

WE WISH FOR EVERYBODY A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR . . . AND THE MANY YEARS TO COME



THE NEW DEAL



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BEAUTIFYING STATESVILLE

Plans For The Development Of Grace Park

It is difficult for eyes not trained in the transformation of bare, barren areas of land into spots of beauty to visualize the proposed Grace Park as a future picturesque place of rest, study and inspiration.

Four years of acquaintance with depression has so inoculated our thoughts with things of a depressive nature that it is refreshing to meet up with the zeal and enthusiasm which Miss Grace Anderson has in storage for this constructive project.

The proposed site for Grace Park, named in honor to Miss Anderson, is about four acres in area, lying between Sharpe, Bell, Race and Meeting streets . . . and at present it resembles nothing so much as a cow pasture.

Many good citizens who wish to see more of beautification work done in Statesville are interested in the plans which Miss Anderson has in mind . . . the advantage of this park as a central community location . . . the motif in its proposed layout . . . of what practical value it will have in a material sense to the community, as well as the value that all beautiful things create in the human soul . . . how will such a park be most appreciated by a rather indifferent citizenship . . . what lessons will it impart in building character and civic pride . . . what employment will it give to our citizens . . . and how can citizens of Statesville aid in the development and preservation of a park that should do much to advertise the attractiveness of Statesville.

Answering some of these thoughts Miss Anderson said to the representative of The New Deal:

"The proposed park is within pleasant walking distance for south and west Statesville. To benefit all citizens, the city should have one or more parks in the north and east sections.

"I have seen no park that in any way will resemble the park I have in mind. The parks of my experience, in Washington, Philadelphia, Niagra and Charleston, have been parks of considerable acreage, in sweeping drives, and extensive garden architecture.

"Building Grace Park has but one idea—and it is idealistic—to make a spot of beauty where those who care may find it when they wish. The limited area and its typography makes the park unsuited as a playground for children. It is impossible to confine fields for games and

MRS. SARAH HAYES GAITHER PASSES

Mrs. Sarah Hayes Gaither, 69, widow of Henry Clay Gaither, of Statesville, died at a local hospital December 23, her death resulting from pneumonia and complications.

The funeral was held at the First Presbyterian church here Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock and burial was in Oakwood cemetery.

Mrs. Gaither, a native of north Iredell, had lived in Statesville since her marriage. Her husband died in 1920 and her only son, Dr. Alfred Long Gaither, United States navy, died in 1932.

architectural layout for the strollers pleasure in so small a compass. Most certainly it is a spot for children interested in all out of door retreat for quiet enjoyment, as well as for grown-ups.

"The practical value of Grace Park will lie in the chance of stimulating community pride. The beautiful park that will grow out of this spot may make citizens recognize the worth of surroundings and demand in the whole town the rightful heritage of beauty. Possibly a deeper sense of pride may grow in individual upkeep of homes and surrounding outlooks. This improvement of personal property can be gradual as the work in the park. Unfortunately, there are no financial resources to draw upon to make Grace Park an instant spot of beauty, each year improvement will be made until a future will finally arrive when it will be as the architect first visioned it. The destruction of shade trees, a town's chief glory, is steadily proceeding, and the continual erection of billboards is completing a scene bordering on ugliness on every side.

"It will take several months to shape up the grounds. The present plan, subject to change, is a terraced out of door's living-room under the group of trees near Bell street. Small experimental flower gardens would be attractive in the four corners, but not practical without a keeper. Shrubs will probably be set here, selected for flower and leaf attractiveness. A lily pool will be beyond the terrace, near the center of the park. A small stream with flowered banks will course down the lower grounds. Tall hedges will probably be set along the street walks with wide central entrances. There will be no drive, but many winding walks through the grounds. Plants to attract birds will be set and bird houses put up. Every inducement will be made to attract feathered guests. Many trees will be planted after the ground work is completed.

"Citizens can aid by visualizing the enormous task in beautifying even so small a spot and having

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SPLENDID SEASON OF BUYING

Statesville Merchants Delighted

Another Christmas passes and becomes history.

From the merchants' standpoint, it has proven a very splendid season of buying. Saturday brought thousands of people into town and the crowds poured into the stores when the doors opened and they shopped the entire day. It was a buying public who came to buy and had the money to buy. The slogan "Try Statesville merchants first" was changed to "Bought in Statesville." The merchants are well pleased and final check-ups show a decided increase over last Christmas sales.

There was an optimism and cheerfulness noted in the shopping crowds that was good to see and which has been absent for several years. They spent their dollars readily and easily with the assured manner that comes from fear dispelled, and that more dollars were in sight for use.

The merchants are taking stock and empty shelves will soon be replaced with new goods. The express, motor and freight companies are busy bringing fresh merchandise into town. There are practically no old stocks left even for clearance sales. The merchants will start the New Year and lead the buying public by "Buying Now."

What does this mean for 1934? It means a buying people become a producing people. Mills will run, wheels will turn, raw materials will be in demand and the process of manufacture will put many to work regularly. No fear for the New Year—that is gone:

We conquered what we feared the most

Excuse us while we cheer,
Now here we stand, stronger souls—
And all we've lost is fear.

Watchmen at Sterling Flour Mill Held Up

FOUR MEN ROB GREEN MULKEY AND RANSACK OFFICE

Green Mulkey, colored watchman at the Sterling Flour mill plant, was held up and robbed of \$1.25, all the money in his pockets, Sunday afternoon, by four young men in the uniform of soldiers.

The four men not only robbed the watchman, but ransacked the office safe and went through the plant. They found nothing in the building.

No trace of the robbers has been found by the local police.

Rev. J. M. Gettys Will Preach Sunday

FORMER TEACHER AT HIGH SCHOOL TO PREACH AT PRESSLY MEMORIAL CHURCH

Rev. Joseph M. Gettys, who was formerly a teacher in the Statesville high school, will preach next Sunday morning at the Pressly Memorial Associate Reformed Presbyterian church. His subject will be: "A Church Goal for 1934."

Mr. Gettys, a student in the Bible Seminary of New York city, is visiting his parent at York, S. C.

MR. A. C. MESSICK DIES

Mr. A. C. Messick, 59, who had been in ill health for the past 18 months, died Sunday morning, December 24, at his home on Seventh street.

The funeral service was held Tuesday morning from the residence, and interment was in Asbury Methodist cemetery, in Yadkin county. Rev. J. C. Farmer and Rev. W. A. Parsons, of Statesville, were in charge of the services, assisted by Rev. William Brown, of Yadkin county.

The deceased is survived by his widow, one daughter, Miss Nettie E. Messick, at home; a brother, Mr. J. G. Messick, of Wilkes county; and four sisters, Mrs. G. C. Hudson, of Archdale, N. C., Mrs. C. A. Osborne, of Jonesville, Mrs. U. S. Grose, of Yadkin county, and Mrs. R. J. Davis, of High Point.

MRS. SALLIE McRORIE PASSES

Last rites were held Christmas Day at 10 o'clock from the First Presbyterian church for Mrs. Sallie Anderson McRorie. Burial took place in Oakwood cemetery.

Mrs. McRorie was 72 years old and the widow of J. S. McRorie, a well known traveling salesman of Statesville. She died Sunday night after a short illness with uremic poisoning.

Mrs. McRorie is survived by five children, J. D. McRorie and R. A. McRorie, of Silverspring, Md., Thomas H. McRorie of Summerville, N. J., Mrs. R. S. Trott of Guilford College and Mrs. Andrew N. Cowles of Statesville. Three Brothers also survive, Dr. Thomas E. Anderson and George R. Anderson of Statesville and L. E. Anderson of Charlotte.

Mrs. E. P. Holland, of Dunlap, is spending the holidays here with her daughter, Mrs. J. A. C. King.

Miss Grace Carpenter, of Salem College, is spending the holidays in Statesville.