

THE MARION PROGRESS

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

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North State Auto Parts Company Building Destroyed By Fire

A building on East Court street occupied by the North State Auto Parts company was completely demolished by fire during the early morning hours Tuesday.

W. W. Wall, manager, said the Marion Fire Department notified him of the fire about midnight Monday. He expressed the opinion that the blaze caught from a stove in the building.

Firemen fought the blaze for several hours and brought the blaze under control about five o'clock Tuesday morning.

The company bought and sold new and used auto parts. It was housed in two buildings on East Court street about a mile east of Marion. All business operations are now being continued in the lower building.

Fire loss was estimated from \$10,000 to \$15,000, Wall said, and there was no insurance to cover the loss. The building was owned by W. G. Ballew.

Fire Friday

The South Side Welding Shop on South Main street was damaged by fire last Friday afternoon.

The building located in the Stamey Coal and Wood Yard, is owned by G. C. Stamey and leased by J. H. McNeil. Flames, believed to have started from a short circuit in the wires, started about five o'clock. The Marion Fire Department fought the blaze for about 45 minutes before it was brought under control.

McNeil said yesterday the machinery was damaged and no welding is being done at the present time. He said no estimate had been made of the damage.

Fire Wednesday

The residence of Hilliard Francis in the Black Bottom section was completely destroyed by fire about noon yesterday.

Mrs. Julia Stanley Announces For Post Register Of Deeds

Mrs. Julia Stanley formally announced this week her candidacy for the office of Register of Deeds of McDowell county subject to the action of the Democratic Primary to be held in May.

This is the first announcement for the post. Mrs. Stanley has been Deputy Register for the past 13 years. She is a native of McDowell county, daughter of Mrs. W. W. McConnell and the late Mr. McConnell. Mrs. Stanley is a member of the American Legion Auxiliary, the First Presbyterian church and is well known throughout the county.

M. W. Gordon Elected President Of Proponents Of Proposed Tax

At a meeting last week of the proponents of a special tax levy of twenty cents on the \$100.00 valuation for supplementary tax purposes, M. W. Gordon, Jr., president of the central Parent-Teacher association, was elected chairman of the steering committee to acquaint the public with the various issues in the supplementary tax election. Gordon will have one or more representatives from each section of the Marion City Administrative Unit to work with him on the steering committee.

It has been pointed out that the special tax levy, if carried, will apply to all property located within the boundaries of the Marion City Administrative Unit. The special school tax will not be a tax levied on property in the Town of Marion only, inasmuch as considerable additional territory outside of the boundaries of the Town of Marion is included in the Marion City Administrative School Unit, and the tax will apply on all of the property in this unit.

AUTO MISHAP

An automobile driven by Jasper Hall struck a truck parked on the Sugar Hill road Sunday night, according to a statement by Sheriff Clarence M. Pool. Hall's son, who was riding with him, was jolted, had several teeth knocked out and suffered a strained shoulder.

Ben Livingston Kiwanis Speaker

The Marion Kiwanis club held its regular meeting at the community building, Tuesday evening, with president V. T. Eckerd presiding.

Kiwanian Roy Davis was in charge of the program and announced that the club was recognizing the observance of American Brotherhood Week and presented Kiwanian Ben Livingston as the speaker of the evening.

Kiwanian Livingston enthusiastically discussed several phases of American brotherhood stressing the point that true brotherhood could be found only with the acceptance of Christ. He quoted a number of Biblical verses substantiating the statements made. The speaker also discussed the importance of international brotherhood as well as national brotherhood and local brotherhood as observed in the home and family in every day community life.

Garfield Beaman, chairman of Inter-Club Relations committee, announced to the club that his committee would visit the Asheville club tomorrow at its regular meeting at the George Vanderbilt Hotel in Asheville.

R. G. Honeycutt, chairman of committee on Support of Churches; B. A. Dickson, chairman of committee of Underprivileged Children, and Boys and Girls Vocational Guidance; and J. L. Gourley, chairman of committee of Public Relations and Public Affairs, announced brief sessions for their respective committees immediately following the adjournment of the regular meeting.

Library Board Meets Thursday Afternoon

The quarterly meeting of the Board of Trustees of the McDowell County Library was held in the reading room of the library last Thursday.

Plans for extending and improving library services were discussed, but no definite action was taken.

LONON EMPLOYED BY TOWN OF MARION

J. Y. Lonon has been employed by the Town of Marion to assist in collecting all uncollected tax levies prior to 1946, according to announcement this week. An effort will be made to begin 1949 under the five year State Tax Law with as little back taxes left on the books as possible, it was stated.

Debators Chosen For School Teams

Six members of the high school Debator's Club have been selected to represent Marion in the annual Triangle Debates which will be held April 2. The question for debate this year is Resolved: That the Federal Government should require arbitration in all basic American industries. The students chosen to present the affirmative side are John Poteat, Jr., Maurice Atwell and Roy Davis, Jr.; the negative side, Glenna Byrd, Robert Marks and Betsy Keith Bowman.

Two members in each group will compose a team, with the third member acting as alternate.

Marion's opponents this year will be teams from Lee Edwards High School in Asheville, and Forest City High School.

E. L. Carter is debating coach for the local school.

MEETING POSTPONED

The quarterly meeting of the Marion Merchants association scheduled for March 4 has been postponed until March 18, Mrs. Ethel Crisp, secretary, announced this week.

Iron was introduced into the Near East by the ancient Hittites.

BAND CONCERT TO FEATURE MUSIC OF VICTOR HERBERT

Victor Herbert was one of the best known of the light opera writers during his day. His music still has a dash and flair for melody that delights today's listeners. The high school band is programming his overture "Rose of Algeria" on its concert set for March 11.

Other composers whose works are represented on the band program are Morton Gould and Vincent Youmans. Both of these composers are frequently heard on many of the best of today's radio programs.

The concert will be given at the high school, Thursday evening March 11.

Rat Campaign To Be Launched Here March 16

The county-wide rat campaign will be launched here March 16. Carl Whiteside, assistant county agent, announced Monday.

In making the announcement Whiteside said:

"We cannot afford to feed and shelter rats, as it is a very costly proposition. We can take a few cents worth of poison and kill several dollars worth of rats. Do not fool yourself by saying, I don't think I have any rats, as we no doubt have more rats in McDowell county than all our cows, horses, hogs, chickens, goats and sheep combined."

Listed below are the boys that are taking orders now for red squill rat poison. These boys are being given the support of the public schools, and are taking down the names and addresses of all the people interested in killing their rats, and wish to buy the poison. The red squill is being packaged 1.6 oz. to the bag, a sufficient amount of poison for one pound of meat or fish. The cost of the poison will be 20c, an amount thought by the county agent to be a sufficient amount to kill all the rats on the average sized farm. Poison may be ordered from one of these boys or direct from the county agent's office. Some of the boys listed are 4-H club boys and some of them are FFA members.

Dysartville School—Lynn Christy and Wayne Sprouse; Nebo School—Billy Perkins; North Cove School—Delmar Biddix and J. W. Carpenter; Pleasant Gardens School—James Setzer and J. M. Mackey, Jr.; Old Fort School—Clark Walker and Herbert Jenkins; West Marion School—Tommy Wilson and Bill Frisbie; Sugar Hill School—Jimmy Ledbetter; Glenwood School—Roy Poteat, Bobby Eplee and Walter Harris.

Below is listed the G. I. Farm Trainees taking orders for the red squill rat poison:

Cooper Elliott—Marion, Route 4; James Elliott, Route 1, Old Fort; A. A. Wiseman, Route 1, Marion; David Poteat, Route 1, Marion.

The boys listed above will not handle the poison, or the money for the poison. Distribution points will be set up in every community in McDowell county at stores, filling stations, etc., the people can pick up their rat poison.

BISHOP SHERRILL WILL BROADCAST ON SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 29TH

In cooperation with "The Church World Service, Inc.," the Rt. Rev. Henry Knox Sherrill, D. D., Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church will speak to every congregation of the Episcopal Church all over the country over a net work of 600 radio stations next Sunday morning.

His address will be broadcasted from 11:30 to 11:45 a. m., and will take the place of the usual sermon.

Through this appeal the Episcopal Church hopes to raise its quota of one million dollars for world relief. After the address a special offering for this purpose will be taken. Broadcasting facilities will be set up in St. John's Episcopal Church and all members of the parish are urged to be present.

Dual Truck Wheels Stray From Truck

The story of a truck accident this week is almost a "man bites dog" story. The truck driven by Walter Murrill didn't hit anything, but the wheels of his truck did.

According to a statement by local police, the axle of the truck broke as Murrill was driving down the court house hill Tuesday. The dual wheels on the stray end of the axle rolled down the hill, denting a fender on Kenneth Shufford's car which was parked on the street, then struck Art Ditt's car as he was driving across the intersection of East Court and North Garden streets.

The ball team in Coach Ditt's car received a jolt, but Shufford received a bigger one—he had just had a dent in his fender repaired! No one was injured, police said.

Rippers Defeat 3 Conference Foes

The long dormant power of the Rippers finally exploded this past week, when the Marion boys met and defeated three conference foes to give them a 5-2 rating in the Western Conference.

The Rippers opened their basketball activities by travelling to Caroleen to face the strong Tri High School. With Don Clayton and Frank Pace leading the way, the Rippers downed Tri High 33-27. For the losers, Husky was outstanding.

Marion 30—Lenoir 29

With one day of rest under their belt and playing without the services of Co-Captain Don Clayton, the Rippers engaged the Bearcats of Lenoir on the Bearcats' floor. The game was very rough with 32 fouls being called on the Rippers, which resulted in Ripper forwards Kirkland and Burnett going to the showers. Despite the rough game, the Rippers managed to play a good brand of basketball and to lead throughout the game until the last 15 seconds of play when a Lenoir boy intercepted a Robinson pass and converted it into a field goal to give the Bearcats a 29-28 lead. With eight seconds remaining, Frank Pace took over for the Rippers and tossed one of his famous one hand shots in from half the floor to give the Rippers a hard fought 30-29 win. Pace and Kirkland led the Ripper attack.

Marion 42—Charlotte 38

Returning to their own court Friday, the Rippers engaged the strong Charlotte Tech Wolves and managed to win 42-38. By jumping off to an early lead and holding a 30-19 lead at the half the Rippers were able to hold the Tech High boys from winning. With Pace, Burnett and Kirkland leading the way the Rippers played superb ball at the first half—easily man handling the Charlotte Wolves. With the start of the second half the Wolves became hungry and began gaining on the Rippers. The Marion team appeared tired and listless the second half—they missed easy shots, passed badly, while in the meantime, Charlotte was gaining. Because of the lead built up the first half, the Rippers were able to gain their record win over Charlotte. After collecting 30 points in the first half, the Rippers could only collect 12 the second half, while Charlotte was earning 19 points.

Home Demonstration Club Weekly Schedule

The Home Demonstration club schedule for the week has been announced by Miss Jean Steele, county home demonstration agent, as follows:

Old Fort: Two o'clock, Thursday, February 26, home of Mrs. H. E. Wallen.

Nebo: Two o'clock, Tuesday, March 2, school cafeteria.

Cherry Springs: Two o'clock, Wednesday, March 3, community building.

Laurel Grove: Two o'clock, Thursday, home of Mrs. William Duncan.

Athletic Field Enlargement Program Launched This Week

Silvers Bound Over To Superior Court

James H. Silvers, charged with assault with intent to rape, was bound over to the June term of Superior Court and released under \$4,000 bond in county court here Tuesday.

Frazier Bolden pleaded guilty to assault with deadly weapon with intent to kill and was sentenced to three months on the roads, sentence suspended on payment of \$50 fine and costs.

Theodore McCraw was found guilty of assault with deadly weapon and sentenced to three months on the roads, sentence suspended on payment of \$50 fine and costs.

Ted Vaughn was sentenced to three months on the roads on a worthless check charge. The sentence was suspended on payment of costs.

George Hoppes, charged with forcible trespass, was sentenced to three months on the roads. Sentence was suspended on payment of a \$50 fine and costs.

Story Addresses Marion Rotary Club

Paul J. Story spoke before the Marion Rotary club last Friday on the importance of the approaching special election for property owners within the Marion City Schools district.

Describing present conditions in the schools, he cited the need for additional teachers and urged the support of Rotarians for the proposed additional property tax in order that more teachers might be employed in the city system of schools.

Carl Hudson, of Morganton, and Fred Streetman, of Hendersonville, were visiting Rotarians. Donald England, Marion high school honor student, was a guest of the club. Albert Hewitt, Jr. had as his guest, Everette Elting of New York City; C. R. McCall had as his guest, his son, Mike McCall, and Harry McCall had as his guest, Dr. Robert McCall.

EMPLOYMENT OFFICES AT NEW LOCATION

The North Carolina Employment Service offices have been moved from the third floor of the court house to the building recently erected by H. G. Sain on East Court street.

The offices occupy the entire second floor of the building.

Concert Association Formed To Plan Concerts For Marion

Spring Federation To Be Held June 4th

The Spring Federation of Home Demonstration clubs in McDowell county will be held on June 4 with Mrs. Walter Pike, of Hendersonville, as guest speaker, Miss Jean Steele, county home demonstration agent, has announced.

Mrs. Pike will give a report of the International Convention of Home Demonstration clubs which she attended in Holland last fall.

Sgt. Montford Haire Arrives In States

Sgt. John Montford (Monty) Haire arrived in San Francisco last week, according to word received by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Haire.

Sgt. Haire has been stationed in Korea for the past 14 months. He is expected to arrive in Marion within the next few days.

WOMEN VOTERS

The Census Bureau reports that there will be 1,579,000 more women than men eligible to vote in November. The estimate, based on the number of persons over 21, was 46,181,000 men and 47,760,000 women.

Preparatory operations of the Marion Baseball club got under way during the latter part of last week when work to enlarge the baseball field at the Marion High School was commenced. Baseball officials, with the cooperation and approval of the Marion City School Board, began moving a large quantity of dirt from the northeast section of the high school athletic field.

When this work is completed, the left field of the baseball diamond will have been lengthened approximately sixty feet. It is obvious that this work was badly needed because the left field was entirely too short for the type of baseball played during the past summer, and will be needed even more when the local professional team makes its debut on April 30.

Work has been started in the building of extra bleacher, grandstand and box seats on the western side of the field. The wire fence surrounding the athletic field in this section is being removed to include the extra lot recently acquired by the Marion City Schools.

Workmen are also busy in digging a ditch so that sewage service may be added to the field.

The work under way on the athletic field was temporarily stopped Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, due to bad weather conditions, but will go forward again just as soon as the weather will permit.

State Tax Deputy Here March 1 To 6

To assist taxpayers in the preparation of state income and intangible tax forms, C. L. Tallent, deputy collector of the N. C. Department of Revenue, will be available at the court house in Marion on March 1 through 6th.

Every resident having a net income during the income year in excess of \$1,000 if single, or \$2,000 if a married man living with his wife on December 31, must make out the income tax report.

AAA OFFICE TO CLOSE ALL DAY SATURDAYS

The AAA office in the court house will be closed all day Saturdays, beginning Saturday, March 6, according to announcement this week by Miss Louise Patton, chief clerk.

The office will observe a 40 hour week with office hours from 8:30 a. m. to 5:30 p. m., Mondays through Fridays.

An organization to be known as the Marion Community Concert association has been formed here for the purpose of assuring an annual series of at least three major concerts in Marion by the nation's leading professional musicians.

Officers have been elected as follows: Mrs. R. I. Corbett, president; Mrs. Carl McMurray, vice president; Albert Hewitt, Jr., assistant chairman; Wayne Jarrett, secretary; Miss Mary Lillian Jonas, assistant secretary; and James T. (Buster) Miller, treasurer.

The organization will be governed by a board of directors representing many phases of community life, Mrs. Corbett announced this week.

These directors, she explained, will meet with the officers in planning details of the forthcoming membership campaign, setting up the organization's policies and selecting the artists to be brought to Marion next fall and winter.

The Marion Community Concert association will be affiliated with similar organizations in some 800 cities and towns throughout the United States and Canada. Among those near Marion are Hickory and Lenoir.

Concerts of comparable attractiveness to those presented in neighboring towns who have operated under this plan is the goal of the local association, Mrs. Corbett stressed.