

PER CAPITA wealth of Gaston County is \$1,511. Population 51,242; total wealth \$78,573,749.

GASTONIA DAILY GAZETTE

GASTONIA — A city of 52,000, good schools and churches. A good place to live. Population 12,871; 123.5 p. a. gain

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JUDGE LANDIS OFFERED SALARY OF \$50,000 A YEAR TO HEAD NEW LEAGUE

CHICAGO, Nov. 9.—John A. Heydler, president, secretary and treasurer of the new National League, and Hank O'Day, well known to the public for years as an umpire, this morning conferred over the subject of umpires for the new baseball league.

Word was waited from Judge Keneaw Mountain Landis, judge of the district court of the United States for Chicago, as to whether he would accept position of chairman of the board of control for a term of seven years at an annual salary of \$50,000. The judge had the matter under advisement and said he would make known his decision within a few days.

Chicago today was no longer the rendezvous of leading minor and major league baseball officials. President Ban Johnson and several of his friends left last night for Kansas City, where the meeting of the National Association of Minor Leagues was scheduled for today.

With the appointment of Judge Landis, of Chicago, as chairman of the tribunal which will govern the game, pending his acceptance, the organization of the new league included reaffirmation of acceptance of the Lasker plan of baseball reorganization with slight modifications, chief of which was that the minor leagues should be requested and permitted to choose an associate member of the board of control of their own election.

In deciding all baseball matters the votes in the "new National League" will be cast by clubs and not by leagues, under the new plan, it was announced.

The league comprises at present the Boston Braves, the Boston Red Sox, Brooklyn, Chicago Cubs, Cincinnati, Chicago White Sox, Pittsburgh and St. Louis, New York Americans, New York Nationals and Philadelphia Nationals. These are the clubs of the now defunct National League and three clubs of the American League and three clubs of the American League whose representatives signed the resolutions in Chicago October 18, favoring a reorganization of baseball consequent upon the disclosure of the 1919 world's series scandal, basing their resolutions upon the plan proposed by A. D. Lasker, of the Chicago National League club, calling for a civilian tribunal.

The five dissenting clubs left today as components of the American League were Detroit, Philadelphia, Cleveland, Washington, and St. Louis. President Ban Johnson, of the league, leader of the fight against formation of the new league, fostering its civilian tribunal, announced, before he left Chicago, the determination of the "solid five" to proceed with the organization of a new American League.

The new National League gives New York, Chicago, and Boston two clubs in the same league. Brooklyn was also included, giving New York three representatives. Besides the other members, Cincinnati, Pittsburgh, St. Louis (National) and Philadelphia (National), the twelfth member, it was announced, is to be the first of the five dissenting American League clubs applying for membership. The proviso was further made that "falling to receive such application within a reasonable time, a twelfth club is to be established by the new National League, and it is not the intention that minor league territory be invaded."

GENERAL OBREGON CANNOT MEET MR. HARDING

(By The Associated Press.)

MEXICO CITY, Nov. 9.—It would be impossible for General Alvaro Obregon, president-elect of Mexico to meet Senator W. G. Harding, at a border city, said a statement issued last night from General Obregon's headquarters. The short time which intervenes before the inauguration of the general and the necessity of preparing a legislative program were given as reasons for abandoning all thought of meeting the American president-elect.

Assertion was made that General Obregon realized the benefits to be derived from such a meeting, and personally desired it.

BIG REDUCTION ANNOUNCED IN CLOTHING PRICES

(By The Associated Press.)

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Nov. 9.—A reduction of 33 1-3 per cent in the wholesale price of clothing is announced by one of Rochester's largest clothing manufacturing concerns. The reduction is effective from November and applies to suits and overcoats. It is said the reduction, which is in addition to the usual cash discount of 7 per cent, represents a cut from \$33, the opening fall wholesale price, to approximately \$20.

HOLLAND GUARDS HER FRONTIERS AGAINST INFLUX OF BOLSHEVIKS

ROTTERDAM, Nov. 9.—Holland has established a great cordon along the German frontier to prevent the influx of large numbers of Russian bolshevik agents from Germany. Heavy guards are maintained so that persons wishing to cross the boundary in either direction must pass through frontier posts and over recognized highways. Those who attempt surreptitiously to cross run the risk of being shot.

These precautions have failed, however, to check the movement of soviet agents. Men whom the police would like to interview have been seen in this city and Amsterdam, but when the police set their dragnet for their quarry the men wanted have utterly vanished. Later there usually comes information that the suspects have been found in Germany and are on their way to the Russian frontier. The system followed resembles the "underground railroad" by which fugitive slaves moved through Northern states to Canada in the days before the American civil war.

Among those who recently passed the armed Dutch frontier guards, it is declared, was Louis G. Frayna, American delegate to the inter-national bolshevik "clearing house" conference, held in Brussels. Police surveillance is attempted in Hamburg and some other German cities, but it usually comes to naught, as there are elements in Germany which are friendly to the soviet Russian government.

The "underground railroad" is utilized by soviet agents to bring into Holland bolshevik "missionaries" who are to make attempts to reach America. During recent months many Poles have gone to America, some of them being deserters from General Pilsudski's army. Reports have been received here that many bolshevik sympathizers who were last year deported as undesirable from America are to be returned to that country. Police officials assert a special bureau has been created here to take care of this class of "emigrant," and carry out carefully laid plans for getting the agitators back into the United States.

WAR CLOUDS LOOM LARGE OVER LASKER PLAN

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Nov. 9.—War clouds loomed dark and foreboding for the proponents of the Lasker plan for baseball reorganization when the presidents and club owners of the twenty-one minor leagues of the nation met in convention here today to vote on the proposed tribunal as the supreme governing body of organized baseball.

When the committee of three, appointed by the twelve club new National League, organized yesterday in Chicago, arrived here to present the Lasker plan for the consideration of the minor leagues, indications were that it would be overwhelmingly defeated. The minor league leaders declared themselves capable of settling their own disputes and conducting their own affairs.

GYPSY SMITH TO PREACH TONIGHT AT 8

Grand Piano Has Been Installed in Church and Arrangements Made For Accommodation of 50 Additional Members of Choir — Song Service at 7:30 Sharp — Singers Invited.

Many who failed to hear Gypsy Smith, Jr., Sunday night will have the opportunity of hearing him tonight at 7:30 o'clock at the First Presbyterian church. Unlike the majority of evangelists, Mr. Smith chooses Monday for his day of rest, rather than Saturday, and preaches each Saturday night of the meeting. In the interim since Sunday, carpenters have been busy at the church enlarging the platform to contain a grand piano which has been installed and building an extension pulpit platform to permit the evangelist to be seen and distinctly heard from every part of the building. Mr. Smith will thus be enabled to command a view of the entire congregation. Chapel services in the graded schools will be arranged for by Mr. Allen today and fifteen minute noon hour services at some of the mills are contemplated.

The schedule for services during the day will be announced later. At least fifty more singers can be accommodated with seats in the choir. This not only offers a splendid opportunity for dedicating voices to the Lord's work, but carries the assurance of being comfortably seated during the meetings. Another overflow meeting is looked for tonight.

Mr. Allen cordially invites and will cordially welcome all who sing to the choir as early as 7 p. m.

Mr. J. H. Kennedy is in charge of the ushering and every courtesy will be shown to all who attend. The song service, begins promptly at 7:30 p. m. and Mr. Smith takes charge of the service at 8 p. m. His sermons are of about thirty minutes' duration. Mr. Smith has not been asked concerning his denominational preference or church affiliation and will not be. The meetings are absolutely non-sectarian and interdenominational in character and a most cordial invitation is extended to all the people to attend.

HOTEL PROPRIETORS EAT A 25-CENT MEAL

(By The Associated Press.)

NEW YORK, Nov. 9.—Hotel proprietors attending the fifth National Hotel Men's Exposition here will partake of a twenty-five cent meal on Ellis Island this week, on the invitation of Frederick A. Wallis, immigration commissioner. Skepticism on the part of the hotel men that the island's chef could concoct a repast for that sum, and still claim a profit, is said to have prompted the invitation and also the acceptance.

Edward M. Timney, chairman of the exposition committee, today recommended that brides at the prices of bridal suits, both in order to encourage matrimony and as a part of the general price-cutting program.

NEW YORK DOCTORS QUITTING USE OF LIQUOR

(By The Associated Press.)

NEW YORK, Nov. 9.—Only 300 of more than 3,700 physicians holding licenses to prescribe whiskey have applied for renewal of their permits, although two months have elapsed since this privilege was granted, Dr. Charles R. O'Connor, federal director of prohibition for New York, announced today. Physicians are finding other medicines more effective and satisfactory than liquor, he said.

MYSTERY STILL SURROUNDS SHOOTING OF SUNDAY NIGHT

OFFICERS ELECTED BY GASTONIA KIWANIS CLUB

At a very enjoyable luncheon held yesterday in the armory building by the Gastonia Kiwanis Club the organization of that body was completed, the principal item of unfinished business being the election of officers.

Mr. George Selig, of Knoxville, Tenn., organizer for the district including the two Carolinas, was again present and had charge of the completion of the organization. Mr. D. M. Jones made the report for the nominating committee appointed at a former meeting, and in accordance with the recommendation of the committee the following officers were unanimously elected: R. Grady Rankin, president; C. C. Armstrong, vice president; George B. Mason, secretary and treasurer. Directors, C. D. Gray, R. N. Aycock, J. M. Miller, J. M. Sloan, M. F. Kirby and J. Leann Adams. Trustee, E. D. Atkins.

The club decided to hold its regular meetings at 12:30 each alternate Tuesday, the next meeting being scheduled for Tuesday, November 23. Important committees, such as those on Program, Public Affairs, and others, will be appointed at once, and the work of the club is expected to start off with vim and vigor.

ITALY MAKES KNOWN MINIMUM CONDITIONS

RAPALLO, Italy, Nov. 8.—Italy's minimum conditions relative to the settlement of the questions arising from the establishment of a new frontier between this country and Jugo Slavia comprise possession of the Julian Alps and the absolute freedom of Fiume, which must have physical connection with other Italian territory. Count Sforza, Italian foreign minister, who opened conversations with Jugo Slav delegates at Villa Scipola, near here, today declared that unless these fundamental points were accepted, it would be useless to discuss the face of Dalmatia, and that the dignity of both countries would not permit a continuance of negotiations.

Minister of War Bonomi, who spoke after the foreign minister had concluded, stated that the army and navy of Italy would be ready to meet any offensive, but that they might be evacuated from the Jugo Slavia.

Premier Venizelos, of Jugo Slavia, emphasized the character of his country that it would be impossible to cede to Italy territories in which there is a preponderance of Slav population. Dr. Trumbitch, Jugo Slav foreign minister, also spoke at some length, attempting to open the discussion by questioning Italy's right to the whole Istrian peninsula. Count Sforza, however, interrupted him by saying that such a discussion was "perfectly useless."

"It is impossible to continue," he declared "unless the view is accepted that there must have a frontier which can be logically and militarily defended."

OFFICIALS INVESTIGATE EVERY DETAIL AND FIND NOTHING RUMORS FLY THICK AND FAST

So Far No Trace of Negro Murders Has Been Found — Police Are Disposed to Doubt Story as Told by Three Principal Witnesses — Young Killian Undergoes Gruelling Cross Examination Before Coroner's Jury — Miss Beatty Getting Along Well — Description of Scene of Murder and Interview With Wounded Girl.

Despite the most thorough investigation of every possible clue and shred of information by county and city officials, the mysterious Sunday night murder on the Gastonia-Bessemer City road remains as much of a mystery as ever. The officers' trip to Blackburg and Ninety-Nine Islands, S. C., Monday proved fruitless. No trace of the alleged negro assailants was found. Construction camps and working gangs of negroes in and around the city and suburbs were visited, one after the other Monday by officers, accompanied by Ransom Killian, in the hope that one of the guilty negroes might have been thus employed.

Latest developments in the case include the offering of a \$500 reward by the city council of Gastonia for the apprehension of the guilty parties or for information leading to their arrest, the probability of a similar offer by the county commissioners, and the reported arrest of two negro suspects at Union, S. C. An officer will probably go to Union today to examine the two negroes.

The coroner's jury impaneled early Monday morning has been in continuous session since. No information as to their findings has been made public. They are examining every material witness and person connected with the affair.

Naturally, the wildest rumors are afloat in the minds and on the tongues of those who are prone to discredit the story as told by the victims. The latest of these reports is that a second automobile full of young men was seen to leave the Carolina Cafe Sunday night shortly after Ford and Killian drove away and follow them out Franklin street, that when the Kissel car driven by the two men stopped, the second car also stopped.

Another rumor which has gained some credence is that a prominent citizen of the county is able to furnish the names of two negroes, one tall and the other short and heavy, who subjected him to the same humiliating experience on the same spot some time ago when he was out riding with a girl, with the exception that there was no shooting. It is claimed that he was robbed and that his companion was assaulted at the time, but that for fear of the accompanying publicity and embarrassment that would follow he failed to make known the occurrence. This theory is being accepted by some slight reservations. However, both coroner and police hear it and will investigate it because of the fact that such occurrences are common to the spot where the tragedy occurred.

It is generally accepted that if the story as told by the principals is true, it recounts one of the most dastardly and unthinkable crimes in the history of North Carolina. The awfulness of it makes it almost unbelievable, say those who discredit the story as told.

On the other hand, if the story is a frame up, and there are third parties and extraneous facts being concealed, the three survivors have concocted a story that stands every test. All three have been examined and cross-examined separately and apart from each other, and the main facts and minutiae agree. Even the wounded girl, Essie Beatty, protests that she is telling the truth, "if she was to die the next minute."

When seen by a representative of The Gazette and The Greensboro Daily News this morning at the hospital, Miss Beatty was feeling very well. She slept well last night and appeared not to be in such pain as on Monday. She is very optimistic, and firmly believes that she will get well. Physicians say that she has a fighting chance unless peritonitis sets in.

Young Killian went to his home in Lincoln county last night and spent the night with his father, Dr. R. B. Killian. Both returned to Gastonia this morning. Dr. Killian when seen by a Gazette reporter this morning said that this was the first trouble his son had

ever gotten into. He had always been a dutiful, obedient boy.

"So far as his mother and I know, he has never told anything but the absolute truth regarding anything with which he has been connected. He bears a good reputation all through Lincoln county."

Dr. Killian is a practicing physician in Lincoln county and is a typical example of the genial, kindly, whole-hearted country doctor. Naturally, he is deeply distressed over the whole occurrence and keenly regrets its happening.

Interest centered this morning in the continuation of young Killian's story before the coroner's jury. He is being subjected to a grueling cross-examination in an effort to shake his testimony as originally given. He refuses to be shaken, however, and sticks resolutely to the tale as told by all three.

Police officials, however, are strongly disposed to doubt this story. They are strengthened in their belief because of the fact that both young Killian and the Grice girl admitted late Sunday night that part of their original story was framed, the part that told of their going to church and of Ford's being shot while still in the automobile. Under the questioning of Chief Orr at the scene of the murder late Sunday night, both admitted that Ford was shot while in the woods or on the side of the road. Because of this break in their story, officers think that the whole thing might be a frame-up.

They point out the utter unreasonableness of a negro hanging around the spot for two hours after a man had been shot of other unmentionable details connected with the crime which were peculiarly foreign to the negro instinct, and of the lack of plausibility in the tale that the negroes hopped a fast moving freight train at this point on the road.

The Scene of the Crime.

In company with Solicitor Geo. W. Wilson a Gazette man visited the scene of the crime late Monday afternoon. Three miles west of Gastonia, almost opposite the home of Mr. Grier Jenkins, two or three hundred yards beyond the old Shannon place and about the same distance this side of the Gamble home a country road leads off to the left in the general direction of Linwood College and Pisgah church. On one side of the road, shocks of this year's corn crop are standing while the ground has been prepared and sown in grain. On the other side of the road is a patch of woods, consisting principally of scrub oak and old field pines. A dense undergrowth of thickets and bushes has grown up. The road here is somewhat lower than the surrounding terrain, and a slight embankment borders it on each side. It was here about 50 yards from the main road, that the couple, Killian and Essie Beatty, sat down while Ford and the Grice girl walked on down the road some 2 or 30 yards further around a bend. Their assailants, who were there, were concealed in the underbrush nearby, for after ten or 15 minutes, one of them came out toward the first name-couple, brandishing a pistol, firing it on the spot. They immediately jumped into the car and started the motor, the girl crouching in the front behind the wheel, the door of the car being left open. It was while in this position that she was shot, the bullet entering the small of her back and coming out through the groin just above her hip joint. The negro approached the car and relieved young Killian of what money he had. They then asked the negro if they might go, but were answered with an oath that "No, they were not done with them yet that some white men had done them the same way once, and they were going to get even."

In the meantime, a similar but more fatal tragedy was taking place 30 yards down the road. Ford and the Grice girl were taken by surprise and when the Ford boy rose as if to run he was shot down, the bullet entering his right side.

(Continued on page 5)



NEW AND EXCLUSIVE PHOTOGRAPH OF BRITAIN'S ROYAL FAMILY
Photo made on the occasion of the arrival at Buckingham Palace, London, of the Prince of Wales after his tour of Australasia. Seated, left to right: Queen Mary, King George and Princess Mary. Standing, left to right: the Duke of York, the Prince of Wales and Prince Henry.