

# THE GASTONIA GAZETTE.

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GASTONIA IS A BUSY TOWN.

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## NEWS FROM NEARBY TOWNS

### Dallas, Route Two Items.

Correspondence of The Gazette. DALLAS, Route 2, Sept. 13.—Mr. John Withers was among those who went to Johnson City last week. Miss Grace Robinson has been spending several days in Dallas with relatives and friends. Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Setzer were guests Tuesday of Mr. and Mrs. Will Little. Mr. and Mrs. Gratt Smith and Holly Grier visited Mr. and Mrs. M. A. Lineberger Sunday.

Misses Lucy and Lorena Smith gave a moonlight picnic Thursday night to a number of their friends. They started while before night and climbed the mountain. Supper was spread after coming down. Those who went were Misses Lorne, Lucy and Lathia Smith, Vera and Nell Setzer; Messrs. Tate Setzer, Springs and Charles Wyatt, Avery Wallace and Clarence Smith. Mr. B. L. Smith chaperoned the party.

Mr. John White was a Charlotte visitor Sunday. Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Rhyne were guests of relatives in Gastonia Sunday. Mr. Aaron Jenkins who has been very sick is much better at this writing. Mr. B. L. Smith visited his brother-in-law, Mr. Pinder Withers Saturday and Sunday. Messrs. T. A. Setzer, W. B. Smith and Charles Wyatt attended the Farmers' Union meeting at Lander's chapel Saturday.

### HEALTH AN INVESTMENT.

#### Fraternal Orders, Labor Unions and Insurance Companies Erect Tuberculosis Sanatoria—Millions Wasted Annually.

As an investment in the health of their members, four large fraternal orders, two international labor unions, and one of the largest insurance companies in the United States have established sanatoria for the treatment of tuberculosis, according to a statement issued today by the National Association for the Study and Prevention of Tuberculosis.

The Royal League, the first fraternal order to establish a sanatorium, conducts a hospital for its tuberculosis members at Black Mountain. The Modern Woodmen of America conducts one at Colorado Springs, the Workmen's Circle, at Liberty, N. Y., and the Independent Order of Foresters have one at Rainbow Lake, N. Y. and will soon open a second one at San Fernando, Cal. The International Typographical Union has since 1898 conducted a sanatorium at Colorado Springs, and the International Printing Pressmen and Assistants Union of America has recently opened a new institution at Rogersville, Tenn. The Metropolitan Life Insurance Company is now erecting a sanatorium at Mt. McGregor, N. Y., which will be the first of its kind to be established by an "old line" insurance company.

In addition to these institutions already established, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Foresters of America, the Knights of Columbus, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and several other orders are considering the advisability of erecting sanatoria for their tuberculosis members. Some of the large fraternal orders and labor unions, like the Ladies of the Maccabees of the World, the International Photo-Engravers Union, and others conduct educational campaigns against tuberculosis, though they do not have sanatoria of their own. The Equitable Life Assurance Society also has recently established a "Conservation Department" in which the prevention of tuberculosis will be given especial attention. Other insurance companies are considering similar action.

Since the membership of the leading fraternal orders alone is nearly 15,000,000, the National Association estimates that about 30,000 members of these lodges die of tuberculosis alone every year. Since more than half of these lives could be saved at a comparatively small outlay, the Association figures that the fraternal orders are losing millions every year in death claims which might be saved.

### Superstition Inane.

Destiny has no pet dates—just as many fortunes have been made on Friday as on Monday and just as many men have died on the tenth as on the thirteenth of the month. The hoot of the owl is only fatal to sleep. To pass under a ladder is merely un-intelligent—the inside is the more dangerous side. Your great-great-grandfather burned witches—you burn electric lights. Wake up! You're not in the dark ages.—Woman's World

### Impolite to Auld Coatie.

In conferring the sacrament of baptism our old Scotch priests were accustomed to treat his satanic majesty with quaint incivility. The Latin was usually translated into the vernacular, and when they came to "Exi ab eo, im-munde spiritus," the unclean spirit received his command in the broadest Doric such as "Gang oot o' the bairn, ve muckle deevil!"

### NEW PHONE SYSTEM.

#### Some Valuable and Interesting Facts About the New Common Battery System Being Installed Here by the Piedmont Telephone & Telegraph Company.

The growth and development of a city can to a large extent be gauged by the development of that city's telephone service. The regular and constant growth which transforms a large country town into a thriving, substantial little city reflects its influence upon all the industries of that community. During the past few months work has progressed upon one of our industries which has, perhaps more than any one thing, indicated the new aggressive home-spirit and at the same time has influenced the commercial life of practically every business man and many of the residents of the community.

The completion of the undertaking of rebuilding the central office of the Piedmont Telephone & Telegraph Co. is an event of no small importance, as it has placed Gastonia in the front rank of the cities of North Carolina with respect to telephone facilities. It has made possible a character and degree of service which is the equal of any in our State.

Several months ago the Piedmont Telephone & Telegraph Co. determined that, inasmuch as they had exhausted the capacity of the switchboard then in use and a new one was a necessity, they would while supplying the additional facilities, install a modern plant of a permanent character. Plans were immediately made and contracts entered into with the Western Electric Co., of Atlanta, to supply Gastonia with a telephone service which would be second to none in the country.

Many of our citizens, while aware that some changes in the telephone system were in progress, hardly realized the magnitude of the task which has been accomplished and the tremendous expense attached to the change. The most notable change to the subscriber is, of course, the substitution of the modern common battery telephone for the old-fashioned magneto telephone or the so-called "coffee grinder" type because of the necessity in the latter type of grinding out your desires to the central office operator.

#### COMPARISON OF THE TWO SYSTEMS.

A brief comparison of the old and new systems will emphasize the convenience and efficiency of the new systems. The turning of the crank in the telephone of the old system sends a current out over the line and operates a device called a "drop" located in front of the operator. This line drop is associated with an opening in the face of the board termed a "jack" into which the operator, upon answering, inserts a "plug" attached to one end of a flexible metallic cord. Upon ascertaining the number of the desired party, the plug attached to the other end of the flexible cord is inserted into the "jack" of the desired party. She then presses a key which rings the telephone of the desired party. Should the line of the desired party be beyond her reach, she must connect to a circuit leading to a convenient point, inform the operator at that point of the desired number. The second operator then completes the connection with another pair of cords. This of course means decreased efficiency in operating on account of the time lost in transferring the call.

Again the operator has no way of determining whether the called subscriber answers or when the conversation is completed, except when one of the subscribers gives the "coffee mill" another turn. Even this is not entirely reliable because frequently the party ringing will signal by the switchboard and ring the bells of the party to whom they have just finished talking. This has very often caused confusion and annoyance, especially when one is in a hurry to get another connection.

With the new system, when a subscriber wants a number it is only necessary to remove the receiver from the hook. This automatically lights a tiny incandescent electric lamp in the switchboard. Each lamp has associated with it an "answering jack," into which the operator inserts a plug when ascertaining the desired number. Inserting the plug in the jack automatically extinguishes the "line lamp" of the calling party. The desired connection is then completed as before except that no transferring of calls to another operator is necessary. This is accomplished by providing each operator not only with her quota of incoming lines, but also with as many jacks as there are associated jacks being known as "multiple jacks." Similarly any operator can answer any call at any place on the board by plugging into the multiple jack of the calling line.

Not only is the new system more efficient in providing means for completing connections quicker but it also provides for a positive means of knowing when the called party answers and when the conversation is completed. Just the instant a calling plug is inserted into the jack of a desired party and until that party answers another lamp associated with

### CITY BUSINESS.

#### Council Disposes of a Number of Matters—Adjourned Meeting to be Held To-Night When Important Matters Will be Taken Up.

Business as follows was transacted at the regular September meeting of the city council held last week: M. E. Lovett was released of poll tax on account of physical infirmities.

The water and light committee made a report on the proposed matter of the town entering into the plumbing business, the report recommending that such a step be not taken. This committee also reported on the cost of the light line proposed and asked for by Mr. J. D. Ragan, the report being accepted as information. The committee was authorized to construct the said Ragan line provided Mr. Ragan comply with certain conditions laid down.

It was ordered that the United States governments request that it be allowed to connect the drainage from the proposed postoffice building with the city sewer lines be denied because of the probable inadequacy of the sewers to carry the drainage from the said building.

The matter of purchasing water meters was referred to the water and light committee with power to act.

The matter of installing lights on Sixth avenue at the intersection of that thoroughfare with South and Marletta streets was referred to the water and light committee with power to act.

The committee appointed recently to draft rules defining the duties of the city health officer made the following recommendations which were embodied in an ordinance:

#### Be It Resolved and Ordained.

1. That the city physician be said to be under control and authority of and amenable only to the board of aldermen.

2. That said city physician be required to visit charity patients only upon orders of the mayor or, in his absence, the mayor pro tem.

3. That the city physician be required to make physical inspection of public school buildings at least once a month; that he make examination of such public school child or children as may be suspected of having a contagious disease, when said child or children have not been examined by a physician, but that said city physician be not required to visit schools for the purpose of examining generally the pupils of the school.

4. That the city physician vaccinate public school children free of charge at his office at the city hall on such days and at such times as shall be designated by the board of aldermen and published by order of said board in such manner and at such time as it may determine.

5. That it is the duty of said city physician to make inspection of sanitary condition of the town subject to the orders of the board of aldermen.

The matter of extending the sewer line across Broad street in order to allow B. W. Craig to connect therewith was referred to the water and light committee with power to act.

The report of the city clerk on privilege taxes, collected and uncollected, was read and accepted.

City Physician Anders' report for the month of August was read and accepted.

Treasurer Rankin was instructed to borrow such money as may be necessary to meet current expenses provided such amount does not exceed \$6,000.

Bills amounting to \$1,726.06 were referred to the finance committee for payment.

The calling cord and plug is lighted. This lamp is extinguished when the called party answers. As soon as the conversation is completed and the receivers are hung up, two lamps, one each of which is associated with the calling and answering cords, are lighted, notifying the operator to take down the connection. This does away with the annoyance of the operator coming in on the line to ascertain if the conversation is completed, insuring a much greater degree of privacy.

The telephone company is to be congratulated in placing their contract for this equipment with the Western Electric Company, the largest telephone and manufacturing concern in the world. In their factory is made all the telephone apparatus used by the Southern Bell Telephone & Telegraph Co. in connection with their local and long distance service.

The Western Electric Co. is the one to whom the government of France awarded the contract for installing the 10,000 line switchboard for Paris, when the old one was destroyed by fire about four years ago, stipulating that the entire plant should be delivered and installed inside of 60 days.

We anticipate a marked improvement over the telephone service heretofore rendered. The city has a just cause to be proud of our new system which compares favorably with any city in the country.

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### WILL ASK FOR ELECTION.

Plan for Farm Life School Outlined at Last Week's Rally—One Hundred Men to Canvass for Election—Would Require Two-and-a-Half Cent Tax—Supt. Joyner Speaks—Something About the Farm Life School.

Because the meeting had not been vigorously and extensively advertised as it should have been the farm life school rally held at Dallas last Thursday was not as largely attended as the friends of this movement had hoped. What was lacking in numbers, however, was made up in enthusiasm on the part of those who were present. The features of the day were an address by State Superintendent of Education J. Y. Joyner, dinner served on the grounds by the good people of Dallas, music by the Farmers Union Band and a business meeting of the Farmers' Union in the afternoon.

Mr. E. P. Lineberger was master of ceremonies and everything went off like clock work. Principal Beam of the Dallas high school welcomed the people to Dallas in a brief speech and Mr. L. M. Hoffman then introduced the speaker, Supt. J. Y. Joyner.

Mr. Joyner explained fully the bill enacted by the recent General Assembly providing for the establishment of Farm Life schools and then devoted some time to a discussion of details and explaining to his hearers in now many ways the farm life school would be of benefit to Gaston county. The speaker was heard with attention and interest and his speech doubtless made many friends for the movement.

To put it in a sentence the conditions requisite to securing one of these schools are as follows: The county must furnish the buildings and grounds, 25 acres or more, \$2,500 per year for maintenance and at least 25 pupils. The State then gives \$2,500 per year additional for maintenance. The bill provides for the establishment of ten such schools this year and ten next year, provided the counties meet the requirements. So far Craven county is the only one in the State which has met the requirements.

Following dinner served on the grounds a business meeting was held at which it was decided to select a committee of 100 men to canvass the entire county with a petition asking the board of county commissioners to call an election for an early date, submitting the proposition of levying a special tax of 2 1-2 cents on the \$100 worth of property for this purpose. Each of the 26 Farmers Union locals in the county are to appoint one member of this committee and a committee composed of Mr. E. P. Lineberger, Mr. W. W. Fairies and Prof. F. P. Hall, will name the other 74. These men are being selected now and they will meet again in Supt. Hall's office Saturday of this week at which time State Supt. Joyner will again be present and thoroughly instruct the members of the committee on the subject. The property valuation in Gaston county is \$13,500,000 and a 2 1-2 cent tax on this amount would yield a revenue of \$3,375,000 per year, more than enough to meet the county's part of the cost of maintenance. It is also proposed to issue bonds in the sum of \$10,000 for the purpose of erecting the necessary buildings. As to the ground it is stated that at least three places, Dallas, Boogertown and Bessemer City, are ready to furnish 25 acres or more free of charge for this purpose.

### ENROLLMENT NEARLY 1200.

#### City Schools Begin Year's Work With Heavy Enrollment—Class Work Now Thoroughly Organized.

Nearly 1200 young people have already been enrolled in the city public schools, both white and colored, the exact figures being 1153 as shown by the list published below, which was furnished The Gazette this morning by Supt. J. S. Wray.

Last Friday was the first day of the session, the children reporting on that day for enrollment and assignment to classes. All the teachers reported for duty the day previous. Central school has this year a new principal in the person of Prof. W. G. Grier, an experienced school man. Prof. Grier is boarding at the home of Mr. A. M. Whitesides on West Main avenue. Class work is now thoroughly organized and everything is moving along smoothly.

The enrollment so far is as follows:

Avon	38
Clara	17
Gray	28
Gastonia	24
Modena	41
Ozark	30
Trenton	25
Loray	134
Central	590
Total	937
Colored	216
Total	1153

### Only a Cow-Coroner.

They were discussing a United States senator who had been a railroad attorney before he became a statesman and who, many thought, had not given up his job when he assumed his seat. "It's all rot!" said a man who knows the senator. "He never was a railroad attorney except to go out and try damage cases. Why, all that man ever was was a cow-coroner!"

### TWO TO THE PEN.

William Crotts and Frank Bullis Submit to Verdict of Second-Degree Burglary and Are Sent to State's Prison for Three and Four Years Respectively—Break Away from Jailer and Lead Lively Chase—Other Cases Disposed of by Court—Now on Civil Docket.

The present term of Gaston Superior Court has increased the number, at the State's prison at Raleigh by two. William Crotts and Frank Bullis, two young white men of Gastonia, were Saturday sentenced by Judge Adams to three and four years respectively in the penitentiary. When arraigned in court on charges of burglary the defendants, through their attorney, Mr. O. F. Mason, submitted to a verdict of second-degree burglary and the judge passed sentence as recorded above without sending the case to the jury. Both defendants are young men. Several months ago they entered a house at the Holland Mill which was occupied, at night.

While Jailer G. R. Rhyne was bringing the defendants from the jail to the court house Saturday afternoon they both broke away from the officers and made a dash for the tall timbers. Mr. Rhyne and others went after them at a lively clip, the officers firing several shots at the fleeing men. Mr. Ralph Armstrong joined the chase with his automobile and one of the men was caught near Oakwood cemetery. The other made a little better headway and got as far as the Loray Mill before he was again placed under the protecting wings of the law. Neither of the men offered any resistance when re-arrested.

### TRYING NEGRO ON SERIOUS CHARGE.

Today has been devoted to the trial of the case of the State vs. Geo. W. Hoffman, Jr., of Dallas, charged with rape. Up to the hour for the noon recess the evidence had been heard and Mr. O. F. Mason had spoken for the defense. Immediately on the reconvening of court at 2:30 o'clock Mr. E. T. Caniser, of the Charlotte bar, spoke for the defense and Solicitor George W. Wilson spoke for the State. The court will probably be on the case most of the afternoon. The disposition of this case will conclude the criminal docket. The trial of civil cases will be taken up tomorrow morning and will continue through the week.

### DIVORCE CASE.

Yesterday afternoon the case of Mrs. Pearl Farris vs. Oscar Farris, her husband, for divorce was heard and the divorce was granted. The parties are from Cherryville.

### OTHER CASES DISPOSED OF.

Napoleon Scott, larceny, 4 months on the roads.

Ed Hampton, retailing, 30 days on the roads.

Charles Kester, retailing, continued.

John Lewis and Zora Lewis, larceny, guilty of forcible trespass. Zora Lewis not guilty. John Lewis, judgment suspended on payment of costs.

John Graham, retailing, not guilty.

Lewis Spratt and John Graham, former fined \$15 and costs; nol pros with leave as to Graham.

Martin McLean, carrying concealed weapons, 30 days on roads.

Frank Bradshaw, carrying concealed weapons, not guilty.

Luther Jamieson, larceny, guilty of forcible trespass, 50 days on roads.

Fred Davie, larceny, two cases, judgment suspended in one, four months on road in other.

Grover Armstrong, larceny, four months on roads.

John Bess, larceny, 60 days on roads.

Will Andrews, forcible trespass, 60 days on roads.

John Haynes, Verly Glenn and Robert McLean, affray, fined \$15 and one-third costs each.

Jim Hawkins, assault with deadly weapon, not guilty.

Chas. T. Ursury, assault with deadly weapon, prayer for judgment continued, costs to be paid and defendant to give \$100 bond for his appearance for 12 months to show good behavior.

Neill Grice, assault with deadly weapon, 60 days on roads.

Neill Grice, larceny, judgment suspended.

Martin McLean, assault with deadly weapon, 4 months on roads.

Ed Hampton, retailing, 30 days on roads.

Tom Lee, assault, six months on roads.

Willard West, assault with deadly weapon, fined \$5 and costs.

Bus McLean, larceny, 4 months on roads.

Frank Miller, assault with deadly weapon, fined \$10 and costs.

E. E. Lockman, giving worthless check, not guilty.

Frank Bradshaw, assault with deadly weapon, 60 days on roads.

Wade Simeral, larceny, 6 months on roads.

Buss McLean, carrying concealed weapons, 2 months on roads.

Buss McLean, larceny, 18 months on roads.

Steve Cornwell, larceny, twelve months on roads.

Ester Sherrill, carrying concealed weapons, 90 days on roads.

Miles L. Pasour, retailing, 60 days on roads.

Harry Richardson, assault and battery, not guilty.

Tom Morrison, larceny, 60 days on roads.

Julia Stowe, larceny, plead guilty to forcible trespass; prayer for judgment continued, defendant to pay costs and give bond in sum of \$50 for her appearance for 12 months to

### ATTEMPT TO WRECK TRAIN.

Unknown Person or Persons, Make Effort to Derail C. & N.-W. Passenger Train on Crowders Creek Trestle—Miraculous Escape of Train—Officers and Bloodhounds Rushed to the Scene.

A dastardly but unsuccessful attempt to wreck northbound Carolina & North-Western passenger train No. 10 due to arrive in Gastonia at 9:30 a. m., was made this morning by an unknown person or persons. Had the plans of the would-be train wrecker not miscarried the entire train with scores of passengers would have plunged down fifty feet to the bed of Crowders creek and many perhaps would have been instantly killed and many more doubtless severely injured. As it was no one was injured and the would-be criminal's plans were foiled. The train's escape from being hurled from the trestle was almost miraculous.

About forty-five feet out from the southern end of the trestle, which is about 300 feet long and perhaps fifty feet high at the highest point, the criminal drew eight spikes thus loosening one rail. He then took a crow bar and prized the rails loose at the place of joining and fastened the crowbar in the opening thus made. He had every reason to believe that this would undoubtedly throw the train from the trestle and it is really a most wonderful fact that it didn't turn out just as he had planned. As soon as the engine struck the loose rail the engineer discovered that something was wrong and stopped the train as quickly as possible. An investigation was instituted by the trainmen with the result that the facts as above set forth were discovered.

The train came on to Gastonia and the local police department was at once notified of the attempted wreck. Chief of Police J. W. Carrol, Policemen Hord, Craig and Conard, together with Messrs. J. W. Fletcher and Hyde Ross, of the C. & N.-W., Mr. J. Lean Adams, Mr. J. W. Holland, Mr. L. C. Pegrum and others left at once for Crowders Creek, taking with them a bloodhound.

The posse which went to the scene of the attempted wreck this morning returned to Gastonia about 2 o'clock this afternoon without having obtained any clue to the perpetrators of the deed. There was found plenty of evidence that the attempt had been made but the guilty party or parties doubtless had several hours to get away as no train had crossed the trestle since some time last night.

### One of Life's Mysteries.

Why is it that the same remark which draws a laugh if made by one is a sure sign for a fight if made by another?

### True to His Creed.

"Clumsy of you to fall overboard," said the critical friend. "I didn't fall overboard," replied the man who never confesses to a mistake. "The biggest fish I ever saw swam alongside and I couldn't resist the temptation to dive for him."—Washington Star.

show good behavior.

Ed Newman, larceny, 4 months on roads.

Lawrence Lowery, larceny, six months on roads.

Haywood McCoy and Arthur Miller, 10 months on roads.

George Wilson, alias Tom Morrison, 10 months on roads.

Arthur Lockman, assault with deadly weapon, 60 days on roads.

### REPORT OF GRAND JURY.

To His Honor Judge W. J. Adams:

We, the grand jury of Gaston county, North Carolina, respectfully submit the following report:

We visited the jail by committee and interviewed the prisoners. They stated that they were well fed and treated very kindly. The sanitary condition is all that could be desired.

We inspected the offices of Register of Deeds and Clerk of Court, also other offices in the court house and found all in good condition. We visited the county inmates well cared for and the buildings in good condition.

Chain gangs Nos. 1 and 2 were visited by committees. We find that the convicts at Camp No. 2 complain in regard to the bread furnished them, saying that they are compelled to eat cold bread for breakfast. Upon examination we find that the cooking facilities are inadequate, the stove being too small and the cooks are compelled to cook the bread the day before.

We find no complaint at Camp No. 2. We suggest that the convicts at both camps be furnished night shirts so that they will not be compelled to sleep in their working clothes, which are often wet and dirty.

Respectfully submitted,

E. L. WILSON, Foreman.