

THE MARION PROGRESS

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

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Fourth War Loan Drive Gets Under Way In McDowell To Raise Quota Set At \$380,000

Victory Organization Meeting Held Monday Night With Judge Pless Speaker.

The Fourth War Bond Loan campaign is already under way in McDowell county, and according to word from the Co-chairmen, J. F. Snipes and J. N. Morris, workers in the drive are already reporting sales. The quota assigned to McDowell county by the treasury department is \$380,000, and of this amount \$190,000 must be sold in "E" bonds.

A victory organization meeting was held in the community building last Monday evening with approximately seventy-five key workers present, representing the various industries of the county, along with the heads of civic organizations and the teaching forces of the city and county. Judge J. Will Pless, Jr., made the principal speech of the evening, after being presented to the group by Robert W. Proctor, prominent local attorney. J. N. Morris was master of ceremonies and kept the meeting moving at a lively clip.

Judge Pless, in a very forceful way, presented the cause of the Fourth War Bond drive to the group. In the very beginning Judge Pless said, "The very fact that we are called upon to conduct a Fourth War Bond Drive is one of the things that makes this country worth fighting for." He pointed out that in any of the aggressor nations, who are the enemies of freedom and democracy, that such an event would not be possible—that these countries would demand the money and property of their citizens be used in the war effort.

"In America," Judge Pless said, "our government is asking, not commanding—its citizens to lend, not give—a part, not all—of the income that we are making to the prosecution of the war effort."

During the course of his address, the speaker stressed the point that the general public was able to buy bonds, in that ninety-five per cent of the people were making more money than ever in the history of their lives. And making more money with fewer durable consumer goods available for purchase, that nothing better could be done with surplus money than to invest it in war bonds. This practice will also be a curb against inflation, the speaker said.

In concluding his address Judge Pless said, "Besides the fact that putting money in war bonds is a good investment, we should buy bonds as patriotic citizens, and in this way bring to us a finer America and an earlier victory."

The quota for the nation set for the Fourth War Bond drive is \$14,000,000,000, which is approximately a hundred dollars for every citizen in America, but in McDowell county the quota is \$380,000, which is about twenty dollars per person. Surely we can reach this goal.

The drive officially opened last Tuesday and will close February 15, but those in charge of this work pointed out that we can reach our quota if every citizen will do his part and buy bonds to the limit.

TAX LISTING IS WELL UNDER WAY IN COUNTY

Tax listing in all townships in McDowell county is well under way and, in view of weather conditions, splendid progress is being made in the job, it is announced. However, there are those who have not listed property for taxation and they are urged to see their list taker as early as possible and complete the job.

All property must be listed for taxation during the month of January. For failure to list this month a penalty of one dollar will be charged against all property owners.

SWEET POTATOES

Buy certified sweet potato seed stock and improve the yields and quality of the crop, suggests J. Y. Lassiter, Extension horticulturist at State College.

RED CROSS CHAPTER IS MAKING PROGRESS; COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Work of the American Red Cross appears to be making progress in McDowell county, under the leadership of Dr. Carl McMurray, county chairman. C. C. Lovewell, special war fund representative, and formerly a field director, at Drew Field, Florida, was highly pleased with the progress of the Red Cross work here when he visited the local office on Wednesday of last week.

Mr. Lovewell came to Marion for the purpose of assisting local Red Cross official with their organizational work for the next Red Cross drive for funds which is scheduled to take place in March. Various committee chairmen met with Mr. Lovewell and final details of their plans were developed.

Committee chairman of the local chapter of the Red Cross are as follows: Dr. Carl McMurray, county chairman; M. W. Gordon, vice-chairman; Eugene Cross, roll call chairman; Mrs. G. B. Justice, residential enrollment; S. R. Cross, special gifts; E. P. Dameron, business district; R. W. Twitty, planning; Otis Brodyhill, group enrollment; Homer Beaman, outlying territory; Hugh Beaman, publicity; Mrs. Bessie Carr, secretary.

On Monday Dr. McMurray, Mrs. Carr, M. W. Gordon, Eugene Cross, R. W. Twitty and Homer Beaman went to Asheville to attend a district meeting of the Red Cross. The meeting was held at Battery Park hotel with Allen J. Carter, Regional director for both North and South Carolina, in charge. The purpose of this meeting was to consider plans for the oncoming Red Cross drive. Twelve counties of Western North Carolina had representatives present, who took part in the discussion.

New Rationing Plan Goes Into Effect Feb. 27

Facts About New Simplified Plan For Shopping With War Ration Book Four.

Beginning February 27, 1944, ration bookholders will follow a new simplified plan in shopping with War Ration Book Four. First, all the red and blue stamps which become valid on that date will have the same point value. Second, red and blue tokens will be used in making "change."

The new plan is explained by the office of Price Administration as follows:

The new rationing plan goes into effect on February 27. It applies to red and blue stamps in War Ration Book Four. It does not apply to green stamps and brown stamps which will be used as in the past until they expire.

Under the new plan, red stamps and red tokens will be used to buy meats, fats, and oils. Blue stamps and blue tokens will be used to buy canned fruits and vegetables and other processed foods.

No matter whether a red or blue stamp is marked 8, 5, 2, or 1, each stamp will be worth 10 points. Each red or blue token will be worth one point.

Five blue stamps worth a total of 50 points will become valid on February 27. Three red stamps worth a total of 30 points will become valid on February 27 and three more each two weeks thereafter.

The validity period of red or blue stamps will be approximately 12 weeks, about three times as long as previously. Tokens will be good indefinitely.

Red or blue tokens will be used in making "change" by the merchant. These tokens may be used later when purchasing rationed foods.

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R. L. McMILLAN

State civilian director to be guest speaker at civilian defense rally and supper at Community building here Friday night.

State Director Civilian Defense To Speak Here

R. L. McMillan of Raleigh, state director of civilian defense, will be the principal speaker at a rally and oyster supper for local civilian defense workers at the Community building Friday evening, January 21, at 7:30 o'clock.

Mr. McMillan, who comes to Marion on invitation of Mayor J. F. Wilkinson, local defense commander, and Cecil Dobson, county coordinator, to address the gathering on some phase of civilian defense, is past commander of the State American Legion and vice-commander of the National American Legion, and will have a message of interest to all members of the organization.

All members of the local organization, including auxiliary police and firemen, air raid wardens, first aiders, medical corpsmen, control center operators, and the utilities division, are invited and a large crowd is expected.

CARAVAN OF GERMAN CAPTURED EQUIPMENT COMING TO MARION

A truck and trailer caravan of German captured equipment is scheduled to visit Marion on Wednesday, February 9, it was announced yesterday by J. N. Morris and J. F. Snipes, co-chairmen of the Fourth War Loan campaign.

The equipment is composed of one tank destroyer with a 76 mm. gun which was captured in North Africa, when all occupants were killed; a German half track field kitchen, a large piece of field equipment mounted on half truck which was used by the Germans to feed their units in Sicily, and other small pieces.

According to the itinerary, the caravan will arrive in Marion at ten o'clock in the morning and remain here for display until one o'clock in the afternoon. The itinerary includes 59 cities in the interest of selling war bonds during the fourth War Loan drive.

BOY SCOUT COURT OF HONOR FRIDAY NIGHT

The McDowell County Boy Scout Court of Honor will be held at the First Methodist church here Friday night, January 21, at 7:30 o'clock. Awards and advancements will be given for work done during the past month. Parents are urged to attend the meeting.

U. S. CASUALTIES ON ALL FRONTS SET AT 139,858

Washington, Jan. 15.—The office of war information today revealed that the latest announced casualties of the war and navy departments brings the total to 139,858—32,078 dead, 45,595 wounded, 32,478 missing, 29,707 prisoners of war.

Of the 29,707 prisoners of war, 1,619 have died in prison camps, most of them in Japanese occupied territory.

The report for the war department is as of Dec. 23, 1943; that for the navy department as of Jan. 14, 1944.

Pless Declares Law Violators Hindering War

Three Defendants Sentenced To Terms In State Prison; Five Divorces Granted.

Judge J. Will Pless, Jr., presided over the January term of McDowell county superior court, which opened Monday morning, January 17, and was adjourned later during the week.

In his charge to the grand jury Judge Pless stigmatized as "unpatriotic" law violators who interfered with the war effort. In his charge the judge stated that in addition to the direct results of their crimes, those who insisted on going outside of the law made it necessary for jurors and witnesses to be called away from their work for the trials, which in many instances is now vital, to say nothing of the extra burden in court costs which must be paid with tax money.

Judge Pless urged the public to support law and order, and said that generally the people got the type of government and law enforcement that they wanted. To have good government, good officers and officials must be elected to places of responsibility. In concluding his address to the grand jury Judge Pless spoke highly of the officers and officials of McDowell county. He also commented that McDowell county citizens are law abiding and said, "We do not have any crime waves here, any underground or any gangs."

Judge Pless named A. C. Hewitt, Sr., hosiery manufacturer, as foreman of the grand jury.

The eight other new members of the grand jury are: Fred P. Lytle, A. D. Green, Nathan Reel, C. W. Norman, W. H. Worley, John C. Vess, J. C. Boyd, and A. C. Walker.

The nine members remaining on the grand jury, with six more months to serve are: Dan Hitchcock, J. B. Laughlin, Roy Rabb, Robert W. Davis, Adam F. Hunt, H. F. Lawing, Marvin Hemphill, Toney Fender, and Edgar M. Reel.

Five divorces were granted during this term of court as follows: Mary Terrell against W. A. Terrell, Mary Cuthbertson Jones against Charles Jones, Wesley W. Davis against Texas Bradford Davis, Ralph W. Vess against Bernice Roberts Vess and Renna Vesta McGee against Mack McGee.

Jesse Taylor and Harold Singleton, charged with larceny and breaking and entering, were both found guilty, and Taylor was sentenced to serve not less than twelve and not more than eighteen months on the roads on the larceny count, and was sent to the state penitentiary not less than three nor more than five years for breaking and entering. Harold Singleton was sent (Continued on last page)

MERCHANTS AND THEIR EMPLOYEES TO TAKE PART IN BOND DRIVE

Plans for participation in the Fourth War Loan campaign were made at the meeting of the Marion Merchants association last Thursday evening. Participants in the drive will include employees along with store owners and managers. It was announced that each employee selling \$200.00 or more of bonds or stamps will be qualified for the honor roll, which will be published weekly in the local papers. All merchants were urged to double their efforts in behalf of this fourth patriotic drive.

Price ceilings were discussed with special attention given to clothing. Food and furniture were also discussed. It was reported that, at a recent price panel meeting in Morganton, one of the speakers called attention to a recent survey of 400 stores in the Charlotte area. Out of this number, 168 were issued statutory warnings. Merchants were urged to stay within regulations.

The matter of earlier closing of stores on Saturday evenings was discussed, and a committee named to contact members not present at the meeting to ascertain their wishes on the matter.

MORRIS, CROSS, HARRIS AND BRADFORD ELECTED TRUSTEES OF HOSPITAL

A called meeting of the Trustees of the Marion General Hospital was held at the hospital Tuesday evening for the purpose of filling several vacancies.

J. F. Snipes, who has served on the executive board of the trustees for a number of years, offered his resignation, stating that due to the pressing demands of his business and personal affairs that it was impossible for him to give the necessary time to the duties required of the hospital trustees. The board reluctantly accepted the resignation realizing that Mr. Snipes has given generously of his time and energy to this work, and that his efforts have had an important part in the progress made by the hospital. Other vacancies were due to the deaths of Eugene Cross, Sr., S. L. Copeland and L. J. P. Cutlar, all of whom were faithful in their service on the board of trustees. Mr. Cutlar was chairman of the executive board at the time of his death.

J. N. Morris, S. R. Cross, Chas. A. Harris and A. S. Bradford were unanimously elected to fill the existing vacancies. At an early date another meeting will be held by this body for organizational purposes. The trustees will elect its own executive board which in the past has consisted of three members. Dr. Guy S. Kirby is, at present, the only member on the executive board, the other two members having been J. F. Snipes, resigned, and L. J. P. Cutlar, deceased.

Total Of \$5,896 Subscribed For Y.M.C.A. Camp

Funds For Projects At Old Fort To Be Used For Additions And Improvements.

Contributions to the fund which is being raised by the interstate committee of the Young Men's Christian association in North Carolina and South Carolina to finance proposed additions and improvements at Camp Elliott, near Old Fort, already have reached a total of \$5,896, it is stated in an announcement in the Charlotte Observer.

In making this announcement George M. Ivey of Charlotte, chairman of the executive committee of the Interstate association, expressed pleasure because of "the splendid progress thus achieved," and indulged the hope that the special financial effort will continue "in high gear."

With a goal of \$19,411 prescribed, contributions to date leave \$13,515 yet to be raised, "and every dollar of this amount is urgently needed to assure the complete success of the very essential program," it was stated.

As compiled by J. Wilson Smith of Charlotte, interstate secretary of the association, the cost of the additions and improvements is shown to be inclusive of the following:

Church \$2,500; town hall and craft shop, \$2,500; lodge, \$2,500; waterworks system, \$9,000; two sleeping cabins, \$600; new equipment, \$1,000; pergola, \$500; other improvements, \$811; total, \$19,411.

This summer camp for boys in the two Carolinas has grown substantially since its inception in 1927. The demand for use of its facilities and services has rapidly increased, and the need of the proposed additions and improvements is considered a very vital one.

Upon completion of the expansion program, the camp is to reflect "a modern and model community," inclusive of such facilities as a church, store, infirmary, new lodge and bathhouse, residential section, lakes, town hall and craft shop, waterworks, dining lodge, post office, library, game room and other recreational equipment.

Because of greatly increased demands from campers, the season next summer is to be six weeks longer than heretofore.

Advertising, to bring results, must be good advertising.

Committeemen Meet Here Next Monday, Jan. 24

J. A. Propst To Present 1944 Food Program; Schedule Of Community Meetings.

A meeting of Community Committeemen for the purpose of discussing the 1944 Food Program will be held Monday, January 24th, at 9 o'clock, a. m. in the courthouse, J. W. McCurry, chairman of the McDowell County AAA Committee, announced yesterday. The program will be presented by district fieldman, J. Alvin Propst, of Shelby. In addition to the committeemen, this meeting will be attended by representatives of other agricultural agencies who will assist on the educational work which will be necessary to meet the goals in the county.

Arrangements have been made for individual contact by the community committeemen in each section of the county in a schedule of meetings to be held in each community for the purpose of explaining the program to each farmer. S. L. Homewood, County Agent, and L. B. Hair, of the Soil Conservation Service, will also be present at these meetings to assist toward informing farmers regarding the production goals and obtaining an increased participation in the practices and use of conservation materials. The farmer may sign for conservation materials such as superphosphate, limestone and seeds which may be available at the time he signs his 1944 farm plan.

The committeemen will assist each farmer in listing his intended crops and livestock for 1944 and in selecting practices which will dovetail into his farm production schedule in order to meet the 1944 production goals established for this county. The meetings will be held at 10:00 each morning at places scheduled.

Community Meetings

Tuesday, January 25, Bracketts Community at Macedonia Church.

Wednesday, January 26, Glenwood and Higgins Communities at Glenwood School.

Thursday, January 27, Dysartsville Community at Dysartsville School.

Monday, January 31, Montsford Cove Community at Sugar Hill School.

Tuesday, February 1, Nebo Community at Nebo School.

Wednesday, February 2, Old Fort Community at the Old Fort Community Building.

Thursday, February 3, Crooked Creek Community at Cherry Springs School.

Friday, February 4, North Cove Community at North Cove School Building.

Monday, February 7, Marion Community at Courthouse in Marion.

ROLAND HILL SUCCUMBS AFTER STROKE IN SHELBY

J. Roland Hill, 52, formerly linotype operator for the McDowell News here, died in the Shelby hospital on Wednesday evening of last week following a stroke he suffered Sunday afternoon at his home on Kings Road, near Shelby. He never regained consciousness after suffering the stroke. He had been connected with the Cleveland Times as linotype operator for the past two years. Surviving are his wife and one son, Ensign J. R. Hill, Jr., who is a navy pilot serving overseas in the South Pacific combat area.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE ENFORCEMENT MAY BE UP TO COUNTY HEADS

Raleigh, Jan. 14.—North Carolina school superintendents would be responsible for the enforcement of the compulsory attendance law, under a recommendation made by the state board of education.

Attendance officers would be informed by the school principals of the absence of pupils. They, in turn, would follow up unexcused absences with prosecution under the provision of the state law.