

# THE GASTONIA GAZETTE

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GASTONIA, N. C., FRIDAY AFTERNOON, JULY 21, 1916.

\$1.50 A YEAR IN ADVANCE.

## SUGGUMBS TO INJURIES

### MR. LITZ MADE BRAVE FIGHT FOR LIFE

Official of Ritter Lumber Company injured more than week ago in motor car accident died yesterday afternoon in local hospital—Body, accompanied by family and friends, taken this morning to Old Home at Tazewell, Va., for burial—Was prominent in fraternal circles—Much sympathy felt here for bereaved ones.

Following a determined and remarkable but a losing fight for his life which lasted nearly eight days, Mr. George William Litz, assistant to the president of the W. M. Ritter Lumber Company, of Columbus, O., succumbed at 1:30 o'clock yesterday afternoon to injuries he sustained in a motor car accident near Collettsville on the Carolina & Northwestern Railway Wednesday morning, July 12th. Throughout Wednesday Mr. Litz apparently improved and his physicians had more hope for his recovery than at any time since he was injured. However, there was at no time anything but a faint hope that he could live. Yesterday morning he grew rapidly worse, developing a high fever, and continued to decline very rapidly until the end came at the hour named above.

Brought here on a special train Wednesday afternoon, Mr. Litz was taken immediately to the City Hospital where he was operated on shortly after midnight Wednesday night by Dr. J. W. Long, of Greensboro, and Dr. Pryor, assisted by local surgeons. Dr. Charles H. Hamilton, a prominent surgeon of Columbus, Ohio, was summoned and left that city last Saturday. He was delayed nearly three days by being marooned in the vicinity of Asheville by the high waters which cut that part of the State off from the outside world. He reached here Wednesday.

Mr. Litz' body was removed from the hospital yesterday afternoon to the establishment of the Ford Undertaking Company where it was embalmed and prepared for burial. It was taken in a special Pullman car attached to No. 39 this morning to his old home at Tazewell, Va., where the funeral and burial will take place. The party will go by way of Atlanta, Chattanooga and Bristol to Tazewell. In the party accompanying the body were his widow, Mrs. Ethel G. Litz, and little 18-months-old daughter, Helen; his brothers, A. F. and J. F. Litz, of Tazewell; P. G. and J. L. Litz, of Coeburn, Va.; and D. H. Litz, of Morristown, Tenn.; sister, Mrs. T. R. Smott, of Tazewell; Judge James French Strother, of Welch, W. Va.; Mrs. A. Z. Litz and Miss Georgia Litz, of Tazewell; Mr. W. E. Weakley, traffic manager of the Ritter Company, and Mr. Landon C. Bell, assistant general counsel of the company, both of Columbus.

Deceased was born October 24, 1872, in Tazewell, Va., one of a family of fourteen children, of whom there are living seven brothers and three sisters. He had been with the W. M. Ritter Lumber Company for the past 16 years, serving the company in various capacities. For several years he held the responsible position of assistant to the president of the company. He was also vice-president of the Colleton Cypress Co., of Colleton, S. C., and of the Big Sandy & Cumberland Railroad. He was a highly valued official of the Ritter company, which has plants in several States. He was known and greatly loved by the other officials as well as by hundreds of the employees of the company at different points. He was especially well-known over the western part of the State where the news of his death will be heard with great sorrow.

About six years ago Mr. Litz married Miss Elizabeth G. Wakefield, of Ashland, Ky., who survives together with an 18-months-old daughter, Helen.

Deceased was prominent in fraternal circles being a member of the Masonic lodge at Welch, W. Va., and of the Commandery Knights Templar of Tazewell, Va.; he was also a member of the Elks at Bluefield, W. Va., and of the T. P. A. He was a consistent member of the Methodist church. Among other organizations of which he was a member were the Athletic Club and the Scioto Country Club of Columbus.

While Mr. Litz was a stranger to Gastonians, he and the members of his family and his friends who came here to be at his bedside gained a place in the hearts of many local people who mourn with the bereaved ones in the heavy loss which they have sustained. That the family and friends are deeply appreciative of the kindnesses shown them here is evidenced from the card of thanks from them appearing elsewhere in this issue of The Gazette.

"Peg O' The Ring" Ideal today.

John Hessin Clarke, Federal district judge at Cleveland, Ohio, was on Friday of last week nominated by President Wilson as an associate justice of the United States Supreme Court to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr. C. E. Hughes, Republican nominee for President.

"Peg O' The Ring" Ideal today.

## GASTONIA QUILTS LEAGUE

### DIRECTORS DISBANDED TEAM WEDNESDAY

Because of the lack of interest manifested during first five weeks it was thought wise to withdraw from Western Carolina Baseball League—Morganton Has Followed Gastonia's Steps and Will Also Quit the League—All Obligations Will Be Met by the Directors.

Baseball in Gastonia ceased to be a reality Wednesday afternoon at the close of two abbreviated affairs between the local team and Morganton's pennant-grabbing outfit. Directors of the Gastonia club reached this conclusion two days ago after many hours of worry and careful consideration. A multiplicity of circumstances is responsible for the action of the directors in wiping from the eyes of Gastonia enthusiasts five long weeks of "strictly amateur" baseball.

Only a few hours had elapsed after the directors' ultimatum until Dr. R. M. Reid, president of the local club, received a telegram from Mr. R. T. Claywell, president of the Morganton baseball team, announcing that the Bugs would be disbanded at once. President Claywell's telegram read as follows:

"Conditions here are such that we cannot complete schedule. Are disbanding team. Letter follows."

Gastonia's ball players have been compensated by the management of the association and are now at liberty, having been released by manager Carver Wednesday afternoon following the games on that day with Morganton. The Morganton team, it is stated, has gone to Kannapolis where two exhibition games will be played before returning to the Bug town.

"Lack of interest," declared Mr. F. L. Smyre, secretary and treasurer of the Gastonia Athletic Association, "has been responsible for the action of the board of directors in disbanding the team. The attendance has not been even half what it was last year and although we have not lost any money and could carry out our part of the schedule, there didn't seem to be enough interest manifested to warrant it, and it is very likely that the association would suffer more during the second half than the first. Since Morganton has disbanded its team our schedule could not be carried out, and we believe that in view of the existing circumstances our action will be approved by those who have helped to support the team. All the obligations made by the association will be met by the directors even if the funds in the treasury are exhausted."

Thus closes a chapter in the annals of Gastonia baseball that is altogether different from what was recorded in the preceding chapter last year. After winning a pennant, seeing baseball that was faster even than that played by the Carolina League, and having on its payroll such a string of big leaguers as to cause people in several States to wonder at the nerve of such a small city, the Gastonia Athletic Association has been forced to abandon an undertaking that failed to please the public. The drop was too great, it has been said by some, from professional baseball to purely amateur.

Along with the fact that the class of baseball was not what Gastonia fans wanted there came a flood which tore down every means of travel, thereby making it impossible for the teams to keep the appointments as outlined in the original schedule. And although it is true that Gastonia did not have the best team in the league, there could have been very little kick on the work of its players because they were in second place and there is no way of telling what would have happened before the close of the league. It was not the players but the class of baseball against which the Gastonia fans were objecting.

Local fans from the start had feared as to the outcome of the venture. There is no objection or criticism registered against those who have directed the career of this year's team for it is known that they did their best to make the venture a success. It has failed not because of the management but because of itself.

"Peg O' The Ring" Ideal today.

One hundred and forty men, who were supposed to have gone down with the naval collier Hector off Charleston last Friday were brought into Charleston Saturday. Not a one was lost. The collier is reported to be a total loss to the government.

## RHEUMATISM ARRESTED

Many people suffer the tortures of lame muscles and stiffened joints because of impurities in the blood, and each succeeding attack seems more acute until rheumatism has invaded the whole system.

To arrest rheumatism it is quite as important to improve your general health as to purify your blood, and the cod liver oil in Scott's Emulsion is nature's great blood-maker, while its medicinal nourishment strengthens the organs to expel the impurities and rebuild your strength.

Scott's Emulsion is helping thousands every day who could not find other relief. Refuse the alcoholic substitutes.

## SHORT LOCAL ITEMS

—There will be regular services at St. Michael's Catholic church on Sunday, July 23, at 10 a. m.

—Mr. L. D. Lindsay, of York, was in the city Wednesday visiting relatives.

—Esquire Jacob Kiser, of Bessemer City, route one, was in Gastonia on business this morning.

—Mr. J. M. Torrence, of Bessemer City, was a business visitor in the city Wednesday.

—An interesting letter from our Belmont correspondent reached us too late today for publication. It will appear in Tuesday's Gazette.

—Regular meeting of Piedmont Encampment, No. 5, I. O. O. F., at 8 o'clock tonight in the hall in the armory building.

—Her friends will regret to learn that Mrs. J. D. Lindsay continues desperately ill at her home on Columbia street.

—Mrs. L. C. Davis had as her guests yesterday Mrs. R. E. Summy and daughter, of Shelby, and Mrs. I. N. Davis.

—Miss Kathleen Terrell, after a visit of some time to her brother, Mr. L. E. Terrell, has returned to her home at Gainesville, Ga.

—Mr. and Mrs. J. White Ware and little daughter, Margaret, returned Wednesday from a week's trip to Wrightsville Beach.

—Mr. W. Lyle Smith's residence on South street is practically completed and Mr. Smith and family expect to move into it within the next few days.

—Mr. J. Edgar Murphy, of Jacksonville, Fla., is spending a few days in the city as the guest of his brother-in-law, Mr. F. D. Barkley, and family.

—Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Wray returned yesterday from New York and Atlantic City where they have been for the past ten days on a pleasure trip.

—A cow belonging to a Mrs. Weaver at Bessemer City was struck and killed by lightning during the severe electric storm yesterday afternoon.

—Charlotte Observer, 21st: Mr. Robert W. Adams, of Atlanta, is spending several days in the city as the guest of Mr. and Mrs. William E. Adams, the former his brother, at their home on Jackson avenue, Piedmont Park.

—Notice is given to the public in this issue that the C. & N.-W. Railway will operate trains No. 9 and 10 between Chester and Dallas, and trains No. 7 and 10 between Lincoln and Hickory until further notice.

—Dr. T. A. Wilkins will leave tomorrow night for Louisville, Ky., to attend the annual meeting of the National Dental Association, which will be in session there next week. Dr. Wilkins goes as a delegate from the Cleveland District Dental Association.

—Mrs. C. C. Cornwell, of Dallas, who went to Brevard last Friday for a few days visit, is unable to return home because of the damage done to railroads by recent heavy rains. Mr. Cornwell received a telegram last night from Mrs. Cornwell stating that she was safe but that funds were scarce. It will be some time before trains will be operating from that section.

## QUINN-ROBINSON WEDDING WEDNESDAY

In a quiet but pretty wedding solemnized Wednesday afternoon at the home of the bride's mother, Mrs. M. L. Robinson, on route two, Miss Eunice M. Robinson became the bride of Mr. L. Lloyd Quinn. The bride and groom entered the parlor to the strains of the Bridal Chorus from Lohengrin, rendered by Miss Lois Robinson, a sister of the bride. Rev. A. R. Beck, pastor of the Dallas Lutheran church, performed the ceremony, which was witnessed only by the immediate family. The bride has been for the past two years a popular and efficient teacher in the public schools of the county. The groom is a prosperous young farmer of the Philadelphia section near Dallas. Immediately after the ceremony Mr. and Mrs. Quinn drove to the home of the groom's father, where they will spend some time. Later they will make their home with the bride's mother on route two. Announcements reading as follows were sent out after the wedding:

Mrs. M. L. Robinson announces the marriage of her daughter Eunice to Mr. L. Lloyd Quinn on Wednesday, the nineteenth of July one thousand nine hundred and sixteen, Gastonia, North Carolina.

## Trade With Gazette Advertisers.

### FARMERS, ATTENTION.

County Demonstrator J. M. Gray asks The Gazette to state that if any farmer in the county needs help because of damage to his crops by the recent floods, he will be glad to come to the assistance of such a one. If there is any advice or help of any kind needed in the matter of crops communicate with Mr. Gray at Gastonia and he will respond immediately.

## GRIFFIN'S BODY FOUND

### HE MET DEATH NEAR BELMONT BRIDGE

H. P. Griffin Wednesday Morning and Brought It Here—Shipped Yesterday Morning to Old Home at Liberty, S. C., for Burial—Was Half Buried in Mud and Sand—Nine Victims of Bridge Disaster Still Unaccounted For.

A searching party composed of Southern Railway employees discovered the dead body of Supervisor H. P. Griffin of the Southern Railway Wednesday morning about 10 o'clock. It was found two or three hundred yards South of the site of the Southern bridge at Belmont on which he was working at the time it gave way and was carried down into the swift current of the Catawba Sunday night. The body was partially covered with mud and sand and some time was required to complete the identification. This was done by a brother of the dead man who was in the searching party. Reports circulated here to the effect that Mr. Griffin had tied himself to a tree and that his body was found in that position were erroneous. The body was considerably bruised, he having no doubt been struck by some of the debris as the bridge went into the water.

Mr. Griffin's body was brought to Gastonia on No. 11 Wednesday, reaching here shortly after noon. It was taken to the establishment of the Ford Undertaking Company and embalmed. Yesterday morning, accompanied by relatives and friends, it was taken on No. 39 to his old home at Liberty, S. C., for burial. Deceased is survived by a widow. He was well-known in railroad circles and there is great regret at his tragic death. It is believed that when the railroad bridge went down he sustained injuries of such a nature that rendered him incapable of making an effort to save himself.

Reports which reached here Wednesday to the effect that three or four men of the bridge party which went in at Belmont had been rescued at Lancaster, S. C., are apparently unfounded. Claim Agent P. L. Ward of the Southern is authority for the statement that those reports were untrue. There are yet unaccounted for at least nine bodies of men who lost their lives or at least were carried down in this tragic accident. It has been so long now since it happened that very little hope is entertained that any of the nine are alive.

"Peg O' The Ring" Ideal today.

### PROMISE SUPPORT.

Citizens of River Bend Township Hold Mass Meeting and Pledge Their Support to County Commissioners in Work of Replacing Lost Bridges Over the Catawba—Urgo Immediate Action.

Correspondence of The Gazette.

MT. HOLLY, July 20.—At a mass meeting of the citizens of River Bend township held here last night the following resolutions were adopted:

WHEREAS, Gaston county has been unfortunate in that it has lost many bridges over creeks and rivers, and

WHEREAS, this condition has seriously handicapped the entire county and hinders business, therefore we the citizens of River Bend township, in mass meeting assembled, present the following resolutions:

RESOLVED, first, that we hereby express our full confidence in the county commissioners, that they will do their duty in conducting the business of the people;

RESOLVED, second, that we recommend and give our support to the securing of bridges to replace those lost by the flood of July 16 and 17, 1916;

RESOLVED, third, that the urgency of communication and transportation call for immediate action on the part of the county commissioners.

E. H. KOHN,  
M. B. PETERSON,  
R. C. BELK,  
S. A. STROUP,  
O. L. HOFFMAN,  
Committee.

### IN CLEVELAND COUNTY.

#### Ten Important Bridges Washed Away—Damage to Mills and Crops Heavy.

From Tuesday's Cleveland Star, which reached Gastonia yesterday, the following facts are gleaned with reference to the flood damage in Cleveland county:

For four days Shelby was cut off from communication with the outside world. The town was entirely without water from Friday night until Tuesday morning.

Ten Cleveland county bridges were washed away and many others were more or less damaged. The county's loss in bridges is estimated at from \$25,000 to \$50,000. The Star says that wooden structures will be put up as quickly as possible over the river at C. C. Hamrick's and across Brushy creek at Blanton's old mill.

Marcus M. Manney's mill has been greatly damaged and will have to be rebuilt. The Lily Mill power station at Stice's Shoals was greatly damaged. The Belmont, Shelby and Ella Cotton mills, dependent upon Southern Power Company's current, have been at a standstill since Saturday says The Star. The opening boiler and engine rooms of the Lawdale mill were flooded.

## GASTONIA AND GASTON

### LATE EVENTS IN TOWN AND COUNTY

#### Death of a Child.

William Henry, the seven-month-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Bell, died at their home on North Marietta street yesterday afternoon at two o'clock. Funeral services were conducted at the home this morning at 11 o'clock by Rev. J. C. Dietz, pastor of the Gastonia Lutheran church, and the body was taken to Lowell for burial.

#### Tent Meeting in Progress.

The tent meeting recently announced for the western end of the city is now in progress. The tent is conveniently located for both the Gray and Arlington mills. Rev. R. A. Taylor, conference evangelist of the Western North Carolina Conference of the M. E. Church, South, is holding the preaching. Services are held daily at 8 p. m. The public is cordially invited to attend.

#### Desperately Ill.

A card written last Saturday was received last night by Mrs. E. N. Hahn from relatives at Lenoir stating that her sister, Mrs. S. F. Puett, was very dangerously ill and asking that she come at once. An effort was made last night to get in communication with Lenoir by telephone and telegraph to ascertain if Mrs. Puett was still living but without success. All communication of every kind between Gastonia and Lenoir is severed and consequently Mrs. Hahn is unable to reach her sister's bedside or to learn anything at all as to her condition.

#### Is President of State Jewelers.

Mr. W. B. Morris returned to the city Saturday from Greensboro where for two days he attended the annual convention of retail jewelers of the State. Mr. Morris was honored by the jewelers at Friday's session when he was selected as their president for the coming year. Following the adjournment of the convention on Friday, a banquet at the Guilford hotel and an automobile ride over the city was tendered by the Greensboro jewelers, chamber of commerce and merchants' association. Wrightsville Beach was selected as the next meeting place.

#### Mr. Balthis on Board.

Mr. W. L. Balthis, of this city, was recently elected a member of the board of directors of the Thompson Orphanage at Charlotte. The annual meeting of the board was held at the orphanage on Thursday last week. Bishop Joseph Blount Cheshire, of Raleigh, president of the board, presided and Archdeacon W. H. Hardin, of Salisbury, is secretary. At this meeting of the board very important steps were taken looking toward the enlargement and improvement of the orphanage. Room is badly needed for the accommodation of children who are waiting to gain admittance to the home.

#### Here From Detroit.

Rev. and Mrs. Fred L. Lineberger, of Detroit, Mich., arrived here on No. 40 at a late hour Wednesday night from Columbia, S. C., where they had been for several days. They will spend a week or more here with Mr. Lineberger's father, Mr. Brown Lineberger; his brothers, John and Lee Lineberger, and other relatives. Mr. and Mrs. Lineberger walked across the railroad bridge at Columbia after it had been closed to traffic and finally managed to catch a train and get here, coming by way of Newberry, Union and Spartanburg, S. C. Mr. Lineberger is pastor of Christ English Lutheran church at Chapel Lutheran church here Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock.

#### Buy It In Gastonia.

### Lowell Locals.

Correspondence of The Gazette.

LOWELL, July 20.—High waters caused much damage in different ways, and while Lowell is not on the water-front proper the people are suffering for lack of power to operate the mills. The town was in darkness for several nights.

Unknown parties entered Mr. Worth Roberts' barber shop a few nights ago and carried off some clothing, razors and several other articles. No arrests have been made at this time.

Miss Lucy Gaston left a week ago to attend the Summer School at the University of North Carolina.

Mr. Garnet Cox will go to Shelby on next Monday to accept a position with Dr. Lattimore, who has opened a new drug store there.

Miss Myrtle Titman returned home last week from an extended visit to friends in the eastern part of the State.

Miss Fannie Kate Wilson, of Union section, visited at her uncle's, Mr. J. R. Titman, last week.

Miss Mary Cox returned home Saturday on a visit to homefolks. She has been in Richmond, Va., in the Memorial Hospital.

Any hair or scalp trouble you may have will quickly vanish after a few days' use of Parisian Sage. J. H. Kennedy & Co. sell it on guarantee of money back if not satisfied. Adv.

## CONDITIONS ARE BETTER

### RIVERS RETURN TO NORMAL LEVEL

Flood-tide Leaves Ruin in Its Wake for Miles—Grocers Say There Will Be No Shortage of Food—Telephone Service Has Been Restored—Erroneous Reports Circulated in Chester.

After reaching the highest stage ever recorded in the history of Gaston county, the Catawba and South Fork rivers have returned within the bounds of their banks to normal levels and now their placid waters slide slowly and quietly past its line of destruction and ruin with the meekness of a lamb. Death, ruin and disaster now mark for miles the banks of these two streams which on Sunday and Monday were raging torrents of treacherous red water. Hurling its turbulent waters, with a speed never before seen, the roaring Catawba swept down every bridge that spanned its width with as much ease as it uprooted trees, washed away houses, snapped off telephone poles and did hundreds of other feats never witnessed by residents of this section of the country.

At every point along the rivers where damage had been done, were hundreds and hundreds of men, women and children who had traveled for miles to witness scenes that beggar description by even the most facile writers. Every form of animal life almost was seen being carried down in the surging waters of the Catawba river. Thrilling stories of the rescue of eleven workmen, who were swept into the flooded river Sunday night, are being told fairly tales or fiction than pure facts. There can be no doubt as to the authenticity of the daring rescue of men from all but submerged tree tops below the point where the Southern Railway bridge collapsed. Other tales are being told of the risk of life when an opportunity of earning several dollars was presented. Men in quickly constructed crafts dared the riotous stream with the ease and abandon of experienced seamen and time after time returned to land and safety with a cargo of human freight. Two negro men from Belmont have received the greatest amount of praise for such daring work, and have been tendered a reward of several hundred dollars as a token of the esteem and praise in which they are held by the people of Mecklenburg and Gaston counties. These men will, no doubt, be given Carnegie hero medals, or at least should for they accomplished a task that was unusually difficult and daring.

With a maximum speed of 15 or 16 miles per hour, the angry waters of the Catawba river seethed for hours with everything imaginable that could keep above the water. Heavier articles were carried along in the swirl of the current, while all kinds of vegetable life was seen by spectators at some time or point on the river during the three days in which the stream was at flood-tide. Among the many things picked out and named by on-lookers which were interesting fare, two-story houses, hundreds of bales of cotton, giant trees, chickens on driftwood, watermelons, carcasses of dead animals and all descriptions of floating debris and lumber enough to construct several times as many homes and factories as were washed down stream.

Communication with the outside world was only a game of chance for hours beginning early Sunday night when the bridges along the Catawba river collapsed, carrying down all telephone and telegraph wires. Only with the South was there any means of communication for hours. People who had boasted of a record of having stayed at home for years were stranded in this or other counties far from loved ones. Neither money nor love could bridge the chasm which had been made by an unruly river. Millionaires found themselves isolated in Gaston county, trains were deflected on several States in order to transport passengers from one point to another, which under normal conditions could be traversed in a very few hours. Fruit trains were turned back here and routed by way of Atlanta and Cincinnati in order that peaches and watermelons might be furnished people in the East. Railroad companies dispatched their trains over leased roads as one after another of their own bridges and trestles went down under the weight and strain of too great a burden.

There can be no figures as to the total amount of damage wrought by the floods at this time, but with every hour there comes news of additional loss of life or damage to property which will force the conservative estimates of several days ago far above the million dollar mark in Gaston county.

Conditions in Gastonia since Sunday night have been excellent as compared with hundreds of towns and communities over the country. With the exception of the lack of electric lights and numerous other inconveniences the people of Gastonia have fared well. Rumors were rife yesterday that there was a sugar famine in Gastonia but an investigation proved that this was untrue. Although the merchants' supply of

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