

THE GASTONIA GAZETTE.

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NO. 27.

OVER GASTON COUNTY.

PICNIC AT OAK GROVE.

Closing of School Marked by Pleasant Picnic Occasion—Addresses by Mr. D. P. Dellinger and Rev. J. C. Deltz.

Correspondence of The Gazette.

CHERRYVILLE, April 2.—Oak Grove school, about two miles east of Cherryville, closed Friday, April 1st, with a picnic to be remembered by all present. The weather was fine and nearly all the people of the district and some others were out.

Mr. C. C. Beam has exhibited much ability as a teacher and has shown to his home people what our country boys can make of themselves. He was lucky in securing, for the day, two able speakers, Attorney D. P. Dellinger and Rev. J. C. Deltz.

The people were called to order about 11 o'clock and devotional exercises were conducted by Rev. M. B. Clegg, of Crouse.

Mr. Dellinger's speech was first on the program. He recited briefly the lives of some of our great men and made an earnest appeal to our boys, whom he pointed out as having such grand school opportunities, far greater advantages indeed than either Vance or ourselves ever had, to put their talents to work and make of themselves, men who are great among the great. Mr. Dellinger held the undivided attention of his audience for about three quarters of an hour.

Mr. Deltz also spoke of an education as something to be coveted rather than great riches. He too explained why an educated man, who is not a Christian, may prove himself to be detrimental rather than beneficial.

After the speakers were through, another great feature of the day presented itself. Dinner, which was served in groups on the ground, was partaken of by all to their entire satisfaction.

Later in the evening the young people played games and the older folk talked of farming and politics especially.

When time to go home had come, we think everybody felt themselves encouraged by spending a day together.

Cherryville Chat.

Correspondence of The Gazette.

CHERRYVILLE, April 2.—Miss Bertha Rhodes, Lincolnton, is visiting Miss Annie Bell Summer this week.—Miss Bertie Mauney, of Maiden, is visiting relatives and friends in town.—Mr. Henry Candler and son, Leslie, of Shelby, are among our guests to-day.—Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Craft visited in Shelby this week.—Mr. J. B. Houser will leave tomorrow for Charlotte, where he will attend court.—The school at Oak Grove, taught by Mr. C. C. Beam, closed a successful term Friday.—Some of the pupils of the graded school here, played a prank with their teachers Friday by running away from school and spending the day in various amusements about town.—Mr. Stephen Stroup made a business trip to Bolling Springs Thursday.—Mr. Webb McGinnis, of Bostic, spent Easter with his parents here.—Mr. J. S. P. Carpenter and wife spent Easter in Lincolnton.

Young Man Goes Insane.

The police were called on Sunday to take into custody W. M. Jordan, a young white man living at the Trenton Mill who had become violently insane. He was taken to the Dallas jail for confinement pending action by the officials of the State Insane Asylum at Morganton on the application for his commitment to that institution. It required the strength of four men to hold Jordan. The unfortunate young man is a son-in-law of Mr. J. F. Kaylor with whom he lived. He had been mentally unbalanced for a year or more but only recently did he become violent.

The session of the North and South Carolina Association of Women's Colleges came to a close Friday night, with the election of Dr. E. C. James, of Greenville, S. C., as president, and Mrs. Lucy H. Robertson, of Greensboro, was reelected secretary. The next session will be held in Greenville, S. C.

CHERRYVILLE TO GASTONIA.

Macadam Road to be Completed—Two Gangs to Begin Work at Early Date—Commissioners Meet.

One of the most important pieces of business transacted by the board of county commissioners at the regular monthly meeting for March at Dallas yesterday was the decision to complete the macadam road from Cherryville to Gastonia.

The distance from Gastonia to Cherryville by way of Bessemer City is about 17 miles. The road between Cherryville and Bessemer has already been graded and macadamized for a distance of three miles south of the former, leaving a distance of about 14 miles to be built.

It was ordered by the board that the free-labor grading force working under Capt. N. G. Todd and chain gang camp No. 2 begin work on this road as soon as they complete the roads on which they are now engaged. Capt. Todd's force is now grading the Spencer Mountain road. It will require a number of months' work to complete this road. When it is finished it will give a continuous highway almost from one end of the county to the other, north and south. This road will enter Gastonia by way of Franklin avenue and will thus connect with the Union road which extends some six miles south of Gastonia, almost to the South Carolina line.

List takers for the several townships were appointed as follows: Dallas, F. O. Davis; River Bend, Carl Finger; South Point, L. E. Rankin; Cherryville, J. Kiser; Crowders Mountain, John T. Oates; Mr. E. H. Rankin was appointed for Gastonia town and Mr. W. A. Falls for Gastonia township outside of the town. Other business was transacted, a detailed record of which will be found in the next issue of The Gazette.

CASH SYSTEM THE BEST.

The Day of Its General Adoption Drawing Nearer and Nearer. Yorkville Enquirer.

The Gastonia merchants are running to the all-cash system. The Gazette gives a list of the firms that have adopted this system and says: "The old credit system is expensive, uncertain and works a hardship on those who do pay cash. Let the good work go on. When every retail business in Gastonia is on a strict cash basis, we will have a more prosperous town." Credit has been the ruin of not only many a merchant, but of many a customer. The time is shortly coming when a person will be ashamed to go into a store and ask credit.—Charlotte Chronicle.

That the strictly cash system is necessarily the thing for the proper conduct of retail trade, we are firmly convinced. The time was, when credit was the general rule throughout this whole section. That was because cash was so scarce and it was necessary to do business on credit or not at all. But the system ruined many a merchant and many a customer. The trouble was about the same in both cases, the anxiety of the merchant to do more business than existed, and the desire of the customer to have things that he was unable to afford. The credit system still prevails to a large extent because it seems necessary; but it is a notable fact that the cash system is slowly, surely and steadily growing more firmly established. Ten or fifteen years back, people who had a definite time of settlement at all, generally regarded January 1, as that time, but since then, there has been a gradual adoption of the 30-day settlement system—thirty days being regarded as "cash"—and others have come to demanding cash down at the time of purchase. We do not doubt that the cash system is the best, and the day of its general adoption is steadily drawing nearer and nearer.

The Baxter Shemwell case which has been much discussed throughout the State was disposed of yesterday by Gov. Kitchin, who commuted the sentence of the court to imprisonment in jail to five days (the court's sentence was five months) and \$500 fine and payment of costs. If the Governor has erred, it is on the side of mercy. Shemwell has paraded with a high hand for a long time and in the opinion of most people has forfeited all claims to leniency.—Alamance Gleaner.

MR. J. S. GRIER DEAD.

Father of Messrs. Vernon and Dan Grier Found Dead in Bed at Home in Mecklenburg This Morning—Retired in Apparent Good Health—Funeral at Providence To-Morrow.

Messrs. Vernon G. and Dan D. Grier received a message early this morning conveying to them the sad intelligence that their father, Mr. Julius S. Grier, was found dead in bed at his home in the Providence community of Mecklenburg by members of the family on arising this morning. Mr. Grier retired last night apparently in the best of health and had not even been complaining, hence his death came as a great shock to his family and friends. The Messrs. Grier left on No. 36 this morning for Providence in response to the message. As yet the exact time of the funeral is not known here but it will take place some time tomorrow at the old Providence Presbyterian church of which he had long been a member. Mrs. V. G. Grier and little son, Roger, will attend the funeral from Gastonia.

Surviving the deceased are his widow, who was Miss Jennie Vall; six sons, viz: Vernon G. Grier, of Gastonia; Dan D. Grier, of Pleasant Ridge, this county; Sidney Grier, of Providence; Charles Grier, student at the North Carolina Medical College, Charlotte; Dick Grier, Providence; Joe Grier, Albuquerque, N. M.; four daughters, viz: Mrs. John Renfrow, of Providence; Mrs. Harry Barker, of Mount Airy; Miss Winnifred Grier, Presbyterian College, Charlotte, and Miss Ruby Grier, of Providence; one brother, Sam Grier, of Matthews, and three sisters, viz: Miss Ellie Grier, Mrs. Lillie Warlick and Mrs. Belle McLaughlin, all of Matthews.

Deceased was a native of Providence township, Mecklenburg county, and died at the old home place where he was born and reared and where most of his life was spent. He was about 55 years of age. Mr. Grier was a large landowner and a successful farmer, to which occupation he had devoted his entire life. He had for many years been a member of the Providence Presbyterian church. He was one of the staunch citizens of his community and his death causes sorrow to many friends.

NEGROES WERE FRIGHTENED.

Mischiefous Boys Take Advantage of Superstitious Fears Negroes Have of Catawba Creek Bridge and Play a Prank.

(Contributed.)

A good many years ago a little negro boy, a son of Lee Collins, was found dead in Catawba Creek at the trestle south of Gastonia. It was never known whether the boy was murdered and thrown into the creek or was accidentally drowned and most of the white people had forgotten all about it. It was known that the colored people walked light about that place after dark and last Saturday night some of the boys hid in the bushes to await the coming of some colored men that were in town buying some rations and after dark they were slowly making their way across the trestle.

One nigger says, "Tom, you member bout dat Collins boy?" "Yes Jim, I member. Now sposen he was to rise up here?" Just then the boys in the thicket made a peculiar sound. Every nigger but one turned his stuff loose and made a break for the end of the bridge. The one that held on to his half sack of flour fell between two ties and got fastened. He squaled out, "why don't you niggers wait on me." One in front hollered back, "no time to fool wid you now." "neither did he have time to fool with a sack of flour when he got loose. The boys waited to have another race when they returned for their stuff but that was after daylight Sunday morning.

Frederick Peres, of Chicago, was summoned Thursday over a telephone to examine a flat. When he reached the place he was invited inside and was attacked by robbers who immediately seized and robbed him of \$1,000.

Subscribe for The Gazette.

DR. W. M. VINES HERE.

Well-Known Baptist Minister Begins Protracted Meeting at First Baptist Church, Preaching to Large Congregation—"The Present Tense of Christian Living" His Subject—Services Twice Each Day.

Rev. W. M. Vines, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Asheville and one of the ablest and most effective ministers of his denomination in the South, preached to a large congregation at the First Baptist church last night, this being the first of a series of services which is to continue for ten days or longer. Dr. Vines arrived from Asheville yesterday afternoon and last night was heard for the first time in Gastonia.

Taking as his text a part of the 20th verse of the 28th chapter of St. Matthew, "Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world," Dr. Vines preached a most helpful and inspiring sermon on "The Present Tense of Christian Living." Without discounting in any measure the pleasure and profit one may derive from dwelling on past experiences or the joys that might be ours from a contemplation of a glorious future, he emphasized the fact that the only thing that really counts in the Christian life is the present. Today only is ours and we should make the very best of it. He urged his hearers to grasp the present opportunity which is theirs for doing a great work for the Master and winning souls for his kingdom. The speaker handled his subject in a manner to claim the closest attention of the congregation and the responses to his propositions at the close of the service were such as to show beyond a doubt that the members of this congregation are earnestly and genuinely interested in the meeting from the very start.

Dr. Vines is a pleasing speaker and a man of attractive personality. He ranks high in the ministry of his denomination, having filled the pastorates of several large churches, among the number Hanson Place church, New York city, and Norfolk, Va. He has been in Asheville for a number of years. Pastor Reddish was most fortunate in being able to secure him at this time to conduct a series of services.

During the meeting services will be held daily at 3 p. m. and 7:30 p. m. The public is cordially invited to attend all services.

Injured by Mule.

Mr. T. E. Black, the popular deputy sheriff of Cherryville township, was the victim last Thursday of a very painful accident. While harnessing a mule at his home about two miles north of Cherryville, the mule became unmanageable and knocked Mr. Black with considerable force against the side of the barn, striking his head a severe blow which rendered him unconscious for quite a while, and bruising him quite painfully about the head and shoulders. Fortunately no bones were broken and Mr. Black was able to sit up yesterday and hopes to be able to go about his work as usual within a few days.

Electrocution vs. Hanging.

Wilmington Star.

There is this to be said about electrocution, that it is mysterious. A man is convicted of crime. He is put on the train, taken out of sight and earshot of his friends, neighbors, and acquaintances. And he never comes back. He has no chance to make a speech. He is swallowed up by the consequences of his crime. We think that this makes for a respect for law. Its processes are not palpable. There is no officious carpentry about the hanging; no important sheriff and his deputies, giving free passes as political favors; no inrush from the country of people selling eggs, poultry and truck, as one takes children to the circus to educate them. Wherefore the law comes into its proper place as a moral force. Unseen, it is there. It evidences itself by a void. It is inscrutable, but decisive in its effects.

If this thing must be done at all—if it is necessary to touch the mystery of mysteries—it is infinitely better that it be done in a corner, silently, and mysteriously.

TERSE TOPICS OF THE TIMES.

Jeff Clark, of Owensville, Ind., owns a mule that plays the part of an alarm clock. Every morning promptly at four o'clock he kicks the side of the barn four times.

Two of the Richmond postoffice burglars have been arrested in New York city, the third making good his escape, and \$73,000 in stolen stamps recovered.

Engineer John Griffith was killed and fireman Vaughan seriously injured and five passengers slightly hurt, in a wreck on the Norfolk & Western near Watts' Tank, Va., Friday.

President Kilgo, of Trinity College, will deliver the address before the graduating class of the Charlotte Medical School April 19th.

Excessive cigarette smoking led Philip Greenberg, of New York, 21 years of age, to shoot his brother William and then turn the revolver against himself.

A contagious cattle disease, known as "splenic," Southern or Texas fever, has broken out in many Southern States and the Southwest reports say that hundreds of cattle are dying.

Congressman W. C. Lovering, carried his district in 1908 by 14,000 majority over his Democratic opponent. Congressman Lovering died a short while ago and a new election was held on Tuesday, March 22nd. Eugene N. Foss, the Democratic candidate for Congress, overturned the Republican majority of 14,000 and swept on to victory with a Democratic majority of 5,640. This means that the Republicans will not have a hand full of members in the next House of Representatives and Champ Clark's majority that he will lead in the next Congress will be so large that it will almost be unwieldy. Under the Republican rule of 15 years, the trusts have gotten such a hold on this country that they dictate the prices that the producer shall receive for his goods, and then they dictate the prices that the ultimate consumer must pay for those goods in their finished state. The country is tired of that sort of deal, and will be heard from at the election this Fall.—Marion Progress.

Living Beyond His Means.

Gaffney Ledger.

When we see a young man, who is a clerk, on a moderate salary in a store, smoking 10-cent cigars and occasionally going to get his drinks in a saloon, we make up our mind that the young man is spending all he earns. When we see him in addition to these riding about town in a livery rig, we then are satisfied that same young man is stealing from his employer; and it is strange that young men do not know that old business men read them through and through, and such young men can never secure places of trust and responsibility.

Yorkville Postmistress' Remarkable Record.

News and Courier.

Washington, March 24.—The president today named Miss Maggie Moore for another term as postmaster at Yorkville. The record of Miss Moore is almost without precedent in the history of the postoffice department. In 1885 Miss Moore's father was appointed postmaster at Yorkville. He held the office until 1888, when he resigned and his daughter was appointed to succeed him. Miss Moore has practically held the position since 1888, with the exception of a short time, when A. S. Withers, who, however, was never confirmed, held it. Representative Finley, whose home is in Yorkville, was today asked if he knew of any other postmaster in the United States who had held on as long as Miss Moore, either man or woman. He replied that he knew of no first, second or third-class retaining one official for so long a time. The reason that Miss Moore has held on so long is probably due to the fact that Mr. Finley has considerable influence with the postoffice department, and as Yorkville is his home town, his wishes in the matter of an official have always been respected. Miss Moore will soon receive a new commission and begin four more years of official work for the government.

Personals and Locals.

—Mr. B. A. Williams, of Monroe, spent Sunday here.

—Mr. T. C. Smith and family spent Sunday very pleasantly with relatives in Dallas.

—Mr. E. L. Sandifer, of Dallas, was a business visitor in Gastonia Saturday.

—Mr. A. A. McLean, of Gastonia, spent yesterday here, stopping at the Selwyn.—Charlotte Observer, 2.

—Mrs. B. M. Holland and son, Joe, have returned from a stay of several weeks with Mr. Holland at Kershaw, S. C.

—Mr. Perry Dover is erecting a modern seven-room cottage just in the rear of the store occupied by Mr. A. G. Hinson on East Airline avenue and Avon streets.

—Mr. and Mrs. John Hanna, of Gastonia, spent Sunday of last week very pleasantly as guests of Mr. Andrew Cloninger, Sr., of Dallas, route one.

—Mr. R. M. Bell, of Blackstock, S. C., whose wife is a daughter of Mr. J. B. Carson, of Bessemer City, route two, will go to a Charlotte hospital tomorrow to undergo treatment for throat trouble.

—Mr. J. D. Garlington, formerly with D. M. Jones & Co., of this city, is spending the day with friends here. Mr. Garlington has been in Memphis, Tenn., since leaving Gastonia last fall, but is now located in his home city of Spartanburg.

—Mrs. H. Schneider left yesterday morning for Atlanta to take her young son, Leon, to a surgical institute for an operation on his foot. They were accompanied by Mr. Alex Sherman who, however, will not remain with them.

—Mr. R. W. Carson went to Chester Thursday on a visit to relatives, returning this morning. While away he visited his niece, Mrs. R. M. Bell, at Blackstock, and attended services Sunday at Hopewell A. R. P. church.

—Mrs. F. W. Fink and little daughter, Dorothy, and Miss Mary Shelton came over from Charlotte Saturday to visit Mrs. R. D. Atkins and Mrs. O. W. Davis. Miss Shelton returned home Sunday night and Mrs. Fink and child went back yesterday evening.

—The Salisbury correspondent of The Charlotte Observer, under date of April 3rd, says: Miss Lottie Albee, of McAdenville, who has been in the Sanatorium her for the past month, has been discharged greatly benefited, and is now visiting friends here and in Davidson county.

—Dr. Francis S. Packard, the medical expert of Greensboro, advertises that he will be at the Falls House here on Wednesday, April 13th. Dr. Packard has been visiting Gastonia regularly for the past year and has treated a large number of Gaston county people.

—The many friends of Miss Lola Jenkins, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Jenkins, who has been under treatment for some weeks in a sanitarium in New York City, will be glad to learn that she is now much improved and will probably return to Gastonia with Mrs. Jenkins within the next week or two.

—The attention of our readers is directed to the advertisement in this issue of J. D. Morton & Co., who conduct the 5, 10 and 25 cent store in the Davis block. They advertise that on June 4th they will give away absolutely free a handsome 24-piece silver set. They give a coupon with every 25 cent purchase.

—Mr. H. C. Huffstetler, substitute carrier on rural route No. 3, dropped in at The Gazette office Saturday to show us a specimen of what he was pleased to term "Groundhog Food." He stated that it was grown by Mr. Jonas Dixon, carrier on route three, from a "cabbage" plant given the latter last fall by Mr. Craig Smith, carrier on route one. He stated that Mr. Smith designates it as "Dixon's Favorite." Mr. Dixon says it is "Smith's Prolific," but he (Mr. Huffstetler) is sure it is nothing more nor less than genuine "Groundhog Food," originated and grown exclusively by Mr. Smith. The botanical editor had gone to the woods looking for some dogwood blossoms and the rest of the force was unable to "diagnose the case." Further developments are expected.