

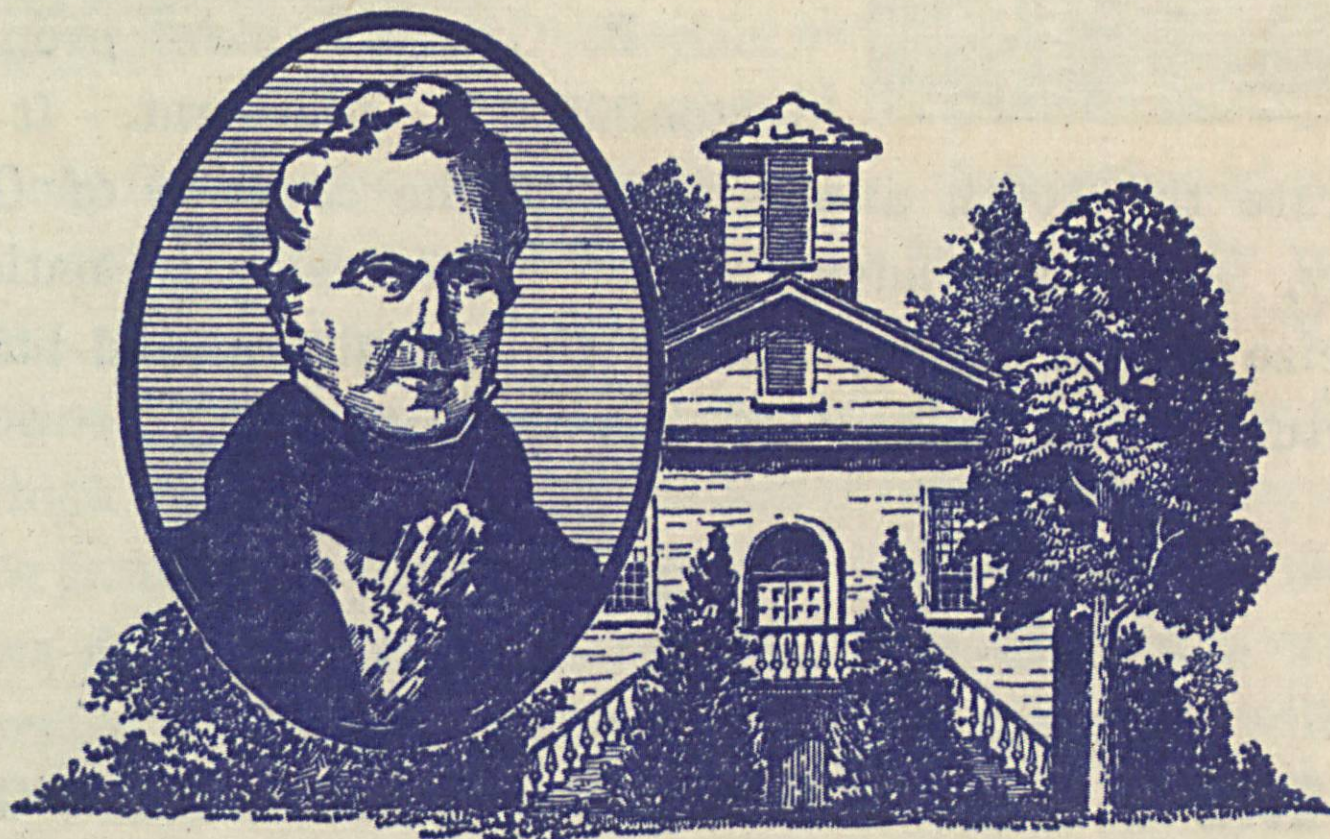
100th ANNIVERSARY

of the Establishment of

GASTON COUNTY

North Carolina

1846



1946

TENTATIVE PROGRAM OF EVENTS

OCTOBER 7-12, 1946

1. Nationally known coast-to-coast network show emanating from Gastonia.
2. Big-league baseball game in Gastonia high school stadium, featuring American and National League teams.
3. Mammoth Centennial street parade, featuring agricultural, industrial, business, civic and fraternal floats, Army, State Guard and Civilian Air Patrol Personnel, boy and girl scouts and other marching units as well as novelty features.
4. Panoramic historical pageant, "A Century of Growth," to be presented in Gastonia high school stadium.
5. "Governor's Day," honoring Gaston's Gregg Cherry, the county's first governor in its 100-year history, with a series of special activities.
6. Grand Centennial Ball, climaxing the week's activities, featuring nationally-known name orchestra.
7. Various other special events, as yet unplanned in detail.





GASTON COUNTY CEN

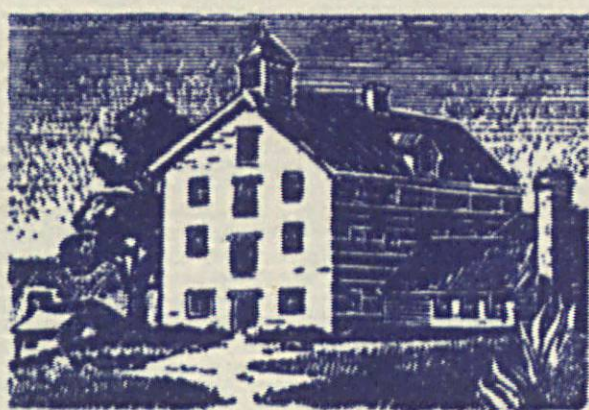
———J. H. SEPAK, GE



WHAT The Gaston County Centennial Celebration is sponsored by the Gaston County Historical Association, a permanent organization, of which R. Grady Rankin, prominent Gastonian, is president. It will celebrate the 100th anniversary of the creation of Gaston county, taking full advantage of the occasion to nationally publicize Gaston's many industrial, agricultural and business opportunities and advantages for the future.



WHERE In Gastonia, N. C., county seat of historic Gaston County, one of the nation's leading industrial communities, with full participation by the towns of Belmont, Lowell, McAdenville, Cramerton, Mount Holly, Stanley, Cherryville, Dallas, Bessemer City and other communities.



WHEN October 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12, 1946. An entire week of the highest class entertainment.



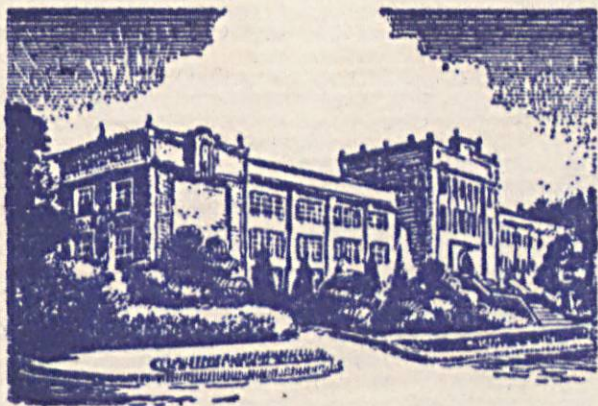
MARKING AND COMMEMORATI

——— OCTOBER

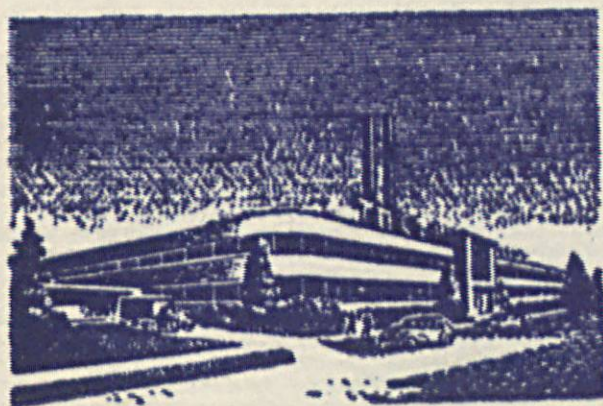
CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION



GENERAL CHAIRMAN—



WHY It is fitting that, during the administration of Gaston's Gregg Cherry as Governor of North Carolina, and upon the occasion of Gaston County's Centennial Year, a celebration should be held on a large scale, not only for the purpose of reviewing in dramatic and effective form our century growth, but also to nationally publicize Gaston County as a leading community of the Piedmont Carolinas, the "cream" of the new industrial Southern frontier to which the attention of the nation is being called increasingly as the Southward industrial trend of progress and development grows daily stronger. Many thousands of dollars worth of favorable publicity, obtainable in no other way, will result for the benefit of all Gaston county.



HOW A Centennial Organization will be completed under direction of J. H. Separk, General Chairman. This organization, in its entirety, not set up as yet, will include committees representative of all communities in the county, and of all civic and service clubs, business and industrial institutions and other bodies.



ING "A CENTURY OF GROWTH"

7-12, 1946

THE GOVERNOR

R. Gregg Cherry

GOVERNOR R. Gregg Cherry of North Carolina, Gaston County's first governor in its 100 years of existence, will be present for the Centennial Celebration, together with numerous other dignitaries.



HISTORICAL HIGHLIGHTS of GASTON COUNTY

GASTON county is 100 years old this year—1946. The first act of the North Carolina General Assembly creating Gaston was ratified December 21 of that year.

It was named for Hon. William Gaston, noted lawyer and for many years an associate justice of the State Supreme Court.

For a considerable period of time, ending in the 1890's, Gaston county was known far and wide as "The Banner Corn Liquor Manufacturing County" in North Carolina. That was at a time when the Old North State led the entire nation in the production of this liquid item.

While the first cotton textile plant in the county was built in 1848 at Mountain Island on the Catawba river by Thomas R. Tate, it was not until the late '80's and early '90's that this industry really began to develop. Today there are more than 130 textile plants in Gaston.



Gaston county is nationally known as "The Fine Combed Cotton Yarn Center of America." This is based on the fact that it produces 80 percent or more of the fine combed cotton yarns produced in the United States. Gastonia has long been known as "The South's City of Spindles."

Gaston county has more incorporated towns than any other county in the State—eight in number. Cramerton with over 3,500 population is one of the largest unincorporated towns in the State.