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FLOOD CAUSES HEAVY LOSSES OF PROPERTY THROUGHOUT McDOWELL

MAN LOSES LIFE UNDER LANDSLIDE

Transportation Facilities From Marion Disrupted By Slides And Washouts.

Flood waters rolling down river valleys and swollen streams wrought untold damage in McDowell county and the western part of North Carolina Tuesday with one death and one serious injury being reported in this section.

John McGee, farmer of the Ashford section of McDowell county was said to have lost his life late Tuesday afternoon and his wife was reported seriously injured when a landslide swept down on a porch on which they were standing. The McGees were said to have left their home when rising water threatened their home. While standing on the front porch of a neighbor's house, they were caught in the slide. The family was said to have lost two children in the 1916 flood.

Two narrow escapes from swollen streams in the county have been reported. Dr. J. R. Shull of Charlotte, while driving toward Old Fort Tuesday with Roy Harvey, a boy living in the Moffett section two miles south of Old Fort, narrowly escaped drowning. Dr. Shull's car was said to have stalled on the Catawba river bridge. Harvey, finding the water too deep to wade out, leaped into the current and swam to Willie Nichols' store about one mile out of Old Fort on Highway No. 64.

Dr. Shull was unable to swim and about an hour later was seen floating down the river. It was thought he had drowned but he was finally discovered hanging to some bushes in the swift river current.

Tying a rope around himself, B. T. Nichols, of Old Fort swam to the rescue of the doctor who was pulled to the bank. Boy Scouts of Old Fort aided in the rescue.

An unidentified man was reported to have been pulled from a stream in the Ashford section by rescuers who joined hands and made a human rope from the bank to the struggling man.

According to Cline Lee of Valdese, a bread delivery man who was marooned in the Ashford section all Tuesday night, the section around Sevier and Ashford was damaged more than any other part of the county. According to Mr. Lee the store and filling station of Guy Lonon, located above Woodlawn was swept away by the flood waters. Only the cash register and several small items were said to have been saved. Mr. Lonon's loss was estimated at about \$4,000.

Blocked in by a landslide just above Ashford and swollen streams throughout that section, many motorists were marooned in their cars throughout Tuesday night. Mr. Lee reported. Five or six cars were said to have been swept off Highway No. 221 by the flood waters. Some ten persons were said to have climbed to the top of Mr. Lee's truck, where they found shelter most of the night from the flood waters.

In the Sevier section one or two houses were said to have been carried away by the swollen streams and the Sarah Good Hosiery mill was reported to have been damaged considerably by high water.

Flood waters that threatened to cause much damage in Old Fort subsided Tuesday night. Fourteen feet of concrete was torn from the approach to a Catawba river bridge, eliminating travel from Marion to Old Fort. Several families of Old Fort took refuge from the flood waters in the Community building. The home of Luther Robinson of Old Fort was almost washed away and several outbuildings were carried away.

On the southern side of Marion,

Jeter Williams' home was washed away. He also lost some hogs and chickens.

Garden creek which follows Highway No. 70 north went on a rampage and two homes were twisted from their foundations. One was occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Bryant Hoyle and his mother-in-law, Mrs. Mode. They were forced to leave home.

Senator-elect L. J. P. Cutlar, of McDowell, and his family were driven from their home at Pleasant Gardens, four miles northwest of Marion, on No. 70 where Buck Creek flows into the Catawba river.

Tuesday night Marion was the haven for approximately 300 tourists who were stranded here, being unable to leave on any of the highways through this section. All local hotels, tourist homes and rooming houses were filled to capacity and many travelers were going from door to door begging for rooms.

Hundreds of people jammed Highway No. 70 where it forks with No. 221 about two miles north of Marion all Tuesday afternoon. Roads were blocked at that point, but crowds jammed as close as possible to watch the swollen Catawba river sweep down through the valley. Highway No. 70 was covered for about a mile from the forks and highway officials feared that the Catawba bridge just beyond the forks on No. 221 would be carried away any minute.

From the forks of the highways the crowds watched the flood waters swirl around the two-story home of Charlie McMahan. Several outbuildings on the McMahan property were carried down the river and many farm implements were swept away. Mr. McMahan was said to have lost 31 pigs and hogs in the flood waters. Before evacuating his home all furniture had been moved to the second floor. Water rose to the roof of his barn and carried away all farm supplies, including several hay stacks which floated down the river.

A total of 8.09 inches of rain fell in Marion Tuesday in a period of 24 hours in addition to the 2.19 inches that fell Sunday and Monday. Much damage to streets about Marion has been reported, curbs being washed away in many places and sewage seeping out at places where sewer lines have been washed out.

Marion was without water for several hours yesterday morning while workmen labored to discover breaks in the supply lines feeding the town and to remedy them. Mills and factories were requested late Tuesday to cease operation as the town water supply lines had broken. As a result mills and factories were not in operation yesterday morning. Town residents were cautioned by Mayor Zeno Martin to use water sparingly as the supply was low.

According to town officials, water from the supply lines stopped coming into the city reservoir about 3:30 o'clock Tuesday afternoon. One supply line from Mackey's creek was in use again late yesterday afternoon and the possible water shortage appeared to have been averted. Workmen were still laboring late yesterday on the Clear creek supply line. It was said to have been broken where it crosses Catawba river.

Late Tuesday afternoon and early yesterday morning all main roads leading out of Marion were blocked. Highway No. 70 to Asheville was closed because of a washout about three miles out from Marion and a land slide at Point Lookout. Late yesterday afternoon the road was still out between Marion and Old Fort. Enough of the land slide had been cleared at Point Lookout to allow one-way traffic. Throughout yesterday cars going to Asheville were routed through Rutherfordton, Lake Lure and Hendersonville.

High water that covered several sections of the Marion to Morganton highway late Tuesday and early yesterday subsided and traffic was resumed over this stretch.

(Continued on last page)

SETTLEMENT IN PARKWAY SUIT IS PROPOSED HERE

The McDowell county jury of view, named to hear the \$200,000 suit against the State Highway and Public Works Commission in connection with a section of the Blue Ridge Parkway running through an orchard in the northern part of the county, last Friday recommended a settlement of approximately \$75,000.

The plaintiffs to the action, Supreme Court Justice J. Wallace Winborne, as executor and trustee of the W. W. Guy estate, and John Yancey, have charged that the construction of the Parkway had damaged the Holston and Heffner apple orchards to an amount between \$200,000 and \$250,000. They charge that the State Highway commission appropriated 206.76 acres of land, containing approximately 6,825 "valuable apple trees" for the Parkway, and that surrounding property has been damaged.

The preliminary hearing held here before the jury of view was to permit the jury to appraise the damages after hearing the evidence in the case. Members of the jury were Zeno Martin, W. S. Shiflet and J. R. Jameson.

According to an announcement made here, the verdict of the jury of view will be appealed to McDowell Superior court.

Attorneys in the case are former Governor J. C. B. Ehringhaus and R. W. Proctor, representing the plaintiffs; and Ernest Gardner and D. F. Giles, representing the State Highway commission.

Charles Ross, general counsel for the State Highway and Public Works commission, has said damages to the orchard did not amount to much more than \$13,000. He said the Highway commission exercised eminent domain over 100 acres of the orchard for the Parkway, and also provided for scenic easements on another 100 acres.

The scenic easements, he said, do not interfere with the orchard, but prevent the owners from building on the tract, unless such building is approved by the Parkway.

CHAMBERS IS SPEAKER AT ROTARY MEET HERE

Economic readjustments which threaten democracy could be eliminated if the American public would practice in its everyday living the vocational service program of Rotary, stated Bill Chambers, of Marion, speaking at the weekly luncheon of the local Rotary club here Tuesday.

He outlined the three aims of Rotary vocational service to be: to inspire each Rotarian to maintain high standards of personal and ethical conduct in his business or profession; to inspire each individual to work progressively to advance his profession and better his services; and to inspire each Rotarian to follow the golden rule in his relations with the public. These ideals, when put into practice, will preserve the American way and promote international peace, he stated.

Dr. Bruce Boney, of Warren, Ark., addressed the Rotarians briefly on the subject, "Rotary Spirit." Guests at the meeting were Henry Seawell, of Charlotte; Dr. Roland, of Marion; and Dr. Boney.

THREE NEW BUSES TO BE USED IN McDOWELL

Three new school buses will be used in McDowell when the county schools open for the fall term on August 29, announced County Superintendent N. F. Steppe this week. The new buses will replace old ones which have been found unsafe for hauling children.

The new buses will serve the Old Fort, North Cove and Glenwood schools. No provisions have been made for running more buses than last year, Mr. Steppe said.

SERMON SUBJECTS FOR LUTHERAN CHURCH SUNDAY

St. Matthew's Lutheran church will present a threefold treasure in its services next Sunday, the pastor announces. At 11 a. m. the subject will be "Our Glorious Redeemer." At 8 o'clock the topic will be, "Come Home." At both services every family represented will be given the neat, daily meditation booklet "Heirs of God." The public is invited.

OLD-TIMERS OF THE SOUTHERN RAILWAY MEET HERE FRIDAY

Program Announced For Sixth Home-Coming At The High School Auditorium.

Colonel C. E. Smyer of Clovis, New Mexico, Captain Ted E. Winslow of Decatur, Ga., Albert Kirkman of Victoria, Va., and Mrs. Mary Burgin Morris are among the speakers that will take part in the program of the sixth annual meeting of the "Old-Timers" Memorial reunion to be held here tomorrow. The meeting will be held in the high school auditorium here and will officially begin at 10 o'clock. The reunion will mark the 70th anniversary of the arrival of the first passenger train reaching Marion in August, 1870.

Between 700 and 1,000 people are expected to attend the reunion with many of them coming here on a special train from Asheville. The train leaves Asheville at 8 o'clock in the morning and leaves Marion at 5 that afternoon.

Officials of the reunion have sent out invitations to widows of deceased railroad employees and to all officers and employees who have worked on the Asheville Division of the Southern for 30 years or more. Invitations have also been sent to employees of other divisions of the Southern and to all railroad men who have worked in the Asheville division at any time during the past 30 years.

Registration at the reunion will begin at 9 o'clock tomorrow morning. The meeting will officially open at 10 a. m. with Frank A. Burgin of Atlanta, president of the "Old-Timers" Memorial Reunion, presiding.

The meeting will adjourn at 1:30 p. m. for lunch, which will be served by ladies of Marion and Old Fort under the direction of Mrs. L. B. Coone of Marion.

Local arrangements for the reunion and entertainment for the visitors have been under the direction of George W. Sandlin of Old Fort and W. K. M. Gilkey of Marion. Transportation for visitors will be furnished by members of local civic clubs.

The complete program for the reunion is as follows:

Invocation, by Rev. W. G. McFarland, of Asheville.

Song: "God Bless America" by the assembly.

Address of welcome, by J. A. Bolich, of Winston-Salem.

Response, by George E. Lee, of Asheville. Alternate, Dr. J. H. Drakeford, of New York City.

Welcome to ladies, by Mrs. Ben Carr, of Marion, introduced by Miss Bonnie Burgin, of Marion.

Response, by Mrs. Virgil Dorsey, of Newton.

Roll call of deceased during the year, by John W. Cline, of Asheville. Alternate, Captain Ivy Johnson, of Rutherford College.

Tolling the bell, by Eugene T. Adams, of Asheville. Alternate, Horace L. Carpenter, of Rutherfordton.

Memorial address, by Colonel C. E. Smyer, of Clovis, New Mexico. Alternate, C. S. Fullbright, of Hendersonville.

Addressing honor roll, by Captain J. W. Brunson, of Florence, S. C.

Roll call of McDowell honor roll, by George E. Lee, of Asheville.

Address, "Brighten the Corner Where You Are," by Captain Ted E. Winslow, of Decatur, Ga.

Music, by two children of Charles M. Young, of Connelly Springs.

Address, "Changing the Gauge in 1879," by Albert Kirkman, of Victoria, Va., introduced by George E. Lee.

"The Arrival of the First Passenger Train at Marion in August 1870," by Mrs. Mary Morris Burgin, of Marion.

Introduction of distinguished visitors.

Open forum of "Old-Timers" led by Captain John Pearson, introduced by Horace F. Payne, both of Morganton.

Report of the nominating committee.

The program and arrangements for the reunion have been under the direction of the following committee chairmen:

Captain W. B. Burgin and J. H.

MARION EMPLOYMENT OFFICE DISTRIBUTES \$5,890 IN CHECKS HERE

The Marion employment office (white) distributed \$5,890.95, included in 1,102 checks in the month of July, while in the 31 months of distribution, 38,536 checks for \$255,353.93 were delivered through this office.

Benefits to unemployed eligible workers in North Carolina amounted in July to \$505,486.61, included in 93,809 checks, distributed through the 46 white and 10 colored branch employment offices in the state—less 1,541 checks for \$13,930.50 sent to residents of other states who had previously established wage credits by work in this state, Charles G. Powell, chairman of the N. C. Unemployment Compensation Commission, announces.

Cumulative benefits in the 31 months of distribution, through July, amounted to \$15,408,734.88, included in 2,400,939 checks, of which 26,178 checks for \$287,576.82 went to former North Carolina workers later residing in other states.

MCDOWELL FARMER HELD HERE IN SHOOTING CASE

Hunter Cowan, farmer of the Dyarsville section of McDowell county, was being held in the county jail here yesterday, pending the outcome of a gunshot wound he is accused of inflicting upon Pink Francis, negro, about midnight last Monday.

Francis was taken to Grace Hospital in Morganton where he was first reported to be in a critical condition. His condition yesterday was reported improved and it is expected that he will live. The bullet went completely through the chest from side to side.

Sheriff Grady Nichols and Deputy Jim Roland arrested Cowan about 4:30 o'clock Monday morning after witnesses told they had seen Cowan shoot Francis with a rifle. The shooting was said to have followed a heated argument at the home of Logan Francis, brother of the wounded man. The shooting occurred in the Dyarsville section.

If Francis survives it is expected that Cowan will be tried on charges of assault with intent to kill. Should Francis die the defendant will be tried for murder. The trial has been delayed pending the outcome of the shooting.

MARION MEN ATTEND MORGANTON MEETING

W. W. Neal, of Marion, chairman of the board of directors of the North Carolina School for the Deaf, and Dr. G. S. Kirby of Marion, chairman of the board of directors of the State Hospital, conferred with members of the Advisory Budget commission of the North Carolina General Assembly in Morganton last Thursday.

Mr. Neal and Dr. Kirby met with other directors of the two state institutions and members of the Advisory Budget commission to consider financial needs for the institutions for the next biennium. Members of the Advisory Budget commission meeting in Morganton were Senators W. B. Rodman and Pat Taylor and Representatives John Caffey, A. S. Brower and James Clark.

FARMERS FEDERATION PICNIC IS POSTPONED

The Farmers Federation annual district picnic scheduled to be held at the Mountain Experiment station in Swannanoa yesterday was postponed until August 24, Grady Walker, manager of the Marion branch of the Farmers Federation, announced this week.

Washed out roads and swollen streams led to the postponement of the picnic, said Mr. Walker, the town of Swannanoa being practically isolated because of the recent heavy rains.

Sullivan, reception committee of Asheville; Mrs. Thomas H. Siler and Mrs. Carl T. Gossett, ladies reception committee of Asheville; Mrs. Sam L. Burgin, hospitality committee; Mrs. W. S. Mauney, reception committee of Marion; Mrs. John A. Poteat, publicity committee; Miss Julia Burton, program; Mrs. L. B. Coone, luncheon; Mrs. J. C. Raburn, tables; Mrs. W. W. Neal, decorations; Mrs. J. H. Sullivan and Mrs. Mac Ramseur, music.

STATE SCORES 391,714 GAIN IN POPULATION

Census Figures Assure North Carolina Of Another Con- gressman.

Raleigh, Aug. 10.—The first state wide census figures, released here today by Census Area Manager E. A. Hughes, showed that the population of North Carolina increased 391,714 in the last decade to a total of 3,561,990.

The increase will virtually assure North Carolina of an additional member of the U. S. House of Representatives, giving the state a total of 12 representatives.

The report, subject to minor corrections, showed Charlotte again as the state's largest city, and the first to exceed the 100,000 mark. The Mecklenburg county seat has grown rapidly since 1900, when it was credited with only 18,091 inhabitants.

The figures also revealed the continued growth of the Piedmont industrial region.

The second largest city in the state is Winston-Salem, with 79,828 residents. Durham is third, Greensboro fourth, Asheville fifth, Raleigh sixth, High Point seventh, and Wilmington eighth.

Five counties have populations of more than 100,000. Guilford leads with 152,218, and Mecklenburg, Forsyth, Wake and Buncombe follow in that order.

Twenty-one counties have populations in excess of 50,000 and there are 26 cities and towns with more than 10,000 residents.

The census area office, situated in Raleigh, was officially closed today and all records will be transferred to Washington, where any necessary revisions and corrections will be made.

The count for the counties in the 11th district follows: Buncombe 108,648, Cherokee 18,639, Clay 6,401, Graham 6,407, Haywood 34,719, Henderson 26,049, Jackson 19,352, McDowell 23,401, Macon 15,894, Polk 11,884, Rutherford 45,562, Swain 12,160, and Transylvania 12,229.

The count of cities of more than 10,000 population: Asheville 51,263, Burlington 12,161, Charlotte, 101,305, Concord, 15,556, Durham 59,731, Elizabeth City, 11,543, Fayetteville 17,413, Gastonia, 21,311, Goldsboro 17,256, Greensboro 58,786, Greenville, 12,691.

Hickory 13,488, High Point 38,449, Kinston, 15,492, Lexington 10,586, New Bern 11,847, Raleigh 46,640, Reidsville 10,394, Rocky Mount 25,909, Salisbury 18,968, Shelby 14,936, Statesville, 11,428.

Thomasville, 11,073, Wilmington 32,980, Wilson 19,213, Winston-Salem 79,828.

MARION MEN RETURN FROM TOUR OF WEST

Theodore Watkins and Gus Martin, of Marion, returned last Sunday from a four week's tour of the United States, during which they traveled through parts of Canada, British Columbia and most of the western states.

They visited friends in Salem and Springfield, Oregon, and in Montana. While in California the two communicated with Cato Holler in Marion by long distance telephone.

They traveled through the Black Hills, Glacier Park, Death Valley, the Grand Canyon, visited the San Francisco Fair and on the return trip made a brief stop at Boulder Dam.

NORTH CAROLINA FARM INCOME SHOWS REDUCTION

Raleigh, Aug. 15.—Farm income in North Carolina for 1940 will be almost \$40,000,000 less than last year, Dean I. O. Schaub of the State College school of agriculture reported today.

He said income from tobacco would be \$50,000,000 less than last year and that better prices for cotton would make up almost \$10,000,000 of the deficiency. He estimated tobacco income at \$25,000,000 and cotton at about \$12,000,000.