

# MARION PROGRESS

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

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## SETTLEMENT OF THE STRIKE FAILS

### Conferences End After Failure To Reach Agreement—Situation Complicated.

Interest in the strike situation has centered around the action of the members of the conciliation committee named by Judge N. A. Townsend, which committee has been in conference almost continuously for a week. Judge Townsend has presided at the meetings of the committee, which is made up of six men, three representing the mill officials and three representing the striking employees. This committee is composed of J. L. Morgan, J. W. Winborne and B. M. Hart, representing the mill officials, and J. J. Connor, D. L. Epley and D. L. Roland, representing the strikers.

After numerous conferences the committee was unable to agree upon terms of settlement, and Judge Townsend, after further conference with Governor Gardner at Shelby, is said to have offered a new proposition embracing a "common ground" for settlement. This proposition has been the subject of much speculation by the general public, the text of the proposition or proposed agreement not having been made known to the public. It was generally understood that the conciliation committee had tentatively agreed upon terms of settlement on Saturday afternoon and adjourned, to confer with the respective parties to the controversy—the mills and strikers.

During the week, while the committee has been at work upon the terms of settlement of the strike, and while the troops called here more than a week ago, continued to be quartered at the court house, a number of disturbances have taken place in the mill villages; numerous blasts of dynamite being set off, and the home of an overseer being fired upon, seemed to be the most alarming of the disorders. One man was arrested, charged with placing dynamite under the home of a loyal mill worker. The hearing in this case was postponed from Tuesday to Friday afternoon. No damage was done and the arrested man claims to have had no part in the affair. Leon Moore was the man who was arrested, under a warrant sworn out by C. H. Wood, who claims to have seen Moore place the dynamite under his (Wood's) house.

A committee of citizens of Marion conferred with Judge Townsend Monday with reference to the use of explosives at night, which has greatly disturbed the citizens of the town and immediate vicinity, especially patients at the hospital and other nervous and sick people. Since that time no further blasts have been heard, and there has been comparative quiet since Monday night.

The troops remain in town, and seem to be enjoying their stay in Marion. They drill twice daily and maintain the routine life of a soldier. During the day, while not on duty, they while away the time, playing games, reading, sleeping and visiting the various places of amusement and points of interest of the town and surrounding territory.

Tuesday the committee met, it is stated, to go over the written draft of the agreement reached by the committee Monday, a sub-committee having been appointed to put the agreement in writing. There was some difficulty in obtaining complete ratification of the agreement, as finally reduced to written form. Judge Townsend has handled the entire negotiations and has constantly expressed the hope that the agreement would be ratified by both the mills and the strikers.

Meetings of the committee and sub-committee continued, with Judge Townsend here and in charge of the negotiations. After prolonged discussion the members of the committee were unable to agree upon final settlement and adjourned.

Following the end of negotiations in an effort to adjust the differences, and the withdrawal of mill officials from further conferences, statements were made by B. M. Hart, setting forth the claims of the mills, and giving as their reason for refusing to take part in further negotiation, the fact that the strikers' representatives on the committee were

being influenced and directed by Alfred Hoffman, who represents the American Federation of Labor, and that the agreement, as finally arrived at by the original committee and sub-committee, was materially changed and sixteen new points submitted for ratification, embodying statements to which the mills would not agree.

Judge N. A. Townsend, the personal representative and executive counsel of Governor Gardner, issued a statement, placing responsibility for failure to reach terms of settlement entire upon the mill owners, or that is the interpretation put upon Judge Townsend's statement, in which he says there was no material change in the proposition as agreed upon by the committee.

Alfred Hoffman issued a statement, asserting that the disorders in the mill villages have been caused by those who, he alleges, want troops placed in the mill villages. He declared that the strikers are conducting a peaceful picketing of the mill villages. These disorders consist of the continued exploding of dynamite, the firing upon the home of an overseer of the mill, and other disorders of a similar nature. One man has been arrested for placing dynamite under the house of a mill worker and is now on bond, awaiting trial.

The people of Marion and this entire section are greatly interested in the situation, and much regret is felt at the failure of the committee to reach a satisfactory settlement.

The troops are stationed at the court house, as they have been for the past ten days. It is stated that B. M. Hart, president and treasurer of the Clinchfield Mfg. Co., has requested that the troops be placed in the mill village, or protection to the mill workers and property.

## MRS. MATTIE S. KIRBY DIES HERE SUDDENLY

Mrs. Mattie Kirby, widow of the late Millard F. Kirby, of Charlotte, died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. W. K. M. Gilkey, last Friday evening, her death being caused by a stroke. Mrs. Kirby's sudden passing was a great shock to her relatives and friends. At the time she was stricken one of her grandchildren was in the room with her, and seeing that her grandmother was apparently fainting, called help, but it was seen that the end was near. Mrs. Kirby had been reading a magazine and had remarked about the interest of the article she was reading just a few minutes before she was stricken. The remains were taken to Charlotte for interment in the Elmwood cemetery of that city. The funeral services were conducted at the First Methodist Church of Charlotte at 3:00 Sunday afternoon. A short service was held in Marion Saturday morning, conducted by Rev. W. O. Goode, assisted by Rev. E. O. Cole and Rev. J. C. Story.

Mrs. Kirby was well known here, having visited her daughter and other relatives at intervals for a number of years. At the time of her death she was 73 years of age. She is survived by seven children, as follows: M. S. Kirby, of Gastonia; W. C. Kirby, of Decatur, Ga.; John Kirby, of Gastonia; Mrs. W. K. M. Gilkey, of Marion; Miss Mary Kirby, of Charlotte; R. S. Kirby, of Charlotte, and Mrs. M. W. Mann, of Nashville, Tenn. She is also survived by one sister, Mrs. J. W. Kirby, of Morganton.

## DISTRICT PASTORS HOLD CONFERENCE IN MARION

A district meeting of the pastors in the Marion district was held at the First Methodist Church in Marion Monday morning at 10:30. Over thirty pastors from over the district were present and gave reports on the work of the several churches during the conference year.

Rev. E. O. Cole, district presiding elder, was in charge of the conference and after a brief summary of the outstanding achievements in work in the district turned the conference over to Dr. H. B. Trimble, who discussed in an interesting manner the problems and responsibilities of stewardship.

Bishop Mouzon was also in attendance and made a short talk on pastoral relationship. His remarks were timely and well received.

Following the conference luncheon was served by the Ladies Aid Society at the church hut.

At the Marion Theatre, next Monday and Tuesday, CLARA BOW in "THE WILD PARTY".

## C. D. CORPENING TAKEN BY DEATH

### Well Known Citizen Passes After an Illness of Several Weeks; Funeral Wednesday

Funeral service was held at the First Baptist Church Wednesday afternoon at 4 o'clock for Champ David Corpening, who died at a hospital in Statesville Tuesday afternoon at 3 o'clock. He had been in the hospital there for about two weeks and was operated on Saturday, but no relief could be had.

The body was brought to Marion by an undertaker of Statesville and the funeral held at the Baptist Church with the Rev. J. C. Story, the Rev. P. D. Mangum, and Rev. Mr. Bradley, pastor of the Race Street Methodist Church, of Statesville, in charge. Interment took place in the Hoover cemetery, in the family plot.

Mr. Corpening was a splendid citizen and was held in high esteem by a large circle of friends. He has spent most of his life in a quiet manner on his farm about two miles south of Marion.

Mr. Corpening was 71 years of age and is survived by three sons and five daughters, as follows: Edwin Corpening, of Bryson City; Jesse Corpening, of Starke, Florida; George Corpening, of Asheville; Mrs. W. A. Landis, Statesville; Misses Emma, Gladys and Lurline Corpening, of Marion, and Miss Florence Corpening, of Statesville. One brother, B. F. Corpening, of Route 1, also survives.

## PART-TIME BUSINESS SCHOOL OPENS SEPT. 4

The part-time Business School conducted in connection with the Commercial Department of the Marion High School will hold its first session Wednesday, Sept. 4th, at 3:30. Anyone who is not a regularly enrolled student of the Marion High School may enroll in the part-time school. Judging from inquiries coming in to Prof. Klontz, a large enrollment is anticipated. As heretofore, the part-time school will be held in the Commercial rooms at the high school. Those desiring to enroll for one or more of the business subjects offered are urged to be on hand the opening day, Wednesday, September 4th, at 3:30. Quite a number of students have already completed courses in this part-time school and are holding good positions. There is no tuition charge. The only expense will be for books and supplies needed.

## MISS DORIS TROUTMAN MARRIED IN NEW YORK

Announcement has been made by Mrs. L. A. O'Neal, of Normandy Road, Fontainebleau, of the marriage of her daughter, Miss Doris Eliza Troutman to Mr. Emjo Hode Basshe at Wurtsboro, N. Y., on April 1st.

Miss Troutman graduated from the Asheville High School in 1927 and during her high school days took leading roles in many of the high school dramatic presentations. Following her graduation here she went to New York and was accepted by the Provincetown Theatre to play in productions. Presentations in which she has had parts have been "Singing Jailbirds" and "Airways Incorporated," both of which were directed by Mr. Basshe. She has been engaged by the Provincetown Theatre and will begin her third year there this season.

Mr. Basshe is a playwright, director and author of "Earth," "Adam's Solitaire," and "The Centuries," also a large group of one-act plays which have been produced.

Mr. and Mrs. Basshe are now at home at "Rock Tavern," Orange County, New York. They will return to New York City about September 1st.—Asheville Citizen.

## DEATH OF CHILD

Mildred D. Haney, nine year old daughter of Mrs. W. D. Haney, died at her home at Clinchfield on last Thursday after an illness of several months. The funeral services were held at the Clinchfield Baptist Church Friday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock by Rev. W. H. McMahan and Rev. A. A. Walker and interment made at Cross Mill cemetery.

E. H. Dysart is remodeling his residence on North Main street.

## BIG LAKE TAHOMA DEVELOPMENT SOLD

### Million Dollars Will Be Spent To Improve Property—Hotel and Club House Planned

Sale of the beautiful 3,500 acre Lake Tahoma Development, which nestles in the shadow of Mt. Mitchell, just a short distance from Marion, to R. M. Mead, prominent business man and capitalist of Cleveland, and a group of associates for a price of approximately \$1,000,000, was announced Saturday by the former owners of the development, J. Q. Gilkey, of Marion, A. M. Kistler, of Morganton, G. W. Chapman, of Marion, and the estate of D. E. Hudgins, of Marion.

Coincident with the announcement of the sale and transfer of the development, which adjoins the Pisgah National Forest, the new owners announced plans for extensive and elaborate developments of the property at an additional cost of approximately \$1,000,000.

Plans already completed for the improvements will, when consummated, transform the Lake Tahoma properties into one of the most beautiful resort and club developments in America, the new owners stated.

The plan of improvements undertaken by Mr. Gilkey and his associates in the early months of 1925 transformed a natural beauty spot, easily accessible to the main highways, into a recreation place of remarkable attractiveness.

The new owners will use the present improvements for the nucleus of a development which calls for the immediate enlargement and beautification of the casino, the construction of a two-story rustic hotel, probably containing 115 rooms, the erection of a private club house, a semi-public club house, a private golf course, a semi-public golf course, as well as private and public beaches, and a residential section which will include the erection of a \$75,000 to \$80,000 private home for Mr. Mead, who is now living in Asheville.

Transformation of Lake Tahoma into a sportsman's paradise is the aim of the new owners, they stated. After studying location in various parts of Western North Carolina for a period of over 18 months, Mr. Mead and his associates finally decided upon Lake Tahoma, already famous as a fishing ground and hunting area, as offering more natural advantages for complete, all-year-round mountain playground than any other location in the region.

Part of the property on the east side of the lake opposite the main highway will be closed to the general public, including the private boulevard now connecting this part of the property with the main highway. This area will be developed into private estates. Also on this side of the lake will be built the projected Lake Tahoma club, the Lake Tahoma Bachelors club, an 18-hole private golf course, as a preliminary nucleus for the ultimate development of one of the sportiest playgrounds in the entire South.

Plans for the development of the hotel, club house and Mr. Mead's private home have already been prepared by Beacham and LeGrand. The new structures will all be of the rustic type. The enlarged casino will provide a central tower and a beacon light. Included in the plans for early development is also a projected airport.

Lake Tahoma is already regarded as one of the most beautiful spots in Western North Carolina. Lying as it does within the shade of Mt. Mitchell, with the forests of the Pisgah National reserve adjoining it, the former owners had already taken great pains to have it attractively landscaped by E. S. Draper of Charlotte, a distinguished landscape artist. Sewage lines for the development have already been laid out by J. L. Ludlow and Company, and the dam, now completed, was the work of engineers of the Duke Power company. A power plant operated by the dam supplies light and power for the development.

The new project will be held and managed by a corporation known as the Lake Tahoma Corporation with R. M. Mead, president; J. Q. Gilkey, a former owner, and a member of

the North Carolina Board of Conservation and Development, as vice-president; Alfred S. Barnard, prominent Asheville attorney, secretary; and D. W. Adams, of Old Fort, and J. H. Smith, of Asheville, as directors.

The Lake Tahoma development, the owners announced, is not to be a real estate promotion or stock sale scheme of any kind, but a sound recreation and sportsmen's development, with provision for the general public also. Mr. Mead, president of the new corporation, is a business man of wide connections in Ohio and in the East. He has for a number of years been vitally interested in electrical power development and allied business in many states. The Lake Tahoma properties will not, however, have any connection with his other companies, this being entirely a personal project on the part of Mr. Mead, who has fallen deeply in love with Western North Carolina. Mr. Mead has already moved his home to Asheville, and after his handsome residence is completed at Lake Tahoma, expects to move there.

### Sportsmen's Paradise

Some of the many natural advantages which the new owners believe will make the development a sportsmen's paradise and attract many people when it has been completed, is an almost complete absence of fogs, prevalent in many other sections of Western North Carolina and the Blue Ridge mountains; an even-all-the-year-around climate and temperature, with modified winters; a range to 6,700 feet, making winter sports possible on the higher locations; its situation within the Isothermal belt, with its low range humidity and health atmosphere.

The new owners, looking ahead to the rapid development of air travel in this country, have optioned land adjoining the development for the location of a modern airport. Air service to the North and East at a later date is proposed as a part of the development's attractions.

## OLD FORT HIGH OPENS MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 2ND

Old Fort, Aug. 28. — Mr. S. B. Smitley, principal, announces the Old Fort High School will open Monday morning, Sept. 2nd. On the opening day all students will be classified and orders placed for books. Tuesday morning at 8:30 regular class work will begin. Parents are urged to come out the opening day and participate in the opening exercises. County Superintendent Nolan is expected to be present and have something to say concerning the present and future plans for Old Fort.

Considerable repairs to the roof and interior of the grammar grade building have been made in the last few weeks. The original little brick building has been remodeled and is now equipped to house all the sciences. The Home Economics department and the Science laboratories are now in this building. Additional equipment for these laboratories is being added so that they will meet fully the standard requirements of the State Department of Education. Additional sets of supplementary books for the elementary school and reference books and fiction for the high school are also being added. As a result of these needed improvements Old Fort High School will have the best plant in its history.

So far as instruction is concerned the organization will be about the same as it was last year. Some minor changes will be made so as to increase the use of the library and extend the athletic program. Parents are urged to send their children the first day and every day thereafter. According to last year's report, the schools of McDowell county had an average attendance of 75 percent. Students simply cannot stay out of school and expect to be promoted at the end of the year. The program of study that is being required of students at this time is so arranged that it takes most of the time of the best students. Those of average ability and training and below should plan to be on the job every day.

## SCHOOL AOPENS FRIDAY

The Marion Public School will open Friday with the registration of all high school and grammar grade pupils. Regular class room work will not be resumed, after Friday's opening, until Tuesday, Sept. 3rd, the object being to be prepared for effective work with the first regular school day. The school day will begin this year at 8:45.

## STATE ENROLLMENT OF HIGH SCHOOLS

### Summary Shows 89 Per Cent Increase in the Rural High Schools in Past Five Years.

Raleigh, Aug. 26.—Approximately 110,000 boys and girls were enrolled in the public high schools of the State during the session just closed, it was learned today at the office of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction from a summary taken from the tabular shrdu vbgrth of the figures taken from the reports of these high schools.

A total of 96,739, or 88 per cent of the 109,975, were white boys and girls. The remaining 13,236 were negro pupils, 3,779 in rural schools and 9,457 in city schools. More than 61,000 of the white children attended rural high schools, and over 35,000 attended city schools.

Five years ago, 1923-24, there were only 32,415 rural boys and girls and 26,369 city children, a total of 58,784 boys and girls, seeking a high school education. The large increase of 89 per cent in number of rural boys and girls taking advantage of the opportunity of a high school education indicates, according to school authorities, the holding power of the recently erected rural high schools. "Formerly," they say, "most rural boys and girls left the elementary school provided for them without seeking the advantages of a high school education, whereas now these same rural boys and girls in increasing numbers go on to the high schools provided for them."

This past year, there were 35,410 white children in the eighth grade, 26,333 in the ninth grade, 19,859 in the tenth grade, and 15,137 in the eleventh grade—a total of 96,739, or nearly 7,000 more than in 1927-1928.

Buncombe county leads the State in having the largest number of rural white boys and girls, 2,394, enrolled in public high schools. More than one-fourth of the rural white high school enrollment is in the following eleven counties: Buncombe, 2,394; Mecklenburg, 1,635; Johnston, 1,599; Union, 1,508; Guilford, 1,476; Rutherford, 1,451; Robeson, 1,308; Harnett, 1,159; and Forsyth, 1,131.

## BIRTHDAY PARTY

Union Mills, Rt. 1, Aug. 26.—Mr. and Mrs. D. Boulmann, of St. Petersburg, Fla., who spend their summers at their summer home near the "White House", celebrated the fifth birthday of their little daughter, Emily Violet, last Friday from 3 until 6 o'clock. The dining room was prettily decorated in white and yellow. The dining table was beautifully laden with fruits, cakes and candies. In the center was a white cake with pink candles. After playing games the children were bidden to this table.

Prizes were awarded to the following in the contest games: Stencil and Hazel Nanney, Ward and Billy Harris. Little Miss Emily Violet received several pretty gifts.

Those present were, Stencil and Hazel Nanney, Jessie, Jean, Dodd, Ward, Hoyt, Thad and Billy Harris. The afternoon was thoroughly enjoyed by all present.

## MARION MEN PASS LAW TEST OF STATE COURT

Two Marion residents successfully passed the bar examination to practice law, which was given last Monday at Raleigh, according to announcement by the State Supreme Court. The two Marion men are Daniel Edward Hudgins, Jr., and Carter Hudgins.

## MARION MAN HONORED

H. D. Hoover, commander of McDowell Post, American Legion, was elected commander of the tenth district of the legion at the State meeting held in Raleigh during the week.

Col. Geo. K. Freeman, of Goldsboro, was elected commander of the North Carolina department of the American Legion and Mrs. R. S. McGeachy, of Kinston, was named president of the Legion auxiliary.

CLARA BOW, the IT girl, will be at Marion Theatre next Monday and Tuesday in "THE WILD PARTY".