

MARION PROGRESS

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

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BIG MASONIC MEETING OF THE 44TH DISTRICT

Most of the Lodges of Rutherford and McDowell Counties Represented at Meeting.

Lodges of the forty-fourth Masonic district of North Carolina assembled in the hall of the Mystic Tie lodge of Marion on Thursday night, December 15, 1921, at the call of Deputy Grand Master J. W. Winborne, of Marion.

Most of the lodges in this district, comprising McDowell and Rutherford counties, were represented, and the officers of the evening were made up of men from different lodges. They are: J. W. Winborne, Mystic Tie, Marion, worshipful master; John Beam, Western Star, Rutherfordton, senior warden; J. P. Carpenter, Cliffside, junior warden; J. Will Pless, Jr., Mystic Tie, Marion, secretary; P. D. Sinclair, Mystic Tie, Marion, senior deacon; O. F. Adkins, Mystic Tie, Marion, junior deacon; G. Edgar Hill, Western Star, and W. P. Carpenter, Cliffside, stewards.

J. M. Clay, who as acted in this position for Mystic Tie for over twenty years, was at his regular post as Tyler.

Following the usual opening ceremonies, Rev. J. C. Story, of the Presbyterian church, Marion, offered a prayer for the work of the meeting, and this, which concluded the opening ceremonies, was followed by a report from the different lodges through their delegates: John Beam, of Western Star, Rutherfordton; J. N. Nesbitt, Joppa, Old Fort; L. S. Nanney, of Cliffside; and J. Will Pless, Jr., Mystic Tie, Marion.

Dr. P. D. Sinclair welcomed the visiting Masons on behalf of Mystic Tie lodge, saying in the course of his remarks that he thought his duty, while a pleasant one, was superfluous as Masons never feel that they need words of welcome from each other any more than a child would expect them from a parent.

Dr. J. T. Bowden, pastor of the First Baptist church, Marion, spoke upon "Masonic Fraternalism." His thought was that Masonry is second only to the church as an organization for the advancement of things that are worth while in life for good living and clean thinking. He made a plea that all Masons live up to the tenets of the order to which they belong and in so doing make of themselves better citizens and their community a finer place in which to live.

Following this, District Deputy Grand Master Winborne called to the attention of the lodge the educational program of the Grand Lodge as outlined by Grand Master J. Bailey Owen and called upon D. F. Giles to explain the meaning and possibilities of carrying out this program. Mr. Giles said that while the work and ritual of Masonry are beautiful in themselves, one does not get from them all that they mean unless a close study is made of the underlying meanings and thoughts that are in the minds of our ancient brethren. He talked upon service to others and self-forgetfulness as the great work of Masonry and made a plea that all Masons bear this in mind.

Then Mr. D. E. Hudgins, of Marion, presented to the lodge what he called "Applied Masonry." He showed an opportunity for those present to live up to the great principles expounded by Messrs. Bowden and Giles in contributing to the fund to build a hospital at the Oxford orphanage. He earnestly urged that each one make every effort possible to contribute to this worthy cause and to make a success of this work as requested by Grand Master Owen, who inaugurated it and who should have the credit of establishing it firmly during his administration. Mr. Hudgins' talk concluded the set exercises of the evening and thereupon many were called upon for a few words. John Beam, of Rutherfordton, was called upon as one who lived Masonry every day of his life and in reply Mr. Beam said that it was possible for one to get out of

masonry only what he put in it. He called himself the happiest Mason ever in a lodge and stated that this was due to working and living for Masonry.

Mr. J. P. Carpenter, of Cliffside, told of what masonry and such a meeting as this one meant to him and proposed that the Masons of McDowell and Rutherford counties inaugurate an annual picnic. This was discussed by several members and was finally adopted, the first Thursday in August being set as the time, with the Masters of the different lodges to act as a committee to prepare a program.

Afterwards many visiting brothers and notables who had acted as Masters of the different lodges were called upon, each being very happy and enthusiastic in his response. The lodge was then closed, being called from labor to refreshment in more than one sense of the word, in that a most enjoyable buffet supper was then served, consisting of chicken salad, relishes, celery, sandwiches, cake, ice cream, coffee and smokes.

Just as the crowd was ready to leave, Mr. Beam took it upon himself to see how much the meeting had been moved by the talks that had been made. He adopted the old time Baptist method, he called it, of getting money for the hospital at Oxford orphanage and over \$100.00 was laid upon the altar as a result of his work.

This meeting was an example of what Masonry means and was one of the best and most enthusiastic meetings ever held in Marion.

To Messrs. J. W. Winborne and O. F. Adkins, the latter present Master of Mystic Tie Lodge, and John Beam are due a great deal of the credit for the success of the meeting, although practically every member of the Marion lodge had helped in the arrangements.

This affair was so successful that it is planned to make it a regular event in order that the Masons of the two counties may know each other more intimately. The results of this meeting will be felt for months to come.

MOONSHINERS FLEE WHEN OFFICERS ARRIVE

Deputy Marshal W. J. Beachboard, of Asheville, on a trip in McDowell last week, accompanied by John B. Banks, prohibition agent, and C. C. Boone, reports that two big stills were captured and the identity of three men working one of the stills was learned.

On Buck creek a 60-gallon still was in full tilt when the officers approached. One grabbed the cap, another the worm and the third a jug of whiskey as they fled. The officers pursued closely, so much so that each of the fleeing ones dropped his load to speed up his exit. Ten gallons of whiskey and 600 gallons of beer were seized and destroyed.

A 100-gallon sheet iron still was found on Conley Mill creek. Here four gallons of whiskey, 200 pounds of sugar, and 400 gallons of beer were captured. The beer and sugar sweetened the branch.

Joe Marsh was arrested for violating the prohibition act. He gave \$300 bond before U. S. Commissioner James Morris, in Marion.

LOCAL OFFICERS DESTROY THREE STILLS

Local officers have made several successful raids in the county during the past few days. Deputy Sheriff T. T. Wright reports the destruction of a big steam distillery on Linville mountain on December 10th, and last Monday Deputy Sheriff W. B. Sisk brought in a large still which he captured in Dysartsville township. Another still was destroyed in Dysartsville township Tuesday by Deputy Sheriff W. S. Taylor. Prohibition Officer John Banks, Deputy Sheriff J. A. Finley and G. B. Woody made a raid in the Montfords Cove section Monday and destroyed a large quantity of beer.

Shop with home merchants.

ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM THE COUNTY

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

OLD FORT

Old Fort, Dec. 19.—Miss Bertha Greene and Clifford Stepe spent the week-end in Hendersonville with Miss Florence Justice.

Mr. and Mrs. Erwin Patton were shopping in Asheville Friday.

Misses Millie and Beulah Kanipe, Mae Allison and Gertrude Durham have returned home to spend holidays with their parents.

Mr. Alfred of Asheville spent the week-end in Old Fort.

J. H. Duncan was in Marion Monday on business.

The four-year-old son of Andrew Conner happened to the misfortune to get his arm broken Sunday afternoon by falling from a wagon.

Sidney Mauney, Jr., arrived Friday night from Raleigh to spend the holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. F. Mauney.

Miss Margie Walker left today for a visit to her uncle at Black Mountain.

Jack Hoffman, who has been working in West Virginia, arrived Sunday night to spend the holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. M. Hoffman.

Kenneth Dobbeck, seven-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. John Dobbeck, died Saturday of pneumonia and was buried in the Old Fort cemetery Sunday afternoon.

All the teachers of the graded school have gone to their respective homes to spend the Christmas holidays.

Ashley and John Robinson and Miss Millie Kanipe were operated on Sunday, having their tonsils removed.

There will be a Christmas entertainment at the Baptist church Saturday night at 7 o'clock.

SUGAR HILL

Nealsville, Dec. 20.—Among those who have returned home for the holidays from school are Messrs. Ray and Jack Morris from Round Hill Academy.

George Crawford and Miss Lona Belle Watts of Taylorsville were married Wednesday, the 14th. We wish for them a happy and peaceful voyage.

R. P. Morris and W. M. Wilson killed five hogs this week weighing two thousand and twenty-five pounds, an average of four hundred and five pounds apiece.

Some new patented desks have arrived for the Sugar Hill school.

Fred and Will Morris spent the week-end at the latter's home at Union Mills.

Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Rabb and family have moved to Lenoir, where they will reside in the future.

Reuben Simmons of Marion is visiting his mother, Mrs. Victoria Reel.

GARDIN

Gardin, Dec. 20.—James S. Morgan of Kannapolis is spending the holidays with homefolks here.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Mason of Nebo visited relatives here last week.

J. C. Carswell has been visiting relatives at Garden City several days.

Mrs. C. D. Wacaser visited relatives at Nebo last week.

Mrs. John Carswell was shopping in Marion today.

Ivey Holland returned from Montfords Cove last week.

Ed Bowman made a business trip to Glenwood yesterday.

Franklin Gardin is erecting a new barn.

A new bridge is being built across the creek near here.

A special Christmas service will be given by the Sunday school at the First Methodist church Friday evening at 7 o'clock. The program will consist of Christmas songs and recitations.

MISS WATTS THE BRIDE OF GEORGE C. CRAWFORD

Taylorsville, Dec. 17.—A wedding of interest to their many friends was that of Miss Lona Belle Watts and George Clingman Crawford which took place Wednesday afternoon at 2 o'clock at the home of the bride's parents in West End. Rev. L. P. Gwaltney performed the ceremony. living room where the vows were spoken was effectively decorated with holly and ferns. The bride wore a traveling suit of navy blue with brown hat and carried a bouquet of roses and ferns.

Miss Beatrice Watts, sister of the bride, was her only attendant. Dr. Dean Crawford, brother of the bridegroom, was best man.

Immediately after the ceremony Mr. and Mrs. Crawford left on their wedding trip.

Mrs. Crawford is a daughter of Rev. and Mrs. J. W. Watts, of Taylorsville, is attractive and has many friends here. The bridegroom is a son of Clingman Crawford, of Montfords Cove, where the young couple will be at home after December 20.

CROSSNORE WINS OVER M. H. S.

The Crossnore High School basketball team of Crossnore, N. C., won an exciting game over the Marion High School on Friday night, Dec. 16th, on the Marion court. The game was a hard fought one, and well played, the final score being 28 to 21.

The Crossnore team showed speed and made every foul goal count, out of 20 fouls made by Marion, the Crossnore boys rung 18. F. Dillinger was the out-standing star for Crossnore, while Johnson and Franklin, both of Crossnore played well.

The Marion team went down fighting, and threatened a tie several times. The Marion boys were handicapped by Hips, star guard, being out of the game. After the game the High School girls gave a special in honor of both teams, and a pleasant evening was enjoyed together.

On Saturday morning the Crossnore team overwhelmed the Old Fort High School team by a score of 41 to 22. Again Dillinger starred, making 33 of his teams 41 points.

The line-up and score for the game Friday night was:

Crossnore, 28.	Po.	Marion, 21
Dillinger, 2	R. F.	McMahan, 7
Weid	L. F.	Hudgins, 5
F. Dillinger, 26	Cen.	Sprinkle, 2
Johnson	R. G.	Copeland, 2
Franklin	L. G.	Atkins, 5

NEGRO SCHOOL BUILDING DEDICATED THURSDAY

The new school building recently completed for the negro race of Marion and vicinity was formally dedicated last Thursday night with appropriate exercises.

The program began with prayer by Rev. Swan, colored. Supt. N. F. Stepe was present and talked of an education as an investment. Rev. S. J. W. Spurgeon, colored, made a strong appeal in his talk to the people of his race on the readjustment of the present and the place the negro must take.

Short talks were made by several of the colored people. The occasion was one of great enthusiasm, and much interest is expected to follow in education for the negroes because of such an undertaking.

The building is a substantial one and will meet the needs of the colored race for schools for some time.

BIG FOREST FIRE DOES DAMAGE IN THE STATE

Asheville, Dec. 17.—A severe forest fire, fanned by a heavy wind, which swept through 2,500 acres of timber land on the Silversteen estate on the north fork of Davidson river, and spread into the Pisgah government preserve, was brought under control by rangers and people of the section last night, after burning since Wednesday afternoon.

You will miss a pleasant evening if you do not see Skinners Dress Suit at Oasis Theatre tonight.

END WORK AT SPECIAL SESSION OF ASSEMBLY

Municipal Act and School Bill Ratified—D. F. Giles Member School Commission.

Raleigh, Dec. 19.—The General Assembly put the new Municipal Finance act and the Matthew's educational bill through third readings and adjourned sine die shortly before midnight.

Both houses convened at 8 o'clock and took up consideration of a few minor bills. Adjournment was ordered until the legislative day of Tuesday, and after a short recess the "new day" was brought in on a waiter, so to speak, the process involving merely the moving of the clock's hands forward from 9:45 to 12:10 o'clock. This made possible the third reading passage of the two bills in the senate, the measures having gone through on second readings during the day session.

These two bills were the only ones of consequence to go through at the night session, though several were killed, chief among this was the measure imposing a fine of \$200 on telegraph companies for delay in delivering messages. After some debate, the bill was tabled, as were a considerable number of other measures.

Although the special session has added around 500 new laws, local and state wide, to the statute books of North Carolina, no one tonight seemed to have any kick. On the other hand there were many words of commendation for the solons, led by the congratulatory remarks of Governor Morrison on the eve of his departure for a short visit to Washington, after two weeks of confining work.

Several measures were introduced in each house which were regarded as dangerous, but none of these got far and the legislation enacted was in the opinion of conservative observers, wise and necessary.

Appointment of the commission to make a study of the state's school system and make recommendations to the next session of the general assembly regarding the enactment of school legislation was made in the house and senate tonight. Speaker Harry Grier named H. G. Conner, jr., of Wilson; T. D. Warren, of New Bern, and R. T. Weatherman, Lieutenant Governor W. B. Cooper appointed D. F. Giles, of Marion, and W. C. Dowd, sr., of Charlotte. The creating of the commission is required in a bill passed during the special session, introduced by Mr. Connor, providing for a special study of needs in the way of school legislation.

State-wide Measures Ratified.

State-wide measures ratified before adjournment included the following:

A revised Municipal Finance Act; a resolution authorizing the bonding of a \$700,000 deficit in State School Fund; an act to validate taxes levied by counties for the support of six months school term, and to fix rate for 1921; an act modifying taxes on banks, and to give Corporation Commission more control over State banks; an act to repeal cotton warehouse tax; an act requiring all local and State bond issues to be registered in the office of the State Auditor; an act providing machinery for the collection of automobile license taxes.

Banks Making Fine Record.

Twenty-seven illicit stills captured and destroyed, and 17 men arrested for alleged distilling, is the unique record of John B. Banks, prohibition officer for McDowell county, during a period of two and a half months. During this time Mr. Banks seized 500 gallons of whiskey and destroyed 35,000 gallons of beer.

Next week being Christmas week, only a four-page paper will be issued, the next regular issue of The Progress being January 5.