

THE MARION PROGRESS

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Building Program For Hospital Is Launched By Hospital Board

Three Year Plan Calls For Construction Of New Building At Cost Of \$150,000.

The Board of Trustees of the Marion General Hospital have voted unanimously to launch a drive to raise funds for the construction of a new hospital or an addition to the present building, according to announcement yesterday.

The present building was constructed in 1929 as a 30 bed hospital, and has been badly overcrowded for the past several years with as many as 54 patients on the roster at times. Large numbers of patients have been forced to go elsewhere or do without hospital facilities.

Approximately \$15,000.00 was raised in a campaign started in the summer of 1941 to build an addition to the hospital, but this movement was stopped by the war and since that time it has been impossible to do anything to relieve the crowded condition.

The last Congress passed an Act providing for the Federal Government to contribute as much as one-third of the cost of hospital construction. These federal funds are to be administered by a State Agency and the State will be required to make some contribution, therefore, the extent of Federal and State aid cannot be determined until after the Legislature convenes next January and makes provision for State participation in the Federal program.

It is the consensus of opinion of the physicians in Marion that a new hospital is badly needed, but it is generally thought that unless a substantial contribution is made by the State and Federal Governments a 35 bed addition to the present building is all that can be hoped for. The board of trustees is launching this drive with the understanding that all contributions will be earmarked for new construction either for complete new facilities or additions to present facilities. The present plan contemplates a three year drive for funds if it is finally determined that a new hospital is to be constructed and a two year campaign for an addition in the event sufficient State and Federal funds are not available.

The three year plan for a new hospital calls for a total of \$150,000.00, to be raised \$50,000.00 this year and \$50,000.00 each in 1947 and 1948.

S. R. Cross, member of the board of trustees, is chairman of the building fund and J. N. Morris, member of the board, is treasurer. Contributions may be made to them or to any of the following members of the board:

W. L. Morris, president of the board; Dr. G. S. Kirby, Dr. J. F. Miller, Dr. D. M. McIntosh, Sr., Dr. J. F. Jones, Dr. G. B. Justice, W. W. Neal, Sr., A. S. Bradford, Otis L. Broyhill and Robert W. Proctor.

Plans for volunteer teams for soliciting funds are being worked out and some of those who have agreed to serve, and to whom contributions may be made, are as follows: M. W. Gordon and Joseph L. Noyes have charge of soliciting merchants, professional and business men in the business area of Marion. S. J. Westmoreland will have charge of soliciting garages, filling stations and outlying business establishments. Other volunteer solicitors will be published later, and a separate organization will be set up for Old Fort.

Any contributions made to this

fund would be allowed as a tax deduction for both State and Federal income taxes since the Marion General Hospital is a non-profit organization.

Over 300 Attended Federation Opening Here Last Saturday

The Farmers Federation cooperative opened its new warehouse here Saturday afternoon, with ceremonies which included brief talks, music, and refreshments. The new building, located on West Henderson street, and the frozen food locker plant under construction next door, were inspected by more than 300 people.

James G. K. McClure, president of the cooperative; Guy M. Sales, general manager; Grady Walker, Marion manager; the Rev. Dumont Clarke, religious director; George Wright, assistant general manager; James McClure Clarke, field secretary; and Bill Barnard, construction engineer, spoke briefly.

Winslow Burgin, of Old Fort, director of the Federation for McDowell county, spoke briefly about the newly remodelled building. Although there has been a Federation warehouse in Marion since 1936, it has been in a rented building. The West Henderson building was bought by the cooperative from W. R. Chambers.

A. F. Hunt, of Glenwood, retired superintendent of the Marion Manufacturing company, spoke of the work done by the religious department in the country churches of Western North Carolina.

Music was furnished by the Farmers Federation String band, led by Johnny Rhymers. Others in the band included Gaither Robinson, James Sluder, and Eugene Boone. Bobby McFee, eight years old, sang solos. Coffee and doughnuts were served.

MARION HI GLEE CLUB WILL PRESENT CONCERT

The Marion High School Glee club will make its first public appearance of the season in a concert to be given this evening at 7:30 o'clock in the high school auditorium, according to announcement yesterday.

The singers will be under the direction of Miss Mary Lillian Jonas, public school music teacher, and the program is scheduled to last approximately one hour.

Following the concert the students of the elementary grades will present "Why the Chimes Rang."

Admission to the concert is free and the public is cordially invited.

FIRE CHIEF WARNS OF FIRE HAZARDS HERE

Fire Chief C. C. Bolch has assured a warning to all home owners to clean the leaves out of gutters and the valleys of residences in the interest of preventing fires in the community.

Speaking of the recent hotel fire in Atlanta, Bolch said, "a similar tragedy could occur here unless everyone uses the utmost caution to reduce fire hazards to a minimum."

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

A Christmas program will be given by the young people of Story Memorial Presbyterian church at West Marion Sunday, December 22, at 7:30 o'clock. The public is cordially invited.



Christmas Plans Are Announced For Services At Marion Churches

Pre-Christmas services and other programs of local churches were announced this week by the local pastors. The public is cordially invited to attend all the services.

The schedule follows:

Lutheran
The annual children's Christmas program will be given at St. Matthew's Lutheran church, Sunday night at 7:30 o'clock.

The program will feature a sound motion picture entitled, "The Child of Bethlehem," showing the familiar scenes which are usually associated with the story of Jesus' birth.

About 35 children from St. Matthew's Walther League and Sunday School will take part in the program and will tell the story of Christ's nativity in recitations, and Christmas carols.

Special music will be furnished by Mrs. T. R. Cline who will sing, "O Holy Night."

Miss Joanne Field will direct the singing of the children.

St. John's Episcopal
A series of tableaux depicting Christmas story will be given in St. John's Episcopal church by the children of the Sunday School on Sunday night, December 22, at 7:30 o'clock.

The scenes: The appearance of the Angel Gabriel to Zacharias in the Temple; the Annunciation to the Blessed Virgin Mary; the Shepherds on the hillside; the Nativity and visit of the Wise Men. Principal characters: The Angel Gabriel—Mary Jane Martin; Zacharias—Hubert Martin; the Blessed Virgin Mary—Jenelle Harrison; St. Joseph—Sammy Yancey; Annunciation Angel—Martha Wood; Shepherds—Louise Young, Lester Williams, Ray Glenn; Wise Men—

Walker Blanton, John Glenn, Wayne Nuckolls; The Heavenly Host—children of the Kindergarten Class.

There will be a celebration of the Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve promptly at midnight.

First Presbyterian
The Juvenile and Junior choirs of the Crosby Adams Music club under the direction of Mrs. C. W. McMurray will present several choral numbers at the 11 o'clock service Sunday morning, December 22, at the First Presbyterian church.

Dr. C. W. McMurray, pastor, will deliver a Christmas sermon.

The annual Christmas pageant and candle lighting service will be given at the First Presbyterian church Sunday evening, December 22, at 7:30 o'clock.

The pageant in which a large number of young people will participate is under the direction of Mrs. John A. Finley.

There will be a White Gift offering and also the annual Joy Gift offering.

The annual Sunday school Christmas Tree program will be held Friday evening at seven o'clock in the Sunday School auditorium. C. A. Harris, superintendent of the Sunday School will preside.

In addition to the Christmas Tree festivities there will be a program by the several departments of the Sunday School.

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LIBRARY WILL CLOSE 3 DAYS FOR CHRISTMAS

The Florence Thomas Memorial Library will be closed three days during Christmas Week—December 24, 25, and 26. The library will also be closed January 1, on New Year's Day. The fourth Tuesday Bookmobile trip for December will be made January 8th.

Burke County Man Killed By Auto Sunday Afternoon

Morganton—Louis L. Stamey, 67, of Connelly Springs, Route 1, was killed instantly Sunday afternoon when he was struck by an automobile driven by Walter William Rowe, 22, of Marion.

Deputy Sheriffs Hoyle and Benfield were the first officers from the sheriff's department on the scene. It was reported that Rowe was driving east on highway 70 just past the intersection of the Drexel road when the accident occurred. Officers said Stamey was walking across the road in a diagonal direction and had just crossed over into the lane in which Rowe was driving when struck by the car.

Stamey was hit by the left front fender, and the body was thrown upward, hitting the windshield of the auto, breaking the windshield. He suffered numerous injuries, including a fractured skull and crushed chest. Rowe posted a bond of \$1,000, but no charges were made pending further investigation. A preliminary hearing was set for Friday.

SCOUTS ADVANCED AT COURT OF HONOR HERE

The Boy Scout Court of Honor was held in the Methodist church Friday and Jack Corpening of troop 1, Nebo, was recommended for the Eagle Scout badge, bringing the total number of Eagle Scouts for the past year to nine, the largest number of any year in the history of Scouting. This total is in sharp contrast to the Eagle awards of war years. One year there were three Scouts advanced to the Eagle rank and another year no Scouts received this honor. Corpening will receive his badge in January.

The meeting Friday night opened with the repeating of the Boy Scout Oath followed with prayer.

The following Scouts were advanced in rank:

Tenderfoot rank: David Patterson, troop 4, Marion; Eugene Hawkins, Dean Kanipe, Joseph Buchanan, troop 5, Marion; Bill Smith, troop 6, Marion; Lester Durham, Harlem Townsend and Carl Durham, troop 1, Ashford, Douglas F. Jarrett, Robert E. Browning and Frank Dobson, troop 1, Nebo.

Second Class Rank: Bill Bradford and Eugene Cross, III, troop 6, Marion; Hugh Beam, troop 7, Marion.

First Class: Bobby Miller, troop 4, Marion, and Marshall Dark, troop 7, Marion.

Merit Badge Awards

Agriculture: Pat England, troop 5, Marion.

Animal Industry: Jack Corpening, troop 1, Nebo, and Norman Melton, troop 1, Marion.

Art: Charles Montgomery, troop 1, Nebo.

Athletics: Lloyd Scott and Gerald D. Murray, troop 4, Marion.

Automobile: Hunter Ballew, Doyle Evans and Jack Corpening, troop 1, Nebo.

Bird Study: Fred Frisbie, troop 5, Marion.

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NEXT WEEK'S PAPER WILL BE PUBLISHED TWO DAYS EARLIER

Next week's issue of the Marion Progress will be printed Monday in order that the Progress may cooperate with other business firms in closing two days for Christmas holidays and members of the staff can enjoy Christmas with their families.

It will therefore be necessary for copy to be in at the earliest possible moment. No copy will be accepted after Monday noon.

Announce Plans For Observance of Yule Holidays

Stores And Banks To Close Two Days; Schools Close Friday For Holidays.

Marion business firms, offices, and schools, have announced the dates they will be closed for Christmas.

The Marion Merchants association voted at a recent meeting to remain open evenings until seven o'clock for the remainder of this week and until eight o'clock December 23 and 24. Stores will close December 25 and 26.

The schools of the Marion City System will close December 20 and reopen January 6, according to announcement by Superintendent H. F. Beam. The county schools will close December 20 and reopen January 2, Superintendent N. F. Steppe has announced.

County offices in the court house will be closed December 24, 25 and 26. Due to this closing period the U. S. Employment Service, which begins the Christmas observance December 23, will be closed four days, December 23 through December 26 and reopen on Friday. The McDowell County Draft Board office will close December 24, 25 and 26.

The Health Department will also close December 24, 25 and 26.

The Marion post office will be closed Christmas Day.

Offices in the city hall will be closed Christmas Day and the First National and Marion Industrial Banks will close December 25 and 26.

KIWANIANS TO SPONSOR DIME BOARD FOR NEEDY

The Marion Kiwanis club has announced plans this week to sponsor a Dime Board during the holiday season for the benefit of needy children of the county. The Board will be set up on the Main street on Friday of this week.

In making the announcement the Kiwanians stated that they had spent a total of \$294 on 19 needy children during the past three months.

This amount provided tonsilectomies for six children, glasses for five children and clothing for eight children.

The report stated that one blind child in Blind school needed warm clothing for winter, three of the children were abandoned by parents and had been placed in boarding schools; one orphan child abandoned by relatives needed warm clothing for school; three children, who are above school age and have never attended school, were enabled to attend.

The public is asked to contribute liberally to the Dime Board and have a part in providing aid to cases similar to those listed above.

OFFICERS ELECTED BY MASONIC LODGE

John T. Jolly was elected worshipful master of Mystic Tie Lodge No. 237, A. F. & A. M. at the regular meeting of the lodge Friday night. Clarence C. Wise was elected senior warden; Paul J. Story, junior warden; B. H. Laughridge, treasurer, and W. R. Burleson, secretary.

The new officers will be installed in January.

UMSTEAD NAMED SENATOR

Governor Cherry has appointed Wm. B. Umstead U. S. Senator to succeed Bailey.

