

# THE MARION PROGRESS

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

ESTABLISHED 1896

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## Closing Schedule For Christmas To Be Observed Here

Most Places Of Business To  
Be Closed Two Days;  
Christmas Services.

Practically all the stores, offices and other places of business will take two holidays for Christmas, next Monday and Tuesday.

The First National Bank and Marion Industrial Bank will observe both Monday and Tuesday as holidays, Governor Broughton having proclaimed Tuesday a banking holiday as well as Monday, Christmas day.

The offices in the court house will close at noon Saturday and remain closed until Wednesday morning. The offices in the city hall will also be closed from noon Saturday until Wednesday morning, Mayor Wilkinson announces.

The War Price and Rationing board will observe both Monday and Tuesday as holidays, it has been announced.

The post office will remain open all day Saturday but will be closed Monday.

The city schools will close today for the holidays and remain closed until January 2. The county schools will close Friday and remain closed until Monday, January 1.

Christmas services will be held at all the churches of the town. There will be three services at the First Methodist church Sunday, at 9:45, 11 and 7; a pageant will be presented at the First Presbyterian church on Christmas Eve; a Christmas program will be given at the Lutheran church Sunday night at 7:30 o'clock; a Christmas service will be given by the children of St. John's Sunday School on Thursday evening at 8 o'clock, and at midnight on Christmas Eve there will be a celebration of the Christmas Eucharist, also on Christmas day at 10 a. m.

### 31 REGISTRANTS SENT TO INDUCTION CENTER

According to a release from McDowell county draft board, the following registrants were sent to an induction center Monday:

Van R. Dobbins, Fred T. Mills, Kenneth J. Lentz, Ray J. Reel, Andrew B. Shelton, Jr., Roosevelt Anderson, Paul J. Flynn, Alvin E. Callahan, Jennings B. Robertson, John M. Hollifield, Jack Lee Laughridge, Carl W. Lamb, William R. Proctor, Howard A. Toney, Bruce Wise Bartlett, Leo R. Goodson, Cecil E. Lawling, Donald U. Bennick, Arlin R. Freshour, Kenneth E. Welborn, George T. Blalock, Netam K. Eplee, James Donald Good, Clyde W. Johnson, Joseph A. Hester, Clifton A. Mode, William B. Hoyle, John E. Arrowood, William R. Hoyle, Calvin S. Lonon, and Homer Lewis.

### ENJOYABLE PROGRAM PRESENTED BY BAND

Marion High School band gave its first concert of the year at the high school auditorium last Tuesday evening, under the capable direction of Miss Mabel Beach. An enjoyable program was presented, consisting of various types of music including band marches, tone poems, and selections from operettas. The latter part of the program was given entirely to Christmas music.

During the program Miss Beach introduced three Student Directors, Margaret Ledbetter, Dean Seagle, and Lawrence Atkins, who conducted the band.

### TO GIVE PAGEANT AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

The annual Christmas program at the First Presbyterian Church will be held Christmas eve, December 24th, at 7:30 o'clock. There will be a Christmas pageant entitled "Crown Him," directed by Mrs. John A. Finley. The program will include the singing of carols and also a candle lighting service. A special joy gift offering will be taken for aged ministers, their widows and orphans.

### CHRISTMAS GIFTS SENT TO PATIENTS AT MOORE HOSPITAL

Approximately 600 packages filled with Christmas gifts were picked up Monday by an Army truck and sent to patients at Moore General Hospital, Oteen, Sand Hill and Kenilworth. These were donated by various organizations and individuals of Marion and McDowell county, as announced by Mrs. J. F. Snipes, McDowell county delegate of the Moore General Hospital council.

The beautifully wrapped packages were on display in the window of J. D. Blanton's store on South Main street. Misses Gladys Corpening, Pearl Ricks, and Lurline Corpening are to be commended on their untiring effort in the purchase and wrapping of these boxes.

The First Baptist Church of Marion contributed \$80.00, with which many nice gifts were bought. The Sarah Good Hosiery Mill employees donated 35 lbs. of fruit cake. The various County Home Demonstration clubs, of which Miss Jean Steele is in charge, made and donated 40 beautiful afghans, 5 feather pillows, and 13 Christmas wreaths. M. W. Gordon, of Marion, donated 35 books. The 6th grade students of Marion Grammar School under the direction of Miss Roberts, and the 5th and 6th grade students of Clinchfield, made 500 nut cups and 500 place cards.

Other organizations which helped by sending gifts included: Marion City Schools, McDowell County Schools, Nebo Methodist Church, Greenlee Chapter of the D. A. R., Baptist Woman's Class of East Marion Sunday School, Junior Aid of the First Methodist Church, West Marion Methodist Sunday School, Harmony Grove Baptist Church, Woman's Society of East Marion Methodist Church and the Marion Garden Club.

### Cookie Day Huge Success

Cookie Day was observed Wednesday, December 13th, with a generous response for men and women in service. Final report revealed that 26,000 cookies were donated by citizens of McDowell County to men and women at Moore General Hospital, Oteen, Kenilworth, Sand Hills and Lake Lure.

### CHRISTMAS PROGRAM TO BE PRESENTED AT THE LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Christmas program at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church will be given Sunday night at 7:30 o'clock. The program will be presented in the form of a pageant, with the children of the Sunday School telling the story of Christmas while members of the Walther League will enact the familiar scenes of the nativity. Among the songs to be sung will be such favorites as: "O Come all ye faithful," "It came upon a midnight clear," "Joy to the World," "O Little town of Bethlehem," "Hark the herald angels sing," "We three kings of orient are," and "Silent night, holy night." The program will be presented in five parts: The Fullness of Time; God's Promise Fulfilled; The Visit of the Shepherds; The Visit of the Wisemen; and Christmas Today.

A song service will be held on Christmas day at 11 a. m.

The Walther League will meet Thursday night at 7 o'clock in the hut for a Christmas party.

### P. T. A. MEETING FRIDAY NIGHT WELL ATTENDED

The December meeting of the Marion Parent-Teachers Association held at the high school auditorium last Friday evening was well attended, a number of fathers being present.

Following the business session, a highly entertaining program was given by the Rhythm Band and Glee Club, directed by Miss Mary Love Bettis.

The program included selections by the Rhythm Band, selections by the Glee Club, solo by Troy Ellis, duet by Elizabeth Cross and Walker Blanton, solo by Polly Atkins, group singing by members of the first grade, and Christmas carols.

The attendance prize for the grammar grades was won by Miss Annie Little's room, and by Mr. E. L. Carter's room in the high school.

## A Reminder of the Nativity



Shining brightly, as a reminder of the glory of the Nativity, some 1,944 years ago, this is but one of the many outdoor manglers established during the Christmas season throughout the country. Like the animals that clustered around the holy manger on the first Christmas, a dog can be seen on the left, wonderingly viewing the scene.

### MRS. McCALL PASSES AFTER LONG ILLNESS; FUNERAL HERE MONDAY

Funeral services for Mrs. Jane E. McCall, who died in an Asheville hospital on December 16, after a lengthy illness, were conducted at the First Presbyterian church in Marion Monday by the Rev. Carl W. McMurray. Interment was in Oak Grove cemetery.

Mrs. McCall, wife of the late Samuel McCall, was a native of McDowell county but had lived in Buncombe county, near Asheville, for about twenty-five years. She was 90 years of age.

She was a member of one of McDowell county's pioneer families, being the eldest daughter of the late Samuel Brown of North Cove, and Nancy T. Pitner of Athens, Ga. Survivors include two sons, W. Arthur McCall of Marion and Dr. S. H. McCall, Troy, N. C., one daughter, Miss Nancy McCall, Asheville, and a foster daughter, Miss Elizabeth Radford of Asheville, teacher in the Hendersonville City schools; a grandson, Major Samuel H. McCall, now serving with the U. S. Army in Burma; two sisters, Mrs. Alice DeVault of Southport, N. C., and Mrs. Harriet Lonon of Erwin, Tenn.; two brothers, William E. Brown of Glen Alpine and Joseph G. Brown of North Cove.

Pallbearers were Charles McCall, George McCall, Graydon Lonon, Garvel English, Fred Brown and Jack McMahan.

### CHRISTMAS SERVICES AT ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

On Thursday night, December 21, at eight o'clock, the children of the Sunday School will present six Christmas tableaux as follows: The Annunciation to the Blessed Virgin Mary; the visitation of the Blessed Virgin to Elizabeth; the Nativity (Holy Family); the annunciation to the Shepherds; the adoration of the Shepherds; the adoration of the Magi.

At midnight on Christmas Eve, there will be a celebration of the Christmas Eucharist (Midnight Mass), and at 10:00 a. m., on Christmas Day there will be another celebration of the Christmas Eucharist.

A cordial invitation to all these services is extended to the general public.

### MRS. GORMAN KILLED IN AUTO ACCIDENT

Word has been received here of the death of Mrs. Carson Gorman, formerly Miss Elma Carson, in an automobile accident in Pensacola, Florida, on December 13. Mrs. Gorman was a daughter of the late John R. Carson and Mrs. John Carson of Foley, Ala., formerly of Marion. She was superintendent of the Marion General hospital for several years, but had made her home in St. Andrew, Fla., for some time.

Beside her mother, she is survived by three sisters and one brother. She was also a niece of Mrs. B. B. Price and T. W. Gowan of Marion.

Funeral services were held Sunday in Foley, Ala.

### CHRISTMAS PLAY IS GIVEN AT PLEASANT GARDENS PTA MEETING

The December meeting of the Pleasant Gardens P. T. A. was held in the school auditorium last Thursday evening at 7:30 o'clock with the president, Mrs. Melvin Burnette, presiding. A dramatization, "Father Christmas," presented by members of the fifth and sixth grades under the direction of Misses Genevieve Link and Zelma Atwell, revealed true Christmas spirit.

Mrs. Sue Ellis, chairman, assisted by all room representatives staged a bazaar and auction sale of miscellaneous articles all of which were donated by members of the organization. Mrs. W. A. Young served as auctioneer. A beautiful quilted "brunch jacket" made and presented by Miss Lois Turbyfill and purchased by Miss Louise Miller, brought the highest price.

Mrs. Jennie Hunter Gill's fifth and sixth grade groups won the parent count with forty per cent of the parents present. Miss Turbyfill's ninth grade was runner up with thirty-eight per cent present.

### PATTON RESIDENCE DESTROYED BY FIRE

The residence of J. G. Patton at Pleasant Gardens was destroyed by fire at about 3:30 o'clock Saturday morning, December 9. The entire contents of the building, a seven room one-story frame structure, were also destroyed by the flames, including \$110 in money. The loss is estimated at \$4000.

The roof was falling in when the fire was discovered and Mr. and Mrs. Patton and the latter's mother, Mrs. William Turbyfill, barely made their escape, being unable to save anything in the building.

### 24 McDOWELL COUNTY MEN GO FOR EXAMINATION

The following registrants were sent from McDowell county to Camp Croft, S. C., last Thursday, December 14th, for examination: James W. Bidix, Paul Turner, Sam F. O'Dear, Lester H. Williams, Robert F. Busbin, Guy K. Biggerstaff, Willard Davis, Clifford D. Knupp, Earl E. Vaughn, John B. McBea, Paul R. Noblitt, Robert P. Freeman, Benartz Jordan, Benjamin A. Marler, Rassie I. Swink, Everett E. Swaford, Orvil B. Duncan, Fred G. Moody, Walter W. Gibson, William E. Hyatt, Robert W. Hervey, Clarence Y. Moore, James H. Finley, and Carl H. Clontz.

### NEBO P. T. A. MEET SET FOR THURSDAY NIGHT

The Parent - Teachers Association of Nebo will hold its regular monthly meeting on Thursday, Dec. 21, at 7:30 p. m. in the school auditorium.

The general theme of the meeting will be "The Art of Christmas Living." Guest speakers for the occasion will be Dr. and Mrs. B. F. Bray, of Marion. Christmas carols will be sung by the high school students.

### CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS AT FIRST METHODIST CHURCH NEXT SUNDAY

The First Methodist church will have three distinctive services next Sunday, two of them featured by moving pictures, it is announced by the pastor, Dr. D. E. Camak.

A thirty-minute talking picture entitled, "We've A Story To Tell," will be run during the opening exercises of the church school at 9:45 a. m., S. R. Cross, general superintendent, presiding. For this occasion all adult classes and the youth division are invited to assemble in the hut.

At 11:00 a. m., the pastor will bring a specially arranged program-message entitled "Only One Conquerer." Carol singing by the congregation, a Christmas solo by Albert Hewitt, Jr., and special organ numbers by Mrs. R. I. Corbett, will feature the service.

At 7:00 p. m., a special Christmas program of interest to children and adults alike will be given by the church school. There will be numbers by the children's division, Mrs. J. H. Beaman, superintendent, carol singing by the congregation, and a thirty-minute Christmas talking picture entitled "A Certain Nobleman."

The general public is cordially invited to all these services.

### KIWANIS CLUB TO SPONSOR DIME BOARD

The weekly meeting of the Kiwanis Club was held at the Community building Tuesday evening at 6:30. Following the business session, Rev. M. O. Owens made an interesting talk on Christmas.

It was decided that the Kiwanis Club will sponsor a Dime Board for the benefit of under privileged children in front of Belk-Broome Company on Friday and Saturday of this week from 9 o'clock until 7 o'clock. Various club members will be at the board for these two days.

### PVT. CHARLES LYTLE OF MARION KILLED IN ACCIDENT IN OKLAHOMA

Pvt. Charles C. Lytle, of Marion and son of Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Lytle of Old Fort, Route 1, was killed in an accident at Gruber Field, Okla., on December 11.

Private Lytle entered the service nine months ago and was attached to a company of army engineers. Before entering the service he was employed by the McCall-Burgin Hardware company.

The body arrived in Marion last Friday and funeral services were conducted Sunday at Bethel Methodist church at Cherry Springs, west of Old Fort, by Rev. M. W. Heckard and the Rev. L. C. Stevens. Interment was made in Cherry Springs cemetery.

Survivors included the widow and parents; four children, Jimmy, Pettiler, Inez, and Clinton; a sister, Mrs. Graham W. Duncan, of Beauford; four brothers, J. D. Lytle of Louisville, Ky., Cpl. Jack Lytle, stationed at Fort Jackson, S. C., Brooks Lytle of Old Fort, R. F. D. No. 1, and Roland Lytle of Newport News, Va., and the grandmother, Mrs. M. P. Lytle, of Old Fort.

### SEAMAN RHYMER RETURNS TO ARMY GUARD CENTER

James R. Rhymer, seaman first class, USNR, of Marion, has returned to the Armed Guard Center at New Orleans after six months at sea as a member of the Navy gun crew protecting a merchant ship. The vessel delivered vital war cargo to the South Pacific.

### CPL. CLAYTON WOUNDED

Cpl. T. C. Clayton, husband of Mrs. Vera Justice Clayton, of Marion, was wounded in action in Italy on November 25, according to word received here. Cpl. Clayton, member of an infantry regiment, has been in service since May, 1943, and overseas since October.

### ALVIN FINLEY LOSES LIFE

Alvin W. Finley, Machinist Mate First Class, U. S. Navy, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wood P. Finley, Marion, was killed in line of duty on October 29th, according to information received by relatives yesterday from the War Department. He had previously been reported missing. His wife and two children reside at 36 Spring Street, Marion.

## The Marion Drug Company Under New Ownership

Harrisons To Operate The  
Business Under Name Of  
Harrison's Drug Store.

The Marion Drug Company, owned and operated by Mr. and Mrs. Dean Tainter, on North Main street, has been purchased by Mr. and Mrs. B. W. Harrison who will continue the business at the present location. The new owners took possession Monday and will operate the business under the firm name of Harrison's Drug Store, it is announced.

Mr. Harrison, assisted by Mrs. Harrison, has been manager of the McDowell Cut Rate Drug store for the past five years. During their stay in Marion they have made many friends who wish them much success.

Mr. and Mrs. Tainter will devote their time to their original store, Tainter's, on the corner of Main and Henderson streets, they announce.

### DREXEL EMPLOYEES ARE GIVEN BANQUET

The Drexel Furniture Company entertained at a banquet last Friday evening at the community building honoring all employees who had been in their employment for five years or more.

Guests were greeted at the door by Cecil B. Dobson, toastmaster, and were seated by placecards showing their name and number of years service.

After singing America and invocation by Rev. B. F. Bray, a delicious baked ham dinner was served. Christmas decorations were used most effectively throughout the program.

R. O. Huffman, president of the Drexel Furniture Company, extended greetings of welcome. He spoke very enthusiastically about the past, the present, and the future of the Drexel Furniture Company, and of its interest in the employees, individually and collectively. He was followed by S. B. Hildebrand, superintendent of the Marion plant, who gave a brief welcome. Responses were given by Archie Estes, A. F. Wagner and Rufus Smith. Albert Hewitt, accompanied by Miss Louise Potat, rendered several vocal selections, and a brief history of all past presidents of the Drexel Furniture Company was presented by Cecil B. Dobson.

Guest speaker of the evening was Sam J. Ervin, Jr., Judge Superior Court. Judge Ervin's subject was "Lawyers in General" and throughout his speech he entertained the guests by relating various jokes.

Sixty-three employees with years of service ranging from five to twenty-six years enjoyed the banquet.

### PFC. WM. R. LAUGHRIDGE IS GIVEN CITATION

Pfc. William R. Laughridge, son of Mr. and Mrs. B. H. Laughridge of Marion, is a member of the 741st tank battalion which was cited for outstanding performance of duty in action recently.

In the invasion of France the 741st tank battalion rendered outstanding performance of duty in action against the enemy on Colleville-sur-Mer beach on June 7th, 1944.

While the Distinguished Unit Citation is awarded to a unit, individuals of the unit are entitled to the Distinguished Service Cross.

### MARION HIGH BEATS GLENWOOD 41 TO 17

The Marion Hi School Rippers defeated the Glenwood boys Monday night 41 to 17. This was the first game for the Rippers and a large crowd attended. Goode and Mask sparked on the offensive for the Rippers, while the defensive playing of Sullivan and Rader was outstanding. Goode was high scorer for the Rippers with 16 points. Kaylor was outstanding for the visitors. The girls lost to Glenwood 15 to 31.