

THE MARION PROGRESS

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

ESTABLISHED 1896

MARION, N. C., THURSDAY, JANUARY 6, 1944

VOL. XLVIII—NO. 24

New Officers Kiwanis Club Are Installed

R. W. Twitty Takes Office As President At Installation Meeting Tuesday Night.

The annual installation of Kiwanis officers was held at the Community building Tuesday evening. The installation was conducted by Wm. F. Blakely of Kings Mountain, lieutenant-governor of Division 1.

R. W. Twitty was installed as president, succeeding W. G. Ballew, J. B. Laughlin was installed vice-president, and D. E. Poole, secretary and treasurer.

The new directors of the club are S. W. Blanton, R. W. Davis, B. A. Dickson, M. W. Gordon, Jr., J. L. Gourley, A. H. Mitchem, J. M. Snoddy, P. J. Story and S. J. Westmoreland.

Hugh Beam, S. J. Westmoreland, J. G. Beaman, R. L. Conley and B. A. Dickson were presented awards for perfect attendance at meetings for a period of five years; A. H. Mitchem, four years; W. W. Neal, Jr., and S. L. Homewood, three years; W. G. Ballew, two years; J. M. Snoddy, C. A. Harris, Barron Caldwell, J. B. Laughlin and R. W. Twitty, one year.

In assuming the duties of the office of president, Mr. Twitty expressed his deep appreciation for the honor bestowed upon him. He said he accepted the office with the full realization of its responsibilities and sincerely hoped that he would prove worthy of the trust which had been placed in him. He expressed the hope that 1944 would be a better year for the Kiwanis Club of Marion. He said the program must be to encourage better attendance at meetings, a large membership, greater interest for activities in civic affairs and a better understanding of the significance and aim of Kiwanis International.

In closing Mr. Twitty made the following requests:

"First, a concentrated effort on our part to make a real contribution to the war effort. I do not mean a donation of money to this or that drive or the sponsorship of this or that particular program. I ask for an added interest on the part of the individuals which will result in a concerted effort to add something to the comfort, safety and morale of the boys who are far from home fighting this war."

"Second, conscientious efforts on the part of committee-chairmen and members to intelligently carry out the work which has been assigned to them and that written reports be turned in monthly to the club secretary."

Committees for the year were announced as follows:

Agriculture—Sam L. Homewood. Attendance, Membership, Reception, Public Relations, and Inter-Club Relations—Archie Mitchem, chairman; Barron Caldwell, C. E. Holler, W. W. Neal, Jr., W. S. Shiflett, J. H. Tate and J. M. Snoddy.

Boys and Girls Work, Underprivileged Children and Vocational Guidance—Chas. A. Harris, chairman; Hugh Beam, J. H. Burgess, R. Lee Conley, Carl W. McMurray and S. J. Westmoreland.

Business Standards, Finance, Public Affairs and Publicity—B. A. Dickson, chairman; A. S. Bradford, S. W. Blanton, Hugh Beam and P. J. Story.

Achievement Report and Classification—Dan E. Poole, chairman.

House and Reception—S. J. Westmoreland and G. L. Kluttz.

Kiwanis Education, Laws and Regulation, War Time Citizenship—Garfield Beaman, chairman, Cecil Dobson, R. W. Davis, R. W. Proctor and Wayne Suttle.

Music—J. L. Gourley and Mrs. C. A. Harris.

Program—Jas. B. Laughlin.

Support of Churches—M. W. Gordon, Jr.

AT PREFLIGHT SCHOOL

James Samuel Byrd of Marion is listed as one of the 51 young men from North Carolina in training at the preflight school of the San Antonio Aviation Cadet Center in San Antonio, Texas.

Snipes And Morris To Head War Loan Drive In M'Dowell County

J. F. Snipes and J. N. Morris have been appointed co-chairmen for McDowell county for the Fourth War Loan drive, it has been announced by the regional chairman of the State War Loan Finance committee. Messrs. Snipes and Morris served in this capacity during the recent Third War Loan drive.

Although the quota for McDowell county has not yet been set, it is expected it will be approximately the same as the quota in the last drive, \$391,000. The national quota for the drive will be \$14,000,000.

McDowell county over-subscribed her quota in the three former campaigns.

A meeting of key men to participate in the drive will be held soon to make final plans for the campaign, it was stated yesterday.

The drive will open on January 18 and will end on February 15.

MINISTERIAL UNIT HOLDS MEETING HERE

The monthly meeting of the McDowell County Ministerial Association was held at the Methodist hut Monday morning with the president, Rev. R. I. Corbett, presiding. A New Year devotional program was conducted by Rev. C. S. Kirkpatrick, superintendent of the Marion District.

M. W. Gordon, president of the Allied Church League, attended the meeting and made a short talk on the organization. It was stated that funds for about 2000 subscriptions to To-morrow, a monthly paper published by the Allied Church League, had been secured.

P. G. GRANGE APPOINTS TWO NEW OFFICERS

J. H. L. Miller was appointed insurance and business agent for the Pleasant Gardens Grange at the regular meeting Tuesday evening in the community building, and R. G. Roberts was appointed chairman of the Youth Committee.

J. C. Rabb addressed the group on "Wood and Its Place in the War Effort," and J. R. Jameson discussed "A New Cash Crop for McDowell County." Miss Inez Patton read a poem "Our Taxes."

Charles Harvey Greenlee was reinstated into membership.

Blood Plasma Fund Now Totals \$310.50

Contributions to the Blood Plasma Fund in this county have reached \$310.50, according to announcement this week by Miss Ruth Greenlee, chairman of the Blood Plasma fund. No drive was made to obtain donations for this fund, the amount was raised by free will offerings made by interested persons.

Contributions varied from \$1 to \$100, Miss Greenlee stated, and also included \$75 given by students of the Clinchfield school. The students agreed to contribute the money formerly spent for refreshments and presents at the annual Christmas party to the Blood Plasma Fund and to the purchase of war savings stamps.

PARKER AT U. S. NAVAL AIR TRAINING CENTER

Julius F. Parker, Jr., 20, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Parker of Marion, was recently appointed a Naval Aviation Cadet and was transferred to the Naval Air Training Center, Pensacola, Fla., for intermediate flight training.

Prior to entering the Naval service, he attended Mars Hill College for two years.

Upon completion of the intensive course at the "Annapolis of the Air" Cadet Parker will receive his Navy "Wings of Gold" with the designation of Naval Aviator, and will be commissioned an Ensign in the Naval Reserve or a Second Lieutenant in the Marine Corps Reserve.

COMMISSIONERS MEET

The board of county commissioners held a brief session Monday and adjourned until Thursday of this week when jurors will be drawn for the February term of McDowell county superior court.

Marion Office To Be Advanced To First Class

Postal Receipts Reach New High; Assure An Advance In Classification.

The Marion Post Office will advance from office of Second to Office of First Class, according to announcement this week by Barron Caldwell, postmaster. Total receipts of \$46,002.21 assure the office of the advanced classification, Mr. Caldwell stated.

Receipts for the year 1943 totaled \$46,002.21, the highest in any twelve-month period in the history of the office and showed a 24% increase over 1942.

For the closing quarter receipts were \$14,552.30 as compared with \$12,365.04 for the corresponding period in 1942.

The December revenue totaled \$6,262.58 as compared with \$5,887.48 for December, 1942.

Total receipts include sales of stamps, stamped envelopes, postage of newspapers published and mailed locally, non-metered mail by piece and weight and box rents, as named by the United States Post Office Department.

Postal savings accounts, sales of documentary and war stamps and bonds sold during the year are not included in the receipts.

Old License Tags Good Thru January

By virtue of a bill enacted into law by the North Carolina General Assembly at the 1043 session, owners of motor vehicles are allowed until January 31, 1944, to purchase their license plates.

Representing an extension of time to the tune of 30 days by comparison with the previous statute, which made the use of old license plates unlawful after December 31, the statewide measure is expected to prove very helpful to motorists in North Carolina.

The change is expected to assist materially in avoiding the usual end-of-the-year rush, and will probably cause the volume of applications to remain of normal proportions.

J. R. GRAY RESIGNS AS EXPRESS CLERK

J. R. Gray, who has served as express clerk in the Southern Railway office here for the past 11 years, has resigned to accept a position with Radio Station WMIT on Mount Mitchell. Mr. Gray will be succeeded as express clerk by Mrs. Ruby Ledbetter.

EGGS

Eggs keep fresh longest if they are not only kept cold but also covered, say reports from Utah and Massachusetts. Put them in the hydrator in the refrigerator.

Story Of Flights Made By Sgt. Smith Over Enemy Lines

The story of "Smitty," a staff sergeant from Alexandria, when in central Italy, and his plane, the "Wilma Elaine," named for his wife and baby daughter, captured the fancy of a staff writer for Stars and Stripes, the Army newspaper in Africa.

"Smitty" is Staff Sergeant James Smith, a nephew of Mrs. Eula Reel of Marion, and was well known here. Before entering the service two years or more ago he was employed at the Cut Rate Market. He was killed in action in November. At the request of relatives The Progress is publishing the article which was written by Staff Sgt. Jack Foisie. It appears as follows:

WITH AMERICAN FORCES IN CENTRAL ITALY — Just before Smitty and I took off in "Wilma Elaine," the commander warned us to be on the lookout for Messer-

Milk Dealers Seek Boost In Price Of Milk

Petition To Be Filed With Dis- trict Office In Charlotte For Relief.

Formal request for a one-cent increase in the quart ceiling price for milk will be filed this week with the Office of Price Administration by dairymen from 13 counties, it was announced here last week.

John M. Mull, prominent Morganton dairyman and attorney, it was stated, was authorized to draw up the petition when milk producers and agricultural leaders met in Morganton Thursday in a united front to seek relief from conditions viewed as threatening the dairy industry.

Mr. Mull was authorized to take action for milk producers in the following counties: Burke, Caldwell, Iredell, Catawba, Cleveland, Lincoln, Rutherford, Polk, Henderson, Buncombe, Madison, Haywood and McDowell.

The counties, it was explained, were placed in a zone in which 16 cents was fixed as the retail ceiling for a quart of milk, although counties to the east were allowed 17 cents, the amount sought by the 13-county area.

Lewis F. Brumfield, associate price analyst, represented the Charlotte OPA district at the conference and contributed suggestions for preparing the application for price adjustment. His expression of the Charlotte office's interest was viewed by the dairymen as encouraging, although it was pointed out that any change in prices must be made by the regional office at Atlanta.

In the petition prepared by Mr. Mull a request was made for 15 cents for wholesale milk in glass containers and 17 cents for retail milk—an increase of one cent over existing prices.

Pointing to a marked disparity in maximum prices allowed in nearby zones, the request states that the result creates an injustice, since production costs are as high if not higher in this area, and also tends to draw out of the lower-priced territory milk which goes to the adjoining zone because a higher price can be received. It was indicated at the meeting that the fact that dairymen in this area charged a lower price when ceilings were fixed has the effect of penalizing them under the maximum prices, while other areas which charged the public more are rewarded by being allowed a higher price.

Advances in feed costs up to 50 per cent or more during the past two years were listed in the request which showed that, even at much higher prices, some feed is not now available.

To meet the partial requirements of the people for increased milk supply, milk is being shipped into this area from other zones at a cost to the distributor of at least 25 per cent above the ceiling prices fixed for this area.

COUNTY SCHOOLS TO REOPEN NEXT MONDAY

The county schools have remained closed this week due to weather conditions and an increase in the spread of the influenza situation. All the county schools are scheduled to reopen next Monday.

The city schools reopened Monday and while the attendance the first day was about 20 per cent off, there has been a marked increase in attendance during the week.

SECTION OF HIGHWAY TAKEN OVER BY STATE

The board of county commissioners has been advised that the recommendation that a section of road 1.6 miles extending from the T. J. Fortune place to Moffitt Hill, just off highway No. 64, be taken over by the state highway has been approved.

Ellington Brothers Of This County Meet In Southwest Pacific

The following article was received this week from Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Ellington of Rt. 1, Nebo, telling of the unexpected meeting of their two sons at a hospital somewhere in the Southwest Pacific where one was undergoing treatment for an injury received in action:

"Happy indeed were Cpl. Gorman D. Ellington and Pvt. John R. Ellington when they met in the Southwest Pacific November 28.

Cpl. Gorman Ellington volunteered for service in June, 1940. He was called to active duty June 9, 1940. He received his basic training in the Field Artillery at Fort Bragg, and was transferred to foreign service March, 1942.

Pvt. John R. Ellington was called into service December 26, 1942. He received his basic training in the Infantry at Camp Croft, S. C. and was called to foreign service in May, 1943.

Early in August, 1943, word was received that Pvt. John R. Ellington was wounded in action in the southwest Pacific July 27, 1943. The unfortunate news along with John's Hospital address was communicated to Cpl. Gorman D. Ellington, who was believed to be serving somewhere in the southwest Pacific.

Upon receiving the information he was surprised to learn that his brother was in the hospital only a short distance from where he was stationed. He immediately obtained leave and walked to the hospital where John was receiving treatment.

Letters have been received by the parents from both boys giving a joyful account of their meeting and each reports that the other is fine.

Mr. and Mrs. Ellington have three other sons in the armed forces. They are: Pfc. George Ellington, Camp Hulen, Texas; Pfc. Roy Ellington, Camp Rooker, Ala., and Pvt. Charles G. Ellington, Camp Haan, California.

Canned Vegetables Ration Points Cut; Other Changes Made

January point values for meats-fats-cheese and other brown-stamp foods remain virtually unchanged from December, OPA has announced, but sharp cuts have been made in the green stamp cost of canned snap beans, peas, tomatoes and frozen fruits and vegetables.

At the same time, OPA announced that jams, preserves and non-citrus marmalades have been increased two points to a total of eight points per pound.

Butter continues at 16 points, and point values for all beef, veal, lamb and pork—except from ham—will remain at present low levels during January. Most pork items remain at low levels but the "extra dividend" period on pork ended January 2.

In the green-stamp field, many point values of frozen foods have been cut to zero in order to release a large amount of freezer space to store large quantities of pork now coming on the market.

Reduction in the point value of canned peas and tomatoes is possible, OPA explained, since consumer demand has declined over 10 per cent in the past two months and the production outlook indicates supplies will continue to be satisfactory.

BOND SALES AND POSTAL SAVINGS FOR PAST YEAR

War savings bond sales in "E" series at the Marion post office for 1943 reached a total of \$265,025, according to announcement this week by Postmaster Barron Caldwell. Postal savings for the past year amounted to \$161,514, it was announced.

New Plan APO Will Simplify Food Rationing

Retailers Have Until Jan. 8 To Make Application For Tokens Needed.

On February 27, 1944, the Office of Price Administration will simplify food rationing. All red and blue point stamps in War Ration Book Four will have the same point value: 10 points each. Tokens valued at one point each will be given as "change."

The new simplified plan is especially beneficial to merchants. It will reduce the number of stamps they have to handle by at least 60 per cent. Under the present system, stamps have point values of 8, 5, 2 and 1 points. Thus, the average value of each stamp is 4 points. Under the new system, each stamp will have a value of 10 points.

It will speed up the checking of points on merchandise and remove considerable congestion for the merchant during busy hours.

It will mean a saving of thousands of hours for all persons handling ration currency.

Tokens are made in two colors—red and blue to correspond with the red and blue stamps in War Ration Book Four so that there will be no confusion in the tokens given for change.

How Merchants Get Tokens

On or before January 8, 1944, all merchants dealing in rationed foods must make an estimate of the tokens he will need and file this estimate with his local bank. This estimate should be filled out on a Token Request Form, obtainable from any War Price and Rationing Board.

Practically all banks in the United States are cooperating in this program and will have a sufficient supply of tokens on hand for distribution to the merchants.

Merchants will receive notice as to the time they are to go to the banks for their tokens. Since the tokens will be boxed 250 to the box and will be issued by the banks in these quantities, the merchant must estimate his initial supply in units of 250. He will pay in ration points for all the tokens he gets—250 points for each box of 250. They will start using tokens for change on February 27, 1944.

Merchants will be supplied with posters showing the consumer how to shop with tokens. By displaying these posters in prominent places as soon as they are received, merchants will find customers will soon learn how to shop with stamps and tokens.

Before this new phase of point rationing goes into use, local War Price and Rationing Boards will have a supply of gummed sheets and envelopes for use in depositing point stamps in ration bank accounts. Retailers should obtain a supply of them from their local Rationing Boards.

Each gummed sheet has places for 25 stamps. When filled, this will total 250 points. The envelopes are the same as those now being used. Each envelope should contain one hundred or more stamps when taken to the bank. The quantity in each envelope must be plainly marked on the outside in the spaces provided.

If a merchant wishes to deposit extra ration tokens he has taken in as change, he must do so in boxes of 250. He may also get additional tokens in boxes of 250 if he needs them.

Only retailers who are registered with their War Price and Rationing Boards will be eligible to receive tokens. All merchants dealing in processed foods must register under Ration Order 13. All merchants dealing in meats, fats and oils must register under Ration Order 16.