

THE GASTONIA GAZETTE

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GASTONIA, N. C., MONDAY AFTERNOON, JULY 9, 1917.

\$2.00 A YEAR IN ADVANCE.

SPECIAL NEWS SERVICE

I. N. S. TAKES ON NEW PARIS AGENCY

New Contract Between International News Service and Agence Radio, of Paris, Assures Gazette Readers of Most Direct News from the Fighting Front.

(By International News Service.)

NEW YORK, July 7.—Arrangements for a service of news from all over Europe which will easily compete with anything that has been seen in the United States have been completed between the International News Service and the Agence Radio of Paris.

Beginning today, the International News Service will receive from Paris by special cable the news of the great war and of the whole continent of Europe which is gathered by the Agence Radio. This French organization, which has behind it the power of the most influential men in France, has been in successful competition with the Havas agency of France.

Nearly every one of the great Paris newspapers rely to a large extent upon the Agence Radio for its news, and the Radio has scored many notable beats since the beginning of the war.

Readers of newspapers which have featured the International News Service dispatches will hereafter be given faster and more complete service than ever. The notable beats of the International News Service in the early period of the war, such as the sinking of the battleship Audacious and a hundred others of like importance will be duplicated from day to day, through the connection with the Radio Agence. In addition to this, news from Europe will come from the regular International News Service staff in Paris, headed by Charles F. Bertelli; from the International News Service correspondent in Rome, Camillo Cianfara; and from Daniel Dillon, of the International News Service Washington staff, who accompanied General Pershing's army abroad and who is now located at the base of the American troops in France.

NEGROES PREPARE TO RETURN TO THE SOUTH.

(By International News Service.)

EAST ST. LOUIS, July 6.—It is indicated this afternoon that the rioters have gained their point. Despite assurances of safety, hundreds of negroes refuse to come back to work. They are massed in St. Louis and it is believed thousands will shortly return to the South. Nineteen military companies had the situation well in hand today.

RATE INCREASES ARE GRANTED TO EASTERN ROADS.

(By International News Service.)

WASHINGTON, July 7.—The Interstate Commerce Commission today granted freight rate increases averaging 14 per cent to the railroads east of the Mississippi, west of Pittsburgh and north of the Ohio river.

ENJOYABLE MEETING OF THE EIGHT WEEKS CLUB.

There was a good attendance at the regular meeting of the Eight Weeks Club held last Friday night in the Chamber of Commerce rooms and an enjoyable Flag and Patriotic Song program was rendered. Among the committee reports the most interesting was from the committee on Story Hours, which reported that story hours were being held by members of the club at the various mills and were being well attended and creating quite an interest among the children.

On Friday night of this week the club will have a camp supper at Armstrong Park. The members are requested to meet at the Chamber of Commerce at 6:30, where the committee will have automobiles to convey them to the park. Each member will bring a picnic lunch.

SHORT LOCAL ITEMS

—Mr. Charles Eskridge, of Shelby, was a business visitor in the city Saturday.

—Mr. G. R. Grite went to Charlotte Saturday to visit his sister, Mrs. John Gardner.

—Mr. and Mrs. M. F. Kirby and children left Sunday for Ellerbe Springs to spend a week.

—Miss Flora Steele, of Tazewell, Va., will arrive tomorrow night to be the guest of Miss Lillian Atkins.

—Mr. and Mrs. Joe Nixon, of Cherryville, were visitors in Gastonia Saturday.

—Prof. Edgar Long, who is attending the summer school at Chapel Hill, spent the week-end here with his parents.

—Mrs. A. C. Kelley returned Saturday to her home at Hickory after visiting her mother, Mrs. M. J. Patrick, in the Union section.

—Mr. R. F. Robinson, of Bowling Green, rural route, brought the third cotton bloom to The Gazette office this year.

—Mr. G. R. Spencer, of the Spencer Lumber Co., spent Friday and Saturday at Columbia and other South Carolina points on business for the company.

—Captain R. G. Cherry and Mr. M. D. Abernethy left this afternoon for Brevard and Tryon to canvass for recruits for the Machine Gun Troop, First N. C. Cavalry.

—A business and social meeting of the Senior Philathea Class of Main Street Methodist church will be held on the church lawn this evening at 8 o'clock.

—Mrs. Rufus M. Johnston went to Charlotte Sunday night in response to a message announcing the serious illness of her father, Mr. W. D. Alexander.

—City Letter Carrier C. G. Hill, accompanied by Mrs. Hill and their little son, Roy, left Sunday for Cross Hill, S. C., where they will spend a two weeks vacation with Mr. Hill's mother, Mrs. M. E. Hill.

—County Commissioners J. Frank McArver, R. K. Daveport and R. S. Stowe and Superintendent of Roads Ware left this morning for Asheville to attend the annual meeting of the North Carolina Good Roads Association.

—At the regular meeting of Gastonia Lodge No. 53, Knights of Pythias, tonight at 8 o'clock officers for the ensuing term will be officially installed by Mr. R. B. Babington, lodge deputy. Second rank work will also be conferred.

—Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Marvin have as their guest this week Mrs. W. W. Stanley, of Greensboro. Mrs. Stanley was before her marriage Miss Annie Langford, of Atlanta, and is a sister of Mr. R. W. Langford, of Gastonia. Mr. Marvin's son-in-law.

—Mrs. S. E. Mauney, formerly of Gaston county but now living at Alamogordo, Ga., has sent The Gazette some cotton bolls showing the condition of the cotton in Georgia. The bolls are large, well-proportioned and will doubtless be opening within a short time.

—Miss Ella Belle Copeland, who has charge of the dining clubs of Gastonia, has organized thirty canning clubs. Each has from twenty to thirty members. She is giving two demonstrations one in the morning and one in the afternoon. Each member does the work under the direction of Miss Copeland. The purpose of this work is to conserve food.

—Bluebird at the Broadway today. "The Boy Girl", Violet Mersereau.

LONDON AGAIN RAIDED BY AIR FLEETS.

(By International News Service.)

LONDON, July 7.—One of the biggest airfleets that ever crossed the Channel bombarded London today and dropped many bombs. Twenty aeroplanes participated in the raid.

TOM RATCHFORD DEAD

END CAME IN VERY PRIME OF LIFE

Following Desperate Illness of Only a Few Days from Typhoid Fever City Clerk T. A. Ratchford Died Early Sunday Morning—Funeral Yesterday One of Most Largely Attended Ever Held Here—Native of Gaston, Had Lived Here Ten Years—His Grand-mother, Ninety-three, at Funeral.

Following a brief illness from typhoid fever Mr. Thomas A. Ratchford, city clerk, died at his home on South Broad street shortly after midnight Saturday night. Announcement of his death Sunday morning brought great sorrow to a host of friends to whom it was a shock. It was known that he had been very ill for two or three days, having suffered a relapse from a light attack of typhoid, but none except his physicians and family realized that he was in a desperate condition. A week or ten days ago he got up from an attack of fever, thinking he was well on the road to recovery, and came up town several times, though he never resumed his work. A man of apparently strong physique and vigorous constitution, his death at the early age of forty came with a distinct shock to a great number of people.

Thomas A. Ratchford was born September 18, 1878, in South Point township, this county, and spent his boyhood on his father's farm. Twelve years ago he married Miss Margaret McKee, daughter of the late Logan McKee, and shortly thereafter moved to Dallas, where he served for a year as deputy sheriff under Col. C. B. Armstrong. Ten years ago he came to Gastonia and has made his home here since. He was with McLean Brothers for several years, later with the Gastonia Ice & Coal Co., and two and a half years ago was elected city clerk, which position he held at the time of his death.

Surviving him are his widow and two sons, Henry, aged 19, and Thomas A., Jr., aged three and a half; his father, Mr. Rufus A. Ratchford, and six brothers, namely: R. C. Ratchford, George R. Ratchford, John Duff and Harvey Ratchford, all of South Point township, and J. Ross Ratchford, of Belmont. His grandmother, Mrs. Ratchford, is living at the age of 93 and was present at the funeral. He also leaves a large family connection in the county. His mother, who was Minerva Wilson, died about 25 years ago.

Funeral services over his body were conducted at the First Presbyterian church, of which he was a member, yesterday afternoon at 4:30 o'clock. His pastor, Rev. J. H. Hendel, officiated, assisted by Rev. Dr. J. C. Galloway, pastor of the First Associate Reformed Presbyterian church, and Rev. H. Jordan, pastor of Main Street Methodist church. The funeral was one of the most largely attended ever held in Gastonia, the church being filled to its capacity. The floral tributes were many and beautiful. The members of Gastonia Lodge No. 53, Knights of Pythias, of which he was a member, attended in a body. The active pall-bearers were Mr. A. G. Myers, Mr. R. Hope Brison, Mr. John R. Rankin, Judge A. C. Jones, Mr. J. Frank McArver and Mr. A. K. Winger. The honorary pall-bearers were the members of the city council, Messrs. R. C. Patrick, S. M. Morris, T. M. McEntire, A. B. Elliott, B. F. Kincaid, Mayor Dixon, ex-Mayor C. R. Armstrong, Chief of Police J. W. Carroll, and Chief of the Fire Department R. B. Terrell. Interment was in Hollywood Cemetery.

His pastor paid the deceased a splendid tribute. Tom Ratchford, he said, had not an enemy. He was loved by all who knew him. Quiet and unobtrusive in his manner, he was faithful and loyal in every relationship in life. Whether in the home, at his office, on the streets—wherever he was—he was kind and considerate and always ready and willing to do his duty. His home life was beautiful and his death leaves a vacancy there that cannot be filled. The large number of beautiful floral offerings attested his popularity with a large number of people.

N. Y. PUBLICATION IS SUPPRESSED

(By International News Service.)

WASHINGTON, July 9.—The Masses, a New York monthly magazine, has been suppressed by being denied the use of the mails. The reason given is that its "general tenor is objectionable."

NO PEACE WITHOUT ANNEXATIONS

(By Agence Radio to I. N. S.)

GENEVA, July 9.—Chancellor Hollweg told the Reichstag committee Saturday night that he will not consent to any peace which does not include annexations and indemnities, says a dispatch quoting The Tagblatt, a Berlin newspaper.

WAR BULLETINS

AMERICAN TROOPS ARE MASSED NEAR PARIS.

(By International News Service.) AMERICAN HEADQUARTERS IN FRANCE, July 6.—The short water supply met at first has been remedied. The troops are now being shifted towards Paris. It is expected that all of them will be massed soon. The health of the camp is excellent. The men are undergoing the stiffest drill work of their lives.

GERMAN EMPLOYEES ARE BEING DISCHARGED.

(By International News Service.) WASHINGTON, July 7.—All Germans employed in the Swiss embassy will be discharged and granted safe passage to Germany, the state Department announced today. German spies, actual and potential, are being picked up by the department of justice at the rate of two a day. It was learned this afternoon. Every case is being investigated with the utmost care, and as soon as there is a reasonable suspicion of the enmity of the captive he is turned over to a detention camp.

LINER SUBMARINED IN THE MEDITERRANEAN.

(By International News Service.) BOSTON, July 7.—The Leyland liner *Castrian*, which has been used since the outbreak of the war, was sunk by a German submarine in the Mediterranean. The members of the crew were all saved.

GERMAN AGENTS WERE ORDERED ARRESTED.

(By International News Service.) NEW YORK, July 7.—Orders were received from Washington today directing the immediate arrest of all German agents, financial and otherwise, making their headquarters in New York. It is understood that similar orders were wired broadcast throughout the nation at the same time.

WEARS IN RING GERMAN BULLET THAT SHOT HIM.

(By International News Service.) CLEVELAND, July 7.—Sergeant Maurice Snook, of the First Battalion, Canadian Infantry, is recuperating from injuries received at the front. Sergeant Snook brought back a unique souvenir of the battleground. It is the German bullet which sent him to the hospital for several weeks. Snook has had it mounted in a ring and wears it every day.

SORRY SHE HAS BUT THREE SONS TO GIVE TO U. S.

(By International News Service.) CLEVELAND, O., July 7.—Three sons of Mrs. Verona Cernak are in the country's service, and Mrs. Cernak is supporting herself by working at the court house. "I wish I could send more," she said.

BRITISH ADVANCE LINES.

(By International News Service.) LONDON, July 7.—(Official.) The British forces in Belgium pressed closer during the night, advancing their lines east of Wytshatte.

PIERCE FIGHTING ON THE EASTERN FRONT.

(By International News Service.) PETROGRAD, July 7.—Teuton reinforcements have been rushed to the Eastern front to meet renewed attacks of the Russians. In Galicia the Austro-Germans' hold on Nalicz and Brzezany was threatened. The Russians cannonaded violently as a prelude to storming attacks. In Volhynia heavy bombardments by the Russians were followed by raids and local attacks. There was a great increase in aerial activity on both sides. Sky battles have been taking place daily. Night battle was progressing East of Pinsk, which was reported to be in flames.

GERMAN COUNTER-OFFENSIVE IS BREAKING DOWN.

(By International News Service.) PARIS, July 7.—(Official.) The German counter-offensive on the Verdun and Aisne fronts has apparently broken down. Intense artillery fighting is taking place east of Rheims and south of Moronvillers. The French cities Epervy and Nancy were bombarded by German aircraft last night.

NORWEGIAN SHIP WAS SUBMARINED.

(By International News Service.) COPENHAGEN, July 6.—The Norwegian steamship *Bengula* has been submarine in route from England to Philadelphia.

WAR CLOUDS IN CHINA ARE GROWING DARKER.

(By International News Service.) PEKIN, July 7.—Chaos and tremendous excitement exists here. The city is full of soldiers, important troop movements are progressing, the railroads are demoralized, and the population is fleeing by the thousands fearing looting and worse.

BATTLE FOR POSSESSION OF PEKIN IN PROGRESS.

(By International News Service.) SHANGHAI, July 7.—The Chinese Republican troops are reported to have won their first engagement with the Imperialist army for the possession of Peking, in a battle 35 miles southeast of the capital. Foreigners are preparing to send troops to Peking in case the legations are threatened.

GEMANY CALLS

1,000,000 MORE

(By International News Service.) LONDON, July 9.—A dispatch from Stockholm says that a million more German men and boys have been called to the colors during the past month and that 2,000,000 additional have been mobilized. The General Staff is withdrawing workers from the ammunition plants and mines and is giving their places to women.

MEN MUST OBEY FRENCH LAWS

(By Agence Radio to I. N. S.)

PARIS, July 7.—General Pershing wants his men to be not only perfect soldiers, but equally perfect gentlemen. In one of the first army orders the American commander in chief has issued on French soil, he appeals to the chivalry of his troops, urges them to treat the French people, especially the women, with the greatest courtesy and consideration. The laws and customs of France, he says must be faithfully observed. The order which was issued today, read:

"It should be a point of honor for each member of the American army to avoid doing the least damage to any property in France which would stain the good name of the United States.

"The maintenance of cordial relations between the United States and France requires perfect deportment on the part of the soldiers.

"The valiant deeds of the French army and unusual sacrifice of the civil population command our profound respect."

HOLLWEG READY FOR PEACE

(By International News Service.)

AMSTERDAM, July 7.—Germany's peace terms, thus far known only to Kaiser and his advisers, have been considerably modified from the original form, says a dispatch today from the frontier.

News dispatches from Frankfurt relate a statement made by Wolfgang Sells, a member of the Reichstag, at a private meeting in which he said: "I recently had a conversation with Chancellor Bethmann Hollweg. The Chancellor would make peace today, east and west, without annexations and without indemnity. He has not yet said so plainly publicly, thinking it better to keep silent. The Chancellor is compelled to take in account privileged persons beside and behind him."

GREEK OFFICERS ARE BEING RETIRED

(By Agence Radio to I. N. S.)

ATHENS, July 9.—A royal decree has just been issued retiring 134 high Greek officers from the Greek army, including eight generals.

Bluebird at the Broadway today. "The Boy Girl", Violet Mersereau.

NEW YORK COTTON.

NEW YORK, July 9.—Cotton opened 26 cents, January 26.30.

LIQUOR HOUSES QUIT BUSINESS

(By International News Service.)

CHICAGO, July 9.—Chaplin & Gore, one of the largest whiskey houses in Chicago, announced today that it is going out of business. President Herman said that 2,000 Chicago saloonists and a proportionate number throughout the United States, will be forced to close because of recent legislation. It is estimated that the present supply of liquor will last a year.

BRITISH CAPTURE THIRTY GERMANS

(By International News Service.)

LONDON, July 9.—The British troops on the Arras front made a successful trench raid at Margicourt last night, capturing 30 Germans. This is given out officially by the War Office.

ASKS FOR WORK FOR GUARDSMEN

(By International News Service.)

RALEIGH, July 7.—Gov. Bickett yesterday telegraphed Secretary of War Baker insisting that members of the National Guard awaiting to be mustered into service be given employment on the military cantonments, now being constructed, at the prices the government pays civilians.

The message follows: "A great many members of the North Carolina national guard are out of employment and without means of support. It would be a blessing to these men to be employed in the construction of military camps and cantonments. They would not only be glad to do this work, at the prices the government pays civilians, but their employment would prevent the paralysis of other industries by laborers being taken away from them to build these camps. I earnestly urge you to give the members of the North Carolina guard the opportunity to work in this capacity. Of course I do not ask that an order be issued making it mandatory for members of the guard to do this work, but I do ask and urge that they be given the privilege of doing it if they feel so disposed."

BUILDING ARMOR PLANT DEFERRED

(By Agence Radio to I. N. S.)

WASHINGTON, July 9.—The building of the \$11,000,000 armor plate plant at Charleston, W. Va., will be deferred until the end of the year, according to announcement made today by Secretary Josephus Daniels. Shortage of steel is given as the reason for the delay.

Bluebird at the Broadway today. "The Boy Girl", Violet Mersereau.

VIOLENT ARTILLERY DUEL.

(By International News Service.)

PARIS, July 9.—A violent artillery duel has developed in the Monastir sector on the Macedonian front, says an official dispatch from Saloniki today. British aviators bombarded the Bulgarian military works at Porna and Angista in East Seres.

RED CROSS NOTICE

TO THE WOMEN OF GASTONIA:

From now on the Red Cross work room, which is Room No. 11 in the Ragan building over the Chamber of Commerce, will be open to any and all, not for class work but for you to come and make a dressing or two to put on some poor soldier's wound.

If at any time it becomes necessary to limit the time to a definite number of hours each day, announcement will be made to that effect in the papers. But at present this room will be open all the morning, all the afternoon and all the evening. It is your opportunity to "do your bit" in this crisis. Come. You will know the place by the Red Cross flag.

**GASTON COUNTY CHAPTER
AMERICAN RED CROSS**

FREE

Typhoid Vaccination

Once more we call your attention
to the free typhoid vaccination
now going on. We can't
keep this offer open
indefinitely.

See Miss Potts any day between
2 and 3 o'clock p. m. at

Torrence's Drug Store