

COUNTY OFFICERS' DUTIES CITED AT PUBLIC CEREMONY

Courthouse Scene of the First Public Installation of County Officials Monday Night.

"We are all stockholders of a great corporation, the corporation of McDowell county, with an income of \$250,000. It is our duty to take some interest in the affairs of the corporation, to know what becomes of the money collected and how our public officials, directors of the corporation, handle the vast business entrusted to their care." In these words W. T. Morgan, Marion attorney, opened his remarks on "duties of a citizen" at the courthouse Monday night when county officers were inducted into office in the first public ceremony of the kind ever held in North Carolina.

J. Will Pless, Jr., presided at the meeting giving a short talk on the Institute of Government and the purposes for which the exercises were held. He also introduced the speakers who in turn defined the duties of the various county officers.

Mr. Pless said the Institute is designed to inform the public of their rights and duties as citizens and to bring about improvement in county government. By a study of the methods of a number of counties in this and other states, it is expected, he said, to eliminate unnecessary and cumbersome features in the present system and substitute therefor modern and efficient methods to increase efficiency in administration.

Power of Commission
J. W. Winborne briefly outlined the duties and responsibilities of the county commissioners, the governing and controlling power of the county. The commissioners, he said, have authority over all the property, public buildings and affairs of the county in general; have the power to levy taxes, to borrow money; appropriate funds and pay off bonded indebtedness, without limit except as hedged in by constitutional provisions and acts of the legislature. J. Fleming Snipes, chairman, J. Logan Lackey and O. G. Wiseman were then sworn as commissioners.

W. R. Chambers said the constitutional office of register of deeds is a most important one, having the duty of recording all deeds, mortgages, bonds, and other instruments pertaining to the property of the people, with whom he must come in vital contact. Mr. Chambers paid very high tribute to the splendid qualities of Robert V. McGimsey, who was sworn as register of deeds, saying he is an ideal official for daily contact with the public.

The treasurer of any corporation is second in importance to no other officer, D. S. Gardner said in his talk on the duties of county treasurer. Having his hands on the financial pulse, the treasurer knows the state of affairs at all times and must guard the public interest faithfully and well. M. G. Poteat, who was sworn as treasurer, was a man of high character who had served faithfully, Mr. Gardner said.

Presenting the coroner, Dr. J. F. Jonas, Mr. Pless said he is the only man who can arrest the sheriff and succeed to that office when declared vacant in emergency, and the coroner has other important duties.

The office of sheriff is the oldest constitutional office, dating back to early English history and there has always been a sheriff, R. W. Proctor said, going on to tell of the many exacting duties in that office and how well it has been filled in recent years, naming McCall, Nichols, and Atkins as men of high character and efficient in the discharge of their duties. O. F. Adkins took the oath of office. J. L. Laughridge, clerk of court, administered the oath in each case.

Morgan's remarks came as officials had been sworn into office. He pointed out that good citizenship makes efficient administration of the law, and without cooperation of good citizens the best officers are hampered in performance of their duties. He said that public officers should be supported and assisted in executing public laws and that they should be applied to all alike, high and low, powerful and weak, rich and poor.

GETTYS FUNERAL WAS ATTENDED BY THROGS AT PINNACLE SUNDAY

One of the largest gatherings of people ever seen at a funeral in the county attended the funeral Sunday afternoon of Lee W. Gettys, at Pinnacle Methodist church, near Dysartville. Rev. B. C. Reavis, pastor of the First Methodist church at Morganton, and Rev. T. B. Hunnicutt, of Nebo, were in charge. Burial was in the church cemetery.

Mr. Gettys, formerly of McDowell county, died at his home near Morganton Saturday, December 3, following a stroke of paralysis four days before. He never regained consciousness.

Before leaving McDowell county about six years ago, Mr. Gettys was and for many years had been one of the county's prominent citizens. About twelve years ago he served as a member and chairman of the county commissioners, and had filled other positions of trust and responsibility among his fellowcitizens. He was a teacher in the public schools of the county while a young man. Joining the church at Pinnacle in his youth, he held membership in that congregation all his life, serving as steward of the church and as officer and teacher in the Sunday School. He died in his sixty-seventh year.

Surviving the deceased are his widow, and one daughter, Mrs. Jud Bowers, wife of the clerk of court in Burke county; also three brothers, J. A., of Glen Alpine, B. G. of Marion, and W. M. Gettys, of Valdese.

CHRISTMAS BELLS RING OVER THE DINNER POT \$135 IS AMOUNT WANTED

The shrill jingle of Santa Claus' bell will continue to ring beside the big iron kettle on Main street until Mrs. Harbin of the Wayside Relief Home, has counted enough of the silver shekels to buy a nice dinner for each of the families she has listed as worthy of a good feed Christmas day. Each will be given a basket of uncooked food sufficient to satisfy hearty appetites, for one day at least.

Mrs. Harbin said yesterday that the goal she hopes will be reached is the collection of \$135 for the Christmas dinner fund. Contributions dropped in the kettle so far are encouraging, she said. Thursday, the first day, \$1.32 was the amount received; on Friday, \$1.35, and on Saturday liberal passersby dropped in nickels, dimes, and quarters totalling \$9.75, thus bringing contributions the first three days to \$12.42.

Mrs. Harbin is making plans for a Christmas tree in the old bakery stand, December 23, in which laudable undertaking she has the assistance of a number of the ladies of the churches, she said.

Mrs. Harbin said all cases are carefully investigated before aid is given, and then only to those found worthy.

FREE SATURDAY MATINEE AT MARION THEATRE FOR SWEET CHARITY'S SAKE

On Saturday morning, December 10, at 10:30, the Marion Theatre will give free a school children's show, for sweet charity.

Mr. House has arranged a splendid program for this show, the feature being HUCKLEBERRY FINN, Mark Twain's famous story made into a splendid picture by the Paramount Company. This program will be absolutely free for all children, or anyone who wants to come, the only requirement being that each child or person attending is requested to bring some article of food or clothing which will be turned over to the Wayside Mission for distribution amongst the poor and needy folks of the community.

Mr. House advises that he expects to give these Saturday morning free matinees on alternating Saturdays all through the winter, as he has done in the past. And for which the community should be deeply grateful, showing full appreciation by donating liberally through the food barrel.

ATTEND DURHAM COURT

J. L. Morgan, John Yancey, Dr. G. B. Justice, Dr. G. S. Kirby, Ralph Tate and Harold Phillips, the latter a porter at the Hotel James, were in Durham last week as witnesses in federal court at the trial of a case brought by the estate of the late B. M. Hart against an insurance company.

J. FLEMING SNIPES ELECTED CHAIRMAN OF COUNTY BOARD

New Board Organized After Taking Oath and Proceeded to Business at Once.

An organization meeting of the board of county commissioners was held at 10:30 Monday morning, at which time J. Fleming Snipes was elected chairman to serve during the next two years. His nomination was made by O. G. Wiseman and seconded by J. Logan Lackey; the election was unanimous.

R. V. McGimsey, by virtue of his office as register of deeds, serves as secretary of the Board. J. W. Winborne was elected county attorney. There were no applications for the attorneyship and no other nominations.

Chairman Snipes is entering upon his first term as county commissioner, the first office for which he has ever been a candidate. Mr. Snipes is a well known business man of Marion, a native of the county, and has been a prominent citizen here for a number of years.

J. Logan Lackey is entering upon his fifth term as county commissioner, he having already served eight years in that office, though not consecutively, and was chairman during three terms as commissioner. Mr. Lackey also is one of the best known citizens of the county, engaged in business at Old Fort.

Mr. Wiseman has served two terms as commissioner and is therefore entering upon his third term in the office. He is a farmer and business man of Ashford and has been an active figure in county politics for years. Both Mr. Wiseman and Mr. Lackey were members of the last commission with J. L. Nichols as chairman, and were re-elected for the present term. Mr. Nichols was not a candidate for re-election.

Prior to the meeting the new commissioners were sworn in by Clerk of the Court J. L. Laughridge. Immediately after the organization the board proceeded to the transaction of business brought before it.

THREE CORNERED CONTEST IN ORATORY WON BY GIRL FROM PLEASANT GARDENS

Miss Ellen Wilson, a senior in the Pleasant Gardens high school, was declared the winner in a county high school oratorical contest, an annual event sponsored by the American Legion. Finals took place at Pleasant Gardens Friday night with three schools participating, Old Fort, Nebo and Pleasant Gardens.

The subject of original orations prepared by the contestants was "Education in North Carolina, past and future." Miss Nannie Sue Sandlin represented Old Fort and T. B. Hunnicutt was sent up from Nebo. The three contestants handled the subject well, going into the history and progress of education in the state from colonial days to the present fine system of schools. Each expressed the belief that there would be no letup in aggressive support of education as it has become a fixed belief that it is less expensive to educate than to allow the youth of the state to grow up in ignorance, they pointed out.

Miss Wilson will represent McDowell county in a district contest at Asheville December 16, from which a representative will be selected for the statewide contest at a later date.

DR. ASHWORTH SELLS LOT REALTY COMES TO LIFE

There's life in the old land yet, Dr. B. L. Ashworth believes. He has just sold a lot in West Marion, one he had been holding several years until real estate picked up, he said. The lot was sold to Earl Poteat, who will erect thereon a residence structure.

HOSPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

Miss Elma Carson has succeeded in getting some attractive work done on the hospital grounds. With the cooperation of E. C. Robbins, of Pineola, a considerable amount of shrubbery has been put on the lawns and other work done to add greatly to beauty and attractiveness.

CALDWELL MEN PUT ON GOOD PROGRAM AT KIWANIS MEET

Lenoir Clubmen Guests of Marion At Dinner Tuesday Evening; Rabbs Are Leaders

It is seldom that two brothers go out in the world, make good, then in later years meet at the banquet board as heads of the leading civic organizations of the respective cities in which they have climbed to prominence. It is true, however, of Clyde Rabb, president of the Marion Kiwanis Club, and Carroll Rabb, head of the Kiwanis organization of Lenoir. The two clubs led by the brothers Rabb met in a joint session at the Marion Lake Club Tuesday night. The meeting was an unusually good one, three score or more guests being present, about evenly divided between Marion and Lenoir.

President Rabb of the local club opened the ceremonies and called upon J. W. Winborne, first president of the Marion club when it was organized in 1923, to welcome the visitors. Response was made by James Pritchard, city court solicitor of Lenoir. Crawford F. James in turn presented the Marion gentlemen to the visitors, with a brief character sketch of each, done in his usual humorous way. Lenoir's representatives were then introduced to their hosts. After an excellent supper the company was grouped and photographed for the Kiwanis magazine.

Lenoir had charge of the program. It consisted of a mock organization of a Kiwanis club, done by a group of Lenoir youths in the role of black face comedians. Some good jokes were perpetrated on a number of prominent members of the Marion contingent, the whole program being given in facetious vein and proving highly entertaining.

The meeting Tuesday night was outstanding in god fellowship and pleasure, a fine example of the benefits of interclub meetings. The Lenoir gentlemen were congratulated on the excellence of their performance.

DR. PAUL N. GARBER TO SPEAK TWICE IN MARION

Dr. Paul N. Garber, one of the professors of The Duke University School of Religion, will speak in the First Methodist church at the evening service next Sunday. The subject of his address will be, "The Heritage of Methodism." Dr. Garber for many years has made an extensive study of the subject of Methodism, not only as it is known in America, but Methodism throughout the world. His address Sunday evening should be of interest to all those who are interested in church history.

On Monday evening in the Methodist church hut, Dr. Garber will address the McDowell County Duke University Alumni Association at a dinner that is to be served by the Junior Aid Society of the Methodist church. Former students, parents of students now at Duke University, those with sons and daughters to attend some college of university within the next few years, and all friends of Duke University have an invitation to attend the banquet. They are requested to pay the price of the plate, and to advise Mr. W. F. Wood or Rev. Howard P. Powell of their desire to attend.

PROGRAM BROADCAST BY MARION MUSIC CLUB

Sweet Miss Mary ----- Neidlinger
Boats O' Mine ----- Miller
The Club.
She Never Told Her Love (Haydn)
Mesdames Pless, Harris, Miss House
Prelude in G Minor -- Rachmaninoff
Miss Burton.
Forgotten ----- Cowles
Mrs. Wilson.
Just As My Lord Promises --
Mesdames Pless, Harris, Klontz.
At Parting ----- Rogers
Pleading ----- Herman
The Club.
Polonaise in A Flat Major -- Chopin
Miss McCall.

The Platinum Blonde, JEAN HARLOW, with a popular star, CLARK GABLE, will be at Marion Theatre on Thursday and Friday, two days, in "RED DUST".

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS END TWO DAY SESSION OF NEW TWO YEAR TERM

The greater part of a two day session of the board of county commissioners beginning Monday was taken up with routine work of paying bills, hearing petitions for relief and drawing a jury for the January term of superior court. After organization Monday morning, Chairman Snipes, and Commissioners Lackey and Wiseman were duly inducted into office at the formal exercises held in the courthouse.

The board designated Chairman Snipes as purchasing agent for the county, with Mrs. Mary G. Burgin as assistant. A. E. Nichols was employed as janitor at the courthouse, which position he has held the past two years.

The board had up for consideration a number of bills for work and supplies on account of relief work done in the county. Expenditure of the money involved in payment of these bills was not provided for in the county budget. Therefore the board made a decision that such bills will be paid out of funds received from the reconstruction corporation, when received, as the county is without funds to meet the extraordinary expense.

After preparing a jury list for the next term of court the board adjourned until the first Monday in January.

YOUTH ROBS BENEFACTOR AND LEAVES FOR PARTS UNKNOWN IN STOLEN CAR

Doing the Good Samaritan act cost J. H. L. Miller heavily. Yesterday he was still wondering what had become of his automobile and sundry other things carried away by a youth who had been with him a short while.

Recently, Mr. Miller said, a young man about 19 years old was taken in by him at the request of Ben E. Hendley, superintendent of the county prison farm and camp. The lad's father is on the gang, sent up from Haywood county, it was said. By request Mr. Miller had taken the youth out to his farm and was caring for him in return for such light work as could be found for him around the house and farm.

Monday, while the Miller family came to town, the white boy was left with a young colored man to slouch corn. About two-thirty the colored man left the house to drive the cattle up from pasture and when he returned the white boy was going away with the car, saying he was going to town and would return shortly. But he didn't.

It was two hours later before members of the Miller family returned. Investigation brought out the fact that in addition to the family automobile, someone had carried away several dollars in money, a good Elgin watch, an extra suit of clothes and some other things.

Mr. Miller advised officers of the law, who at once spread the net to capture the young marauder, but yesterday their efforts had borne no fruit.

MRS. W. O. NICHOLS, HURT IN MOTOR WRECK NOV. 10, DIES AT OLD FORT HOME

Tuesday night, Mrs. W. O. Nichols died suddenly at her home in Old Fort. She had been under the care of a physician during the past month, since a motor accident in which she received injuries.

The funeral will be held at the Baptist church in Old Fort this Thursday afternoon, at three thirty o'clock.

The accident occurred at the sharp curve east of Muddy Creek bridge November 10. Mrs. Nichols was riding with Mrs. Nannie Justice and Mrs. T. L. Nichols when their car was struck by a bread truck and completely demolished. While all were hurt to some extent, it was thought at the time that Mrs. Justice was most seriously injured. She was taken to the Marion Hospital and is still a patient in that institution.

The driver of the truck was taken in charge by members of the highway patrol and put under bond to await developments in the case. Gifts to the hospital include \$5 by Baraca class; \$1, Mrs. Masters; \$1, Mrs. Pollard; butter, Mrs. McGimsey; milk, Mrs. Gardin; bedspreads, Mrs. Cutlar; potatoes, cereals and canned goods, Marion first grade, Miss Little; sausage, livermush, Mrs. A. P. Poteat.

THE PROHIBITION REPEAL BILL LOST BY NARROW MARGIN

Congress Tackles Old Question First Day of New Session, Drys Win by Six Votes.

Washington Dec. 5.—A bold and unprecedented attempt by the Democratic leadership to force its party's outright prohibition repeal proposal through the House failed today and dimmed the prospects of further action on the issue in that branch during the remainder of the short session.

The action was interpreted on capital hill as foreshadowing a special session of the new congress next spring soon after President-elect Roosevelt is inaugurated so that the Democrats may carry out their pledge for flat repeal.

Despite the defeat of the resolution by a narrow margin of 272 to 144—two-thirds majority being required for adoption—the Democrats planned immediate attack on the problem of modifying the Volstead law. Speaker Garner hopes a beer bill will be ready for action before the Christmas holidays.

Eighty-one "lame ducks members, not returned to the next congress, and thirty-three Democrats re-elected in November, voted against the measure. Sixty-nine defeated incumbents voted for it. A shift of six votes from the negative to the affirmative would have sent the resolution to the senate.

How They Voted

Altogether 168 Democrats, 103 Republicans, and 1 Farmer-labor, voted for the measure; 44 Democrats and 100 Republicans voted against it. Nine North Carolina congressmen voted for repeal of the 18th amendment today as follows: Warren, Kerr, Pou, Hancock, Clark, Lambeth, Doughton, Bulwinkle, Weaver.

It was the first test in congress on flat repeal of the eighteenth amendment since it was voted into the constitution in 1917, although the Beck-Lithium submission proposal was defeated last spring by 227 to 187.

Speaker Garner was greeted warmly as he vigorously walked into the chamber promptly at 12 o'clock to open the house. The galleries were packed with prominent persons. Senators and members of the cabinet were on the floor to watch.

Dispensing with the opening formalities as quickly as possible, the vice-president-elect then discarded all custom by recognizing Representative Rainey, of Illinois, party floor leader, to offer the resolution.

Several attempts were made to extend debate time, but the wets were apparently so confident of victory they prevented it.

REGISTER CLOSE CALLS IN HIGHWAY ACCIDENTS LAST WEEK END

Saturday night, about eight o'clock, James Freshour, seventeen year old youth of Clinchfield, was knocked down by a passing car on the highway just north of Marion, escaping death or serious injury by the skin of his teeth. However, at the Marion Hospital where he was carried promptly, it was found that he was among the lucky ones, only slightly hurt and discharged Sunday. James Boswell drove his car off the highway south of Marion with serious injury to the car, officers said. He was carried to the Marion Hospital where it was found that his personal injuries embraced a broken leg and cuts and bruises, the highway police reported.

NEBO DEFEATS GLENWOOD

Nebo's fighting Mountain Bears defeated Glenwood on the latter's court Friday afternoon by a 14-11 count. Although Glenwood used two strong teams in an attempt to cop the prize, the Bears' powerful defense held them on the short end of the score. This win puts Nebo in a fair position to bag the 1932 county championship.

Don't forget that two of your favorite stars, JANET GAYNOR and CHARLES FARRELL, will be at Marion Theatre next Monday-Tuesday in their latest production, "TESS OF THE STORM COUNTRY".