

SCHOOL FINALS OF MARION HIGH START SUNDAY

Sermon To Be Delivered By Dr. B. F. Bray; Emily Holton Is Valedictorian.

The closing exercises of the Marion high school will begin next Sunday evening at 8 o'clock. The baccalaureate sermon will be preached by Dr. B. F. Bray, pastor of the First Baptist church of Marion, in the high school auditorium.

Seventh grade promotions take place Monday evening at 8 o'clock. Exercises will be held for 41 who will be awarded certificates for elementary school work.

Class Day is to be held Tuesday evening. This program is to be in the form of a radio broadcast in 1951 with Bill Alley, class president, as master of ceremonies.

An Information Please program will feature six intellectuals. Gifts, the class prophecy, the class poem and song will be the principal part of the program, terminating with a grand march of the seniors through a flower chain.

The graduation exercises will be held Wednesday evening, May 28, in the school auditorium, with W. T. McFall, of Asheville, delivering the literary address. Diplomas will be presented by Supt. Hugh F. Beam to 89 who will be graduated.

The valedictory will be spoken at the graduation exercises for the class of 1941 at Marion high school by Emily Holton. This honor was accorded Miss Holton for attaining the highest average over her entire high school period, a grade of 95.7. Bill Alley, with second highest average of 94.49, will be the salutatorian. Both will speak briefly in their respective roles at graduation exercises.

UNIQUE CONGOLEUM DISPLAY SHOWN AT FREEMAN'S STORE

The unique window to be seen at Freeman Furniture Company store on Main street is emblematic of "Home Preparedness." It is designed entirely of Congo-leum.

The decoration is one of many being exhibited throughout the nation, designed individually, that has been entered in the Gold Seal Congo-leum window contest for a national grand prize of either an airplane, automobile or \$1,500 cash.

Isaac Freeman, owner of the store here, conceived the idea as pictured. It is a home made entirely of Congo-leum material, representing pebble dashed exteriors, shingled roof, and with doors, shutters and curtains all of the same material but of appropriate design. The lawn is of green print and walks and streets are as of concrete material. The foreground is a green field and design gives effect of flowers.

Soldiers at the wings from the house give forth the idea of preparedness.

Mr. Freeman's vision was carried out by his associates in business, J. P. Jones, Melvin Harbison, Elliott Mahaffey and R. H. Walker, who constructed the novel display with painstaking care and aptitude.

CALL NO. 11 LISTS TEN SELECTEES FOR MAY 28

Ten men are named in call No. 11 for McDowell county selected service registrants. They are to report to the local board at Marion at 9 a. m. Wednesday, May 28.

This group, four of whom are volunteers, will be sent to Fort Bragg for induction. All are white boys.

Those selected who have volunteered are Virgle Charlie Freeman, Armour Glenn Kelly, Henry Woodrow Guyton and Albert Louis Trout.

The others listed are Gartha Lee Lewis, Millard McKinley Bartlett, James Franklin Hamby, Earl B. Silver, William Harold Smith, Harry Arthur Setzer.

KIWANIANS BEST GOLFERS

Kiwanis and Francis Marion Club golfers engaged in a grueling 7-match tournament last week but the results were decided one sided. Kiwanis eclipsed their rivals 42½ points to 21½. A return match for vengeance is in prospect.

LEGION UNIT WILL SELL POPPIES HERE SATURDAY

Poppy Day is held to perpetuate the memory of those who gave service and sacrifice in the first World War. The poppy is worn on Saturday, May 24, as a tribute to that patriotism.

Next Saturday poppies will be sold on the streets here by the members of the Auxiliary unit of the American Legion of Marion. Services of high school girls have been solicited to assist the women in distributing these little flowers throughout the county.

Poppies are sold for whatever a person will give for one. It is a contribution to those who have suffered some hardship caused by their service in the war.

Mrs. J. F. Miller, chairman of the committee, explains that money collected from this sale is used by the Legion unit to help disabled veterans, help their families, give aid to needy children and extend the rehabilitation work in hospitals, homes vocational work and assistance. Mrs. G. W. Kirkpatrick is rehabilitation chairman of the unit here.

PRIVATE CONSTRUCTION WORK UNDER WAY HERE

Foundations for a new home and also for the building to be erected for a tourist court have been started here during the past week. The house is located on Gilkey street, just within the city line. The tourist court is on East Court street.

J. P. Leppard is having a home built on his Gilkey street property, to be frame construction. The tourist court is being built for W. W. Neal, Jr. and M. W. Gordon, Jr., who expect to open same for public use late in July. This is a 12-room building plan, one story high.

Roy Morrow has had a small store building erected on South Main street, where he has already located.

The Drexel Furniture Company has its extensive plan of expansion nearly completed and parts of this new plant are in use.

The homes being erected on Lincoln Avenue for W. H. Norris and Earl Teal are well progressed and will soon be completed. The Norris house is of stone construction, and that of Mr. Teal is brick veneer.

W. K. M. Gilkey is having his new brick, colonial home erected on Augusta avenue. Eugene Cross, Jr., also has a house of similar design under construction on the same street. S. R. Cross is having a two-story brick veneer residence built on Airport Road. All three are well under way.

Extensive alterations are being made to the A. and P. store on North Main street, the improvement including additional space in the rear.

PEOPLE OF MARION PAY FINE TRIBUTE TO SCHOOL BAND AND DIRECTOR HIRSCH

People of Marion and vicinity filled the school auditorium here Monday evening in a fine tribute to Bernard Hirsch and the 52 members of this splendid high school band.

There were nearly 900 who roundly applauded Mr. Hirsch as he appeared on the platform, a recognition for the rating of excellence acquired by his well-trained band and finely-taught soloists at the National contest in Richmond.

The program included twelve quite diversified numbers. Three were those played at Richmond during the contest in which the band won a No. 1 rating.

The winning numbers were "The Iowa Band Law," by King; "Eroica," an overture by Skovricka; "Invocation of Alberick," by Wagner. The novelty selection, "Coming Round the Mountain," proved most popular and brought an encore.

Twenty members of this fine combination are lost at the end of the school term by graduation. Among these are six of the soloists who competed at Richmond.

The band by virtue of its outstanding accomplishment at Richmond is eligible to compete in the National contest next year in Atlanta.

FOREMAN TAKEN ILL

Clyde Henline, foreman at Drexel Furniture Company, was taken ill Wednesday morning at his work and was rushed to the hospital for treatment.

J. F. WILKINSON IS INDUCTED AS MAYOR OF CITY

Magistrate J. L. Nichols Gives Oath To New Officials; Mayor Denounces Speeding

Mayor Jay F. Wilkinson and four members of the newly elected board of aldermen were formally inducted into office last Friday afternoon as both the old and new administrations of Marion convened. Magistrate J. L. Nichols administered the oath to the mayor and Aldermen R. B. Smith, H. D. Bishop, S. W. Blanton and Dr. J. F. Jonas. W. K. M. Gilkey, who was absent was duly sworn to office that evening.

Retiring Mayor Zeno Martin before welcoming the new regime received the financial report of Auditor Fletcher which was accepted by both the old and new boards. A balance of \$8,841.65 was carried over. Bills to the amount of \$3,273.19 were passed upon by the new board.

The in-coming board unanimously granted the request of Mayor Wilkinson that he be empowered to direct the supervision of police work through the chief of police. Major matters relative to police supervision will, however, remain under jurisdiction of the board.

Matters relative to the work now being done by the city were reviewed briefly and a carload of cement was ordered to continue work on the community park and sewer lines thereto and several sidewalk and curb repair jobs.

Mr. Wilkinson in his first announcement as the new mayor of Marion issued warning to all speeders on the city streets.

"Pedestrians," he stated, "especially children, must be safeguarded and the local police are under orders to make arrests of all reckless drivers."

Speeding cars on East and West Court streets, Main street and Rutherford Road, where there has been a number of accidents, will be particularly slowed down.

Mr. Wilkinson requests that, while driving through the city, motorists particularly check their speed and help to prevent accidents at all times. Twenty-five miles per hour is the speed limit in residential sections and 15 miles per hour in the business area.

THREE HELD FOR SUPERIOR COURT ON ASSAULT CASE

Only one case of any material import passed through McDowell county court on Tuesday. It was the assault with deadly weapons case involving Floyd Berry, Maurice Sluder and Edna Garrison. All were held for trial at Superior court in June and were placed under \$500 bond.

The arrests were made when a brawl involving all three took place in a business place and bottles were used in the assault.

Other cases tried included a hit run case in which Richard Morgan accused of driving while drunk, was fined \$60 and had his license revoked for one year.

Four other drunken driving cases resulted similarly. There were also two larceny cases and one liquor charge.

CHANGE IN SCHEDULE OF SOUTHERN RAILWAY

Changes in the schedules of three passenger trains on this division of the Southern Railway became effective last Sunday. Under the new schedule, No. 35, westbound, formerly due at Marion at 2:00 a. m., is now due to arrive at 2:30; arrival of No. 36, eastbound, was changed from 6:49 to 6:45 a. m., and No. 12, eastbound, from 3:55 p. m. to 3:32.

MRS. SWANSON BUYS BETTY JEAN SHOPPE

Mrs. B. M. Swanson, who has been manager of the Betty Jean Beauty Shoppe for the past several years, announces this week that she made purchase of the shoppe on May 15. Mrs. Swanson stated that she will continue as manager and plans to remodel and install new equipment in the near future.

GRANDEUR OF PILGRIMAGE WAS FULLY ENJOYED

Reception For Marion Tourists At Roanoke And At Points Enroute Was Magnanimous.

Those who enjoyed the Blue Ridge Parkway Pilgrimage from Marion last week are still talking enthusiastically of the grandeur and the impressive pleasure of the two-day trip.

There was neither accident nor hitch in any of the well-conceived plans of the workers of the McDowell Chamber of Commerce which sponsored the excursion. Every detail of the trip was executed perfectly, stops and appointments with welcoming delegations at junction points enroute were kept, and reservations at all points were complete for both comfort and enjoyment.

Outstanding in particular on this trip were both the interest of official groups who met and toured with the pilgrims and the evident and expressed pleasure of those from a distance, namely a party from Florida, another from Cincinnati and others from Charlotte and Asheville, who joined the tourists.

Particularly interesting was the surprise meeting the group had with Mr. and Mrs. Albert Carpenter, former residents of Marion, who, hearing of the pilgrimage, made a special trip from their home in Wytville, Va., to Hungry Mother State Park to lunch with their many friends from here.

The overnight stop at Roanoke was a grand event. Met by a delegation from the Roanoke Chamber of Commerce at Pine Spur, they were escorted for 30 miles into the city to Hotel Roanoke.

There they dined with the Roanoke Chamber as their hosts and entertainers. After the dinner and speaking many enjoyed touring the town, some taking in entertainment of various sorts.

At Roanoke, the president of that Chamber of Commerce, Frank W. Rogers, had the group photographed on several occasions. He officially welcomed them, as well, at the dinner at Hotel Roanoke. Other speakers here were the Chamber's executive secretary, Benjamin Moomaw, and Samuel Weams, assistant superintendent of the Blue Ridge Parkway, and Jack Enright, executive secretary of the Asheville Chamber of Commerce.

JENKINS IS SPEAKER AT KIWANIS MEETING

Members of Kiwanis club of Marion enjoyed a profound talk by Rev. W. A. Jenkins, president of Rotary, at their dinner meeting Tuesday evening. Mr. Jenkins spoke on "The Power of an Idea."

The address, though fundamental, was well illustrated by Mr. Jenkins' conception of Hitler's profound idea of the individual power of the state.

Mention was made of the district meeting of clubs in Asheville this week and of the International convention in Atlanta June 15-18, to which the club is sending delegates.

A resolution was also passed by the clubmen heartily noting the fine accomplishments of the high school band of Marion and paying them and their director highest compliments.

C. B. DOBSON NAMED HEAD OF AMERICAN LEGION POST; OTHER OFFICERS ELECTED

C. B. Dobson has been elected head of the McDowell Post of the American Legion, succeeding J. E. Melton who held the office for the past year.

Other officers elected included: Carr Bell, first vice-commander; L. W. Erwin, second vice-commander; Roy W. Burleson, adjutant; J. H. Beaman, finance officer; R. K. Davis, service officer; Roy W. Davis, guardianship officer; Julius Brooks, sergeant-at-arms; Geo. C. Crawford, chaplain; B. S. Clark, historian; B. H. Laughridge, athletic officer; Dr. J. F. Miller, child welfare; J. K. Giles, Americanism; S. E. Proctor, graves registration officer; George W. Kirkpatrick, employment officer; E. F. Haire, membership chairman; and H. C. Mangum, Sons of the Legion chairman.

The new officers will be installed at the next regular meeting.

MUSICAL PROGRAM AT CLINCHFIELD SCHOOL

A musical program will be presented at the Clinchfield school tonight at eight o'clock by the Rhythm and Tonette Bands and the Glee Club under the direction of Miss Rebecca Lowe. The public is cordially invited. No admission will be charged.

MARION DRUG OBSERVES FIRST YEAR OF SERVICE

The Marion Drug store will mark its first anniversary Saturday and will mark this occasion both Friday and Saturday with special sale prices in all drug lines and in the luncheonette. Business in both departments of the store has shown a steady monthly increase throughout the whole year.

HUGE FIRE RAGES OVER 1000 ACRES ON HUMPBACK

A forest fire which has traveled more than three miles through Avery and Mitchell counties, and touching an edge of McDowell county, has gained the summit of Humpback mountain in the vicinity of Kaolin and was reported put under control on Monday.

The blaze originated north of Highway 19E between Spruce Pine and Engles. Fanned by a fair breeze the fire traveled swiftly, leaped the highway, ate its way rapidly to North Cove river and bounded over this barrier to race southeastward for two more miles up the slope of the Humpback.

In this locality it spread into the Blue Ridge Parkway area and here spot fires have been fought.

Forest Ranger Granville Liles has had a volunteer group from Kaolin fighting since its origin. The National Parkway Service called in E. R. A. crews to confine the blaze.

Forty-five men and three leaders from Buck Creek CCC camp were called on when Ranger Jerry Griswold received a call to aid. CCC boys from Laurel Springs camp, two groups from the CCC camps at Cherryville, and assistance from the North Carolina Forest Service were control.

It is estimated that well over 1,000 acres of timber has been devastated. The exceedingly dry condition of the foliage and underbrush has lent excellent fuel to keep the fire out of control.

J. F. MILLER, CLINCHFIELD DIED AFTER LONG ILLNESS

Joseph F. Miller, who for 24 years was superintendent in the spinning room at Clinchfield Manufacturing Company, died shortly after 9 o'clock yesterday morning at his home near Nebo. He was 61 years of age.

Deceased had been ill for two years when he retired from his employment. He was a native of Polk county.

Funeral services are planned for Friday morning at 10 o'clock and will be held in Clinchfield Baptist church. Rev. Claude H. Hamby, pastor, will conduct. Burial will be made in Zion Hill Baptist church cemetery, Spartanburg.

Surviving are his widow, Maggie Bragg Miller, and these sons and daughters: G. Frank and H. Dean Miller, of Nebo, and Mrs. Troy L. Davidson, of Clinchfield; also two grandchildren, Billy Joe Davidson, and Sarah Margaret Miller, and a sister, Mrs. Lollie McGraw, of Spartanburg.

BOND ALLOWED DRIVER IN ASHFORD ACCIDENT

John Buchanan of Spruce Pine was released Tuesday under a \$300 bond after being held since Sunday in McDowell county jail on a charge of driving while drunk and causing injury of three in a motor accident at Ashford.

Buchanan, it was reported, was operating a light truck when it swerved from the road and turned over.

The injured, who were taken to Marion General Hospital, are J. C. Sparks of Spruce Pine, owner of the machine, who sustained broken ribs, Miss Dorothy Buchanan and Miss Fern Ward, both of Marion, who suffered shock and bruises.

The accident was investigated by Sheriff Grady Nichols and deputies from Marion.

HOME DEMONSTRATION MEETINGS ARE LISTED

Home Demonstration meetings for the following week are announced by Miss Jean Steele, county supervisor.

The meeting today at Pleasant Gardens will be held at 2 p. m. in the community building, Mrs. T. M. Burnette and Mrs. J. O. Summerlain, hostesses, Tomorrow's meeting at Turkey Cove is at the home of Mrs. E. P. Boyd at 2 p. m.

Meetings for next week: Monday, Glenwood, schoolhouse, Mrs. Harvey and Mrs. Edgar Morgan, hostesses, 2 p. m.; Tuesday, Chapel Hill, club-house, Mrs. W. S. Rice, hostess, 2 p. m.; Wednesday, North Cove schoolhouse, Mrs. T. C. Yoakum, hostess, 2 p. m.; Thursday, District Meeting at Glen Alpine school, 10:00 to 2:30; Friday, Wildwood club, at home of Mrs. J. M. Hunter, 7 p. m.

RESUME OF WPA WORK IN McDOWELL PAST FIVE YEARS

McGinnis Reports Accomplishments — \$1,163,955 Spent In McDowell County.

With McDowell county's massive new court house addition nearing completion, C. C. McGinnis, State WPA Administrator, has taken stock of what WPA has accomplished in McDowell county during the past five years.

The McGinnis report is in detail and is comprehensive. In one item we find an observation by him that McDowell county, in sponsoring the enlargement of its court house facility and in building a city hall through another WPA project, shows that in North Carolina and in America, justice and not dictatorial mandate prevails; that even amid the ardor and enthusiasm and unity of the national defense effort, we find McDowell county building facilities which are emblematic of the fundamentals as laid down by the founding fathers in the Bill of Rights.

The report shows that the largest endeavor carried on in the county during this period of time was the construction and reconstruction of highways, roads and streets. From WPA workers, sponsored by the State Highway and Public Works Commission, the total road improvement obtained by the county is 261 miles. Marion's paved streets, if all sections were paved end to end would stretch seven miles. These statistics are brief but they graphically tell the story of how WPA workers have lifted the county out of the mud and provided miles on end of all-weather roads.

On a similar endeavor, one and one-half miles of sidewalks have been paved. Sidewalks and streets to be properly utilized need curbs and gutters. Five and one-half miles of curbs and four and two-fifths miles of gutters are listed among the construction accomplishments.

Creeks and rivers, in many points, needed bridges. The score there is nine. Roadside landscaping has been performed on one and one-half miles while 244 culverts have been installed. Nearly a mile of road drainage pipe has been laid.

Schools throughout the county have been cleaned and renovated. (Continued on page 3)