

MARION PROGRESS

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

ESTABLISHED 1896.

MARION, N. C., THURSDAY, JUNE 1, 1922

VOL. XXVI—NO. 41

HIGH SCHOOL CLOSSES SUCCESSFUL TERM

Graduation Exercises Monday Night Bring Term to Close—Twenty Graduates.

The commencement exercises of Marion High School concluded with the Monday evening program. The entire commencement exercises were of a very high order and reflected the quality of the work that has been done by the teachers and students during the year.

The first of the series of commencement programs was given on Friday evening, when six girls and six boys met in the finals of recitation and declamation. Those pitted against each other in the recitation contest were Ethel Spratt, Sybil Henderson, Pearl Wilkerson, Anna Fay Hunt, Mary McConnell and Charlie Mae Epley. The contest was a spirited one, and the young ladies did themselves proud upon the occasion. Winning were Mary McConnell, first medal, and Pearl Wilkerson, second medal.

In the declamation contest Simmie Cross, Florian Sprinkle, Frank Burgin, Francis Little, Edward McMahan and Edward Hudgins were the rivals. The competition was keen in this contest, and when the judges rendered their decision Edward Hudgins was declared the winner of the first medal; the second medal going to Simmie Cross.

On Monday afternoon a very unique program was given by the primary department in the nature of a story-telling contest. The little folks were quite at home in this contest and gave evidence of very excellent training for the occasion. Those participating in this contest were Elwyn Hill, Prentiss Bowden, Edith Nichols, Zeb Shaver, Frank Bolton and Carrie Joe Lewis. Edith Nichols was successful in winning the prize.

Another feature of the Monday evening program was a spelling contest participated in by Charles McCall, Avery Woody, Opal Epley and Harry Gwin against Dallas Duncan, Beatrice Pearson, Dorothy Saunders and Benson Davis; the latter proving to be the successful contestant.

On Sunday evening at the Methodist church Rev. B. S. Lassiter delivered the annual sermon to the graduating class. The church was well filled with patrons and friends who came to hear Rev. Lassiter's sermon to the young graduates. It was a very able discussion and was listened to with much interest by those in attendance.

On Monday evening the Class Day exercises were held and the awarding of diplomas, certificates and prizes made. The young graduates easily proved themselves the best class that the Marion High School has ever had. There were twenty young ladies and young gentlemen composing the graduating class of 1922. The class parts were as follows: President's address, Robert Poteat; History of the Class, Jack Justice; Inventory, Elizabeth Gilkey; Personnel, Zilpah Frisbie; The Grumbler, Edna Brown; The Scrap Bag, Josephine Elizabeth Bush; Class Poem, Alda Norton; Prophecy, Brownie Giles; Class Will, Mae Curtis. The other members of the graduating class were Cleone Ballew, Jennie Conley, Alice Roane Cross, Emily Irene Franklin, Elma Houck, Vera Link, Rowena McDonald Neal, Melvin Bristol Patton, Daphne Spratt Luna Jane Wall and William Franklin Wood, Jr.

The awarding of diplomas, certificates and prizes was made by Supt. T. A. Holton. Supt. Holton was at his best and he made the awards in his usual graceful and charming manner. His words were well chosen as he addressed the graduates for the last time.

The whole program was sublimely beautiful and was listened to with keen interest by a packed auditorium of friends and patrons of the school. It was really a fitting climax to the best year in the history of the local high school.

Scholarship Prizes.

1 B grade, Cecil Willis; 1 A grade, Margaret Gilkey; 2 B grade, Jack James; 2 A grade, Charlotte Winborne; 3 B grade, Mamie Spencer; 3 A grade, James Steppe; 4th grade, Charles McCall; 5th grade, Edgar McCall; 6th grade, Estella Hawkins; 7th grade, Carlton Gilkey; 8th grade, Katheryn McCall; 9th grade, Ethel Spratt; 10th grade, Pearl Lewis; 11th grade, Daphne Spratt.

The scholarship medal was awarded Elma Houck and the English prize went to Alice Roane Cross.

Students in the high school who had an average of 95 per cent or above for the year are Helen Franklin, Mildred Holton, Katheryn McCall, Francis Adams, Ethel Spratt, Pearl Lewis and Daphne Spratt.

Grammar Grade Graduates.

Mary Nelson Bettis, Katherine Bost, Annie Laurie Cannon, J. Robert Carr, Margaret Craig, Benson Davis, John Davis, Ethel Early, Edwin Finley, Elva Frisbie, Jemmie Gibson, Carlton Gilkey, Helen Goldsmith, Harry Gwin, Robert Hawkins, Maude Lail, Mary Alice Laughridge, David Little, Kern Lunsford, Rowe Mauney, Ruth Mitchell, Owen Morrow, Robert McCall, Mary Willie McCall, Celia Nanne, Robert Shaver, Margie Simerson, Wilma Snoddy, Pansey Spencer, Dorothy Tanner, Jennie Wall, Guyon Whitten, Florence Yancey, Lena Young.

HALF MILLION ROAD CONTRACTS FOR THIS REGION

Raleigh, May 25.—The eighth and ninth districts, constituting the territory of which Asheville is the center, get a half million of the \$2,933,000 going for the construction of highways as the result of today's record award by the state highway commission. This will be spent on four projects, as follows:

Sixteen miles of gravel road between South Toe river and Swiss, in Yancey county, \$97,970, with an additional cost of \$42,933.60 for bridge work. R. S. Freeman, of Knoxville, is the low bidder.

Ten miles of waterbound macadam from Murphy to the Georgia state line, \$86,868, Mills Williams Construction company, of Winchester, Ky., being the low bidder. One and one-half miles of hard surfaced roadway between Sylva and Dillsboro, \$66,764.30, Mills Williams company, of Winchester, Ky., low bidder. Bridge work costing \$15,676 also goes to this company.

Ten miles of top soil road between Dillsboro and the Macon county line, \$87,715, C. C. McCabe, of Tuxedo, low bidder. Bridge work costing \$17,997.50 goes to E. A. Wilson company, of Knoxville.

Eighteen projects were included in today's letting, the bulk of work being for eastern districts, which were left out at times when the western counties were getting heavy awards.

At today's meeting of the state highway commission Commissioner McBee received approval of the following new projects for June and July lettings:

Six miles in Avery county; 14 miles in Yancey; bridge over Mills creek and the Southern railroad in McDowell county; four miles in McDowell, which Mr. McBee says is "Mrs. Sloop's road," eight miles in Burke; eight miles of hard surfaced from Bat Cave to Hickory Nut gap, in Henderson county; hard surfacing of the road between the Gaston county line and Kings Mountain; hard surface, Forest City to Rutherfordton, in Rutherford county, and bridge over the Toe river on the Bristol-Asheville highway at Spruce Pine.

Chief Engineer Upham announced today that 147 highway projects are under actual construction in every general section of the state from Cherokee to Currituck counties. "The contractors are making record time and the highway machine is running the prettiest you ever saw," he added.

Miss Frances Holmes, of Forest City, visited friends here last week.

ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM THE COUNTY

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

DYSARTSVILLE

Dysartsville, May 30.—Aldon Hutchins of Cliffside was a visitor here Sunday.

Arthur and Erastus Walker and Thomas Glass attended the memorial services at Pisgah Sunday.

J. L. Laughridge and family of Marion were visitors here Sunday.

Mrs. Z. V. Daves and children of Marion spent last week with relatives here.

Mrs. James Spratt and daughter, Miss Anne, attended the commencement exercises in Marion during the week.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Jackson were in Marion Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Landis of Marion were visitors here Sunday.

Mrs. Joseph Hutchins of Union Mills spent a few days with her daughter, Mrs. J. P. Walker.

Miss Jennie Lee Laughridge attended the commencement exercises in Marion.

Miss Rebecca Laughridge spent a few days with relatives in Marion last week.

MOUNT HEBRON

Mt. Hebron, May 27.—Wilson Moffitt is slowly recovering from his serious illness.

Misses Elizabeth and Thelma Bergen visited friends in Old Fort during the week.

C. L. Lytle and family spent the week-end with Mrs. Lytle's parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Halford.

Mrs. W. A. Woodard returned to her home near Princeton today after spending six weeks with her mother, Mrs. R. Craig. Mrs. Woodard expressed herself as charmed with the people and scenery of Mt. Hebron and she hopes to return before the summer is over.

Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Halford gave a farewell party and musical for Mrs. Dorothy Woodard Thursday evening. The program consisted of instrumental selections by Mrs. Nellie Moffitt, solo by Miss Pauline Moffitt and singing by the young people. The rooms were beautifully decorated with roses, laurel blossoms and ferns. Dainty refreshments were served on the front porch.

The Young People's Missionary Band was re-organized Sunday evening. Miss Thelma Bergen was elected president and Miss Thelma Moffitt secretary. Mrs. Nellie Moffitt and Miss Pauline Moffitt were given charge of the music. Miss Elizabeth Burgin and the officers comprise the program committee.

There will be prayer and song service, commencing at 7:30, every Sunday evening in one of the chapels.

GARDIN

Marion, May 29.—Miss Mayme Bowman of Marion spent the week-end with homefolks here.

Miss Lillie Smith was shopping in Marion Saturday.

C. D. Wacaser made a business trip to Hickory one day last week.

Grayson Craig made a business trip to Marion last week.

Miss Bula Wacaser was shopping in Marion last Friday.

A social was given at the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Wacaser Saturday evening. Those present included: Misses Clema, Lillie and Blanch Smith, Mary Holland, Alice Hensley, Lizzie and Carra Evans and, Bula Wacaser; Messrs. James Smith, Lewen Westmoreland, Ivey Holland, Sioux and Sol Evans, James Hensley, Calvin-Evans and James Morgan. After many enjoyable games were played, lemonade and angel food cake was served by the hostess, Miss Bula Wacaser.

HANKINS

Marion, Rt. 3, May 30.—Miss Lotie Wise of Knoxville, Tenn., is visit-

ing her sister, Mrs. George Cooper. John Anderson and Robert Erwin of Morgantown were visitors here Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Hall of High Point are visiting the former's mother, Mrs. E. Y. Hall.

OLD FORT HIGH SCHOOL CLOSSES SUCCESSFUL YEAR

The concluding exercises of the Old Fort High School were given last Monday and Tuesday evenings. The Monday evening program was given to the recitation and declamation contests. There were five girls contesting for the prize in the recitation contest, and four boys in the declamation contest. The selections were all masterpieces, and those engaged in the two contests did credit to themselves and to the school. Natalie Epley, Olive Whitmire, Elizabeth Sherill, Myrtle Lytle and Jennie Stirewalt were in the reciters contest. The medal was awarded to Jennie Stirewalt.

Franz Strickland, Robert Hughes, Clyde Miller and William Treverton competed for the declaimer's medal. Robert Hughes, for the second time in succession, proved to be the winner. The program was interspersed with appropriate music.

At the conclusion of the contests Supt. N. F. Steppe was invited to the platform and talked at length concerning the schools of the county, with special emphasis on the financial side. He was listened to with much interest as he gave the figures showing the number of children in the county and cost of operating the schools. A packed house was present and at the end of his address Mr. Steppe was the recipient of much and prolonged applause.

The Tuesday evening program was by far the best graduating exercise that has ever been held at the Old Fort school. Rev. John L. McBride delivered the invocation and the Class Day exercises immediately followed. The parts were as follows: Salutatory, Louise Fleming; History, Viola Gilliam; Poem, Vivian Sawyer; Prophecy, Kimball Miller; Class Will, Paul McCannless; Valedictory, James Miller. The personnel of the 1922 class of the Old Fort school excelled that of any previous year. The work accomplished has been very gratifying to teachers and pupils. The young ladies and young gentlemen did themselves proud on the last occasion of their school career. Much applause was heard as each member completed his part of the program.

The diplomas were presented to the class by Supt. G. B. Strickland, who spoke feelingly of his interest in the class and of his hopes for them in the future.

Following the presentation of the diplomas was a musical selection, after which Rev. C. B. Holland presented the speaker of the occasion, Dr. W. H. Fitzgerald. Dr. Fitzgerald delivered a very interesting talk, and was heard by one of the largest crowds ever assembled at the Old Fort school.

The Old Fort High School has been steadily growing for the past several years. The attendance increases every year and the power and influence of the school will become greater as time goes on. Supt. Strickland and his corp of teachers have been great factors in the promotion of the school at Old Fort and in raising it to the recognized standard of one of the best high schools in the State. Mr. Strickland has been superintendent for the past four years and is greatly appreciated by the entire citizenship of Old Fort and community. He has been re-elected Superintendent for the coming year and has signified his intention of directing the school and its interests for another term.

WEATHER REPORT.

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

Maximum, 79 degrees; minimum, 45 degrees; rain, 1.96 inches; sunshine, per cent, .64.

NEWS ITEMS FROM OVER THE STATE

Items Concerning Events of Interest and Importance Throughout the State.

The commencement exercises of Trinity college will embrace June 4-7.

A 300-pound black bear, measuring seven feet in length, was trapped and killed near Murchison, in Yancey county, by a farmer named Briggman, a few days ago.

The second reunion of the Wildcat Veterans' association, composed of veterans who served with the eighty-first division during the world war, will be held in Winston-Salem next August.

One hundred and thirty-five young men received diplomas at the State College, Raleigh, this year, the largest class in the history of the institution. The list included two McDowell boys, Sidney F. Mauney, Jr., and William Gordon McKoy, both of Old Fort.

RUTHERFORD HOSPITAL RECEIVES RADIUM GIFT

Rutherfordton, May 28.—The \$100,000 radium gift to the Rutherford hospital arrived here Friday and was installed Saturday. The institution will be ready to offer treatment within a few days. The gift was made by J. C. Plonk, of Hickory, as a memorial to his deceased wife, Laura E. Plonk. The hospital may be enlarged soon to care for the increase of patients.

SMALL ADDITIONS

FOREST HOLDINGS

Asheville Citizen, 29th. The addition of 450 acres to the national forest holdings of the government in Western North Carolina was recently made by the reservations commission at Washington, this land being inside tracts in six localities, according to word reaching the United States Forestry office here.

One tract is reported to be in McDowell county and the other five are located in Caldwell county.

Fighting Diphtheria.

The steady increase in the death rate from diphtheria for the last three years is causing the state board of health to warn parents of children to take extraordinary precaution and call a doctor when the child develops a sore throat or other symptoms of this disease. In 1918 there were 242 deaths from diphtheria, 286 in 1920 and 365 in 1921. The use of preventives will lower this death rate just as it has lowered the rate of deaths from typhoid and the public is urged to take these precautions.

RED LETTER DAY AT THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Last Sunday was truly a Red-Letter-Day with the Sunday school of the First Baptist church. The goal had been set for an attendance of three hundred and when the reports were brought in from the classes they showed there were three hundred and six present, and others came in later. The Baraca class had seventy-one in attendance. It was an inspiring scene to look upon that bunch of young men interested in Bible study. Their goal is set at one hundred and they will have them next Sunday. If you are interested in the young men of Marion and wish to see them at a time when they make their very finest appearance and strongest appeal to the community for moral and spiritual encouragement, then come to the First Baptist church next Sunday morning at 9:45. Mr. R. K. Shotwell, the teacher of this class, and his class officers are to be congratulated in the accomplishment of this unusual work.

The pastor will preach Sunday morning at eleven o'clock, and Sunday night at eight o'clock Mr. John B. Twigg will address the congregation, which will be made up of the congregations of all the town churches. Pastor.