

# THE GASTONIA GAZETTE

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GASTONIA IS A BUSY TOWN.

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## PREPARING FOR FIGHT

### TOWN AROUSED OVER FREIGHT RATES

Wholesale Men, Retailers and Manufacturers Hold Meetings to Discuss Situation as It Affects Gastonia in Matter of Freight Rate Discrimination—Two Experts to Compile Information Showing How We Are Discriminated Against—County Organization Growing Rapidly.

If there is any efficacy in determined work, Gastonia will not be weighed in the balance and found wanting when the fight for better freight rates comes up at the approaching special session of the Legislature or before that time. During the present week the wholesale men, the retailers and the manufacturers have each held meetings for the purpose of discussing the situation and furnishing the county organization with detailed information as to specific cases of discrimination.

These meetings were held in the office of Attorney A. C. Jones, who is vice president of the county organization and also a member of the committee of thirteen from the whole State recently appointed by President Tate to confer with the Governor and the officers of the State Association whenever called upon. The wholesale men met Monday night, the retail dealers Tuesday night and the manufacturers last night. At each gathering it was evident that Gastonia's business men of every class are determined and that they are not going to turn loose until this matter is adjusted in a manner that will place Gastonia in line for just and equitable freight rates.

At last night's meeting a forward move was made when it was decided to procure the services of two local business men who spent many years in the service of the railroads and who are familiar with rates. These men will begin at once to compile all the desired information showing specifically wherein Gastonia gets a raw deal from every direction and these facts will be presented to the just freight rate association and such other use made of them as may be deemed advisable by the officers of the Gastonia County Just Freight Rate Association. When this report is compiled and given to the public, Gastonians will be astounded to see just how enormous the unjust discrimination is against us. Gastonia occupies apparently the crest of all the zones, as a result of which freight rates from northern points are higher to Gastonia than they are to points South of us. If Gastonia, laboring under this burdensome handicap, has prospered somewhat, it is impossible to picture in one's mind what it might accomplish were we given fair treatment by the railroads.

As a result of the meetings held this week all of the wholesale men of the city and most of the retailers and manufacturers are now busily engaged in compiling facts showing how each is discriminated against with reference to the particular articles he handles and this information will within a few days be in the hands of Mr. Jones.

The secretary of the county organization is receiving cards every day from the town and county enrolling citizens of every class as members of the county association. Already several hundred have joined and it is confidently expected that the membership roll will total a thousand or more shortly.

Miss Jessie Wilson, daughter of President Wilson and fiancée of Mr. Francis B. Sayre, was thrown from her horse while riding Tuesday near Plainfield, N. H., and lay for half an hour by the roadside unconscious. She was not, however, seriously injured.

Monday, September 1st, Labor Day, will be observed by the banks of the city as a holiday and they will be closed.

Miss Anna McRae, who has been the guest for some time of Mrs. W. M. Wilson, returned yesterday to her home at Cyon, S. C.

## LOCAL BANK TO SHARE

### IN GOVERNMENT CROP MOVING MONEY

Citizens National Bank Selected by Treasury Department as Depository for \$50,000 of the Government's Crop Moving Fund—Quit an Honor to Both Bank and City—Six Other Cities in State.

The Citizens National Bank has been designated by Secretary McAdoo of the United States Treasury Department as one of the depositories in North Carolina for part of the Government's crop moving loan. The sum of \$50,000 has been allotted to the local bank. This money is being loaned out by the Government to banks in scattered sections of the country to assist the farmers in harvesting and marketing their crops.

At first Charlotte, Wilmington and Raleigh were the only designated depositories in the State. Later Durham, Greensboro, High Point and Gastonia were added. It was due to the vigilance of Cashier Myers and President Moore coupled with the able assistance and co-operation of Representative Webb and Senator Overman that the Citizens bank secured this substantial recognition by Secretary McAdoo. When it is remembered that there are towns like Salisbury and Asheville which do not share in this fund, the honor which comes to Gastonia is more noticeable.

This money is available to farmers during the crop moving period which lasts from September through March. The banks are authorized to lend this money to those farmers who need it in holding or marketing their crops. Beginning with December 15th and thereafter on the 15th of each successive month till March, the banks are to repay one-fourth of these loans monthly.

### SCHOOL BOARD MEETS.

Sits in Joint Session With Board of Aldermen Wednesday Night and Discusses School Affairs—Some Enlargements and Improvements Planned.

Wednesday night a joint session of the city school board and the board of aldermen was held. One of the objects of the meeting was to present to the aldermen some of the needs of the school and to enlist their further sympathy and support toward the schools. Plans for a consolidation of the schools in the eastern section of town were discussed. It is the purpose of the school board to eventually combine the several mill schools into one central building located near the center of the section affected. It is probable that plans for this will be matured rather early. A committee consisting of Messrs. Beal and Dilling from the aldermen and McConnell and Austin from the school board was appointed to look after the securing of a site for the proposed building.

A high school building proper separate from the primary and grammar school departments is another of the embryonic plans of the school commissioners. It is planned to have a building in which only the four highest grades will be housed. This is in line with the most advanced educational lines in other progressive cities.

More advanced methods in school sanitation and hygiene are also to be pursued in connection with the general clean-up crusade planned by the city physician and sanitary committee of the board of aldermen. Medical inspection of school children is to be stressed.

The heating and plumbing system at the Central building is also to be examined and thoroughly repaired and improved.

Thursday, September 11th, is the date set for the first meeting of the city teachers. Two meetings will be held then. Friday, the 12th, the children will assemble for their book lists and assignments for the next Monday's work. Superintendent Wray is enthusiastic over the outlook for the year's work and believes that it will be the most successful in the history of the school.

—Mr. W. D. Beam has returned from Cherryville where he was confined to his home for a couple of weeks. He has resumed his duties at The Progress office.

## LYNCHERS STILL LOOSE

### \$1,000 REWARD FAILS TO BRING THEM

Despite Offer of \$1,000 Reward for Capture and Conviction of One or More Members of Mob Which Lynched Joe McNeely, no Arrests Have Yet Been Made—Solicitor Wilson and Others Hard at Work on Probe—No Further Trouble.

So far all efforts of Solicitor Geo. W. Wilson, the city officials of Charlotte and the county officials of Mecklenburg have proven unavailing in bringing to law any of the men who composed the mob which, in the early hours of Tuesday, as related in The Gazette of that date, took Joe McNeely, the negro who shot Policeman Wilson, from Good Samaritan Hospital and shot him to death. According to the Charlotte papers it is rumored that representatives of a well-known detective agency have been called in upon the case and, since they are unknown, it is believed they will not be long in



SOLICITOR G. W. WILSON

Picking up a clue some where that will lead to developments.

While the officials seem to be hopeful of effecting the arrest soon of at least some of the men responsible for the crime, a goodly portion of outsiders it would seem are by no means so sanguine.

During the day Tuesday Mayor Bland, of Charlotte, upon the authority of the board of aldermen of Charlotte, which was called in special session, offered a \$1,000 reward for the arrest and conviction of any of the guilty parties. Solicitor Wilson who, as told in Tuesday's Gazette had turned over his docket in Mecklenburg Superior Court to former Solicitor Heriot Clarkson, appeared before the council and presented the matter to that body, asking the aid of the city in running down the criminals. Later in the day he examined the two policemen, Tarleton and Earnhardt, who were guarding the negro when the mob came and other hospital attendants. The stories of the policemen and the nurses as to how the affair occurred coincided but none of the witnesses were able to give any information that would assist in the identification of the lynchers.

There was some fear Tuesday that some of the negroes of the lower class might attempt to wreak vengeance by taking Policeman Wilson from the Presbyterian Hospital and according him treatment similar to that dealt out by the mob to McNeely. To prevent any such contingency the hospital was guarded and West Trade street, on which the hospital is situated, was kept bright all night with the "white way" lights and extra policemen patrolled that thoroughfare as well as other sections of the city. There was at no time, however, any indication of an uprising on the part of the negroes.

In an interview given out Wednesday to the afternoon papers Mayor Pro Tem Kirkpatrick caustically criticized the executive board for not summarily dismissing Policemen Tarleton and Earnhardt and said that he would demand their resignations. So far he has not done so and the other city officials do not seem to view the matter in the same light he does.

Solicitor Wilson is leaving no stone unturned to bring the offenders to account and it is evident that he intends to stay on the job until the lynchers are in the toils or until every possible effort has been made and all resources exhausted to catch them.

Yesterday's Observer says: "In the meantime, Solicitor Geo. W. Wilson is quietly making a search investigation. He is in constant communication with Judge Shaw and the matter is most certainly going to be probed to the bottom, they are conducting their examination behind closed doors and while they have not seemingly met with any great degree of success as yet, they are firm in the belief that the offer of \$1,000 reward is going to cause some one to 'peach' and that once the end of the thread is caught, the unraveling of the affair will be an easy matter. 'Just what method is being pursued in the investigation has not been given out and of course will not be. What the grand jury will do is another problem. It is believed that Solicitor Wilson will make a thorough investigation and then turn his reports over to the grand jury who will act in regular form in

## SHORT LOCAL ITEMS

### THE MOVEMENTS OF GASTON PEOPLE

Personal Items About Gaston Folk and their Friends—Short Items About People and Things That Are of Interest to Gazette Readers Condensed for Their Convenience

—Who is going to market the first bale of Gaston cotton this year? —Turnip planting time is here again.

—Mr. and Mrs. Ed Fayssoux, of Charlotte, spent Tuesday in Gastonia as the guests of Mrs. L. C. Davis and Mr. John E. Fayssoux.

—Miss Lillian J. Atkins returned last night from a three-weeks visit to friends in Taxwell, Va., and to her sister, Mrs. Claude R. Miller, at Barbooursville, W. Va.

—Mrs. J. J. Gilmer and children, of Parkville, S. C., who have been visiting the families of Messrs. J. D. and J. E. Lindsay, left yesterday for Sharon, S. C., to visit relatives.

—Rev. N. C. Williams will hold regular services Sunday at his churches as follows: At Franklin Avenue Methodist church at 11 a. m.; West End, at 3 p. m. and at Ozark at 8 p. m.

—Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Suggs and son, E. B. Jr., and Mr. and Mrs. D. F. Stowe, of Belmont, are expected home from the North in a day or two. A card from the party while at Toronto, Canada, says that they are having a great trip.

—Those of our subscribers who are reading "The Leopard's Spots"—and we believe they are many—will appreciate the fact that we are giving them three chapters of this excellent novel in today's issue instead of one.

—Miss Marie Torrence, who has been attending house parties at Wrightsville, Mt. Olive, Goldsboro and Hamlet, is now visiting her aunt, Mrs. V. M. Hanner, at Florence, S. C. She will return from Florence to Gastonia within the next few days.

—The Ladies' Aid Society of the Presbyterian church at Belmont will give a bazaar social at the manse Thursday, September 11th. They are already making plans for the annual bazaar to be held some time in November, the proceeds to go toward the fund for the building of the new church.

—An invitation has been extended to Mr. S. H. Rogers, of Monroe, to deliver an address before the rural letter carriers of the Ninth Congressional District at their meeting here on September 1st. Mr. Rogers is said to be a splendid speaker and if he accepts at least one treat is in store for the carriers.

—Bernice, the seven-months-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Lynn, died Wednesday morning at 11 o'clock at their home in East Gastonia of acute meningitis. Funeral services were conducted at the home yesterday afternoon, at one o'clock by Rev. Dr. J. C. Galloway and interment was made in Hollywood cemetery.

—Concord Times, 28th: Mrs. D. B. Coltrane was the honor guest at a dinner yesterday given by her children at her home on North Union street, the occasion being the anniversary of her birthday. Among the out-of-town guests present were, Dr. and Mrs. D. A. Garrison, of Gastonia, and Mr. and Mrs. T. P. Ward, of Tuscaloosa, Ala.

—Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Kirby have as their guests Mr. Kirby's brother, Mr. L. E. Kirby, who arrived in the city yesterday from Greenville, S. C., accompanied by Mrs. Kirby and little child for a visit of several days. They will go to Charlotte the first of next week, where Mr. Kirby has accepted a position in the faculty of the Southern Industrial Institute, which opens for the fall term next Tuesday.

—"If I am any judge," remarked a well-known professional man who was formerly a farmer and who is now a keen observer, to The Gazette man yesterday, "Gastonia county is going to have a splendid cotton crop this year. I have been over the two and the crop appears to me to be an exceptionally good one. I have noticed, too," he continued, "that when Gaston happens to have a good crop the same is true of the rest of the cotton sections and vice versa."

bringing in indictments. Many people have already been summoned to the court house where they have gone into the vault of the clerk of the court and behind closed doors have been put through an examination. There is of course nothing being divulged and what progress, if any, Mr. Wilson has made is not known.

"The belief is expressed that should the investigation reveal a clue and several arrests follow the State would have difficulty in proving its case, for the simple reason that no one has ever been recognized as having been in the mob and each testimony does not fare well before any Mecklenburg jury even upon a less serious offense. A promise of immunity, some argued, is the only way to ever get a start as a basis for a real investigation that gives promise of result. Still the argument is being made upon the streets that it is hardly believable that any one in the mob would betray the others."

## WILSON STANDS FIRM

### LIKE A STONE WALL AS REGARDS MEXICO

President Appears in Person Before Congress and Tells of the Rejected Friendship by the Huerta Government to His Peace Proposals—Message Received With Enthusiasm—Americans Advised to Leave Mexico.

An Associated Press dispatch from Washington to yesterday morning's papers says in part:

"President Woodrow Wilson went to Congress today and revealed how the Huerta Provisional Government in Mexico had rejected the friendship of the United States and its effort to aid in the establishment of peace and a government which would be recognized by this Nation and which would be obeyed and respected by Mexico's own people.

"In a statement which breathed regret and sympathy in every phrase, the President clung tenaciously to optimism as to the ultimate result, notwithstanding the pessimistic facts confronting the two Nations. After picturing the hopelessness for Mexico if she maintained her present position 'isolated and without friends who can effectively aid her,' the President announced the necessity of a firm neutral stand by this Government, a policy of 'hands off' to wait the time of Mexico's awakening. He also voiced an urgent appeal for all Americans to leave Mexico and for the United States to aid them in every possible way, but in emphatic language served notice upon those who assume to exercise authority in the revolutionist country that they would be held to a definite reckoning for losses and suffering to American citizens.

"The President's urgent request to Americans in Mexico to leave the country emphasized to Congress the necessity for action on the recent request of Secretary Bryan for an appropriation of \$100,000 with which to aid citizens of the United States in their exodus from the scene of conflict. The State Department estimates that there now are in Mexico not more than 15,000 Americans whereas there were 60,000 several years ago. In Mexico City it is estimated that there are less than 2,000 Americans today.

"The diplomatic relations between the two countries, it is understood, will remain as they are at present, each country maintaining an Embassy without official recognition, presided over by a Charge d' Affaires. Though the President made it plain in his statement that all negotiations thus far have come to naught, and the message of Foreign Minister Gamboa, rejecting for the Huerta Government the American proposals, left no room for doubt as to the situation, the way is open for future negotiations either at the initiative of Mexico or the United States.

"The President in his statement today announced the position of the United States to be as follows:

"No armed intervention. "Strict neutrality forbidding the exportation of arms or munitions of war of any kind from the United States to any part of the Republic of Mexico."

"Under no circumstances to be the partisans of either party to the contest that now distracts Mexico or constitute ourselves the virtual umpire between them."

"To urge all Americans to leave Mexico at once and to assist them to get away in every way possible.

"To let every one in Mexico who assumes to exercise authority know that this Government shall vigilantly watch the fortunes of those Americans who cannot get away and shall hold those responsible for their sufferings and losses to a definite reckoning."

"That can and will be made plain beyond the possibility of a misunderstanding," said the President. "Negotiations for the friendly mediation of the United States are open to resumption at any time upon either the initiative of this Government or of Mexico."

The reply of the Huerta Government rejecting the American proposals written by Foreign Minister Gamboa suggested the following alternative policy for the United States:

Reception of a Mexican Ambassador in Washington. That the United States send a new Ambassador to Mexico without restraints.

Strict observance of the neutrality laws and "see to it that no material or monetary assistance is given to the rebels."

Unconditional recognition of the Huerta Government.

President Wilson read his instructions to John Lind:

"All America cries out for a settlement," read the note Mr. Lind bore to Mexico. "A satisfactory settlement seems to us to be conditioned on:

"An immediate cessation of fighting throughout Mexico; a definite armistice solemnly entered into and scrupulously observed. "Security given for an early and free election in which all will agree to take part.

"The consent of General Huerta to bind himself not to be a candidate for election as President of the Republic at this election; and, "The agreement of all parties to abide by the results of the election and co-operate in the most loyal way in organizing and supporting the new Administration."

## BIG FARMING PROJECT

### TO FEATURE RAISING BEEF CATTLE

Mr. W. T. Rankin and Associates Have Bought More Than 8,000 Acres of Land Lying Along Catawba River Between Catawba Creek and Crowders Creek in South Point Section and Will Develop Big Stock Farm in Addition to General Farming.

One of the biggest and most important deals in Gaston county real estate ever consummated was transacted a few days ago when Mr. W. T. Rankin, and associates, purchased from the Southern Power Company about 3,100 acres of land lying along the Catawba river for a distance of eight miles between Catawba Creek and Crowders Creek. The land bought was originally secured by the Southern Power Company for rights-of-way at the time of the building of the big dam near Fort Mill, S. C. Mr. Rankin and the corporation which is being organized intend to do a general farming business with especial emphasis laid on the stock raising feature. They intend to develop and raise a good line of beef cattle. As yet the plans have not been matured and many details are to be worked out. A charter has been applied for. The names of the other prospective stockholders and officers will be announced later.

Catawba Creek empties into the Catawba river near Sheriff McLean's farm in South Point township a few miles south of Belmont. Crowders creek flows into the Catawba at what is called Wright's Ferry just at the point where the North and South Carolina State line crosses the river. In this area is embraced some of the finest farming land in the State. It is all fertile river bottom soil and is capable of producing mammoth crops or of feeding hundreds of heads of cattle. The investment as planned by the promoters will represent an outlay of about \$10,000 and is one of the most extensive projects ever attempted.

### CITY COUNCIL MEETS.

No Quorum Present Tuesday Night—Nothing Official Done—Mr. W. S. Lee and Z. V. Taylor Present—Promise of Street Cars by October. For some reason or other there were only two or three members of the board of aldermen present at the meeting set for Tuesday night. As there was no quorum nothing in the way of official business was transacted.

In response to a message from the aldermen, Messrs. W. S. Lee and Z. V. Taylor, of the Piedmont Traction Co., were present and explained why local street cars had not been put on in Gastonia. Mr. Lee said that with the exception of the motors the cars were ready and had been in the shops at High Point awaiting the delivery of the motors. He exhibited the contract which showed that the motors were to have been delivered by July 20th. The manufacturing firm, however, has said that it would be impossible to have them ready before September 20th. In that event the local cars for Gastonia might be ready some time in October. From Mr. Lee's explanation it was evident that the delay had been unavoidable and in no way traceable to neglect or indifference on the part of the officials of the P. & N. Lines.

Mr. J. C. Weaver Dead. Mr. J. C. Weaver, for the past 15 years or more a resident of Bessemer City, died at his home there early Monday morning. Death was due probably to a heart affection and came upon him suddenly. Mr. Weaver, while not feeling well, had gotten up and was preparing to eat breakfast when the sudden summons came. He attended court in Gastonia last week. Deceased was 60-odd years old and is survived by his widow and several children. He was reared in the Tate's Chapel neighborhood, from which he moved to Bessemer City. In recent years he had conducted a small retail establishment. Funeral services were held at Tate's Chapel Tuesday, the services being conducted by Rev. Mr. Campbell, of Davidson College, a former pastor of deceased. Interment was in the Tate's Chapel burying ground.

All-Day Singing Next Friday. We are requested to announce that there will be an all-day singing next Friday, September 25th, at Boyd's school house in West Gastonia, conducted by Prof. R. J. W. Moss, of Smyrna, S. C. This will constitute the closing exercises of Prof. Moss' singing school which he has been conducting there for the past several weeks. Everybody is cordially invited to come and bring their American Tune books. There will be morning, afternoon and night sessions. Picnic dinner will be served at noon, and refreshments will also be sold throughout the day for the benefit of the Second A. R. P. church. It is hoped that there will be a large attendance and all who go may safely count on having an exceedingly pleasant day. Prof. Moss is at Boyd's school house today and tomorrow, conducting the regular sessions of his class. He was accompanied yesterday by his daughter, Miss Essie Moss, who is spending a few days with relatives here.

## WALK OVER US ON SHOES

The Railroads By Freight Rate Discrimination Increase The Cost of Footwear to The People of North Carolina.

Raleigh News and Observer.

"Jones"—that all North Carolinians has to pay more for the shoes he wears because of freight rate discrimination against North Carolina.

HERE IS THE PROOF:

The Parham Supply Co., of Henderson, received five cases of shoes, weighing 400 pounds, from Cincinnati, O., via Richmond, Va.

The freight bill and the distances are:  
Cincinnati, Ohio, to Richmond, Va., 617 miles, freight bill ..... \$1.28  
Richmond, Va., to Henderson, N. C., same shipment 113 miles, freight bill ..... \$2.44  
This is a railroad "hocus-pocus" against North Carolina.