

THE GASTONIA GAZETTE

PUBLISHED EVERY MONDAY, WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY.

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GASTONIA, N. C. WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, JANUARY 2, 1918.

\$2.00 A YEAR IN ADVANCE.

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO GAZETTE SUBSCRIBERS
A large number of Gazette subscriptions expire the first of January and many more during the month. Those of our readers whose subscriptions expire at this time will save the publishers much trouble and will prevent the probability of missing any copies of the paper if they will send or bring in their renewals at once. To take off and then, within a few days, put back on a large number of names on our mailing list is no small task and requires several days work. Hence we ask all of our readers whose subscriptions expire at any date in the month of January to favor us by sending in their renewals at once. Address all communications to The Gazette Publishing Co., Gastonia, N. C.

SHORT LOCAL ITEMS

—Are you writing it 1918?
—Stock-taking is the order of the day with Gastonia merchants.
—Mr. M. D. Haney, of Rock Hill, S. C., was in town Saturday.
—Mr. Fred Rhyna is with the Winget Jewelry Company.
—There will be no prayer service at Main Street Methodist church tonight, on account of the weather.
—Mr. J. R. Carson, of the Pisgah section, was a visitor in town yesterday.
—Mrs. Emma Hooper, of Kannapolis, is spending some time in the city with relatives.
—Mr. W. M. Matthews, of Clover, was a business visitor in Gastonia yesterday.
—On account of the very inclement weather there will be no prayer service at the First Presbyterian church tonight.
—Within the next week or two there will be considerable shifting of quarters in the business section of Gastonia.
—Miss Gertrude McCarter, of the Bethany section, is spending the week here with her sister, Mrs. R. O. Craig.
—Mr. and Mrs. G. R. Spencer and Miss Ruby Spencer have returned from Florida where they spent two weeks.
—Mr. Lester Ferguson had the misfortune to fall on the street a day or so ago and break his collar bone.
—On account of the inclement weather there will be no meeting of the board of stewards of Main Street Methodist church tonight.
—Sgt. Sam Suggs, of Camp Sevier, Greenville, S. C., is spending a few days here with his brother, Mr. LeRoy Suggs.
—Mrs. J. W. Campbell and Miss Addie Matthews, of Clover, were in town yesterday en route to Greenville, S. C.
—Mr. Wade Sanders, of Camp Jackson, Columbia, S. C., arrived last night to spend several days with his father, Mr. M. T. Sanders, at Groves.
—This is the first issue of The Gazette for 1918. There will be 155 others, God willing. If you haven't subscribed, do it today.
—One local wholesale merchant received a car load of flour yesterday, which affords temporary relief from the shortage. Other shipments, it is stated, are en route.

—Mrs. Lloyd G. Hooper and children, of Kannapolis, are spending some time in the city as the guests of Mrs. Hooper's father, Rev. F. W. Bradley, and family.
—Installation of officers for the ensuing year will be the special order of business of Gastonia Lodge Knights of Pythias at its regular meeting next Monday night.
—Mr. W. D. Martin, of Brooklyn, spent Saturday night and Sunday in the city as the guest of his sister, Mrs. J. G. McLean, at her home on East Third avenue.
—Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Covington and little son, of Charlotte, are spending a few days here with Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Myers and Mr. and Mrs. F. Kirby.
—Contractor H. B. Patillo began work yesterday on the Rankin building which is to be occupied by the Atkins-Baber Book Company. This firm expects to open for business about March 1st.
—Miss Ruth Moore, of Iaman, S. C., who has been the guest for several days past of Miss Regina Coon, will return home tomorrow. Miss Coon will accompany her for a brief visit.
—In the advertisement of J. M. Bell Company in last Friday's and Monday's Gazette an error occurred in the price of 18 cent Heavy Yard Wide Sheeting, which should have been 15 and 1-2 cents per yard instead of 5 and 1-2 cents.
—Miss Nola Clarke, of The Gazette office force, returned Monday from Morganton, where she spent the holidays with homefolks. She was accompanied by her sister, Miss Oatie Clarke, who will be her guest for some time.
—Mr. George Van Dyke, of Company A, 15th Machine Gun Battalion, Greenville, S. C., is spending a few days here with homefolks. "We boys certainly do enjoy The Gazette," he said yesterday. "They grab for us right and left when they come"

Mr. Van Dyke said that Co. A presented Capt. Cherry with a handsome uniform as a Christmas present. Captain Cherry is greatly beloved by his entire company.
—Mr. and Mrs. J. H. B. Jenkins, of Rock Hill, S. C., visited his sister, Mrs. John Adams, last Thursday and Friday. They also visited in Bowling Green. They left for their home Saturday.
—An unknown person smashed one of the large glass in the front of T. P. Rankin & Co's. store at Lowell last night and took a pair of shoes from the display window. The thief, it appears, did not go inside, probably being frightened away.

—Painters and paper-hangers are at work overhauling the interior of the Bank of Gastonia's quarters. All of the woodwork and fixtures are being done over, new linoleum placed on the floor and other touches are being added which will give the banking rooms of this institution a new attractiveness.

—There will be a meeting of Troop No. 3, Boy Scouts, Friday night at the Chamber of Commerce, at 7 p. m. The registration of the troop expires this month and the matter of re-registering at National Headquarters, along with other things of importance will be disposed of. All scouts are requested to be present.

—Mrs. B. G. Bradley had the misfortune Monday to slip on some ice on the bath room floor at her home on West Airline avenue and sustain very painful injuries. It is feared that she sustained a bone-fracture, though this has not been definitely determined yet. Her condition is quite serious. Her friends are hoping, however, that she will recover rapidly.

—Today's Gazette is only half the regular size due to the fact that two of our printers are kept at home by illness. A quantity of live matter is necessarily held over till Friday's issue. An interesting feature of the next issue will be a full page review of the events of the year 1917 in chronological order. This is an annual feature of The Gazette and is one which grows in favor with the paper's readers.

—Dr. and Mrs. J. M. Caldwell have had as their guests during the holidays their daughter, Miss Isabel Caldwell, who is a student at Winthrop College, Rock Hill, S. C., and their two sons, Mr. James Caldwell, of the U. S. Ship Arkansas, and Mr. A. G. Caldwell, a member of the headquarters company of the 105th Engineers, Camp Sevier. The latter has been selected to attend one of the third officers reserve training camps, and expects to go to a post in Texas soon.

—Gastonians were treated to another surprise this morning when they awoke to find an inch and a half of new snow on the ground. It has been "spitting" snow at intervals during the day. There has been snow on the ground for more than three weeks and present prospects indicate that this condition will prevail for at least another week or two. The Gazette's friend, Charlie Ford, the undertaker, predicted, as he sat by a big base-burner in his office this morning, that there would be snow on the ground until March 1st at least. "We're going to have one of those real old-time winters, mark what I tell you," was the way Charlie put it to the reporter. There are others of the same mind.

COAL TRAINS NOW MOVING RAPIDLY

Washington, Jan. 1.—Coal trains went forward today under new government orders, based on the belief of Director General McAdoo that railway congestion rather than actual shortage is responsible for the fuel famine in many districts.

Upon receipt of reports that hundreds of loaded coal cars were stalled on sidings behind long strings of cars containing shipments of higher preferential rating than coal, all existing priority orders for the entire country were suspended by Robert S. Lovett, priority director of the war industries board, on recommendation of the director general. This is expected to result in quicker movement of the entire mass of congested freight, whose sluggishness has been caused largely by a multiplicity of priority orders.

President Wilson, it was learned tonight, will go before Congress Friday to present his recommendations for legislation to make government operation fully effective and to provide for compensation of the carriers, and legislation which has already been drawn will be introduced immediately after his address. Some officials think there will be a vigorous fight over the question of whether the legislation should be effective only for the period of the war and a limited time thereafter, or should remain in force until specifically repealed or modified by Congress.

JAPS TO SEND NEW AMBASSADOR

(By International News Service.) TOKIO, Jan. 1.—Viscount Ishii, who recently headed a special mission to the United States, is expected to be named ambassador to the United States. At a meeting of the foreign council dissatisfaction was expressed with the work of the present ambassador, Count Sato.

WAR BULLETINS

MAY STATE WAR AIMS AGAIN.

(By International News Service.) WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—A re-statement of the war aims of the Allies loomed up as nearly certain late this afternoon. This re-statement will be designed to meet Germany's peace propaganda now being widely circulated in neutral countries. When it is made it will contain the "last word" on peace so far as Germany's enemies are concerned. State Department officials this afternoon refused to discuss at any length the coming conference in Paris between British Prime Minister Lloyd-George and Premier Clemenceau of France. It was stated that no official information regarding the conference had yet reached here. However an official said that they had not the slightest doubt that the conference would result in a decision as to whether a statement of the Allies' war aims was necessary and it is accepted that the decision will be that if it is necessary.

TO MAKE FORMAL REPLY.

(By International News Service.) LONDON, Dec. 31.—The Allies will make formal reply to the latest German peace proposal, it is stated today.

ASSASSINATION PLOT REVEALED

(By International News Service.) NEW YORK, Dec. 31.—Rumors of a plot to assassinate Lenin and Trotsky are current in Petrograd, according to a cablegram received here. The plot is attributed to the social revolutionaries.

FOOD FAMINE IN MOSCOW.

(By International News Service.) COPENHAGEN, Dec. 31.—Severe fighting in many places in Russia, including Cirkut and Voladivsk, Siberia, is reported here. There is said to be a food famine in Moscow.

FATE OF SEVEN AMERICANS UNKNOWN.

(By International News Service.) AMERICAN HEADQUARTERS IN FRANCE, Jan. 1.—The fate of seven of the 12 Americans supposed to have been captured by Germans is causing concern. A picture of the captives shows only five men. The Doughboys swear vengeance if the other seven have been murdered.

SAYS GERMANY IS THE AGENT OF GOD.

(By International News Service.) THE HAGUE, Jan. 1.—In his New Years address to the army, the Kaiser declared that Germany is the agent of God to bring peace to the world by force of arms.

BRITISH LINE REMAINS INTACT.

(By International News Service.) LONDON, Jan. 1.—Unofficial dispatches report hard fighting for positions on Wells Ridge, Cambrai, today. Despite attacks the British line remains intact.

LOOKING AFTER HIS PEACE DRIVE.

(By International News Service.) AMSTERDAM, Jan. 1.—The Kaiser is giving his personal attention to the peace drive, according to a dispatch from Berlin. It is stated that the German people believe that peace is nearer than ever before. This was a big factor in the gayety of the New Year celebrations. The opposition of the pan-German press toward no annexations and no indemnities is dying out.

DEATHS

WILLIAM MOTON.

Correspondence of The Gazette. LOWELL, Jan. 2.—William Moton, an operative at the Lowell Cotton Mill, died at his home here about 5 o'clock this morning. Last Thursday morning, while at work in the mill, he was suddenly rendered unconscious by an attack of paralysis. He never recovered consciousness and grew rapidly worse until the end today. He is survived by a widow, who is a daughter of Mr. John Henderson, of the Bethesda section, and three children. He was the only son of the late Andy Moton and was about 45 years of age. Funeral and burial services will take place tomorrow morning at eleven o'clock at Bethesda Methodist church, of which he was a member. Rev. Mr. Kennedy, the pastor, officiating.

KING PETER ILL.

(By International News Service.) LONDON, Jan. 2.—King Peter, of Serbia, is seriously ill at Athens.

OF THE WAR-TIME VARIETY.

(By International News Service.) WASHINGTON, Jan. 1.—New Years day here was distinctly of the war-time variety. Time-honored customs as to receptions given by various officials, some of them dating back to Revolutionary times, were abandoned. The bibulously inclined had to go to Baltimore to get a drink. All the government departments are closed, but behind closed doors the heads of departments are working strenuously.

A dispatch from Kinston says that the Neuse river has been frozen solid from bank to bank during the recent cold weather.

IN SOCIAL CIRCLES

LATEST EVENTS IN WOMAN'S WORLD

BETTERMENT MEETING FRIDAY AFTERNOON.
The regular meeting of the Woman's Betterment Association will be held at the Central school auditorium on Friday afternoon, January 4th, at 3:30 o'clock. The building will be heated and the members are all urged to be present.

TURKEY DINNER LAST EVENING.

Mrs. W. L. Coon gave a most delicious turkey dinner to the guests of her boarding house last evening. In addition to the regular guests there were present several invited guests. The dining room was most attractively and appropriately decorated in holly and mistletoe. The event was a most delightful one for all present.

CARSON-CHENEY MARRIAGE.

Mr. Ralph Carson and Miss Annie Cheney, both of the Pisgah section, were married Monday evening, December 24th, at 6:30 o'clock at the parsonage of the Pisgah Associate Reformed Presbyterian church, by Rev. J. B. Hood in the presence of a few friends.

The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Carson and has a large circle of friends. The bride is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Cheney and is a young lady of charming personality and has a host of friends.

RHYNE-FARRAR WEDDING MONDAY.

A wedding which came as a surprise to their many friends was that of Mr. Brady C. Rhyne and Miss Laura Marie Farrar, which was solemnized by Rev. J. C. Dietz, pastor of the Lutheran church, at his residence on Chester street Monday evening at 7 o'clock. The bride is a daughter of Mr. C. A. Farrar, of Gastonia, route two, while the groom is a son of Mr. Peter S. Rhyne, who lives near Rantlo. Mr. Rhyne has been living for the past year or more at Benton, Ala., and left yesterday with his bride for his home at that place.

TRYING TO SOLVE LABOR PROBLEM.

(By International News Service.) WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—With the executive end of the railroad problem solved for the present Director General McAdoo today turned his attention to the labor situation. The heads of four big railroad brotherhoods have been asked to come to Washington for a conference Thursday. It is realized that the engineer regiments and war manufacturers have taken thousands of workers from the railroads and higher wages will be necessary to hold the present forces on their job. It is expected that a general increase in freight rates and an increase in salaries will be announced simultaneously following the conference to be held Thursday.

NO RADICAL CHANGES NOW.

(By International News Service.) WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—At noon all the railroads in the United States passed under government control. At that time Mr. McAdoo was in conference with the Railroad War Board, which includes Daniel Wildard and Fairfax Harrison. At the conclusion of the conference Mr. McAdoo announced that all railway officials will retain their places and that the operating committee of vice-presidents will retain their places and that absolutely no changes will be made at the present. For the present there will be no order unifying all the systems. All these matters will be held in abeyance until the vice-presidents can submit their recommendations to Mr. McAdoo regarding the future operation of the roads.

Opening Date Postponed.

The city public schools, which had been scheduled to resume work today following the Christmas holidays, will not open until next Tuesday, January 8th. This postponement will help somewhat toward relieving the threatened shortage of fuel, and the pupils will not be required to come out in the severe weather which has prevailed for some days.

Soldiers Badly Equipped as to Shoes.

(By International News Service.) WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—Eighty-five percent of the American soldiers are equipped with shoes either too long or too short. Sharpe admitted today on cross examination before the Senate probe.

ROADS CLEARED FOR COAL MOVEMENT.

(By International News Service.) WASHINGTON, Jan. 1.—The railroads were cleared today for the movement of coal. Orders issued by Director McAdoo started long trainloads of coal to suffering localities and provided for the movement of cars that must be loaded within the next 10 days. The railroads have been instructed to observe the wishes of local coal administrators regarding the disposition of coal.

This morning's Observer says that during the past 48 hours, six soldiers died at Camp Green, this being the largest number so far during any 48-hour period.

PEACE NEGOTIATIONS

HAVE BEEN BROKEN

(By International News Service.) LONDON, Jan. 2.—Peace negotiations between the Bolsheviks and Germany have been broken off because Germany demanded the right to keep garrisons in Poland and Courland, according to a dispatch printed today in The Daily News. The correspondent stated that he got his information from a reliable source. He says that the Bolsheviks are preparing to defend the frontier. The Russian envoys, it is stated, refused to grant the Austro-Germans further time to consider the matter.

NEWS OF THE COUNTY

LOWELL LOCALS.

Correspondence of The Gazette. LOWELL, Jan. 1.—Born to Mr. and Mrs. H. Henry Cox Saturday, December 29th, a girl.
Mr. Frank Robinson, Jr., returned Wednesday to Westminster School to resume his studies.
Prof. Grady Gaston is spending some time with homefolks. Mr. Gaston is principal of the school in North Wilkesboro.
Mr. J. Linwood Robinson, of Ruthersfordton, spent several days in town last week.
Miss Annie Ford spent last week in Salisbury with relatives.
Messdames S. M. Robinson and J. R. Titman spent Friday in Charlotte as the guests of Mrs. Howland.
Mr. and Mrs. Ross, of Philadelphia, were the guests Thursday of Mrs. S. M. Robinson.
Charlotte, the little daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Billie Haues, who has been quite ill, is slightly improved.
Mrs. S. M. Robinson had quite an experience Monday morning, when the pipe connecting the water tank to the cooking stove exploded. Considerable damage was done; the cook sustained a slight injury on the arm.

Mr. Coit Robinson entertained at dinner Saturday in honor of her guests, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Taylor, of Westminster, S. C.
Mrs. J. W. Reid entertained delightfully at a four-course dinner today in honor of her brother, Mr. Leslie Reid, who is at home from the University for the holidays. Her guests were Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Patrick and Dr. and Mrs. L. N. Patrick, of Gastonia; Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Gash, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Reid and Misses Mary, Irma and Helen Reid and Mr. Leslie Reid, of Lowell.

A QUIET NEW YEARS DAY.

(By International News Service.) NEW YORK, Jan. 1.—Realization that the United States is in war caused a quiet New Year celebration here.

CHICAGO, Jan. 1.—With Chief of Police Scuttler on the lid, Chicagoans are having a quiet New Year.

ATLANTA, Jan. 1.—Prohibition throughout the South caused New Years to look like any other day, except that some business concerns recognized it as a half-holiday.

PROBE MAY RESULT IN PROSECUTIONS.

(By International News Service.) WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—There are strong indications today that prosecutions may grow out of the recent army probe. Senator Freylinghaus today demanded that all witnesses be put under oath as the evidence "may come before the Attorney General for action." General Crozier was on the stand this morning. He read a long statement laying the blame for the lack of artillery on the general public for failing to rally to a preparedness program.

UNNECESSARY OFFICES TO BE ABOLISHED.

(By International News Service.) WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—Under an order being prepared by Mr. McAdoo absolute operation of all roads will be demanded by the government. All unnecessary offices will be abolished, including publicity agents, freight and passenger solicitors and hundreds of attorneys who do little work.

DECLARES ITSELF A REPUBLIC.

(By International News Service.) SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 31.—Lower California has declared itself an independent republic, according to reports. Fielding Silson has been appointed by the governor of the new republic as diplomatic representative to the United States.

PLOT TO BURN BIG PLANT.

(By International News Service.) DETROIT, Dec. 31.—What is believed to have been a German plot to destroy the \$3,000,000 plant of the Liberty Motor Co. here was frustrated today when firemen and employees subdued an apparently incendiary blaze in one of the buildings under construction. The loss was small. This was the second blaze in plants doing government work within three days.

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GAVE BANQUET FOR MILL SUPERINTENDENTS

Col. C. B. Armstrong was host at a banquet Saturday night at the Arlington Hotel to the superintendents and overseers of the ten mills comprising the Armstrong chain of mills. The mills composing this chain are: the Armstrong, Clara, Dunn, Piedmont, Mutual and Seminole mills, of Gastonia; Elizabeth Mills, Charlotte; Monarch Mill, Dallas; Wymolo Mill, Rock Hill, S. C., and the Anna Mill at Bakers, this county. There were 51 guests at the table. A sumptuous repast was served. Col. Armstrong acted as toastmaster and a number of impromptu talks were made by guests. The occasion was a thoroughly delightful one throughout.

AUSTRO-GERMAN SOLDIERS FREEZE TO DEATH

(By International News Service.) ROME, Jan. 2.—Many Austro-German soldiers have frozen to death in the Venetian Alps. Many others are on the verge of starvation because the deep snows make the bringing up of food almost impossible. News of conditions within the German lines is revealed by prisoners who surrendered, they stated, to keep from starving.

MUNITION WORKERS ON VERGE OF MUTINY

(By International News Service.) AMSTERDAM, Jan. 2.—German munition workers will try to force the Kaiser to make peace, according to information trickling across the border today. Following serious and disastrous explosions in munition plants scores of independent workers have been arrested. Workmen crossing the border recently reported that the Krupp gun works had burned for 24 hours and that supplies for the army were thus seriously affected.

TURNS LAND OVER TO PEASANTS

(By International News Service.) WASHINGTON, Jan. 1.—Official dispatches from Rome state that Italy has requisitioned all land that may be used for agriculture and has turned it over to the peasants.

TO ENLIST 100,000 SHIPBUILDERS.

(By International News Service.) WASHINGTON, Jan. 1.—A hundred thousand workers from 70 vocations will be voluntarily enlisted for ship building work. Chairman Hurley announced today. These men will be exempted from military duty. It is hoped to have all shipyards running 24 hours per day by the first of February.

AMERICAN AVIATORS IN ITALY.

(By International News Service.) WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—American aviators have arrived in Italy but are not yet on the firing line.

INVESTIGATING FIRE.

(By International News Service.) NORFOLK, Jan. 1.—A searching investigation into the origin of the big fire here has been begun. Two mysterious explosions occurred just prior to the breaking out of the flames.

\$250,000 LOSS BY FIRE TODAY.

(By International News Service.) HARRISBURG, PA., Jan. 2.—Fire today almost completely destroyed three departments of the Harrisburg Pipe Co., engaged on government work. It is believed that the origin of the fire was incendiary. The loss is \$250,000.

STONE MOUNTAIN, GA., Jan. 2.—The business section of this town was practically wiped out by fire this morning. The loss is estimated at \$50,000.