

# THE MARION PROGRESS

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## MORE TRAFFIC EDUCATION NEEDED

The most encouraging aspect of safety education is the fact that there was a reduction last year in fatalities among five to fourteen. While we are experiencing a 15 per cent increase in motor vehicle deaths of all ages, we were reducing the deaths of the five to fourteen year group a full four per cent. In the face of the great increase in traffic, this record is remarkable indeed, and a positive tribute to the contribution the schools are making to the solution of the traffic problem.

The advisory group on education of the 1947 President's Highway Safety Conference reviewed the reports from the states which contain much evidence that educational agencies are taking more interest in safety and especially in traffic safety than ever before. The state conference resulting from the President's Conference are mentioned repeatedly as the spring board from which traffic safety programs have sprung.

We recommend these regional, state and local conferences and we earnestly bespeak the continued activity of all groups interested in safety education. We commend the local school officials for bringing such a serious and effective safety program to students here this week.

It is platitudinous to remark that the schools reflect the state of mind of the people; that schools are not likely to lead in activities which are very far beyond public demand and acceptance, and by the same reasoning we may be certain that the schools will not long delay in instituting modes of procedure once these newer practices are demanded by the "man in the street." Therefore, if you conclude that the schools have been slow to accept safety education, you should know that our people have been slow to recognize that our schools have a responsibility in preventing accidents. The principle applies equally at the elementary school level and all the way up to the college and university.

It is probably no exaggeration to state that there is not a child in any school anywhere in the country who is not receiving what his teachers characterize as safety education. This safety education will range all the way from casual admonitions to be careful to enlightened emphasis on all phases of accident prevention. At the one extreme we find crystallization of smugness that is difficult to shake off. Only when the hypothetical "man in the street" mentioned earlier is sufficiently informed as to the objectives of good safety education to demand a positive program in the school, then and then only will all the schools do an acceptable job of teaching accident prevention. And when this demand develops there will be found time for safety, in even the most crowded curriculum.

## BIBLE DEMAND

The American Bible Society, which distributes copies of the Scriptures to people in foreign countries reports that the demand for the Bible throughout the world is now greater than at any time in history.

The Society points out that millions of copies of the Bible were lost in Europe during the war and facilities for replacement are not available. Moreover, missionaries in non-Christian lands are increasing their requests for the Book.

An investment by the American people in distributing the Bible to other areas ought to prove beneficial to the world as a whole. If those into whose hands the Book comes will take time to study its teachings and receive such truths as they are able to take, the quality of the human race will be immeasurably improved.

Marion is no exception to the rule that selfish leadership will eventually destroy any community; what we need, now as always, is unselfish leaders.

We have often observed that the people who have nothing much to do are usually very impatient.

If you learn one new thing every day, you will know 365 things by this time next year.

## OUR LAST "ARMY DAY"

Under a resolution passed by Congress in 1937, the people of the United States are asked to observe April 6th as official Army Day. Military units will assist civic groups in appropriate celebrations. It is hoped that in communities where such displays are unavailable, the people will give some attention to the day set apart to pay respects to the Army.

It should be noted that Army Day, 1949, will be the last one celebrated as such, because, in the future, a unified Armed Force is expected. Approximately, the slogan for Army Day this year is "the U. S. Army—part of the team—for security."

While looking hopefully to international cooperation, as explained by General Omar N. Bradley, U. S. Army chief of staff, the leaders of the American Army do not overlook the fact that the United States is the richest and most powerful of the community of nations. They know that it is impossible to write off danger by resolutions or pacts on paper and that, in the event of trouble, the safety of this country will depend upon a fighting army.

It is appropriate for the people of this country to give some thought to the organization of the Army which has had a glorious past. Not many years ago, millions of Americans were in the Army of their nation, fighting on foreign soil, but nevertheless for the protection of their own country. The record they have written in arms is worthy of respect and certainly the people of this country should pay some tribute to it and those who made it possible.

While the Army is only part of the team, it is a vitally important segment of the defense mechanism of the United States. No one should overlook the basic fact that if this country is threatened with invasion, its defense, security, and safety will depend upon the courage and fighting spirit of armed men and the intelligence and training of their officers.

So, we feel that it is appropriate in advance of Army Day, 1949, to call the attention of our readers to the day set apart for public recognition of the Army. Let us hope that the Army of the United States will never fail to the people of this country and that the converse is also true—that the people of this country will not fail the Army of the United States.

## A HAPPY TRADITION

In the early days it was a common sight to see neighbors band together to help each other. Barns were built, crops harvested, land cleared and numerous other heavy tasks were accomplished in a few hours instead of weeks or months. It was done in an atmosphere of spontaneous fun. The neighbors simply dropped in for a raising bee, a husking bee, or whatever the occasion required, with their wagons loaded with food.

These work parties were a necessity in pioneer America. But it is cheering to note that this tradition is still with us in this machine age. A recent news item tells of a service station operator in a small Minnesota community who had an unusual run of bad luck. His competitors decided to help him out. They closed their stations one Sunday and took over the job of manning his cash register and pumps to handle the sudden rush of business. It was necessary for the local constable to direct traffic. Many people refused change, and the supplier, which was one of the leading oil companies, furnished gas at cost. When the day was over the station operator was considerably better off financially and he had gained a new appreciation of his friends and neighbors.

If instances like this could occur more often half the seemingly insoluble problems of the country would disappear.

## HEAVILY IN DEBT

Consumers of the United States owe nearly \$16,000,000,000 for goods they have purchased, with more than half of the total representing installment credit, according to the Federal Reserve Board.

This may sound like unimportant financial statistics, but the figure should interest every business man. Obviously, if consumers owe much money, the slightest drop in their income will not only affect their payments, but also seriously curb their current buying.

Never be too anxious to make money too easy and too quickly; there may be somebody else in on the deal.

The man who flashes large bills at every opportunity is obviously not accustomed to much money.

Poor work, completed, is usually better than brilliant performance, postponed.

Charity is good for the giver but sometimes it is not beneficial to the recipient.

The trouble with most adults is that they think their school days have ended.

Nobody is going to buy what you have to sell unless they know you have it for sale.

## OUR DEMOCRACY — by Mat

### AMERICANS ALL...



ON MARCH 29, 1636, THE FIRST SWEDISH SETTLEMENT IN AMERICA WAS ESTABLISHED ON THE BANKS OF THE DELAWARE RIVER.



IN THE YEARS THAT FOLLOWED, AS MORE SETTLERS ARRIVED FROM THE SCANDINAVIAN COUNTRIES, THEY MOVED INTO THE NORTHERN PLAINS, BRAVING THE BITTER WINTERS AND HARSHIPS THAT TURNED BACK LESS HEARTY MEN—DEVELOPING, THROUGH TOIL AND PERSEVERANCE, SOME OF OUR MOST PRODUCTIVE AND VALUABLE FARMING COUNTRY.

THUS, FROM OUR EARLIEST DAYS, AMERICA'S GROWTH AND PROGRESS HAS BEEN ADVANCED BY MEN AND WOMEN FROM OTHER NATIONS WHO—LIKE THE SCANDINAVIANS—HAVE COME HERE IN SEARCH OF LIBERTY AND OPPORTUNITY... AND STAYED TO MAKE THEIR OWN INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTION TO THE AMERICAN WAY OF LIFE.

## Looking Backward

From The Progress Files

The editorial page of The Marion Progress on July 8, 1918 discussed topics which are timely today—educational funds, and coal shortage.

In part they read:

"In this issue of The Marion Progress will be found the county treasurer's report of county school funds. From this report is revealed the fact that more is being spent each year in the cause of education of the girls and boys of McDowell. This is as it should be; but when we recall that so many of our brave boys 'over there' fighting to make the world a decent place to live in could not, in their own hand writing, sign their questionnaires, we are bound to conclude that the expenditures for schools are shamefully inadequate, yet there are a few people who delight in harping on the extravagance in the handling of the school money and who would make the schools the football of politics.

"If we take the time to analyze the report of Treasurer Potat we will find that the teachers of McDowell were paid in all, including both white and colored, \$88,467.75. (This is found by adding the items of salaries of high school teachers, rural teachers, and the appropriations for teachers' salaries in the graded schools of Marion and Old Fort.)

"Rationing of coal to householders has been announced by the fuel administration at Washington as among plans designed to prevent a threatened shortage of coal next winter.

Each domestic consumer will be allowed only as much coal as is to be found scientifically necessary to heat his house to 68 degrees, provided every conservation rule has been obeyed. The allowances for each householder, the announcement said, will be sufficient for comfort, but "the thoughtless and wasteful consumer who finds his allowance gone before the end of the winter will have only himself to thank if he has no fuel with which to heat his house."

JULY 25, 1918

"J. H. Tate and Rev. G. A. Martin left Tuesday for Yancey and Mitchell counties, where they go to organize the merchants of these counties and secure their co-operation in the sale of war savings and thrift stamps. Mr. Tate and Nathan Lazarus, chairmen of the two leading divisions of the state, have been appointed directors for eleven counties, and it is in the interest of this work that Mr. Tate has gone to Yancey and Mitchell counties.

"T. J. Perkins, while picking huckleberries on Bald Mountain, near Hankins, last Thursday captured a snake which measured 61 inches. Mr. Perkins, to make good his story, brought the snake to town

with him for exhibition and it attracted considerable attention. Some said it was a Bull snake while others believed it to be a Hoop snake. Any way, it was a "whopper" and with this capture and 18 gallons of huckle berries Mr. Perkins was well pleased with his day's work."

AUGUST 8, 1918

"Mr. T. H. Henderson, of the Victor-Manoghan Mills, has been employed by the Clinchfield Manufacturing Company of Marion as superintendent of Mills No. 1 and No. 2. Mr. Henderson has previously been superintendent of the Lynchburg Mills, Lynchburg, Va., and the Riverside and Toxaway Mills of Anderson, S. C., and is a man of wide acquaintance and experience.

"Mr. A. F. Hunt who has been assistant superintendent of the Marion and Clinchfield Mills of Marion, has been promoted to the position of superintendent in charge of the Mills of the Marion Manufacturing Company. Mr. Hunt has been with the Marion Mill since it was started in 1909 and is a thorough mill man from every standpoint.

"Mr. W. C. Rogers, formerly second hand in the spinning room of the Clinchfield Manufacturing Company's No. 1 mill, has been promoted and made overseer of spinning at the Marion Manufacturing Company's mill."

## Crippled Kids Can Garden, Too



Even crippled kids can help produce the nation's food. Young farmer Charlie wears braces and a crutch, but he helps with gardening at a summer camp for handicapped youngsters. These facilities and many others that help Charlie and other crippled children toward independence are supplied through your purchase of Easter Seals. Buy your Seals today.

Read The Progress for local and current events.

## Happy Birthday

March 31, D. N. Lonon, Rev. Albert P. Mack, Wanda Faye Loftis, Mrs. Alvin Williams and Charles Ellington.

April 1: Virginia Baker, J. C. Bowman, Clyde Hensley, Leo Jarrett, Mrs. Mary Townsend, E. A. Hendley, Mrs. Lawrence (Cap) Miller, Jack Mace, Clyde Pittman, Mrs. Cora Sullins, Noel Pitman, Stephen Buff.

April 2: Mrs. Roy Rabb, Mrs. W. E. Edgins, Albert Hewitt, Jr., Mrs. David Gray, Jane G. Greenlee, J. A. McMahan, Richard Loftis, Lloyd Keeter, Nancy McCall, Ben T. Wylie, Miss Opal Epley, Louise Whiteside and A. A. Buchanan.

April 3: Mrs. Coy Laughridge, Mrs. Amanda Crisp, J. O. Jones, Mrs. S. R. Cross, Miriam Glenn, Mrs. Kermit Fender, Mrs. J. Logan Lackey, Dera Cuthbertson, George Lee Phillips.

April 4: G. R. Klutz, Mrs. Stella Weeks, Otis N. Franklin, W. Jones Harris, Willie Allison.

April 5: Mrs. L. Laughridge, Mrs. A. R. Finley, Imogene Elliott, Bertha Brooks, Mrs. Odell Hyatt, Tenna Setzer.

April 6: Nancy Ann Kanipe, Mary Gordon Erwin, Hannah Simmons, Donald Edwards, A. W. Baker, Carolyn Edwards, John D. Hawkins.

April 7: Mrs. Jennings Waters, Mrs. Jacob Smith, Mrs. Ben Davis, Charles Suttle, Mrs. Horace Wilkerson.

## FREEDOM

Freedom is a man at the lathe, or at the desk, doing the job he likes to do and speaking up for himself.

It is a man in the pulpit, or on the street corner, speaking his mind.

It is a man putting in his garden in the evening, and swapping talk with his neighbor over the fence.

It is the unafraid faces of men and women and children at the beach on Sunday, or looking out of the car windows speeding along a four lane highway.

It is a man saying, "Howdy, stranger," without looking cautiously over his shoulder.

It is the people of the country making up their own minds.

It is a soprano singing "The Star-Spangled Banner" off key, and meaning every word of it.

Freedom is the air you breathe and the sweat you sweat.

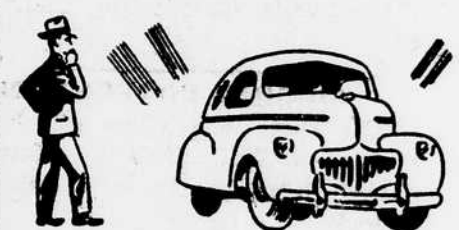
It is all the things you might have done, and all the things you will do if the breaks are right.

Freedom is you, and 140 million people like you, with your chins up daring anybody to take it away from you. —Author Unknown.

North Carolina has a very small percentage of foreign born people. There are 1,114 Greeks, 1,088 English and 916 Germans. These represent the top three nationalities.

The state that has the largest number of schools is Illinois—14,101. The state with the smallest number is Nevada—260. North Carolina has 4,681.

## GOING TO TRADE OR BUY A NEW CAR?



For information regarding financing and automobile insurance, it will be to your advantage to insure with full coverage Farm Bureau Mutual Automobile Insurance—which will fully protect your interests and those of the financing organization which you select.

FOR FULL INFORMATION—CALL OR WRITE

J. H. TATE, Agent  
 Office: 32 N. Madison  
 Phone 120-X

Representing  
 Farm Bureau Mutual Automobile Ins. Co.  
 Home Office—Columbus, Ohio

## EXECUTORS' NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The undersigned, having qualified as executors of the Last Will and Testament of Roy Lee McCurry, deceased, late of McDowell County, N. C., this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned at the offices of Proctor & Dameron, Attorneys, Marion Theatre Building, Marion, N. C., on or before the 1st day of April, 1950, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment.

This 28th day of March, 1949.  
 Carl McCurry and  
 Nora H. McCurry, Executors.