

HOT SPRINGS WOMANLESS WEDDING FINE

The "Womanless Wedding" staged in the public school auditorium, at Hot Springs, for the benefit of the Parent-Teachers Association of Hot Springs was quite a success financially and in its execution. The gross receipts were just about \$100.00. The bride's bouquet, quite beautiful, was a gift of Dickenson's, the florist in Asheville, of which firm, Miss Maude Culbertson, formerly of Madison County, is a member.

All the wedding party entered from the rear of the auditorium instead of from the side of the stage as in Marshall. As each one was ushered leisurely up the center aisle, the assembly had a good view of the beautifully dressed "women," and had time to guess who they were. Rev. Mr. Lovitt, one of the ushers, could not serve, due to illness in his family, and his place was taken by Mr. Wayne Farmer, a member of the faculty. He and Hobe Candler did well as ushers, while Aubrey Ramsey, Swann Huff, Raymond Chandler and Judge Fowler made good-looking bridesmaids. Mr. O. W. Grubbs, Mr. Hursey, Mr. Jack Paris and Mr. Carroll McFall were real groomsmen, while Mr. Will Fleming and Mr. J. D. Hensley made a hit as flower girls. The dignified minister, Mr. Lon Brooks, does not believe in companionate marriages, as he locked them in the "wholly" bonds of matrimony. The flapper girls who attended the wedding and sang before the ceremony were Mr. Dewey Plemmons as Miss Russia, Sidney Islar as Miss Brazil, singing "O Promise Me," and Carson Lawson as Miss Spain. The latter's costume was extremely flapperish. Tom Davis as Mrs. Knowall made quite a hit, being quite attractive both masculinely and femininely, singing quite effectively. Charles Jack Runkion, as the baby, was quite busy with his bottle, but had an attentive nurse in Aunt Africa, splendidly impersonated by Dr. Doyle. Harry Hill and Mr. Bradshaw were extremely mischievous twins and Harry needed more spanking than he got. Mr. W. T. Davis (as Mr. Montreal), Maurice Gardner (the aunt), Mr. Whitten (the uncle), Dan Lawson (the mother), and Mr. Ira Plemmons (the father) were all quite natural in their parts, while Mr. Joe Brooks as grandfather and Mr. Roy Plemmons as grandmother were very decrepit, acting their parts well. As usual at weddings, there wasn't very much to the groom (Howard Runkion in this case), although he acted his part well; for the attention is on the bride, and Dennis Church made a good one—a beautiful bride, her veil being carried by Chief Ramsey. Imagine Mr. Tom Frisbee as the little ring-bearer, and that's "nuff said."

Considerable credit is due Mrs. W. T. Davis, Mrs. L. Jared and others who had the burden of putting this play across.

WOMANLESS WEDDING AT MARS HILL

Due to the very bad weather last Saturday, the Womanless Wedding staged for Mars Hill Saturday night was postponed, and it will be given Friday night March 23, at 8 o'clock, at the public school auditorium. Don't fail to see it if you like to laugh.

McDARRIS—BUCKNER

A romance begun in High School ended quietly in Newport, Tennessee, Feb. 11, 1928, when Grant McDarris, son of Mr. and Mrs. Z. T. McDarris of Mars Hill, and Miss Glen Buckner, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Herschel Buckner, of California Creek, were married in the office of the court clerk.

Their marriage was kept secret for a while but was later announced.

Both are now students at Mars Hill College.

The groom is widely known in Marshall and throughout the county. He was a former student of Marshall High School.

No girl has any business in a parking auto in a dark lane. It's a pleasure.

TAXES, HERE AND THERE

(By IRA PLEMMONS)

Senator Simmons was asked the other day "What is the biggest problem confronting North Carolina today?" Without a moment's hesitation he answered, "Taxation." "Land is being forced to bear an unfair amount of taxes," I heartily agree with the Senator. He further suggests that the State assume the burden of education and that seems to be what must happen sooner or later. The State has taken so very many of the taxables that it would appear to be just, that the State assume this burden.

With the stupendous amount of thirteen billion four hundred and thirty-nine million dollars of non-taxable and eighteen billion four hundred and eighteen million dollars of partially tax exempt securities, making a grand total of thirty-one billion eight hundred fifty-seven million dollars of securities held by the rich and semirich of this country, we can begin to understand why local taxation is so high. How long shall these conditions exist? I would say just so long as professional politicians run this country. I am almost convinced that when a man becomes a professional politician that he is unfit to hold any office. What the business of an office holder should be is to render the best possible service. If he runs for an office he should first be well qualified and satisfied with the salary the office pays. In the past the professional gets elected and then goes to work to get his salary raised, and in many instances some "gump" in the legislature gets a bill passed for the relief of the office holder. Again we have heard of men who violated the law and perhaps were indicted for the wrong use of the public money, and the same kind of a legislative "gump" passes a bill for the relief of the official who wrongfully used the public money. This is done to keep crooks and thieves out of prison.

In general State and local taxes bear little relation to tax paying ability as measured by income. There are wide variations between individuals and between classes, such trend as is in evidence is regressive, rather than progressive. The farmers and small business men of our State and county are not taxed in proportion to their earning power, or as to income. I venture to assert that at least seventy-five per cent of the tax payers of our county pay at least eighty per cent of their net income out in taxes, and in very many instances their net income will not pay their taxes. When we think of these things, it's no wonder that we have farm loans and mortgages upon homes, and homes being sold for taxes. Too, in many instances the banks loan money to these small business men and farmers at a high rate of interest—I know of one case where as high as 12 per cent was charged on a small loan. Some one might say, Do not borrow. How can these poorer classes help it? Their taxes must be paid or their homes will go on the block. In some way unknown to these poorer borrowers, they hope that something will come their way and make them able to meet the loan when it comes due, and they struggle on. Some one said to me the other day that I would not like to go back to the old days. Just to be plain, I do not exactly know. I reckon not; but there are some things of the old days that I would not be adverse to. The sins that have been committed in the name of progress are many. If we can have progress without robbing the people of their homes, wives and children of food and clothing—yes! If not, then the good old days appear to me very strongly. I think that perhaps one of the main troubles we have is, that we are living publicly and privately beyond our ability. If we are, then there should be a change. The war taught us that there was a higher mode of living, and during that time almost everybody got a taste of it, and now cannot con serve. The individuals are conserving more now than the different units of government. With more than thirty-two commissions and departments in our state operating without reference to what each other is doing, and without cooperation we are having very expensive state government. I believe that every function of the state could be run with less than half the personnel it now has, and that equal service would be obtained.

In our own county we have several men holding a job that could be eliminated and we would get the same service; for example, we could do without the two extra men on the board of education, and get exactly the same service as we do. We could get along with about twenty to twenty-five school teachers that we now have and get very nearly the same results. I do not mean to offer criticism to any of the teachers, very nearly all of them are good. All the teachers think they are doing all they can for the price they are paid, and perhaps they are, but if five to eight more pupils were added to each teacher they would never know the difference. In fact, it looks like that style has permeated the schools along with almost everything else. The dominating style now seems to be to earn with as little effort as possible, and of course, the less number of pupils, the less amount of work required. I do not say the less done, for very nearly all of our teachers feel that they are doing all that is required of them, and are, perhaps, but I doubt that you can find many of them that will say that they have done all they could have done, and they are not at fault, either. If they could feel that by a bit greater effort they could save of the public money, so that some poor child might have more food and better clothing, they would gladly go the limit, for they see the need of better food and better clothing more than any other class. They come in direct contact and know. I understand that perhaps we have a teacher now and then that would not be willing to put forth any more effort, and that would be from selfishness. I have heard of children being beaten with straps, and abused, and of course a teacher that would be unmerciful to a child would not be willing to do anything that is right.

I think that our county school authorities should be very careful not to employ a brute for a teacher. I have heard of a man that broke a little child's arm in madness and then got a job again as teacher—could not expect much from a person like that.

If it is a fact that we cannot get along without the number of teachers that we now have, then we must meet the bills, for our children must have an education. If we can do without some and get very nearly the same results, then we should.

MARSHALL SENIOR PLAY

The annual Senior Play will be given by the class of 1928 in the high school auditorium Friday, March 30th at 8 P. M.—"Luck O' The Irish," a swift-moving comedy-drama, filled with action, tense situations, and a pleasing climax, has been chosen as the vehicle for these talented young actors.

This event is one of the high spots in the school year and it's always looked forward to with much interest by everyone in the County. Rehearsals have been in progress for some time and indications are that this play will prove the banner entertainment of the season.

"Luck O' The Irish" is being staged under the direction of Mr. I. V. Yonce, of the High School faculty, who successfully produced "Valley Farm" and other plays. The usual admission rate will prevail—adults 35c, children 25c.

The following is the cast in order of their appearance:

- Artie, an office boy—R. N. Ramsey, Jr.
- Imogene McCarty, a stenographer—Virginia Cox
- Bruce Ferguson, a clerk—E. R. Tweed, Jr.
- Cyrus B. Kilbuck, President of C. & W. Railroad—N. B. McDevitt, Jr.
- Mr. Mulberry, attorney for the Road—Hubert Worley
- Jessamine Lee, the girl—Sophia Buckner
- Mr. Barnaby Bird, boss of Flagg County—Hugo Wilds
- Mrs. Van Dyne, agent for the C. & W.—Vanda Davis
- Tony Kilbuck, a chip o' the old block—Hal West
- Dilly, Mrs. Beaver's hired girl—Zada White
- Mrs. Beaver, from Flagg Corners—Minnie Rice
- Rosa Bella Beavers, belle of Flagg Corners—Evelyn Hinkle
- Mr. Perry Allen, a young gentleman farmer—Everett Frisby
- Mrs. Perry Allen, Jessamine's chum—Daisy Worley

SYNOPSIS

ACT I. Private office of Cyrus B. Kilbuck. A morning in March.

ACT II. Sitting Room of Mrs. Beaver's boarding house, Flagg Corners. A morning in July.

ACT III. Same as Act II. The afternoon of the same day. The Luck O' The Irish.

ARBOR DAY

On last Friday, Arbor Day was celebrated in the Walnut High School. The celebration consisted of a program within the house and the planting of trees on the school grounds.

Rev. Mr. Guthrie spoke to the school on "The Need of Protecting Our Trees," and Rev. Mr. Hyde spoke on "The Language of Trees." During the week the pupils had heard talks on "The Principles of Landscape Gardening," "Flower Gardens."

A contest was put on between the grades for the one that would select the most trees and shrubs. This prize, a half holiday, was won by the sixth grade, which collected 208 trees and 58 shrubs and flowers. The children selected and set out all the shrubbery. Native varieties of trees, shrubs and flowers were used. Over 800 of the varieties were planted. Landscape gardening included both the school ground and the grounds of the teachers.

Those that promoted the celebration feel that children have gained valuable information on the transplanting of trees, the planning of a yard, and the proper group arrangement of shrubs and flowers.

The Walnut school grounds, while they have never been improved, are now the most beautiful in Madison County. With a little more work and planning these grounds in the near future can be made to rank among the best in this section of the State.

A very successful season of basketball has now closed. The baseball teams are organizing and practicing for the coming season. A promising season is looked forward to in baseball.

FIRE DESTROYS GRAND VIEW SCHOOL

The Grand View school house, several miles east of here and near the Buncombe County line, was destroyed by fire early Tuesday night, according to reports reaching here Wednesday. At the time of the fire the building was unoccupied, although the regular session of school had been held that day.

The cause of the fire has not yet been determined, although it is believed that the remains of a fire in a stove used for heating the room in a school had in some way spread. The building, which was a frame structure, burned rapidly, and due to the fact that very few people lived nearby, thus making it difficult to combat the blaze, the fire spread rapidly beyond control.

WALTER B. TWEED DEAD

Mr. Walter B. Tweed, age 75, died at his home on Long Branch Monday, March 19th, at 8 P. M. He had been in poor health for years but was seriously ill only about two weeks before his death. The funeral services were from Long Branch church, of which the deceased was a charter member, conducted Wednesday, the 21st, by the pastor, Rev. J. M. Pickens, assisted by Rev. H. L. Smith, Rev. Mr. Briggs and Rev. L. C. Roberts, interment following in the church cemetery.

Mr. Tweed is survived by his wife, Mrs. Susie J. Tweed; two sons, Ula Tweed of Balboa Heights, Canal Zone and Mr. Jonah Tweed of Marshall; five daughters, Mrs. J. W. Barnes of Deer Park, Washington, Mrs. I. R. Hunter, Mrs. Arthur Freeman, Mrs. Boyd Reed and Miss Rona Tweed, all of Marshall, Route No. 3.

He also leaves four brothers, Elbert Tweed of Marshall, M. N. Tweed and Ed Tweed of West Asheville, and N. E. Tweed of Marshall, Route 8. Mr. Tweed was a splendid citizen and will be greatly missed by his many friends.

MADISON SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

According to "State School Facts," published at Raleigh, Madison County has 5,875 white pupils of school age and 70 Negro pupils. Attendance for white pupils was 4,232 or 74.5 per cent attendance. Attendance of Negroes was 65 or 92.8 per cent. This report was for year of 1926-27.

FLASHLIGHTS FROM THE CAMPAIGN

The Centennial Campaign is steadily growing in interest among the people in the various associations in the county. The people in this section of the state are very much interested in Mars Hill College, around which this campaign centers, and for which it is being launched. While it is true the Campaign is being launched in the interest of all our religious institutions, it is hoped by those in charge of the Campaign that enough money and pledges will be secured in this section of the state to pay off the obligations of Mars Hill College, which amount to fifty thousand dollars, and have at least twenty-five thousand surplus to apply on needed improvements at the college at this time.

BUNCOMBE

Twenty-two of the pastors in the Buncombe Association have already secured their Chairman and Associate Chairman and sent their names to the office. Others are expected to come in at once by mail. Don C. Young, Chairman, and Mrs. J. G. Greenwood, Associate Chairman of the Buncombe Association, are doing all they can to help in the great programme. The opening supper for the Buncombe Association will be held at the First Baptist Church, Asheville, Thursday, April 5th.

On the 27th day of March, a big Rally will be held at Mars Hill College for all the workers and representatives of the eight associations included in the Campaign at this time, which are: Buncombe, Carolina, Transylvania, Haywood, New Found, French Broad, Yancey and Mitchell. Those in charge are expecting a large delegation at this meeting. Dr. Fred F. Brown, pastor of the First Baptist Church, Knoxville, Tenn. will be the principal speaker. Further announcements will be made later concerning this gathering.

TRANSYLVANIA

On Friday night, the 16th, Lewis P. Hamlin entertained at dinner at his home, the division chairman and several members of the executive committee. The details of the plan of the campaign were discussed quite thoroughly and definite steps taken to complete the organization for the local churches in the association. A full meeting of the executive committee was held on Sunday afternoon, March 18th.

MITCHELL

A special meeting of the pastors was held at Bakersville, Friday, March 9th. W. E. Berry of Bakersville is Association Chairman. Plans are now being made to organize each local church in the Association for a canvass of the Association, to begin with an Opening Supper March 24th.

HAYWOOD

Pastors' conference has been held. J. R. Morgan, Chairman, with offices established in Mr. Morgan's suite. Chairman for local churches largely secured. Plans made for Opening on April 4th. Arrangements for Supper completed.

FRENCH BROAD

Pastors' conference has been held. Mr. S. Whitaker, Association Chairman. Special Meeting of Division Chairmen Monday evening, March 19th. Chairmen of local churches coming in. Special activity in connection with Mars Hill Dinner, March 27th. Large number of students planning to speak in local churches.

CAROLINA

Have had pastors' conference (Mr. 9th) Roy C. Bennett, Association Chairman. Special meeting of Executive Committee, Saturday, March 9th. Special meeting with the Chairman Friday evening, March 3rd. Local church Chairman being secured this week. Considerable interest in Fruitland Institute which is to receive some of the funds from this canvass. Trustees active in the Campaign.

YANCEY

R. D. Fouts, Chairman, very enthusiastic for Campaign. Chairman and Associate Chairman for all local churches have been secured. Opening Supper April 9th. The above was sent to us by Rev. Samuel T. Hensley, well-known in Marshall and Madison.

PAY UP!

Members of the Marshall Parent-Teacher Association are urged to pay up all past dues at once as there will hardly be more than one more meeting of this organization. 25c a month is the amount.

WOUNDED YOUTH IN HIDING

JOHN MAYNOR IN JAIL

Others Injured in Free-For-All Fight

In a mountain cabin somewhere near the North Carolina-Tennessee State line, a youth whose name was given as Ricks is believed to be in hiding, suffering from what it is probable will prove fatal wounds received in a free-for-all fight, which is said to have taken place just across the Tennessee line at the little mountain village of Wolf Creek Sunday night.

Three men, who, it is said, were suffering from pistol wounds received in the fight also, made their escape before the arrival of officers and are believed to be in hiding somewhere in Madison County or the neighboring State, while John Maynor, Madison youth, is confined in the Madison County jail at Marshall where he was brought Monday night by Sheriff R. R. Ramsey and Mr. Jack Parris of Hot Springs, following a search in which both the Madison and Tennessee officers participated Monday. Out of the five men who are said to have engaged in the fight, which followed a booze party, he was the only one to escape unscathed.

Knives and pistols were the weapons used, three of the men having been shot, while young Ricks was said to have been seriously cut by one of the others. Since he is in hiding, it is probable that unless he can get some medical attention, his injuries may prove fatal.

SHERIFF RAMSEY OFFERS REWARD

A cash reward of \$5 to every number of the sheriff's department of Madison County who arrests and brings to justice a violator of the prohibition laws in Madison County up to June 2, the date of the June primary, will be paid by Sheriff R. R. Ramsey. Sheriff Ramsey made the announcement at a banquet given his force of deputies at which about 30 law enforcement officers were present. The banquet was held at the New Central Hotel following a conference of the officers at which Sheriff Ramsey received reports and gave instructions to the small band of men who represent the law in the communities of Madison County, many of them serving in remote mountainous sections in Laurel and other places. Sheriff Ramsey stated that reports of his assistants were good, and barring the presence of a small illicit whiskey element in a few communities, conditions throughout the County in reference to law violations were quiet. "It is our purpose to put down the whiskey activity in this county and we are not going to slack up on our work just because of the proximity of the election," Sheriff Ramsey stated, shortly after announcing that he would pay the cash reward for the arrest of all violators.

RESOLUTIONS OF SYMPATHY

Obedient to the divine will of an all-wise Father, and knowing that He does all things well, we the members of the Eighth grade, Section B, do resolve:

That whereas, God in His wisdom has removed from our midst a faithful wife, mother, and friend;

And whereas, her loss felt by us through our relationship to a fellow classmate, Gertie Payne;

Be it resolved, that we extend to Gertie and her family our deep and heartfelt sympathy in this dark hour, and our prayer may be that the family will be reunited, beyond the Pearly Gates.

Be it further resolved that a copy of these resolutions be sent to Gertie Payne and a copy be published in the News-Record.

Respectfully submitted,
THELMA PAYNE,
MAMIE DOCKERY,
GLADYS MEADOWS,
VIOLETT BALL,
Committee.

Man Wants But Little Here Below,
Nor Wants That Little Long—
Woman Wants But Little Here Below
And Wants That Little Short.