

MARION PROGRESS

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

ESTABLISHED 1896.

MARION, N. C.; THURSDAY, AUG. 18, 1921

VOL. XXV—NO. 50

EDUCATION MAKES BIG STRIDES IN DECADE

Census Bureau Shows Almost Six Per Cent Decrease in Illiteracy in North Carolina.

Washington, Aug. 13.—According to the census of 1920 there are 241,445 illiterate persons 10 years of age and over in the state of North Carolina, "illiterate" meaning unable to write. Of this number 104,673 are native whites of native parentage, 171 are of foreign or mixed parentage, and 474 are of foreign birth. The number of illiterate negroes is 133,516. In the total population ten years of age and over the percentage of illiteracy is 13.1, which, it is gratifying to note, shows a diminution since 1910, when it was 18.5. In the case of the negroes, the percentage declined from 31.9 to 24.5, and in the case of the native white of native parentage from 12.3 to 8.2.

There is more illiteracy in the rural districts of the state than in the cities, the percentage being 14.1 for the rural population and 9.3 for the urban. For the native white population of native parentage the urban percentage of illiteracy is 4.0, while the rural is 9.2. In the case of the negro population the percentage is 20.3 in the urban population as against 25.7 in the rural.

By counties the percentage of illiteracy ranges from 22.4 in Edgecombe county to 6.4 in Buncombe county.

(The census bureau reports show that the percentage of illiteracy in the total population of McDowell county ten years of age and over is 11.8, which shows a decrease since 1910 when it was 15.4. For the native white the percentage is 9.8, and for the negro, 27.1.)

School Attendance.

There are 460,696 children 7 to 13 years of age in the state and of this number 400,846 or 87.0 per cent were reported as attending school. In 1910 the percentage attending school was 76.5, thus indicating a gratifying improvement as regards school attendance between 1910 and 1920. Of the children 14 and 15 years of age in 1920 77.4 per cent were attending school and of those 16 and 17 years of age 50.1 per cent.

Of the white children 7 to 13 years of age 80.7 per cent were attending school in 1910 and 89.5 per cent in 1920. For the negro children the same age the percentage in the same interval increased from 68.6 to 81.3.

The percentage of children attending schools was considerably larger in the cities than in the country districts, the percentage of children in the urban population 7 to 13 years of age being 91.9 while in the rural populations it was 86.1.

Urban according to census definition includes all cities and other incorporated places 2,500 population or more.

THREE BLOCKADE STILLS DESTROYED BY OFFICERS

Sheriff J. L. Nichols and deputies report the capture of three illicit distilleries during the past week. The first raid was made in Higgins township when Sheriff Nichols accompanied by Potat and Finley, captured a small outfit on the 6th. On the 13th Sheriff Nichols and Deputy Sheriff Grant destroyed a distilling outfit near Ridgecrest, and on the 15th Prohibition Officer Lail and Deputy Sheriff Mitchell destroyed a plant near Glenwood. No arrests were made.

GOOD CAPTURES STILL NEAR AVERY STATION

Deputy Sheriff J. A. Good, of Sevier, captured a 20-gallon copper still near Avery station last Tuesday. About a gallon of whiskey was destroyed and the still was brought to town and cut up. The plant, it is said, was in operation but the blockaders succeeded in making their escape.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION IN MARION SEPT. 6-7.

At a conference of the pastors, Sunday school superintendents and leaders of Marion, it was unanimously decided to hold the McDowell County Sunday School Convention on Tuesday and Wednesday, September 6 and 7. The convention will be held in the Methodist Church of Marion.

Mr. D. W. Sims, General Superintendent of the North Carolina Sunday School Association was also present in this meeting, and made many helpful suggestions to the workers as to the best way to advertise and arrange the program for the convention.

The following local committee on arrangements was named: W. R. Chambers, superintendent Baptist Sunday School; Prof. T. A. Holton, superintendent Methodist Sunday School and Geo. A. Banner, superintendent Presbyterian Sunday School.

Many of the local Sunday School workers will take part on the program. Besides Mr. D. W. Sims, the other principal speaker at the convention will be Miss Flora Davis, assistant superintendent of the North Carolina Sunday School Association. Both Mr. Sims and Miss Davis know the Sunday School work and are recognized as experts.

There will be four sessions of the convention—Tuesday night, September 6th, and Wednesday morning, afternoon and night, September 7th.

All Sunday School workers of the county are urged to attend as the conventions held under the auspices of the North Carolina Sunday School Association are for workers of all denominations. All sessions are free and open to all.

WHITE-McARTHUR.

Rock Hill Herald.

Cards reading as follows, have been received here: Mrs. Sue Cauthen announces the marriage of her sister Cora McArthur to Mr. Arnold Prescott White on Friday evening, August fifth nineteen hundred and twenty-one, Charlotte North Carolina. At home after August eighteenth, 228 N. College Street, Charlotte, N. C.

Of interest to friends in this city and section will be the above announcement. The ceremony was quietly performed, being witnessed only by a few relatives and close friends. The officiating minister was of the Presbyterian denomination. The youthful couple left at once on a honeymoon trip to the mountains, and upon their return on the 18th will be at home at 228 N. College street, Charlotte.

Miss McArthur formerly lived in Rock Hill, with her sister, Mrs. Sue Cauthen, holding a position with the local telephone company. Since going to Charlotte, she has been with the Efrid Department Store. She made a number of friends during her stay here who will learn with interest of the happy event.

Mr. White is the eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. S. H. White, of this city, where he is well and popularly known. He at present holds a responsible position with Portor and Boyd, contractors, of Charlotte.

JOHN R. STRICKLAND DIES AT CLINCHFIELD MILL

Mr. John R. Strickland died suddenly at his home at the Clinchfield mill Saturday evening, death resulting from heart trouble. Mr. Strickland moved here from Sampson county only about ten days ago. He was 68 years of age and is survived by his wife and ten children, six sons and four daughters. The funeral services were conducted from the residence Wednesday morning and interment made at Oak Grove cemetery.

BOX SUPPER.

There will be a box supper at Mill Creek school house next Friday night, August 19. Everybody cordially invited. The proceeds will go for the school.

ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM THE COUNTY

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

OLD FORT

Old Fort, Aug. 15.—Miss Mary Burgin of Greenlee spent the week-end with Mrs. J. B. Johnson.

Miss Nannie Nichols, who is teaching school at Ashford, spent the week-end with homefolks.

Friends of Mrs. Ella B. Clark, who was injured in an automobile accident recently, will be glad to know she is improving.

Harry Ditmore left Monday for Asheville to spend a few days with his brother, Raleigh.

Miss Evelyn Burgin was in Asheville shopping, Monday.

Misses Bertha Greene, Lizzie and Lee White motored to Converse, S. C., with Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Cannon during the week.

Born, to Mr. and Mrs. Forest Lytle, August 10, a daughter.

Miss Ruby McCurry of Asheville is visiting Miss Myrtle McCurry.

Mr. and Mrs. Guss Harvey of West Virginia are visiting the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Boss Harvey.

Miss Louise Burgin of Marion and Miss Elizabeth Biddix of Old Fort will leave Wednesday to visit friends in Black Mountain.

Mrs. Nannie Erwin of Greenlee spent the week-end with Mrs. Dover. Mrs. Maude Pitt of Converse, S. C., is visiting her sister, Mrs. J. R. Harris.

Rev. W. E. Poovey of Shelby spent a few days in Old Fort during the week, the guest of Mr. and Mrs. W. W. LeFevre.

LAUREL HILL

Nebo, Route 1, Aug. 15.—Mrs. Cora M. Carson of Rutherfordton spent a few days here last week visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Ellington. Returning she was accompanied by her daughter, Miss Bessie, who has been spending her vacation in this community.

T. L. Queen of Forest City visited friends here recently.

Misses Carrie and Zulia Condrey of Alexander spent last week here with their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. J. Webb Walker.

Mrs. W. E. Dixon of Gastonia has been spending some time in this community visiting friends and relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Queen and daughter, Vera, of Newberry, S. C., spent a few days here recently with friends and relatives.

J. M. Walker and D. H. Whitener were in Marion last Saturday on business.

Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Hair of Spindale are spending the week with the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Ellington.

Miss Annie Morris spent the week-end with homefolks near Nealsville.

T. C. McDaniel of Cliffside was a visitor here recently.

Mr. and Mrs. S. C. Morgan of Erwin, Tenn., are spending a few days here with their daughter, Mrs. G. H. Ellington.

Miss Effie Walker of Marion spent a few days here recently visiting her sister, Mrs. J. F. Foster.

Tom Connor and family of Rutherfordton are here for a short stay with friends and relatives.

James Ellington of Madison county is visiting his brother, G. C. Ellington.

J. M. Walker, L. G. Price, Jesse Price and Ira Walker made a trip to the Southern Power lakes near Bridgewater last Thursday.

Lonnie Foster of Rutherfordton visited his parents here the first of last week.

MONTFORDS COVE

Nealsville, Rf. 1, Aug. 9.—Mrs. Hallie Byrd of Washington, D. C., and Mrs. Hattie Flack of Knoxville, Tenn., attended the funeral of their mother, Mrs. Koon, Monday. Mrs. Curtis Williams and little

daughter, Rachel, of Rutherfordton are visiting relatives here.

J. P. Williams spent the week-end with his sons in Rutherfordton. Messrs. Ransome and Zerbie Hemphill left Sunday to enter school at Boiling Springs.

Miss Emma Lou Hensley is visiting in Forest City this week.

W. G. Harris and Verno Harris and families spent Sunday in Union Mills.

Mrs. R. I. Bird is right sick.

Mrs. J. P. Williams has been on the sick list for several days.

Guy Hemphill of Canton is visiting his parents here.

Mrs. Edwards of Taylorsville is visiting relatives at Sugar Hill.

Mrs. Nancy Mitchell has closed up her old home, the "White House," and gone to Forest City to make her home with her daughter, Mrs. J. C. Taylor.

Posey Hemphill and son were guests of Mrs. Nancy Mitchell last week.

F. O. Stott of Marion visited his parents here Sunday.

HARMONY GROVE

Nebo, Aug. 16.—There will be a cake walk and pie sale at Harmony Grove school house, Friday night, August 26. Proceeds will go for benefit of the school. Public invited.

Rev. Hodge of Rutherford is holding a revival meeting here this week.

A new steel bridge is being erected on North Muddy creek near the home of Mrs. M. L. Rowe.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Crawley of Virginia and Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Crawley of Marion are spending some time with the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Crawley.

Charlie Crawley of Marion spent the week-end with his mother, Mrs. Alice Crawley.

Mrs. Ben Simmons and little son are spending sometime at Marion and Buck Creek.

C. H. Simmons and family of Nebo are spending a while with Mrs. G. M. Flack near Gilkey.

Dan Anderson made a business trip to Nebo Tuesday.

Misses Maggie and Vivian Parks spent the week-end with homefolks at Nebo.

Ennis Lawing and sister, Miss Sue, were shopping in Marion Friday. School is progressing nicely with an enrollment of fifty-four.

CHAPEL HILL

Chapel Hill, Aug. 15.—Mrs. J. R. Huffman is still on the sick list.

Mr. and Mrs. Flack of Marion spent the week-end with the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. D. Smith.

Miss Lena Swann of Marion is spending this week with her parents here.

A large crowd attended the ice cream supper given by Chapel Hill Baptist Sunday school last Saturday evening.

We are having considerable rainfall in this section just now. Corn crops are looking prosperous and watermelons are plentiful.

GROGG WILL SPEAK TO SUPERINTENDENTS

J. H. Grogg, president of the Buncombe county Sunday school association, has been extended an invitation by E. L. Middleton, secretary of the Sunday school department of the State Baptist convention, to deliver an address at the conference of Baptist superintendents at Marion, September 21-23.

Mr. Grogg is asked to report the activities of the Buncombe association and is slated to appear on the afternoon of August 22. Twenty-five men have been placed on the program.

Last year the conference was held at Hickory and was very successful. It has been decided to hold two meetings this year, one in Goldsboro, the other in Marion.

The program for the conference will be announced later.

Services at St. John's next Sunday at 11 a. m.

NEWS ITEMS FROM OVER THE STATE

Items Concerning Events of Interest and Importance Throughout the State.

William J. Mode was nominated for postmaster at Rutherfordton Tuesday.

The Catawba County fair will be held in Hickory this year on October 4, 5, 6 and 7.

T. H. Vanderford, revenue agent for North Carolina, will retire September 1. He has been in the government service for 36 years and is entitled to retire on pension.

Captain J. C. Mills, a well-known citizen of Burke county, died at his home in Morganton Sunday at the age of eighty-five. He represented Burke in the State legislature for several sessions and held other positions of trust.

Mrs. Marie H. Cates, of Augusta, Ga., was killed and Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Leeman, of Charlotte, were injured, when an automobile in which they were riding stalled on the Southern railway track at Gastonia Sunday and was struck by a fast train.

SOLDIERS SENT TO CONCORD TO STOP DISORDER

Raleigh, Aug. 14.—Two companies of national guard troops were ordered to Concord by Governor Cameron Morrison early tonight to suppress disorders growing out of a strike of cotton mill workers in progress there for several months. Maj. R. R. Faison, commanding the second battalion, first North Carolina infantry, was directed to take command of the two companies.

Mills Resume Operation

Concord, Aug. 15.—With the Charlotte military company on guard at the Hartsel mill, which opened this afternoon at 1 o'clock after being closed since June 1, and the Concord company on guard at the Locke mill, conditions remained quiet in Concord during the day. The Locke mill opened last Thursday and picketing conditions grew so critical there Friday and Saturday morning that county and city officials asked for troops, with the result that the local company and the Charlotte company were ordered on duty here.

SPECIALISTS ADDED TO PUBLIC WELFARE BOARD

Miss Grace A. Reeder, assistant superintendent of the New York Orphanage at Hastings-On-the-Hudson, who has been in North Carolina for the past three months doing special research work for the state department of public welfare, has been elected director of the child helping division of the state board to succeed Mrs. Clarence A. Johnson, recently appointed state commissioner of public welfare. The employment of a trained psychiatrist, Dr. Harry W. Crane, of the University of Ohio, whose services will be at the disposal of the juvenile courts and child-caring institutions of the state, was also announced by the state board. Dr. Crane, who will take up his duties as state psychiatrist in connection with his other duties at the State university the middle of September, is believed to be eminently fitted for the work, both by training and experience.

Mrs. Clarence Johnson, state commissioner of public welfare, and Dr. Howard Odum, of the University of North Carolina, consulting expert, submitted to the board plans for expanding the work and improving its service and the proposals were accepted in full. The extension of the work with dependent, neglected and delinquent children and the promotion of psychiatric service are two main features that are to be stressed during the coming year.

BIRTHS.

Born, to Mr. and Mrs. Bright Mace, August 10, a daughter.

Born, to Mr. and Mrs. Bryant Hoyle, August 11, a daughter.