

Weather: Cloudy

GASTONIA DAILY GAZETTE

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GASTONIA, N. C., TUESDAY AFTERNOON, JUNE 20, 1922

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REV. MR. SHARP MUST GIVE EVIDENCE OF WHAT HE CHARGED IN HIS SERMON

Pastor of Calvary Methodist Church Subpoenaed To Hearing Wednesday.

SAYS HE HAS AFFIDAVITS

Charlotte Minister Tells Some Startling Tales From Pulpit Sunday.

CHARLOTTE, June 20. — "I am ready to appear in recorder's court and produce two affidavits in support of my remarks from my pulpit Sunday night, Rev. J. A. Sharp said last night in regard to the testimonium proceedings instituted against him Monday afternoon to compel him to appear in court and sustain his contentions of bootlegging on the part of individuals of the city.

A subpoena was drawn up by T. C. Gunnar, Jr., Monday afternoon, signed by Judge J. L. Jones, and served upon Mr. Sharp at his residence last night. It is returnable in recorder's court Wednesday morning at 9 o'clock.

Judge Jones said last night that he had absolutely no feeling in the matter, but that when a man makes specific charges as to alleged improprieties of officers and citizens, he must be made to prove them or retract them. He believes that any officer would serve warrants on the strength of such affidavits as Mr. Sharp says he has, if they prove of sufficient importance.

"We have our men on watch in every section of the city who make regular reports to us," Mr. Sharp said when talked with last night. "They go out to everything and keep right up with what is going on throughout the city."

It is likely that the affidavits that he will produce in court will be only those relating to raids that have been made, some of which have been published and some have not, he stated. There have been just 27 of these, in and near the city, he said. His company very much after the big fellow and stop giving so much attention to the small fry."

Mr. Sharp has evidence of automobile loads of whiskey being unloaded at some of the clubs in Charlotte, he says. He knows of three of the most prominent clubs here that have received whiskey in recent weeks, he stated.

Immoral conditions in the city were again attacked by the preacher, who said that he knew of cases in which school girls with books in hand were taken to automobiles and carried from town. Most of the illicit liquor here goes to houses of ill-fame, he charged, telling how his agents not long ago went to such a place when liquor was very much in evidence and mingled with the crowd.

"Am I a Ku Klux?" Well, if I were to deny it everyone would say that I was one," Mr. Sharp said, but without saying in so many words that he was not a member of the organization.

"However, I do know that they have the apex constitution and by laws of any organization I know of. Any law-abiding citizen could become a member and not violate a single statute. The constitution definitely states that the members must bind themselves to obey the laws of the land."

He said that he read the regulations completely through while coming back from Atlanta a short time ago.

CHARLOTTE, June 19. — Rum runners have threatened to kill both Mr. and Mrs. Littlejohn because we are too hot on their trail, said Rev. J. A. Sharp, pastor of Calvary Methodist church, in a sermon Sunday night on "Law and Order," in which he exposed what he termed corrupt conditions in Charlotte and Mecklenburg county.

"They are so scared of Littlejohn that they have even offered him \$10,000 to let up. I give them full warning that if I catch any bootlegger with the goods I shall turn him over to the federal authorities," continued Mr. Sharp.

During the course of his sermon he said that reports are current that both he and Littlejohn are members of the Ku Klux Klan and are furnishing that organization with information, referring also to the appearance of about four members of the order who appeared in his church at the close of a sermon several weeks ago and gave him money and a letter.

Reference To Ku Klux Klan. The reference to the Ku Klux Klan was incidental in Mr. Sharp's sermon, during which he neither denied nor affirmed connection with the order, which, according to reports from Winston-Salem, he addressed in that city a few weeks ago.

The prevalent crime wave will never (Continued on page 4.)

Secretary Weeks Thinks Large Number of Military Schools Is Healthy Sign For The Country

Does Not Mean In Preparation For War But As Military Preparedness—Urges V. M. I. Graduates To Take Part In Affairs Of The Nation.

LEXINGTON, VA., June 20. — By Associated Press. — Secretary Weeks speaking here today to the graduating class at the Virginia Military Institute, raised as a "good sign" the increasing number of military schools in the country. The increase, he said, must be a "great satisfaction to those believing in adequate military preparedness."

"I do not mean preparation for war," the Secretary continued. "An education at such a school does not create a passion for war. In fact, my experience has been that those who know most about war are the ones most desirous of preventing it. We cannot be unacquainted with the fact, however, that in order to survive, a nation must possess a military force sufficient to defend it from the enemy without and within, to make secure its sovereignty, and secure enforcement of its laws."

"The Federal government, especially the War Department, places great reliance on the results of the education and training at this institution. I believe that other things being equal, in addition to his capacity to serve his country in time of need, a man who has received a military training is better equipped to meet the problem of life than the man who has not had the benefit of such training. The training given in the standard military schools of our country is a great asset to the young man about to undertake a career and the responsibilities of citizenship. It gives him poise, a disciplined mind and body, a decisiveness of action, a knowledge of the advantages of free thinking and living, and a high sense of honor."

"I appeal to you, therefore, whatever may be your vocation after leaving this institution, to devote some part of your time to the affairs of your country. It is not necessary for you to hold public office, but it is essential that you give to your country the benefit of the training and education you have received here. Resist all attempts to turn from the representative form of government created by the constitution and take an active interest in the affairs of your community to the extent of seeing that only wise, trustworthy and courageous men are elected to public office. This is the duty of the good citizen and unless we can obtain from such schools as this and the multitude of schools maintained throughout the country, we are unable to perform these important duties of citizenship, then we must face the certainty of a failure of popular government."

"You have been trained to lead men. Should your country become engaged in war it will be your duty to command your fellow men in the defense of the nation. Let me urge you to keep yourselves prepared for efficient service to the nation in the event of such an emergency by joining the national guard or the organized reserve. If you do not wish to become connected with a military organization, at least take an active interest in the military establishment and determine that your country will have the best trained and most efficient military force it is possible to develop and that it shall be of sufficient strength to meet the requirement of the nation."

BORDER FLOOD SITUATION IS GROWING MORE TENSE (By The Associated Press.)

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., June 20. — Twenty-one thousand acres of Rio Grande valley land with crops valued at \$2,500,000 flooded in Hidalgo county, a fresh rise in the lower stretches of the Rio Grande as the result of flood waters which came down late yesterday from the San Juan river in Mexico, while the cloudburst flood of the upper river is nearing its crest at Laredo, 150 miles up stream, summarized the border flood situation early today.

Meanwhile the fate of 18,000 inhabitants of Piedras Negras, Mexico, across the river from Eagle Pass, isolated since railroad and highway bridges were swept out Sunday night, is causing grave concern. The city is surrounded by water and the food supply is thought to be short.

The flood stage at Laredo this morning was 27 feet and rising. Late last night a stage of 40 feet was reported at Patafox, 82 miles up stream, and that border village was threatened with inundation. Apparently the flood is traveling at the rate of 13 miles an hour. Its crest probably will not reach the swollen stretches of the lower Rio Grande before late Wednesday.

The section, situated in the Hidalgo and Cameron counties, contains nearly twenty prosperous towns and is a highly developed agricultural section settled largely by farmers from the middle western states. The total population exceeds 100,000.

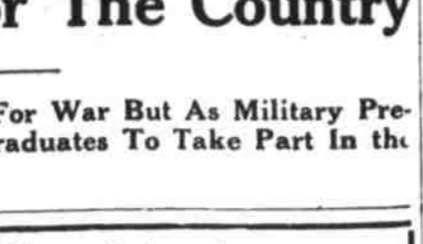
COL. THOMPSON TO BE TRIED IN SEPTEMBER

TRENTON, N. J., June 20. — Col. Marcellus H. Thompson, son-in-law of Ambassador Harvey, and seven others indicted for conspiracy to ship arms to Ireland in violation of its neutrality laws, will be tried here during the September term of the Federal court, United States Attorney Winnis announced today.

GREENWOOD, S. C., June 20. — Clothed only with an expression of despair, Ben Frazier, young white man, early today called at the home of W. M. Davenport, a neighbor, and told a story of having been robbed of every stitch of his clothing by two bandits on the Abbeville-Greenwood highway.

Saved From Mob

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PEKING, June 20. — (By The Associated Press.) — Three American buildings in Canton were struck by shells during Sunday's bombardment of the city by the gunboats of Sun Yat Sen, the south China leader, who has been trying futilely to re-capture his stronghold Jacob Gould Schurman, the American Minister, has asked Rear Admiral Strauss to rush protection to Canton and American gunboats are expected to proceed there.

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Pythian Band Concert At Community Park Tonight

At 7:45 o'clock this evening the Gastonia Pythian Band will give its second in a series of open air concerts at the Community Service Park, corner of Second and South streets. The first concert was very largely attended and immensely enjoyed by the public. Weather permitting, it is expected that the park will be crowded to its limit this evening.

Following is the program: March, Glory of the Trumpets, Lowsy; At Evening Time, (Serenade), J. W. Barton; Song, Y. D. Smith; Mountain Maiden Dream, H. J. Aug. Laotzky; Alpine Sunset, Valse Romantique, King; March, "National Emblem," Bogley; Selection, "Bohemian Girl," Basse; Medley Selection Of Southern Songs, L. Contreras; Final, Dixie.

Priest Discusses One Of The Sins Of The Age

Marriage and Birth Control Discussed By Catholic Priest. In One of Series of Lectures at St. Michael's Church.

"Marriage and Birth Control," the second sermon of the series to be preached by the Rev. Father Reginald, Catholic missionary, drew an audience of various denominations to the church last night. The preacher took for his text the words of Christ, "Suffer the little children to come unto me and forbid them not, for of such is the kingdom of heaven." He reminded his hearers that God instituted marriage and raised it to the dignity of a sacrament for the propagation of the human race, and that children might be born to know, love, and serve Him here on earth and to see and enjoy Him forever in heaven. The purpose of marriage and the designs of God, he said, were being perverted and destroyed and a holy state was being made a state of sin and damnation by many who advocate and practice the shameful and sinful means of birth control and abortion. Husbands who refuse to become fathers, lauders who refuse to receive tenants with children, and all who advocate, propagate, and practice means to prevent the conception and birth of children were severely denounced and condemned for their sins and crimes. The preacher said that poverty, weakness, sickness, the doctor's advice, and even the fear of death could not excuse sinful means and methods. "The end does not justify the means," Christ has died for us and He commands us rather to die than commit one mortal sin. The sinfulness of birth control was proved by God's punishment of Onan recorded in the 38th chapter of Genesis. Father Reginald maintained that many who practice birth control are often guilty of a more fearful sin—the crime of abortion, by which unborn and unrepentant children are murdered with less repugnance than is felt in the killing of a pet cat or dog. Embryologists teach that there is human life—a living human cell from which every cell in the human body is derived—at the first moment of conception; therefore abortion by any means, even in the first day of conception, is murder; because it is the destruction of human life, and the worst murders; because it deprives the murdered child of baptism and heaven.

These things, said the preacher, had to be spoken of publicly and plainly, even to boys and girls before they are old enough to marry. Many non-Catholics, among them doctors of large practice and high repute, had praised his lecture and encouraged him to speak openly and strongly on the subject. The sermon was ended with reference to the evil effects of race suicide in France, and a warning to all patriotic Americans lest we should allow our nation to be weakened and ruined by the same evil agents and means.

A sermon entitled "A Message from the Dead" was announced for tonight.

Two Bodies To Be Exhumed For Examination

(By The Associated Press.) WASHINGTON, Ga., June 20. — The bodies of Charles W. Willbanks and the first wife of Dr. J. G. Saggus were to be exhumed today, according to the plans announced by the coroner's jury for an examination to determine the cause of their deaths.

This announcement was made following the arrest yesterday of Dr. Saggus, who was lodged in jail here on charges of poisoning the former Mrs. Saggus and Willbanks, a former neighbor and husband of the present Mrs. Saggus.

Dr. Saggus emphatically denied the charges and attributed them to a "frame-up," born of jealousy. His denial was substantiated by Mrs. Saggus, but with the verdict of the coroner's jury that the physician was guilty of a double murder in their hands, officials prepared for the post-mortem examination.

—Miss Louise Beal will leave Wednesday for Abbeville, where she will be the guest for some time of Miss May Ellis Austin.

IN THE CITY OF RICHMOND, HALLOWED BY HISTORY, GRAY-CLAD VETERANS OPEN THEIR 32nd ANNUAL REUNION

Charlotte Chief Is Cleared of Charges

Chief W. B. Orr Exonerated By Magistrate's Court Of Charges Brought Against Him By Certain Parties.

CHARLOTTE, June 20. — "In the assault case I find that no deadly weapon was used. It looks like there is much malice shown in both. I therefore discharge Chief Orr in both cases."

Such was the decision of Justice J. W. Cobb about 8:30 o'clock last night, following a two and a half hours' hearing of two cases against Chief of Police Walter B. Orr, one charging assault, the other charging him with using profane language in a public place.

The courtroom was filled to overflowing, the crowd having been attracted by the charges that grew out of a presentation by the superior court grand jury last week, as a result of which acting solicitors were instructed by Judge T. B. Finley to bring indictments and have them heard "before the proper court," a magistrate's court which has "original and final jurisdiction" in such cases.

Several titles between attorneys representing Chief Orr, D. B. Smith and T. L. Kirkpatrick, and the attorneys representing J. H. Ross and Walter Cuthbertson, including James A. Lockhart, E. B. Bridges and Jake F. Newell, were enjoyed by the large crowd, to such an extent that Squire Cobb had to instruct the sheriff to keep order.

Sharp Wora Battle. Then, too, Mr. Smith and Mr. Ross had a sharp word war, which was followed later by one between Mr. Smith and James E. Honeycutt, commissioner of public safety, who was a witness in the case charging Chief Orr with disorderly conduct, cursing in a public place.

The entire battery of the acting solicitors, including Thomas C. Guthrie, Jr., and Francis O. Clarkson, of this city, and A. E. Woltz and A. C. George W. Wilson, serving for Solicitor General W. Wilson, during his illness, was present at the hearing.

Motion was made by Mr. Lockhart at the beginning of the trial to change the warrant from assault to assault with a deadly weapon, but later agreed that if the court found sufficient evidence as the case proceeded, the warrant might be changed.

Often the attorneys "scrapped" with each other as to the admission of certain testimony, Squire Cobb ruling, in general, that anything might be opened up, calling a halt on objections in a few instances in which he considered the matter too foreign.

Probably the tensest point of the hearing came when Mr. Honeycutt asked to be allowed to make a statement and Mr. Smith told him to answer the questions asked, both he and Colonel Kirkpatrick stating that it was no place for stump speeches, in addition to other words, some rather warm, between the attorneys and the witness.

Reference to K. K. K. Another interesting aspect came while J. H. Ross was on the stand, when he and Mr. Smith became "wordy," Mr. Smith asking him if he had not been brought into court with reference to some funds belonging to children for whom he was guardian, Mr. Ross replying that he had not, that he had invested the money at the advice of the bondmen, that they had paid a part of it and that he had raised the children in question in repayment of a part of the funds lost through the investment.

One reference was made to the Ku Klux Klan during the hearing. That was when attorneys asked Chief Orr what organization F. N. Littlejohn, one of the witnesses, represented. The chief said he did not know, unless it was the Ku Klux.

"I want to know if you represent any other government than that of North Carolina," Colonel Kirkpatrick fired at Mr. Littlejohn while he was on the stand. The witness ignored the objection of attorneys for the complainants and said that he could answer that, that he did not represent any other government.

WOMAN IS RUNNING CLOSE RACE FOR SENATE (By The Associated Press.) ST. PAUL, Minn., June 20. — (By The Associated Press.) — With the outcome of the major Republican contests apparently determined, interest in the Minnesota primary turned today to the race Mrs. Anna Dickie Olsen made for the Democratic nomination.

Reports available showed her in a nip and tuck contest with Thomas J. Mieghean, opponent of two opponents, and it became apparent that the outcome would be decided until many more precincts had reported.

COTTON MARKET CLOSING BIDS ON THE NEW YORK MARKET (By The Associated Press.) NEW YORK, June 20. — Cotton futures closed steady, 5 points up. July 22.50; October 22.85; December 22.60; January 22.50; March 22.35; Spot 22.00.

TODAY'S COTTON MARKET Receipts 8 Bales Price 22 Cents

Shots Fired at Home of Sir James Craig

BELFAST June 20. — (By The Associated Press.) — Shots were fired early today in the vicinity of Stormont Castle which was purchased by the Ulster Government as the official residence of Sir James Craig, the Premier, who with his wife took up his residence there for the first time last evening.

Officials were reticent regarding the firing, but the belief was expressed in other quarters that an attack on the castle was contemplated but was frustrated by the police guards.

Interest in Rail Strike Centers in Conference

Only Possible Move To Prevent Strike Is For Government To Order the Labor Board to Suspend Order.

CINCINNATI, June 20. — (By The Associated Press.) — Interest here today in the nation-wide rail strike situation centered in the conference tonight between officials of the miners and railroad shop craftsmen when union plans for concerted strike action between these organizations will be heard.

B. M. Jewell, head of the railway employees department, and John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers, at a conference yesterday discussed the agenda of tonight's meeting and mapped out a plan of action to propose to the officials of these two unions.

None of the "big four" or transportation brotherhood was expected to attend the meeting, it was stated. Members of these organizations are not affected by recent decisions of the Railroad Labor Board cutting wages and altering working conditions. However, they are members of the railminers' alliance, having signed the agreement at Chicago last February.

In a statement William H. Johnston, president of the machinists, declared the only possible move that could prevent a walkout of approximately 1,000,000 rail workers July 1, was for the government to order the Labor Board to suspend its order reducing wages and permitting the farming out of shopwork by railroads.

The first move toward a walkout of the clerks was the authorization of a strike vote being taken on the New York Central system. Approximately 14,000 men will be affected, it was learned at the clerks' headquarters here.

Attent Meeting of Water Power Conference

(By The Associated Press.) ASHEVILLE, N. C., June 20. — Formation of a permanent Southern Water Power Congress with an organization extending over six states, comprising the Southern Appalachian Range for the purpose of studying every phase of the present and potential water powers in the area looking to their further utilization and conservation, is practically assured with the opening of the water power conference of the Southern Appalachian States, opening here today.

More than 100 prominent engineers, railway officials, capitalists, manufacturers, Federal and state officials are expected to be present at the meetings which will extend through Thursday.

D. C. Merrill, executive secretary of the Federal Power Commission, will preside over the conference. A number of preliminary conferences are being held today and the formal session will open at four p. m.

Several of the important topics will be assigned to committees, and it is proposed to continue these as permanent boards to make a detailed study of their respective subjects for report and action at the next conference.

Water power development, navigation, forestry, conservation, water shed protection, construction of electrical transmission lines and various other subjects are on the program for discussion.

Babe Ruth Receives His Third Suspension

(By The Associated Press.) CLEVELAND, June 20. — (By The Associated Press.) — Babe Ruth of the New York Yankees, today received his third lay off of the season when President Ban Johnson, of the American League, suspended him for his argument in yesterday's game at Cleveland with Umpire Dineen.

No time limit was set on the suspension, the duration being indefinite until Mr. Johnson receives a full report of the affair. Ruth was out of the game at the start of the season as a result of a suspension by Baseball Commissioner Ladd and recently was given a one day lay off and a fine by Mr. Johnson for an argument with an umpire at New York.

Semi-Political Meeting of Railroad Men

RALEIGH, N. C., June 20. — Representatives of shop crafts and railroad unions met here today for the purpose of perfecting a semi-political organization which will gather information regarding the labor records of candidates seeking office in this state with a view to furnishing such information to affiliated crafts. Delegates are here from many railway and industrial centers of the state.

Veterans Fire Hearts Of All By The Vigorous Loyalty To Lost Cause

The Cause They Did Not "Think" Was Right But "Knew" Was Right.

GEN. JULE CARR SPEAKS

Enthusiasm and Sentiment at Reunion Is Unparalleled In History.

RICHMOND, VA., June 20. — (By The Associated Press.) — Surrounded by rich traditions of the old South, in a city hallowed by a history into which are woven records of high devotion, sacrifice and courage, the men who sixty years ago fought over an ideal, officially opened their 32nd annual reunion here today.

Tuned to a pitch of enthusiasm and sentiment, which perhaps is unparalleled in the chronicles of such reunions in the Southland, the United Confederate Veterans in their initial session, fired the hearts of young and old alike by their vigorous loyalty to a cause that seems to stand like a far beacon in the fading twilight of a day which, for them, gradually is closing.

Looking upon the seared, grey faces of these old soldiers, as they sat together in the massive city auditorium, one could not help but feel that from somewhere through the cloud rifts in the heavens, kindly smiled the spirits of these noble Confederate leaders who have gone beyond; and that as an old veteran raised a palsied hand to his brow to shut out a shaft of sunlight which he must have felt, in some way, that the spirits of those beloved chieftains were invoking upon him and his comrades an abiding benediction.

Called to order by General William B. Freeman, commander of the Virginia division, Confederate Veterans, the opening session of the reunion got under way in the Auditorium at an early hour. Despite a hard rain which swept the city through the night, the old soldiers were in their places fresh and undaunted.

Following brief preliminaries General Julian S. Carr, venerable commander-in-chief of the veterans, took the chair.

Governor E. Lee Trinkle, of Virginia, whose father shouldered a musket from '61 to '65, welcomed the veterans and declared that those who bled and died sixty years ago, did not go to battle in vain.

General Carr, in a stirring vein, saw in the assembly, he said, dreams re-enacted of an ideal that still clings in the breast of the old soldiers, and which will be passed like a torch to future generations.

Dr. Douglas S. Freeman, reunion orator, discussed the Confederate contribution to the life of the nation. "The leadership of character, continued idealism, a unity above class, and a patience in adversity. Of all these contributions," said the speaker, "the nation would have been dead."

With characteristic word and gesture United States Senator Pat Harrison, of Mississippi, warmed the enthusiasm of his audience with the statement that never in the history of the world was a war fought so nobly as that between the States, and never before