

THE GASTONIA GAZETTE

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GASTONIA, N. C. FRIDAY AFTERNOON, DECEMBER 14, 1917.

\$2.00 A YEAR IN ADVANCE.

YOUNG MAN IS KILLED

RHEA KIRBY SHOT BY HARLEY JACKSON

Tragedy in South Gastonia Wednesday Afternoon Caused by Drink—Young Man Shoots and Kills His Friend and Companion While Under Influence of Patent Medicine Containing Large Percentage of Alcohol—A Woman in the Case Also—Slayer Held Without Bond.

Rhea Kirby, aged about 22, an operative at the Old Mill, was shot and killed Tuesday afternoon by his friend and companion, Harley Jackson, an employee of the same mill. The tragedy occurred at the store of J. J. Nivens on South Marietta street, in South Gastonia. Jackson was arrested and lodged in jail within half an hour after the killing. Kirby was taken immediately to the City Hospital where he died at 3:30 o'clock, half an hour after being shot. He retained consciousness until the end and made a statement as to the affair to Solicitor G. W. Wilson and Dr. L. N. Glenn just before he died. Both men, it was in evidence, were drinking.

Kirby's body was shipped yesterday morning to his former home at Lenoir for burial, being accompanied by a younger brother who lived here with him and worked in the mill.

At a preliminary hearing before Magistrate S. S. Morris yesterday morning Jackson waived examination and was held for trial at the next term of Gaston Superior Court without bond. He was represented at the hearing by Carpenter & Carpenter.

Seven witnesses were examined at this hearing, namely: R. B. Terrell and Tom Rankin, of the police department; Callie Rochester, J. J. Nivens, W. B. Miller, Mrs. S. F. Davis and Ruth Pennell. These witnesses were examined in person with the exception of Callie Rochester, whose testimony, taken previously by the solicitor, was presented in writing.

There were only two eye witnesses to the actual shooting, Callie Rochester and Mrs. Davis.

From the evidence at the hearing it appeared that Kirby and Jackson were friends and companions and worked together at the Old Mill. They were drinking together, Jackson being, it appeared, rather more intoxicated than Kirby. A patent medicine known as "Beef, Wine and Iron," said to contain 22 per cent alcohol, was the beverage on which they tanked up. The men went together to Nivens' store and called for a soft drink. At the time only J. J. Nivens, proprietor of the store, and his assistant, W. B. Miller, were present. Jackson dropped his bottle on the floor and broke it. Nivens discovered that the men were drinking and ordered them out. After some parleying with them he succeeded in getting them out on the porch of the store, whereupon he barred the door inside and went out the back door to a nearby house to phone the officers; young Miller going with them.

About this time Callie Rochester, a woman with whom Jackson had been keeping company, arrived on the scene. She stated in her testimony that she went to the store to catch the South Gastonia jitney to come up town. Kirby began a conversation with the woman and this, it is stated, probably enraged Jackson. Mrs. Davis was not present but witnessed the tragedy from her porch nearby. She could not hear what was said but saw Jackson throw his hat on the ground several times and make Kirby get it and bring it to him, flourishing a pistol all the while. It was while this operation was going on, probably, that the fatal shot was fired. After he shot Kirby, Jackson dragged the wounded man from the ground to the porch and then went inside the store, kicking the door open. To a little girl who happened along and who started to go in Jackson said, "Don't go in there, a man shot himself in there." In her testimony the Rochester woman denied that the men quarrelled about her.

Jackson did not go on the stand and did not produce any witnesses in his behalf.

—Mr. J. B. Meacham, of Kinston, was in town yesterday, the guest of Mrs. J. B. Thomason. He was en route home from Greenville, S. C., where he attended the Textile Fair.

—Mrs. L. A. Rankin, of Chapel Hill, has been the guest for several days of her brother, Dr. J. M. Sloan, and family.

—Mr. and Mrs. G. R. Spencer and Miss Ruby Spencer will leave tomorrow night for Miami, Fla., where they will spend ten days or two weeks.

—The many friends of Miss Georgia Copeland will regret to know that she has been quite sick at her home on West Airline avenue for more than a week.

—Miss Martha Brandon, who has been with D. M. Jones & Company as stenographer, has accepted a position with Mr. J. M. Holland in the office of the Holland Realty & Insurance Co.

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IN SOCIAL CIRCLES

LATEST EVENTS IN WOMAN'S WORLD

GAVE DINNER FOR MR. AND MRS. ADAMS.

Dr. and Mrs. D. A. Garrison were hosts at a dinner Wednesday evening at their home on South York street to a few friends in honor of Mr. W. H. Adams and his bride, formerly Miss Laura Page. Their guests were Mr. and Mrs. Adams, Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Myers, Mr. and Mrs. M. A. Turner, Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Dixon. The occasion was a thoroughly delightful one for all present.

ENTERTAINMENT BY LITTLE MUSICIANS.

The Little Musicians' Club will render an interesting program at the Central school Saturday afternoon at 3 o'clock. A cordial invitation is extended to the parents and friends.

In addition to the program, Miss Amy Childs, a favorite reader, with Gastonia audiences, will give one or more selections.

National airs and folk songs will be given as follows: "Star Spangled Banner," Martha Moore; "Annie Laurie," Madeline Moore; "Old Kentucky Home," Margaret McConnell; "Auld Lang Syne," Elizabeth Parker; "America," Edith Parker; "Old Black Joe," Wombr McCombs; "Maryland My Maryland," Louisa Wilson; Japanese Dance (Pennington), Elizabeth Love; "Dixie," Sarah Glenn.

SONGS FOR THE MUNICIPAL CHRISTMAS TREE.

A rehearsal of the musical program for the second municipal Christmas tree, which is to be given on Christmas eve, will be held Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock at Main Street Methodist church. The tree is to be given by the Music Club with the assistance of the Gastonia Woman's Betterment Association and the Chamber of Commerce. The songs for the occasion have been selected and are as follows, "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing," "There's a Song in the Air," "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear" and "Silent Night." Those in charge of the exercises desire that all the men and women of the town who can sing gather at the Methodist church Sunday afternoon to practice these songs. The tree will again be placed in the open space in front of the Armington Hotel on Air Line avenue and the exercises will commence at 7 o'clock on the evening of December 24th. The first municipal Christmas tree, given last year, was a splendid success and it is believed that the one this year will be an even larger one.

EIGHTEEN MEN HAVE ENLISTED THIS WEEK

Eighteen men have enlisted at the local army recruiting station this week, all of whom have been sent to Fort Thomas, Ky., to enter the service. Following is a list of these men:

Monday.
Henry A. Winkler, Carnegie, Oklahoma, Ordnance Dept. National Army, railroad capacity.
James R. Jones, Gastonia, Ordnance Dept., National Army, painter, Army, painter.
Samuel Paysour, Lincolnton, Aviation Corps.
Jonas M. Froneberger, Bessemer City, Aviation Corps.

Wednesday.
Carl A. Ballard, Gastonia, Infantry.
J. Thomas Jenkins, Gastonia, Aviation Corps.
George W. Short, Bessemer City, Coast Artillery Corps.
John Newton, Bessemer City, Coast Artillery Corps.

Thursday.
Luther L. Anthony, Gastonia, Aviation Corps.
Roscoe Spencer, Gastonia, Aviation Corps.
Ira W. Moore, Gastonia, Aviation Corps.
Walter T. Ethers, Coast Artillery Corps.

James C. Cobb, Gastonia, Ordnance Dept. National Army, painter.
Benjamin W. Boyd, Gastonia, Aviation Corps.

A. Hamilton Barnett, Clover, S. C., Aviation Corps.
Martin F. Duncan, Marion, N. C., Aviation Corps.
Kelly C. Pagan, (colored), Gastonia, Stevedore Regiment, Q. M. C., National Army.

Major V. Whitesides, who recently passed the examination for the quartermaster's corps at the second officers training camp at Ft. Oglethorpe and who is awaiting his commission in that branch of the service, which he expects to receive soon, accompanied the nine men who left yesterday for Ft. Thomas.

KORNILOFF CAPTURED.

(By International News Service.) STOCKHOLM, Dec. 13.—The Bolsheviks have issued a proclamation denouncing the revolution and threatening the leaders with death. The Bolsheviks claim to be winning in the field but this is unconfirmed. They also claim that Korniloff has been wounded and captured.

—Fourth Lyceum attraction is the Cordova Concert Company, at the auditorium next Wednesday night at 8:15, benefit of Library.

OLLIE GRIST SUICIDES

SHOT HIMSELF AT YORK YESTERDAY

Member of Firm of L. M. Grist's Sons, Publishers of The Yorkville Enquirer, Ends Life in Fit of Melancholia—Had Been in Ill Health For Some Time—Funeral and Burial This Afternoon—Had Many Friends in Gastonia.

Oliver Ellis Grist, a member of the firm of L. M. Grist's Sons, publishers of The Yorkville Enquirer, shot and killed himself at his home in York, S. C., yesterday morning at 11 o'clock. The news of this tragic event did not reach Gastonia until shortly before noon today and was heard with the deepest sorrow by the many friends in Gastonia of the deceased and his brothers, Messrs. W. D., Sam and Albert Grist. Mr. Grist's suicide is attributed to a fit of melancholia following a period of ill health covering many weeks.

Funeral services will be held at the Associate Reformed Presbyterian church at York at 3:30 o'clock this afternoon, (Rev. J. L. Oates, the pastor, officiating. Interment will be in the cemetery at York.

Mr. Grist had been in ill health for some weeks past, suffering from nervous prostration. A week ago he returned home from Rock Hill where he had been for six weeks a patient at the Fennell Infirmary. The specialists who examined him thoroughly there found no constitutional trouble. On his return home he was apparently improved and neither his family nor friends suspected that he contemplated self destruction. At 11 o'clock yesterday morning his wife left the house for a neighbor's to get some water, the pipes at the Grist home being frozen. When she returned home a few minutes later she found her husband lying dead on the floor with a bullet hole in his head.

Oliver Ellis Grist was the fifth son of the late L. M. Grist and was born in Yorkville on May 14, 1870. He was a member of the firm of L. M. Grist & Sons from 1895 until 1903. In the latter year, following the death of the venerable L. M. Grist, the firm was reorganized as L. M. Grist's Sons and he was made treasurer. He had spent practically all of his life in The Enquirer office, having charge of the press room and of the job printing department. He was known as one of the finest pressmen in the country and had refused many offers to go to large city printing offices. The Enquirer is known far and wide for the excellency of its presswork as well as for other fine qualities which the Grist boys put into it, following in the footsteps of their father.

Deceased leaves a widow and three children, namely: A. Cargill Grist, who recently graduated from the Georgia Tech and is now in the aviation service of the army; a daughter, Sarah, and another son, O. E., Jr. The older son arrived home last night on leave of absence to await orders to report somewhere for duty. Mr. Grist was a deacon of the First Associate Reformed Presbyterian church. He was thoroughly devoted to his work and to his family and his tragic death has cast a gloom of sorrow over the town of York. Many friends in Gastonia and over York and Gaston counties will be greatly pained to hear of his death.

THE COSSACK REVOLT IS GAINING STRENGTH

(By International News Service.) COPENHAGEN, Dec. 14.—Whether the Bolsheviks or Kalendine and his Cossacks were victorious in the battle of Carbelgorod is still in doubt today. Contradictory reports from Petrograd indicate that neither faction has gained the upper hand and a decisive battle is imminent. All hope that Russia will find herself without internal strife was abandoned today with receipt of dispatches stating that the scheme for holding a constituent assembly has collapsed. Advice indicate that the Cossack revolt is gaining strength and the Lenin-Trotsky regime is becoming desperate in an effort to retain control.

PERSHING REPORTS FIVE MORE DEATHS

(By International News Service.) WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—Five deaths among the American fighting forces reported by Gen. Pershing include Lieut. Anderson, of Alexandria, Va., who died of meningitis, and Sgt. Pat Jordan, of Layonia, Ga., killed in a motorcycle accident.

GERMAN SPY ARRESTED ON A RELIEF TRAIN.

(By International News Service.) HALIFAX, Dec. 14.—Henry French whose real name is Louis Vosturg, was arrested as a German spy on his arrival here on a relief train from Boston. The police declare important papers were found on him. He was imprisoned with Helman Johnson, of the Imo. The investigation of the disaster continued today.

PLENTY OF SUGAR FOR CHRISTMAS

GASTONIA HOUSEWIVES MAY CHEER UP

—there's going to be plenty of sugar for the Christmas baking. That is, if a solid carload of sugar which has been shipped from New Orleans to a local firm does not get lost somewhere en route. Mr. R. E. Johnson, of the firm of M. T. Parham & Co., to whom this shipment is consigned, stated this morning that in all probability the car would reach here by Monday. It contains 200 barrels of 550 pounds each, or a total of 70,000 pounds of sugar. This, it is estimated, will afford an ample supply for the Christmas trade in Gastonia and some will probably be furnished to nearby towns which are suffering a sugar famine also.

As soon as the word got out this morning that this car of sugar was on the road and was expected to reach here within the next three or four days, the firm had applications for all of it from local merchants. In fact, it was sold in a very short time. Mr. Johnson is distributing it so as to take care of the retailers and consumers and is not allowing it to be concentrated in the hands of a few. He has offered to let Charlotte merchants have some of it provided the situation is not relieved there before this supply comes. The same firm has also on the road a number of small shipments aggregating 15 or 20 barrels.

Local retailers state that there are in sight plenty of eggs, butter, turkeys, chickens, cranberries, nuts and all the other good things requisite for the Christmas dinner, so there is no use for the housewife to continue to worry herself gray-headed over the question "What can we have for the Christmas dinner?"

CONCORD GRANTS AN INCREASE IN GAS RATE

Mr. J. W. Timberlake, managing director of the Gastonia & Suburban Gas Co., received a telegram this morning from J. S. Palmer, manager of the Concord Gas Co., stating that the board of aldermen of that town, in session last night, granted the company's request for a temporary increase in the rate charged for gas from \$1.50 to \$1.85, the same discount applying to the new rate as to the old one.

It will be recalled that the local company has now before the city council of Gastonia a similar request for an increase from \$1.40 to \$1.75. A committee of the council is now engaged in investigating what other towns and cities are doing in this matter with reference to forming a conclusion that will be just and equitable to both the gas company and the public.

The plea of the company, both here and in many other cities where similar requests have been made, is based on the fact that all the raw materials entering into the manufacture of gas have increased to a very great extent within the past year or so. In fact, the local company presented figures to the council recently to show that, at the present price of \$1.40, it was unable to make actual operating expenses.

BRITISH IMPROVE POSITIONS BY USE OF BOMBS

(By International News Service.) LONDON, Dec. 14.—The British improved their positions East of Bullecourt by bombing operations during the night, Gen. Haig reported today. A few British troops are missing as a result of the enemy operations South of Pronville.

DECLARES THERE IS PLENTY OF SUGAR.

(By International News Service.) WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—Testifying before the Senate Committee, President Spoke, of the Federal Sugar Refining Co., declared there is plenty of sugar in the United States, and the shortage exists only in certain spots in the Eastern States. He declared there is enough sugar in Java to supply the British Isles for a year.

PNEUMONIA CAUSES A HEAVY DEATH TOLL.

(By International News Service.) WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—Pneumonia continues to exact the highest death toll among American troops, Surgeon General Gorgas announced today. For the week ending Dec. 7, there were 264 fatalities, of which 218 were caused by pneumonia. Both measles and pneumonia are on the decrease.

—Fair and much colder today; fair and continued cold Saturday; the weather man's prediction this morning. The sun, however, is melting the snow to some extent, though colder weather is looked for tonight.

The Gazette goes all over Gastonia—and then some. Only three-a-week paper in the State. Two dollars the year, and cheap at that.

INCOMPETENT OFFICIALS MUST BE REMOVED

(By International News Service.)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—Incompetent officials must be removed from office. This was the sentiment of Senators and Congressmen today and there was a general disposition to make the investigations now under way the most thorough ever held in this country, regardless of party affiliations. It is believed that the President will be grateful to Congress for revealing any weak links in his administration and for suggestions as to probing things that may embarrass the President.

While the probe of the ordnance department proceeded today another Senator began the task of fixing the responsibility for the food and fuel shortage. Congress was amazed at the revelations made yesterday by General Crozier, chief officer of the ordnance department, and is anxious for Secretary of War Baker to take the stand and tell his side of the matter.

SNOW AND WIND HAMPER TRAFFIC

(By International News Service.)

NEW YORK, Dec. 14.—The eastern seaboard has been hit hard by the heavy snows and high winds of the past few days, which have prevailed as far south as Virginia. In many places traffic has been badly hampered and there has been much suffering among the poor.

DEATHS

MRS. ILLA MAY DALE.

Mrs. Illa May Dale died at the City Hospital yesterday afternoon at 1 o'clock following a brief illness, aged 25. Her home was at the Modena Mill. The body was shipped last night via the P. & N. and Seaboard to her former home at Monroe for burial. She is survived by her husband, Mr. Carson Dale.

MARKER P. WHITWORTH.

Marker P. Whitworth died Wednesday at his home in Bessemer City, aged 69. The body was taken yesterday to New Prospect church near Shelby, Cleveland county, for burial.

CAPT. ISAAC R. SELF.

Many Gazette readers will be interested in the following dispatch from Lincolnton, dated December 10, to Tuesday's Charlotte Observer: Captain Isaac R. Self, since 1865 a resident of Lincolnton, died Saturday afternoon at 1:30 o'clock at his country home five miles west of Lincolnton.

Captain Self was 76 years old, and was a native of Cleveland county, a son of the late Lemuel Self. He came to Lincolnton immediately following the civil war in the year 1865.

He was married Nov. 9, 1865, to Miss Mary Young, of Lincolnton county, who preceded him to the grave 23 months ago.

He was the father of 11 children, of whom two died in infancy. The nine surviving, who are all well-known and prominent citizens, are: H. A. Self, of Lincolnton; Mrs. Etta Hovis, J. E. Self and Mrs. Ella Holcomb, of this county; Mrs. E. A. Houser, of Fallston; Dr. L. L. Self, of Cherryville; Rev. M. Y. Self, of Warrenton; Dr. I. R. Self, of this city, and Mrs. Alda Hoyle, of Chapel Hill, all of whom were present at the funeral.

The funeral services were conducted Sunday afternoon at Zion Methodist church, of which he was a member, a large number of relatives and friends being present. The funeral was conducted by Revs. T. A. Plyvier and W. F. Womble. The remains were laid to rest in Zion churchyard.

Captain Self was one of the remaining heroes of the civil war. He fought four years for the Southern Confederacy.

The Haste for Office.

The Raleigh Times. Commissioner of Public Safety E. M. Uzzell died on Friday at about 10 o'clock in the morning. Before the vacancy in the office was more than two or three hours old there were in the hands of the mayor two applications for appointment to fill it. Without considering the lack of taste involved in the scramble—that is a usual incident of the sorry business of office-hunting—the haste itself is interesting as it shows the opinion which the local politicians entertain concerning the method which the mayor and Commissioner Pace will follow in naming the man who for a year and a half will be the third member of Raleigh's governing body. There is every reason why Mayor Johnson and Commissioner Pace should disappoint these wilful aspirants ready to undertake anything in the blithest confidence, so long as it holds political prestige and carries a salary.



REPRESENTATIVE JULIUS KAHN.

(By International News Service.) WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—One of the strongest advocates of military preparedness of the present Sixty-fifth Congress, and of many Congresses preceding that, is a California-born—yes, a Californian, although born at Kuppenheim, Grand Duchy of Baden, Germany. This Californian is Representative Julius Kahn, ranking Republican member of the Military Affairs Committee of the House, and Representative of the Fourth Congressional District of California, which means the city of San Francisco.

Through eight different Congresses, not including the present one, Representative Kahn fought for preparedness. And now that the United States is at war with the country where he was born and where his parents were born, Representative Kahn is still found fighting for a greater army and for greater effort to win the war. Congressman Kahn has drawn plans for an army of Americans not less than 4,000,000 strong. He realizes that we are up against a serious business and he proposes that Uncle Sam shall make such gigantic preparations now as will insure this serious business being brought to as speedy and as victorious a conclusion as possible.

Julius Kahn was born on February 28, 1861. He came to California with his parents in 1866 and was educated in the San Francisco public schools. In 1892 he was elected to the California Legislature and two years later was admitted to the California bar. He was elected to the Fifty-sixth Congress and served in the Fifty-seventh, Fifty-ninth, Sixtieth, Sixty-first, Sixty-second, Sixty-third, Sixty-fourth Congresses and was re-elected to the Sixty-fifth, or present Congress.

WHAT YOUR BOY IS DOING

By DAVID M. CHURCH.
(The International News Service)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—The eyes of the army are in the Signal Corps.

Perhaps the Signal Corps might be called the brain of the army. At any rate, most of the thinking of the army must be done through the Channels of the Signal Corps.

Establishment of lines of communication is the primary duty of the Signal Corps. If an observation point is set up in an exposed position some miles from an artillery battery, it falls upon the men of the Signal Corps to string either a telegraph line or a telephone line to the observer from the commander of the artillery battery.

Trench telephones must be installed and kept in repair. This is the work of the Signal Corps. There was a time when the communication between troops and units of the army might be done by flag signalling or by heliograph, but this has been surpassed by the more modern telephonic connections. Signal Corps men run great bazards in laying lines of communication and their work is not at all undangerous.

Observers are almost always chosen from the Signal Corps. They are the men who are chosen to undergo great dangers in order to learn what the enemy is doing and what the effects of the heavy gunfire are.

With the present organization of the army the work of collecting much of the data of the war falls on the shoulders of the Signal Corps. The official photographers and motion picture men are all attached to the Signal Corps.

Signal Corps men are mounted, and in most cases under present war conditions they are equipped with fast motor vehicles instead of horses.

These men are never called upon to do any actual fighting, although they are often exposed to greater dangers than the men who do actual fighting, but have the protection of the trench walls and embankments.

Had the hero of Marathon been a modern fighter he would have been attached to the Signal Corps. The heroic courier of the olden days is almost a thing of the past. Orders are flashed over electric wires and the Signal Corps messenger has little or no chance of saving the tide of a battle by dashing up to the commanding officer with a strategic plan.

Signal Corps men may be distinguished by the orange and white hat cord. Their collar insignia is two crossed flags.

TODAY'S COTTON MARKET.

(By International News Service.) NEW YORK, Dec. 14.—The cotton market opened with January contracts selling at 29.40; May 28.83.

—Mrs. E. D. Huffstetler, of route three, underwent an operation Wednesday morning at the City Hospital for goiter. Drs. L. N. Glenn and J. M. Sloan performed the operation. Mrs. Huffstetler is getting along nicely.