

THE GASTONIA GAZETTE

PUBLISHED TWICE A WEEK—TUESDAYS AND FRIDAYS.

VOL. XXXVIII. NO. 18.

GASTONIA, N. C., FRIDAY AFTERNOON, MARCH 2, 1917.

\$2.00 A YEAR IN ADVANCE.

DASTARDLY GERMAN CONSPIRACY IS REVEALED

UNCLE SAM UNEARTH'S SECRET PLOT; BERNSTORFF WAS ONE OF THE PRINCIPALS

Germany Made Proposals to Mexico and Japan to Join With Her in War on United States—Mexico's Part of Spoils Was to be Texas, New Mexico and Arizona—Bernstorff Handled the Communication—World Stands Aghast at Dastardly Intrigue—Congress Solidly Behind President.

An Associated Press dispatch sent out from Washington to the morning papers of Thursday carried one of the most startling pieces of news that the public in this country has had since the world war began in 1914. It read as follows:

The Associated Press is able to reveal that Germany, in planning unrestricted submarine warfare and counting its consequences, proposed an alliance with Mexico and Japan to make war on the United States if this country should not remain neutral.

Japan, through Mexican mediation, was to be urged to abandon her allies and join in the attack on the United States.

Mexico, for her reward, was to receive general financial support from Germany, reconquer Texas, New Mexico and Arizona—lost provinces—and share in the victorious peace terms Germany contemplates.

Details were left to German Minister von Eckhardt in Mexico City, who, by instructions signed by German Foreign Minister Zimmerman, at Berlin, January 19, 1917, was directed to propose the alliance with Mexico to General Carranza and suggest that Mexico seek to bring Japan into the plot.

These instructions were transmitted to von Eckhardt through Count von Bernstorff, former German Ambassador here, now on his way home to Germany under a safe conduct obtained from his enemies by the country against which he was plotting war.

Germany pictures to Mexico, by broad intimation, England and the Entente Allies defeated; Germany and her Allies triumphant and in world domination by the instrument of unrestricted submarine warfare.

A copy of Zimmerman's instructions to von Eckhardt, sent through von Bernstorff, is in possession of the United States Government. It is as follows:

Berlin, Jan. 19, 1917.
On the 1st of February we intend to begin submarine warfare unrestricted. In spite of this, it is our intention to endeavor to keep neutral the United States of America.

If this attempt is not successful, we propose an alliance upon the following basis with Mexico: That we shall make war together and together make peace. We shall give general financial support, and it is understood that Mexico is to reconquer the lost territory in New Mexico, Texas and Arizona. The details are left to your settlement.

You are instructed to inform the President of Mexico of the above in the greatest confidence as soon as it is certain that there will be an outbreak of war with the United States, and suggest that the President of Mexico, on his own initiative, should communicate with Japan, suggesting adherence at once to this plan; at the same time, offer to mediate between Germany and Japan.

Please call to the attention of the President of Mexico that the employment of ruthless submarine warfare now promises to compel England to make peace in a few months.

(Signed) ZIMMERMAN.
Officially Confirmed.

This morning's (Friday's) papers carry the following Associated Press dispatch from Washington:

President Wilson tonight, in response to the Senate's call, laid before that body official information that the United States Government is in possession of evidence which establishes the authenticity of the sensational document which disclosed how Germany intrigued to ally Mexico and Japan with her to war on this country.

In response to the resolution, the President transmitted a report from Secretary Lansing establishing that the evidence has come into the possession of the United States within the last week, and the authenticity of Foreign Minister Zimmerman's instructions to German Minister von Eckhardt in Mexico City, are established as revealed by the Associated Press.

Standing With the President.
Aroused by the disclosure of Germany's plot to unite Japan and Mexico with her in a war upon the United States, and then convinced by official evidence of its authenticity, Congress today abandoned the delays and obstructions which have checked President Wilson's efforts to be clothed with express authority to deal with the submarine menace.

The House, after a 10-hour debate and by an overwhelming majority, passed a bill to empower the President to arm merchant ships and providing for a hundred million dollar bond issue. The bill, however, does not contain the grant of authority to use "other instrumentalities" which the President specifically desired and would prevent Government war insurance for munition ships, a prohibition which the President does not approve.

When the House bill is received in the Senate tomorrow, the Senate bill, which the Administration fully

commends, will be substituted, and that is expected finally to be accepted by both houses as the law.

Official announcement was made at the White House today that the Administration stands behind the Senate bill "first, last and all the time" with its provision for "other instrumentalities."

Won't Disclose Source.

In the Senate, an attempt to ask the President to disclose the Government's source of information of the attempted intrigue with Mexico and Japan, on the supposition that it came from one of Germany's enemies was defeated after a sharp and sensational debate. Instead, the Senate merely asked for official notice of the authenticity of the dispatch of instructions from German Foreign Minister Zimmerman to German Minister von Eckhardt in Mexico City. The President transmitted it immediately, with the statement that it would not be compatible with the public interests to reveal further details concerning it.

Members of both houses of Congress, some skeptical of the authenticity of the astounding revelations of Germany's intrigue; others feeling that it had been permitted to become public for its effect in Congress and throughout the country, met the situation with mixed emotions, which, with a few possible exceptions as the day's developments were unfolded, solidified into a decision to stand behind the President.

Congressmen, classed with the so-called pacifist group in the House, who have been opposing a grant of authority to the President on the ground that it would be a step toward war, announced that they would vote for the armed neutrality bill in the belief that to arm the President to protect American rights might be the way to avoid war.

Sensation in London.

The following dispatch from London was published this morning:

The time is past when any fresh orientation of the German policy is calculated to astonish the British public view, but the revelation of the plot to induce Mexico and Japan to attack the United States provided this country with a first-class sensation today.

The Associated Press Washington dispatches gave the late afternoon papers the first news, which was displayed under startling headlines, such as "Great Hun Plot Unmasked," "Most Sensational Plot of the War," "Amazing Revelation of German Duplicity."

The edition of the papers was early exhausted. The immediate idea of the man in the street was that here at last was an undoubted casus belli for the United States, the only matter for curiosity appearing to be how soon an actual declaration of war might be expected.

The news was too late for editorial comment in the afternoon papers, and the Government officials approached declined to make any statement for publication.

Perhaps next to the effect of the news in America, the attitude of Japan excited the public mind most. Nowhere did the idea prevail that Japan could be detached from the Entente Alliance. Altogether, while confidence is felt that such an intrigue could only recoil on its authors, the British public is watching developments with greatest interest.

Maria Doro Ideal Today.

Cleveland Cullings.

The Star, Feb. 27th.

A bill has been introduced in the Legislature by Representative W. A. Mauney authorizing and empowering the county commissioners to pay the town of Shelby \$2,700 for the county's one-fourth part of the asphalt paving around the square.

Mr. J. R. Sloan of Franklin has arrived in Shelby and taken the principalship of the Shelby public school, succeeding Prof. M. R. Pleasants who resigned on account of ill health.

A bill has been introduced in the General Assembly by Representative W. A. Mauney of Cleveland, authorizing a bond issue of not exceeding \$25,000 to enlarge the Shelby public school building. The bill was drawn at the suggestion of the school board, city aldermen and Supt. I. C. Griffin with an idea of adding several additional rooms to the main building and installing a larger and more satisfactory heating plant.

Secret Kingdom Ideal Tomorrow.

Not Creditable to the State.

Roy Traywick, of Union county, gave such a story of the treatment of State convicts that under a resolution of Representative R. F. Beasley, a committee was appointed to investigate. The testimony so far before the committee has not been creditable to the laws of humanity when public opinion is more than ever applying the laws of humanity to the erring. We have all felt pity for the convicts of other states where charges of inhumanity made against those who had them in charge have been sustained by evidence, but we have not been so mindful of our own erring ones.

See our line of White Mountain and Ice King Refrigerators. Gastonia Furniture Company.

GASTONIA AND GASTON

LATE EVENTS IN TOWN AND COUNTY

Boy Scout Meeting.

At 7:30 o'clock tonight at the Modena school house Scout Commissioner E. N. LeBlanc and others will hold a meeting for the purpose of organizing a troop of Boy Scouts for the eastern part of the city. All boys interested in the scout movement will please be present.

Realty Company Officers.

Officers of the Price Real Estate & Insurance Company were elected at a stockholders meeting Tuesday afternoon as follows: President, A. E. Moore; vice president, J. P. Reid; secretary-treasurer, A. E. Woltz; manager, J. L. Price. Messrs. Woltz and Moore have recently purchased the controlling interest in the company as was stated in Tuesday's Gazette.

Inspection Will be Held Saturday.

Captain A. L. Bulwinkle has received definite information to the effect that company B, North Carolina National Guards will tomorrow be inspected by Capt. A. C. Thompson and Capt. C. C. Allen, U. S. A., and Major Thomas Stringfield, inspector general for the State. The members of the company must be on hand for the inspection or they are subject to court martial.

WILL LEAVE TOMORROW.

Gastonia Pythian Drum Corps Leaves the City Saturday Evening for Washington to Participate in the Inaugural Parade Monday.

Twenty-eight members of the Gastonia Pythian Drum Corps will leave the city tomorrow night at 9:38 in a special Pullman car for Washington, where on Monday they will take as conspicuous part as possible in the big parade in an effort to attract the attention of the several millions of people who will attend the inauguration exercises of President Woodrow Wilson.

A generous response, with a few exceptions, has been made by the citizens of the city to the young men who have been active in raising the funds necessary to meet the expenses of the trip.

Two 50-foot banners bearing these words will be attached to each side of the car: "Gastonia, N. C., Pythian Drum Corps." Several thousand attractive folders telling of Gastonia will also be distributed by the boys while on the trip.

Secret Kingdom Ideal Tomorrow.

WAS A BUSY MONTH.

Real War Not the Much-Dreaded High Cost of Living Stops Dan Cupid's Unrestricted Warfare—Many Marriage Licenses Issued.

While February is the shortest month in the calendar year it is nevertheless an excellent one in which to get married, as is shown by the records in Register of Deeds O. B. Carpenter's office. Twenty-eight couples secured marriage licenses during the past month, six being colored and 22 white couples. They are:

WHITE.
David Broggs and Belle Seagle, of Gastonia.

E. L. Baker and Sallie Hoover, of Mt. Holly.

James W. Burnett and Eliza Burnett, of Belmont.

Ross Badger and Annie Turbyfield, of Gastonia.

Louie Ballard and Lora Carroll, of Gaston county.

R. B. Cronland, of Lincoln county, and Corinne Kirksey, of Stanley.

Lee Dameron and Virginia Hanna, of Lowell.

Fred T. Green and Ada Dees, of Gastonia.

C. W. Hendricke and Ida May Dagenhart, of Mt. Holly.

E. E. Helms, of Thomasville, and Lillie Mincey, of Ranlo.

Clyde Ingram and Eula Page, of Belmont.

James L. Jackson and Mary E. Callaway, of Dallas.

Luther Lynn and Flossie Roper, of Gastonia.

Jim Neely and Ola George, of Belmont.

Thomas Oates and Maggie Houser, of Bessemer City.

Elzie Pope and Stella Hammett, of Ranlo.

R. C. Roberts and Bessie L. Cloniger, of Gastonia.

R. E. Scroggs, of Statesville, and Irene Allgood, Blacksburg, S. C.

J. O. Smith and Fannie Abernethy, of Stanley.

J. S. Starnes, of Crowders Mountain township, and Lettie Dover, of York county, S. C.

Daniel Upton, of Shelby, and Viola Cosby, of Cherryville.

Houston Williams and Maude Bentley, of Mt. Holly.

COLORED.
J. W. Brice, of Hickory Grove, S. C., and Mary Miller, of Clover, S. C.

Charley Booker, of Bessemer City, and Virgie Davis, of Gastonia.

IN SOCIAL CIRCLES

LATEST EVENTS IN WOMAN'S WORLD

COMPLIMENTARY TO BRIDE-TO-BE.

Mrs. S. A. Robinson most delightfully entertained the members of the S. and O. Club at her home on South York street yesterday morning in honor of Miss Lucy Boyce whose marriage to Mr. Cleveland Welch is to take place on the 12th of April. Jonquils, violets and purple primroses were used to decorate the sitting room where trail was played at three tables. After the game a salad course was served, followed by bon-bons which were served in small crystal baskets tied with yellow maline. Miss Boyce was toasted in a most happy fashion by Mrs. Parks Huffstetler and Mrs. J. F. Thomson and she responded in a gracious and lovely manner. The toast to the bride was drunk in "Welch's" grape juice. A silver loving cup, on which were engraved the date of the wedding, was then presented to the bride-to-be as a souvenir. In addition to club members and Miss Boyce the guests were Mrs. S. N. Boyce, Miss Sallie Moore and Mrs. A. E. Moore.

MISS JENKINS MAKES HER DEBUT IN NEW YORK.

The following from a recent issue of a New York paper will be read with great interest in Gastonia: "The Majestic hotel, at Seventy-second street and Central Park West, presented a scene of gay festivity Tuesday evening when the management celebrated its annual 'Carnival Night' with a Mardi Gras Ball.

An impromptu stage was arranged in the center of the large colonial dining room where a clever and artistic program was presented for the entertainment of the guests.

Miss Lola Jenkins, a petite brunette from the south, charmed all with her lovely voice and graceful dancing. This was Miss Jenkins' first formal appearance in New York. She is a young woman remarkably endowed, possessing more than her share of the qualifications that make for success. She has youth and beauty and much grace of manner and in addition to these charms so generously bestowed by nature she has a remarkable soprano voice of wide range and much power. Her tones are clear and her diction admirable combined with a breath control that is unusual in so young a singer. That Miss Jenkins can sing is an undisputed fact and one known to her friends by her graceful dancing to an enchanting costume of billowy tulle. Miss Jenkins suggested the poise and lightness of a bird as she moved daintly about the stage performing the intricacies of the steps of her dance. Should Miss Jenkins choose a professional life as her career, her success will be unquestionably assured."

Miss Jenkins is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. Jenkins, of Gastonia and Asheville, and a sister of Mrs. Jack Harper, of this city. She has spent much time during the past few years studying in New York. Her many friends in Gastonia, where most of her life has been spent, will be delighted at the above very complimentary reference by a metropolitan paper to her singing and dancing.

GASTONIA ARTIST DELIGHTS CHARLOTTE AUDIENCE.

The following account of Miss Marie Torrence's Charlotte recital is from Wednesday's Charlotte Observer: "A large and representative audience was present in the main auditorium of the Chamber of Commerce Tuesday evening to greet Miss Marie Torrence, one of the State's most gifted young concert singers. This was Miss Torrence's first appearance in Charlotte and she charmed her hearers. The recital was given under the auspices of the Treble Clef.

Miss Torrence was assisted by four brilliant pianists, Miss Helen Foil, vice chairman of the Treble Clef; Miss Sallie Dixon, accompanist; Miss Elsie L. Stokes and Miss Gertrude Elizabeth McRae, members of the music faculty at Queens College.

Mrs. A. C. Orndorff, chairman of the Treble Clef, was fortunate in securing such splendid talent for last evening's recital, which is one of a series scheduled for the Winter and Spring.

Miss Torrence possesses a soprano voice of marvelous beauty. It is flexible, true and exceptionally high. She has received her training under some of the best instructors in New York, having recently returned to her home in Gastonia. During the Winter Miss Torrence has appeared in joint recital with Signor Sorrentino, the celebrated Italian tenor.

She is a strikingly pretty blonde and has a charming stage presence. Each number of her program last evening was enthusiastically received. "Spring's Awakening" and "Aria Du puis le jour (Louise)" were rendered with fine effect, and after continued applause she gave as an encore "Love Me" by Ros O'Neill. Miss Sallie Dixon was a sympathetic accompanist and added much to the evening's program. "Ride of the Valkyrs" was brilliantly rendered by Misses Stokes, McRae, Dixon and Foil. Miss Torrence concluded her program with "Lo! Hear the Gentle Lark," which was artistically given.

An informal reception followed the recital when the audience had the privilege of meeting the gifted

DYNAMITE WAS USED

EFFORT MADE TO BLOW UP TOLL BRIDGE

Explosion Shortly After Midnight Revealed Fact That the Temporary Toll Bridge Spanning the Catawba River at Belmont Had Been Dynamited—Sheriff Davis and Policeman Hord Went to Scene at Early Hour—No Arrests Have Been Made.

An attempt was made to destroy the temporary toll bridge across the Catawba river at Sloan's ferry early this morning by unknown parties. The explosion occurred at nine minutes past midnight, according to a statement made by the man in charge of the bridge early this morning, and shattered a part of the railing in the first span on the Mecklenburg side.

Sheriff W. N. Davis and Policeman Adam Hord returned to the city at 10 o'clock this morning from the river where they went about four o'clock, in response to a message telling that the bridge had been dynamited. The blood hounds belonging to the Gastonia police department were taken to the scene in an effort to capture the guilty party or parties. No arrests were made, however.

Dynamite used in the explosion was secured, it is stated, from a supply that is being kept near the river on the Mecklenburg side and which is being used by Mecklenburg county workmen in tearing down the remnants of the Sloan's ferry concrete bridge which has been standing since the big bridge was swept away last July. This work has been in progress for several weeks, an effort being made to salvage the steel from the wreckage.

Similar attempts have been made during the past several days to blow up this bridge but failed because of the improper handling of the explosive, it is understood. Three unexploded sticks of dynamite were discovered this morning on another pier. These sticks had also failed to explode because of the manner in which they were placed.

Envy is claimed to be the cause of these attempts to demolish this bridge as considerable revenue is being collected by the owners, while a ferry, operated just below the bridge, is made to suffer for lack of patronage. An average of \$15 per day in tolls has been collected by the operators of the bridge since it was erected about four months ago.

Officers in both Mecklenburg and Gaston counties are working on the case and some arrests are expected within a short time.

The negro ferryman, Henry Parker, was arrested this afternoon and after a preliminary hearing was bound over to Superior Court on a charge of dynamiting the bridge.

Guitars, Banjos and Mandolins at Gastonia Furniture Company.

young singer, Miss Torrence was gowned in turquoise blue taffeta embroidered in silver and combined with tulle trimmed in silver bands with rose girle. After her first number she received a bouquet of sunset roses and valley lilies.

Miss Torrence was accompanied to Charlotte by her mother, Mrs. Frost Torrence.

WILL ATTEND THE INAUGURATION.

Mrs. D. K. Jackson and little son, Jack, will leave tonight for Washington City, where they will spend several days and attend the inauguration ceremonies next Monday. At Charlotte they will be joined by a party consisting of Miss Bleeka Ritch, Miss Minnie Reed, Miss Grace Hatcher and Mrs. M. L. Hatcher.

MOCK MARRIAGE AT DALLAS.

A mock marriage will be staged at Dallas on Saturday night, the 10th, by local talent under the auspices of the Farm Life School. The hour will be 7:30 and the place the graded school auditorium. Prof. Sawyer will be the bride and Prof. Henson the bride's mother. The event promises to be a most enjoyable one and the promoters hope that a goodly number of Gastonians will attend.

STUDY CLUB WITH MRS. WRAY.

A meeting of the Study Club was held with Mrs. Joe S. Wray Tuesday afternoon, February 27th. The program on "London—Literary Men," was intensely interesting and was tendered in the following order: "Old Chelsea," a paper by Mrs. G. A. Sparrow.

"High Tide on the Coast of Lincolnshire," by Jean Ingelow, a reading by Mrs. D. A. Garrison.

A brief sketch each of Carlyle, Dickens, George Eliot and Thackeray was brought out in the round table which was conducted by Mrs. J. F. Thomson.

When the program was concluded, Mrs. Wray served a delicious frozen salad with accessories, in which the blending of the club colors was highly pleasing to the esthetic taste. In every way the meeting was a delightful one.

Will Wait for Good Roads.

Owing to the unfavorable conditions of the roads the Camp Fire Girls will not take another hike until further notice is given through The Gazette.

SHORT LOCAL ITEMS

—Mr. W. B. Riddle, of Bowles Green, was in town Wednesday.

—Mr. T. L. Allison, of the New Hope section, was in town Wednesday.

—Rev. R. S. Burwell, of New Hope, was a visitor in Gastonia yesterday.

—Mr. Ed Brandon, of the Bethel section, was a business visitor in town Wednesday.

—Mr. L. H. Greenwood and Mr. T. M. Ferguson went to Greensboro Wednesday to attend a cattle sale.

—Mr. F. C. Michael, of the firm of Michael & Bivens, has returned from a trip to Elon College and Durnam.

—Several Gastonians will go to Belmont tonight to attend the exercises in connection with the opening of the handsome new Belmont high school building.

—Mrs. D. R. Shields gives notice in today's Gazette of her first showing of spring hats which is to take place on next Wednesday evening from 8 to 10 o'clock.

—"Warning" or "The S. O. S. Call of Humanity" will be shown at the Broadway Theatre March 7. The scenario is by the Rev. Dr. C. H. Parkhurst and deals with the vice question.

—Mrs. T. J. Roach, Mrs. J. K. Roach and the latter's little daughter, Florence Earl, returned today to their home at Rock Hill, S. C., after being the guests of Rev. W. J. Rosen and family for several days.

—There will be services at St. Michael's Catholic church at 10 a. m. on Sunday, March 4, consisting of holy mass, communion and sermon, after which the stations of the cross will be held.

—Michael & Bivens are agents for Gaston and Lincoln counties for the famous Delco light, a system which makes electricity available anywhere. See their advertisement elsewhere in today's Gazette.

—Since the re-sale on February 19th of the Parham lands in the Crowders Creek section the bid has been raised and Mr. R. C. Patrick, the commissioner, has ordered another re-sale to be held on March 19th.

—Mr. V. O. Willis, of Charlotte, has been spending a few days here with his son, Mr. G. G. Willis. He is recuperating from a recent very severe illness and his Gastonia friends are glad to see him out again.

—Messrs. F. J. Shock and Louis D. Hagemann, who have been here for the past two months installing elevators in the First National Bank building, left Wednesday for Wilson. Their many friends regret their leaving Gastonia.

—The Gazette is under obligations to Mr. G. H. Marvin, the genial and accommodating proprietor of the Coca-Cola Bottling Co., for a handsome wall clock in mahogany case which he has kindly placed in The Gazette office.

—Attention is called to the annual report on page six of today's Gazette of the Belmont Building and Loan Association. Though only a little over a year old this association has over 1,000 shares in force and is doing a splendid business.

—Mr. F. C. Abernethy, bookkeeper for the Spencer Lumber Company, of this city, has given up his work for several weeks and is undergoing treatment for his eyes, which have been causing him quite a bit of trouble. He has been relieved by Mr. Sam Suggs, of Salisbury, a former Gastonia resident.

Marie Doro Ideal Today.

MR. AND MRS. GARDNER GIVE DINNER.

Tuesday evening at their home on North Falls street Mr. and Mrs. B. B. Gardner entertained a few of their friends at a most delightful dinner in honor of Mr. Gardner's birthday. His guests were, for the most part, his associates in the furniture business. Those who enjoyed the hospitality of Mr. and Mrs. Gardner were Rev. J. H. Henderlite, Col. C. B. Armstrong, V. E. Long, L. H. Long, R. A. Rankin, A. Fronberger, Byrum Long, E. Hoyle Armstrong, R. C. Warren, W. Y. Warren and W. N. Davis.

Clothes Baskets, Flower Pots, Tinware, Enamel-ware at Gastonia Furniture Company.

ANNUAL DINNER TO DEACONS.

Last evening at the manse, corner South Marietta street and Franklin avenue, Rev. J. H. Henderlite, pastor of the First Presbyterian church, gave his annual dinner to the deacons of his congregation. The repast served was a most tempting one and the social hour was a thoroughly enjoyable one. Mr. Henderlite's guests were J. O. White, J. Lee Robinson, S. A. Robinson, W. W. Glenn, T. L. Craig, H. F. Glenn, D. A. Page, E. J. Rankin, W. T. Rankin, C. B. Armstrong, A. K. Winget, J. W. Timberlake, T. W. Wilson, C. I. Loftin, F. L. Smyre and W. Y. Warren.

The Guilford Battlefield bill is now through Congress. The bill gives to the national government the Guilford Court House battlefield, to be used as a national park. One of the commissioners is to be from Guilford county and two are to be from elsewhere, the resident commissioner to receive a salary of \$1,000 per annum.