

THE MARION PROGRESS

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Merchants Urge Action To Improve Rural Roads

The Marion Merchants association at its meeting Thursday urged immediate improvement of the road leading from the Prison Camp on Rutherford road to the Dysartsville community.

V. T. Eckerd, president, and R. C. Spratt were appointed as a committee to make a survey of the community and report on the number of miles of roads in poor condition, the number of families in the community, etc. The survey will be the first step in plans to promote immediate action for improving these roads.

A round table discussion revealed that road conditions in that section had been in an "intolerable" condition for the past 60 days.

Local dairymen were quoted as having complained that it is impossible for trucks to deliver milk for the school children.

According to statements from school bus drivers, the school buses sometimes sink so deep into the mud that the doors cannot be opened.

Other business transacted at the meeting included approval of a financial report and announcement that the next quarterly meeting will be held Thursday, June 3. Officers for the next fiscal year will be elected and installed.

Legionnaires Observe 29th Anniversary

The 29th anniversary of the American Legion was observed by the McDowell Post and the Auxiliary with a birthday party at the community building here last Friday night.

Watson Wilson, commander, extended a welcome to all guests and explained the aims and objectives of the American Legion and its benefits to service men.

Commander Wilson also led group singing and Miss Helen Plant was piano accompanist. Square dancing and stunts were included in the program of entertainment.

A three-tiered, birthday cake centered the refreshment table. Punch and cake were served to approximately 100 persons present.

Telephone Company File Petition Asking Increase In Rates

The Carolina Mountain Telephone company announces that a petition has been filed with the state utilities commission for permission to increase rental rates on all telephones served by its Marion exchange.

The increases asked for range from 25 cents to one dollar per telephone, it is stated.

The company operates exchanges in Marion, Enka-Candler, Leicester, Burnsville, Bakersville and Hot Springs.

If granted, the increase would net the company approximately \$5,300.00 throughout its system, the petition stated.

BANK BUILDING DAMAGED BY FIRE WEDNESDAY MORNING

The offices of Dr. P. D. Sinclair and the hallway in the First National Bank building were damaged by fire here Wednesday morning.

A small room used as a laboratory and the hall were the most seriously damaged. The floor of the room burned through and large pieces of ceiling plaster dropped into the McDowell Hardware company below.

The ceiling of the upstairs hall from the head of the stairs to the back of the building was blistered by heat from the flames.

The alarm was sounded about 6:30 a. m. and the fire was extinguished about 8:00 o'clock. No estimate had been made of the damage yesterday.

Accepts Position



MISS RUTH TAYLOR above, who was director of education at the First Methodist church here last summer, will return in September to be full time director, Rev. J. B. McLarty, pastor, announced this week.

Miss Ruth Taylor Accepts Position At Methodist Church

Miss Ruth Taylor, who served as director of education of the First Methodist church last summer, has been employed as full time director, it was announced today by the minister, the Rev. James B. McLarty.

Miss Taylor will take up her duties around the first of September. Originally it was expected that she would be in Marion early in June, but word has been received that she has been selected as a member of a European Caravan team assigned to work in Switzerland and Belgium during the summer months.

In order that Miss Taylor might except this signal honor the Board of Education of the First Methodist church has granted her a leave of absence covering the time she expects to be in Europe.

Miss Taylor, a native of Asheville, is completing her work in the field of Christian education at Greensboro College and will be graduated in June. She is president of the student Y. W. C. A., and is a leader of student activities in her college.

"While in Marion last summer she made many friends. She is a young lady admirably equipped in every way for her chosen field of work, and the local church is happy to announce her return," McLarty said.

Gowan, Davis And Hawkins Named To Board Of Elections

T. W. Gowan and Roy W. Davis, Democrats, and W. H. Hawkins, Republican, were re-appointed members of the McDowell county board of elections by the state board at its meeting in Raleigh last Saturday. It is anticipated that Mr. Gowan will be re-elected chairman of the board and Mr. Davis will be chosen secretary.

Sunrise Service To Be Held Sunday At Methodist Church

A Sun-Rise Service will be held at the First Methodist church on Easter Sunday at 6:23 a. m. In addition to special music by the choir, the sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be observed.

The regular Sunday session of the Church School is scheduled for 9:45, following which the Easter Morning Worship Service will be held at eleven o'clock.

There will be no evening worship service.

ROTARY CLUB ELECTS OFFICERS FOR COMING YEAR

Pat Davis Succeeds Richie As President; Directors Elected For New Year

Officers and members of the Board of Directors of the Marion Rotary club were named at the regular weekly meeting last Friday.

Pat Davis, vice president during the past year, was elevated to the office of president succeeding T. L. Ritchie. Other officers for the coming year are: Charles H. Smith, vice president; Ernest Ross, secretary; Howard Hawkins, treasurer, and J. E. (Buck) Peppers, sergeant-at-arms.

The Board of Directors is composed of: T. L. Ritchie, Pat Davis, Ernest Ross, Wilton Carter, Gordon Marris and Charles H. Smith.

The Pleasant Gardens Glee club under the direction of Mrs. James T. Miller rendered several selections.

MARION BUICK CO. REPORTED ROBBED

The sum of \$760 in cash was reported missing from the safe of the Marion Buick Company Saturday morning by I. A. McLain, manager.

McLain said a window at the back of the building on the side parallel with West Court street, was broken and also a window between the repair department in the rear of the building and the display room at the front.

The safe was in the office on a mezzanine floor just above the display room. According to McLain, a hole had been chiseled in the front of the safe, it had been overturned and a hole chiseled in the bottom.

He said local police were investigating clues.

Brown Now Candidate For Register of Deeds

Hudson H. Brown announces this week that he will be a candidate for the office of Register of Deeds for McDowell county subject to the action of the Democratic primary to be held May 29.

Brown is a native of McDowell county. He was born at North Cove and was reared on a farm while receiving his education in the McDowell county schools.

In 1931 he accepted a position as assistant superintendent of the State Prison camp here and held the position until 1940 when he became a member of the Marion Police Department. In 1944 he accepted his present position with the Marion Fire Department.

Elliott Body To Arrive Friday

The body of Buford Reese Elliott, 40, native of McDowell county, will arrive here Friday morning from Clemeth Falls, Oregon, according to word received by the Westmoreland-Hawkins Funeral Service. He has resided in Clemeth Falls for the past six years.

The message explained that he was killed in an automobile accident early Wednesday morning while on his way to work, but details were not available at press time.

He is the son of Lindley Elliott of Newport News, Va., and the late Mrs. Elliott.

Funeral services will be conducted at 2:30 p. m., Sunday, at West Marion Methodist church with Rev. T. L. Smith officiating. The body will remain at Westmoreland-Hawkins Funeral Home from the time of arrival until time for the service.

Besides his father he is survived by four brothers: Buron Elliott, Orlando, Fla.; Buroid, U. S. Aviation service, Jesse, Marion, and Hugh Berlin, Germany; four sisters, Mrs. John Fox of Wilmington, California, Mrs. Reynold McGowan, Newport News, Miss Joyce Elliott, Raleigh, Miss Beulah Elliott, Norfolk; three sons, Alfred Reese, Thomas Stevens and William Grover, all of Oregon.

SCHOOL ELECTION REGISTRATION BOOKS TO CLOSE

Saturday will be the final day for persons residing within the Marion City Administrative Unit to register in the Special School Election.

All persons who wish to vote are required to register. The election has been called for the purpose of determining whether an additional property tax shall be levied on all real and personal property within the boundaries of the Marion City Administrative School Unit. Revenue derived from such a tax would be used to provide additional teachers in the Marion City Schools.

Only persons who register between March 13-27 of this year are entitled to vote on this issue.

Additional teachers would be employed only for instruction of basic subjects in all schools in the Marion City System.

Baseball Games To Start April 30

Baseball activities are humming in the camp of the Marion Marauders, as it makes plans for the first professional baseball game scheduled to get under way on April 30, when the Western Carolina Baseball League, of which Marion is a member, makes its debut in professional baseball circles.

Much work has been done during the past several weeks in getting the high school athletic field ready for baseball. Box seats are being constructed and will be available to the public for the first time when the season opens this year. Grandstands and permanent bleachers are also being constructed, so as to take care of a larger number of baseball fans during the incoming season. A considerable yardage of dirt has been moved from the area of the left field of the baseball diamond, which will make home runs less frequent over this section of the baseball diamond. Rest rooms are being constructed on the athletic field for the convenience of the spectators. Steps and walkways, among other conveniences, are also being provided.

J. C. Rabb, business manager of the Marion Marauders, in making the announcement that the official season would begin on April 30 in Marion with Hendersonville furnishing the opposition, makes the further announcement that several exhibition games will be played on the home park before the beginning of the league schedule, the first exhibition game being scheduled with North Wilkesboro of the Blue Ridge League at the local park on April 15.

Wesley "Wes" Ferrell, veteran of the big leagues of professional baseball, has been employed as manager for the Marauders and is scheduled to arrive in Marion March 31, with his wife and two children and will reside at Queen's residence on Spring street. Players who have signed contracts with the Marion club will begin arriving in Marion during the early part of next week and pre-season training will begin on April 1st. Rabb also announced that admission prices will be the same as the popular semi-pro prices of last year.

Glenwood Churches To Present Pageant

The Methodist Youth Fellowship and the Baptist Training Union of Glenwood are presenting an Easter pageant, "The Cross of Light," at 6 a. m. Easter, at Glenwood Methodist church.

The cast and choir are made up of approximately 50 members of both youth organizations. The pageant depicts the story of Holy Week and the Resurrection as recorded in the Scripture.

EASTER HOLIDAY

The Marion City Schools will observe Monday, March 29, as an Easter holiday, Superintendent H. F. Beam said yesterday.

County schools are making up time lost in January because of road conditions and consequently will not observe the holiday, N. F. Steppe, county superintendent, has announced.

Dog Quarantine Ordered For Dysartsville Section

Speaker



REV. F. CROSSLEY MORGAN, above, will conduct a series of special services at the First Presbyterian church here April 4-9. Dr. C. W. McMurray, pastor, announced recently. He was formerly pastor of First Presbyterian church, Concord, and the First Presbyterian church of Augusta, Ga. He is now devoting full time to Bible Conferences and Evangelistic work.

Cantata To Be Held Next Sunday Night

The combined choirs of the First Methodist, Baptist and Presbyterian churches will present an Easter cantata, "Triumph of the Crucified," at the First Presbyterian church Sunday evening, beginning at eight o'clock, according to announcement yesterday.

The cantata will be under the direction of Rev. M. O. Owens and solo parts will be taken by Mrs. Carl W. McMurray, Miss Mildred Mitchem and Albert Hewitt, Jr.

Misses Jessie Parker and Mildred Mitchem will present a duet and Mrs. C. W. McMurray, Misses Mildred Mitchem and Jessie Parker will render a trio.

The following quartet will also present special numbers: Miss Mildred Mitchem, Mrs. Walter Patton, Albert Hewitt, Jr. and J. L. Gourley.

The union service will be held instead of the regular evening service of the three churches participating.

STATE OFFICERS TO VISIT LOCAL CLUB

Mrs. M. G. Pangle, president of district two of the North Carolina Federation of Woman's clubs, and Mrs. Brona Roy, third vice president of the State Federation and president of the Junior Woman's clubs, will be guest speakers at the meeting of the Marion Junior Woman's club next Tuesday night.

MRS. STANLEY RESIGNS

Mrs. Julia Stanley has resigned her position as Deputy Register of Deeds, effective Saturday, March 27. Mrs. Stanley has held this position for the past 13 years.

RIPPERS AND RIPPERETTES WIN BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

Not Guilty Verdict In Sandlin Trial

The jury returned a verdict of not guilty in the case of the State vs. G. W. Sandlin in County Court here Tuesday, on a charge of driving drunk.

Donald Finley, charged with petit larceny, was sentenced to nine months on the roads. He appealed and his bond was set at \$750.

Riley Albert Hensley, charged with driving drunk, was sentenced to three months on the roads, sentence suspended on payment of a fine of \$100 and cost and on further condition that he not operate a motor vehicle on the highways of North Carolina for a period of one year.

Dr. C. N. Sisk, district health officer, has announced the quarantining of all dogs in the Dysartsville and Bracketts townships of McDowell county for a period of 30 days, effective Monday, March 22.

Sheriff C. M. Pool said he investigated a report that two sons of Edwin Baker, of the Dysartsville section, had been bitten by a dog which was believed to have been mad and was told that the animal bit the two boys and later bit other dogs in the community. The dog was shot shortly afterwards.

The attending physician reported Tuesday that the boys had apparently recovered from the incident.

Due to the fact that epidemics have been reported recently in Burke and Rutherford counties health authorities and law enforcement officers have expressed a desire to enforce the quarantine rigidly and prevent the spread of the epidemic to this county.

In issuing the quarantine Dr. Sisk said: "all dogs in Dysartsville and Brackett Townships of McDowell County shall be confined on the premises of the owner or in veterinary hospital . . . any dogs found running at large may be killed by any police officers or deputy sheriff after reasonable effort has been made on the part of the officers to apprehend the dogs running at large . . ."

Singing Convention Will Be Held April 4

McDowell County's 40th annual singing convention will be held Sunday, April 4, at the Marion High School, according to announcement this week by Mrs. N. C. Comer, president. The program will begin at 10:00 a. m. and continue throughout the day.

All singers in the county are invited to attend and have part on the program. Mrs. Comer explained that it will not be necessary for singers to make previous arrangements to appear on the program. She said all singers present who wish to sing will be given the opportunity.

Special attention was called to the change in date. In former years the convention has been held in May, but was changed this year as this would shorten the length of time between the spring and fall conventions.

Officers for the coming year will be elected.

Red Cross Campaign Behind Schedule

McDowell county is \$861.77 short of its \$4,400 quota, according to figures released by Dula Hawkins, county chairman.

The total amount on deposit Tuesday morning was \$3,538.23 and only six days remain before the deadline of March 31.

Red Cross volunteer workers and citizens of McDowell county are asked to lend their usual, liberal and prompt response to the campaign.

The Marion High School Rippers and Ripperettes won first places in the Basketball Tournament for All Star and High School teams sponsored by the Recreation Department of the Marion Manufacturing company.

The Ripperettes defeated the East Marion girls 30-29 and the Rippers defeated the Old Fort Rockets 48-34.

This entitled the Marion High boys' team to receive the gold trophy and the Marion High girls to receive the silver trophy which were exhibited with other awards in the display window of the Firestone Store last week.

The gold and silver trophies for second places will be awarded to (Continued on last page)