

MARION PROGRESS

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

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CITIZENS FORM LAW, ORDER BODY

J. Q. Gilkey Elected President of Association at a Meeting Here During the Week.

The citizens of Marion held a mass meeting this week, after several preliminary meetings, and organized a Law and Order Association for the purpose of creating and moulding public sentiment in favor of support of the constituted authorities in all matters pertaining to the suppression of lawlessness, and further for the purpose of aiding the press in obtaining correct information of any grievances growing out of the labor disturbances of McDowell county and further for the object of acting as a volunteer conciliatory body to hear grievances with the view of lending its good offices toward their fair and peaceful adjustment.

The officers elected were: J. Q. Gilkey, president; J. D. Blanton, vice-president; J. W. Streetman, vice-president; H. D. Bishop, secretary-treasurer. An executive committee was appointed to serve with the officers as ex-officio members, composed of J. L. Morgan, C. A. Workman, C. F. James, G. C. Conley and E. A. Beaman.

The movement for such an organization was started only a few days ago by members of McDowell Post No. 56 of the American Legion of Marion. It is stated that the American Legion was prompted to initiate this movement by Major W. V. Copeland and Captain A. M. Carroll who are at present stationed in Marion at the instance of Governor Gardner. Since the organization of the Citizens Association, there has been outspoken and widespread approval of the action, both by the officers and members of the Kiwanis Club and the officers and members of the local Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. J. Q. Gilkey, president of the association, in an interview, has made it clear that the primary object of this organization will be to aid the Governor and the enforcement officers of McDowell county in the execution of the law and to serve as an impartial clearing house of information for conciliation and adjustment of differences that may arise in the present situation.

ATTEMPT MADE TO ROB THE COCA COLA PLANT

Last Thursday at midnight, yeggmen visited the Coca-Cola bottling company of Marion and tried to blow the door off of the safe. They had a second hole drilled in preparation of giving it a second shot, when night officers C. A. Nichols and George Allison, in making their regular rounds of inspection, disturbed them from their activities. They left so abruptly that they forgot to take seven steel bits, one brace, one wood bit, a Ford tire tool, a two and one-half foot wrecking bar, and nine feet of dynamite fuse that they had brought with them.

The yeggmen broke a glass out of the rear door of the office in hopes of reaching their hand through and turning catch and entering; but the door had a Yale lock, which only a key would unlock. They then drilled a row of holes through the service door to the plant proper, and burst out the paneling. They then broke out the big glass in the door that leads from the plant to the office, and commenced work.

Messrs. Nichols and Allison had their attention attracted when they heard a door slam at the Coca-Cola plant when they were making an inspection of the Ballew Motor Company. The door slamming was evidently a sign of the robbers' flight.

South Carolina police reported that there were two convicts at large, one a safe-blower and the other a yeggman. A Ford model T car was found near the city limits of Marion bearing a South Carolina license and out of gas, the afternoon before the attempted robbery.

Mrs. R. J. Noyes has been reappointed chairman for Marion of the annual Christmas seal sale, which begins next week. Plans for the sale will be announced next week.

Born, to Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Tyler, Nov. 14, a daughter.

REVIVAL IN PROGRESS AT METHODIST CHURCH

Dr. Thurston B. Price, who states that he hails from the "show me" state and now in the state famed for its hospitality, opened up a two weeks evangelistic engagement to further the work of christianity, on Sunday morning, Nov. 17th, at the First Methodist Church of Marion. There was a fair attendance at the initial service; but due to the inclement weather conditions and services at other churches, there were several vacant seats.

The theme on which Dr. Price based his sermon was read from St. Paul's writings.

Dr. Price in the accentuated drawl of the typical southerner chose for his opening sermon the subject of "Prayer—Real Downright, Earnest, Intelligent Prayer".

He conveyed the idea that those who pray, with the right kind of religious background, will most assuredly be rewarded. The persons who pray with a great passion, or desire, or want will be a christian. There will be no need to worry about church attendance, financial problems of the church, if those who belong are ardent devotees to prayer. The praying christian will be liberal. He will tithe.

Dr. Price pointed out four great reasons why prayer was essential: first, it eliminates harmful temptations; second, you are glorified in the sanctification of the soul; third, you live from day to day to greater deeds of goodness; fourth, it is the secret of guidance.

There will be two services each day at 10 o'clock each morning and at 7:30 each evening for two weeks.

Special attention is called to the evening service tonight when Dr. Price will talk to the young men and women, on the subject, "The Trail of an American Boy".

MARION AND FOREST CITY TO PLAY HERE WEDNESDAY

As the final football game in the season Marion's battling high school squad will meet Forest City in Marion on Wednesday before Thanksgiving Day.

Last Friday the Hawn-Beam combination sent Hendersonville back to their mountain home with a 14-0 defeat. The game was hard fought and left several of the Marion boys with slight injuries, however, all are expected to be in shape for the game with Forest City.

Little is known concerning Forest City's method of attack, but much has been heard of a certain boy called Blanton who is the backfield ace of the enemy. That galloping ghost will be hard to stop and reports have it that he, with the aid of his team mates, will easily defeat Marion, but if such is the case they will well know that they have been in a football game before the contest is over.

The local coaches know that Forest City is strong for they lost only one or two men from last year's squad and they had a strong team during 1928. With another season's work together they should present a much stronger squad this year, and Marion had a full day's work defeating them a year ago.

But Forest City will not catch Marion unaware. Coaches Hawn and Beam are hard at work preparing a defense that hopes to cope with the fleet feet of such men as this Blanton. Marion's only hope of victory lies in a strong line with ends that will box in the enemy's backs.

Coach Hawn is spending a goodly portion of his time perfecting plays for offensive work. Assistant Coach Beam is spending much time with the line preparing it for the final tilt of the season.

The probable lineup for Marion will be: Bowditch, center; Moore and Mashburn or Glenn, guards; Captain Gilkey and Clay, tackles; Williams and Ledbetter, ends; Ouzts quarterback; Roper and Finley or Rabb, halfbacks; Martin, fullback.

STILL CAPTURED IN HIGGINS TOWNSHIP

Rockhouse Creek, in Higgins Township, was the location of another still capture, when B.E. Hendley, and Revenue Officer John Banks arrived on the scene last Saturday afternoon about 4 o'clock.

It was a 60 gallon capacity copper still. There was neither mash nor liquor located. From the aspects of the still the brewers had already made their run. No arrest was made.

MONTH BUSY ONE FOR CLUB WOMEN

Sponsor Programs for Education, National Book Week, American Home Sunday.

November has been a busy month for the club woman. Education Week, National Book Week, and American Home Sunday are nationwide programs that are being sponsored by the National Federation of Woman's Clubs.

The week closing Sunday 17th was known as American Education Week; National Book Week will be observed from Nov. 17th to 23rd; and the Sunday preceding Thanksgiving will be American Home Sunday.

Every day in the education week program some specific phase of education was emphasized; Armistice day, education for citizenship; home and school day, education for worthy home membership; know your school day, education for mastery of tools, technics, and spirit of learning; school opportunity day, education for vocational and economic effectiveness; health day, education for health and safety; community day, education for worthy use of leisure; for God and country, ethical character.

Beginning on the 17th, the closing day of Education Week, Book Week focuses national attention especially on the subject of boys' and girls' reading. Mrs. Annie Miller Pless, of Marion, chairman of the literature department of the State federation, is desirous that North Carolina clubs in this general movement "to bring the child and the book together". She would make the book week the starting point for year-round activity on the part of the clubs in promoting the habit of reading among the boys and girls of the community.

At the biennial council meeting at Swampscott, Mass., last May, the following resolution was adopted:

"Resolved, that the General Federation of Women's Clubs observe the Sunday immediately preceding Thanksgiving day as American home Sunday, and in order to bring about a general observance of the day in every community, we urge all federation groups to ask the clergy of their communities to co-operate with the general federation, by giving emphasis in their sermons on that day to the vital importance of religious training in the home."

Mrs. T. E. Browne, of Raleigh, chairman of the American home department of the North Carolina federation, is appealing to the club women of the state to join in a general observance of the day. An article in the October issue of the General Federation News on "Cultural and Spiritual Aspects of the Home Are Emphasized," stresses the point that "a home that lacks reverence and respect for the sacred things of life is a menace to the community in which it is placed."

"No amount of so-called culture or prosperity or refinement of environment can serve as a substitute for that which develops and enriches character and arouses in our youth the spirit of reverence for things that are holy," it is pointed out. Furthermore, it was stated, if parents could be induced to recognize more fully their moral obligation to their children, campaigns for law observance would not have to be conducted nor would the National Crime Commission be able to report the cost of crime for one year as "nearly thirteen billion dollars."

TO IMPROVE HIGHWAY NO. 19

The State Highway Commission will let bids on Dec. 17th for the construction of highway No. 19 from Marion to the Rutherford county line, a distance of 11 miles. It will be graded and topsoiled and will cost about \$85,000, including structures, etc. It is likely that it will be put into readiness to be oiled next spring.

This highway is now being oiled from here to the McDowell county line.—Rutherford News.

Announcement is made through the merchants Association that the stores, with the exception of the drug stores, will be closed on Thanksgiving Day, in keeping with the usual custom.

SCHOOL OBSERVES EDUCATION WEEK

Pleasant Gardens School Observes Week with Splendid Program; School Facts.

In an effort to promote a better understanding of educational problems in the state, county, and the local community, Pleasant Gardens School observed American Education Week November 12-17, in a most practical way. Beginning with the first of the week, each teacher put special stress upon the practice of good citizenship in the classroom, on the playground, in the home, and on the street. Sand tables, and other devices, served to exhibit practical work by the pupils.

On Monday of this week every pupil in the elementary grades wrote letters to their parents inviting them to spend a day in the school, observing how the actual work of the school is being carried on. In spite of the inclement weather several parents accepted these invitations, and many of them have expressed themselves as being favorably impressed at the work that is being done. Methods have changed, of course, but the main purpose of education, the building of character and an intelligent citizenship, is essentially the same as it was years ago when our fathers attended school in the one-roomed schoolhouse, and "we all studied out loud".

On Friday night, Nov. 15, a general "Know Your School" educational program was given. This program consisted of the following: Bible reading and prayer by Mr. G. B. Woody. Song, "America". Two numbers by the Primary Band. Declaration, "Universal Education," Joe Patton. Songs: "N. C. Hills" and "Carolina", by Grammar grade pupils.

Following this program, several splendid talks were made along the line of education, particularly in the local community. Supt. A. V. Nolan was the principal speaker of the evening. He pointed out that the people of this district were fortunate to have a high standard of instruction at a minimum cost. The local school taxes have been reduced to an extremely low figure in the last two years. In 1927 the local tax was 30 cents; 1928, 27 cents; and in 1929 it was reduced to only 20 cents. "This does not mean," he added, "that the standard of instruction has been lowered, nor have cheaper teachers been employed." What a wonderful accomplishment to the credit of the people of North Carolina, that the opportunity for a high school education is laid at the door of every boy and girl in the state, regardless of social rank or financial circumstances.

After this speech, four members of the local school committee, J. C. Burnett, J. E. Jameson, J. C. Rabb, and Mrs. W. H. Greenlee, each gave brief, but pointed talks about the school, urging "better co-operation and pointing to a bigger and more efficient school every year."

During the course of the exercises charts and graphs were presented showing many school facts, some of which are as follows: Value of the school property at Pleasant Gardens 1924, \$2,000; 1929, \$75,000; number of pupils enrolled 1924, 150; in 1929, 500; value of school property in McDowell county in 1900, 41,500; value in 1928, \$1,032,000. The cost of transportation of pupils per capita was less in North Carolina than in any other state in the Union, being \$12.24 in 1928-29. The cost ranges from these figures to \$50.00 per capita in Arizona, Tennessee nearest approaching N. C. with \$16.40 per capita. These figures were taken from State School Facts, published by the Department of Education, Raleigh, a bulletin which will be mailed free to any citizen of the state upon application.

Governor O. Max Gardner has appointed J. Quince Gilkey a delegate to represent North Carolina at the American Game Conference to be held at the Pennsylvania Hotel in New York City on December 2nd and 3rd.

Both the Merchants & Farmers Bank and the First National Bank will be closed next Thursday in observance of Thanksgiving Day.

COUNTY WIDE TEACHERS MEETING AT CLINCHFIELD

Last Saturday morning there was a county-wide teachers meeting at Clinchfield mill school house for the purpose of professional study for the public school teachers of McDowell county.

This year, the teachers are making a study of the teaching of reading, for reading is the most important subject concerning the student in his acquisition of knowledge.

The teachers are taking a great deal of interest in this work. In all the departments they are doing everything possible in order to develop themselves professionally.

The teaching profession in McDowell county has a good spirit and the teachers for the most part hold high certificates.

At the general meeting, before the various groups assembled for professional study, Mr. Fred Abernethy, of the North Cove School, made an interesting talk on teachers doing community work and learning the real conditions of life of all the patrons of the school.

Much work of this nature is being done in the county. The teachers are required to make the visits in the homes of their pupils. By knowing each other better, a much better grade of work can be achieved, Mr. Abernethy stated.

Miss Mamie Stacy, who has been principal of the East Marion School for a number of years, addressed the teachers on how to keep a school standard that is standard. She went thoroughly into the state requirements for an elementary standard school and spent most of her time on discussing the achievements of the pupils and the kind of work done by the teachers rather than the physical equipment. However, she did spend some time on the physical equipment, which is very essential for a standard school, and has in her school not only the things required and suggested, but in many instances much more.

Mr. Robert McGimsey, McDowell County welfare officer, was asked by the county superintendent to speak on "When to Call an Attendance Officer". He went into the economic and social conditions of life in detail and made a very informative and interesting talk.

STATE ENDS TESTIMONY IN INSURRECTION TRIAL

Prosecution began in earnest last Friday, when both sides finally agreed on the jury, for trying Alfred Hoffman, Wes Fowler, W. L. Hogan, Del Lewis, and J. Hugh Hall of insurrection and rebellion against the state.

Sheriff Oscar F. Adkins was the first witness to take the stand, and was gruelled for six hours by a volley of questions in the cross-examination. Miss Margaret Goforth, nurse, followed Sheriff Adkins on the witness stand. She stated that Hoffman told the workers that if they attempted to go in the mill to work to "bring them out, if you have to knock them down and drag them out". Deputy Sheriff Ben Hendley was the next witness, and he corroborated all that Sheriff Adkins said.

Charles Vickers, nephew of Sam Vickers, one of the six men killed in the shooting in front of the gate of the Marion Manufacturing company on the morning of October 2, testified as a state witness in the trial of Alfred Hoffman and four others. Vickers testified that he was once a member of the union, but not now. He said he joined the union in July and was a member for three weeks and that he attended quite a number of meetings when Hoffman and Hogan were the speakers. Hoffman usually presided.

Winding up the presentation of its evidence with the testimony of character witnesses for witnesses previously heard, the defense attorneys moved for non suit of the cases at completion of state's evidence. The attorneys were in the midst of arguments upon the motion when Judge G. V. Cowper, presiding, adjourned court for the night.

The Marion murder trial of the eight McDowell county deputy sheriffs accused of shooting to death six textile strikers will be tried for murder in Yancey county court at a special term of court to begin December 9, which was ordered by Governor Gardner with Judge G. V. Cowper presiding. Judge Cowper named Burnsville, the county seat of Yancey, as the place for this trial.

PRESENT SCHOOL FLAG AND BIBLE

Junior Order of Old Fort Presents Bible and Flag to the Pleasant Gardens School.

On Sunday, November 17th, at 2 o'clock, the Junior Order of United American Mechanics, Mt. Mitchell Council 194 of Old Fort, presented Pleasant Gardens School with an American flag and a Bible. Although the weather was very rainy, a large delegation was present from Old Fort, as well as a number from the local community.

The program was opened with the singing of "America", after which Mr. G. B. Woody led in prayer. The Bible was presented by Prof. S. B. Smithey, principal of Old Fort High School. His speech reflected the usual simplicity and sincerity of the man himself as he related some of the values of "the greatest of books". The Bible was then accepted by R. B. Phillips, principal of Pleasant Gardens School, with a brief expression of gratitude to the order for the gift in behalf of the school, and he expressed his intention of using it in inculcating its principles into the hearts and lives of the pupils of the school.

Following this acceptance, the flag was presented by Professor LeFevre of Rutherford College. In the course of his speech he rose to the oratory of revolutionary days, reviewing the cost in blood and in money of the flag in the past, and incidentally, mentioned the impending need of protection of the flag in the present and the future.

Mr. Phillips again responded by stating that his hope was that the flag would not only be an emblem for brave men on the battle field, but an emblem for brave men in time of peace. "It is a wonderful thing," he said, "for a man to be willing to die for his country, but it is more wonderful, and more difficult for one to live for his country. The time was when almost all the heroes in our public school histories were warriors, and they deserve honor; but there are today, and will be in the future, other heroes of peace of whom our poets may sing. There are other battles to fight against sin and ignorance whereby we may honor our flag." The exercises concluded by a song and prayer. The Junior Order is to be commended for its work in many schools in different parts of the country.

RED CROSS ROLL CALL DRIVE IS CONTINUED

The Junior Class of the Marion High School were the runners up in the Red Cross drive staged here last week turning in a grand total of \$167.00, stated J. S. Goode, chairman of this campaign.

The quota allotted to McDowell county has fallen short due to bad weather. But the campaign leaders last Monday night decided to conduct a vigorous drive throughout the rest of this week to fill their quota.

The chairman and officials representing the Red Cross appreciate the co-operation shown by the citizens of Marion and community.

JOHN D. LAUGHRIDGE CLAIMED BY DEATH

Mr. John David Laughridge, aged 83, died at his home at Dysartsville Tuesday, November 19th. The funeral was conducted from the Trinity Baptist Church at 2 p. m. Wednesday by Rev. D. C. Ballard.

The floral tribute was exceptionally beautiful with a multitude of flowers.

The deceased is survived by his wife, four sons, and three daughters; also 39 grandchildren and 39 great grandchildren.

THANKSGIVING DISPLAY AT NATIONAL UTILITIES CO.

It is a clear and evident fact that Thanksgiving is fast approaching, if one would observe the realistic turkey "gobbler" and pumpkin displayed in the windows of the National Utilities Company.

The rustic scene carries us back to memories of our forefathers, when they brought their maize, turkeys, pumpkins, etc., to the village center to celebrate the completion of the harvest season.