

# MARION PROGRESS

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

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## FARM DEMONSTRATION WORK

### Why Have a Farm Demonstration Agent? Need of a Cash Crop.

Are you one of those who have never stopped to think why so many of the counties employ a farm demonstration agent? Will it stand to reasoning? Let's see. When one gets into trouble in which some question of law is involved, we seek the advice of a lawyer; if we become sick or hurt in an accident, we send for a physician; a severe toothache or need of dental work will take us to the dentist; the building of highways, bridges, railroads, etc., are built under the direction and supervision of engineers, and so on through practically all lines of human endeavor. Or in other words, when we wish any information or assistance, we go to one who is in position to render the desired service. Should the same be true in our agricultural problems? What should a man do whose land is getting poorer with each crop? (and surely a farmer gets poorer if his lands get poor.) When he cannot improve his soil and make a profit at the same time? When the yield of corn, wheat, and other crops will not pay the cost of production? When his fruit rots? When his hens won't lay nor set? When diseases and insects are destroying his plants and animals? When he says that he is not able to do any better, and that it is only through his and the work of the family that a living can be obtained? Would you send for a farm demonstration agent to help you with your problems?

Agriculture is a science as well as an art. There was a time when sowing was not bright enough to be a lawyer, a physician, or some of the other professions, the farm was the only place where he would be able to make a success? But it requires just as much brains, intelligent thinking and planning to make a success in farming as it does in any other profession. In fact, much more than in many of the other callings of life. To know what to do, when to do it, why to do it, and how to do it, is all very important on the farm. Just the difference in success and failure. The science is to know what, when, and why, and the art is the knowing how to do the practical parts in farming. Of course there are some who know all about farming, yet there are others who realize that there is much to learn about farming and are constantly seeking information that will be of help.

### Experiment Stations Constantly Finding New Facts.

Through the experiments that are conducted by the agricultural experiment stations, new facts about agriculture are being discovered. These facts are carried to the farmers by the farm demonstration agents. Then too, many bits of information are picked up from the farmers over the county which is given to other farmers.

### Will Get What We Put In.

We cannot expect to get anything out of a jug unless something is put in the jug. We cannot expect to get anything for nothing. Farm demonstration work is no exception. We cannot expect to get anything from the work unless we put something in the work. You must cooperate. You must help. You must work with your neighbors, your farm demonstration agent, and others to make the success that you should.

One of our big problems is that of marketing. A car-loads the unit in successful marketing. Successful marketing is a cooperative undertaking. We are growing many products for which we cannot get a profitable market for as individuals, but should be able to market at a profit if shipped in car load lots. Then there are other products which we could grow at a profit if enough farmers would cooperate to grow and ship.

### In Great Need of a Cash Crop.

In order to make money on the farm we must have a money crop. Many counties have cotton, tobacco, dairy cows, poultry, truck, some corn, grain, hay, etc. It seems that this county is in need of a good money crop. Many are depending upon corn and wheat, but the yield of these two crops are too low to make them profitable. We have no cot-

ton nor tobacco. There are only a few who are keeping cows as a source of money. It seems that we do not produce enough poultry, dairy products, nor truck to supply our needs. We are buying many of these products from Catawba, Rutherford, and other nearby counties. Why should we buy eggs and butter from other counties? Poultry and dairy cows could be grown at a profit here, and their products would be a monthly source of money.

There are some sections of the county that is well adapted to the growing of truck and fruits. By cooperating, producing a standard product, and marketing in car load lots, would make a good money crop for those engaged. By using lime, growing the clovers and grasses, we would buy less hay, enrich our soil, and have more money at home.

### Seek Your Cooperation.

I have accepted the work here as Farm Demonstration Agent. I know that you are interested in the development of your county. I feel that you also know that our prosperity depends upon the prosperity of our farms. Our country cannot develop when the agricultural practices are not profitable, and that our town cannot grow as it should when the country is not growing prosperous. Our soil, climate, and opportunities are here to make improvements. We never get too old to learn and our motto is "Make The Best Better."

I seek the cooperation of everyone in this great work. Let's work together and make our county one of the very best in the State, or make it the very best. Any suggestions will be appreciated.

Assuring you of my appreciation for your cooperation in this work, I am

Very sincerely yours,  
W. L. SMARR.

### B. L. LUNSFORD SELECTED AS CAMPAIGN MANAGER

At a meeting of the Congressional Executive Committee for the Tenth North Carolina District at Asheville last week Mr. B. L. Lunsford, a prominent attorney of Marion, was elected chairman. This comes as a distinct compliment to Mr. Lunsford and to McDowell county. For some time Mr. Lunsford has been in the lime-light politically, having been closely connected with the campaign in McDowell county last year when the Democrats for the first time in many years, elected their full ticket.

Mr. Lunsford will organize his forces and get ready for work at the earliest possible date. It will be his purpose to carry the campaign to every section of the district. At present he will operate from Marion, but later, when the campaign gets on in earnest he will open headquarters in Asheville. He will be required to spend considerable time in this work and he goes into it with the determination to elect the democratic candidates by an overwhelming and unprecedented majority.

### J. L. ASHWORTH DIES AT FAIRVIEW HOME

Asheville Citizen, 1st.  
Joseph L. Ashworth, 62, prominent farmer of Fairview, died last night at 9 o'clock, following an illness of four weeks. Mr. Ashworth had been a resident of Buncombe county practically all of his life and is well known throughout this section.

Survivors are his wife, who was Miss Lydia Morgan, of Rutherford county, four daughters, Misses Athleta, Avaline, Lucile, Maude and two sons, Mays and Rufus, of Fairview and Dr. B. L. Ashworth, of Marion, and two sisters, Mrs. Susan Reed, Biltmore, and Mrs. Lizzie Freeman, of Chimney Rock, also survive.

### THE WORLD'S OLDEST MAN IS DEAD IN KENTUCKY

Among the many mourners at the funeral of "Uncle" John Schell, 134 years old, were two sons aged 90 and 70, it became known in Louisville, Ky., when news was received that the oldest white man in the world had died at his home in Kentucky. Albert is the offspring of Uncle John's second wife. The aged man retained his faculties to the last and discussed his funeral arrangements with his friends.

"Look, fadder, there iss a fly in my soup."

"Ssh—eat the soup until you come to de fly. Then tell the waiter, an' he will bring you anudder dish."

—Rhyth Paragraphs.

## ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM OVER McDOWELL COUNTY

Brief Mention of Some of the Happenings Throughout the County—Items About Home People

### NEBO.

Nebo, July 31.—Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hunter received news a few days ago of the death of their son, Vanders, which occurred on the terminal yards at Washington, D. C. He was struck by a heavy car door, killing him almost instantly. Mr. Hunter was 26 years of age and is survived by his parents, four brothers and three sisters. The bereaved family have the sympathy of the entire community.

Misses Georgie Sigmon, Sue Tate, Vivian Parks and Bessie Cuthbertson have returned home from the summer school at Morganton.

Miss Lonnie Snipes was shopping in Marion last Friday.

R. V. McGimpsey was in Marion Saturday on business.

Miss Helen Wilson and Tom Stacy, who are teaching school at Greenlee, spent the week-end with homefolks.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Harbison of Morganton spent the week-end with the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. C. Parks.

J. C. Marsh made business trip to Marion last Saturday.

Miss Mabel Parks was shopping in Marion last Saturday.

A. E. Snipes of Marion spent last Thursday with his brother, W. J. Snipes.

There will be preaching at the Methodist church next Sunday at 11 a. m. and 8 p. m. Everybody invited. W. L. Bradley of Swannanoa was a visitor here yesterday.

Prayer meetings at the Methodist church increase in interest under the leadership of the Epworth League. Miss Mamie Stacy will be the leader for next Wednesday evening.

### LAUREL HILL

Nebo, Rt. 1, Aug. 1.—Our school at this place opened Monday, July 24th, with Miss Cassie Burgin of Old Fort, as teacher.

J. M. Walker and daughter, Miss Beatrice, motored to Shelby last Monday.

Mrs. Emma Eastridge of Mississippi visited relatives in this community last week.

David Harrell of Caroleen was a business visitor here last Saturday.

Roy Morgan and sister, Miss Floy, and Miss Ellamae Marlowe of Harmony Grove visited Mrs. G. H. Ellington last Saturday night.

B. R. Foster of Cliffside is spending the week with homefolks here.

The singing choir from this place filled an appointment at Sugar Hill last Sunday and all reported a very enjoyable trip.

Charlie Wray of Rutherfordton visited friends here recently.

D. H. Whitener had the misfortune a few days ago of cutting his hand very badly, but at present is getting along fine.

F. S. Price and daughter, Miss Ocie, visited relatives in Madison county recently.

Mr. and Mrs. C. V. Lael of Marion were visitors in this neighborhood last Sunday.

J. S. Condry of Alexander visited relatives here last week.

### CROOKED CREEK

Old Fort, Aug. 1.—Mrs. C. Y. Gilliam and children are visiting her father near Edneyville.

W. H. Byrd, of Asheville, visited on the Creek Sunday.

Mrs. Mary Gilliam, of Gastonia, is visiting friends and relatives here.

Claud Bradley and Mr. Taylor of Black Mountain were visitors at the home of C. C. Bradley, Sunday.

Mrs. Mattie Lyda and children are visiting friends and relatives near Edneyville.

Mrs. S. A. Fortune spent the week-end with Mr. and Mrs. Claud Fortune at Marion.

Miss Ora Bradley has returned home after spending some time at Black Mountain.

John Ross is building a new house. Work is progressing on the new church at Cherry Springs. C. Y. Gilliam has the work in charge.

Mr. and Mrs. M. A. Gilliam, C. Y. Gilliam and W. L. Bradley attended the singing convention at Edneyville, Sunday.

School opened at New Hope today.

Mr. Blend of Bald Mountain and Miss Tate of Old Fort are the teachers. We wish them much success.

M. F. Hall went to Marion Saturday on business.

Mrs. Tom Case of Hendersonville is visiting on the creek.

### DYSARTSVILLE

Dysartsville, Aug. 1.—Mrs. Plato Spratt of Bridgewater was a visitor here last week.

W. N. Laughridge was in Marion Saturday.

Zeb Daves and little son, Ray, of Marion, were here Saturday and Sunday.

Arthur Walker was in Union Mills Wednesday.

Mrs. Frank Biggerstaff and children were in Marion Thursday.

Miss Hattie Taylor of Nebo was a visitor here last week.

Misses Lona and Mamie Goforth, Key Landis and James Goforth were in Old Fort and Nebo Wednesday.

Claud Laughridge of Marion was here Thursday.

Alberta Daves and family of Winston-Salem were visitors here the first of the week.

James Goforth and Fate Wilson were in Glen Alpine Thursday.

Mrs. John Cooper was in Marion Thursday.

R. E. Roper and family of Clinchfield were here Sunday.

Joe Laughridge spent the first of the week with relatives in Marion.

B. T. Daves and little daughter, Zona, of South Carolina, were visitors here this week.

Miss Inez Daves spent Sunday and Monday in Marion.

David Laughridge and family of Marion were visitors here Saturday and Sunday.

Mrs. Laura Price from Rutherfordton is here this week.

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

Miss Hattie Mangum of Marion was here Saturday night and Sunday.

### CURFEW

Old Fort, Star Route, Aug. 1.—Mrs. Jesse Lackey of Old Fort spent the week-end visiting friends and relatives here.

Mrs. G. G. Morgan and daughter, Miss Reba, are spending a few days in Old Fort.

J. F. Turner and family of Crooked Creek spent Saturday night at John Reel's.

Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Parker and children of Crooked Creek spent Sunday as the guests of Mr. and Mrs. John Reel.

M. A. Parker has been right ill for the past week.

Mrs. C. N. Hogan and children of Crooked Creek spent Sunday night with relatives here.

John Lail and family of Marion visited in this section Sunday.

Curfew school opened yesterday morning with Miss Lelia Melton as teacher. We wish her a successful term.

John Reel made a business trip to Marion Saturday.

Jethro Parker, an aged citizen of this community, who fell some time past and hurt himself, is improving slowly.

### OLD FORT

Old Fort, Aug. 1.—Rev. W. L. Dawson, Jr., closed a successful revival at Bethel Saturday night.

Miss Mary Edwards of Wilson, spent last Thursday night at the home of Geo. B. Strickland.

George Allison and Mrs. Horace Early were taken to Biltmore hospital this week.

Deputy D. Y. Grant has destroyed seven stills and captured three men within the past few weeks. All these were in Old Fort and Crooked Creek townships.

Several of the young people of Old Fort enjoyed a moonlight ride and "Winnie Roast" at Catawba Falls Monday night.

Halifax county is to erect an up-to-date county home to cost around \$40,000 and which will be modern in every particular. The building is designed on the one-story plan, and will be brick and fireproof.

### SCHOOLS HAVE

#### BRIGHT OPENING

Something like thirty schools in the county system opened last week. The enrollment and average attendance are very good. A number of schools have reported that every child within the compulsory attendance age is in school. Teachers are sending out letters to the few parents who have failed to enter their children in school during the first week. An effort is being made to get every child that failed to enter the first week to enter Monday of the second week. Indications point that this will be accomplished.

On Friday before the schools opened the teachers met at the graded school, where they were given instructions with reference to the work for the coming year. The work was planned and the teachers went to their schools knowing just what was expected of them.

Owing to the fact that the school books are not yet on sale some of the schools are doing some necessary review work. As soon as the new books can be secured they will enter at the proper place and go ahead with the school work without any loss of time or motion.

The course of study has been outlined from the office of the County Superintendent, designating the books for the various grades, and furnished to the teachers. The course of study has been so worked out as to necessitate the fewest possible changes in text-books. The same readers will be used throughout the grades as were used last year. When these readers have been completed the co-basal adopted books will then be taken up. The same books that have been in use for some time will be used during the coming year. Provision has been made for adequate supplementary work in all the courses of study.

The teachers entered their work this year with great enthusiasm. Nearly all the teachers have been in attendance upon summer school and are better equipped than ever before for real service. The certification of McDowell County teachers on the average is very high. The teachers of the various schools have been selected with extreme care and in making the assignments each teacher has been placed in the school where she could do the most possible good.

Much in the way of improvement in schools is expected to be done this year. There are some half dozen schools that have not provided the best equipment. The teachers expect to exert every effort to meet the requirements of the County Board of Education in equipping the few remaining schools with patent desks and other desirable and necessary furnishings.

It is expected this will be done early in the school year so that the children may be able to do their work in comfort and with proficiency.

Plans for a big county commencement were launched at the first meeting of the teachers and every school in McDowell county will be expected to participate in this educational event. The commencement last year was very encouraging and it is thought much in the way of good was done for the schools. It is hoped to make the commencement next spring one of greater proportions and one that will mean still more in the way of emphasis upon the importance of education.

### OLD FORT TOWNSHIP VALUATIONS SHOW INCREASE

Old Fort township returns for 1922 show an increase in the aggregate value of real and personal property over 1921 returns of \$331,741, according to the returns of tax assessors for that township who have filed their reports with Register of Deeds R. F. Barnes.

The aggregate value of real and personal property in the township this year is given as \$2,806,331. In 1921 this total was \$2,474,590.

The aggregate value of personal property is given this year as \$835,338. Last year the valuation was \$700,460. The aggregate value of real estate for 1922 is listed at \$1,970,993 in comparison with the total in 1921 of \$1,774,130.

Solvent credits for 1922 are estimated at \$59,697. In 1921 net solvent credits were \$65,570.

The 138 horses this year are given a value of \$9,650. Last year 148 horses were valued at \$12,340. Mules, numbering 177, have a value of \$13,435. In the previous year there were 146 mules worth \$12,985.

Shop with home merchants.

## TWO KILLED IN AUTO ACCIDENT

### Berwin Scruggs, White, and a Negro Killed by No. 11 At Old Fort Crossing.

Asheville, July 31.—Two persons were killed and three injured, one perhaps fatally, when Southern passenger train No. 11 crashed into the automobile in which they were riding at the crossing in Old Fort, this afternoon. The dead: Berwin Scruggs white, aged 30, of Chesnee, S. C., Booley Jenkins, negro, Chesnee, S. C. The injured: Daws Alexander, negro, who will probably die, Willie Simuel, negro, and Jesse Goode, negro.

John Davis, a negro boy, riding on the running board of the ill-fated automobile, leaped to safety as he saw the onrushing train.

The party was en route from Chesnee, S. C., to Asheville, where the negro men were to be used as laborers by the Asheville Construction company.

The tragic accident occurred shortly after 2 p. m. The train was delayed by reason of the collision, and did not reach Asheville until about 4 o'clock. The three injured negroes were brought to the Mission hospital here.

The train was running at a rate of about 40 miles per hour, witness said, when it crashed into the automobile. Another automobile containing members of the same party, preceded the wrecked car. Unmindful of the approaching train, the second car, a Chevrolet, with Willie Simuel driving, went upon the crossing just as the train reached the spot.

Spectators said the noise of the collision was heard for some distance. Scruggs' body was dragged about 100 yards. Death resulted from a crushed skull. He lived about 10 minutes after the accident. Jenkins was killed instantly, his body being mangled beneath the wheels. Alexander is believed to have a fracture of the skull and internal injuries. Simuel received a broken leg. Goode's injuries consist of lacerations of the head and leg.

Physicians of Old Fort hurried to the wreck scene and administered first aid, after which the injured were placed on the train and brought to Asheville. The automobile was crushed into fragments.

The three injured negroes were unconscious for several hours. They did not regain consciousness until about two hours after reaching the Mission hospital, at Asheville. Goode and Davis are expected to recover, while little hope is held for Alexander by attending physicians.

### WILL DEDICATE ROAD ON ARMISTICE DAY

Asheville, July 28.—The Old Hickory Highway, formerly known as the Central highway and renamed in honor of the Thirtieth division as a memorial to the North Carolina veterans who gave their lives during the Great War, will be officially dedicated at the Armistice day exercises November 11. The ceremony will probably be held near the Biltmore bridge leading to Asheville.

The celebration will be under the auspices of the Old Hickory Post No. 4, which is made up of Thirtieth division veterans of this section and various other civic organizations that will co-operate with the legion.

All posts along the highway are urged to take part in the celebration here or to hold similar celebrations at other points on the highway. The local post is to erect a tablet near the Biltmore bridge, as a memorial to all members of the Thirtieth division who lost their lives in the war.

Major-General E. M. Lewis, commander of the division during the war, is to be invited as the guest of honor. Other prominent military and civil leaders will be invited to take part in the exercises.

### WEATHER REPORT.

Thos. McGuire, local government-weather bureau observer, reports the temperature and rainfall at Marion for the week as follows:  
Maximum, 91 degrees; minimum, 59 degrees; rain, 0.46 of an inch; sunshine, per cent., 62.

Don't forget the matinee at Ocala Theatre Thursday afternoon at 3 o'clock, for My Boy.