

THE GASTONIA GAZETTE

PUBLISHED TWICE A WEEK—TUESDAYS AND FRIDAYS.

GASTONIA IS A BUSY TOWN.

\$1.50 A YEAR IN ADVANCE.

SINGLE COPY 8 CENTS.

VOL. XXXIV.

GASTONIA, N. C. TUESDAY AFTERNOON, APRIL 29, 1913.

NO. 34.

BOOK CLUB IN THE '20'S

'T WAS A LADIES' CLUB IN STEEL CREEK

Ladies of Steele Creek, Mecklenburg County, Had One, the First in This Section—A Glimpse of Life as It Was Nearly a Hundred Years Ago in This Section as Depicted in an Old Letter.

Mrs. S. A. Robinson has in her possession a copy of a most interesting old letter sent her by Mrs. Lindsay Patterson, of Winston-Salem. This letter dated in 1821 gives an account of a book club which then existed in Mecklenburg county at or near Steele Creek church. The treasurer of this organization was the great-grandmother of Mrs. Robinson. This letter was written by one Jonas Rudisill, an uncle of Mr. W. L. Gallant, to William Rufus Jones, Fort Defiance, Wilkes county, N. C. The original letter came into the possession of Mrs. Patterson, along with many others, from Palmyra, in the Happy Valley, the ancestral home of the Jones and Patterson families. "Rufus," to whom the letter is addressed being the son of Col. Edmond Jones. A most charming description of Palmyra has been written by Mrs. Patterson for the North Carolina Booklet. The entire letter is given below, but it is of interest principally for the account of the Female Book Society, as this is one of the earliest known records of such a club being in existence, this having been almost one hundred years ago.

So many of the old letters speak of an "opportunity to send" a letter, not an opportunity to write. In those days carriers on horse-back and coaches were the only means of communication.

Charlotte, Aug. 4, 1821.

I have waited a long time for an opportunity to send you a few lines but I shall wait no longer. I inform you that I arrived safe at Fathers on Saturday evening after I left you and found all in good health and my Brothers and Sisters had collected for to welcome, &c. On the next day I went to Church and heard a fine Sermon delivered by the Revd. H. Hunter, and saw a great number of my old friends and acquaintances, and on the following day was the Annual meeting of the Steele Creek Female Book Society, the day on which they elected in their Managers. They elected Mrs. Elizabeth Spratt as President, Mrs. Ann McKnight Vice, my Mother as Treasurer, Mrs. Caroline Neely, and Miss Ann Barnett as Clerks. They have a Libra which consists of One Hundred and Sixteen Volumes, Miss Amelia Parks and Miss Rebecca Allison are Librarians. Their Members are One Hundred and Four in number. I wish you could be with me only one nice summer's day at the Steele Creek Church to see the great number of young people that resorts there. You would think that there might be a wedding every week and you would not think far wrong for there is scarcely a week that passes by without the news of a Wedding in the bounds of the congregation. Brother John was married on last Tuesday evening to Miss Malissa McClary eldest Daughter of Andrew McClary of Steele Co., to the entire satisfaction of both Families. I never enjoyed myself so well at a wedding in my life as I did at this, &c. William Allison of Steele Creek is to be married on next Thursday. I expect I shall be there, and it is expected that in a few weeks Neighbor Robt. Lindsay will play the same trick. I had like to forget to tell you that there was about seventy people dined at Fathers on Wednesday the Day of the Infair. Brother William is at this time gone to Philadelphia. This is the day that the Volunteers Company Meets at this place. I have a notion of joining them, but have not yet determined; their uniform is Elegant and their Company large. O. Rufus, I have often thought of my lonesome but pleasant walks down to Buffalo. I know not when I shall again view that Lovely flowing stream or paddle o'er its waters, or seek a pleasant shade in that Beautiful Grove where I have often been delighted. I have often looked for you but have often looked in vain. I expect your trip to Lancaster has been put off or you would have been along before now. I have been very busy in the Farm since I came home and have to be the overseer. We have had a very wet summer indeed and our crops, particularly cotton, has grown quite too large. What crops were gone over blasted, also Rye, Oats were very good. Corn is now selling with us at 75c pr. bs., wheat at \$1 and scarce, &c. I shall expect a letter from you before long, my respects to your Father's Family and all enquiring Friends.

I remain your Friend and well Wisher and ever wish to be

JONAS C. RUDISILL.

Mr. William R. Jones,

Fort Defiance, Wilkes Co., No. Ca.

Another paper of interest, dated two years before the Revolution, is a receipt from Scotland. This reads as follows:

"Received, Dec. 9, 1772, from Mr. John Huggins Eleven Half Joes mak-

(Continued on page 8.)

BETTER CONDITIONS

IN SANITATION FOR CITY OF GASTONIA

Sanitary Night, Under Auspices of Woman's Betterment Association, a Decided Success—Dr. I. W. Faison Delivered Instructive Address—Miss Settlemyer Read Prize-Winning Essay—Program Interpersed With Music.

Friday night was Sanitary Night with the city schools, the occasion being something on the order of a sanitary rally held at the Central school auditorium under the auspices of the Woman's Betterment Association. While the crowd was not a large one those present manifested a decided interest in the subject under consideration. The men were conspicuous by their absence, the audience being composed mainly of ladies and children.

Following two musical selections, a piano solo by Miss Howell and a duet by Mrs. Lewis H. Balthis and Miss Lois Fry, prayer was offered by Rev. M. A. Ashby, pastor of the Lutheran church. This was followed by a double quartet which rendered in a most delightful manner "Down by the Old Mill Stream" and a solo "The Spirit of Spring," by Mrs. H. B. Moore.

Miss Iberia Settlemyer, a member of the seventh grade at the Loray school, who won the prize of \$5 for the best essay on the subject "What Gastonia Should do to Improve Her Sanitary Conditions," was the next on the program. She read her essay, which is given in full below.

Dr. I. W. Faison, of Charlotte, a prominent member of the medical fraternity of that city, was then introduced and made a most practical and helpful address on sanitation and kindred topics. The speaker complimented the association on what it was doing toward the end of bettering local conditions and urged its members not to let up in their agitation along this line. He dwelt mainly on the subjects of the necessity for a pure water supply, the keeping clean of all premises and annihilating the fly and the mosquito. Incidentally the speaker took a strong shot at our present-day school system which, he says, is conducive to anything but proper and healthy development of the child. For one thing he criticized the schools for the early hour of assembling in the morning. In its hurry to get to school on time, he said, the child swallows its food hurriedly, if indeed it eats at all; at noon the dinner period is so short that the child runs home and half-eats again or grabs a biscuit and eats on its way back. At night the parent discourages much eating on the part of the child because it is near bed time and the food will not be digested. Good wholesome food and plenty of it, well masticated and thoroughly digested is absolutely essential to the development of the child and the modern system in vogue in the public schools is, according to the speaker, entirely antagonistic to the proper feeding of children. It takes lots of eating, and lots of right eating, to make men and women. In connection with his consideration of contagious diseases the speaker urged strong quarantine laws, rigidly enforced. He told his hearers that over one-half of all the children that died under the age of two years die from whooping cough. Most parents say, "Well, my child has to have it some time, so the sooner the better." Such an attitude he characterized as nothing short of criminal on the part of the parent.

Dr. Faison was heard with interest and profit and his audience regretted that he was compelled to cut short his discourse in order to catch a train.

Miss Marie Torrence then sang "Summer," following which Mr. David P. Dellinger, in a short but appropriate speech, delivered the essay prize to Miss Settlemyer. The program closed with a selection by a male quartet composed of Messrs. F. L. Wetzel, Boyce Wilson, K. M. Glass and R. T. Padgett, "The Order of Roses" sung by Miss Elma Rankin, Ruth Mason, Ruby Spencer and Lillian Watson and the benediction by Rev. J. H. Henderlite.

Following is the prize-essay in full.

"WHAT GASTONIA SHOULD DO TO IMPROVE HER SANITARY CONDITIONS."

(Prize Essay Written by Miss Iberia Settlemyer, of the Loray School and read on Sanitary Night at the Central School.)

The subject of public health should be, in every town of importance, second to none. Each year a large per cent. of our diseases and deaths are due to insanitary conditions and are preventable. Moreover, no people weak and sickly from living under insanitary conditions can ever make a strong, a prosperous and a happy community. Therefore, as citizens, we owe it not only to our town but to our State to join in this campaign of education, for it teaching the people the value of cleanliness lies the whole future of our State.

The main obstacle to sanitary progress in our town, as in many others, is the indifference of the people. Our first duty then is to endeavor to create an intelligent, in-

(Continued on page 8.)

SHORT LOCAL ITEMS

THE MOVEMENTS OF GASTON PEOPLE

Personal Items About Gaston Folks and their Friends—Short Items About People and Things That Are of Interest to Gazette Readers—Condensed for Their Convenience

—Esquire C. W. Nipper, of Lowndes, was in the city on business Saturday.

—Mr. D. J. Boyden, of Knoxville, Tenn., is spending a few days here with his sister, Mrs. J. M. Holland.

—Mr. W. Lyle Smith, bookkeeper for the Spencer Mountain Mills, was a Gastonia visitor Saturday afternoon.

—Mr. W. P. McAttee, of McAdenville, was in the city shopping Saturday.

—Mrs. T. L. Lytton, of Spencer arrived in the city Sunday on a visit to her daughter, Mrs. W. H. Dellinger.

—Mrs. M. J. Bollek and Mrs. Isabelle Kirksey, of Malden, were the guests last week of their sister, Mrs. J. B. Beal, here.

—Mr. John Klutz, of Chester, S. C., was a Gastonia visitor Saturday, being the guest of his mother, Mrs. L. C. Eury.

—Some slight changes in the schedule of the Interurban cars went into effect Sunday. See the new schedule in this issue.

—Misses Olive and Lucy Reid, of McAdenville, and Miss Myrtle Timman, of Lowell, were in the city shopping Saturday.

—May, the little three-year-old daughter of Rev. and Mrs. W. T. Clark, has been quite seriously ill at their home on West Airline avenue since Thursday.

—Mrs. Cora Putnam and Mrs. John W. Moore, of Salisbury, were the guests Saturday of their mother, Mrs. L. C. Eury, at her home on East Franklin avenue.

—Mr. C. A. Cary, of Raleigh, editor and manager of the Carolina Union Farmer, spent Saturday in the city as the guest of his mother, Mrs. L. C. Eury.

—In this issue will be found new schedules of the Carolina & North-western Railway and the Seaboard Air Line Railway which went into effect Sunday, April 27th.

—Saturday night the Junior Society of Pisgah Associate Reformed Presbyterian church will give an ice cream supper. The public is cordially invited to attend and are urged to come early.

—Saturday, May 10th, will be observed as memorial day at Mt. Olivet M. E. Church. Exercises will be held beginning at 10 o'clock, and dinner will be served on the grounds. Everybody is cordially invited to come and bring basket dinner.

—Mr. Talmadge Crowder and Miss Minnie Smith, of West Gastonia, were united in marriage Sunday afternoon at 1 o'clock, the ceremony being performed by Rev. W. T. Clark, pastor of the West Airline M. E. Church, at his residence.

—Mr. J. K. Dixon, Jr., Assistant State Bank Examiner for South Carolina with headquarters at Columbia, has been at the home of his parents Mr. and Mrs. J. K. Dixon, since last Thursday recuperating from a slight attack of malaria.

—The regular meeting of the Woman's Betterment Association which was to have been held at the Central school auditorium Friday afternoon has been postponed and the date for it will be announced later. This action was taken because of the conflict with the closing of the city schools.

—Hon. Clyde R. Hoey, of Shelby, spent Friday night in the city as guest of his sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Warren. Mr. Hoey was en route home from Lantersville, where he delivered a commencement address Friday, and from Raleigh, where he attended the sessions of the Supreme Court.

—Mr. J. M. Jones, manager of the Dairy Lunch Company, which operates lunch rooms in the terminal stations of the Piedmont & Northern Lines both here and in Charlotte, moved to Gastonia today with his family and is at home in the residence of Dr. Frank G. Wilson on West Airline avenue.

—An excursion train was run to Edgemont Saturday by Catechee Tribe of Red Men, returning to Gastonia Sunday afternoon. There were about a hundred members of the order on board besides a large number of other persons and the trip was greatly enjoyed by all who went.

—Mr. R. B. Babington went to Charlotte on No. 36 this morning to be with his mother, Mrs. M. I. Babington, who was to undergo a very serious operation at the Charlotte Sanitarium at 11 o'clock. The many friends of the family here hope for Mrs. Babington a full and speedy recovery from the effects of the operation.

—Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Morrow, of Clover, spent yesterday in Gastonia en route home from Shelby, where they went to visit Mr. Morrow's sister, Miss Elizabeth Morrow, who recently underwent an operation at the Shelby Hospital, where she is a nurse, and who is now recovering nicely. They were joined here by Mrs. Morrow's mother, Mrs. M. N. Long, who came up from Clover on a shopping trip and returned with them.

LATE ITEMS OF NEWS

SOME EVENTS IN STATE AND NATION

Important News of the World, Condensed for Busy Gazette Readers—Concise Compendium of Current Events in the United States, Outside of the State, and in Other Countries of the World.

John D. Rockefeller is at his beloved Pocantico Hills again, in good health and very proud of his improved golf links.

Governor Sulzer has served notice that he will sign no special municipal acts which can be covered by local authorities under the cities' home rule law.

The Fruit Trade Journal finds that in spite of all one hears about the high cost of living, Charleston cabbage is reported to be rotting in the fields.

Mayor Blankenburg of Philadelphia, two members of his cabinet and other citizens are going to the University of Wisconsin to hear a short course of lectures on municipal economy.

A party of surveyors, says The Monroe Enquirer, is making a preliminary survey for a railroad from Jefferson, S. C., to Monroe. The surveyors' camp at present is located near Jefferson.

According to the official directory of the Sixty-third Congress, lawyers outnumber all other professions in Congress. In the new House there are 290 lawyers, and the Senate has 71 lawyers out of a total of 96 members.

Mrs. Callie Applebaum was acquitted in Atlanta Friday of the charge of murdering her husband, J. A. Applebaum, the Chicago traveling man found dead in an Atlanta hotel several weeks ago. Mrs. Applebaum fainted when the verdict was announced.

Mrs. Woodrow Wilson, wife of the President, one day last week took some flowers from the White House grounds to a boy in the district occupied by the poor in Washington who was dying with tuberculosis. Mrs. Wilson went with the attending physician and the secret of her visit leaked out a few days later.

Dr. W. S. Rankin, of Raleigh, head of the State Department of Health, who spent last week in Atlanta attending the Southern Sociological Congress, Saturday presided over a public health conference which took up in detail the public health provisions contained in statutes of various Southern States and considered possible methods of reform.

FOUR MEN; THREE LEGS.

Interesting Story From Chicago—Salisbury, However, Beats Record With Three Legs Divided Up Among Five Men.

Chicago, April 25.—Four men, with a total of three legs who seem to be more than unusually steady in their movements, were arrested while tumbling about in front of a Fulton street car. Traffic had been delayed about fifteen minutes.

Philip Pell had no legs, Michael Sullivan, Martin Casey and Joseph Mayer had one leg each. Pell fell from his stumps onto the car tracks. The others tried to stack him up straight and all fell down. They found it impossible to get up. They admitted that they had been drinking and were fined.

Commenting on the above Saturday's Salisbury Post says:

Captain Cauble and his men of the Salisbury police force beat the above some months ago, arresting and locking up five negro men, there being only three legs in the bunch. Two of them were legless and three had only one leg each.

RECORDER'S COURT.

Number of Small Cases Disposed of by Judge Jones

Since last Tuesday the following cases have been disposed of in the recorder's court:

Lawson Bird, colored, assault, 30 days in jail.

Lawson Bird, colored, carrying concealed weapon, four months in jail.

R. E. Long, white, drunk and down, fined \$2.50 and costs.

R. E. Long, white, drunk and down, fined \$2.50 and costs.

Billie Moore, colored, larceny, four months on the roads.

Sam Mauney, white, assault, not guilty.

Burwell Mauney, white, disorderly conduct, not guilty.

Selma Knuckley, white, using abusive language, judgment suspended on payment of the costs.

IN SOCIAL CIRCLES

LATEST EVENTS IN WOMAN'S WORLD

WITH MRS. HUFFSTETLER THIS AFTERNOON.

The S. and O. Club is being entertained this afternoon by Mrs. Parks Huffstetler at her home on South York street.

U. C. CLUB WITH MISS BLAKE.

A very interesting meeting of the U. C. Club was held Saturday afternoon with Miss Lottie Blake at her home on South Marietta street. The subject for the meeting was "Seven Women Writers" and sketches of the lives and writings of Mary Johnson, Ellen Glasgow, Alice Hazan Rice and Christian Reid were read by Miss Mary Hagan, Mrs. W. W. Glenn, Miss Mamie Cabaniss and Miss Lowry Shuford.

FOR RECENT BRIDE AND GROOM.

Invitations have been received by Gastonia friends reading as follows: Dr. and Mrs. S. A. Wilkins At Home Tuesday evening, April twenty-ninth Mr. and Mrs. Colt M. Robinson 8:30 Please Reply.

Mr. and Mrs. Robinson were only recently married and have gone to housekeeping in Dallas where Mr. Robinson holds a responsible position with one of the mills.

MISSION STUDY CLASS WITH MRS. WOLTZ.

The Mission Study Class composed of ladies of Main Street Methodist church held an especially interesting meeting yesterday afternoon with Mrs. A. E. Woltz at her home on South Broad street. The book now being studied is "Mormonism, the Islam of America," and the chapter taken up at yesterday's meeting was very interestingly illustrated by the scenes from a current magazine bearing on the topic. There was a good attendance and much interest taken in the study. The next meeting will be held with Mrs. Emmet D. Atkins at her home on East Third avenue, Monday, May 12th.

JONES-SPRING WEDDING AT MOUNT HOLLY.

The following from Saturday's Charlotte Observer will be of interest to the many friends of the contracting parties in the county:

A pretty wedding was that of Miss Velva Josephine Springs and Mr. E. R. Jones, of Charlotte, which occurred at the home of the bride's parents in Mount Holly Wednesday afternoon at 4:30 o'clock. The ceremony was performed by Rev. S. L. Cathey.

The bride wore a traveling suit of blue and carried an armful of white roses and ferns. She is the eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Springs and is admired by a large circle of friends for her sweet disposition and charming manners.

Mr. Jones is the son of Mr. A. F. Jones, of Mount Holly, and one of the county's rising young business men. He is at present connected with the Piedmont Telephone & Telegraph Co., with headquarters in Charlotte.

Mr. and Mrs. Jones left immediately after the ceremony for Charlotte, where they will make their home.

U. C. DISTRICT MEETING AT LINCOLNTON.

The Southern Stars Chapter of Lincolnnton was hostess Saturday to the district convention of the United Daughters of the Confederacy. The meeting was held in the handsome chapter room of the Southern Stars Chapter and was presided over by Mrs. Harry Reid, president of that chapter. Representatives from Kings Mountain, Gastonia, Mooresville, Charlotte and Shelby were present.

The visitors were met at the depot by a committee and carried in automobiles to the handsome home of Mrs. R. C. Costner where an informal reception was held. At eleven o'clock all assembled in the chapter house. This house, over 100 years old, was in itself an inspiration, with its hundreds of pieces of firearms, swords and scabbards, knapsacks, saddle bags, canteens and flags, all artistically arranged. Upstairs, where the luncheon was served, were spinning wheels, candle molds, cabinets of relics and a hand-loom. The delegates were delighted to see this hand-loom in operation and a blue and white carpet actually in the making. Mrs. Gordon Finger, of Charlotte, was appointed secretary. Mrs. Costner cordially welcomed all the visitors. The only college children's chapter in the State, the one at Fossilburg, was present in a body and sang. Mrs. J. W. Faison made an interesting talk after which the State historian, Miss Carrie Leaser, of Mooresville, made the principal talk of the day. This was done beautifully and practically and enthused and inspired each daughter present to go home and begin collecting history. She urged first that the Daughters secure personal narratives from the men and women now living who were living in the '60's. They were urged to do this before it is too late. The presidents of the Chapters present made reports and when business was over a three-course luncheon was served in the dining room of the chapter house.

The next district meeting will be

NEWS OF THE COUNTY

LATEST FROM OUR CORRESPONDENTS

Newsy Letters from Gazette Correspondents Here and There Over Good Old Gaston—What Our Neighbors Are Doing in the Various Sections of the County—Personal Mention of People You Know and Some You Don't Know.

Dallas, Route 1, News.

Correspondence of The Gazette. DALLAS, Route 1, April 28. — There will be communion services at Antioch the first Sunday morning at 11 o'clock.

Miss Etta White was the guest of Miss Ellen Pasour Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. L. C. Pasour spent the week-end at the home of Mr. J. C. Friday, on route two.

Little Miss Gertrude Best visited at the home of her grandfather, Mr. John Lineberger, a few days last week.

Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Ratchford, of Kings Mountain, route two, spent the week-end at the home of Mr. W. C. Best.

Mrs. E. B. Turner and children and Mrs. W. W. Rucker were the guests Sunday of Mrs. W. R. Turner.

Miss Alice Huss, of Southside, came down last week to visit friends on route one for a few days.

Mrs. Ida Lineberger and daughter, Miss Kate, of Bessemer City visited at the home of Mr. G. L. Best Sunday.

Misses Lucy Jenkins and Florence Pasour visited Misses Cora and Bertha Best Sunday.

Mrs. R. L. White visited at the home of Mr. G. E. C. Pasour Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Ratchford spent Sunday at the home of Mr. G. L. Best.

Death of Mrs. W. C. Petty at Bowling Green.

Correspondence of The Gazette. BOWLING GREEN, S. C., April 26.—Mrs. Laura Petty, wife of Mr. W. C. Petty, of this place, died at her home Wednesday afternoon after a lingering illness of several years during which she bore her suffering with true Christian fortitude. Mrs. Petty was in the forty-fourth year of her age. She was a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Wilson. She is survived by her husband and eleven children; also her mother and two half-sisters, Mrs. Mary Fairies and Mrs. Giovanni Torrence, of Gastonia.

Mrs. Petty was a member of the Bowling Green Presbyterian church. Services were conducted at the church at 3 o'clock Thursday afternoon by Rev. H. J. Mills. The body was laid to rest in Bowling Green cemetery. The bereaved family and relatives have the sympathy of a large circle of friends in their sorrow.

MISSIONARY CONFERENCE.

Annual Conference of Woman's Missionary Society of Western North Carolina Conference Held in Central Methodist Church at Concord.

The annual meeting of the Woman's Missionary Society of the Western North Carolina Conference, M. E. Church, South, adjourned yesterday afternoon after having been in session since Thursday night in Central Methodist church at Concord. The sessions were presided over by Mrs. Lucy H. Robertson, of Greensboro.

At the first session Thursday night the address of welcome was delivered by Mrs. L. D. Coltrane, and the response was made by Mrs. S. L. Alderman, of Greensboro. Following the Thursday night session an elegant reception was given at the residence of Mrs. D. B. Coltrane, Friday afternoon there was an address by Mrs. Plato Durbam.

On Sunday at 11 o'clock the annual sermon was preached by Rev. Dr. C. W. Byrd, pastor of West Market Street Methodist church, Greensboro. The exercises in the afternoon were in charge of the young people's missionary society.

At the election of officers held yesterday Mrs. Lucy H. Robertson was re-elected president. Mrs. R. E. Ware, of Shelby, was elected district secretary of the Shelby district to succeed Mrs. B. T. Morris.

Likes The Gazette.

In renewing his subscription to The Gazette for another two years Mr. L. J. Holland, a former Gaston countian now a prosperous attorney in Bluefield, W. Va., says: "I am a subscriber to several metropolitan papers, including the London Times, but none of these receives a heartier welcome or is more eagerly read than the Gastonia Gazette."

—Mr. Robert Adams and Mr. Erskine Boyce attended grand opera in Atlanta last week.

Executors and administrators of estates who want the largest number of people to see their advertisements should place them in The Gazette.

held April 26th, 1914, in Shelby. The U. D. C. attending from Gastonia were Mesdames J. F. Thomson, T. L. Craig, W. J. Clifford, P. R. Falls and S. A. Robinson.