

MARION KIWANIS HOLD FINE MEET TUESDAY EVENING

**Largest Number Present For
New Club Year. President
Cecil Dobson Presided**

The regular weekly meeting of the Kiwanis club was held in the Community building Tuesday evening at 6:30 o'clock. The meal was served by the ladies of the Presbyterian church. Despite the heavy snow which fell during the day the meeting was well attended with the largest number of Kiwanians being present for the new club year.

The president, Cecil Dobson, presided and announced that due to weather conditions Horace Easom, lieutenant-governor for the Carolina District, from Shelby, could not be present. Kiwanian Easom is scheduled to be present for his official visit at the meeting to be held next Tuesday.

J. G. Beaman, program chairman for January, presented Hugh Beam who reviewed Kiwanis activities during the past year. Mr. Beam's report listed activities as follows: Donation to pay the tuition of a child at the Crossnore school; co-operative program with S. L. Homewood, McDowell county farm agent, for pure bred livestock; the donation of a baby incubator to the Marion General Hospital; contribution to the soft ball league under the direction of Norman Kinzie for ten weeks during the past summer; sponsorship of the McDowell county horse and cattle show; contribution of forty dollars to assist in the transportation of high school boys and girls to the state music contest held in Greensboro; planned booster trip composed of 20 cars which visited McDowell and surrounding counties; joint sponsors with the Francis Marion, Rotary, and Junior Woman's clubs in holding a Christmas party for approximately 250 underprivileged boys and girls in the town and county; the donation of twenty-seven Christmas baskets to needy families during the Christmas season; and ten speakers were supplied to the high school during Vocational Week to discuss the advantages and the disadvantages of various trades and vocations.

The program was concluded by a very interesting talk by Kiwanian M. W. Gordon. Mr. Gordon's address listed several activities to be stressed during the coming year. Objectives listed were: a greater degree of friendliness to strangers, visitors and newcomers to Marion; work in manual arts at the high school; and a program of better relations of farmers and town men.

COUNTY SCHOOLS CLOSED

All schools of the county system were closed on Tuesday by order of county superintendent N. F. Steppe until Monday, January 29, on account of the heavy snow that made highways unsafe for bus travel with school children.

Action was taken by the school board at 1:00 o'clock Tuesday afternoon when reports from over the county showed that a six-inch snow had made the highways, especially in the higher altitudes, unsafe for transportation of school children, about two-thirds of whom are dependent on the busses.

The order will remain in effect, the superintendent said, until the highways are thought to be in a safe condition.

DREXEL PLANT INSTALLS NEW HEATING SYSTEM

Installation of a new steam heating system which has been in process at the Drexel Furniture company plant for several weeks has been completed, it was announced from the company offices Wednesday.

The approximate cost of the improvements could not be learned at this time, but representatives of a Charlotte firm which has the contract for the work estimated a cost of over \$40,000 for boiler and steam connections completed.

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MARTIN DISCUSSES FLORIDA TOUR WITH BOARD OF DIRECTORS

At the final meetings of the present board of directors of the Chamber of Commerce last Thursday morning, Mayor Zeno Martin discussed the proposed Western Carolinas' Mayors' Tour of Florida.

Mr. Martin told the directors that all the mayors of the principle cities from the piedmont section west in North Carolina and the northwest section of South Carolina would make this tour at the height of the tourist season to extend a first hand invitation to Florida tourists to visit our section of the Carolinas on their return trip north this spring.

"The uniqueness of the plan will in itself attract wide publicity and with the cooperation of the mayors of Florida, we will be able to reach hundreds of thousands of visitors that otherwise would never visit this section," Mr. Martin said.

The trip scheduled for February 12-23 will be made in two streamlined buses and they will leave out of Asheville and Charlotte on the 12 and meet at Augusta for a late lunch, there to be entertained by the mayor of Augusta and the Chamber of Commerce. Mayors, presidents of colleges, secretaries of chambers of commerce and newspaper publishers will make the trip, which will require ten or twelve days.

Expenses have been estimated at \$85 per city, that is covering the publishing and distribution of maps.

Stops will be made at Lake City, Ocala, Clearwater, St. Petersburg, Lakeland, Tampa, Sarasota, Fort Myers, Miami, Fort Lauderdale, Palm Beach, Fort Pierce, Orlando, Daytona Beach and Jacksonville, Florida; Brunswick, and Savannah, Ga., and Columbia, S. C. The party will return to Marion on the night of January 23.

Plans were made at the Thursday meeting for the Chamber of Commerce to publish separate literature to be distributed pertaining to and directed at Marion individually. This matter was left in the hands of Oliver Cross and J. D. Henry.

Hugh Beam, national counselor for the chamber, presented two referendums, one concerning the NLRB and the other relating to the regulation of competition. A special call meeting will be held later in the month to deal with the two referendums.

CLINCHFIELD MILL HOLDS ANNUAL DIRECTORS MEET

**All Directors and Officers Are
Re-elected; School Rhythm
Band Entertains.**

The annual meeting of the stockholders and directors of the Clinchfield Manufacturing Company was held at the office of the company on Tuesday morning and afternoon. The Clinchfield Mills make up one of the largest manufacturing plants in this section.

Reports and other items of business of a routine nature came before the board which were approved.

Directors elected were: C. A. Johnson, Tarboro, N. C., chairman; H. V. Brumley, H. M. Leslie, Frank Leslie, I. H. Rosenwasser, M. Rosenwasser, and R. D. Scott of New York City; E. F. Smith, Jersey City, N. J.; J. W. Pless, Asheville; J. T. Rich and John H. Rodgers, Norfolk, Va.; J. W. Winborne, Raleigh; W. R. Chambers, W. L. Morris and John Yancey of Marion.

In organizing the board of directors all officers were re-elected as follows: W. L. Morris, president and treasurer; H. M. Leslie, vice-president; T. V. Ellis, secretary and assistant treasurer; W. R. Chambers, attorney.

President W. L. Morris entertained the directors at lunch at his home immediately preceding lunch the Clinchfield School Rhythm band gave several musical selections. The board was well received as the directors were elaborate in their praise. A contribution was given to the musical organization.

CHAMBER COMMERCE DIRECTORS ARE ELECTED FOR 1940

**Recently Organized Chamber
Commerce Prepare For New
Year; Directors Elected.**

In the recent election of directors of the Marion Chamber of Commerce, J. D. Henry, A. S. Bradford, Zeno Martin, and Dean Tainter were elected to serve as directors at large for 1940.

Three directors were also elected from each of the six departments of the Chamber of Commerce. In the convention and publicity department, J. G. Beaman was elected chairman and Eugene Cross, Jr., and J. E. Neal, Jr., were elected as the other two directors.

Barron Caldwell was elected as chairman of the Civic and Public Affairs Department with Hugh Beam and Robert Proctor as directors.

W. S. Shiffet, chairman; Robert J. Noyes, and S. R. Cross were elected to represent the Industrial Department on the Board of Directors. S. L. Homewood was elected chairman of the Agricultural and Rural Department. W. C. McIver and Clarence Rabb elected to fill the other two directorships from the department.

R. L. Conley, chairman; W. G. Ballew, and E. B. Smith were elected in the Transportation Department.

Vernon T. Eckerd was elected as chairman of the Merchants and Credits Department, which is also the Marion Merchants Association, with H. D. Bishop and Cato Holler as the other two representatives to the Board of Directors.

Officers for the Chamber of Commerce for the ensuing year will be elected from this Board of Directors at a meeting of this body.

SPRING PROGRAMS COUNTY SCHOOLS ARE ANNOUNCED

Announcement is made by the county superintendent of schools of the spring activities covering certain contests. The first program will be a recitation-declamation contest for grammar grades to be held at the Glenwood High School on Monday evening, March 4th. This contest is open to all pupils in the grammar grades but in order to participate in the finals, an elimination contest will take place at the various schools and representatives will be selected to engage in the final contest.

The High School Recitation-Declamation contest will be given at the Nebo High School on Friday evening, March 8th. The various high schools will be represented in this program. The winners in both grammar grade and high school finals will be awarded gold medals.

The music program will be held at Pleasant Gardens High School on March 22nd. This program has been given annually for a number of years and has proven to be popular with the public and school people in general.

The basketball tournament will begin on the evening of February 29th, running through March 1st and 2nd, at the Old Fort High School gymnasium. The tournament will be held according to rules and regulations adopted by the principals and coaches.

All of the high schools will participate in the state-wide debating contest. The schedule will be worked out whereby each high school will debate both sides of the state-wide subject. The school winning both sides will be eligible to enter the contest at Chapel Hill, the other winning teams coming from different parts of the state.

MINOR ACCIDENTS OCCUR AS RESULT FROM SNOW

Among a number of minor accidents on the streets and highways resulting from the snow Tuesday, was a collision on Main street between Clyde Norton of the Laughridge Furniture company and a truck of the Beaman Lumber company.

Norton's car, a late model Chrysler, was badly crushed. A new body will be required, it was said, in making repairs.

WINTER SPREADS INTO DEEP SOUTH, DAMAGING CROPS

**Over 250 Deaths Attributed to
Severe Weather In The Past
Ten Days**

Wintry winds kept virtually the entire nation on the cold standard Monday, according to Associated Press reports.

Although many areas enjoyed moderation, subzero readings were recorded in a dozen states, subfreezing lows were reported in 29 others, and subnormal temperatures were registered at a number of points outside the frigid zones.

A recapitulation of deaths attributed to the severe weather since the waves of cold moved east and south from the northwest 10 days ago, showed that 57 had perished in 32 states.

The heaviest snow in a decade swept across most of Texas. It ranged from three to seven inches. It was the first fall in ten years in San Antonio and Houston. An inch an hour piled up in Texarkana. The storm reached Little Rock, Ark., on its eastward fling.

Freezing conditions, tempered somewhat by rain, chilled the citrus fruit groves in the lower Rio Grande valley for the fifth consecutive day. Crop damage in Texas was reported to be extensive, particularly to the fruits, vegetables and small grains, but I. R. Castleman, plant supervisor for the Rio Grande Citrus Exchange, opined the citrus damage would be light.

Clouds and wind saved most of Florida's citrus crop from destruction, but J. W. Milligan of the Federal-State Frost Protection service, estimated that about half the beans, peas, and tomatoes in the Lake Okeechobee sector would be lost as a result of heavy frost and in a few districts, ice. The minimum temperature in that region was 27.8 degrees above zero.

Ice hindered shipping on the Cape Cod canal on the direct route from New York to Boston. Watertown, N. Y., had a fresh 12-inch collar of snow. The fall there since last Thursday measured 64 inches. A milk shortage in snowbound Buffalo was alleviated, however.

A heavy snow blanketed the Carolinas Tuesday, hampering traffic, grounding airplanes, and closing rural schools in some sections of the state.

HICKORY MAN TO SPEAK TO CHAMBER COMMERCE

Mr. J. E. Coad, secretary of the Hickory Chamber of Commerce, will be the principal speaker at the general meeting of the entire membership of the Marion Chamber of Commerce which will be held Thursday night, February 1st, at 8 o'clock in the Community Building.

Mr. Coad will discuss the plans and preparation for the Western North Carolina Mayor's Tour of Florida which will set out on February 13th.

Also at this meeting the new officers for the coming year will be present and will assume their duties.

SEED AND CROP LOANS TO AGAIN BE AVAILABLE

Shelby, Jan. 21.—Burke, McDowell, Polk, Rutherford, Lincoln and Cleveland county farmers have been assured that emergency crop and feed loans would again be available through the Farm Credit administration, Finis T. Wagoner, field supervisor for the six counties, said that plans for making the loans are now being formulated and that farmers would probably be able to start filing their applications by February first.

Arrangements will be made for receiving the applications at Shelby, Morganton, Marion, Tryon, Rutherford, Lincoln and other places. The short term loans are made through the emergency crop and feed loan division of the FCA.

American and Canadian fishermen take an annual haul of approximately 3,300,000,000 pounds.

SECOND GOLDEN GLOVES BOXING TOURNAMENT PROVES GREAT SUCCESS

More than two hundred and fifty people witnessed the final bouts of the Francis Marion Club's second annual Golden Gloves Tournament at the Community building Saturday night. In the last night of the three-night tournament, winners were crowned in eight divisions.

Forty boxers from ten counties of Western North Carolina participated in the tournament.

The tournament was termed a great success and plans are already under way for continuing the tournament next year.

Dick Nancey of Asheville gained a decision over last year's tournament champion, James Whitesides of Forest City, to take the title in the Flyweight Division.

In the Bantamweight Division, Spruigon Whitesides of the C.C.C. won from Jess Sherlin of Cross Mill by a TKO in the first round to capture the title.

Carl Westbrook of C.C.C. outpointed Earl Grant of Forest City to garner the title in the Featherweight Division.

Garret Rice, Marion, in a fast first round, defeated Charles Condry of Forest City by a TKO in the Lightweight Division.

In the Welterweight Division, Jake Bowman of Hickory, decisioned Hal Cooper of Valdese.

Middleweight Z. V. Britt of Boone gained the title on a forfeit by Edward Huffman of Marion who was forced out of the tournament by influenza.

John Rackley of Boone won the Light-Weight title on a forfeit by Tommy Seals of Boone.

In the Heavyweight Division, Ted Little of Taylorsville won the title from James Wood of the C.C.C. via the TKO route.

Leather traveling bags were awarded the winners in each division and the runners-up received warm-up jackets.

Ed Butler of Morganton, former captain of the University of North Carolina boxing team, refereed the bouts.

Plans are being made to send a team chosen from boxers who participated in this tournament, to the Golden Gloves Tournament in Charlotte. The team will represent Marion and the Francis Marion Club at the Charlotte Tournament.

WORK IS BEGUN ON ADDITION TO DUKE STATION

**New Power Line to Connect
Marion With Duke Power
Plant at Cliffside**

Ground work is being done this week for the construction of an addition to the substation of the Duke Power company located on Rutherford Road in East Marion.

The extension will provide for line connection with the \$10,000,000 steam power plant being constructed at Cliffside as one of the latest enterprises of the Duke company in Western North Carolina. Current through this connection will be used as necessary to supplement the Bridgewater plant which is often overtaxed when the lake drops to the lower level through a protracted drought.

The improvements here will include an office building and switchboard besides the additional steel frame work.

Workmen engaged on the project said construction of the new line to connect the Marion station with Cliffside would be started as soon as weather conditions are favorable.

ESCAPED PRISONER IS CAPTURED IN M'DOWELL

Earl Hardin, who recently escaped from the Catawba county prison camp, was captured by McDowell officers here Sunday night. Sheriff Grady Nichols said they found Hardin in the "Hammertown" section where two houses were being searched. Hardin was returned to the prison camp to serve out a two-year sentence on a charge of assault on a female.

GRADY, SMITH ARE EXPECTED TO ENTER RACE

**If Both Enter, the Democratic
Field For Governor Will Be
Increased to Six**

Raleigh, Jan. 22.—Paul Grady of Kenly and Willis Smith of Raleigh, indicated today they would announce formally this week their candidacies for Governor.

Grady said he intended to enter the race Thursday or Friday, and would make public his platform at that time. Smith's announcement originally was scheduled for last week, but was deferred because his platform was not completed, friends said.

If both run, the Democratic field of six will be the largest in the state's history. The four announced candidates are J. M. Broughton of Raleigh, Lee Gravelly of Rocky Mount; Lieutenant Governor W. P. Horton of Pittsboro, and Revenue Commissioner A. J. Maxwell of Raleigh.

Then, too, there is still a definite possibility that Mayor Thomas E. Cooper of Wilmington may get in and make it seven.

Five of the six men supported Governor Hoey in the second primary of 1936. Grady, alone, backed Dr. Ralph W. McDonald against Hoey.

Horton and Grady were opponents in the 1936 primaries for Lieutenant governor and Horton emerged the victor in a photo finish. Grady ran for utilities commissioner two years ago and was defeated by Stanley Winborne, the incumbent.

The deadline for filing for state posts is March 16, and the State Board of Elections will meet on that day to appoint county boards of elections.

WORK COMPLETE ON TWO BASINS AT RESERVOIR

Work to re-line, rebottom, and top the three basins at the city reservoir has just been completed on two of the largest basins, each having a capacity of 500,000 gallons, and water was turned into them yesterday for the first time since August 18, when work was begun.

Since last August, the city water supply has come through the single basin, having a capacity of 300,000 gallons, while work was being done on the other two, and it is predicted that two and one-half months will be required for the completion of the last basin.

The re-lining and topping of the basins is considered one of the greatest improvements in the city's water system. The degree of sanitation will be greatly facilitated by the topping which has not heretofore been had.

Where the city has been confined to 300,000 gallon capacity basin, 1,000,000 gallons will be available now until the third basin is complete and then it will increase to 1,300,000.

Charles C. Canon is superintendent of the WPA work and E. R. Keeter, superintendent of the city water department, represents the town on the project.

HEAVIEST SNOWFALL HERE IN FOUR YEARS

This section was visited Tuesday with the deepest snow of this season, and the heaviest snow in Marion in four years. Snow began falling about seven o'clock in the morning and continued throughout the day, reaching a depth of 6 1-2 inches by nightfall. Traffic moved slowly and with difficulty as street and highway forces tried vainly to keep the heavier traveled roads partly cleared.

The county schools were suspended Tuesday inasmuch as school buses could not operate with safety.

TO OUR READERS

Owing to the illness of the publisher and a limited force The Progress was issued last week and this week under difficulties. Due to this fact many items may have been omitted. However, we hope to be in position to give better service after this week.