

PER CAPITA wealth of Gaston County is \$1,611. Population 51,242; total wealth, \$82,575,749.

GASTONIA DAILY GAZETTE

GASTONIA — A city of fine homes, good schools and churches — A good place to live. Population 51,242, 123.5 p. c. gain.

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GASTONIA, N. C., MONDAY AFTERNOON, NOVEMBER 8, 1920

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GYPSY SMITH, JR. BEGINS TWO WEEKS MEETING HERE

Noted Evangelist Opens Series of Services at First Presbyterian Church Sunday Night — Crowds Throng Church For Opening Sermon — Numbers Turned Away.

Rev. Gypsy Smith, Jr., who was expected to preach at the First Presbyterian church Sunday morning, and was delayed several hours en route from New Jersey by a railroad wreck arrived in the city Sunday at 12:10 P. M.

In the absence of the evangelist the pastor, Rev. Dr. Jas. H. Hendler, with only thirty minutes notice, preached an earnest and forceful sermon to an unusually large congregation at the morning hour.

Miss Abernethy, of Lenoir, the pianist, arrived in the city Saturday and is being entertained in the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. O. White. Mr. Smith and his choir director, Mr. George F. Allen, are guests at the Arlington Hotel.

With a leader of national prominence, a perfect organization, and a week of preparatory prayer, the pastors, officers and members of the First Presbyterian church have worked untiringly to make this the most successful meeting in the history of the church. Mr. Smith, himself a singer, places great value upon hearty song services and the music and singing will be features of the meeting. All who can sing are urged to be in the choir as early as 7 o'clock Tuesday night.

Mr. Smith preached his first sermon Sunday night, and the congregation began arriving as early as 6:30 P. M. By seven o'clock there was standing room only. The large auditorium, galleries, Sunday School room, parlor and choir loft, with every available seat and hundreds of extra chairs were filled with a crowd estimated at about 1600 people. More than two hundred were turned away from the first service. Mr. Allen has a wonderful voice and is an able choir director. Mr. Smith possessing all the virility and power of speech that characterizes his father brought a message full of fervor and earnestness. Mr. Smith possesses a most pleasing personality and pulpit appearance. Entirely devoid of sensational methods, he nevertheless preaches wonderfully forceful sermons which everybody can understand. He will preach every night except Monday for two weeks at 7:30 o'clock. There will be no service on Monday. Announcement of services to be held during the day will be made later. Mr. Allen and choir furnished some splendid singing Sunday night, but more voices are needed. Gastonia has an array of vocal talent that should readily respond to the call of this splendid director.

After half an hour's service of song beginning at 7:30 P. M. Sunday night prayer was offered by Rev. Dr. J. C. Galloway, pastor of the First Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church. Mr. Smith then read for a Scripture Lesson the sixteenth chapter of Judges, setting forth the temptation, the fall and the death of Samson. After himself leading the congregation in singing "There'll Be No Dark Valley When Jesus Comes," he preached from the text: "So the dead that he slew at his death were more than they which he slew in his life." (Judges 16:30.)

The Bible has various methods of teaching its truths. First of all, there is the argumentative method. You can get past the logic of God's book. Secondly, there is the winsome method. There is no more winning stories anywhere in the world than the love story of the cross. Lastly, we have the dramatic method. And I think that the deeds of some of the men of the Bible are far more potent than anything they said or wrote.

Samson stirs me more profoundly than any other of the Old Testament characters. First we see him crowned with the laurels of many victories. Then as a fool, sneered at by a fawning spirit. Next, as a slave, dethroned, demoralized. An lastly, as a champion coming forth from dark-

ness and crowning his life with triumph.

He is the type of a great many of us. The type of a Christian who was honest when he united with the church and the things for which he stood. Then, getting careless, fell and slipped into unhappiness and unrest and defeat. Then seeing the mess they have made of it all, reconsecrate themselves and rise to greater victories than they have ever known.

We were all thrilled when we read for the first time the early stories of Samson's life—his carrying off the gates of the city; his tying the foxes together and putting the firebrand between them and turning them into the Philistines' wheat fields, thereby destroying their crops; his meeting with the lion; his destruction of the thousand Philistines with the jawbone of an ass. And you will notice that Samson never took any excuse for defeat. He was superior to all obstacles, and the secret of his success was that "the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon him." He learned early in life that he secret of power was the law of surrender. This can be illustrated by the mind in its youth only attaining its triumphs by surrendering to the mind of the teacher. The organ could never give us any melody unless it surrendered to the touch of the player, and so you and I can only be powerful spiritually as we surrender to a higher power.

I have sometimes thought I could see the stage all set for the second act and Delilah in the center of the stage. The air odor of olives and myrrh, and Samson waiting in the wings for his turn, and then I have imagined that the old restrictions that have come on before looked down over the battlements of heaven and shouted to him, "Samson, take care!" But there was one thing that Samson could not do. He was the strongest man in the world's history, but he could not take care. And he lost his position as judge, his sight, his strength, his liberty, all through fooling with his weakness. Ninety-nine Christians out of every hundred who go down, go down the same way. I don't mean the same sin, but the same process—through fooling with our weakness. The devil isn't any fool. He knows us, and he is a master of our armor. He knows the unguarded moment. The average Christian today is not guilty of murder, or lust, or gambling, or drunkenness, but the devil does not care whether it's pride or murder as long as he gets us. And so Samson lost all through fooling.

Do you remember the morning you were received into your church? Do you remember, as you stood before the altar, the promises that you made and the unspoken promises, too, your heart was filled with, and earnestness and sincerity that no one would doubt? You were glad to be received into the church, and the very best of your manhood and womanhood was ruling that morning, and you wanted your life to count. Have you lost anything? Have you lost that earnestness? Have you lost that sincerity? Have you lost the ambition to attain to that ideal that God has for you? Have you lost anything? You remember how, after Samson had played the fool, they put out his eyes, put him down in the prison house to grind; and you know that is typical of so many of us. If some of us were to stop for a moment and look back to the day when we first surrendered our lives to Jesus Christ, we should shudder to find how far we have traveled from Him. Some of us have lost Him entirely out of our lives, but we still go to church and we still teach a Sunday School class, and we are still an official member of the church, but it is only grinding. There is no spirit there. We turn to the hymns, and we sing, but it only comes from the throat, not from the heart. It used to come from the heart, but now it is grinding. We turn to the responsive reading, and, if we would be frank, we would much rather be at home reading one of the best sellers. We go to church only because it is customary and considered the correct thing for Sabbath mornings, and we don't wish to be known as heathens, and when we get there the sermon is usually so dry to us. It is because we have lost Christ's spirit, and we are just grinding. You know it is quite

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ESTIMATES ARE BEING PREPARED BY VARIOUS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS

WASHINGTON, Nov. 8.—Estimates upon which congress will make appropriations for the first fiscal year of the new republican administration are now being prepared by the various government departments under the direction of democratic cabinet officers and in accord with the policies of the Wilson administration.

The estimates will be submitted to congress at the opening of the next session on December 6. Since the republicans have a majority in both the senate and house, sharp changes are expected to be made in most of the estimates under revision plans which republican congressional leaders are expected to work out in co-operation with other leaders of the Harding administration which takes office on March 4.

The present political situation with regard to the annual appropriations is similar to that which obtained eight years ago after the first election of Woodrow Wilson, but the economic situation in the country was vastly different. At that time the republicans were in control of the executive branches of the government under President Taft, but the democrats had a majority in both the senate and house.

At that time, however, conditions in this country and the world generally were normal and government expenditures were only a fourth of what they are at this time. The forthcoming estimates for the war department will be based upon the requirements of an army the size of which already has been fixed by the republican congress, but the naval estimates to be submitted next month will be based on the democratic program. Secretary Daniels had repeatedly said that unless the United States became a member of the league of nations it must maintain the most powerful navy in the world.

Under the program authorized in 1916, the government now is constructing five great battle cruisers and more than that number of super-dreadnaughts and the forthcoming naval estimate is expected not only to include appropriations for carrying on this work, but also recommendations for additions war craft.

Estimates for all of the government departments are expected to exceed four billions of dollars, this total including amounts for refunding portions of the public debt falling due during the next fiscal year. The estimates for the present fiscal year exceeded six billion dollars, but these subsequently were reduced by something like two billion dollars.

Whether all of the annual supply measures will be completed at the next and final session of the 66th congress remains to be determined. President Harding is expected to call a special session of the new congress soon after he takes office on March 4 and it may be that some of the appropriation bills will go over to the special session.

SAYS PALMER CUT HEART OUT OF CASE AGAINST COAL OPERATORS

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Nov. 8.—Instructions said to have been given Dan W. Sims, assistant United States district attorney, by A. Mitchell Palmer, United States attorney general, regarding the elimination of certain evidence to be used in the soft coal conspiracy case will be investigated when the case is called for trial today in the court of Judge A. R. Anderson.

Because of the recent resignation of Mr. Sims, due, he said, to the instructions from the attorney general, and the inability to bring into the jurisdiction of the Indiana court some of the defendants living in Illinois and Ohio, it is expected the government will ask for a continuance this morning.

Judge Anderson indicated, however, that he expects to hold an investigation in open court to determine by what authority the attorney general issued instructions concerning evidence which Mr. Sims said would "literally cut the heart out of the case" if eliminated.

Frank C. Daley, one of the attorneys representing the soft coal operators under indictment and Mr. Sims have been subpoenaed to appear today. It is expected they will be called on to testify concerning the attorney general's connection with the case.

The case, which is against 125 miners and operators charged with conspiracy to violate the Lever act, is an outgrowth of the strike in the bituminous coal fields last November.

Special Sermons.

In a large number of pulpits in Gaston county yesterday the ministers preached special sermons against immorality and defiance of the law. This simultaneous action was in compliance with a resolution passed at a mass meeting of the ministers of the county called on October 11. Some of the subjects announced by various ministers were "On the Wrong Train," "Though Your Sins Be as Scarlet," and "Asleep at the Switch."

GRUESOME TRAGEDY ENACTED ON GASTONIA-BESSEMER CITY ROAD

MINISTER MAY BE TRIED FOR ALLEGED MURDER

WINDSOR, Ont., Nov. 8.—Whether Rev. J. C. L. Spracklin, minister and prohibition enforcement leader, must stand trial for the slaying of Beverly Trumble, following a raid on the latter's inn Saturday morning, may be known tonight. The inquest into Trumble's death was to be continued here this evening. Adjournment was taken to permit officers to search for a man named "Ed Smith," who is said to have seen the shooting and who is expected to testify whether Trumble was armed when he was killed.

Rev. Spracklin was in Chatham, Ont., today. He was spirited from the jail here early yesterday morning, when officers heard rumors that an attempt at violence was being planned by certain friends of Trumble.

Feeling ran high in the border towns over Sunday.

HARDING PLANS TO GET OFF FRONT PAGE

ON BOARD PRESIDENT-ELECT HARDING'S SPECIAL TRAIN, Nov. 8.—Coming to Texas for a vacation after the trying requirements of his campaign, President-elect Harding declared today that he was determined to put aside thoughts of his coming responsibilities and to give himself over for the next two weeks to complete rest and recreation.

He told his friends that he expected to stay off the front page and to cease temporarily to be more than a second rate in the daily columns of the newspapers.

From the time of his arrival at Point Isabel a small and remote village on the southern Texas coast he was ready to plunge unreservedly into the swing of a real vacation. Hunting, fishing and golf are the particular vacation offerings of the place, but of the three he expected to omit hunting because it never has been among his favorite sports. A morning's fishing expedition and an afternoon on the golf links were to constitute his routine during virtually every day of his visit.

The fact that Point Isabel lies only six miles from the Mexican border, has given rise to many whisperings of possible conferences between the new president-elect and representatives of the new regime in Mexico, but those closest to Mr. Harding were inclined to throw cold water on such of these reports as have come to their attention. Mr. Harding himself said today that no such conference were "in prospect," and that he had heard them expressed only in newspaper speculation.

The same attitude was taken by the president-elect toward published suggestions that he might begin, before his inauguration informal conversations with European governments regarding the formulation of an association of nations. Not only does he want his vacation undisturbed, but he has said in public utterances that he desired to have no negotiations with foreign agents until he actually had come into authority.

The delicacy of Mr. Harding's position in that regard has been pointed out more than once by those closely associated with him. Elected to the presidency by an overwhelmingly majority after promising many changes in the nation's foreign policy, he naturally is looked to by foreign governments to take the proper steps to put those changes into effect. Yet, by a proviso of American law, unique among the greater powers of the world, he remains a private citizen for four months, forbidden by diplomatic propriety to take any hand in the direction of executive affairs.

At a time when important international problems are pending not only with the powers of the old world, but with Mexico, Japan, China, and other nations, this situation takes on additional interest. It is understood that several men representing themselves, either truly or falsely, as the spokesmen of foreign statesmen, attempted to gain interviews with Mr. Harding at Marion even before his election, but all of them were turned away by his headquarters officials.

JOSEPH HULL DEAD.

SAVANNAH, Ga., Nov. 8.—Joseph Hull, Savannah business man and one of the wealthiest men in the state of Georgia, died today at his country home near here. Born July 26, 1849, in Florida, Hull, when a young man, engaged in phosphate mining, from which he made a fortune. His interests in this city were very extensive.

LINCOLN MAN SHOT AND KILLED—TWO YOUNG WOMEN ARE CRIMINALLY ASSAULTED

Party Waylaid by Negro Highwaymen — Miss Essie Beatty in Critical Condition in City Hospital — Ransom Killian Forced to Lie Down Beside Companion in Death Struggles While Negroes Accomplished Their Fiendish Purpose — Two Suspects Held at Blacksburg For Identification — Lincoln Citizens Here in Force.

John Ford, a young white man of Lincoln, is dead and Miss Essie Beatty, of the Trenton mill section of Gastonia, lies in the city hospital perhaps fatally wounded, as the result of a Sunday night tragedy on the Bessemer City-Gastonia road, when two unknown negroes held up and robbed the two young men, John Ford and Ransom Killian, who were out riding with the Grice and Beatty girls.

According to the story told Sunday night at 10 o'clock when the body of young Ford was brought to the city hall, the party were on their way to church and were turning around to come back when they were held up. The account as given in The Charlotte Observer of this morning states that young Ford was shot while in the car. The story as told by the Grice girl and the Killian boy this morning varies somewhat from that given out last night.

Ransom Killian when seen this morning by a representative of The Daily Gazette was considerably excited and plainly showed the effects of the harrowing experiences of the night before. Killian tells this story:

"John Ford and I had supper at the Carolina Cafe about 7 o'clock. After supper we drove out Franklin avenue and near Trenton street picked up Effie Grice and Essie Beatty and continued on up Franklin avenue toward Bessemer City. Near the forks of the road beyond the car line we stopped at a little store and got some candy and chewing gum. We then went toward Bessemer City until a short distance above the Shannon place, where we turned to the left toward a little patch of woods. We stopped the car here and John Ford and Effie Grice got out of the car, taking a blanket with them. I stayed in the car with Essie Beatty, talking to her. In about 10 or 15 minutes I heard some one walking towards the car from the woods. Thinking it was John Ford, I said to him 'What's wrong, John?' An answer came back to me not to move and to hold up my hands, and a shot was fired from a pistol. A negro man came on up to the car and asked me if I had any money. I told him that I had a few dollars and he made me give it to him. In the meantime, the girl was down on her knees in the front of the car begging for mercy. The negro shot a second and third time and the girl was hit. Finally he made us get out of the car. We had heard other shots coming from the direction of the woods where Ford and Effie were. We met this other negro who told us that he 'had shot the other — — — down yonder.'"

At this juncture Killian was interrupted in his story by the officers, Sheriff Carroll, Chief Orr and others, who took the young man with them to Blacksburg where it was reported they had two negroes arrested and held as suspicious characters. This theory was further strengthened by the reports on the streets this morning that a local jitney driver had engaged to convey two negro men to Blacksburg last night, that he overheard them laying plots to rob some one and that he at the point of a pistol forced them to get out of the car at almost the spot where the tragedy occurred. At a late hour this morning the officers had not returned from Blacksburg.

In the meantime the young Grice girl was seen by The Gazette reporter and she tells that she and Ford were sitting on the blanket by the side of the road when a strange negro came up to them and demanded money, and that without further words began shooting. Young Ford fell to the ground. All this is alleged to have happened about 7:30 o'clock. The affair was not known until about 9:30 or 10 o'clock when young Killian and the Grice girl brought the body to the city. It was reported around the city this morn-

ing, that the negroes forced young Killian to lie down beside the Ford boy in his death struggles on the ground and that the two girls were mistreated for two hours or more.

Other reports current on the street were that the shooting was done by some of the inhabitants of that section which has become notorious on account of the alleged practices that take place there. It is currently reported that more than one mysterious shooting and hold-up has taken place on this road and that the instigators were citizens of that community who have grown tired of the nightly auto rides that end up in immoral revels in the woods nearby.

Mr. and Mrs. Grice when seen this morning said that to all appearances young Ford was a gentleman, that he had been in the habit of visiting their daughter quite often. They are of the opinion that there is more to the story than has yet been divulged, and that the truth, when told, will reveal still more startling details.

Young Ford and Killian are both prominently connected in Lincoln. At an early hour this morning numbers of Lincoln citizens were in town in an angry mood. They assisted local police officers in scouring the woods. A number of them went to Blacksburg with Sheriff Carroll and Chief Orr.

The account given in The Observer is as follows:

Two unrecognized negro men held up an automobile party of two young men of Lincoln and two young girls of Gastonia, killed one of the men, John Ford, and criminally assaulted the two young women, last night about 7:30 o'clock about three miles from Gastonia, on the Gastonia-Bessemer City highway, according to information received in Charlotte by long distance telephone from the City hospital in Gastonia, where the girls were taken for treatment. One of the two girls was shot in the back. The two negroes made their escape.

Local police and county officers were notified and a party composed of Chief of Police Orr, Patrolman Gardner, Detective Moser and Deputy Sheriff Fesperman left Charlotte soon after the tragedy taking along the bloodhounds to assist in the search for the alleged criminals.

Immediately following their deed the negroes are thought to have caught a passing freight train going south. One of the young girls reported that one of the negroes said "Let's catch this train and get away." A large posse of infuriated citizens were scouring the woods last night in an effort to apprehend the negroes. Reports coming from Gastonia say that feeling is at fever heat and if the negroes are caught violence is expected.

John Ford and Ransom Killian of Lincoln, were the young men in the car. Ford was killed when he attempted to rise from his seat following the commands of the negroes that the young ladies get out of the car, according to the report received here. It was reported that the young man was shot down with the declaration from the negroes that he was nothing, for they had killed white men before.

At the point of revolvers, it is said, the girls were dragged from the car and carried some distance into the woods where the negroes accomplished their purpose, according to the incoherent statements of the prostrated girls given to medical attendants. One of the girls was shot when she attempted to offer resistance to the negroes. Her condition is reported serious. Coupled with the gunshot wound she is suffering from the nervous strain of her harrowing experience. Miss Grice is also in a desperate nervous condition resulting from the shock of the dreadful experience.

The hold-up occurred at a point about

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