

# MARION PROGRESS

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

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## DROUGHT IN THE PIEDMONT REGION

### Crop Prospects Fairly Promising in All Sections of the State Save Piedmont Section

Raleigh, July 9.—County farm agents report unusually hot weather for the past week for practically all of North Carolina with local showers or heavy rains in all sections except a part of the Piedmont district. According to the weather bureau, the temperatures averaged above normal and although there was more rain over the state than for several weeks the rains were local in character and unevenly distributed.

The wheat crop, which is about harvested now, is light, not over 50 per cent of a normal yield. Rust has been bad in the mountain district. Corn is improving in sections where the drought has been broken and the general condition is fair to good. Some damage from the bud worm is reported in Buncombe. Cotton continues to gain although somewhat slowly, and has begun to bloom in Catawba. The appearance of the red spider is reported in Rowan. Tobacco suring has begun in the coastal district and the crop is improving, but more rain is needed. The outlook for hay and grasses is good provided there is more rainfall. The same condition applies to pastures. Truck is good except in parts of the Piedmont region where it has been very dry. No change is indicated for the fruit crop which is small and poor.

The recent drought and hot weather have reduced crop prospects over the United States. Corn generally shows good cultivation and is being "aid by" but needs rain in some States. Wheat yields are variable, ranging from very good to poor. Oats has been injured by drought, heat and rust in northern States and prematurely ripen in the central section. Excessive rain have caused some damage in Oklahoma. Cotton shows a general improvement owing to the recent hot weather, but reports show the increasing activity of the boll weevil. All indications point to a still further reduction in the fruit crop over the country.

## MEN HAVE TUSSELL WITH BEAR NEAR OLD FORT

On last Friday while herding cattle, P. H. Mashburn and Walter Porter, of Old Fort, heard a gun shot some distance from the point where they were travelling and proceeded in the direction of the report of the gun, suspecting that something unusual had happened. Porter, who reached the scene first, found George Burnett in a bear fight. Burnett had run across the mother bear and two cubs. He undertook to kill the whole family outright. Killing one of the cubs and wounding the mother bear was about as far as he had got in his gruesome task, when Porter arrived upon the scene. The mother bear wounded from the gun shot and greatly infuriated, rushed upon Porter, and after administering several scratches and bites, being further wounded by slashes from Porter's pocket knife, gave up the fight and undertook to get away from the scene of conflict. Porter suffered several ugly scratches in his encounter with the bear, but no permanent injuries.

The dead cub was carried home by Burnett, and the following day a party of hunters found the dead mother. On Tuesday, John Davis and John Dalton located another mother bear with two cubs. They succeeded in killing only one of the cubs.

Reports are that bears in this section are rather plentiful. The people in this section, however, are taking extra precautions against bears when going out to feed cattle. They are not satisfied with being armed with ordinary double-barrelled shot guns, but are taking along their repeating rifles and other death-dealing instruments.

## STATE BUYS 27 MILES OF TOLL ROAD FOR \$40,000

### Blowing Rock-Lenoir Road Purchased—Survey Ordered of Bakersville Road.

Raleigh, July 9.—The state highway commission, handing out judgments Friday on controverted matters, sustained Commissioner Cameron's recommendation on the Smithfield to Princeton road and appointed Chairman Page and Commissioners Stikeleather and McGirt to go to Rutherfordton and personally inspect the two routes in controversy leading from the South Carolina line.

On the mountain turnpike problems, the following decisions were reached: The Hugh McRae offer of the Yonahlosse road at \$25,000 was rejected and a counter proposition to take it over and maintain it made to Mr. McRae. If it should be abandoned at any time, the road would revert to its owners with such improvements the state may make.

The Blowing Rock and Lenoir turnpike, 27 miles, was accepted at the \$40,000 figure. This, like the Yonahlosse and Little Switzerland roads, is a toll road and the toll charges will be discontinued.

The Little Switzerland road, offered by Col. Heriot Clarkson, of Charlotte, was not accepted but the offer was referred to the district engineer for recommendations as to that part of the road which will be of service to the state.

Immediate construction of the Newton to Gastonia link was ordered and also of a short stretch across Yadkin line between Statesville and Dobson. The Hot Springs to the Tennessee line will be constructed right away also.

Immediate survey was ordered of the Bakersville to Burnsville link in the lost province territory and survey was also ordered for a link from Asheville to Marshall.

## PRISONERS ESCAPE FROM JAIL.

One of the most wholesale deliveries of jail-birds that ever took place in McDowell county occurred on last Friday night some time in the early morning when DeWitt Kirby, of South Carolina, Press Duncan, DeWitt Holman, Frank Jenkins, Ed. England and T. C. Hoyle took French leave of absence, and, with the exception of England and Duncan, nothing has been heard from them.

The escaped prisoners were all in the same cell and it is thought that they used a saw in removing the iron bars from the window. They then took the blankets from their beds, and improvising a rope, fastened the upper end to the plumbing on the outside of the jail and then slid to the ground.

As to how the prisoners succeeded in getting an instrument to saw the bars open is as yet unknown. A woman had called several times to see Kirby, and it is thought that she probably, in some way managed to convey a small saw with which the bars were cut.

As soon as the escape was discovered, Sheriff Nichols and his deputies got busy by wire, telephone, etc., and in a few hours had located England and Duncan. They were caught in Spartanburg and brought back to Marion by one of the sheriff's deputies. The sheriff is doing everything possible to locate the escaped prisoners, but as yet has no tangible clew as to their whereabouts.

## OFFICERS CAPTURE STILLS.

Prohibition Officer John Lail, R. C. Nannery and Gus Poteat captured a still and destroyed a quantity of beer in a raid near Little Switzerland last Tuesday. The officers also captured two men at the still, John Clark and George Biddix, who were placed in jail.

Sheriff Nichols, Deputy Sheriff Mitchell and J. A. Finley captured a large still and destroyed about 800 gallons of beer in the Halltown section recently.

## ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM THE COUNTY

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

#### MONTFORDS COVE

Union Mills, Rt. 1, July 11.—Montford's Cove and Crooked Creek ball teams met at Crooked Creek Saturday and played a game of ball, resulting in favor of Montford's Cove 14 to 3.

Badger and Curtis Williams of Rutherfordton visited their parents Saturday and Sunday.

Paul Williams has returned from a visit to his brother at Rutherfordton. Misses Mattie Harris and Maude Owens were guests of Miss Vera Ledbetter Saturday and Sunday.

Miss Ethel Ledbetter visited the Misses Morris at Glenwood Sunday. Misses Lizzie and Leota Morris motored to the Cove Sunday.

Miss Olive Stott was the guest of Miss Laura Adams yesterday. Verno Harris and family spent Sunday with the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Williams.

Mrs. L. D. Hemphill is visiting her son at High Shoals.

Miss Annie Sue Harris spent Monday in Marion.

School will open at White Pine Monday with Miss Goodloe Haney of Glenwood as teacher.

Mrs. Wm. M. Wilson is visiting her mother, Mrs. D. C. Brown.

John Haynes of Shingle Hollow visited his brother here Saturday.

Born, to Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Williams of Rutherfordton, a daughter, Rachel Addie.

F. O. Stott and sister, Miss Dovie, of Marion visited their parents here Sunday.

Rev. M. M. Huntly will begin a revival meeting at the Cove Baptist church next Sunday.

## DYSARTSVILLE

Dysartsville, July 11.—W. A. Carswell and daughter are both on the sick list. We hope they will soon be up again.

Charles Patterson and family of Asheville visited Mrs. Mattie L. Jaquins last Sunday.

Herbert C. Mangum made a business trip to Asheville recently. He appeared before the board of examiners on account of being wounded in the world war.

Miss Effie Daves of South Carolina is visiting relatives here.

Claude M. Laughridge of Marion was a visitor here Sunday.

Miss Annie Cowan has been attending summer school for teachers at Union Mills.

The revival meeting will begin at the Methodist church on the fifth Sunday at 11 o'clock.

R. E. Roper, Frank and Bratch Biggerstaff and J. C. Goforth, went to Marion today to serve as jurors in McDowell Superior court this week.

Carson Jarrett made a business trip to Marion Saturday.

Farmers are most through with their corn.

W. H. Taylor made a business trip to Marion today.

## OLD FORT

Old Fort, July 11.—Misses Martha Golia and Mary Atkins of Asheville spent the week-end with Miss Bertha Greene.

Miss Elizabeth Stein of Monroe, Va., is visiting at the home of Mrs. J. O. McDaniel.

Mrs. Alanack and son, Alexander, of Tennessee, are visiting the former's sister, Mrs. J. B. Johnson.

Mrs. Harry Salisbury of Salisbury spent Sunday with Mrs. P. H. Mashburn.

Mrs. D. M. McIntosh has returned home after spending a month in Virginia.

Mr. and Mrs. Natt Murphy of Salisbury are visiting Miss Madeline Mashburn.

Mrs. Sam Murphy of Richmond, Va., is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. M. L. Hensley.

The Clifton Comedy company will

exhibit here this week. Mr. and Mrs. Charles Greene and little son, Jack, of Charlotte, are spending a few days with the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Greene.

## CATAWBA VALLEY

Old Fort, Rt. 1, July 11.—Mrs. Wm. Hicks, who is attending the summer school in Asheville, spent the week-end with homefolks.

The singing school at Ebenezer is progressing nicely under the management of Reuben Silver.

Mr. and Mrs. George Silver and family of Avondale were visitors here last week.

Miss Sarah Bradley went to Cliffside last week on a visit.

J. W. Bradley made a business trip to Marion last Saturday.

A number of people from here attended the third-quarterly meeting at Greenlee, Sunday.

Our people are almost through laying by corn and have their wheat stacked.

Walter Porter captured a bear on the Blue Ridge last week.

## BROAD RIVER

Old Fort, July 11.—I. V. Stroud visited relatives in Marion last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Rome Laughter and little son visited their daughter, Mrs. Roscoe Davis at Uree last week.

Miss Mayme Morgan of Sugar Hill spent the week-end with Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Nanney.

Edward Rhymer of Bat Cave spent the week with friends here.

R. C. Nanney and M. T. Greene spent a few days in Marion last week on business.

Miss Hetty Nanney left Sunday for Rutherfordton to attend the State examination for teachers.

W. L. Nanney and J. L. Greene have finished painting the school building and it has been much improved.

Miss Lockye Nanney left Friday for Rutherfordton and Raleigh on business.

## CURFEW

Curfew, July 12.—Curfew school will begin next Monday, July 18th, with Miss Lela Melton as teacher.

J. F. Turner and family visited relatives here Saturday night and Sunday.

Alfred Gibson of Old Fort visited homefolks Sunday.

The farmers in this section of the county are almost through working their crops.

W. W. Parker and family spent yesterday in Marion.

## DOME

Dome, July 10.—Quite a number of people attended the singing at Broad river church Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. B. M. Millwood of Spartanburg visited their daughter and son here during the week.

Miss Mamie Connor has returned from Winston-Salem.

Miss Ida Belle Ledbetter is attending the Summer school at Chapel Hill.

Master Haskell Ledbetter is spending the summer with his grandfather, T. B. Ledbetter.

## MAY MAKE HOSPITAL OF KENILWORTH INN

Washington, July 9.—It is understood that the public health service is soon to take over Kenilworth inn, at Asheville, and turn the property into a hospital to be used for major operations for tuberculosis. The property is now being used by the government, but if the recommendation of the public health service is adopted the property will be bought by the government and materially enlarged. It is believed it will be made one of the most up-to-date hospitals in the country.

Rev. John Morton, of High Point, is conducting a series of meetings at the Methodist church in Nebo. Mr. Morton is preaching strong and forceful sermons and much interest has been manifested. The services have been well attended.

## NEWS ITEMS FROM OVER THE STATE

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

The North Carolina Farmers' and Farm Women's Convention will begin on Tuesday morning, August 30, and extend through Thursday, September 1, at the State College, Raleigh. The convention officials expect record crowds this year, on account of the changing agricultural conditions and the strong program to be presented.

Prominent among Methodist activities to be held at the Southern Assembly grounds, Lake Junaluska, is the Missionary Conference and School of Missions of the Methodist Episcopal church, South, which has been set for July 29-August 7. According to Methodist leaders this will be an important gathering and a large attendance is expected. Speakers of national prominence have been secured for platform addresses.

Montreat's new \$100,000 auditorium, now nearing completion, will be ready for the installation of interior equipment by the end of August according to Rev. R. C. Anderson, president of the Mountain Retreat association. All furnishings will be installed during the winter so the structure will be ready for use when the 1922 series of conferences of the Presbyterian church opens next June.

## WILL REGULATE FISHING ON BRIDGEWATER LAKES

Hickory, July 8.—News has reached Hickory that the Southern Power Company intends to inaugurate a plan for the protection of fish in the Bridgewater lakes and the protection of anglers from excessive charges by persons who look merely at the commercial side of sport. Unless one owns a boat on the lakes he is out of pocket and out of luck, it is said, and the plan is to call off all boats and for the company to put on canoes of its own. These will be rented at a nominal charge, persons who desire to fish hiring them, reporting to wardens as they set out and showing them their catch as they return. In this way there will be no excessive catches carried off. It is also said the company plans to build a comfortable club-house on the lakes, provide places to stay and prevent camping except on places designated.

Hickory fishermen say this plan will be more satisfactory than the present arrangements.

## HEN IS 'MOTHER' TO MOTHERLESS KITTENS

Asheville Citizen.  
Out on the poultry farm of J. F. Hyams, Weaverville, the other day a cat apparently growing tired of her kittens, gathered her young and one by one in her mouth carried them to the nest of an old hen. Then the mother cat strayed away and failed to come back.

It appears that the chicken was deceived for since that time she has acted the role of mother to the kittens. She fights when they are disturbed and the small animals seemed to understand the "clucking" of their new found mother.

The kittens hardly had their eyes open when the hen took charge of them, and Mr. Hyams fed them with milk through a medicine dropper. They are now large enough to get about by themselves and one of the three was given away by Mr. Hyams, while the hen still "mothers" the remaining two.

Yesterday the queer "outfit" was brought to Asheville and placed in the display window of Robinson's Drug store on Patton avenue. Considerable attention was attracted. Before the hen and kittens are returned to the farm they will pose for a photograph.

G. V. Shaver is erecting a two-story seven room residence on his lot on Johnson street.