

THE GASTONIA GAZETTE

PUBLISHED EVERY MONDAY, WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY.

VOL. XXXVIII. NO. 120.

GASTONIA, N. C. MONDAY AFTERNOON, NOVEMBER 19, 1917.

\$2.00 A YEAR IN ADVANCE.

MONEY RAISED QUICKLY

ARTILLERY RANGE IS PROVIDED FOR

At Mass Meeting Friday Night Gastonia Business Men Raised \$3,500 as Our Part Toward Paying Expenses of Proposed Artillery Range.

At a representative and enthusiastic massmeeting held in the courtroom Friday night, there was raised in less than 30 minutes the money which Gastonia was asked to furnish in order to secure an artillery range in the vicinity of Kings Mountain, near here. The estimated cost of this range, which embraces between 3,500 and 4,000 acres of land, is a little more than \$10,000 per year.

Gastonia's business men at this meeting made subscriptions guaranteeing this town's part, approximately one-third, for a period of five years, should the range be located here for that period of time. This massmeeting was the climax of a series of meetings between committees of the Charlotte and Gastonia chambers of commerce covering a period of several weeks.

This range is located west of the city and has been gone over by several army officers, all of whom have been very strongly impressed with its excellence. Experts have declared it to be an ideal location for a range.

Recently W. T. Rankin, of this city, working in conjunction with a representative of the war department, secured options on all of the territory required for the range, as well as for a site near the city for a camp. A committee composed of W. T. Rankin, T. L. Craig and J. H. Kennedy was appointed by President Seark, of the chamber of commerce, to preside at the massmeeting, to close up the matter with the representatives of the war department.

Gastonia's business men were unanimous in their expressions of enthusiasm over the location here of the proposed range and showed their willingness and desire by the promptness and liberality with which they subscribed the necessary money to co-operate with Charlotte chamber of commerce and the government in establishing here a range that will be just what the war department wants and needs.

Saturday, following up the canvass made at this meeting a committee called on those business men who were not present and secured additional subscriptions which increased the amount to something over \$5,000. It is probable that the excess about the actual amount required will be put into a sinking fund to take care of possible deficiencies in future years.

CHAOS REIGNS IN RUSSIA

(By International News Service.)

WASHINGTON, Nov. 19.—Russia is today without any semblance of a stable government. Half a dozen dispatches to the State Department from American diplomats in Russia sketch pictures of unparalleled chaos. Ambassador Francis reported that all foreigners in Petrograd are safe, but he has warned all unattached American women and men with women and children to leave the capital. The dispatches refer to a new political party operating in Russia, which is believed to be the Socialists. Agitators are trying to foment strikes in Northern Russia.

NAZARETH MAY BE BATTLE SCENE

(By International News Service.)

LONDON, Nov. 19.—Nazareth, the birthplace of Christ, may be the scene of a battle. British forces which captured Jaffa from the Turks are advancing up the coast in the direction of Nazareth.

GOMPERS' ELECTION SEEMS CERTAIN

(By International News Service.)

BUFFALO, Nov. 19.—The re-election of Samuel Gompers as president of the American Federation of Labor became certain today. He has the backing of President Wilson and is closely identified with the administration's war policies. Gompers is so strong it is doubtful if any fight will be made against him.

NEW FRENCH MINISTRY ANNOUNCES POLICY.

(By International News Service.)

PARIS, Nov. 19.—Unity of action, complete governmental frankness and harder blows against the enemy are the three chief policies of the new Clemenceau ministry. The Premier favors almost complete elimination of conscription.

WAR BULLETINS

AMERICAN STEAMER GIVEN UP FOR LOST.

(By International News Service.) WASHINGTON, Nov. 16.—The American merchant ship *Kansas City*, missing since September 6th, has been given up for lost. It is believed that she was submerged when she became separated from her convoy.

GERMANS REPULSED WITH HEAVY LOSSES.

(By International News Service.) PARIS, Nov. 16.—Switching their pressure from the British front, the Germans last night attacked the French positions north of Verdun. They were repulsed with heavy losses.

KERENSKY'S WHEREABOUTS UNKNOWN.

(By International News Service.)

LONDON, Nov. 17.—Kerensky has again escaped from the Bolsheviks when his capture seemed certain. According to Petrograd advices today, the Bolsheviks have gained the upper hand in Petrograd. The issue is still in doubt at Moscow. Wholesale desertions from Kerensky are reported. Many officers have turned against him. Kerensky's whereabouts are unknown. He is reported to have escaped from near Petrograd disguised as a sailor.

FIGHT WAS A VICTORY FOR THE AMERICANS.

(By International News Service.)

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN FRANCE, Nov. 17.—Between eight and ten thousand shells were dropped on a small section of the American trenches raided by the Germans a couple of weeks ago. It is made known in official orders citing Americans for bravery. Considering the preparations for an attack and the superior numbers, the fight was a victory for the Americans as the Germans had to retire after taking a few prisoners.

MAY IMPORT FOREIGN LABOR.

(By International News Service.)

WASHINGTON, Nov. 17.—The importation of Porto Rican and other foreign labor is threatened by the government to curb the labor unrest in this country. The request of certain railroads for the importation of 500 Porto Ricans has already been granted. Similar requests for the importation of Mexican labor, however, have been held up pending developments.

NAVAL FORCES CLASH.

(By International News Service.)

LONDON, Nov. 17.—British light naval forces engaged similar German sea forces off Helgoland this morning. The admiralty announced at noon. "We are chasing the enemy," the statement concluded.

VILLA AND HIS FORCES ARE ACTIVE AGAIN.

(By International News Service.)

PRESIDIO, TEXAS, Nov. 17.—Villa left Ojinaga this morning with his main column for Lamula Pass and Chihuahua City. A large force is also moving on Juarez and Parral, according to Villa leaders.

SUCCESSFUL BLOW STRUCK BY THE BRITISH.

(By International News Service.)

LONDON, Nov. 17.—Another successful blow was struck by the British around Passaseda, it is officially announced today. The enemy defense on the main ridge north of the village and a strongly fortified farm, together with a number of prisoners, were captured.

HAS RUSSIA MADE DEFINITE PEACE OFFER?

(By International News Service.)

WASHINGTON, Nov. 17.—The Russian embassy today made strenuous efforts to get accurate information regarding the situation in Russia, but without success. All information reaching here is several days old. It is clear, however, that the Bolsheviks now control Petrograd. Berlin advices state that the German socialists are demanding that consideration be given to "a definite Russian peace offer." This is the first intimation that such an offer has been made by the Russians. It is believed that it may be merely a suggestion made to all the belligerents by the Russians in order that an armistice may be arranged.

LENINE'S GOVERNMENT IS GROWING WEAK.

(By International News Service.)

COPENHAGEN, Nov. 19.—Civil war in Russia is spreading, according to advices received here today. Great Kalcedines with an army of Cossacks has seized the Donetz coal fields and is in position to freeze out Petrograd. Further fighting is reported in the Moscow district. Lenin is unable to hold his "government" together.

VILLA REPORTED TO BE MARCHING ON CHIHUAHUA.

(By International News Service.)

EL PASO, Nov. 19.—Villistas surrounded Juarez today. Refugees in large numbers are crossing into the United States. Villa himself with another large force is reported to be marching on Chihuahua.

CONFERENCE ENDS TODAY

READING OF APPOINTMENTS FEATURE

Methodist Gathering at Asheville Will Close This Afternoon or Tonight With Reading of Appointments for Coming Year—Bennett Expelled—Minister Relieved to Shoulder a Gun—Session a Harmonious One.

The 28th session of the Western North Carolina Conference was called to order in Central church, Asheville, Wednesday morning and will close this afternoon or tonight. Bishop James Atkins, of Asheville, is presiding. Rev. W. L. Sherrill was re-elected secretary for the 24th consecutive term. At this session the conference boards and standing committees were appointed.

When the roll was called it showed that the following members of the conference had died during the year: J. H. Weaver, E. M. Hoyle, J. C. Troy, W. L. Wexford and E. G. Pusey.

At the first day's session the presiding elders made their reports which showed large gains in membership and in contributions for the various branches of the church's work.

Rev. L. T. Mann, who had held the position of commissioner of Emory University, failed to answer and his presiding elder announced that Mr. Mann wished to withdraw from the conference and from the university. When the name of Rev. J. H. Bennett was called his presiding elder stated that he had confessed to flagrant violations of the laws of the church and the State and that he had surrendered his credentials and left the State. A committee, with Rev. H. H. Jordan, of Gastonia, as chairman, was appointed to try Bennett.

Wednesday afternoon's session was presided over by Dr. Plato Durham, dean of the School of Theology of Emory University, of Atlanta, Ga. Dr. Grogan, religious director of the Y. M. C. A. in Camp Gordon, at Atlanta, addressed the conference concerning the religious work of the camps and urged the church to give its very best men to this service and to grant the Y. M. C. A. the funds for carrying forward its efforts for meeting the religious needs of the men who have offered their lives for the nation in this hour of its peril.

The board of education held its anniversary at the evening service, President H. H. Jordan, who has been elected to succeed Rev. John F. Kirk, presiding elder of the Shelby district, presiding. After which Dr. W. I. Cranford, dean of Trinity College, delivered a great address on "The Insufficiency of Modern Education."

THURSDAY.

Notable addresses by Senator Lee S. Overman and Dr. C. P. Few, president of Trinity College, delivered at the Trinity alumni banquet last night; the election of a number of the brethren to deacons and elders; orders for formal expulsion of Rev. J. H. Bennett from the conference and the church, an address by R. L. Davis, secretary of the anti-saloon league, a talk by Dr. E. B. Chappell, secretary of the Sunday school board, an address by Major W. J. Long, of the United States medical corps, and the various routine matters that come before the conference went to make up the second day's meeting of the Western North Carolina Conference.

Senator Overman Eloquent.

Senator Overman was particularly eloquent last night, telling of the causes leading up to the war, and Dr. Few explained Trinity's part in the war and her readiness to continue to serve. Major Long told of conditions among the soldiers and the manner in which the church must aid in caring for them. R. L. Davis appealed for further aid for the anti-saloon league, and took occasion to declare that he believed the recent election in Ohio was stolen by the whiskey interests.

During the day's session, orders were conferred on a large number of ministers, and others were passed in their various classes.

Bennett Expelled.

Rev. J. H. Bennett, former pastor of Centenary Methodist church, at Greensboro, was formally expelled from the conference and from the church. The committee of trial reported as follows: M. E. Church vs. J. H. Bennett—Charge, immorality: We, the committee of trial in the above case have heard and prayerfully considered the evidence submitted to us and find as follows: That specifications 1 and 2 in the bill of charges are sustained and that the specifications proven sustain the charge of immorality, and the verdict of the committee is that J. H. Bennett be and is hereby expelled from the ministry and membership of the church.

H. H. Jordan, chairman. W. A. NEWELL, Secretary. W. J. Albright, C. M. Campbell, E. Myers, A. S. Rogers, G. D. Herman, E. E. Williamson, Ira Erwin, W. M. Robbins, J. E. Woosely.

One hundred and seventy-five guests of Central Woman's Wesley class enjoyed the delicious repast served by these ladies at the Trinity College annual banquet, which was held in the primary department of Central church Thursday night at 6 o'clock.

Mr. J. H. Seark, of Gastonia, was toastmaster and presented Senator Lee S. Overman, of the class of '74, who made the principal address. He reviewed the incidents which led up

THANKS LOCAL BANKHEAD UNIT

Extending thanks and appreciation to the Gaston county unit of the Bankhead National Highway, now the largest unit between Washington and Atlanta, Secretary Rountree of the Bankhead National Highway Commission in a letter to Secretary Fred M. Allen of the local unit, also refers to the fact that the pathfinders who recently went through Gaston, making a stop at Gastonia, were splendidly impressed with this county's link of the proposed highway.

The thanks and appreciation are tendered for the magnificent reception given the party all the way through Gaston county and especially in Gastonia where a meeting was held at the courthouse. Mr. Rountree has just returned to headquarters at Birmingham after going back to Washington with the party.

—Mr. George F. Bost, of the sales force of the Gastonia Furniture Co., has been confined to his home on East Franklin avenue by illness for several days.

to the declaration of war with Germany. From his official position in the senate he was able to see facts hidden from men in private life, and from these facts he showed the infamy of the German government and declared that we would win the war and that the Hohenzollerns, Hapsburgs and their like must go. We need loyalty, service and sacrifice. Bishop Asbury and his circuit riders understood this in their day and did more to shape the character and destiny of the American nation than any other class of men. And now our humble man of Judea who was crucified by a Hun calls us to the task of maintaining freedom in America and to carry it across the seas to the German man himself. We are now ready to go. I do not believe there is a slacker among the preachers of this conference.

FRIDAY.

Friday morning a class of nineteen young men was received on trial, this being one of the largest classes ever received by the conference.

Lay delegates to the General Conference which meets in Atlanta next May were chosen as follows: C. H. Ireland, of Greensboro; F. M. Weaver, of Asheville; Dorman Thompson, of Statesville; J. B. Ivey, of Charlotte and A. C. Reynolds, of Cullowhee. Clyde R. Hoey, George L. Hackney and J. W. Harris were elected alternates.

Friday night the board of Missions held its anniversary. Rev. W. H. Willis, presiding. The reports showed that the receipts for missions in the conference this year totaled \$60,000. Together with the money raised by the Woman's Missionary Societies, it amounts to \$80,000.

SATURDAY.

Rev. W. C. Lambeth read the report of the Sunday school board. The Board announced that Rev. W. R. Shelton, formerly first secretary of the board had volunteered and is now a lieutenant in the United States army.

This led the bishop to ask the sentiment of the conference in regard to an appointment for Mr. Shelton. No more spirited debate has been heard on the conference floor. Dr. C. W. Byrd president of the board declared that he is on the waiting list and ready for service at the front.

The patriotism of the body is at fever heat. The law of the church does not permit the bishop to make a nominal appointment and in ordinary times Mr. Shelton's action would terminate his connection with the conference. But the brethren would not have it so and refused to discontinue him. The heart of the bishop is with the conference.

A resolution introduced by Dr. C. W. Byrd was adopted as follows: "Resolved, That the Western North Carolina conference approves the course of our brother, Rev. William Roy Shelton, in going upon the firing line and that Bishop James Atkins is requested, if possible, to so dispose of Brother Shelton's case as to prevent his losing his relation with our conference."

This was adopted by a rising vote. The report of the board stated that it proposed to place Prof. Oscar Wosley, superintendent of public schools for the city of Lexington as field secretary. It recommended the appointment of Rev. J. W. Long as secretary to the North Carolina Sunday School association.

Sunday's Asheville Citizen says: "It has been the most harmonious meeting of the conference in a decade. Bishop James Atkins was formerly a member of this conference when parts of the two conferences were merged into this. Not many men of that time remain in active service, so it may be said that Bishop Atkins grey up in this conference. His long service in the chair has given him a wide experience and out of this has grown a beautiful spirit of co-operation and brotherly fellowship with all the men of the conference. He probably knows every man on the floor by his first name and the love of his heart flows out in tender solicitude for them. He knows, too, the women and children in the personages who are awaiting the decision of the cabinet and his eyes grow moist as he speaks of these unnamed heroes and heroines of the cross. They too must move when the call comes and they are swallowed up in the necessary changes and swept from their moorings."

SHORT LOCAL ITEMS

—Mr. John W. Stroup, of Stanley, was in the city on business Saturday.

—Mrs. C. J. Huss, of Bessemer City, was in the city shopping Saturday.

—T. A. Jr., the little son of Dr. and Mrs. T. A. Wilkins, has been quite ill for several days with pneumonia.

—Messrs. Ernest Carson and Charles Cloninger, of the U. S. army at Camp Sevier, Greenville, S. C., spent Saturday here with homefolks.

—Mr. C. C. Cunningham, of Roxboro, spent the week-end in the city on a visit to his brothers, Messrs. F. H. and J. W. Cunningham.

—Best cotton is bringing 28 and 1-4 cents a pound on the local market today. Cotton seed is worth \$1.10 per bushel.

—Mr. T. L. Rhyne left Friday for Camp Lee at Petersburg, Va., to spend a few days with his son, Mr. E. W. Rhyne, who is a member of an ambulance corps.

—Misses Sallie Morton, Madge Craig and Mary Dixon, teachers of the Mayworth graded school, spent the week-end at their homes in Gastonia.

—Miss Ruby Spencer, student at Greensboro College for Women, spent the week-end in the city with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. R. Spencer.

—Gastonia Chapter No. 66, Royal Arch Masons, will hold a called communication Tuesday night of this week and do work in the R. A. M. degree.

—Mr. F. H. Cunningham, who has been for several months manager of the Ideal Theater, is back in his position in the office of J. White Ware, insurance and real estate.

—Gastonia Lodge No. 53 Knights of Pythias will do work in the third rank tonight. This lodge will send about 16 Tyros to Charlotte Wednesday, the 29th, to cross the hot sands at the fall ceremonial of Suez Temple D. O. K. K.

—Mr. and Mrs. Charles D. Gray moved last week into their handsome new home on the New Hope road. Mrs. J. W. Moore and Mrs. L. V. Blake and daughter, Miss Lottie Blake, moved into the Gray house, which Mrs. Moore purchased some time ago. Mr. and Mrs. W. N. Pharr will occupy the residence on South street vacated by Mrs. Moore.

—A new automatic musical instrument, known as a violano virtuoso, rendering violin selections with piano accompaniment, has been on exhibition at the J. Lean Adams Drug Store for some time and has been the source of much pleasure to those who have heard it. Mr. James A. Estridge, manager of the Cozy Theatre, purchased the instrument last week and it was installed in the Cozy today.

TODAY'S COTTON MARKET.

(By International News Service.) NEW YORK, Nov. 19.—The cotton market opened today with January contracts selling at 27.70, May at 27.50.

FORCED TO WORK ON THE FIRING LINE.

(By International News Service.) AMSTERDAM, Nov. 19.—Belgian women and children are being forced to work on German fortifications on the firing line.

FAMOUS POTT MISSING.

(By International News Service.) ROME, Nov. 19.—Gabriele De Annunzio, famous poet, is missing after a flight over the Piave front. He had a brilliant record as an author and fighter.

MARTIAL LAW IN BRAZIL.

(By International News Service.) RIO JANEIRO, Nov. 19.—Martial law has been declared in the States of Rio de Janeiro, Sao Paulo, Parana, Santa Catherina, and Rio Grande.

BRITISH GENERAL DEAD.

(By International News Service.) LONDON, Nov. 19.—Gen. Maude, commander in Mesopotamia, is dead. He had been ill several weeks.

Food for our Allies is ammunition for the first line of defense.

It is better to send pork to the Allies than indemnity to Germany.

Anyway the shortage of sugar will teach some folks how good many things taste without it.

The Allies should be thankful that Americans eat Turkey for their Thanksgiving Day feast instead of pork.

Without more meat and fat from America than the Allies have received in the past three years, they cannot remain in fighting trim.

Plenty of Substitutes.

Wild-eyed Customer—"I want a quarter's worth of carboic acid." Clerk—"We don't sell it. But we have—a fine line of ropes, revolvers, and razors."—Life.

An advertisement in The Gazette reaches more people for the cost than you can reach in any other possible way. Rates on application.

GASTONIA AND GASTON

LATE EVENTS IN TOWN AND COUNTY

Gov. Craig Better. A telegram to Mrs. T. L. Craig this morning from Mrs. Locke Craig, of Asheville, conveyed the very encouraging information that ex-Gov. Craig is today decidedly better. He has been seriously ill at his home in Asheville for several weeks.

Another Knitting Mill.

Mr. A. B. Cook stated today that he had ordered equipment for a second hosiery mill, but had not fully decided as to its location, whether in Gastonia or some other town in the county. This plant will manufacture ladies' hosiery, also misses' goods.

Ginning Report.

According to the report of the Department of Commerce, bureau of the census, as certified to Mr. Wm. E. Johnson, county crop reporter, there were ginned in Gaston county prior to November 1, 1917, a total of 2,261 bales of cotton, as compared with 1,440 bales of the 1916 crop ginned prior to the same date in 1916.

Checks Mailed Out.

Secretary J. M. Holland of the Gaston County Fair Association on Saturday mailed out the premium checks to the winners at the recent county fair. They were 577 in number and aggregated about \$1,500. These checks ranged from 25 cents to \$55. This represents a much larger number of winners and a considerably larger total as to money actually paid out than last year. Encouraged by the liberal premiums and by the success of the agricultural exhibits as a whole, many Gaston farmers are already planting crops for exhibit at the fair next fall.

WOMEN WILL CO-OPERATE.

Woman's Betterment Association Adopts Resolutions Agreeing to Co-operate With Local Merchants in Abolishing the Return Privilege and Adopting Other Measures of Saving—Will Result, if Enforced, in Lowering of Present High Prices.

(Reported for The Gazette.) A special meeting of the Woman's Betterment Association was held in the Central school auditorium last Friday afternoon, November 18th, to consider a matter in which the Chamber of Commerce desired the co-operation of the ladies of the city. The president of the association, Mrs. R. C. Warren, was in the chair, and the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Whereas, in a spirit of fairness and protection to the shopper, and in justice to the merchant, the merchants of Gastonia are obliged to adopt the following just and reasonable rules, in order to materially remedy the "return of merchandise habit," and to do away with the sending of goods on approval; both of which are unfair, unsanitary and unnecessary practices, decidedly costly to the stores and to the public. Observance of these regulations means a decided lessening of the cost of doing business, and a corresponding holding down of rising prices to the purchaser.

First. The approval practice. Merchandise should be selected in the store and not in the home. The Gastonia stores are well prepared to fit all articles of apparel and to serve the public in an up-to-date manner in their places of business. The general practice of sending goods on approval will be discontinued, and only in the event of sickness or death, or for some unusually urgent reason, will any merchandise be sent in this manner.

Second. Returned Merchandise: 1.—The customer will be prompt in returning returnable merchandise for exchange, credit or refund, so that none shall remain out of the store more than 48 hours.

All kinds of Christmas, wedding, birthday gifts, etc., if returned, will be accepted only for other merchandise, and will not be credited on account of person receiving gift.

2. Excluded Merchandise: For obvious sanitary and economic reasons the following merchandise will not be returnable:

Class A—Hats and millinery materials, veils, neckwear, bedding, mattresses, combs, hairbrushes, hair goods, hair ornaments, toothbrushes, rubber goods, rubber sundries.

Class B—Shoes, altered or with buttons fast, garments that have been altered or made to order, or special orders. Articles that have been worn, damaged or used, or goods that have been cut from pieces, at request of the customer.

Third: The ladies of the city are asked to do their shopping before Saturday afternoon, so that the girls who are at work and the people in the mills will have that time for their shopping.

Therefore be it hereby resolved: That the undersigned merchants do hereby ask the co-operation of our patrons in enforcing the above rules, which are effective on and from...

(Signed)

GASTONIA MERCHANTS.

The above resolutions met with the hearty and unanimous approval of the Betterment Association and were ordered officially endorsed by the president and secretary for the association.

MRS. R. C. WARREN, President. MRS. W. C. BARRITT, Secretary.