

MARION PROGRESS

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MARION, N. C., MAY 23, 1929

HISTORICAL PAGEANT AT PLEASANT GARDENS

The school closing at Pleasant Gardens on Thursday evening, at which time the children of the Seventh Grade presented a pageant featuring local history of the community, was a most brilliant event. This play was produced by the children of the Seventh Grade under the guiding hand and brain of Miss Mary M. Greenlee, principal of the Elementary school, about sixty children taking part in the program. To say the least of it, it was presented in a most effective and beautiful way. The pageant portrayed the high spots in history of the local community; a community that is so richly and rarely filled with interesting people and events. The stage settings were designed and painted by members of the class.

The first scene of the pageant was in the cabin of "Hunting John" McDowell, of Pleasant Gardens, who was one of the first settlers in what is now McDowell county, where Mrs. McDowell was teaching her son Joseph to read. Joseph McDowell, son of "Hunting John" McDowell, was born in 1758, and it was for him this county was named. In General Rutherford's campaign to force the Cherokees from this section of the state, he, though only 18 years of age, vanquished a Cherokee in a hand to hand combat. He was an officer in the Revolutionary War and fought side by side with his famous cousins at Ramseur's Mill, Cowpens and Kings Mountain. He now sleeps by the side of his father and other members of his family on a little wooded knoll in the community of Pleasant Gardens.

Between scenes, the audience was entertained by declamations on various sons of the community, such as Samuel P. Carson, the oldest son of the immigrant, Colonel John Carson, and Mary Moffitt McDowell, widow of Colonel Joseph McDowell, above mentioned. Sam P. Carson was, 100 years ago, a leading and influential citizen of Western North Carolina. Though only 24 years of age, he began his distinguished career of service in the State Senate in 1821. In 1824 he was elected a member of the Nineteenth Congress. It was in the campaign for his re-election to Congress in 1826 that the famous controversy between him and Dr. Robert Brank Vance arose, resulting in a duel in which Vance received a fatal wound. That duel was fought at Saluda Gap, South Carolina, on the property of his friend, John C. Calhoun, in whose carriage he rode to the scene of combat. Miss Greenlee, the director of the pageant, has in her possession a copy of the challenge.

Sam Carson served in the United States Congress from March 1825 to March 1833. "He was a pleasing, persuasive orator," and the kind of campaign speaker that folks remembered to their dying day. Fathers are still handing down to sons an amusing incident that happened during the campaign of 1832. We are indebted to the late Judge A. C. Avery for preserving this interesting and amusing incident, which is as follows: "The citizens of the district had gathered together at Morganton to denounce Carson for his failure to support the administration and his extreme sympathy with John C. Calhoun relative to nullification. This two-day meeting was being held in the First Presbyterian Church of Morganton, the church being the only building large enough to accommodate the political gathering. Colonel Burgess S. Gaither had spoken on the first day and the celebrated Hillman was to speak on the following day. As the crowd was assembling in the Presbyterian Church, Carson appeared and requested to be heard on his own behalf in defense of his position in the matter of nullification. He was permitted to speak with the understanding that Mr. Hillman would reply. When Sam Carson arose to speak, the first thing he did was to pour from a flask a drink of French brandy which he handed to his opponent Hillman, and which Hillman readily and appreciatively consumed. At the same time, Carson refreshed himself with a drink of the same stimulant. After having proceeded with his speech for a few moments, he gave Hillman another drink, taking a lesser amount for himself, and frequently during the speech he repeated this performance. After speaking for two hours Mr. Carson surrendered the stage to Hillman who was unable to reply. Not only Sam Carson's North Carolina experiences were given, but also his achievements in Texas, for confusion was ripe in Texas when Carson went there early in 1834. The Colonies had held two conventions expressing protestation against the oppressive decrees of the Mexican Congress. The population of the territory was divided into two parties, the War Party and the Peace Party. Sam Carson's sympathy was with the War Party. He was one of the number who was a member of the convention that met in Old Washington and signed the Declaration of Independence, declaring Texas free from Mexico. He was appointed Secretary of State of the Republic and Diplomatic Representative in President Burnett's cabinet.

Another scene dealt with the first school in the community, taught by Robert Logan. This was one of the first schools taught in McDowell county. A slate in this scene was used by a pupil whom Mr. Logan taught. Another scene featured a Noisy or Blab school when children studied aloud. Those were the days when our grandfathers jingled their geography. The song of states and capitals was very entertaining.

The scenes in the pageant that brought most applause, however, were the ones within the memory of the parents present who could easily visualize themselves. The final scenes of the program were Pleasant Gardens today and prediction of the Junior College in the future. Pleasant Gardens district comprises about one-sixth of the area of McDowell county, the largest consolidated project in the county, being a consolidation of six large districts. The school is new, this being the third year of its existence. It is said to be the first school in North Carolina to be consolidated, built, equipped and standardized in every department, Elementary and High School, in its first year. The building is modern and up-to-date in every appointment and splendidly equipped. Those who saw the pageant contrasted the one-room, one-teacher, log cabin which was the first school with this beautiful structure and splendid equipment of today.

THE TALLEST BUILDING
Plans are announced for the construction in Chicago of the tallest structure ever reared by the hand of man, topping even the Eiffel tower by 38 feet. It will be more than 100 feet higher than the new Chrysler building on Lexington avenue, New York, or the 75-story hotel projected in Brooklyn, both of which were planned to "beat the Woolworth." And as it will contain a garage, a convention hall, a gymnasium, baths, and restaurant, of course, and even hotel bedrooms for tenants' guests, it will be reasonably self-contained.

And a good thing it is, considering the traffic problem, which in downtown Chicago is quite as puzzling as it is in New York. Speaking for the latter city, we are quite content to have the height championship remain with Chicago. Architects and engineers are pretty well agreed that the next great progressive movement in city planning in New York will be some intelligent effort to limit the height of skyscrapers. For what is the use of a 100-story building—if that is the next project—if the tenants cannot find room in the cars that are to take them home at night? Unlimited tall buildings would mean an insoluble traffic problem, whether in lower Manhattan or the Chicago loop.

Though, for that matter, the summit of the Chicago monstrosity, upon its designers rely to surpass M. Eizel's creation, will not clutter up traffic in the least. It is to consist of a "beacon tower 125 feet high" which will contain no rooms and house no tenants.—New York World.

Restaurant



GOOD FOOD AWAITS YOU

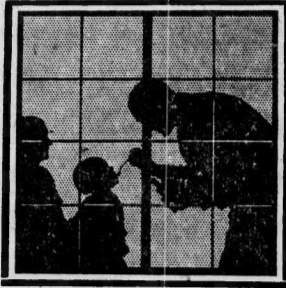
You get the best things to eat at our restaurant, also the most courteous attention. Every provision has been made for your comfort and convenience. Our menu offers a large variety of excellent dishes and our prices are reasonable, quality considered. Bring the lady with you and enjoy an excellent meal with us. You will be delighted.

MARION CAFE

DEATH OF MADGE EDNA HALL AT EAST MARION

Madge Edna Hall, little daughter of Rev. and Mrs. D. H. Hall, of East Marion, died last Thursday after an illness of several weeks. She was seven months old. The remains were carried to Pleasant Gay, Yancey county, for burial. The services were conducted by Rev. A. A. Walker and Rev. Mr. McMahan. A host of relatives and friends extend their heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved family in this hour of sadness.

Hear the Carolina Special Orchestra at Oasis Theatre today (Thursday) in Hawaiian and popular music.



In Five MILLION HOMES TONIGHT

There are times when all a mother's love can't soothe a fretful baby. No way of telling just what's wrong, yet something must be done. Castoria time! A few drops, and Baby has dropped off to sleep. Yet this marvelous means of quieting a restless infant is utterly harmless. There is not one ingredient but what all doctors know and approve, and would let you give your baby every day in the week. In fact Castoria is a purely vegetable product. Gas pains, constipation, even diarrhea can be dispelled in this same manner. Castoria is older than you are, but physicians still say "nothing better for babies." An old-fashioned remedy if you count its years, but parents are old-fashioned who still raise babies without its aid! And at least five million modern mothers keep it handy day and night, for twenty-five million bottles were bought last year! Buy yours now; don't wait until you need it.



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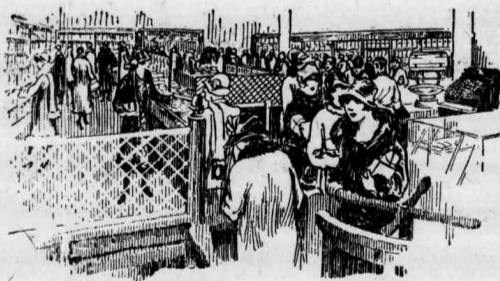
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PORK CHOPS - - - lb. 30c
VEAL ROASTS - - - lb. 30c

MAXWELL HOUSE COFFEE
1 lb. Can - 46c

CORN FLAKES
2 packages 15c

LIBBY'S PINEAPPLE
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No. 2 Sliced - 23c

SALMON
Tall Can 15c

OCTAGON SOAP, 7 cakes 25c

Star Washing Powders, 7 for 25c

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ELIZABETH, Plain, 24 lbs. \$1.00
SUN-FLOWER, Self-Rising, 24 lbs. \$1.05
FLASHLIGHT, Plain, 24 lbs. 89c
BIG-BOY, Self-Rising, 24 lbs. 89c
WHITE LILY, Plain, 24 lbs. \$1.35
NOSOCO, Plain, 24 lbs. \$1.29

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5 lb. Bag - 33c
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25 lb. Bag - \$1.38
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