

# THE MARION PROGRESS

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

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## Christmas Services For Local Churches

Christmas services for Marion churches have been announced as follows:

### FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

A Christmas pageant, "Star of Bethlehem," composed by Mrs. John Finley and Miss Hilda Goodman, will be presented at 7:30 o'clock, Sunday evening, in the First Presbyterian church, Rev. C. W. McMurray, D. D., pastor, announced this week. The pageant is under the direction of Mrs. Finley. The annual White Gift service will follow and the Joy Gift offering for ministerial relief will also be taken.

The Pastor announced that there will be morning worship at 11 a. m. M. Christmas Day, but other plans for that Sunday are incomplete and will be announced later. The Sunday School Christmas tree party will be held at 7:30 p. m., December 19.

### ST. MATTHEW'S LUTHERAN

The annual Children's Christmas Program will be given at St. Matthew's Lutheran church Sunday evening, December 18, 7:00 p. m. The theme of the program is the Seven Great Joys of Christmas-time. These seven scenes will be presented in tableaux by the very smallest children of the Sunday school.

The children to have a part are: Gray Rivers as Mary, Mary Lind as Joseph, Linda Gail Case as Elizabeth, Jerry Pennell as Gabriel, Gordon Godfrey as Simeon, Rachel Hewitt as Anna, Bernice Fox, Faith Frenzel, Grace Frenzel, Ann Roberts, Julia McKinney, and Mildred McKinney will be angels. John Eckerd, Bill Eckerd, Jerry Kolts, David Nichols, and Blaine McKinney will be shepherds.

Some of the old familiar Christmas carols will be sung by the children and the congregation, and there will be some new carols. Everyone is most cordially welcome to this pre-Christmas service. On December 25 in the morning service at 11:00 a. m., the congregation will celebrate the great festival of the Saviour's incarnation and birth.

### FIRST METHODIST

The First Methodist church will have a Christmas program at five o'clock, Sunday afternoon, December 18, Rev. J. B. McLarty, pastor, has announced.

The program will be given by the children's division of the Sunday School under the direction of Mrs. Garland Williams by Mrs. T. L. Richie and Mrs. Rowe Mauney. White gifts will be presented for local distribution and an offering will be taken to aid Bishop Paul Garber of the Geneva area.

On Christmas Day there will be (Continued on page four)

## Hollers' Semi-Self Service Has Open House Last Night

The formal opening of Holler's new semi-self service market began last night with Open House from seven until nine o'clock. The public was invited to inspect the store which has undergone a remodeling program. The actual business opening will be today with a number of specials for the Christmas season.

Cato Holler, owner, will continue to operate the business at the same location under the same business policies except that the public will be rendered additional services.

The interior of the building has been completely remodeled with a new floor of inlaid linoleum. The lower half of the walls are of white tiling with a light green portion between the tiling and a white ceiling, the most modern system of lighting has been provided.

One main feature of the market is the added service offered in the order department. One clerk will devote full time to filling phone orders and will be assisted by others in the store.

Arrangements of counters provides for customers to serve them-

## Merchants Vote To Keep Stores Open Nights

The Marion Merchants Association discussed store hours to be observed during Christmas shopping season and holidays to be observed during Christmas, at its meeting last Thursday evening.

In regard to a motion passed at the last quarterly meeting providing for store to remain open until eight o'clock from December 16 to December 24, those present voted to make no change in the motion, but pointed out that this is optional. Groceries were not included in the original motion.

The secretary was instructed to conduct a poll to ascertain whether merchants are in favor of closing Monday and Tuesday after Christmas in observance of the holiday. The poll was conducted and the majority voted in favor of remaining closed December 26-27 and reopening Wednesday morning.

## High School Band Concert Tonight

### READ THE ADS AND TRY TO WIN A MOVIE PASS

Each week from now until Christmas The Marion Progress and the Marion Theatre will award passes each week to two adults living within the city limits, two living outside the city limits, one to a student over 12 years of age and one to a child under 12.

Anyone is eligible to try for these passes except employees of The Progress and members of their families.

Here's all you have to do. Read the biographical sketch below and decide what man in history it describes. Then look through the advertisements in this issue to find his name. You will find his first name in one ad and his last name in another. Look carefully! It may be contained in fine type. The first two adults living within the city limits, first student over 12 and first student under (Continued on page four)

## Christmas Seal Response Good From Rural Areas

Proceeds from the sale of Tuberculosis Christmas Seals totaled \$1,273.17 Tuesday afternoon, according to announcement by Mrs. Edna Earle Stancell, county chairman. The largest response to the 2400 letters mailed has come from rural areas, she said.

Mrs. Stancell said the heads of the campaign are well pleased with the amount received, but believes the total should be much more when the Marion residents send in their donations. She urged an early response from the town area.

NINE SHOPPING DAYS UNTIL CHRISTMAS.

## HOLIDAYS FOR LOCAL SCHOOLS ARE ANNOUNCED

Schools in the McDowell county system will close December 23 for Christmas holidays and reopen January 2.

Marion City Schools will close Friday, December 16, and reopen January 2.

## New Officers Of Mystic Tie Lodge Elected

Officers of Mystic Tie Lodge No. 237 A. F. and A. M. were elected at a meeting Friday night in the Masonic Hall as follows:

Alec Smith, worshipful master; Dysart Martin, junior warden; B. H. Laughridge, Sr., treasurer, and Pat Davis, secretary.

These officers will be installed at a meeting to be held January 6.

Thursday night, December 15, the Marion High School band will blossom forth in full regalia for its concert. This will be the Band's first public appearance in the new uniforms, so generously provided by interested Marion citizens.

The new uniform keeps the orange and black color scheme intact, but the coat is a double-breasted model which eliminates the need for the Sam Browne belt. A shoulder patch displaying an old English "M" with the words Marion High School, together with a black citation cord combine to give a snappy, stylish appearance to the coat. The new hats are a modified Pershing style with an extra high crown and bronze emblem.

Music for the concert include Christmas selections, musical comedy numbers, a Brazilian Samba and many other delightful musical treats. The complete program is as (Continued on page four)

## Funeral Rites For Mrs. Smith To Be Held Today

Mrs. Galena Hamrick Smith, 69, of East Marion, died Tuesday morning after a lingering illness.

Funeral services will be held in the East Marion Baptist church Thursday at 1:30 p. m.

The pastor, the Rev. C. C. Cross assisted by the Rev. P. D. Smith will officiate and burial will be in Mt. Pleasant Baptist church cemetery, Rutherford county.

She is survived by the husband W. Herbert Smith; two daughters, Mrs. Barney Early and Mrs. Harrison Early of Marion, two sons, Pvt. Glenn Smith, of Kyoto, Japan, and William Paul Fisher of Jackson, Mich., by a former marriage.

Also step-sons and five daughters, W. Thadius Smith of Marion, Clyde P. Ross, Mrs. S. E. Norton, Mrs. J. M. Mickle and Mrs. O. A. Ross, all of Marion, and Mrs. James E. Henderson, of Spartanburg, S. C.

Eight grandchildren, 24 step-grandchildren and four step-great-grandchildren; five brothers and one sister; Carol and Cletus Hamrick of Shelby, Walter Hamrick of Cliffside, Austie Hamrick of Caroleen, L. T. Hamrick of Swannanoa and Mrs. Webb Luckadoo of Ellenboro.



VIRGIL BRADBURN, JR.

## Virgil Bradburn Awarded Badge Of Eagle Scout

Virgil Wayne Bradburn, Jr., of troop 4, Marion, was presented the Eagle Scout badge at the Court of Honor held last Friday night in the First Methodist church. His father was the first member of troop 4 to receive the Eagle Scout rank.

Following the custom of the Piedmont Council, Wayne's mother presented her son with the badge who in turn presented his mother with a miniature Eagle Scout badge.

The Court was preceded by a supper meeting at the Hut for Scoutmasters and committeemen who are taking a training course in leadership.

Rev. J. B. McLarty showed an interesting and educational motion picture just prior to the opening of the Court of Honor.

The Court opened with prayer followed with the Scout Oath.

Scouts were advanced as follows: Tenderfoot: J. Devond Morrow, troop 2, Marion; Glen Harklerode, Erwin Martin, Jr., Tommy Morgan, Larry Lawrence, troop 3, and Donald Atkins, troop 6, Marion.

Second Class: Jackie Lee Lawing and Ray Conley, troop 3, Marion; Bobbie Washburn and Tommy (Continued on last page)

## Christmas Holidays For County Offices

County offices will observe Monday and Tuesday, December 26 and 27, as Christmas holidays, it is announced this week. The original plan was to close Saturday and Monday, but the change was announced yesterday to coincide with the closing of business firms.

## Elledge Suffers Broken Arm

C. C. Elledge, principal of the Marion Central School, broke his arm above the elbow during a hunting trip last Saturday. He was climbing a hill, slipped and lost his balance. He fell on his arm. He returned to his duties Tuesday of this week.

## Greenlee Named Head Of Marion Naval Reservists

Captain William G. Greenlee has been named Commanding Officer and Enlisting Officer of Battery A of the 783rd armored field artillery battalion 105 mm Howitzer, self propelled. This organization was formed in Marion last summer.

Greenlee will have the authority and papers to reenlist reserve personnel whose enlistments have expired or to enlist new persons over 18 years of age. Headquarters are (Continued on last page)

## MARION HOSPITAL BUILDING FUND NOW TOTALS \$55,000

### CONTEST WINNERS FOR LAST WEEK

Last week's winners in the Read-The-Ads contest were as follows:

Dr. B. A. Dickson and Mrs. Donald Steppe, Marion adults; C. A. Frick, student, Paul Ross, route 1, Marion and Miss Mildred Jarrett, rural winners.

### Robin Hood Named Member Of Foundation

Robin Hood, Executive Vice President, First National Bank, Marion was elected a member of the Methodist College Foundation of North Carolina, Incorporated, at its annual meeting in High Point, N. C., on Saturday, December 10, 1949. He is the son of Gurney P. Hood, Commissioner of Banks of North Carolina.

## Glenwood High Glee Club To Give Christmas Musical

### Today's Paper Has Two Sections

The Progress is composed of two sections today. Be sure you have both sections of your paper.

### Anderson Elected To Soil Committee

W. Herman Anderson defeated James Goforth in a County Soil Conservation election held last week and was elected committee-man for a three year term. He succeeds T. W. Stacy, whose term expired.

Other members serving on the committee are J. R. Jameson and W. G. Greenlee. The committee will meet within the near future and elect a chairman and vice chairman.

## SLABTOWN CONVENTION TO BE GIVEN SATURDAY

The "Slabtown Convention" will be presented by a group of 35 McDowell county colored singers at eight o'clock, Saturday, December 17, in the Marion High School auditorium, it is announced.

Featuring favorite Negro spirituals, this program will be presented under sponsorship of the Marion Junior Woman's Club for the colored committee. Proceeds will be contributed to the Marion Hospital Building Fund. Detailed plans are contained in an advertisement in this issue.

Those taking part are giving their time as contribution toward building a new hospital for Marion. The balcony will be reserved for the colored audience.

Those taking part in the one act comedy play are:

Mrs. Milinda Carson, Mrs. Maude Parks.

Mrs. N. B. Thalley, Miss Rena Hicks, Miss Barbara Faucette, Mrs. Emma Logan, Miss Tillie Miller.

Mrs. Edna Erwin, Mrs. Margrete Ashe, Mrs. Eloise Moore, Mrs. Margie Carson.

Miss Doris Borders, Miss Mary Forney, Mrs. Polly Denton.

Tuesday morning a report on the current Marion Hospital Building Fund Drive revealed \$55,000 had been deposited in the bank toward the project, S. R. Cross, chairman, announced.

Firms added to the one hundred per cent list this week are: Eugene Cross and Company employees; Clinchfield Store, McDowell Cut Rate Drug, Loven Furniture Company, Western Auto Store, Firestone Home and Appliance company, A and P Tea company, Young and Smith's Esso Service and the following groups of Drexel Furniture Company, panel plant, bedroom plant, machine bedroom plant, finishing and maintenance crew and office force.

### North Cove P. T. A. To Meet Tonight

The North Cove Parent-Teacher association will meet tonight at 7:30 in the school building. An interesting Christmas program has been planned and it is hoped that a large crowd will be present.

The Glenwood High School Glee Club, composed of 30 voices, directed and accompanied by Mrs. Madeline M. Taylor, will present for the Parent Teachers association a Christmas musical program, Monday evening, December 19, at 8:15 o'clock in the school auditorium.

Beginning with the candlelight procession, "Adeste Fideles," the story of the nativity as told in Christmas songs, carols and Biblical verses with mixed chorus, soloists and narrator, will be given by the choral group.

Clement Moore's ever beloved musical recitation, "'Twas the Night Before Christmas" will be read by Barbara Ross.

Those taking special parts in the Yuletide service are: James Haney, narrator; Lucy Lawing, child soloist; and Miss Bertha Martin Glee Club soloist.

All friends and patrons of Glenwood School are cordially invited to attend the concert.

Mrs. Myrtle Carson, Mrs. Christian Beatty, Mrs. Clara Davis.

Mrs. Odell Forney, Mrs. Emma Corpening, Mrs. W. F. Owens, Miss Mary Fowler, Miss Marion Kincaid, Mrs. Fannie Crisp, Mrs. Esther Fowler.

Mrs. Celia Forney, Mrs. Katie Vaughn, Mrs. Mary Carson, Mrs. Amanda Mathis, Mrs. Nannie K. Davis, Mrs. Viola Black, Mrs. Betty Kincaid, Mrs. Lillian Borders, Mrs. Fannie Rhuffin.

Mrs. Karuth Kincaid, Mrs. Margie Carsons, Mrs. Edna Erwin, Miss Bessie Montgomery Mrs. Rosa Greenlee.

Will J. Crisp, Loftus Carson, Bishop Moore, Jr., Arnold Carson, Loftus Carson (Butch) Jr.

Pianists: Mrs. Zelma Forney and Miss Edna K. Vaughn.

Song Directress: Mrs. Katie Vaughn.

Directrix: Mrs. Milinda Carson, Mrs. Zelma Forney.

### FIRE WEDNESDAY

An electric refrigerator exploded causing fire at the residence of J. W. Forney in Black Bottom last Wednesday. Firemen reported only slight damage.