

# MARION PROGRESS

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

ESTABLISHED 1896.

MARION, N. C., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1922

VOL. XXVII—NO. 17

## OLD-FORT CHAMBER COMMERCE

Chamber of Commerce Organized with D. T. Roughton as President.

The town of Old Fort, which claims to have the best all-year-round climate in the South, has just organized a Chamber of Commerce, not only for the town, but for the entire community. It is the purpose of the officers and directors to be of service to the farmers as well as to the merchants and others.

Old Fort is surrounded by mountains, including Mount Mitchell, and every one who visited that point this season knows that McDowell county has some of the most beautiful scenery to be found anywhere in the country and the Old Fort Chamber of Commerce is sending a representative, Mr. Henry Westerman, on a trip through Florida to study free camp site propositions and plans which have done so much to make Florida popular with all classes of tourist.

Officers elected were: D. T. Roughton, Esq., president; John W. Artz, secretary, and Fred Bradley, treasurer.

## COUNTY SCHOOLS TO CLOSE DURING CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

The county schools will close Friday, Dec. 22nd, for the Christmas holidays. Monday, Jan. 1st, is the day that has been designated for reopening of the schools. This will give practically ten days vacation, which is thought will be sufficient for practically all the schools. A letter has been sent from the office of the County Superintendent instructing the teachers to give Christmas week to the children. Schools expecting more than one week are required to get special permission.

The reports and records in the office of the County Superintendent, show that the attendance during the fall term far exceed anything in the past—in fact the attendance has been almost perfect. There has been a minimum number of violations of the compulsory attendance law. Practically all children embraced within the compulsory attendance ages have been attending school almost 100 per cent. Much of this is due to the efforts of the attendance officer, who keeps strict tab on the attendance department.

## U. D. C. CONTRIBUTES TO NEW BERN VICTIMS

Mrs. J. Q. Gilkey, director of the first district of United Daughters of Confederacy, has received the following letter from Mrs. Holt, State president of the U. D. C.:

Rocky Mount, N. C., Dec. 7th, 1922.

My Dear Madame Director:

This morning I received a letter from the president of the U. D. C. of New Bern, saying their greatest needs were things to be used in their emergency hospital, gowns, pajamas, towels, sheets or pillow cases and funds.

Please, Madame Director, write to all of your district chapters asking them to come to the aid of these sisters that are in distress. A small box from the different chapters or a small gift of money will mean so much to them now.

Please send all of your donations to Mrs. T. A. Uzzell, 120 Pollock St., New Bern, N. C., as she is president of the chapter there and will know where these things are to go.

Thanking you for your help in getting these messages to the different chapters.

Sincerely,

Timpe Whitehead Holt, President N. C. Division of U. D. C. Immediately upon receipt of the above letter, Mrs. Gilkey wrote each chapter in the district asking them to contribute to this worthy cause. The McDowell chapter responded with a generous donation.

## MASONIC MEETING.

Important regular communication of Mystic Tie Lodge, Friday, Dec. 15th at 7:30 sharp. This is the last meeting of the year and will be extremely interesting as it will mark the beginning of a series of Masonic lectures by local brothers. Full attendance is earnestly requested.

O. F. ADKINS, W. M.  
A. A. MORRIS, Sec.

## DR. A. C. McCALL AND MISS PERNELL WYNNE ARE WED

Rocky Mount, Dec. 2.—In a ceremony of quiet beauty and impressiveness, Miss Clefa Parnell Wynne and Dr. Alvin Clay McCall, of Asheville, were married at 8 o'clock, on Wednesday, at the home of the bride's mother, Mrs. Joseph C. Wynne, on Church Street.

Owing to the recent death of the bride's father, the ceremony was planned with utmost simplicity and witnessed by relatives and a few intimate friends. The living room, where the marriage vows were spoken, was decorated with palms, ferns and white chrysanthemums. An altar was arranged with the same flowers and lighted with Cathedral candles. Dr. Harry N. North, pastor of the First Methodist Church, of this city, officiated.

Dr. and Mrs. McCall left immediately following the ceremony for a northern bridal trip.

Mrs. McCall is the elder daughter of Mrs. Joseph Wynne and the late J. C. Wynne. She is a bright and attractive and a graduate in music of the Greensboro College for Women.

Dr. McCall received the rank of captain in the late war, having been in service overseas. He is a graduate of the University of North Carolina and Maryland. He was surgeon at the A. C. L. hospital in this city several years ago but resigned to take a special course at the Episcopal Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat hospital and later at the Walter Reed hospital. Dr. and Mrs. McCall will make their home in Asheville, where Dr. McCall is located for the practice of his profession.

## THE MANLESS WEDDING A GREAT SUCCESS

The Manless minstrel show and wedding, given by the ladies of the Presbyterian church, ably assisted by prominent members of other churches, in the graded school auditorium Friday night, was a splendid success and was thoroughly enjoyed by a large audience.

Marion folks did not dream they had so much real talent in their community, some of which appeared before the footlights for the first time on this occasion. Each member of the cast acquitted themselves with distinction, honor and glory. The songs, dialect and dance was all that could be desired, with Mrs. J. E. Neal leading the dance.

Mrs. D. F. Giles and Mrs. George McCall as soloists were superb in their roles as was also Mrs. L. L. Witherspoon, who made a most dignified and impressive looking minister in her clerical garb as she tried to unite the blushing bride (Mrs. George McCall) and the not-too-willing groom (Miss Bessie Tate) in the bonds of matrimony.

Mrs. G. A. Banner, as the wealthy hostess, and Mrs. T. L. Henderson, as the maid of too much work, acted their parts to perfection.

Mrs. Eugene Cross, who has a natural store of wit and humor, was the hit of the evening in her role of a plain spoken guest.

The Jazz band with their songs, jokes and dances, added much to the occasion. There were other extremes of attraction which deserve special mention but space forbids.

The proceeds from this entertainment is to be applied on an organ fund for the new Presbyterian church.

Mrs. H. F. Little, president of the Ladies Aid Society, under whose auspices it was given, and Mrs. C. S. Briggs, who directed the play, wish to thank the ladies of the other churches, also Messrs. Lee Erwin and Clyde Finley, who so ably assisted them and to whom the success of the entertainment is largely due.

## YOUTH LOSES LIFE NEAR CHIMNEY ROCK

Asheville, Dec. 7.—The body of Lloyd R. Phillips, aged 17, a high school student of Woodruff, S. C., missing since last Saturday, was found by a searching party at the foot of Esmeralda Falls, near Chimney Rock, yesterday.

The youth is believed to have fallen from the top of the falls, a distance of 250 feet, in an effort to carve his initials on a dangerous ledge of rock. Houston Caldwell, a companion with whom Phillips had been camping, said the two started for home in a wagon last Saturday, when Phillips left him, intending to carve his initials at the top of the falls.

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

## ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM OVER McDOWELL COUNTY

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

### OLD FORT

Old Fort, Dec. 11.—Christmas shoppers beware! Mr. and Mrs. Geo. E. Marshall spent the week-end in Asheville. While there the pick pockets relieved Mr. Marshall of his purse which contained about twenty-five dollars.

Mrs. Geo. B. Strickland and little daughter spent Saturday in Asheville. J. H. Duncan is making a two-weeks business trip through the eastern part of North Carolina.

Rev. J. L. McBride has returned from a week's visit to Greensboro where he was entertained by a series of lectures given by the Presbyterian church.

C. W. Graybeal spent last week in Statesville.

Miss Fannie Bruton spent the week-end with friends in Swannanoa.

There seems to be an epidemic of lumbago in town. Two of our youngest citizens, Mr. Geo. E. Marshall and Mr. Eugene Buckley, are hobbling around on canes, as though they were ready to celebrate their 100th anniversary.

Mrs. A. C. Tate and daughter, Miss Fay spent Saturday in Asheville.

The graded school honor roll for November follows: 1st A—Fred Connor, Hyams Connor, Bishop Davis, Donald Davis, Jack Hughes, Norris Lewis, Walter McCurry, Bessie Holland, Margaret Jordan, Margaret Lanning, Velora Robinson and Eula Joe Wilson; 1st B—Woodrow Wilson, Royce Burkin, Billy Nesbitt, Willie Shehan, Ruby Arrington, Davis Dalton, Myrtle Harvey, Dorothy Walker and Agnes Noblitt. 2nd—Chas. Hall, J. R. Harris, Abe Simmons, Frances Grant, Eva Shehan, Edna Tate, Frances Thomason, Maggie Whitesides. 3rd—James Atkins, John Robinson, Lytle Steppe, Mary Adams, Jessie Davis, Selma Finch, Evelyn Gilliam, Beatrice Freeman, Julia Padgett, Stella Sherrill and Frances Walker. 4th—Rhoda Padgett, Robert Lewis, Catherine Finch, Russel Oates and Shalie Mae Owenby. 5th—Roe Nichols and Francis Mauney. 6th—Ashley Robinson and Elizabeth Strickland. 7th—Helen Nesbitt, Annie White, Blanche Lewis and Noland Gilliam. 8th—Josephine Lindley. 9th—Myrtle Lytle, Rosa Turner, Nell Hemphill and Dennis Haynes. 10th—Janie Parker and Pearl Turner. 11th—Estelle Lavender, Lizzie Lindley and William Trewerton.

### DYSARTSVILLE

Dysartsville, Dec. 11.—Mrs. J. R. Denton is visiting relatives in Charlotte.

Miss Pauline Hawkins spent the week-end with homefolks in Marion. Supt. Steppe of Marion visited the school here last week.

J. D. Laughridge has accepted a position with the road firm which is building the highway near Sugar Hill.

Friends will be glad to learn that Joseph Pyatt, who has had pneumonia, is recovering.

Cronje Laughridge is moving to Marion, where he has held a position for some time. Neighbors here are sorry to part with Mr. and Mrs. Laughridge.

Rev. White filled his first appointment last Sunday. Mr. White is a good preacher and we hope the church will prosper while he is pastor.

Miss Birdie Laughridge of Marion visited relatives here this week. Fred Fortune has accepted a position at Sugar Hill.

### CROOKED CREEK

Old Fort, R. 2, Dec. 11.—A number of the neighbors enjoyed a corn shuckening at the home of John Ross last Saturday.

Mrs. James Lavender and children and Mrs. Ada Beach visited Mrs. Garland Gilliam last Sunday.

John Davis moved to Buncombe county this week.

T. M. Beach returned Sunday from Forest City where he has been working for the past few weeks.

Born, to Mr. and Mrs. Zebbie Lackey, Dec. 8th, a son.

Mr. and Mrs. N. T. Davis of Old

### DIXIE CLUB BANQUET.

The ladies of the Dixie Club entertained their "poorer halves" at dinner on Thursday evening, December 7th, at the home of Mrs. H. H. Tate on East Court street. The guests began to arrive about 7:45 and at 8:10 all were invited to take their places around the long dining room table. The dining room was decorated with Christmas bells and holly, extending from chandelier to chandelier across the entire length of the dining room. After quite a bit of merry chatter, the guests were seated and the servants brought in the first course of a most delicious and savory dinner. Mrs. Grayson, president of the club, toasted the guests and Mr. Washburn replied with an expression of appreciation on the part of the husbands and a toast to the ladies of the Dixie Club. Immediately after this, a rising vote of thanks was extended to Mrs. H. H. Tate, the hostess.

Among invited guests were: Dr. and Mrs. J. F. Jones, Dr. and Mrs. Dean H. Crawford, Mrs. A. D. Stoner, of Asheville; James Crawford, Mrs. W. T. Morgan, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. McCall; Miss Marguerite House, Mr. and Mrs. Stanford, Miss Hunt, Mrs. Minnie Blanton, Mrs. T. W. Wilson and Miss Nell Smith.

### COMMUNITY THANKS-GIVING DAY SERVICES

Contributed. The people of Buck Creek community held services at Buck Creek school house on Thanksgiving day. The people of the community, with a few visitors from other places, made up a large crowd.

In the morning, the older people gave an old time song service, with Mr. J. S. Collis as leader, after which the school children rendered an interesting program.

At twelve o'clock tables were made upon the ground and the mothers spread dinner, for each family had brought well-filled baskets of good food. I'm sure there must have been enough to have fed several hundred people; at any rate no one went away hungry. Everything one could have wished for was on the table, even hot coffee. The credit for the good dinner is due to the women.

After dinner an interesting ball game took place. Most all the young people and several of the older men took part in this. It is uncertain which side really won, but both did splendidly.

At two o'clock the crowd again assembled into the house, where another good program was given. Mr. A. D. Snipes and Mrs. Gowan made interesting talks about matters of importance. The singing class rendered several selections, which did credit to it and its leader, Mr. Collis. Those who failed to attend missed one of the best dinners ever spread, some of the best singing ever heard, the best program ever rendered, and one of the most interesting ball games ever played. The people of this community are to be praised for their interest in school and community affairs in general. The exercises on Thanksgiving day will long be remembered.

### NEW CONCRETE ROAD TO SPRUCE PINE COMPLETED

Burnsville, Dec. 9.—The concrete highway from the Yancey county line to Spruce Pine has been completed, and the entire route will be open to the public within a week.

Plans are being made in Spruce Pine for establishing a bus line between that point and Burnsville at an early date. When this is established persons may leave Burnsville at 1 p. m. and take the C. C. and O. trains at Spruce Pine at 2:45 for points either north or south.

Work is progressing on the new road leading from Dar Book post-office to the bridge at Green mountain. The grade work on this highway will be finished by spring. Construction has been commenced upon the contract recently let for improvement of five miles of highway leading from the bridge at Green mountain into Bush Creek township. The people of the latter section have been virtually shut out from the outside because of impassable roads.

The box supper at Jackson Creek school house last Saturday night was a great success. Boxes for young folks, a special supper for the married folks, and string music by the Harvey Brothers of Old Fort made it a very enjoyable occasion. Proceeds will be used to purchase a library for the school.

## LATE STATE NEWS ITEMS

Items Concerning Events of Interest and Importance Throughout the State.

Asheville.—Mrs. P. S. McElreath, 14, of South Hominy, was probably fatally burned when her apron caught fire from a stove and all clothes were burned from her body before the flames could be extinguished.

Ashokle.—L. C. Williams, young attorney of this city, was elected mayor of Ashokle, to succeed Walter L. Curtis, resigned. Mr. Williams will serve as mayor until next May when the regular election of officers takes place.

Thomasville.—Thanksgiving contributions to the Baptist Orphanage are pouring in like an avalanche from all parts of the state, reports the treasurer, F. B. Hamrick, the total reaching upwards of \$50.00.

Winston-Salem.—In a brief ceremony a monument at the junction of the High Point, Greensboro and Winston-Salem highways was dedicated to the memory of Forsyth soldiers who died in the world war. The ceremony consisted of a brief address by W. L. Ferrell.

Asheville.—F. Williams, former sheriff of Buncombe county, and one of the most well known Democrats in western North Carolina died after an extended illness at his home near Weaversville. Survivors include his widow and two daughters.

Salisbury.—An A. R. P. church is to be organized in Salisbury soon according to an announcement made by Dr. Orr, of Charlotte, attending a meeting of A. R. P. members and friends of the community building.

Tarboro.—Activity of J. W. Wiggins has prevented the sale of the Primitive Baptist church of Tarboro for the satisfaction of a claim of the city of Tarboro for street paving. Mr. Wiggins raised the sum needed to meet the bill, \$1,435.55. The building is 103 years old.

### EACH COUNTY TO HAVE A STATE HIGH SCHOOL

Raleigh, Nov. 28.—Announcing that the standard high schools in North Carolina this year had increased from 166 to 223, Commissioner of Public Instruction, E. C. Brooks today stated that for the first time in the state's history there will be at least one standard high school in each county before January, 1923, if the plans of superintendents are carried out.

"Most of the 57 new schools have been established in rural districts, it was said. In comparing the increase with the standing of last year, the commissioner showed there were 30 counties with no standard high schools, while there were 85 without such institutions in country districts at that time.

"The general assembly last year appropriated \$100,000 to be used in aiding rural districts to maintain standard high schools," said Commissioner Brooks. "The state used only \$52,440 of this amount because the equalizing fund was running short. But for the ensuing year the whole sum will be spent in building standard high schools in country districts."

"There were approximately 43,000 students in all high schools of the state during the past year. The department is unable at this time to estimate how great the increase will be next spring. It is now evident that the graduates of the standard high schools will be increased by 45 per cent," he said.

The white teachers during the past year received an average of \$90 per month in comparison with an average of \$37.02 in 1910 and less than \$45 four years ago, he stated.

### NAVY RECRUITING OFFICER TO VISIT MARION

Mr. T. P. Murphy, Boatswain's Mate, first class U. S. Navy, will visit Marion on Monday, Dec. 18, to enlist men for the U. S. Navy. Applicants must be between the ages of 18 to 35. Birth certificates signed by either parents or guardians are required before enlisting.

### WAR SAVINGS STAMPS DUE

Owners of War Savings Stamps, purchased in 1918, are advised that they are due and payable at their face value of \$5 each on January 1, 1923.

Advance presentation for immediate exchange for Treasury Savings Certificates or for payment at maturity, may be made now at post-offices, banks, and trust companies.