

THE COUNTY LINE QUESTION

KINGS MT. PEOPLE MAKE STRONG APPEAL TO GASTON TO LEAVE THE COUNTY LINE MATTER ALONE—SOME FACTS BROUGHT OUT.

The following communication signed by some of the leading citizens of Kings Mountain, Cleveland county, has been addressed to the editor of the Gastonia Gazette:

We have noticed some recent articles in your paper with reference to a suit involving the legality of the county boundary line election held in April, 1915, and we have been both surprised and pained to note the tenor of these articles.

Certainly the suggestion of wholesale fraud and other sundry charges are so preposterous and unwarranted as not to merit a serious discussion, not to say denial. It may be that there were some slight irregularities on each side in that election, such as are common to elections, but the charges of fraud are absurd. However, the purpose of this article is not to discuss the merits of that question.

In view of the present agitation it might not be amiss to state briefly the facts in regard to the purpose of the bill providing for this election and the consequent developments, and to submit these to the fair-minded and just citizenship of Gaston county, with the hope that this great people will not lend the county's good name to an unworthy purpose; and confident in that belief we shall remain until her conduct shall force us to decide otherwise.

Let it be remembered that the plan to have a bill passed providing for an election to change the boundary line between Gaston and Cleveland counties was introduced in the Legislature by a Gaston county man and was passed with the approval of the Gaston county legislators, and it was with some difficulty that we prevailed upon the Cleveland county legislators not to fight the bill and let it pass. Hence it cannot be said that Cleveland county was trying to get any of Gaston's territory, for it was Gaston county that was the prime mover in the matter. The bill was passed and the election ordered, and Cleveland county fought to keep from losing her own territory—practically three-fourths of the town of Kings Mountain, which had been in Cleveland ever since the town was formed—more than to gain any territory from Gaston. It so happens that Gaston loses only a narrow strip of territory, which places all of Kings Mountain in the same county, which does not injure Gaston, whereas, if the whole town had gone to Gaston, it would have been a heavy blow to Cleveland.

The election was held in April, 1915, nearly a year and nine months ago—and both counties made similar propositions as inducements to the voters to decide in favor of the respective counties. The vote was favorable to Cleveland. There were 611 votes cast and Cleveland had a net majority of 71 votes, and this was duly certified and declared by the election officials of both Gaston and Cleveland counties. This was known by everybody and apparently accepted and acquiesced in by everybody.

During the time since the election was held Cleveland county has carried out her election promises, similar to those made by Gaston, and has expended more than \$25,000.00 in building the roads through the new territory and that involved in the election. Nobody opposed the expenditure of this money.

Now it seems that somebody is endeavoring to stir up trouble at this late day. Any talk about fraud in the election is a mere pretext. There is never an election held that somebody could not make a complaint afterwards that everything was not just in accordance with the precise requirements of the statute, and yet it is generally understood that if anything was irregular in any way, such irregularities were not confined to one side alone, and certainly they were not determinative of the election.

In every contest of this kind one side must lose—both cannot win. If Cleveland county had lost we would have accepted the result in good faith and you would not find us playing the baby act; we do not believe the great progressive, forward-looking citizenship of the great county of Gaston will do so, either. We have lived friends and neighbors through these years. We mutually esteem each other. Our business men of Kings Mountain, and the citizens of our town who sign this article, trade and mingle freely and happily with the business men of Gastonia and all of Gaston county. We desire this friendly relationship to continue and we want to promote this

spirit of good fellowship and business association, and we deprecate anything that would cause estrangements.

We ask our friends in Gaston to take this matter home to themselves. Suppose after your court-house removal election a short time ago somebody had proposed to test the legality of the election on the ground that some money was used, or that there were some other irregularities, don't you realize how much bitterness and strife would have been engendered, and how your good county would have been torn asunder by such a contest. Certainly if anybody had been willing to do your county the great and lasting injury of instituting such a contest, no one would deny that sufficient basis would have been found upon which to lodge such a suit, and yet today by pursuing the wise policy of letting bygones be bygones, you have a great united county, and you go forward by leaps and bounds, and you win the admiring approval of all your neighbors. Kings Mountain, and all this territory, voted in favor of Cleveland county by far and away a larger majority in proportion to the votes cast than you won your court-house removal election, and we are appealing to you not to stir up the strife and bitterness between our people and your people that would inevitably result from litigation in the courts. You are too great and prosperous to do this sort of thing. It would be out of harmony with all of your past history. One of the first essentials of a broad and great people is to know how to lose with good grace.

This is not written in any controversial spirit, nor do we seek to provoke discussion, but merely for the purpose of appealing to the people of Gaston county as a whole on behalf of our town and the territory included in the boundary election, to let this matter alone and not to provoke an unseemly and unwarranted contest over a matter that has long since passed, and some of us who sign this appeal live on the Gaston side and did everything possible in the elections for Gaston county, but since we lost we think it unwise to stir up strife and bitterness over this election simply because we did not win.

Respectfully submitted, P. D. HERNDON, G. W. KENDRICK, J. B. THOMASSON, E. W. BARNES, M. E. HERNDON, J. B. GOFORTH, D. C. MAUNEY, J. R. DAVIS, C. T. CORNWELL, A. H. PATTERSON, W. P. FULTON, W. A. WARE, C. B. FALLS, D. M. BAKER, F. J. MAUNEY, B. F. LINDSAY, W. A. MAUNEA, WILEY H. MCGINNIS, S. A. CROUSE, J. E. ADERHOLDT, W. A. RIDENHOUR, R. L. MAUNEY, W. HINKLE MCGINNIS, J. M. PATTERSON, H. F. PETERSON, J. SIDNEY HOOD, R. C. BAKER, FORREST FLOYD, L. P. BAKER, W. K. MAUNEY, D. F. HORD, J. E. LIPFORD, J. O. PLONK, M. L. PLONK, R. S. PLONK.

Record of One Submarine
Announcement is made in the Berlin newspapers that the Order of Merit has been conferred on Captain Valentiner, captain of a German submarine, for sinking 128 ships of a total tonnage of 282,000. Included among the boats sunk are a French gunboat, a troop transport, four steamships loaded with war material and a French submarine concealing 14 coal steamers.
In addition Captain Valentiner has had numerous engagements with armed hostile ships, capturing two on which guns were mounted. It was his submarine which shelled Funchal, Madeira Islands, early this month, and sank in the Funchal Harbor the French gunboat. Surprise and the steamships Dacia and Kangaroo.

The Progressive Men's Store is always busy. Visit Evans E. McBrayer.
THE WINTER
Is the time to enrich your BLOOD and the thing you want to take is KENTONE, THE SYSTEM BUILDER—it will put VIM and NEW LIFE in YOUR WHOLE MAKE UP. For Men, Women and Children, \$1.00 bottle, 3 for \$2.50. Kendall's or Webb's Drug Store.

ASK SALARY INCREASE

Appeal For Increased Salary For State Officers and State Employees.

Raleigh News and Observer
Because capital cities are costly to live in and far more than ordinarily so for State officers, an effort will be made in the next General Assembly to raise salaries of such officers and their clerks. The Governor, it is declared, should receive \$7,500, as much as a Congressman, and the other elective officers should get \$4,500, except Supreme Court Justices, who should get \$5,000. In addition, it is argued, there should be a blanket provision calling for a raise of 25 per cent. in the salaries and wages of all other State employees.

State legislators are receiving letters to this effect from Mr. A. H. Arrington, who lately resigned his position in the State Treasurer's office to take up a private business. Says Mr. Arrington: "Having resigned my position in the State Treasury Department to engage in private business, and therefore being in a position to do so without my motive being questioned, I make the following appeal to the Legislature of the State on behalf of the employees of the State government from Governor down, who are all put to it to live on their present salaries on account of the tremendous increase in the cost of living and the fact that they are living on salaries fixed ten years ago, when the cost of living was 40 per cent. less than it is today.

"It is well known that all capital cities are costly to live in. And for State officers it is far more costly than for any one else for four reasons: First, they are expected to live in a way to uphold the dignity of the State; second, they are required to do a large amount of entertaining; third, they are called upon, by reason of their position, to contribute to the building of churches, schools; and for all charitable purposes; fourth, they have to put up large sums of money to conduct a campaign for primary nomination and contribute to the campaign fund for re-election."

W. M. Harrelson's Sister Dead

Cherryville correspondence:
Mrs. Elizabeth Henry died at her home in the Panhandle section three miles northwest of Cherryville Wednesday, December 27th, at the ripe age of 98 years. Death was caused by a deep cold and the infirmities of age. She made her home with her grandson, Mr. A. F. Henry. She was a woman of remarkable vitality and memory and was very reminiscent of the times and hardships during the years when she was a child. She leaves two daughters, Mrs. Sam Black, of Cherryville and Mrs. Phillip Spake, who live in the west, and two grandsons, Mr. John Henry, of Oklahoma, and Mrs. A. F. Henry, of Cherryville and the following brothers; Messrs. W. O. S. S., and D. M. Harrelson, of Cherryville and Mr. W. M. Harrelson, of Waco.

Gaston Commissioners to Meet

The Gazette:
A special meeting of the entire board of Gaston Commissioners was called for January 12th for the purpose of going into a discussion of the county boundary line election suit now being instituted against Cleveland county. There was no statement made as to what would be the nature of this meeting, although there is quite a bit of speculation as to what will transpire at that time as the result of the action the commissioners will take. Because of the general interest of the suit over Gaston county this meeting will be keenly watched.

Two Jew Governors

The New Year finds two of the States of the Union ruled by Governors of the Jewish faith, for the first time in the history of the country. In Idaho Governor Moses Alexander begins his second term, and yesterday Simon Bamberger was inducted into the office of Chief Executive of Utah. Mr. Bamberger will have the additional distinction of being the first Democrat to fill the gubernatorial chair in Utah.

Notice

A meeting of the stock-holders of the First National Bank of Shelby, will be held in their banking rooms on the second Tuesday in January, for the purpose of electing directors for the ensuing year and for any other business that may come before them.
adv. GEORGE BLANTON, Cashier

The historic chateau in France, which was the birthplace of Marquis de LaFayette, has been purchased by Americans to be restored and perpetuated as a memorial, museum and home.

SOCIETY NEWS

Motored to Gastonia for Dance.

The following party of young people from Shelby and visitor, chaperoned by Mrs. O. Max Gardner, motored to Gastonia last Monday for the Gastonia Cotillion Club dance: Misses Margaret Dover, Mary Russell of Charlotte, Ruth Smith of Hendersonville and Messrs. Gordon B. Crowell, Thomas Brice Mitchell and Fred Morton.

Reception for Rev. Mr. Abernethy and Family.

The following which we take pleasure in clipping from the Charlotte News will be of interest to the many warm friends here of Rev. and Mrs. W. E. Abernethy:
The congregation of Dilworth Methodist church will give a reception tonight at the church from 8 to 10 o'clock in honor of Rev. W. E. Abernethy, new pastor of the church, and his family. Mr. Abernethy came to Charlotte from Shelby.

A Charming Club Hospitality

With Mrs. J. Lindsey Ross as the charming hostess, the members of the Tongues and Needles Club and a number of invited guests were delightfully entertained at her lovely home on Wednesday afternoon from 3 to 5 o'clock.
The rooms in which were artistically decorated in ferns and pretty flowering plants. Five small tables were placed about the rooms and progressive rook was greatly enjoyed. At the conclusion of the game, Mrs. Ward Arey was found to hold the highest score, and was presented with a box of handsome correspondence cards.
Following this a delicious salad and a sweet course was temptingly served in which the hostess was assisted by Miss Stella Murchison and Mrs. O. Max Gardner.

JURY LIST

Next Term of Cleveland Superior Court Convened Jan. 5th With Judge Carter Presiding.

The next term of Cleveland Superior court convenes here Jan. 5th, with Judge Carter presiding. The county commissioners have drawn the following jury list:
First week: Geo. L. Humphries; No. 2 June A. Lovelace, P. Z. Harrill, Sam Smith; No. 3 N. B. Gladden, T. P. Camp, Ralph McSwain; No. 4 T. C. Black, J. C. Bumgardner, J. F. Allison, J. W. Mode, E. W. Neal, E. M. Lohr; No. 5 A. L. Eaker, Marcus Bean; No. 6 L. T. Blanton, J. S. Cline, C. A. Phillips, T. Plato Hamrick, John T. Patterson, L. P. Connor, J. L. Putnam, W. A. Pendleton; No. 7 B. L. Hawkins, W. E. McSwain, S. W. McSwain, J. P. McSwain; No. 8 A. Jackson Elliott, L. S. Jenkins, W. C. Edwards; No. 9 J. W. Grigg, J. B. Crow, C. F. Clay, D. A. Beam; No. 10 Howard Willis, No. 11 A. F. Logan.
Second week: No. 1 Geo. W. Moore, No. 2 John F. Moore; No. 3 Roy Lavender; No. 4 W. P. Rippy, M. E. Herndon, L. B. Dixon; No. 5 Ezra Miller, T. D. Turner; No. 6 C. C. Wellmon, W. C. Lutz, C. L. Wright; No. 7 N. O. White, J. W. Horn; No. 8 Dob Lefford, Thos. Hoyle; No. 9 Clem Royster; No. 10 J. A. Morrison; No. 11 D. Z. Newton.

STRIKE AT RUTHEFORDTON

Operatives of the Cleghorn Mill Walk Out, Wanting an Increase in Pay.
Rutherfordton, Jan. 3.—The Cleghorn Cotton Mills closed at 7:39 o'clock this morning, when all of the operatives walked out with a demand for a 10 per cent raise in wages. S. B. Tanner, president, conferred with K. S. Tanner, treasurer, and J. B. Moore, superintendent, and late today offered operatives as much wages as any other mill on like work was paying.

All day the streets have been filled with small groups of interested men, discussing the situation. K. S. Tanner was interviewed this afternoon, and said he was sorry that the matter had come up. He expressed himself as being willing to pay as much as any mill operator. There seems to be no real leader among the strikers. When the engineer started at 6 to-night a part of the night hands went in. Many were standing around the entrances, quiet and seemingly good humored.
No dissatisfaction is expressed with the management, or with working conditions, only the high cost of living, and the desire for a 10 per cent raise, is urged as motive for striking. About 150 wage earners are affected. The mill is running tonight, with a much reduced force.

Overcoats worth \$13.50 at \$8.50 and \$10.00 at Evans E. McBrayer's. adv.

YEAR IN THE WAR ZONE

Brief Summary of Changes and the Present Situation.

The dawn of 1917 finds the belligerent armies temporarily, at least, virtually deadlocked everywhere except in Rumania.
The war map in the main theaters of the war at the commencement of the New Year shows at numerous points material changes in the lines as they stood a year ago. On the front in France the Germans in the Somme region have been driven back by the French over fronts of considerable size, while the Germans in the Verdun sector made notable gains toward the fortress but later lost a part of the terrain through a French counter-offensive; the Italians have advanced their line on the east coast toward Trieste and the Entente allies, operating from Saloniki, have placed the Serbians on their native soil again and also have pushed forward their lines at various points in Macedonia.

A great drive begun in June by the Russian general, Brusiloff, from the Pinsk marshes to the Carpathians, was successful in clearing the Volhynian fortress triangle of the Austro-Germans and in the capture of much territory in Galicia and Bukovina.
Half of Rumania, which entered the war in August on the side of the Entente, is now in the hands of the Teutonic allies. The sweep of the Russians through the Caucasus region and Turkish Armenia has compelled the Turks to yield much territory, while in the south the British, in their advance toward Bagdad, have been forced to give up their strategic base at Kue-el-Amara and are being held to a virtual stalemate by the Ottoman forces.

Aside from Rumania there is little activity on any of the fronts except by the artillery wings of the belligerent armies. On the Moldavia-Transylvania front of the Rumanian theater, the Teutonic allies, reinforced, are still making progress in their drive, which apparently has as its object the effecting of a junction with their troops moving north into Moldavia. Additional points have been taken from the Russians and Rumanians on both sides of the Otuz valleys. Meanwhile Field Marshal von Mackensen's army continues pushing north into the country from the mountains to the Danube.

McCraw Goes to Cherryville

Mr. S. Q. McCraw, formerly of the Carolina Bank, has been elected cashier, and has assumed charge of the Farmers Bank and Trust Co., at Cherryville, succeeding Mr. S. E. McNeely who resigned on account of press of his private business. Mr. McNeely, however, will continue to be actively identified with the bank, having been elected one of the vice-presidents.

FOREST CITY TO VOTE BONDS

In the Sum of 25 or 30 Thousand Dollars for New Graded School Building.

Forest City Free Press:
A long step forward was taken by the business men of the town Tuesday night when they voted to call an election for the purpose of issuing bonds to build a new school house. The meeting was held at the Farmers Bank and every man present was heartily in accord with the movement.

Permission will be secured from the county commissioners at their next meeting and the election will be held early in February, the issue to be for \$25,000 or \$30,000, to run 30 years. The school district is to be enlarged, taking in several miles of new territory, including about six miles of railroad. It is estimated that 90 cents of the poll and 30 cents on the property will take care of the issue.

At the present time Forest City has the best school it has ever had, the building being entirely too small for the growing number of pupils. Fact of the matter is the building is a disgrace to this progressive little city; and it is freely predicted that the bonds will carry by a two to one vote. It is the desire of the citizens to have the new structure ready for occupancy next September.

Important Meeting

A meeting of all people in Buffalo Drainage District No. 1 is called to meet at the Court House Jan. 15, 1917 at 12:30 o'clock. All members of Drainage Boards, both past and present, are invited to attend. The purpose of the meeting is to devise means if possible to force a settlement from bond holders. This meeting is called by a meeting of the citizens in Buffalo Drainage District No. 1 which was held Monday.
A. E. BETTIS, Ch'm'n.
W. G. MBRAYER, Secy.

THE COUNTY BUSINESS

BIDS OPENED FOR THREE STEEL BRIDGES, BUT NO CONTRACT LET—MORE TALK OF CASAR RAILROAD.

All five commissioners were present this week and a two-day session was held to transact the heavy business coming before the board, the most notable of which was a proposition by the Vaughan Construction Company to build the Casar Railroad. The commissioners, through their attorneys, Ryburn and Hoey, drafted a proposition which has been submitted to the Vaughan Construction Company. Neither the commissioners nor the Vaughan Company has signed the contract.

J. E. Street No. 6 granted release on poll, error.

Hugh J. Dellingham, No. 6 granted release on poll, error.

Paid W. North Harmon, lumber, \$2.25.

J. M. Patterson, took oath of office as highway commissioner of Kings Mt. Precinct.

Ordered that \$175 be apportioned for the benefit of canning club work in Cleveland. Borders and Lovelace voted no and Palmer, Peeler and Fulton voted yes.

Geo. L. Cornwell, road work \$155.59

Mrs. Ida Goode, No. 2 granted release on \$250 real estate.

A. B. Blanton, No. 3 granted release on poll, cripple.

C. G. Bridges, No. 7 granted permanent release on poll on account of eye.

David Hines, allowed \$1.50 per month for support.

L. R. Putnam, No. 3 granted release on \$1,000 property.

Dr. J. Sidney Hood, holding inquest \$10. M. L. Harmon, A. H. Cornwell, Geo. Barber, Greal Ware, G. W. Kendrick and Howard Jenkins, jurors, \$1 each.

D. B. Huffstetler, No. 5 granted release on poll, error.

Cela Smith, allowed \$5 for help.

J. Sidney Hood, member health board \$4.

B. F. Lindsey, D. S. services \$9.80.

J. B. Hamrick, No. 4 granted release on \$1965 real estate.

B. F. Lindsay, bridge work \$3.50.

Bids were opened for the construction of the Harris Creek, First Broad and Dixon Mill Creek steel bridges. Three concerns submitted sealed bids as follows, Virginia Bridge Co., \$11,038.00, Austin Brothers \$10,154 and Champion Bridge Company \$10,742.00. The commissioners have not as yet let the contracts. Bids submitted were for all three bridges.

Paid J. Y. Irvin, member board of health \$4.

Releases were granted as follows: J. A. Buff No. 10, S. E. Bridges No. 4 lives in Gaston; Oster Blanton, No. 6 poll; I. E. Pruett No. 4 \$30 worth property; George White No. 11 poll; F. N. Gardner No. 7 \$810 worth of real estate; W. E. Hamrick, guardian, No. 3 poll; C. R. Hoey, guardian No. 6 poll; J. N. Gantt, No. 7 poll; Piedmont Telephone Co., No. 4 \$3,000 real estate; W. S. Walters No. 7 \$1113; J. A. Daberry No. 10 poll; Bill Blanton No. 9 poll; Kings Mt. Gin Co. release on \$200 real estate.

Paid T. W. Ebeltoft, supplies \$5.15.

J. Martin Roberts, lumber \$12.54.

C. G. Poston, D. S. services \$3.40.

John F. Eaker, bridge work \$p.25.

R. R. Yackey, jail expenses \$4.96.

Star Pub. Co., printing and adv. \$20.50.

Wray-Nix Co., boots \$7.00.

W. D. Lackey, sheriff expenses \$13.66.

M. D. Hopper, bridge work \$1.

Worrell Mfg. Co., disinfectant \$31.50.

E. W. Neal, auto service grand jury \$1.

Dan McCoy allowed \$1 per month support.

G. W. Peeler, services as Commissioner to date \$30.50.

Paid Austin Bros., bridge contract \$2,821.16.

H. T. Fulton, member board of health \$4.00.

T. W. Miller, work on court house \$2.50.

County Home Bills

M. A. McSwain and Sons, groceries \$3.05.

Lattimore Drug Co., drugs \$2.45.

Hoyle & Wilkins, dry goods \$31.18.

J. D. Linoberger's Sons, hardware \$8.70.

J. C. Hord, carpenter work \$9.

McMurry-Hull Co., dry goods \$12.13.

Favel and Oxford, blacksmith \$1.50.

W. H. Blanton, blacksmith \$2.30.

Thompson's Co., Coffin and lumber \$11.10.

J. C. Mull, salary and help \$79.

J. L. Suttle Co., dry goods, groceries, etc., \$131.99.

H E K
For all forms of Headaches and Neuralgia, 10, 5 and 50c bottle. Kendall's Drug Store. adv.