

THE GASTONIA GAZETTE

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GASTONIA, N. C., TUESDAY AFTERNOON, FEBRUARY 6, 1917.

\$2.00 A YEAR IN ADVANCE.

MR. HARDING FAILS TO PUT IN HIS APPEARANCE

STAR SPEAKER FOR BIG STATE MEETING HERE WIRES THAT HE COULD NOT COME

Governor of Federal Reserve Board Notified Secretary Roberts Last Night That It Was Impossible for Him to Come—Sent Letter to Be Read—Other Speakers Provided for Tonight's Banquet—Secretaries Banqueted Last Night—General Banquet at Noon Today—Farmers Meet This Morning.

A telegram to Secretary Roberts of the Chamber of Commerce last night from Hon. W. P. G. Harding, who was to have been the principal speaker at the meeting here today stated that it was impossible for him to come. Mr. Harding's place on the program at the banker's banquet tonight will be filled by visiting bankers. Mr. Harding's failure to come is a keen disappointment to many.

Gastonia's big week started last night with a banquet tendered the commercial secretaries of North Carolina by Secretary C. W. Roberts of the Gastonia Chamber of Commerce at the Armington Hotel. There were present about 25 secretaries, representing practically every active commercial organization in the South, together with several others interested in one way or another with this work.

Secretary G. R. Horne of the Rocky Mount Chamber of Commerce acted as toastmaster. Following the serving of an excellent menu he called on Mr. J. H. Separk, president of the Gastonia Chamber of Commerce, who extended a cordial welcome to the visitors on behalf of that organization. Mayor C. B. Armstrong followed with a warm welcome on behalf of the city. In the course of his remarks Mayor Armstrong reviewed briefly the story of Gastonia and Gaston, showing the rapid and marvelous development of industry here.

These greetings were responded to by Mr. J. C. Forester, secretary of the Greensboro Chamber of Commerce, who spoke very plainly and forcefully on the work of the commercial secretary. "There was a time," he said, "when the commercial organization was in its infancy, when it was believed that the principal feature of the commercial secretary's work was to deal in hot air. That day has passed. The commercial secretary of today must be a very serious-minded man. The activities of the commercial secretary used to be wasted in an effort to secure for the town new manufacturing enterprises. That is no longer the case. The work of the secretary of today is to bring the people of the town and the country together and to educate our people along the lines of producing in our section our food supplies."

Mr. Forrester's address was very practical and was well received. Mr. Clement Ucker, of Baltimore, representing the Southern Development Organization was the next speaker. He spoke of the vast area of land in this and other Southern States which is not being made to produce anything. If we are ever to reach that degree of prosperity that it is our privilege to reach we must get away from the one-crop idea and till at least enough of this unused land to produce what we consume. We must feed ourselves and make cotton our surplus crop. This means diversified farming. This brought the speaker to his main thought, namely that livestock raising is the foundation of all successful diversified farming.

Mr. Fred N. Tate, a prominent furniture manufacturer of High Point, was the next speaker. He made an enthusiastic address on the value to the community of a commercial or-

ganization and favored re-organizing the State secretaries into an association. Following his address a motion was made and carried that a committee of three be appointed to confer with a similar committee to be appointed by the business men at their session today regarding the advisability of effecting this organization. Mr. J. C. Forrester, of Greensboro; Mr. R. C. W. Ramspeck, of Newbern, and Mr. C. W. Roberts, of Gastonia, were named on this committee.

Mr. C. C. Kirkpatrick, of Chicago, an expert in the extension bureau of the International Harvester Company, made a splendid address, illustrated with charts, dealing with the development of the rural section, the education of the boys and girls of the farm. He stressed the subject of feeding ourselves. Mr. Kirkpatrick's address commanded close attention and was both interesting and instructive.

Other speakers were Mr. H. S. Smith, of Richmond, Va., and A. W. McKeand, of Indianapolis, Ind., both of whom are engaged in general commercial organization work.

THIS AFTERNOON.

One of the most important sessions of this convention will be the one at 3:30 o'clock this afternoon at the court house. It will be a meeting of the farm demonstrators of the western district of the State, visiting farmers and business men. Hon. W. P. G. Harding, governor of the Federal Reserve Bank, and Dr. Bradford Knapp, of the department of plant industry of the United States Department of Agriculture, will deliver addresses. Mr. E. S. Millsaps, of Statesville, in charge of the demonstration work, Mr. Kirkpatrick, Mr. C. R. Hutson and perhaps others will make addresses. Practically all of the farm demonstrators of the district are here for this meeting.

THIS MORNING'S SESSION.

At 8:30 o'clock this morning in the assembly room of the Armington Hotel the county farm demonstration agents of the western district of the State met with Mr. E. S. Millsaps, of Statesville, district agent, presiding. They were welcomed to the city by Mayor Armstrong for the city and President Separk for the Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Millsaps responded to these addresses of welcome.

At 9:30 a joint meeting of the demonstration agents and the commercial secretaries was held at which Mr. Millsaps delivered the principal address, touching on the close relationship that exists between the commercial organizations and the work of the demonstrators. A general round table discussion followed during the course of which many interesting and vital topics were considered.

THE BANQUET.

Nearly 400 sat down to the general banquet in the Armory at 12:30 o'clock today. This banquet was given to visiting business men, secretaries and farm demonstrators by the Gastonia Chamber of Commerce. It was served by ladies of the Gastonia Woman's Betterment Association. In every detail it was splendidly carried out. Rev. J. H. Henderlite delivered the invocation. Mayor Armstrong welcomed the visitors on behalf of the city and President Separk on behalf of the Chamber of Commerce. Mr. David Owens, president of the Charlotte Chamber of Commerce, responded. Addresses were delivered by Mr. Z. V. Taylor, of Charlotte, president of the Southern Utilities Company, and Mr. Fred N. Tate, of High Point. The last named talk-

Broadway Theatre Today "MID-NIGHT" Little ZOE RAY.

ed on "The Need of a State Chamber of Commerce."

It was greatly regretted that several of the prominent speakers on the program could not be present. These included Mr. W. P. G. Harding, Mr. Fairfax Harrison and Bishop John C. Kilgo.

BANKERS' BANQUET.

Tonight at the Armington hotel the bankers of Gastonia will be hosts to the bankers of North and South Carolina at a banquet in honor of the visiting bankers. About 150 visiting bankers are expected for this event.

LIVESTOCK DAY.

Tomorrow will be livestock day and the program will be as follows: 8:30 Agents meet in assembly room of hotel.

Address "Hogs and Pastures," Dan T. Gray.

9:30 Beef cattle demonstration at Craig and Wilson's farm in charge of R. S. Curtis. (Public invited.)

10:30 Dairy cattle demonstration at Gastonia's Dairy Farm in charge of A. J. Reed. (Public invited.)

1:30 Public poultry meeting in charge of A. G. Oliver at exhibit building. (Public invited. Ladies urged to attend.)

4:00 poultry conference at exhibit building.

7:30 Agents meet in assembly rooms of hotel.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8.

8:30 Address: "Club Work," T. E. Brown. Hotel assembly rooms.

Agents conference.

Community work.

1:30 General supervision. Mercer, Kilgore and Hudson.

Agents report.

7:30 Agents conference.

District matters by district agents.

SECRETARIES' BANQUET.

Following is a list of those present at last night's banquet:

J. H. Separk, Gastonia, N. C.; Cole E. Morgan, Atlanta, Ga.; C. B. Armstrong, Gastonia, N. C.; R. E. Grabel, Gafney, S. C.; C. W. Roberts, Gastonia, N. C.; H. Y. Scott, Monroe, N. C.; Miss B. H. Hackney, High Point; E. N. Farris, Charlotte, N. C.; Leake Carraway, Charlotte, N. C.; W. R. Timmons, Rock Hill, S. C.; R. C. W. Ramspeck, New Bern, N. C.

C. C. Kirkpatrick, Chicago, Ill.; Fred N. Tate, High Point, N. C.; H. F. Smith, Richmond, Va.; Mrs. C. W. Roberts, Gastonia, N. C.; Miss L. A. Ferguson, Gastonia; Allan T. Bowler, Raleigh, N. C.; J. W. Dunn, Reidsville, N. C.; J. C. Forrester, Greensboro, N. C.; W. L. Gilbert, Statesville, N. C.; C. R. Pugh, Elizabeth City, N. C.; A. K. Joy, Hickory, N. C.; J. J. Rodgers, Wilkesboro, N. C.; A. S. Treux, Hendersonville, N. C.; G. R. Horne, Rocky Mount, N. C.; M. R. Beaman, Goldsboro, N. C.; Alexis J. Coleman, Durham, N. C.; Miss Bessie Marsh, Fayetteville, N. C.

N. C. Buckner, Asheville, N. C.; J. T. Ryan, High Point, N. C.; E. L. Cowles, Charlotte, N. C.; T. W. Hughes, Baltimore, Md.; R. C. Hanson, Jr., Asheville, N. C.; Mr. Leake, Winston-Salem, N. C.; J. P. Leonard, Statesville, N. C.; A. W. McKeand, Indianapolis, Ind.; E. E. Millsaps, Statesville, N. C.; C. S. Ucker, Baltimore, Md.

Broadway Theatre Today "MID-NIGHT" Little ZOE RAY.

—The local cotton market today is 16 cents.

Kathleen Williams Ideal Today.

"The Pride of the Clan."

Mary Pickford will soon be seen at the Cozy Theater in this city in the second production of her own corporation released by Artcraft. It is called "The Pride of the Clan" and as the central figure of a Scotch story of strong human and heart appeal the famous star will create the role of a lassie of the heather, adding another interesting impersonation to the always remembered favorites that make up the gallery of Mary Pickford creations.

—Mr. Herbert Miller, of Lincoln-ton, spent last night in Gastonia on business.

Kathleen Williams Ideal Today.

ATTEMPT MADE TO SINK TOPEDO BOAT JACOB JONES.

Philadelphia.—According to a report at the Philadelphia navy yard an attempt was made to sink the torpedo boat Jacob Jones.

A man on the boat said to be a machinist's mate, is alleged to have opened the sea cocks and as the boat was being towed into her dock at the yard the vessel was seen to list. Investigation by officers revealed that the sea cocks were open.

HOUSATONIC WAS NOT SUNK WITHOUT FAIR WARNING.

Washington.—The possibility that the sinking of the American steamer Housatonic will become a serious factor in the crisis with Germany apparently was eliminated by evidence that the attacking submarine acted within international law.

Kathleen Williams Ideal Today.

GETS HEALTH OFFICER

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS IN SESSION

Board of Commissioners Heard Several Gastonia Citizens Yesterday on the Needs of a Whole-Time Health Officer—They Heartily Endorse Movement—Jurors for March Court Selected.

The regular monthly meeting of the commissioners of Gaston county was held at the court house yesterday, every member of the board being present. In the afternoon the commissioners held a public meeting and heard argument from several Gastonia citizens in favor of a whole time health officer. Immediately following the discussion as to the needs of such an officer for Gaston county the board went into executive session and endorsed the proposition as submitted to them, agreeing to pay one-third of the salary.

Mr. J. H. Separk spoke first as president of the Gastonia chamber of commerce. He made an eloquent appeal to the commissioners, asking them to endorse the movement which, as he termed it, would be one of the most constructive pieces of legislation they could possibly enact. In speaking of the conservation of the child life that the work of a whole time health officer would give the county he stated that when the statisticians of the world gathered together to compute the loss occasioned by the European war, the loss in property would pale into insignificance when compared to the wanton destruction of man power. Concluding he made a plea for the preservation of the child life in the county, declaring that whole time health officer in Gaston county would yield enormous returns in a more vigorous citizenship.

The next speaker was Dr. D. A. Garrison, who came with the unanimous endorsement of the Gaston County Medical Society and the civic committee of the chamber of commerce. Dr. Garrison pointed to Guilford, Buncombe and Forsyth counties, all having wholetime health officers, and the preventive work that was being done in each county. The medical profession, he declared, had made wonderful progress in the last few years in curing disease, but far greater strides had been made along lines of prevention. The healthiest men and women of the world were those in Norway and Sweden and Germany where the services of whole time health officers were employed.

Prof. F. P. Hall made a brief talk in behalf of the movement. There are now from 500 to 1000 children in the public schools of the county needing medical attention, he declared. The work of the present health system carries only to the chaingang, jail and county home and reaches the down-and-outs. His plea was to give to those who are not in this condition.

Dr. R. M. Reid, city school physician, spoke of the work an officer could do in the various county schools. One of the great needs of the county was a wholetime health officer, he thought, and would gladly give up his work with the city in order that the county might have one.

Dr. J. M. Sloan stated that he had not given the plan very careful thought the only question being whether or not one man could do the work of the county in a satisfactory manner.

Every speaker asserted that there was no criticism with the present health officer. They thought his work was being done in an excellent way but believed that the county should have a physician to devote his entire time to its health problems.

A. J. Trusdale, refunded \$2.06 on \$200 tax erroneously charged for two years.

Charles Elmore, refund of \$2 for dog tax erroneously charged.

Mrs. S. A. Smith, released and refunded \$4.12 on \$400, erroneously charged.

A new bridge was ordered built across Crowders Creek on the Clover road.

T. Craig Smith, released of tax, \$4.20.

Joe S. Black, released of dog tax erroneously charged.

W. S. Richards ordered paid \$25 for top soil.

Mrs. Will Weaver was placed on pauper list, \$6 being given per quarter for three years.

Southern Public Utilities released of \$17.94 tax, erroneously charged.

The chaingang was ordered to begin to repair the roads in the county as soon as work now under way is completed.

Jurors for the March term of Superior Court were drawn as follows: John Groner, J. Flom Johnson, J. L. Philor, M. H. Armstrong, J. W. Clark, A. F. Whitesides, L. D. Gribble, E. E. Thompson, A. P. H. Rhyme, E. M. Costner, A. M. Ballard, W. J. Swift, J. L. Price, J. W. Rhyme, F. E. Gray, J. W. Featherstone, N. E. Kale, P. D. Beam, L. L. McLaughen, J. H. Burgin, R. J. Avery, J. W. Craft, George C. Willis.

Wednesday Broadway Theatre "THE DEVIL'S BOND WOMAN."

It has been decided by the board of directors of the New York stock exchange not to close that institution on account of the international complications.

Spend Your Money With Home Merchants.

SURE 'NUFF COLD WAVE

WATER-BACK EXPLOSIONS NUMEROUS

Mercury Took a Tumble Friday and Has Remained Low Since—Following Warm Spell It Made Gastonia Shiver—Many Water Pipes Burst as Did Several Water-Backs in Stoves and Ranges—Mr. S. W. Patrick Severely Injured.

It arrived alright and exactly on time—not a Southern train but the predicted cold wave. It reached this section Friday and when Gastonians woke Saturday morning (such as slept Friday night) it was to find the mercury down to about six degrees above zero and their water pipes burst; unless, perchance, one had been thoughtful and cautious enough to cut the water off the previous night. Many there were who failed to take that precaution.

As a result of the freeze the water-backs in many stoves and ranges in the city froze and in a number of instances, where the householders did not think to examine the water attachments before building fires, explosions occurred. At least one instance occurred where severe injury followed such an explosion. Mr. S. W. Patrick had built a fire in his kitchen range at his home on East Franklin avenue. A few moments later it exploded and inflicted very serious injuries on him. His eyes were seriously injured and there is a possibility that his eyesight may be permanently impaired though his many friends are hoping that such will not be the case.

A similar accident occurred at the home of Mr. W. F. Kincaid on South street. His stove was wrecked and Mrs. Kincaid, who was in the kitchen at the time, sustained very painful wounds.

Reports of busting pipes in all sections of the city began coming in early Saturday morning and continued throughout Sunday and yesterday. Numerous cases of exploding waterbacks, caused by fires being built in stoves that the water had not been drained properly, were also reported. A waterback in a range in the home of Mr. John L. Beal exploded early Saturday morning, entirely demolishing the stove, and fire was thrown all over the room. No one was seriously injured.

Fire almost totally destroyed a small grocery store at the Flint Mill about 9 o'clock Saturday night, the property of Mr. J. M. Niles.

Since Saturday morning all of Gastonia's plumbers have been on the run. Summoned to fix a leak yesterday afternoon, one of them replied that he had over a hundred such jobs booked and was taking them one at a time as fast as he could get to them.

Sunday night shortly before nine o'clock, following a rise in temperature during the afternoon, a strong west wind blew up clouds and for a few minutes rain and snow descended in torrents. It looked as if there was going to be a regular storm. In a few moments, however, it cleared off and turned cold. Yesterday morning the mercury stood at about five degrees above zero. Throughout yesterday the cold continued. During last night it moderated slightly and this morning the temperature was about 12. Today it has gotten some warmer with a promise from the weather man of slowly rising temperature.

Without any records to refer to, the average citizen is of the opinion that the cold of the past three days has been the severest we have experienced here in at least five or six years. Following immediately on the heels of an unusually warm spell, it felt that way at any rate.

Wednesday Broadway Theatre "THE DEVIL'S BOND WOMAN."

WOULD COMMANDEER PLANTS.

A dispatch sent out from Washington Sunday says:

To insure quick construction of naval vessels and manufacture of ammunition and equipment for which private plants are under contract, Secretary Daniels asked congress today for authority to commandeer such plants, if necessary, and operate them in the public service.

A draft of the proposal was offered as an amendment to the annual naval bill, on which debate was just closing.

Both democrats and republicans urged that the naval bill be brought to passage as quickly as possible, but others on both sides of the house entered objections against the commandeering amendment.

General debate on the naval bill was concluded today and amendments will be considered tomorrow.

—Mr. Linden Smith, of Clover, S. C., was a Gastonia visitor today.

—Mrs. C. C. Armstrong returned last night from a visit to her mother, Mrs. R. B. Bass, of Cunningham.

—Mr. J. B. Beal left Saturday night for Florida, where he will spend a month or more at Jacksonville and other points.

—Mrs. W. T. Wilkins, of Rutherfordton, who has been the guest for several days of her son, Dr. S. A. Wilkins, of Dallas, arrived yesterday afternoon to spend a few days here with another son, Dr. T. A. Wilkins. From here she will go to Bessemer City to visit still another son, Mr. J. H. Wilkins.

Kirk Furr, charged with the murder of Chief of Police Suggs, of Norwood, has been arrested at Claxton, Ga., and has been brought back to Gastonia county for trial.

ACTION WAS HIGHHANDED

THE GASTON CITIZENS ARE INDIGNANT

Action of Cleveland County in Asking Legislature to Confirm Election Said to Be Without Precedent in State—Fine Italian Hand of Cleveland Politicians Seen in Way Measure Has Been Manipulated—Starts Talk of a New Political Alliance Between Gaston and Mecklenburg Which May Result Disastrously to Cleveland Politicians.

Members of Gastonia's delegation which went to Raleigh last week in the interest of the Gaston side of the county-line controversy are indignant at what they characterize as the "high-handed" measures used by Cleveland county's leading politicians to put the controversy beyond the reach of the courts. As noted in these columns last week a bill was introduced by one of the Cleveland county representatives, the purport of which was that the Legislature fix the line dividing the two counties according to the result of the late election as the returns showed. This, according to Gaston's attorneys, sets up the suit which had already been instituted in Superior Court to annul the election on the ground of fraud alleged to have been perpetrated by Cleveland county workers.

A member of the delegation, one of the city's most prominent citizens and one well posted on legislation, stated to The Gazette this morning that this action was probably without a precedent in the State's history and was altogether uncalled for. The bill was referred to the committee on towns and cities and Representative Puett at once notified the leading men of the county of its introduction, even making a special trip home to put the matter before them.

A delegation of twenty or more of Gaston's leading men at once got together and hurried to Raleigh to present our side to the committee. The delegation carried with them affidavits from more than fifty voters of the territory affected tending to show fraudulent practices and were ready to produce them if called for but they were not put before the committee. The committee, after a brief sitting, recommended favorably the Cleveland county bill.

Representative Puett served notice that he would make a fight on the bill on the floor of the House and it is not to be doubted that the Legislature, if it does pass this bill, will do so over a strong protest.

The Gaston delegation say that, if Cleveland county won the election fairly and squarely, she should not fear the result of a suit in the courts. If she won it dishonestly she should not be whitewashed by the General Assembly. "It is apparent that Cleveland's politicians packed the committee and the influences they brought to bear barred Gaston from a 'real hearing.'"

According to many leading local men this fight is going to result in a political battle between Cleveland and Gaston that will inevitably result in shelving some of the pet politicians of Cleveland. Mecklenburg has long been wanting a man in Congress, for instance, and has also wanted other offices which she has been unable to get because Gaston has invariably stood with Cleveland. Henceforth, they say, Gaston will line up with her friend across the Catawba and the combined electorate of these two counties will make Cleveland "sweat." That this action on the part of Cleveland, designated as "high-handed" and "unwarranted" will result in some new political alliances is hardly to be doubted.

PRESIDENT'S VETO OVERRIDDEN

Both Senate and House Have Now Passed Immigration Bill With Literacy Test Over President's Veto.

Washington, Feb. 5. — Congress has over-riden a veto by President Wilson for the first time, and enacted into law the immigration bill with its long-fought literacy test provision. The Senate voted late today 62 to 19 to pass the measure, notwithstanding the veto and in spite of eleven-hour information that Japan again had protested against the language of the Asiatic exclusion section.

The House overturned the veto last week by a vote of 287 to 105, so the Senate's action ends the contest of 20 years standing in which three Presidents have repudiated similar bills passed by Congress.

The international situation was brought into the closing debate in the Senate, Senator Reed calling attention to the Japanese objection and pleading that nothing be done at this time to disturb or impair the country's relations with a friendly Nation. Senator Smith, of South Carolina, chairman of the Immigration Committee, answered with the declaration that the present state of international affairs emphasized the necessity of a pure, homogeneous American people, such as the bill was intended to protect.

DURING THE YEAR 1916 THE GAZETTE PRINTED IN ITS WANT COLUMN 2,176 Separate Advertisements OCCUPYING SPACE EQUAL TO 18,256 Agate Lines More want ads than all the other newspapers in Gaston County combined—and this too, without any specific effort to secure business for this department of our advertising service. THERE'S A REASON (of course): They Bring Results