

# A PAGE OF GASTONIA HAPPENINGS

## BOY SCOUT TROOP AND 'CAMP FIRE' CLUB ARE FORMED AT GASTONIA

Youth of That Town Will Become Khaki Clad — Enthusiastic Meeting Was Held Friday Night at the Court House for Purpose of Organization.

Special to The Observer. Gastonia, Jan. 20.—At a meeting held in the court house Friday night, organizations for the Boy Scouts and Camp Fire Girls were perfected. Scout Commissioner Steere, of Charlotte, together with President Oldham, of the Charlotte council, and Mr. Wilkes and Mr. Wilcox, together with one scout, came over to Gastonia to assist in the work. Miss Carrie Graves, of the Charlotte Y. W. C. A., also came over to instruct the girls in the Camp Fire work.

President J. H. Separk, of the Chamber of Commerce, presided at the meeting which was opened with a prayer by Rev. H. H. Jordan. The program was arranged so as to give the people of the city a clear conception of the aims of the movements and the unusual possibilities for good among boys and girls.

Miss Carrie Graves had the closest attention of the girls and at the meeting 23 charter members were listed. They will meet at an early date and select their leaders and organize. Saturday a number of high school girls of the city called at the Chamber of Commerce and made known their desire to join, and a total of about 100 will make up the local organization within the next few weeks.

There are a few more than 100 boys wishing to become Boy Scouts and they will now have their opportunity. A number of representative citizens have already become members of the local council, being W. L. Balthus, J. H. Separk, J. H. Hendrix, H. H. Jordan, H. B. Moore, R. B. Babington, T. M. Paysoux, G. W. Smith, W. N. Davis, Joseph S. Wray, Edgar N. LeBlanc and C. W. Roberts. The council will be organized and a scout commissioner elected and scout masters appointed at an early date, in the meantime the enlistment of more boys will continue.

Erlie Ratchford, Audrey Ratchford, Virginia Henderson, Maude Caldwell, Sara Elizabeth Love, Frances Robinson, Annie Bland, Mabel Glenn, Eleanor Smith, Marguerite Troutman, Edith Fur, Laura Caldwell, Mary Boyd, Jennie May Beam, Mamie Shuford, May Shuford, Geneva McEntire, Louis Yarborough, Ruth Craig, Helen Boyd, Wilma Blanton and Mrs. C. W. Roberts.

## MRS. GATES DEAD.

Gastonia, Jan. 20.—Mrs. Elizabeth Gates, better known as "Granny Gates," who was the great-grandmother of Mrs. Milton Rhyne and Mrs. Non Lindsay, died at her home near Lincolnton December 24. Had Mrs. Gates lived until April 8 she would have been an even 100 years old.

## MISS TORRENCE TO BE HEARD IN GASTONIA

In Concert With Signor Sorrentino, Leading Tenor of Royal Theater, Florence, Italy.

Special to The Observer.

Gastonia, Jan. 20.—One of the most talked-of events now engaging the attention of Gastonia society is the early coming of Signor Umberto Sorrentino, "the emotional singer with the glorious voice." Signor Sorrentino is said to be the youngest grand opera tenor in America today. Appearing here with him will be Miss Marie Torrence, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frost Torrence, a native of Gastonia, who, on February 3, will be graduated from the New York School of Music and Art. Miss Torrence is now a soloist at the Bronx Forum in New York City and this appearance is but a recognition of her distinction as an artist. Young woman of the well known pianist, of New York City, will accompany them.

This concert will be given in the graded school auditorium on the evening of February 7 under the auspices of William Gaston Chapter of Daughters of American Revolution.

Miss Torrence's soprano voice has been compared with Yow's, her noted education in New York, noted recently in these columns, has put her in the company of the master artists and Gastonia will welcome back the warmth and pride befitting the brilliant evening.

Signor Sorrentino is the leading tenor of Royal Theater, Florence, Italy; Grand Opera de Nice, France; Theater National of Mexico City; Boston Grand Opera Company, etc. He is now touring America and Gastonia gets him February 7.

## MEETING S. O. S. CLUB AT HOME MISS ADAMS

Special to The Observer.

Gastonia, Jan. 20.—At her home on South Oakland street Wednesday afternoon Miss Rebecca Adams was hostess at a most delightful meeting of the S. O. S. Club. Trail was played at three tables, after which the guests were invited into the dining room, where a delicious course luncheon was served. The decorations were especially pretty, the centerpiece being a large basket of pink carnations and white narcissus and the room being lighted with pink-shaded candles. Covers were laid for 14. Besides members of the club, Mrs. Andrew E. Moore was an invited guest.

## THE GASTONIA CHAMBER'S NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Gastonia, Jan. 20.—At a meeting of the officers of the Gastonia Chamber of Commerce Friday night, the following committee to nominate seven directors and a treasurer were appointed. A. C. Jones, chairman; J. L. Beal, W. J. Clifford, R. B. Babington, A. E. W. Wood, and J. H. Separk. This committee will hold its first meeting Saturday evening at which time the new officers may be nominated.

## GASTONIA MEETING IN FEBRUARY WILL BE NOTABLE EVENT

Commercial Secretaries, Farmers, Bankers and Other Business Men From All Parts of State Will Be Present.

Special to The Observer.

Gastonia, Jan. 20.—President J. H. Separk says the meeting of the bankers, business men, secretaries and farm demonstrators to be held in Gastonia February 5 to 8 will be the greatest gathering of business men ever held in the Carolinas, and the program includes some of the most prominent men in the country.

Monday, February 5, the secretaries and demonstrators will arrive. Demonstrators will each make an exhibit of the products grown in their respective counties. Secretary Roberts, of the Gastonia Chamber of Commerce, will give a banquet to the visiting secretaries Monday evening.

Tuesday, the bankers and business men will arrive. In the morning there will be a joint meeting of the secretaries and the county agents, and just prior to the big banquet to be served at 12:30 the visitors will be given an automobile ride over the City of Gastonia—"The Textile Center." The ladies of Gastonia will serve a banquet which promises to be one of the best ever served in the South. The Gastonia Music Club will furnish an excellent program. They have been practicing for several weeks for this occasion.

## GASTONIA SECRETARY TO DELIVER ADDRESS

Invited by Dr. Clarence Poe to Explain Greater Gastonia Idea to Social Service Conference.

Special to The Observer. Gastonia, Jan. 20.—C. W. Roberts, secretary of the Gastonia Chamber of Commerce and the greater Gastonia County Association, will address the North Carolina Conference for Social Service Tuesday morning at the conference on current examples of social progress, using as his subject, "The Greater Gastonia County Association and how it serves an entire county." Dr. Clarence Poe will preside at this meeting and has selected this address because he thinks it would be well for every county in the State of North Carolina to follow the Gastonia County idea.

## M. L. REID GOES TO TENNESSEE.

Gastonia, Jan. 20.—W. K. Reid, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Reid, who has held a position with the A. H. Gulon Company for several years, left Thursday for Chattanooga, Tenn., where he goes to accept a position in the office of the claim department of the Southern Express Company in that city.

## FAIR ASSOCIATION ELECTS T. L. CRAIG PRESIDENT

W. T. Rankin, Vice President. Gratifying Report by Treasurer Holland—Old Directors Re-elected—Fine Prospects.

Special to The Observer.

Gastonia, Jan. 20.—At the annual meeting of the stockholders of the Gastonia County Fair Association held in the office of Secretary J. M. Holland Thursday afternoon at 4:30 o'clock, Col. T. L. Craig was re-elected president, W. T. Rankin, vice president, and all of the old board of directors were re-elected as follows: A. C. Jones, R. G. Rankin, J. L. Beal, F. L. Smyre, A. J. Kirby, G. R. Spencer and A. E. Wood. Mr. Holland, who is secretary and treasurer, submitted his financial report which showed that the 1916 fair was a splendid success financially and from the standpoint of attendance. The association has no outstanding obligations, has a considerable equipment and some money in the bank. The stockholders present expressed themselves as being highly pleased with the showing made for the second annual fair.

## HISTORIC HOME BURNED.

Stanley, Jan. 20.—The historical home of John H. Rutledge, near this place, has been completely destroyed by fire. An ordinary oil lamp exploded and so quickly did the flames flash over the room in which the accident occurred, that it was impossible to extinguish them. There was \$1,100 insurance on the building and contents, covering about half the loss.

Mrs. Henry Garrison, aged 82, died at her home, just west of here, Tuesday, funeral services were conducted at Mt. Zion Wednesday.

The members of the Recreation Book Club decided to discontinue regular weekly meetings until later, when the weather improves. They expect to obtain a new set of books.

Mrs. Lydia Cole of Virginia, who has been visiting her father, L. L. Smith, was called home on account of receiving news that her husband was injured in an accident while at work with an engine.

Mrs. A. E. McLurd, who has been seriously ill at her home for the past few weeks, is no better. Rev. W. W. Rimmer of Lincolnton filled his regular appointment here last night and today.

Fred Rhyne, the newly-elected cashier of the bank at this place, has taken charge of the bank and E. E. Abernethy has gone to Denver, where he takes charge of the branch bank.

F. L. Carpenter is at home with his family today, having returned from a trip in the western part of the State. Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Jenkins spent Friday in Charlotte with friends.

Messrs. Sigmon, Reinhardt and Rutledge have recently secured some new contracts for dredging and expect to install other dredging boats for this work.

Mrs. Frank Hovis, who has been sick in Gastonia, was able to return home this week.

The literary society of the High School delivered an interesting program Friday afternoon after regular school hours, the subject for discussion was "Which is the Most Useful, Wood or Iron?"

## NEW 1916 INDUSTRIES FOR COUNTY OF GASTON VALUED AT \$2,815,000

According to Advance Information From Office of Secretary of State—Another Cotton Mill This Month at \$400,000.

Special to The Observer.

Gastonia, Jan. 20.—Advance information from the office of the Secretary of the State shows that during the year 1916 there were 18 new industries incorporated in that county, including eight cotton mills, one brick plant and 11 other enterprises.

This month there has already been another cotton mill incorporated with a capital of \$400,000, and just prior to January 1, 1916, there were some more cotton mills incorporated that have been completed and put into operation in 1916. And it is still rumored on the streets of Gastonia that still another cotton mill is to be given birth soon.

## MRS. A. E. MCLURD IS CRITICALLY ILL

Special to The Observer. Gastonia, Jan. 20.—The condition of Mrs. A. E. McLurd is considered critical at Stanley where she has been ill at her home for a number of weeks.

Mrs. McLurd is 82 years of age and is the mother of E. G. McLurd and Mrs. R. B. Babington, of Gastonia.

## LYCEUM ATTRACTION AT CENTRAL SCHOOL

Special to The Observer.

Gastonia, Jan. 20.—Tickets for the next Lyceum attraction next Tuesday night at the Central school auditorium will go on sale at 1 p. m. next Monday at Kennedy's.

The Davenny Festival Quint is the attraction.

## REPUBLICANS TO MEET.

Gastonia, Jan. 20.—A meeting of Gastonia County Republicans is called for Tuesday at 1 o'clock to be held in the City Hall in Gastonia.

## VISITORS TO GASTONIA.

Gastonia, Jan. 20.—Joe R. Nixon and bride spent the day in Gastonia. Mr. Nixon is superintendent of schools at Cherryville.

## GASTONIA PARAGRAPHS

Clara Kimball Young made her reputation in the play, "My Official Wife," in which she appears at the Ideal Monday.

One attraction of the Franklin Hotel, Mrs. New, the proprietress, makes her guests feel at home.

The moving picture theaters of Gastonia are showing as good pictures as any town in the country.

## DRUM CORPS TO PARADE FOR CITY'S VISITORS

Thirty Members Will Turn Out in Dress Parade at the Big Meeting in February.

Special to The Observer.

Gastonia, Jan. 20.—The famous Gastonia Pythian Drum Corps held a meeting Friday night to consider the matter of entertaining the visitors to the February meeting, and it was voted to give a dress parade and exhibition drill. There are about 30 members of this drum corps of which R. G. Cherry is president, F. C. Abernethy, secretary, and J. Holland Morrow, drum major. The boys will nightly practice for the coming meeting and they will have a treat in store for every person who visits Gastonia on Tuesday, February 6. The Gastonia Drum Corps is in great demand in many Southern cities and the opportunity to view them is exceptional.

## MEETING OF CENTRAL TEACHERS POSTPONED

Special to The Observer.

Gastonia, Jan. 20.—On account of the very inclement weather the joint meeting of the teachers of the first, second and third grades of the Central school and the mothers of the pupils in those grades, which was scheduled for last Wednesday afternoon, was postponed until next Wednesday afternoon. The hour is the same as originally announced, namely from 3 to 4. The education committee of the Woman's Betterment Association, under whose auspices this meeting is to be held, are desirous of having as many of the mothers present as possible.

## COTTON SCARCE IN 1916.

Gastonia, Jan. 20.—There were 4,717 bales of cotton ginned in Gastonia County from the crop of 1916 prior to January 1, 1917, as compared with 8,971 bales ginned to January 1, 1916.

## NEW DIRECTORS FOR GASTONIA CHAMBER

Seven Named Instead of Eighteen as Before — W. H. Adams Chosen Treasurer.

Special to The Observer.

Gastonia, Jan. 20.—The nominating committee of the Gastonia Chamber of Commerce tonight nominated E. N. Boyce, director of finance; W. B. Morris, of mercantile department; J. H. Kennedy, publicity; T. L. Craig, conventions; F. D. Barkley, traffic; C. B. Armstrong, industries; J. M. Holland, civic affairs; W. H. Adams, treasurer. They were elected, making now seven directors instead of eighteen as heretofore.

## NEW ISSUE OF BONDS ALREADY IN DEMAND

Special to The Observer.

Gastonia, Jan. 20.—A number of purchasers have made applications for the issue of \$100,000 bonds just authorized by the Legislature for Gastonia County. The sale will take place February sixteenth.

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J. Lee Robinson, Active Vice President  
M. T. Wilson, Assistant Cashier  
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—Directors—  
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