

MARION PROGRESS

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

ESTABLISHED 1896.

MARION, N. C., THURSDAY, JUNE 30, 1921

VOL. XXV—NO. 43

ELECTRIC STORM PASSES OVER McDOWELL

Kills Little Girl in Montford Cove Township; Sets Fire to Church on Clear Creek.

The electric storm which passed over McDowell County on last Sunday was one of the most severe this section has seen for many years. The storm seems to have covered the entire county and considerable damage was reported.

The thirteen-year-old daughter of Will Haynes, of Montford Cove township, was struck by lightning during the storm and killed instantly. The little girl was out looking for a girl friend of about the same age, and, climbing to the top of a pile of rock to get a view of the immediate section, was struck by a bolt of lightning. The death of the little girl cast a gloom on the entire section, where the family is well known and has many relatives.

The old Baptist church on Clear Creek was struck about twelve o'clock and burned to the ground. This is one of the oldest Baptist churches in the county and was established by Rev. Jesse Sorrells, the well-known Baptist preacher through whose influence the church was erected about twenty-five years ago.

MISS GREENLEE ENTERS UPON DUTIES AS WELFARE OFFICER

Miss Mary Greenlee, who was elected to the office of Superintendent of Public Welfare at a meeting of the Board of Education and Board of County Commissioners several months ago, is at the office of the County Superintendent of Schools, outlining her work. She expects to have her plans perfected in a few days and will enter officially upon her duties July 1st. Miss Greenlee will have permanent headquarters at the office of the County Superintendent of Schools.

Miss Greenlee, for the past several years, has been connected with the county school system as teacher. She taught in the high school department at Nebo for several years, and for the past two years was the efficient principal of the Clinchfield High School. She was considered one of the most capable teachers in the county. She is well qualified for the duties of County Superintendent of Public Welfare, and an able and efficient discharge of the office can be expected from Miss Greenlee.

POSTPONEMENT ACTION ON SPECIAL SESSION

Raleigh, June 25.—Definite postponement of any session on the request of municipalities for a special session of the legislature was the upshot of today's meeting of the council of state with the governor.

Governor Morrison's suggestion that the city heads be requested to formally furnish him with financial statements as early as possible was approved by the council and letters were sent this afternoon to members of the municipal association asking the early forwarding of this information.

It will be at least a week, according to members of the council of state before this information can be secured and assimilated here. The legal points raised by the cities in connection with statements that they are not permitted to borrow enough money to run them will be thoroughly inquired into by the attorney general before the council of state gathers again to finally pass upon the matter.

GRASSHOPPER ARMY ENTERS COLORADO

Colorado Springs, Colo., June 25.—An army of grasshoppers, estimated to be 15 miles wide and 20 miles long, is advancing on El Paso county, Colo., from the southwest. County Farm Agent J. C. Hale announced today. They are destroying virtually all vegetation in their path.

WEALTH OF STATE IS ABOUT \$2,400,000,000

Raleigh, June 27.—North Carolina's actual over estimated wealth under revaluation is seven and a half millions of dollars and its shrinkage from horizontal reductions will amount to several hundred millions.

Such is the first summing up of figures made by Col. A. D. Watts, revenue commissioner, announced today. When the horizontal reductions are all complete, the commissioner estimates that the wealth of the state will be about \$2,400,000,000. Sixty-three of 100 counties have completed their reductions and 45 of these are in the hands of the commissioner. Twenty-nine counties made no cuts and eight are now going through the process of revaluation.

The figures are most interesting. No surprise attaches to the announcement that Durham's per capita wealth is far in excess of the average for the state and Dare had no bitter rival for the lowest place. The average for the state was \$1,237.49 per capita but only 29 counties did better than the average. Wake was one dollar above the average and Cleveland one dollar below it. Durham's is \$2,899.49, and Dare's is \$530.92. Scotland has the second highest per capita wealth of any county in the state with \$1,990.52 and Clay is next to Dare towards the bottom. Mecklenburg is fourth with \$1,743.59 and Buncombe averages \$1,440.89.

It will be six months before a comparative statement can be made showing the changes that have been and will be wrought by the horizontal cut, but with most of the real and none of the personal figures in Colonel Watts' estimates the average reduction in valuations at 20 per cent. With figures in hand practically complete for 63 counties he cuts off four hundred millions for real property and lops off 40 per cent or three hundred millions, for the personal property cuts.

Hyde, one of the weaker counties of the east, was rated under revaluation as one of the wealthier counties but the equalization board has so cut down the figures of the appraisers until Hyde gets back toward the bottom.

BIG CELEBRATION IN MORGANTON JULY 4TH

The Burke County Post of the American Legion is directing plans for a celebration in Morganton on July 4th that gives promise of eclipsing any former celebration of the Fourth ever attempted in this section of the State. It is expected that if the weather is favorable thousands of people from Burke, McDowell, Caldwell and Catawba counties will be in Morganton that day to take part in and enjoy the festivities. By agreement between the Legion posts these four counties will take turns in celebrating the Fourth and to Burke was given the privilege of staging the first celebration.

Beginning with a big patriotic parade in the morning, for which floats are already being prepared and in which the legionaries will march, there will be some feature attraction every hour in the day, the celebration closing with a gorgeous display of fireworks at night.

Supt. R. E. Simpson, of the Southern Railway, a Burke county boy who has gone to the top, will make the only address of the day.

Aviator Mike Palm, of Concord, has been secured to make several flights and do aeroplane stunts.

An automobile race, mule race, ball game, daylight fire works, contests between fire companies, etc., will be on the day's program.

Morganton is making great preparations for the event. It will doubtless be a red letter day for the town and county.

Prohibition Officer John Lail destroyed a large copper still in the vicinity of the Corpening place north of Marion one day last week.

ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM THE COUNTY

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

OLD FORT

Old Fort, June 28.—Miss Nannie Nichols, who is attending summer school in Asheville, visited homefolks here Saturday and Sunday.

Miss Bessie Greene left this week for a two weeks visit in Asheville.

Miss Ruth Holder spent Sunday with Miss Bertha Greene.

James Padgett is home on a vacation from Chadbourn, N. C.

Claude Bright will move to Greenlee this week.

Winslow Arney left Saturday for Pittsburg to take up his work as clerk for the P. O. railroad.

Miss Bessie Haney is home from the Asheville Home and Industrial school.

Mrs. Kate Evans of Asheville spent Monday, in Old Fort.

Mrs. J. M. Kaylor of Asheville is spending a few days with her sister, Mrs. W. L. Grant, in Old Fort.

Mrs. James Mackey was in Old Fort shopping Monday.

The Old Fort ball team defeated the Farm school team by a score 6 to 0.

Miss Mae Jordan spent the weekend in Old Fort with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Jordan.

An ice cream supper will be given on Mrs. Henry Greene's lawn Monday afternoon, July 4th, beginning at 2 o'clock, for the benefit of the Woodmen circle.

The Brotherhood of Railway Clerks met in Old Fort on last Friday evening when the annual banquet was held with Messrs. W. W. Lefevre and H. R. Early. There was a large attendance and all seemed to enjoy the occasion. The Brotherhood of Railway Clerks is a young but strong and growing organization.

MONTFORDS COVE

Nealsville, Rt. 1, June 27.—Nell, the bright little 13-year-old daughter of Mr. Will Haynes, was struck and killed by lightning while playing in the yard of her home Saturday. Interment was made at the Cove church Sunday. The bereaved parents have our heartfelt sympathy.

Mr. and Mrs. Davis Morris of Union Mills visited relatives in the Cove last week.

Mrs. Ina Parker and children are visiting Mrs. Parker's mother.

Lillian, the infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Carswell, has been right sick but is better.

R. I. Bird, who was injured by being kicked by his mule one day last week, is able to walk again.

Lawrence Wilkerson and Preston Hensley of Marion visited relatives here Sunday.

Mrs. W. G. Harris has been right sick for the past few days, but is improving.

Millard Hensley and family of Old Fort attended the funeral of little Nell Haynes here Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. F. O. Stott of Marion visited relatives here Sunday.

Farmers are getting behind with their work on account of so much rain.

Rev. Reid Harris, who has been attending school at Trinity College, is spending his vacation with his parents here.

GARDIN

Marion, June 28.—Misses Clema and LiMie Smith are spending the summer with homefolks here.

J. B. Higgins has been on the sick list but is slowly improving.

Mrs. W. W. Huskins was the guest of Mrs. J. C. Carswell Sunday afternoon.

Misses Blanche Smith and Bula Wacaster attended the services at the Chapel Hill Baptist church Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Mask of Rock Hill, S. C., are spending a few days with the latter's parents, Mr. and

Mrs. H. D. Smith. Miss Mamie Bowman of Marion spent Sunday with homefolks near Gardin.

Corn crops are looking prosperous.

CATAWBA VALLEY

Old Fort, Rt. 2, June 28.—Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Lytle of Greenlee visited relatives here Sunday.

Quite a number enjoyed the singing at the home of Mr. and Mrs. William Condry Sunday afternoon.

Lee Lavender spent the week-end with friends at Greensboro.

John Hoyle lost a fine cow Saturday.

Miss Ethel Lavender and Joe Lavender left for Marion Monday where they have accepted positions.

Mike Hall is very sick.

Showers still continue to come daily. The farmers are getting as anxious for the wet weather to cease as they were for the rain to come.

J. A. Lavender made a business trip to Marion one day last week.

SUGAR HILL

Nealsville, Rt. 1, June 27.—Guy Hemphill of Canton is visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Hemphill.

Misses Bertha Morris and Pearl Simmons have returned home from Union Mills, where they have been attending the summer school.

Mr. and Mrs. R. P. Morris made a business trip to Marion last week.

Mrs. Victoria Reel and little daughter, Flora, spent the week-end with friends in Marion.

J. C. Crawford has returned home after spending some time with his son at Mocksville.

Mrs. J. F. Jonas of Marion visited relatives here last week.

Miss Gertrude Wilson is spending some time with her sister, Mrs. R. S. McCall, at Spruce Pine.

Dr. and Mrs. E. P. Crawford spent the latter part of the week with the former's father, J. C. Crawford.

Rev. and Mrs. J. M. Brown spent the week-end with Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Wilson.

B. M. Bright made a business trip to Marion, Saturday.

CURFEW

Curfew, June 28.—Mr. and Mrs. Richard Jolly and children, Mrs. Bessie Saunders, and Miss Laura Reel of Marion spent Sunday with the latter's mother, Mrs. Lou Reel.

Miss Eva Hawkins has returned to Clinchfield, after spending some time with homefolks near Curfew.

John Reel and family spent Sunday visiting relatives at Clinchfield.

Miss Edna Lail is spending the week with relatives in this community.

Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Burgin, Maria Reel, Edna and Eva Hawkins were the guests of Mrs. S. A. Hawkins, Sunday.

Mrs. John Lail of Marion was a visitor here Monday.

SINGING CONVENTION AT BETHLEHEM AUG. 27-28.

We wish to call the attention of all singing people of McDowell county, to the fact that our annual singing convention will be held at Bethlehem, three miles south of Old Fort, on Saturday and Sunday, August 27th and 28th. We hope that all choirs throughout the county are making ready for this convention. We notice that great improvements have been made among the different choirs in the past few years and we expect this convention to find us much further advanced in the way of singing.

All choirs of McDowell and adjoining counties are invited to come and take part. We also wish to extend our hearty welcome to all others who may visit us during our convention.

We have good roads leading from Old Fort and other points to Bethlehem, and Bethlehem is a most preferable location.

J. C. BURNETT, Pres.

Stone cannon balls were used 450 years ago in a Turkish War.

NEWS ITEMS FROM OVER THE STATE

Items Concerning Events of Interest and Importance Throughout the State.

The valuation of railroads in North Carolina as announced Monday by the Interstate Commerce commission gives the Norfolk Southern, Atlantic and North Carolina and Carthage and Pinehurst roads as \$24,663,840. The Carolina and Yadkin River is valued at \$766,538.

Eugene Maxwell Green, the 14-months-old son of J. E. Green, who lives six miles east of Raleigh, was drowned in a bucket of water Saturday afternoon, when the child crawled from the kitchen where his mother was at work to the porch where he tumbled headlong into the bucket.

Capt. John O. Wood, of Black Mountain, who is a native of Jackson county has been elected superintendent of the Rutherfordton graded school for next term. He is a graduate of the University of North Carolina, class of 1917 and did graduate work in Columbia university, New York, last year.

Robert N. Page of Biscoe was Monday named by Governor Morrison as a member of the board of directors of the state's industrial training school at Samarcand and has accepted. Judge Gilbert Stephenson, of Winston-Salem, could not serve and Mr. Page becomes successor to W. S. Blakeney, of Monroe, whose term has expired.

WEEKLY FARM NOTES.

Raleigh, June 23.—Wheat harvests about over. Yield generally about 40 per cent but good crops reported in Pasquotank and Mecklenburg. Rust in Swain.

Corn shows continued improvement, average fair; very good stand in Pasquotank and Lincoln.

Oats very good in Swain.

Cotton improving slowly. Lincoln and Mecklenburg crops late, but growing well.

Hay and Grasses good. Rain needed in piedmont.

Tobacco averages poor. "But-toning out" low in many counties.

Truck injured by drought. Prices unprofitable.

Pastures generally fair; very good in Pasquotank and Wilkes. Suffering from drought in Rowan, Mecklenburg and Catawba.

Fruit crop very small except in Sandhill region.

Livestock.

Cattle in good condition. Supply normal or above.

Hog supply generally normal. Surplus in Catawba, scarce in Wilkes.

MALES OUTNUMBER THE FEMALES IN THE U. S.

Washington, June 26.—There were 2,090,132 more males than females in the United States in 1920 making the ratio 104 to 100 as compared with 106 to every 100 females for the period of 1900-10, the census bureau announced tonight.

A preponderance of males has been shown in every census, due primarily, the announcement said, to the large number of foreign born residents among whom the males greatly outnumber the opposite sex. Thirteen per cent of the country's total population in 1920 was foreign born.

Every state except Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New York, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Alabama had excess of males over females. These seven states had ratios ranging from 96.3 to 100 for Massachusetts, to 99.9 for North Carolina.

WEATHER REPORT.

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

Maximum, 92 degrees; minimum, 62 degrees; rain, 0.56 of an inch; sunshine, per cent, 0.57.