1, May 30.—Miss Annie Bradley spent the week-end with relatives on Crooked Creek.

A number of people from here attended the commencement at Old Fort Friday night.

Sunday school is progressing nicely with J. H. Pinner as superintendent.

Tate Parker returned last week from Spartanburg, where he has been visiting his brother.

Mrs. Sallie Parker of Spartanburg and two grandchildren are visitors at the home of T. A. Porter.

There will be a pie supper at Siloam school house Saturday night, June 4, at 8:00 o'clock. Everybody cordially invited. The proceeds will go for the benefit of the church.

The weather is warm and people are progressing nicely with their farm work.

Miss Catherine Bradley has been right sick but is improving.

Miss Minnie Bradley spent the week-end with Miss Zeldia Fleming at Greenlee.

William L. Bradley visited friends at Nebo yesterday.

#### DYSARTSVILLE

Dysartsville, May 30.—T. B. Landis made a business trip to Marion last Saturday.

Frank E. Cowan is home for the summer after spending the winter in school at Wallburg.

Miss McCollum and Mr. and Mrs. Wiley and two children of Marion spent Sunday with J. M. Goforth and family.

I. W. Walker gave a birthday dinner and singing at his home Sunday. There was a large crowd and plenty good things to eat. Every one present enjoyed the affair.

W. B. Daves and C. E. Jarrett made a business trip to South Carolina last week.

Zeb Daves, Conley and Claud Laughridge of Marion were visitors here Sunday.

There will be a singing convention at Pinnacle next Sunday. Everybody invited to attend and take lunch.

Miss Hattie Mangum of Tennessee is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Mangum.

W. H. Taylor has been quite busy

lately looking after tax listing in each township in the county.

John Mangum is home from Detroit, Mich.

Carrie and Frances Carswell attended Memorial services at Glen Alpine last Saturday.

Misses Maggie and Hattie Taylor of Nebo visited relatives here last week.

#### MONTFORDS COVE

Union Mills, Rt. 1, May 30.—The road force are doing some good work on the highway near the White House. We are always glad to see any kind of work on the road.

Miss Floy Williams, Mrs. Cora Nichols and Robert and Verno Harris attended the singing convention at Pleasant Hill church Sunday and report a nice trip.

Little Mary Ella Harris has been right sick but is better.

W. A. Misenheimer and some friends from Asheville visited the former's grandmother, Mrs. Nancy Mitchell, Sunday.

Mrs. L. D. Hemphill is spending some time with her daughter, Mrs. C. C. Harris, in Knoxville, Tenn.

Mrs. J. C. Taylor of Forest City has been visiting her mother, Mrs. Nancy Mitchell, who has been right sick.

Earl Hall and Roy Edwards of Lincoln, Ga., have been visiting the former's parents here.

Jones Harris, Laddie and Robert Wilkerson and Miss Mary Lee Wilkerson attended the singing convention at Mt. Pleasant Sunday. The next convention will be held with Rock Springs church on the 5th Sunday in July.

Mrs. James Haynes visited her brother, John Haynes, Sunday.

Ed. Ledbetter and family visited Mrs. Ledbetter's parents Saturday and Sunday.

There was a singing at Montford's Cove church Sunday afternoon led by Mr. Walker of Green Hill.

Miss Ella Grant has been visiting her aunt, Fanny Hall.

Mr. and Mrs. G. M. Harris attended Memorial services at Bethel church Sunday.

Annie Sue Harris and Grace Hemphill, who have been attending school at Marion, have returned home.

Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Williams were visitors at the White House, Sunday.

Born, to Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Ledbetter, a daughter, Emma Jane.

Mr. and Mrs. Harve Hensley and Tom Hensley and family attended memorial exercises at Bethel church Saturday.

M. R. Nanney and family spent Sunday at Mr. Nanney's parents.

Miss Olive Stott and Frank Conner attended the singing convention at Mt. Pleasant Sunday.

Mrs. Julia Koon of Thermal City has been visiting in the cove the past week.

Mrs. M. J. Harris has been on the sick list, but is much improved.

Mrs. Polly Frisener spent Sunday at the home of Verno Harris.

#### CURFEW

Curfew, May 31.—Misses Edna and Eva Hawkins and Miss Laura Reel, of Marion, visited homefolks here Saturday and Sunday.

Mrs. E. A. Whisnant and children of Morganton are visiting the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Parker.

Mrs. Lou Reel spent Saturday night and Sunday at Clinchfield with relatives.

Miss Ethel Morgan spent a few days last week in Marion.

W. W. Parker made a business trip to Marion Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Reel were visitors at C. N. Hogan's Sunday.

#### OLD FORT

Old Fort, May 31.—The commencement exercises at Old Fort high school have been largely attended.

Sidney Mauney, Hugh Tate and William Burgin have returned from the A. & E. college.

## NEWS ITEMS FROM OVER THE STATE

### Items Concerning Events of Interest and Importance Throughout the State.

Ex-congressman J. J. Britt has been elected a member of the board of trustees of Wake Forest college. Other new members elected were T. F. Petus, of Wilson and E. B. Josey, of Wilmington.

I. G. Kerr, Southern railroad brakeman, is at the Mission hospital in Asheville with injuries that may prove fatal, as the result of having fallen from the top of a box car at Coleman, on the Salisbury division, Sunday night. He is suffering from a serious fracture of the skull.

The Supreme Court has handed down a decision denying a new trial to William Westmoreland, of Iredell county, under sentence of death for the murder of Jas. H. Nantz on the night of October 20, 1920. Westmoreland's only hope rests now with Governor Morrison, whose duty will be to fix a new date for the execution of the condemned man.

One of the most disastrous fires that has occurred in Mitchell county in years, occurred at Relief on Sunday night, May 22, when the dwelling and contents and storehouse and huge stock of goods and grain, all belonging to Erve Lewis, was completely destroyed by fire, the Banner says. The home-building and its contents were estimated to be about \$3,000, while stock of goods and building were estimated at upwards of \$60,000, with only \$17,000 insurance covering all.

The Asheville Times says over 300 Knights of Khorassan, members of Bagdad Temple No. 213, are expected to make up the special train of Dokeys that will invade Greensboro, Wednesday, June 16, for the "Golden Jubilee" ceremonial, at which time it is believed that over 150 tyros will be fed to the hungry tigers. This ceremonial will be held on the second day of the grand lodge meeting of the Knights of Pythias of North Carolina, which convenes in the Gate City on Tuesday, June 14, for a three days' session. The Dokeys will be in charge of the second day.

#### CLONTZ-OWENS.

Of interest to a large circle of friends and relatives in this community, was the marriage of Mr. C. Dewey Clontz and Miss Addie Owens, both of Rock Hill, S. C., on Monday, May 30, at York, S. C. Mrs. Clontz is the daughter of Mr. L. J. Owens of Rock Hill, and Mr. Clontz is a son of Mr. and Mrs. I. B. Clontz of Rock Hill, who formerly resided here.

Shortly after the ceremony the young couple left for Washington, D. C., via Marion. Upon their return they will make their home in Rock Hill, where Mr. Clontz holds a responsible position with the Southern Railway company.

#### WEATHER REPORT.

Thos. McGuire, local government weather bureau observer, reports the temperature and rainfall at Marion for the week as follows:

Maximum, 87 degrees; minimum 53 degrees; rain 0.89 of an inch; sunshine, per cent, 0.64.

Misses Millie and Bula Kanipe have returned from the State college for women, Greensboro.

Deputy Sheriff D. Y. Grant has added to his collection of moonshine relics another still which he captured one day this week about three miles from Old Fort.

Thieves broke in the millinery store of Miss Gertrude Dula Monday night. It has not yet been determined just what amount of goods was taken. Bloodhounds were brought in which followed a trail to a negro woman's house. Search was made but no goods were found.