

THE MARION PROGRESS

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SCHOOL ELECTION WILL BE HELD NEXT TUESDAY

When registration books in the Special School Election closed last Saturday afternoon approximately 2,062 persons were registered. The election will be held on Tuesday, April 6, 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. The revenue from the tax would provide additional teachers in the Marion City Schools.

For some time considerable discussion has been held by school patrons relative to improving the over-all conditions of the Marion City Schools. Some time ago, it was decided that one of the biggest improvements that could be made would be that of reducing the teacher-load in the schools thereby giving the teachers an opportunity for more time to the individual problems of the pupils. The Marion City School Board, as a result of the interest indicated by school patrons, requested the County Commissioners to call a special tax election for the purpose of voting supplementary funds to be used in reducing the teacher-load.

In order for the proposed tax plan to carry, it would be necessary for a majority of those registered to vote in its favor. It would then be the discretionary right of the McDowell County Board of Commissioners to levy a part, or the maximum of twenty cents on the \$100.00 valuation, or none, as in its judgment it deems wise and expedient.

All property owners within the Marion City Administrative Unit would be required to bear their part of the tax. Schools included in the Marion City Administrative Unit are: Marion High School, Marion Central Elementary School, Clinchfield Elementary School, East Marion Elementary School, Eugene Cross Elementary School, West Marion Elementary School, Hudgins High and Elementary School.

Members of the various Parent-Teacher Associations included in the Marion City Administrative Unit have been active in plans for the special tax election and these groups urge all citizens eligible to vote to cast their votes in favor of the special tax next Tuesday.

Mrs. Blanton's Sister And Husband Injured In Auto Accident

Mrs. Robert E. Van Dike, of Raleigh, sister of Mrs. S. W. Blanton of Marion, and her husband were injured in an automobile accident last Friday.

According to a statement by S. W. Blanton, Mr. and Mrs. Van Dike were en route from Nashville, Tenn. to Raleigh where they planned to spend Easter holidays, when a car driven by Mrs. Shields skidded on a wet pavement and collided with the car driven by R. E. Van Dike. His leg was said to have been broken in three places and the knee cap crushed. Mrs. Van Dike suffered a broken leg, head injuries and lacerations on her face.

Mrs. Shields suffered a broken arm and leg and head lacerations.

Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Blanton were called to Fort Saunders, Knoxville where the victims were hospitalized. Blanton returned to Marion Monday.

Officers Destroy Fifty Gallon Still

Sheriff C. M. Pool and Deputy Sheriff Earl Sebastain destroyed a 50-gallon distillery near the state lime plant in North Cove township last Thursday. About 100 pounds of sugar was seized and 300 gallons of beer destroyed, Sheriff Pool stated.

Although no one was at the still when the officers arrived preparations had been made for beginning operation, it was stated.

MARRIAGE LICENSES

The Register of Deeds office issued five marriage licenses during the month of February. This was exactly half the number issued during the month of February a year ago.



FOR LEGISLATURE—Roy W. Davis, above, has announced his candidacy for Representative from McDowell county, subject to the action of the Democratic Primary, May 29.

ROY W. DAVIS IS CANDIDATE FOR ASSEMBLY

Roy W. Davis, local attorney, has announced his candidacy for Representative from McDowell, subject to the action of the Democratic Primary on May 29.

He has been practicing law in Marion since 1931, served as solicitor of County Court from 1931 until 1937 and was Judge of County Court for a few months in 1937-38. He has been a member of the McDowell County Board of Elections since 1942.

Davis became a member of the McDowell Post of the American Legion in 1923. He is a past president of the Marion Kiwanis club, member and past president of the McDowell County Bar association, member of the Board of Trustees and Board of Stewards of the First Methodist church.

TWO MARION MEN AMONG WAR DEAD

The remains of two Marion men were among 328 Carolinas war dead aboard three U. S. Army transports which have arrived in the United States, it was announced Tuesday.

They were: Pfc. Edward C. Hicks, Army, Route 1, Box 214-A, Marion, aboard the Robert F. Burns which arrived in New York from Antwerp, Belgium, and Pvt. Herbert E. Wall, Army, Box 25, Marion, aboard the John L. McCarley, arriving in New York from Cherbourg, France.

It was explained that several weeks will be required to complete the delivery of the returned war dead to next of kin, because of the necessary amount of work involved in processing final papers concerning the deceased and in arranging train schedules for the remains and the military escort accompanying the remains.

EASTER PARADERS SHIVER; FRUIT CROP DAMAGED BY COLD

Easter paraders shivered in their spring outfits last Sunday when the temperature dropped 12 degrees lower than for the preceding Sunday.

Figures recorded by the local weather bureau were 68, high, and 30, low on Easter. The Sunday before Easter readings were 80 and 56.

Damage to fruit trees in McDowell county was estimated at approximately 50 per cent, according to a statement Monday by Carl Whiteside, assistant county agent.

The warmest day of spring was Saturday, March 20, when the mercury rose to 84 degrees during the hottest part of the day. Maximum readings made a gradual decline beginning the next day with a high of 80 degrees, Monday 78, Tuesday 74, Wednesday 72, Thursday 71 and Friday 70. The mercury climbed back to 71 Saturday and then dropped back into the sixties. Sunday 68, Monday 67 and Tuesday 68.

The lowest reading of the week was the minimum reading Tuesday of 26, four degrees lower than the minimum Easter.

County Quota Topped In Red Cross Campaign

McDOWELL COUNTY REACHES GOAL BEFORE CAMPAIGN DEADLINE

Industrial Plants And Special Gifts Divisions Largest Contributors

McDowell county topped its Red Cross quota by \$19.08 shortly before the campaign closed yesterday, according to announcement by Dula Hawkins, county chairman. Contributions had reached \$4,419.08 before noon Wednesday.

Figures compiled Tuesday revealed a gain of approximately \$500 in the donations of industrial plants over last year's figure. The incomplete total as of Tuesday was \$2,123.71. The second largest figure was the Special Gifts channel which totaled \$1,210.07 at that time. The Industrial Plants division is headed by Oliver Cross and the Special Gifts by J. E. Neal, Jr.

Shortly before the deadline, however, a letter was received by the local chapter from W. W. Jefferson, manager of the Southeastern Area, including eight states, urging that special emphasis be placed on exceeding the quota.

In part his letter read: "We are in a period of national and international crisis where positive action is essential. You as the Red Cross are the embodiment of the American ideal of voluntary action on behalf of others. In your hands and hearts lies the greatest challenge in the history of our organization to prove that the ideal on which this organization rests is as alive today as it has been for sixty years. The President of the United States said: 'There is danger in action but greater danger in inaction.' Wright Bryan, Editor of the Atlanta Journal said: 'No one knows what demands will be made on the Red Cross this year, but the Red Cross must be ready.'"

Kimrey Addresses Marion Rotarians

A. C. Kimrey, dairy extension specialist of N. C. State College, addressed the Marion Rotary club on "Dairying" at its meeting in the community building last Friday.

Durwood Walker, who represented the Rotary club in the McDowell County Youth Foundation program, was presented a certificate from the North Carolina Guernsey Breeders association for giving his calf the most efficient care of any Guernsey calf in McDowell county in 1947. Carl Whiteside, assistant county agent, made the presentation.

Announcement was made that the Marion Rotary club ranked fourth in the district in attendance during the month of February.

Jack Webster, of Gastonia, was a visiting Rotarian. Maurice Atwell, high school honor student, was a guest of the club. S. L. Homewood, county farm agent, and Carl Whiteside, assistant county farm agent, were guests of the club.

Home Demonstration Club Weekly Schedule

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

Glenwood—Thursday, March 25, two o'clock, school building.

Dysartsville—Saturday, two o'clock, home of Mrs. Elmer Buchanan.

Chapel Hill—Tuesday, two o'clock, home of Mrs. J. H. Barnes.

North Cove—Wednesday, two o'clock, school building.

Old Fort—Thursday, two o'clock, home of Mrs. W. W. Porter.

Pleasant Gardens—Thursday, 7:30 p. m., Mrs. Cecil Woody.

BULWINKLE HERE ON VISIT

Major A. L. Bulwinkle, congressman from this district, visited friends in Marion last Thursday.



BAPTIST SPEAKER—Rev. Fred Forester, pastor of Drexel Baptist church, is conducting revival services at Cross Mill Baptist church this week.

BAPTIST CHURCH OF CROSS MILL IN REVIVAL

The Cross Mill Baptist church is in a great revival. Fred Forester, pastor of Drexel Baptist church and for six years moderator of Catawba River Baptist association is preaching twice daily, 10 a. m. and 7:30 p. m.

W. M. Dameron, pastor, and W. R. Bursleson are leading the congregational music. These men have two large choirs and special music adds to the services every night. Geraldine Turmmire and Milladeen Greene alternate at the piano.

The attendance was reported "gratifying"; Monday night's crowd was unusually large. There were four additions to the church, three for baptism and one by letter. The leadership expects a great spiritual awakening judging from the opening services of the revival.

The officers and teachers voted unanimously to make the first Sunday in April the highest attendance Sunday. The public is cordially invited to attend these services.

EASTER SEAL SALE AT HALFWAY MARK AS DEADLINE NEARS

The Easter Seal Sale committee of McDowell county counted only \$528 in contributions to the 1948 campaign for crippled children, against a quota of \$1,000, Mrs. J. W. Streetman, Jr., county chairman, said Monday.

Mrs. Streetman asked that those who have received seals and have not responded, do so immediately before the final count is made.

She explained that funds raised by this method will be used for hospital, surgical and convalescent care; and other services for McDowell county's crippled children; corrective shoes, braces, crutches and wheel chairs and transportation to clinics.

Mrs. Streetman was named by the Marion Junior Woman's club to head the 15th annual Easter Seal Sale for crippled children in McDowell county. The following committee was named to assist her: Mrs. K. W. Ramsey, Mrs. D. N. Lonon and V. T. Eckerd.

FOOD DEMONSTRATION THURSDAY, APRIL 8

Mrs. Lula Austin will give a demonstration on frozen foods in the office of Miss Jean Steele at three o'clock, Thursday afternoon, April 8, it is announced.

Miss Steele said she would conduct a series of demonstrations on frozen foods throughout the spring and summer months.

UMSTEAD APPOINTS CAMPAIGN MANAGERS

Senator William B. Umstead, of Durham, candidate for the U. S. Senate was here Friday in the interest of his candidacy and announced the appointment of E. P. Dameron and P. J. Story as his campaign managers for McDowell county. The public is cordially invited.

FARMERS' CO-OP ELECTS OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

Representatives of the Farmers' Federation from 17 Western North Carolina counties met in annual session in Asheville last Saturday and elected officers and directors and heard reports on the work of the co-operative.

Officers elected are James G. K. McClure, Fairview, president; R. Church Crowell, Enka, vice-president, and James McClure Clarke, secretary. They will serve for one-year terms.

These men were named directors at large to serve for two years: C. C. Cook, Asheville; Henry Francis, Waynesville; Grover Brown, Weaverville; and Mr. Clarke.

Other directors named for two-year terms are: E. T. Erickson, Calma; Ben Gibbs, Morganton; A. M. Adams, Murphy; F. A. Justice, Clyde; F. E. Jarker, Sylva; W. E. Morgan, Marion; Frank Jackson, Mill Springs; Ellis Burnett, Bryson City; Tom Ray, Burnsville; J. V. Noland, Leicester; John M. Hart, Lenoir; Clarence Smith, Haysville; L. L. Burgin, Hendersonville; Albert Ramsey, Franklin; Linton Green, Spruce Pine; Charles W. Davis, Broad; Dewey Carpenter, Forest City.

W. J. Porter, Old Fort, was named a director to fill the unexpired term of Winslow Burgin, Old Fort.

Honorary directors named are W. C. Vance, Spruce Pine; C. M. Howes, Tryon; O. J. Hollar, Union Mills; Glenn Palmer, Haywood; Verne Rhoades, Asheville; and Tom Gowan, Marion.

Pleasant Gardens Glee Club Presented At Kiwanis Meeting

The Marion Kiwanis club held its regular weekly meeting Tuesday evening at 6:30 in the community building. President V. T. Eckerd presided and Kiwanian I. A. McLain had charge of the program. A large number of Kiwanians were present.

The Glee club from the Pleasant Gardens High School, under the direction of Mrs. J. T. Miller, presented a program of music for the Kiwanians. Mrs. Miller was assisted by Mrs. R. K. Davis at the piano. Approximately 50 boys and girls from the Pleasant Gardens community took part in the program.

Dr. B. A. Dickson, chairman of the committee of the Underprivileged Children, Boys and Girls Work, met with his group for a few minutes after the adjournment of the meeting.

Singing Convention To Be Held Sunday

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. Mrs. Comer announced yesterday that the Pal club of Cross Mill will have part on the program.

This year the convention will be broadcast over Station WBBO Forest City from 2:30-3:30, Sunday, April 4.

TRUCK FIRE

A truck owned by the Marion Manufacturing company caught fire Monday afternoon in East Marion. The Fire Department was summoned, but the blaze was extinguished before the firemen arrived. Slight damage was reported.