

**DIRECTORY**

**MADISON COUNTY.**

Established by the legislature session 1850-51.  
Population, 20,132.  
County seat, Marshall.  
165 feet above sea level.  
New and modern court house, cost \$33,000.00.  
New and modern jail, cost \$15,000.  
New county home, cost \$10,000.00.

**County Officers**

Hon. J. E. Lineback, Senator, 35th District, Elk Park  
Hon. Plato Ebbs, Representative, Hot Springs, N. C.  
W. A. West, Clerk of Superior Court, Marshall.  
Caney Ramsey, Sheriff, Marshall.  
James Smart, Register of Deeds, Marshall.  
C. F. Runnion, Treasurer, Marshall N. C., R. F. D. No. 4.  
A. T. Chandley, Surveyor, Marshall N. C.  
Dr. J. H. Baird, Coroner, Mars Hill N. C.  
W. J. Balding, Janitor, Marshall.  
Dr. Frank Roberts, County Physician, Marshall.  
Garfield Davis, Supt. county home, Marshall.

**County Commissioners**

N. B. McDevitt chairman, Marshall  
J. E. Rector, member, Marshall, R. F. D. No. 1, Anderson, Silver, member, Marshall, Route 3 W. L. George, member, Mars Hill, J. C. Chandley, White Rock.  
P. A. McElroy Co. Atty., Marshall.

**Highway Commission**

F. Shelton, President, Marshall.  
G. V. Russell, Bluff, N. C.  
A. F. Sprinkle, Mars Hill, N. C.

**Board of Education.**

Jasper Ebbs, Chairman, Spring Creek, N. C.  
John Robert Sams, mem. Mars Hill, N. C.  
W. R. Sams, mem. Marshall.  
Prof. G. C. Brown, Superintendent of Schools, Marshall.  
Board meets first Monday in January, April, July, and October each year.

**Schools and Colleges.**

Mars Hill College, Prof. R. L. Moore, President. 412 students. Session 1915-16, nine months, begins August 17th, 1915.  
Spring Creek High School, Prof. M. C. Pleasants, Principal, Spring Creek. 8 mos school, opens Aug. 1st.  
Madison Seminary High School, Prof. K. G. Anders, Principal. 3 mos. school. Begins July 26.  
Bell Institute, Margaret E. Grif 5th, principal, Walnut, N. C.  
Marshall Academy, Prof. S. Roland Williams, principal 8 mos. school. Opens August 31.

**Notary Publics.**

J. C. Ramsey, Marshall, Term expires January 6th, 1916.  
Jasper Ebbs, Spring Creek, N. C. Term expires January 6th 1915.  
J. H. Hunter, Marshall, Route 3. Term expires April 1st, 1915.  
J. W. Nelson, Marshall—Term expires May 11, 1915.  
T. B. Ebbs, Hot Springs—Term expires February 4th 1915.  
Craig Ramsey, Bevers, Term expires March 19, 1915.  
N. W. Anderson, Paint Fork, Term expires May 19, 1915.  
W. T. Davis, Hot Springs, term expires January 22nd 1915.  
Steve Rice, Marshall. Term expires Dec. 19th, 1915.  
Ben W. Cahagan, Stackhouse, N. C. Term expires Dec. 20, 1915.  
J. E. Tilson, Marshall, Route 2. Term expires Nov. 14th 1915.  
C. J. Ebbs, Marshall. Term expires April 25th, 1917.  
D. M. Harshburger, Stackhouse. Term expires January 16th, 1916.  
D. P. Miles, Bernard. Term expires December, 23, 1916.  
W. B. Ramsey, Marshall. Term expires Oct. 4th 1915.  
J. A. Wallin, Big Laurel. Term expires Aug. 8th, 1916.  
C. C. Brown, Bluff. Term expires January 9th 1917.

**North Carolina way Down List in Per-Capita Production**

(Special to The Observer.)

Chapel Hill, Nov. 9.—"The Productive Power of Agriculture in North Carolina" was the subject of a paper read by Fred H. Deaton of Iredell County at the regular meeting of the North Carolina Club Monday night. In comparing North Carolina yields with the average yield of the country at large, Mr. Deaton showed how the value of the crop yield in the United States in 1914 averaged \$16.34, whereas the average in North Carolina for the same year was \$20.18 per acre, or \$3.84 more than the average for the country at large. In substance his paper was as follows:

North Carolina outranks every one of the rich Middle Western prairie States in the average value of the per acre crop yields, and outranks every Southern State except Kentucky. All told we outrank 28 States in the per acre yield of crop values. In 1909 we ranked higher than 29 States in the total crop values. In 1915 our total crop wealth is \$218,000,000; an increase of \$151,000,000 since 1900, or an average increase of \$10,000,000 a year for the last 15 years.

But in the per capita production of crop values there is another story to be told. Per capita production of crop values means the average gross return of wealth to the farmer for the years expenditure of time, labor and capital. In the census year the per capita production of crop wealth in the United States ranged from \$135 in New Mexico to \$1,378 in North Dakota. In North Carolina our per capita production was only \$236; in this particular, 43 States make a better showing and only four States make a poorer showing than this State. For instance, the per acre crop producing power of North Carolina in 1914 was \$20.18; of Iowa \$17.92. On the other hand, our per capita production of crop wealth was \$236; in Iowa it was \$334. Now look at the per capita country wealth of North Carolina. In 1910 it was only \$322; in Iowa it was \$3,386.

The total production of farm wealth is important; per acre production is more important; per capita production is still more important; but per capita wealth retention is the most important of all. Favored by good soils and unexcelled seasons, North Carolina has wonderful powers of farm wealth production, but seems to have feeble powers of farm wealth retention. If we would only adopt a system by which we could retain a fair proportion of the farm wealth we produce each year, the farm wealth of our State would be increased amazingly.

In conclusion, North Carolina, although she has a greater per acre productive power than the more progressive farm States of the Middle West, is comparatively a poor state. If she is to take her place among these progressive States she must increase her per capital productive power and practice greater thrift. She must raise her own food and feed supplies in so far as this is reasonably possible. Then, and not until then, will she take her place among the most progressive farm States.

**BUNCOMBE COUNTY CONVICTS ESCAPE.**

**Sandy Mush Leaps Into Prominence by Wholesale Delivery Which Occurred in Early Hours of Yesterday Morning-- Three are Recaptured by Pursuers.**

Laying blankets on the floor of the big cage in which they were confined so as not to attract the attention of the guard, fifteen convicts, all long term men, at white convict camp, No. 2, located at Sandy Mush, near Odessa, crawled through an opening little larger than a man's body which had been made by sawing through the iron bars, lowered themselves to the ground and escaped early yesterday without having to overpower a single guard. That they had made their escape was not discovered until after daybreak, and owing to the fact that the telephone wires between Sandy Mush and Leicester were cut, presumably by the escaping convicts, no report of the wholesale delivery was made to Sheriff E. M. Mitchell until 8 o'clock yesterday morning.

Following the receipt of the telephone message from Captain J. H. Cragg, in charge of the camp from which the convicts escaped, Sheriff Mitchell notified all points within a radius of a hundred miles of Asheville, and sent telegrams broadcast to county officers and city police at all places in this and adjoining states to which the convicts might make their way.

Acting in co-operation with the city police, Sheriff Mitchell organized large posses of deputy sheriffs and policemen and sent them to various sections through which the convicts are reported to have passed. As a result of this work before nightfall three of the convicts had been captured, one of them, Horace DeBrehl, only after his cap had been perforated by a bullet when he refused to halt. He made a wild dash for the French Broad river, where he was captured by Detective O. M. Davenport. The two other convicts were captured at Marshall. They were Otto Munsey and J. Green.

**To Fix Responsibility**  
At a special session of the county commissioners which will be held today for the purpose of fixing responsibility for the escape of the convicts, Chairman W. E. Johnson will report his findings of the facts resulting from a careful investigation into the circumstances made yesterday at the camp in question. It

was stated by a member of the board last night that the commissioners would probe the matter to the bottom and determine upon whom the blame for delivery rests.

County Attorney J. W. Haynes declared last night, that as soon as the convicts are apprehended, they will be prosecuted to the limit of the law and at the next criminal term of Superior Court, the judge will be asked to give each and every one of them an additional term of two year as provided by law.

Continuing, Mr. Haynes said: "There are five guards in addition to the captain at the camp on Sandy Mush. One of the guards is supposed to stay awake all night and watch the movements of the prisoners from his guardhouse which has an opening into the cage through the bars of which he could easily bring his gun to bear upon a prisoner in any part of the cell. There is a considerable element of uncertainty as to just how the delivery of so many prisoners was effected, but I am informed that the guard whose duty it was to keep watch was asleep. I do not know whether this is true or not. The whole affair seems inexcusable."

**The "Roll of Honor."**  
The list of those who escaped, the date they began serving their sentences on the road and the length of the terms follows:

Jeter Pritchard, January 5, 18 months, burglary; Harry Moore, January 13, four years and two months, robbery; Otto Munsey, no record; Horace DeBrehl, May 19, 18 months, assault with a deadly weapon; Charles Cole, September 28, four years, hog-breaking; Lee Hammett, four years, September 28, house-breaking; Roy West, no record; Gus Eller, September 19, four months, retailing; Charles Stewart, July 15, 22 months, assault with intent to kill; W. G. Smith, October 2, one year, larceny; J. C. Craine, October 20, four months, larceny; Floyd Green, October 11, six months, sent here from Burke County; J. Green, October 2, larceny, three months; Frank Harris and J. C. Johnson, no records. — Asheville Citizen, November 17th.

**OFFICERS ELECTED BY MADISON BOARD.**

**Good Roads and Farm Demonstration Program Announced at Marshall Last Saturday.**

The Madison County Board of Trade was organized at an enthusiastic meeting held at Marshall last Saturday afternoon. An election of officers was held and a program of work for the ensuing year was discussed.

The primary object of the Madison county board of trade is the upbuilding of Madison county and much interest was displayed among the members present representing all sections of the county, in the proposed plans.

Two important matters that will occupy the attention of the new commercial organization, are the securing of good roads throughout the county and a support of the farm demonstration work. Realizing that a new hotel at Marshall would be an advantage to the county, the board of trade will immediately begin work towards securing a hotel.

G. C. Brown was elected president of the new board of trade, with E. Z. Ray as vice president. The position of secretary and treasurer, by a unanimous vote, was given to H. C. Edge, a young real estate man of Madison who has been one of the leaders in the board's organization. The constitution and by-laws adopted are based on those of the Asheville board of trade, which organization took a prominent part in the formation of its Madison county neighbor. — Sunday Citizen.

**The Opportunity of Christmas**

A child's life will be determined very largely by the adequacy with which these two great needs, alluring expectations and excitement within reason, are provided by the home, the school, and the community. Parents and teachers have always tried to meet these needs in one way or another. The great holiday seasons have survived because they minister to them. For weeks and even months each year the normal child looks forward to the Fourth of July, to Thanksgiving, and most of all to Christmas.

How should Christmas be celebrated in the school? The Christmas spirit must have some concrete expression. That is to say, there must be giving and receiving of tokens of friendship and good will. Further and particularly, there should be plays which exalt the Christmas ideal. Here is a magnificent opportunity for the school to make children more social in the right sense—to give them an appreciation of their fellows, and develop in them some restraint of their selfish impulses. Christmas is the best time in all the year to unify the family group and develop more intimate and altruistic relations among its members.

Does this mean that we should give more presents and have more feasting than is now the custom? It means just the opposite. It is unquestionably a detriment, mentally and nervously, for children to be surfeited with gifts. Add overindulgence in food, drink, and especially sweets, and the day that ought to be the most exhilarating and inspiring in the year becomes a tragedy of mental and physical dissipation. Let the child have attractive food on this day, but let only meal be a departure from the usual simplicity, that the child may go to his bed at night thinking more of the social experiences of the day than of the food packed inside his skin.—M. V. O'Shea in the December Mother's Magazine.

**Help the Orphanages**

Lincolnton, N. C. Nov. 15, 1915.  
Whereas, our kind Father above has blessed us with peace and plenty, and in recognition of this, the President of the United States and the Governor of North Carolina have set apart Thursday November 25, 1915, as a National Thanksgiving Day; I Zadok Paris, President of the North Carolina Orphans' Association, do respectfully ask every citizen of North Carolina, irrespective of color, politics or religion, to set apart one day's earnings to be sent on Thanksgiving Day, to the Orphanage of his choice, or some needy Orphan in his community.

Z. PARIS, President.  
Lincolnton, N. C.

**OUR JETNEY OFFER--THIS AND SO.**

DON'T MISS THIS. Cut out this slip, enclose with five cents to Foley & Co., Chicago, Ill., writing your name and address clearly. You will receive in return a trial package containing Foley's Honey and Tar Compound, for coughs, colds and croup, Foley Kidney Pills, and Foley Cathartic Tablets. Sold Everywhere.

In the case of Wagner we can also find female influence exerting strong power in some of his compositions.

The uncomplaining devotion of his first wife can scarcely be exaggerated. During the Parris days of poverty she trudged about seeking and obtaining loans for her husband (a Wagnerian loan was practically a gift.) she took in lodgers in their humble apartments, she blacked the boots of husband and lodger, and she sewed and washed and drudged, only to be set aside when the days of prosperity came, and when she objected to her husband seeking inspiration from the wives of other men. Such inspiration he found in Mathilde Wesendonck, who was the chief factor in bringing forth "Tristan and Isolde."

But the reader should imagine two distinct Wagners, almost a real Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde—Wagner the little and Wagner the Great. The latter it was who never forsook his highest ideal in art; who worked a quarter of a century upon a great music drama ("The Ring of the Nibelungs") without the hope of ever seeing it given, and wrote to a friend, "If I live to complete I shall have lived gloriously, and if I die before it is finished I shall have died for something beautiful."

The second wife of Wagner was Cosima, the daughter of Liszt, Cosima Wagner was a helpmate indeed for her imperative and very erratic husband. She was his secretary; she stood as the buffer between him and troublesome visitors; she was the diplomat who smoothed out many a trouble that was caused by Wagner's impolitic and irritating ways; and next to himself, Wagner loved her as well as anything on earth.—Louis C. Elson in the December Mother's Magazine.

John C. Shelton of White Rock, N. C., was a visitor in town Saturday and Sunday.



A thirst is a great blessing if you can get Chero-Cola. Drink it from the bottle—through a straw. Always uniform. Perfectly delicious.

