

THE GASTONIA GAZETTE

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GASTONIA, N. C. TUESDAY AFTERNOON, FEBRUARY 20, 1917.

\$2.00 A YEAR IN ADVANCE.

POLITICAL BEE IS BUSY CITY ELECTION IS JUST TEN WEEKS OFF

The Buzzing of the Political Bee Can Be Heard in the Distance at the Present — It Calls the Names of Several Prominent Gastonians Who Might Want to Be the Next Mayor — So Far There Has Been But One Avowed Candidate — A Hot Time is Anticipated in May.

With the municipal election only ten weeks distant, the buzz of the political bee can be heard only faintly at this time but its buzzing is audible, nevertheless, to one who goes out in search of campaign gossip and the names of the men who might be persuaded to enter the mayoralty or aldermanic races. And while there are several prominent citizens mentioned it is not at all an easy matter to direct the opinions of all on any one of these likely candidates. In this respect it is altogether probable that when the first Monday in May is ushered upon the stage some hot times will mark the activities as regards the political life of Gastonia.

"Who are the candidates?" is the question that has been asked a great many times by a large number of men, and some women, and the answer itself is not at all distinct. That there is an answer to the much-mooted question, however indistinct it may be, is evidence enough that the political pot will ere long be boiling fiercely. This, to be sure, is only speculation and only the lapse of the intervening weeks can prove or disprove the aforementioned speculations.

There seems to be a general trend of thought as to the number of candidates there will be for the executive office, or at least everybody is opinionated to the extent that they believe there will be more than one. Some say there will be not one, but three, four, five and maybe six candidates for the mayorship. A poll of the names of these men reveals the fact that with one exception they are all brand new material. New, not in the sense that they are not first-class, jam-up politicians, but new in that they have never yet offered themselves on the political altar.

As to the aldermen the question is not so quickly answered. In a great many instances the question asked was overlooked and the expression made, without solicitation, that there should be a radical change made in the manner these men should be selected. Without an exception all who expressed their views believed each ward should be given the power of choosing its own alderman. Whether an issue will be made on this idea or not is not known. The plan, however, seems to be a very popular one.

But the platforms of the various candidates have not been determined upon at this stage of the game. There will be platforms, without a doubt, and they will be worth reading too. Gastonia politicians don't figure to any degree in the activities of politics outside of their own city and county, but they shine at home. In other words, they do the thing up in fine shape, fit 'em for a past master in the art of town politics. When this is done they quit. Surely there can be none who doubt it. And there is a reason, or maybe several reasons, but the main one is that Gastonia folks—all of them—are busy. Cotton mills must be built, miles of paved streets and sidewalks have to be laid, school houses constructed, property must be developed, homes erected, etc., and how could these business and professional men be expected to spend any great time running up and down the country trying to get a little political pie, when they have pie of their own right here at home, and a good dining-room to eat it in too.

If the present election is to be judged by the elections held in the past, and it certainly should be, Gastonia politicians do not want but 48 hours to think about electing their favorites. Unlike other municipalities Gastonia does not groom her candidates. The reason is obvious; they need no grooming. The prospective candidates are well known, and if the people think they want a certain one—there is nothing to change them. The same rule applies to aldermen.

Unfortunately, there is one failing the South Carolinian finds with the policy of Gastonia politicians, and that is because they don't get mad enough at each other to swap bad names and fight a little. They say it don't appeal to them, and there they stop. It's the Gastonia way of carrying on political battles, Gastonia is in North Carolina and so they figure it doesn't matter if everybody don't like their method. But, as stated, they just won't make a bitter fight and it's no use wasting time talking.

Inasmuch as there have been no official announcements it might be presuming a bit too hastily by giving the names of several of the prospective citizens whom the political bee tells us might enter the mayoralty race. Nevertheless the Gazette is the best medium of advertising in Gastonia and a little wholesome publicity is not to be despised. There are no avowed candidates save one, he being Mr. J. V. Harper. Early in 1916 Mr. Harper stated his intention of making the race for mayor in 1917. No statement has been made by the present incumbent, Col. C. B. Armstrong, and it is not known whether he will be a candidate for re-election. The names of Messrs. J. H. Separk and A. E. Woltz are included in the list the bee finds

SHORT LOCAL ITEMS

—Mr. and Mrs. J. Lander Gray were visitors to Charlotte Saturday.

—Mrs. A. A. McLean was a Charlotte visitor Saturday.

—Mr. T. M. Mauney, of McDenville, was a visitor in town Saturday.

—McNeely Co's. opening will take place Thursday at 2 p. m. See ad on page two.

—If you are interested in pianos read Chas. M. Steff's advertisement in today's Gazette.

—Superintendent Joe R. Nixon, of the Cherryville public schools, was a Gastonia visitor Saturday.

—Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Warren spent the week-end at Chapel Hill with their son, Mr. Ernest Warren, who is a student at the University.

—Mrs. C. J. Simpson, of Gastonia, underwent a serious operation at a Charlotte hospital yesterday. It is understood that she is getting along nicely.

—Gaston Superior Court will convene Monday, March 19, for the trial of criminal cases only. The term will include only one week. Judge E. B. Cline, of Hickory, will preside.

—Lenoir News, 16th: Mr. G. C. Fry, who has represented the Carolina & Northwestern as operator at Collettsville, has gone to High Shoals to take charge of the office there. Mr. Fry is succeeded at Collettsville by Mr. Roy B. Jones, who until the flood had charge of the Edgemont office.

—The many friends of Mrs. S. A. Kindley will be glad to know that she has sufficiently recovered from an operation she underwent two weeks ago in a Baltimore hospital to return home. She will leave Baltimore tomorrow night and is expected to arrive here on train No. 37 Thursday morning.

—Gastonians who contributed to the fund raised by Rev. G. W. Bell, Presbyterian evangelist, for Mr. W. L. McFalls and family, of Henderson county, who suffered very great misfortunes, will be glad to know that the entire sum desired, \$450, was quickly raised and that the sum is ample to tide the family over its period of adversity. No more contributions are asked for.

Happiness of 3 Women Ideal Today.

EVANGELISTIC CAMPAIGN. To Be Conducted Simultaneously in All the Baptist Churches in the City Beginning March 11th.

A city-wide evangelistic campaign will be inaugurated by the Baptist churches of Gastonia beginning Sunday, March 11th, and continuing for two weeks. This campaign will be under the direction of the Baptist Home Board, the headquarters of which are at Atlanta, Ga. In addition to the workers assigned to the several churches it is expected that Dr. Weston Bruner, secretary of the board, will be here part of the time. At the First Church, of which Rev. W. C. Barrett is pastor, the services will be conducted by Rev. E. V. Lamb, of Warrensburg, Mo., and Mr. E. L. Wolstagle, of Asheville, singer; at the East Church, Rev. J. W. Whiteley pastor, by Rev. J. W. Hickerson and Prof. C. P. Gardner, singer; at the Loray Church, Rev. G. P. Abernethy pastor, by Rev. J. E. McManaway and Mr. J. P. Scholfield, singer. The public is invited to all these services.

Globe-Wernickie Sectional Bookcases at Gastonia Furniture Co. 23

Election in Fifth S. C. Complete returns from the primary in the Fifth district to fill the unexpired term of the late D. E. Finley show that W. F. Stevenson, of Chesterfield, and C. N. Sapp, of Lancaster, will enter the general election tomorrow. Mr. Sapp goes into the race with Mr. Stevenson by a scant 32 votes. The total vote was 10,572. Paul G. McCorkle, of York, has been nominated for the term expiring March 4. Mr. McCorkle received the record breaking vote of 8,074.

might throw their hats in the ring as are also the names of Messrs. A. M. Dixon, V. E. Long and B. H. Parker.

BONDS SOLD ABOVE PAR PURCHASED BY OHIO BANKING HOUSES

City and County Bonds Offered Friday Were Quickly Bought by Two Large Banking Concerns of the West Considerably Above Par — Both Concerns Are Well Established and Have Bought Bonds in This Section Before.

The improvement bonds offered for sale here Friday by the city of Gastonia and the county of Gaston in the sum of \$250,000 were purchased above par by two large banking houses of the northwest.

The \$100,000 county bonds were bought by Sidney Spitzer & Company, of Toledo, Ohio, through their representative, at a premium of \$1.143.97. These are four and three-quarter per cent serial bonds.

Another Toledo, Ohio, banking house, with offices also in New York City, Spitzer, Rorick & Company, purchased \$150,000 worth of five per cent city improvement bonds, paying therefor a premium of \$1.551. The purchasers agreed to pay the net premium, accrued interest from January 1, and to furnish blank bonds and the cost of printing.

Both the county and city officials feel fortunate in receiving such an excellent price for the bonds in view of the fact that considerable trouble is being experienced by other towns in disposing of bonds at this time because of the unsettled condition of the market, occasioned by the war. These banking houses are well and favorably known by the business and banking men of this city, having bought bonds in various towns in this State some time ago.

Happiness of 3 Women Ideal Today.

White Mountain Refrigerators and North Star Ice Cream Freezers at Gastonia Furniture Co. 23

PYTHIANS ENJOY OCCASION.

More Than a Hundred Pythians Attended the Ceremonies Last Night Held by the Local Lodge—Rev. W. E. Abernethy Was the Principal Speaker at Banquet—Good Fellowship Marked the Evening.

Pythians from Gastonia and the surrounding towns joined in the celebration held here last night in commemoration of the fifty-third anniversary of the Knights of Pythias Order. There were about 125 present at the banquet which was held immediately in the armory after the ceremonies in the lodge room.

The guest of honor was Rev. W. E. Abernethy, pastor of Dilworth Methodist church at Charlotte, who made the principal address of the evening. Mr. Abernethy, who is a loyal Pythian and an eloquent speaker, spoke on "Fraternal Orders were doing. He brought a message that thrilled the hearts of local Pythians.

Mr. R. G. Cherry was master of ceremonies. Numerous toast responses were made by local and visiting Pythians. Good fellowship was the keynote of every talk, and the banquet was brought to a close shortly before midnight.

Delegation to Raleigh.

A delegation of business men from Gastonia will leave the city this afternoon for Raleigh where tomorrow they will appear before a committee of the General Assembly asking that body to make an appropriation to be used for the erection of the proposed Orthopaedic Hospital and Home, a State institution for children of sound minds and crippled bodies. Mr. R. B. Babington, president of the hospital, has invited the following to go from this city: S. J. Durham, S. N. Boyce, W. T. Love, A. G. Myers, J. Lee Robinson, A. C. Jones, George W. Wilson, A. E. Woltz, A. G. Mangum, A. M. Dixon, O. F. Mason, Rev. W. C. Barrett, Rev. J. H. Henderlite, Rev. H. Jordan, Jas. W. Atkins, J. H. Kennedy, S. A. Robinson, E. G. McClure, W. T. Rankin, G. Ed Kestler, J. H. Separk, John G. Carpenter, T. L. Craig, J. L. Beal.

Just received car load Iron Beds, old prices. Gastonia Furniture Company. 23

Spend Your Money With Home Merchants.

GASTONIA AND GASTON LATE EVENTS IN TOWN AND COUNTY

Holiday Hours at P. O.

Thursday of this week, February 22, is a legal holiday and the post office will be closed with the exception of the hours from 8 to 10 a. m. and from 5 to 6 p. m. City carriers will make one delivery and collection in the morning. Rural carriers get the entire day as a holiday.

Was Pleased With Gastonia.

Mr. H. M. Dodd, of Georgia, who is interested in Cook & Company, spent last week in this section prospecting. He was amazed at the growth of Gastonia and Gaston county and contemplates making some investments here later in the year.

Special Lenten Services.

There will be Lenten services at the Lutheran church every Wednesday at 8 p. m. during the Lenten season. The theme for the sermon tomorrow evening will be "The Lenten Call." Text: Jer. 6:16. The public is cordially invited to attend these services by the pastor, Rev. J. C. Dietz.

Some War Measurements.

A reader of The Gazette furnishes us the following clipping from a newspaper published during the Civil War: "In 1863 measurements of many thousands of men in the United States armies showed that the average height of soldiers born in the United States was 67.8 inches; of English born, 66.7 inches; of Irish born, 67 inches; of French, 65.5 inches; of German, 66.7 inches."

Smyre Mill Secures Site.

The Smyre Manufacturing Company has just closed a contract with Messrs. McArver Brothers and Mr. A. C. Stroup for two tracts of land lying just east of the P. & N. Railway station at Ranlo, a part of which is south of the Southern Railroad tracks. There are 112 acres in the two plots which will be used as a site for the plant and mill village. Work will be begun towards erecting the mill within a few weeks.

Annual Banquet.

Thursday evening at 7:30 o'clock in the Clara Mill hall, South Oakland street, the Men's Bible Class of the First Presbyterian church will hold its annual banquet. About 150 are expected to be in attendance. The program for this occasion has not yet been perfected but a committee is busily engaged in perfecting arrangements and the occasion promises to be a most delightful one.

Sunday School Institute.

A Sunday school institute for the Shelby district will be held in Main Street Methodist church here Sunday and Monday, March 11th and 12th, under the general supervision of Rev. W. R. Shelton, Sunday school field secretary of the Western North Carolina Conference. A program is being arranged and will be published at an early date. Among those who will occupy places on the program will be Prof. J. M. Way, field secretary for the South Atlantic division and Miss Kennedy of the general Sunday school staff at Nashville, Tenn.

A "Trip Around the World."

An interesting entertainment will be given at the parish house of St. Mark's Episcopal church tonight by the members of the Altar Guild, who will conduct a "Trip Around the World." Guests will be personally conducted to Japan, Iceland, France and Africa, and will be brought back safely to America. Here they will meet some characters of American history. After being received by General and Mrs. George Washington the following tableaux will be given: John Alden and Priscilla, by Mr. E. N. LeBlanc and Miss Louie Frye; Evangeline, by Miss Myrtle Gray; Little George and the Cherry Tree, by Francis Mangum; Betsy Ross, by Miss Blanche Gray; Minuet Dance, by Mr. Lamar Carraway and Miss Ethelma Armstrong; Uncle Sam and Liberty, by Mr. Tommie Lee Wilson and Mrs. J. W. Moore; Readings and Songs behind the scenes, by Miss Pearl Miller. Mrs. T. M. Faysoux, Jr., is directress of the play.

GENERAL FUNSTON DEAD FAMOUS COMMANDER EXPIRED SUDDENLY

General Commanding Troops on Border Collapsed Suddenly in San Antonio Hotel Last Night — Won Fame in the Philippines and His Death Ends Long Career of Active Service.

Major General Frederick Funston, commander of the Southern Department of the United States Army since February, 1915, died suddenly at a hotel in San Antonio, Texas, last night a few minutes after he had dinner. He collapsed while seated in the lobby of the hotel talking with friends and was playing with little Inez Silverberg, of Des Moines, Iowa, a guest with her parents at the hotel, when he fell unconscious. Death was almost instantaneous. General Funston was 51 years old.

Ever since March, 1916, when he was placed in command of all United States forces on the Mexican border, General Funston had worked at an unusual pace. At critical times in border developments, he frequently remained on duty 20 hours of the 24. The handling of regulars disposed of at various stations on the border, the Pershing expedition and of late, re-arrangement of regular troops while providing for the return of National Guardsmen, have entailed an enormous amount of detail work, probably exceeding that which fell to any commander general of the United States Army since the Civil War.

Col. Malvern-Hill Barnum, General Funston's chief of staff, immediately notified the War Department of General Funston's death. News also was dispatched to Mrs. Funston, who is visiting her father in California. No arrangements for General Funston's funeral have been made.

Colonel Ireland, who has been General Funston's physician for some time, said tonight: "General Funston's death was caused by angina sclerosis of the arteries of the heart. Death was almost immediate and without pain."

Funston's first experience on the firing line came in Cuba, where he commanded General Gomez's artillery with remarkable results. After engaging in 22 battles and being wounded three times, he resigned his command because 50 guerrillas who had aided the Spaniards were tured by Spaniards on his way to Havana, he escaped death by swallowing a letter to the President of Cuba which would have proved his identity.

While a colonel of the famous Twentieth Kansas Volunteer Infantry in the Philippine War Funston performed feats of bravery that brought him the title of brigadier general. His capture of Aguinaldo and his fording of the Rio Grande river at Columbus under fire featured his work.

The ambition of Funston's youth was to go to West Point, but he failed in an entrance examination. In later years, he repeatedly outranked West Pointers who were in school when he failed of admission. Physically, Funston was one of the smallest men in the United States Army. He was barely five feet and five inches tall, and usually weighed less than 120 pounds. In civil life, he was modest and retiring.

Besides his wife, General Funston is survived by three children, Frederick, Jr., aged 10 years; Barbara, 9, and Elizabeth, aged eight months. Major General Funston's sudden death came as a great shock to high officials of the Army and to President Wilson. He was one of the distinguished commanders of the service, and one of whom greater things were expected in the future. The youngest major general of the line, vigorous and apparently healthful, he had been counted on by his superiors for many more years of active service.

Major General Pershing, who has been in command of the El Paso district since the withdrawal of the American expedition from Mexico, automatically will succeed to the duties of commander of the Southern Department until an appointment has been made. Recently made major general, he is the only officer of that rank now assigned to the department.

As an immediate successor to the command, General Pershing will have charge of many details of the movement of the remaining units of the National Guard ordered home from the border. It is expected here that this movement, plans for which were worked out by General Funston as virtually his last military duty, will go forward without interruption.

Boss Oil Stoves and Ovens at Gastonia Furniture Company. 23

Burned to Death.

Ivery, the little two-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. James L. Miller, 602 East Fifth avenue, died Saturday afternoon at 5 o'clock as the result of burns sustained on Wednesday previous. The little one's clothing caught from an open fire. The body was shipped Sunday morning on No. 39 to Bluffton, Tenn., the former home of Mr. and Mrs. Miller, for burial.

Have you tried the penny column? It brings results. One cent a word each insertion.

IN SOCIAL CIRCLES LATEST EVENTS IN WOMAN'S WORLD

DELEGATES ELECTED TO D. A. R. CONGRESS.

William Gaston Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, has elected the following delegates and alternates to attend the annual Congress of the National Society, which meets in Continental Hall, Washington, on April 19 to 21. Regent, Mrs. G. W. Ragan, alternates, Mrs. Linden Smith, Mrs. S. A. Wilkins, Mrs. J. G. Carpenter, Mrs. G. A. Sparrow, Mrs. T. M. McCoy, Mrs. T. M. Campbell, Mrs. S. A. Robinson, Mrs. J. F. Thomson, Miss Marie Torrence and Miss Mary Ragan.

SOCIAL HISTORIC MEETING FRIDAY.

A social-historic meeting will be held by Gastonia Chapter U. D. C. Friday afternoon, the 23rd, at three o'clock at the home of Mrs. E. C. Wilson, South Marietta street. Following is the program:

- Song, "America." Prayer. Business. Vocal Solo by Miss Marie Torrence. Secession Movement. The "Star of the West" episode. Origin of "The Bonnie Blue Flag." Song, "The Bonnie Blue Flag" by the chapter. Jefferson Davis' Farewell Address to the Senate. Peace Convention 1861. Attitude of the South Towards Slavery. Organization of the Confederate States Government. The Confederate Flag. Instrumental music. Social hour.

AN APPEAL TO MEMBERS OF THE BETTERMENT.

The members of the Household Economics committee of the Woman's Betterment Association, together with the president, have found it necessary to appeal to the members of the association for aid in securing a sufficient supply of dishes in which to serve refreshments on Reciprocity Day. It has been decided to request each member of the association to donate one plate and one cup and saucer, which will be kept for the future use of the association. These dishes may be purchased or taken from odd pieces in the home. It is hoped that this reasonable request will be met with a generous response, as it has become necessary for the Betterment Association to own some dishes. There will be a committee at the main entrance of the Central school building Thursday morning, February 22, from 8:30 to 10 o'clock to receive these donations. Each member is requested to write her name on the package she sends.

Trunks, Bags and Suitcases at Gastonia Furniture Company. 23

Underwent Operation.

Mrs. A. S. Bass was operated on yesterday morning at the City Hospital for appendicitis and other troubles. She stood the operation well and her many friends will be glad to know that she is getting along nicely.

Spend Your Money With Home Merchants.

Six steamships sailed from New York for European ports Saturday despite the German submarine warnings. None of them, however, carried passengers.

Death of Mrs. Belle Gwinn.

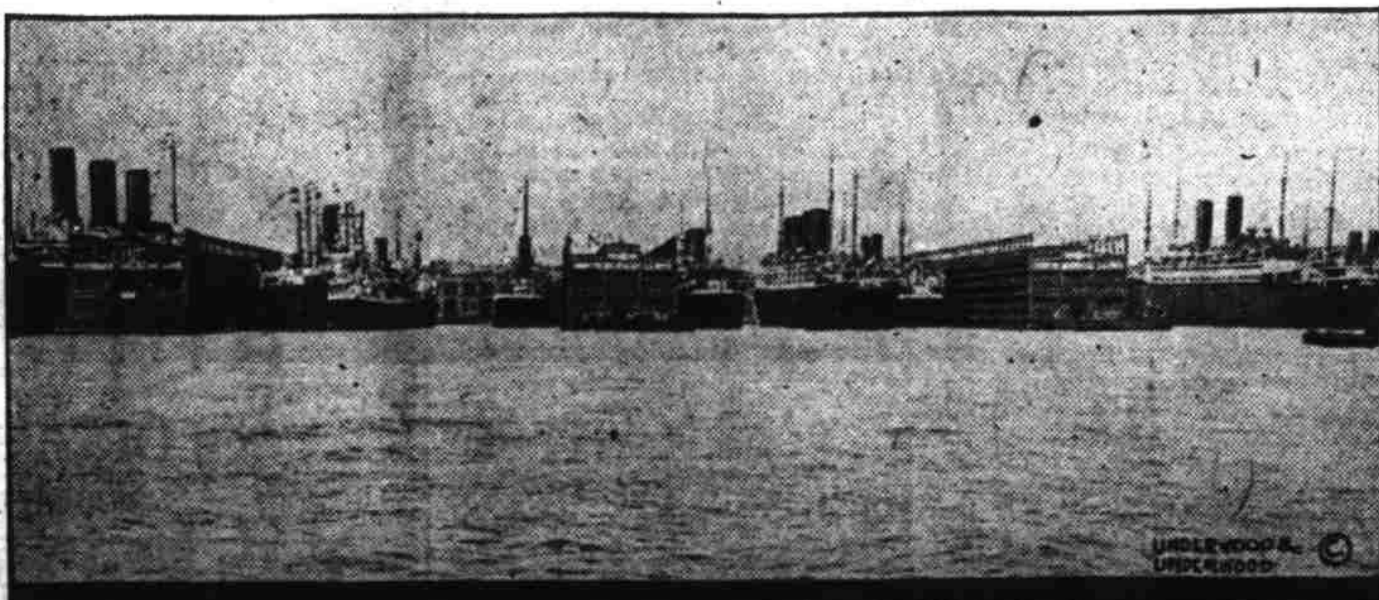
Messrs. R. Hope and Lee Brison were summoned to Clover, S. C., Sunday by the death of their aunt, Mrs. Belle Gwinn, wife of Mr. J. B. Gwinn, which occurred some time during the night. Mrs. Gwinn, although of advanced age, was in her usual state of health Saturday night. Life was extinct when her husband arose Sunday morning. She was 75 years old. Funeral services were held Monday morning at 10 o'clock at the home and interment was in the Presbyterian cemetery at Clover. The services were conducted by Rev. A. A. McLean, pastor of the church. Two sons, Messrs. Frank and Lewis Gwinn, survive with the husband.

Returns From North.

Mrs. D. R. Shields has returned from a ten days trip to the Northern markets, where she purchased a full line of up-to-date spring and summer millinery. Mrs. Shields will have Miss Anna Leggett, of Baltimore, an expert trimmer, in her service this season. Miss Leggett will arrive in the city tomorrow. Mrs. Shields' new millinery parlors are now located in the Rankin building upstairs over the McNeely Company's store.

WE KNOW A MAN who had a piece of property to sell. He spent \$2.25 for some board signs which he placed about on his property. That was 8 months ago. The signs are still nailed to the posts and his property is unsold. Another man wanted to sell a house. He inserted two want ads in The Gazette at a cost of 42 cents, the property was sold, and the advertiser now has the money in the bank drawing interest. THERE WAS A REASON.

SOME OF THE GERMAN LINERS AT THE HOBOKEN DOCKS



These are some of the great German liners that have been docked at piers at Hoboken, N. J., since the war started and that are now under the keen scrutiny of the collector of the port of New York.