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NO. 29.

OVER GASTON COUNTY.

Crouse Route One News.

Correspondence of The Gazette.
CROUSE, Route 1, April 8.—Mr. John Carpenter cut a poplar tree near Landers Chapel church the other day which made 2,100 feet of lumber and the top made three cords of wood. Mr. Clay Kiser has a poplar tree on his place which it is thought would make more lumber than this one. Mr. Elanze Huffstetler has a chestnut tree on his place that measures 20 feet around at the ground.
Mr. William Huffstetler and family visited at Mr. B. G. Carpenter's Sunday.—Mr. F. P. Pasour and family spent Sunday with Mr. J. A. Kiser.—Mr. Alex Kiser and family visited Mr. G. B. Carpenter Sunday.—Mr. M. P. Withers and children visited Mr. Julius Alexander Sunday.—We are glad to learn that we have a justice of the peace in our neighborhood, Mr. J. A. Kiser.—Messrs. Doras and Lawrence Pasour visited Mr. W. R. Carpenter Saturday.—Misses Venia and Emma Lee Carpenter and Cletus Pasour visited at Mr. J. F. Adderholdt's Sunday.—Mr. Bickle Carpenter gave the young people of our section a pound party Saturday night.—Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Abernethy visited his brother, Mr. Daniel Abernethy, in Catawba county Saturday and Sunday.—Mr. Ephriam Carpenter was in Gastonia on business Monday.—Messrs. John and Clay Kiser were in Lincolnton Tuesday on business.—Mr. Henry Kiser was in Gastonia Monday on business.

CHERRYVILLE MOVING.

Town Hall Being Built—Street Lights and a Building & Loan Association Possibilities of the Near Future.

The town hall is now being constructed. Messrs. Kendrick Bros. have the contract which goes to say that the work will be pushed to an early completion. Cherryville needs many more public improvements which will probably come slowly but surely. We understand that street lights are the next thing on deck, which will be another needed improvement for our town. Some of our progressive citizens are discussing the merits of organizing a building and loan association which would be a great auxiliary in building up the town. All together now for a Greater Cherryville.

DOINGS OF CONGRESS.

Senator Martin, of Virginia, Chosen to Lead Minority in the Senate—Long Expected Contest Fails to Develop.

At the Democratic Senate caucus Friday Senator Thomas S. Martin, of Virginia, was chosen as permanent caucus chairman and minority leader during the present Congress. He received 21 out of the 37 votes cast, 16 going to Senator Benjamin F. Shively, of Indiana, who was then elected vice chairman. Senator W. E. Chilton, of West Virginia, was elected secretary of the caucus.

Kings Mountain Presbytery.

The regular spring meeting of Kings Mountain Presbytery convenes this evening at 8 o'clock at Olney Presbyterian church south of Gastonia and will continue in session until Friday. Among the delegates who are in town today en route to Olney were Rev. T. C. Croker, of Forest City; Mr. J. M. Givver, of Ellenboro; Rev. W. R. Minter, of Lincolnton; Rev. S. L. Cathey, Mt. Holly; Rev. G. L. Cook, Brittain; Mr. W. P. Watson, Brittain, and Rev. James Thomas, of Shelby.

—Rev. J. J. Beach, pastor of East Baptist church, left yesterday afternoon for Concord, where he is conducting a meeting this week at the McGill Street Baptist church, of which Rev. D. F. Helms is pastor.

—Miss Lola Jenkins, who is a student at the Southern Conservatory of Music at Durham, is expected to arrive in Gastonia Friday of this week to spend some days with Miss Mary Knight.

—All members of Gastonia Lodge, No. 188, I. O. O. F. are urgently requested to be present at the regular meeting on Thursday night of this week. Important degree work is to be done.

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Gastonia Boys Win.

The baseball teams of the Shelby and Gastonia high schools crossed bats on the local diamond Friday afternoon and the home boys won to the tune of 10 to 0. The batteries were: Gastonia—Pearson and McLean; Shelby—Wilson and Anthony. The second game between these two teams will be played at Shelby Easter Monday.

A Gretna Green Affair.

Mr. George Lee Groner and Miss Anna Freeze, both of Belmont, gave their families and friends a surprise Saturday afternoon when they played the principal roles in a runaway marriage. Mr. Groner came out from Charlotte in an auto and was met at Eloan's ferry by his fiancée. They motored across the line into South Carolina where Esquire Bailes tied the knot, making them husband and wife. They will make their home at Belmont. The groom is a son of Mr. N. L. Groner and is a prosperous young farmer. The bride is a daughter of Mr. R. A. Freeze. Both have many friends who congratulate them on the consummation of their fond hope.

Receives Good Appointment.

State Bank Examiner B. J. Rhame, of South Carolina, has appointed as his second assistant Mr. J. K. Dixon, Jr., of Gastonia, who will assume the duties of his office about the first of May. Mr. Dixon is a son of Mr. and Mrs. J. K. Dixon, of Gastonia, and is teller of the First National Bank, a position he has filled most acceptably for the past several years. His successor in this position has not as yet been named. He is a thoroughly equipped young business man and the ability he has shown in his present position has won for him this appointment, which comes in the nature of a promotion. His hosts of friends will congratulate him on his appointment. That he will make good goes without saying.

Miss Atkins' Recital.

A good sized audience was present Friday night at the Central school auditorium to hear the recital given by the piano and violin pupils of Miss Lillian J. Atkins, assisted by her orchestra, the program of which appeared in Friday's Gazette. The young ladies and young men acquitted themselves splendidly and every number was heartily encored. The orchestra played several numbers and was heartily encored each time. It is composed of the following, viz: Miss Atkins, director, violin; Miss Lucy Boyce, pianist; Mr. Kenneth Todd, flute; Mr. Fred Stowe, cornet; Mr. Erskine Boyce and Mr. Robert McLean, violin; Mr. Hunt Morrow, snare drum. The piano used was a Kimball, loaned by Messrs. A. J. Kirby & Co., local agents for this well-known instrument. Miss Atkins' next recital will be in June when she will close her classes for the summer months.

Prof. D. S. L. Johnson Dead.

News of the death of Prof. David S. L. Johnson, formerly a resident of this place, reached Gastonia Saturday in a letter to Mr. J. F. Dees from Mr. James L. Sill, of Savannah, Ga. Prof. Johnson died Wednesday, the 5th, at the Catholic Home for the Aged in Savannah, where he had been for the past two years, ever since he left Gastonia. He had been in failing health for some time but had just recently returned to Savannah from a visit to friends in Columbia, S. C., and was planning to come to Gastonia in the near future to make his home with the family of Mr. Dees. At mass on the morning of the 6th Father Mitchell pronounced a very touching eulogy on the deceased and his body was laid to rest in the Catholic cemetery in Savannah at 10 a. m. Thursday. Prof. Johnson was a native of New York State and was about 84 years old. He came to Gastonia about nine years ago and made his home here until he went to Savannah two years ago. He was a music teacher and during his residence here was organist at St. Michael's Catholic church. He was well liked by all who knew him and has many friends here who will regret to learn of his death.

RETRENCHMENT RIGHT.

Democratic House Abolishes Useless Offices Thus Saving Over \$188,000 Yearly—Some Interesting Revelations of Republican Extravagance.
(By Clyde H. Tavenner.)
Special to The Gazette.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 10.—That the doorkeeper of the House of Representatives has his thirteen-year-old daughter on the payroll as "clerk to the doorkeeper" at a salary of \$1,200 a year with an extra month's pay, was one of many unique discoveries made by Congressman A. Mitchell Palmer of the Ways and Means committee while investigating useless positions on the House payroll. Palmer's retrenchment program was unanimously adopted by the Democratic membership, reflecting the greatest of credit upon the young Pennsylvania member who has come to be one of the strong leaders of the House. The position of "clerk to doorkeeper" will be abolished.

Although the clerks' document room and all the offices therein was abolished by statute in 1895, the salaries aggregating \$6,260 went right on. The Republican machine needed the patronage, and why be discouraged by a little thing like a statute!

Six useless but expensive house committees will be abolished. Saving \$12,000 a year.

A saving of \$3,000 a year will be effected through dispensing with the services of two attendants to the old library space. These positions were created when the library was in the Capitol. The library was removed many years ago. Since then the two attendants have had nothing to attend to but blank space. It was an easy job.

Two night watchmen charged to the folding room will be dropped. Seventy-four policemen are on duty at the Capitol, and unless the two stalwart Republican night watchmen watched the police, it is difficult to understand how they put in their time.

Here is another illustration of wastefulness in running the government: Before the telephone was invented a telegraph wire was constructed between the capitol and war department for quick communication. Since the telephone has come into existence it has been used exclusively. But the jobs of the two telegraphers remained. At last they are to be abolished. Saving \$2,800 annually.

"During the Spanish war," says Mr. Palmer, "somebody's friend told somebody's cousin that somebody's aunt had heard someone say that a plot was on foot to dynamite the capitol. Thirty-eight extra policemen were added. They have remained ever since." The Palmer committee believes the danger is now over, and will have thirty-four private policemen and one lieutenant given a permanent leave of absence. Saving \$39,000 annually.

Retrenchment in the House alone sums up as follows:
Saving under Speaker ... \$ 2,320.00
Saving under clerk ... 39,970.00
Saving under Sergeant at Arms ... 47,050.00
Saving under Doorkeeper 31,340.00
Saving through abolishing extra month's pay, 50,000.00
Saving through abolishing six useless Com. ... 12,000.00
Saving through abolishing Speaker's auto ... 6,000.00

Total annual saving, \$188,680.00
"Economy in public expense, that labor may be lightly burdened," has but just begun in Washington. One department after another will be taken up by the Democrats, and wherever they have the power, they will abolish useless offices and substitute a business administration for wastefulness and extravagance.

Speaker Champ Clark made an important speech recently that has not as yet been printed in any newspaper. It was made in caucus, at which no newspaper men were present. It was a private, heart-to-heart talk between Clark and his Democratic party fellows. Here is what Mr. Clark said, not for the public, but for the ears of the Democratic members of Congress:

"I congratulate Mr. Palmer and his associates upon their retrenchment program. I congratulate them with all my strength and heart. "There is only one way to economize, and that is for each man of us to begin economizing at home. To start the ball rolling I propose to do a little economizing on my own hook. I am going to cut down my office

TO ERECT BUILDING.

Piedmont Telephone & Telegraph Company Lets Contract for Handsome Three Story Building for Own Use—Ground Broken To-Day—Will be Modernly Constructed and Equipped—New Switchboard to be Installed.

General Manager R. B. Babington of the Piedmont Telephone & Telegraph Co. yesterday let the contracts for a handsome three-story office building to be constructed on the lot on South Marietta street adjoining the Torrence property occupied by Mrs. C. V. Blake and just a step off of Main avenue, being immediately south of the property belonging to Mr. L. F. Groves.

Mr. H. F. Oakley, of Gastonia, was awarded the contract for the building and the Gastonia Plumbing & Heating Co. was awarded the contract for the installation of the heating plant and the plumbing. When completed the structure will represent a cost of about \$9,000. It is to be of red brick, trimmed with stone, two stories above and a complete basement story.

This building will be equipped throughout with all modern appliances and nothing will be omitted which could in any way contribute to the conveniences or pleasure of the company's employes. The general offices will be on the second, or ground, floor and the exchange on the third floor. The building will be heated by steam and will have hardwood floors. The size is 25x60 feet. Excavating for the foundation was to have begun today. This is to be a complete exchange building with all the latest advantages for the operators, one of which will be a cozy rest room with chairs, lounges, tables, etc., where the young lady operators may rest when off duty.

As soon as the building is completed, which will be within seventy-two days according to contract, a common battery switchboard, the latest thing in this line, will be installed. This will do away with the necessity of ringing your bell. This outfit has already been ordered and will cost \$8,000. All the cables containing wires will enter the building underground.

The erection of this building will add to the attractiveness of the business section of Gastonia. It will be occupied entirely by the telephone company, which needs additional space on account of increased business.

The commission form of government was inaugurated yesterday in Birmingham and Montgomery, the two chief cities of Alabama.

staff. Then I shall go further. I am going to save the people \$6,000 by doing away with the Speaker's automobile. If I cannot legally get rid of it, I will run it into the Potomac. The Republicans will say it is cheese-paring and peanut politics, but the people have some sense, and they will know that if we begin by giving up our own little grafts that we will then be morally fortified to go after the bigger ones. And I don't care what the Republicans say, I will cooperate with any man in this House who can find a place for sensible economy. I don't care whether it is a little economy or a big economy that is proposed, I will work with any member to bring it about if it is a sensible one."

"The legislative program outlined by Speaker Clark will meet with public approval. It is progressive and only radical to those who hold that legislation in the interest of the general public is radical and should be opposed."—Philadelphia North American, (Republican.)

The Maine legislature, Democratic in both branches, has just adjourned, after a session lasting thirteen weeks during which every pledge that had been made by the Democrats in last fall's campaign was substantially kept.

The extra session of Congress offers the progressive Republicans of the Senate an opportunity to make the mistake of their political lives. If they oppose Canadian reciprocity it will surely revise their popularity downward. This is particularly true as a nation-wide proposition. The progressives cannot now oppose reciprocity on the ground that it does not revise the tariff downward on things the farmer must buy, because bills will accompany the reciprocity measure which will revise the tariff downward on manufactured articles.



The program of Easter services at St. Mark's Episcopal church will begin with morning prayer and sermon at 10:30 o'clock on Good Friday morning. On Easter Sunday there will be the sunrise service at 6 o'clock, which will consist of a celebration of Holy Communion and a carol service. Morning prayer and sermon at 10:45 and the Children's service at 8 p. m. For the latter service a very attractive program has been arranged and the public is cordially invited to attend. Special music will be rendered at all the services and the high standard which has been set by former Easter celebrations at St. Mark's will doubtless be fully maintained.

MAIN STREET.

At Main Street Methodist church this week a series of special services is being conducted by the presiding elder, Rev. Dr. S. B. Turrentine, of Shelby. Services are held every evening at 7:45 o'clock. Dr. Turrentine will preach every evening this week and Easter Sunday morning. The second quarterly conference will be held in the pastor's study tonight immediately following the preaching service.

On Easter Sunday night the Light Bearers, the juvenile missionary society, will give an Easter entertainment to which all the members of the church are especially invited. An interesting program of songs and recitations has been prepared.

SERMON TO JUNIORS.

Rev. S. L. Owen, of Charlotte, preached a special sermon Sunday at the Loray Presbyterian church before the members of Gastonia Council No. 68 Junior Order United American Mechanics who attended in a body. Mr. Owen is a student at the Southern Industrial Institute at Charlotte and recently conducted a series of services at the West End M. E. church. His sermon Sunday was an earnest presentation of the Gospel and he was heard with pleasure and profit by a large congregation.

BAPTIST CHURCH.

The protracted meeting in progress at the First Baptist church is still going on, services being held daily at 3 p. m. and 7:30 p. m. Rev. J. D. Harte, of Hickory, is doing the preaching. The congregations are good and much interest is being manifested.

WEST END.

A successful protracted meeting has been in progress for the past week or more at West End Methodist church. The pastor, Rev. J. A. Peeler, was assisted last week by Rev. George D. Herman, of Main Street church. Services will continue through the remainder of this week.

HOLY WEEK.

Holy week is being appropriately celebrated at the Gastonia Evangelical Lutheran church this week, services being held every evening except Saturday evening by the pastor, Rev. John Hall.

Gaston Boy on Winning Side.

Gaston county was well represented at the fourth anniversary celebration of the Kalgathian Literary Society of the Bolling Springs High School, Shelby, Saturday night. Mr. George S. Falls, of Gaston, is secretary of the society; Mr. Wilbur J. Smith, of Gastonia, was orator and Mr. Matthew A. Stroup, of Cherryville, this county, was one of the debaters and on the winning side. The question for debate was: "Resolved, That the postal savings bank will prove more beneficial to our country than the bank guarantee would." The affirmative speakers were Mr. Ferman Bowling, of Rutherford, and Mr. Samuel C. Lattimore, of Cleveland, while the negative was upheld by Mr. Esper V. Hudson, of Rutherford, and Mr. Matthew C. Stroup, of Gaston. The negative side won. The judges were Mr. D. P. Dellinger, of Gastonia; County Superintendent Bridges, of Cleveland, and Editor Lee E. Weathers of The Cleveland Star, Shelby. Mr. Stroup graduates from this school at the coming commencement. Gaston is well represented at the Bolling Springs High School this year.

COMMITTEE STANDS PAT.

Railroad Officials Want to Lop Off Sheds for Proposed New Passenger Station—Attitude of Southern Becoming Exasperating—Committee Declines to Accede to Unreasonable Demands.

It may yet be necessary for the town of Gastonia to invoke the intervention of the State Corporation Commission in order to secure from the Southern Railway anything like just and reasonable recognition in the matter of a new passenger depot. For twelve months the Southern Railway officials have been hagglng over details and repeatedly delaying the matter and there is apparently no end in sight yet. The railroad's play for time has become exasperating almost to the last degree and the town has grown weary trying to reach an agreement with them. The trouble is that the railroad wants all the concessions and is willing to grant practically nothing.

About two weeks ago Messrs. Foreacre and Hungerford were here in conference with the local committee having the matter in charge, composed of members of the city council and Commercial Club, and the Gastonians were under the impression, when the railroad men left, that their plans would be recommended, and that work would commence soon. At that time they made some material concessions as to the sheds which now constitute the bone of contention.

Yesterday Mr. Hungerford returned to Gastonia, after having taken the matter up with the Washington offices, and asked the local committee to agree to eliminate the sheds entirely. This, of course, the committee refused to consider and in so doing they have the hearty endorsement, we believe, of the entire town. Unless the railroad is willing to adopt the plans as recommended by the committee, it is believed that the Corporation Commission will be invited to Gastonia to investigate conditions and to take immediate action against the railroad.

The plans as they stand now, so the railroad officials claim, will call for an expenditure of \$27,000, though a member of the committee is reported to have told Mr. Hungerford yesterday that he would give bond to build it according to specifications for \$20,000. However, the fact remains that, should it cost \$30,000 it would take less than two weeks receipts at this point to foot the entire bill.

At points where the Southern has competition it does not hesitate to expend large sums to erect commodious depots. At Orange, Va., a town of 800 people without a factory, this road recently erected a handsome little depot of white brick at a cost of several thousand dollars. At Athens, Ga., on a small branch line of the Southern with two short local trains each way per day, they have recently erected a passenger station of brick at a cost of from \$12,000 to \$15,000 and have expended two or three times that amount for freight depot, grading, sidetracks, etc. At many points where there are competing lines the Southern has expended considerable sums for passenger depots. Yet Gastonia, which gives the road \$65,000 worth of business every month in the year and 300 passengers or more every day in the year, with about fourteen passenger trains, is asked to put up with a depot that costs less than \$30,000.

Dixon-Craig.

Mr. George G. Dixon, of Belmont, and Miss Fannie E. Craig, of Lowell, route one, were married last Tuesday night at the manse of the New Hope Presbyterian church by Rev. R. S. Burwell, the ceremony being witnessed by a few friends and relatives of the contracting parties. After the wedding they drove to the home of the groom's father, Mr. J. Nell Dixon, on route one, Lowell, where a reception was tendered them. The groom is connected with the firm of Stowe Brothers, at Belmont, where they will make their home.

Governor Kitchin on Saturday announced the appointment of Frank A. Carter, of Asheville, as judge of the Superior Court for the Fifteenth District to succeed the late Judge J. S. Adams. Judge Carter will take the oath of office in time to convene his first term of court at Hertford on April 24th.