

The Big Stone Gap Post.

THURSDAY, JUNE 2, 1904.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY GILBERT N. KNIGHT, Editor and Proprietor. Phone 25.

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Local advertisements will be charged for at the rate of 5 cents per line for each insertion.

The United States has more battle ships building than any other nation.

It is estimated that 15,000,000 votes will be cast at the coming Presidential election.

The balance of trade in favor of the United States for the nine months of the fiscal year is something over \$422,000,000.

It costs \$20 to get into all the shows on the Pike at St. Louis. No man has as yet been willing to tell how much it costs to get out.

Doubtless are to boycott the St. Louis fair. The fair officials have decided, however, to go ahead and try to make the show a success anyway.

Russia declares she will remain free to impose such terms of peace as she pleases. This is the same nation that robbed Japan after she had beaten China.

Crane Snake, a full-blooded Creek leader, advises his followers to disband. He has been trying to shove the white man's government off the map, and has found the contract too big.

A preacher says that St. Louis is more wicked now than Rome or Babylon ever was. But a good many people will insist on going on and seeing for themselves.

Tax Postoffice Appropriation bill carries \$170,000,000 and provides for the consolidation of the four supply divisions of the Postoffice Department into one, to be in charge of a purchasing agent.

Although Panama has not seen fit to adopt the financial standard of the United States, the fact remains that she has not manifested the slightest disinclination to pocket the \$10,000,000 in the coinage of Uncle Sam.

The Government has a weed patch at the St. Louis fair where every species of weed that troubles the farmer of any section of this country is to be shown. It would be a joke on the department if it could not get the weeds to grow.

The United States Census Bureau has begun the work of gathering statistics of special classes of population including penitentiaries, almshouses, insane asylums, etc. Director North has appointed about 7,000 special agents for this purpose.

The educational meeting held at this place last week was one of the largest and most enthusiastic meetings of the kind ever held in Southwest Virginia, and will, no doubt, result in much and lasting good to this entire section. Some of the most prominent educators in the State were here and took part in the discussions.

Our oldest battleship, the Texas, has a length of 301 feet and a displacement of 6,315 tons. The new Maine has a length of 388 feet and a displacement of 12,500 tons. The Georgia is to have a length of 435 feet and a displacement of 15,000 tons. The California, just launched at San Francisco, has a length of 503 feet and a displacement of 14,000 tons.

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A perfect home is where the combined union of heart, thought and strength is exerted for the welfare of all its inmates. In such a home there exists a happy intelligence of the sacred duties incumbent upon its members. The home life is one of joy and peace; a powerful incentive to daily toil, and an inspiration to all that is great and noble.

Our visitors at the educational meeting said many nice things about us and our school, and we appreciate it and make our politest bow at them. We think that we have a good town, a wide awake citizenship, and a fine school, and the good words said about us, we trust, will make us more public spirited and generous still, and will encourage our council, and our teachers to attempt greater things. In the town, we need more manufacturing establishments and more good citizens. At the school we need more apparatus, pictures, maps, globes, manual training tools, more trees and grass in the yard, and more of every thing that will help to educate our children.

NINTH DISTRICT.

Teachers' Meeting Held At This Place Last Week Was A Grand Success.

WEDNESDAY EVENING—8:30.

The 9th Congressional District Teachers' Association convened at Big Stone Gap, May 26-28. The opening meeting was held at the school building on evening of May 26 with Pres. Fitzpatrick, of Gate City, in the chair. A most interesting address of welcome was given by Mayor Horton. In the course of his remarks, he expressed himself as a strong advocate of compulsory school law. The response to this address was well given by Supt. Davidson, of Lee County. Supt. Hulvey, of Rockingham, made most instructive remarks on the class of literature we should use in our public schools.

THURSDAY MORNING—10:00.

Promptly at 10 o'clock, Chairman Fitzpatrick called the house to order. The program opened with an enjoyable instrumental solo by Miss News Vineyard. Supt. Copenhaver, of Smyth County, was elected Secretary. The chairman of the convention asked that the secretary make a full enrollment of all the teachers present. Eighty names were enrolled. Another musical selection was highly enjoyed by the convention discussed the "Educational Conditions of Southwest Virginia." Supt. Copenhaver, in the beginning of his remarks stated that the facts existing in Southwest Virginia, meant the conditions existing in the Ninth Congressional District. In these 14 counties, this speaker stated, there were 87,225 schoolable pupils, only 60,185 entered school at all. He stated there were two factors at work, 1st material factor, 2nd moral factor. In the Ninth Congressional District, in available funds, there are \$270,462, thus giving \$2.21 per pupil. Mr. Copenhaver mentioned the fact that very different results would be observed if there were better co-operation between parent and teacher. The speaker mentioned a man coming up from the humbler walks of life is willing to sacrifice everything for money. Such a man impedes the wheel of educational progress by exerting an influence over those in the lower walks of life.

Prof. Henderson, of the Virginia Institute was the next speaker on the program. The speaker paid a beautiful tribute to Virginia, but stated that he rejoiced in the boys and girls of the state. The work of the true teacher is to relieve the country of worthless, indifferent characters. In our education we should have the fullest development of the material, of the intellectual and lastly, the dedication of the material and intellectual to the highest good of the race. Education fits a man for complete living. This training should be in harmony with nature and one's environment. Education denotes upon the state, parent and child. He exhorted that every boy have an exalted purpose in life. Character after all is the most desirable thing in life. We as teachers have an exalted work. We take a raw material and mold it into character. I feel the advent of such a man as Prof. Sheppe in a community as a greater blessing than that of the coming of the greatest capitalists. Hon. R. T. Irvine of Big Stone Gap, was the next speaker. Mr. Irvine said there were no need for conflicts between public and private schools. The public school is not after numbers. Quality is desired rather than quantity. The private school wants numbers as well as quality. The public school is the feeder for the private.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON—2:30.

The convention was called to order at 2:30. The first speaker on the program was Miss Lela Moore. She discussed the proper literature that should be used in our schools. She spoke of how necessary it was for a teacher to have a love for good literature in order to arouse in the child a love for the same. She urged the importance of having children read at an early age. One of the duties of the teacher is to provide a library for pupils. She spoke of one of the noticeable things in the Big Stone Gap Schools in the marked improvement in the library. Supt. Hulvey, asked for an opportunity to express one word against the tendency to careless thoughtless reading prevalent in some sections. He said we read enough but not to the bottom. He emphasized the importance of correlating the different subjects. Machine methods in education was next discussed by Mr. J. E. Carter, of Gate City. He defined his subject as falling in a groove, always working to one line. A teacher who uses machine method follows the book closely. Such methods weaken individuality. It is too artificial to be natural, and warps a child out of its natural condition.

Prof. Surface, of Emory and Henry College, discussed in an able way "The Ethical Side of Education." He defined an ethical problem as one that concerns for the highest moral development of the individual. He spoke of ethical training in public schools as the greatest question confronting the nation. For one's moral training, he named three requisites, first, a willing heart; second, an instructed mind; third, a loyal hand. Developing a child in these three lines and you have developed him as near the ideal as possible. A healthful home training is necessary in order to develop the ethical side of one's nature. The school has a great influence in changing the home, as the pupil carries into the home the principles instilled in the school room.

Supt. Hulvey was introduced to discuss the consolidation of schools. He stated that the reason for this change was an account of the number of subjects to be taught daily, rather than on account of number of pupils. In consolidating schools, no good teacher will lose her position, but her salary will be increased. To what extent consolidation is practicable depends on the geographical conditions of the section. In his county, four wagons had been running in carrying the children to the school. THURSDAY EVENING—8:30. At 8:30 Thursday evening, the convention was called to order. The first speaker introduced was Tuttle, of the University of Virginia. He spoke about Public School work and higher education. He spoke of the right to collegiate courses in all states as an acknowledged fact, but what is expedient to be done as an open question. The movement in Virginia to establish county high schools is most commendable. The high school should follow the work of the public school and the college course is but an extension of the high school work. Education should give us a harmonious working among the different schools. When Dr. Frazier was introduced, he showed how Virginia had made such wonderful developments in certain lines. He said further, if this progress is to continue, then every child in the commonwealth must be educated. He spoke of the education of the negro and urged that they should be given better opportunities. It is certain that the negro is here to stay, then what better thing can be done than to educate him for his life's work. The negro has had no opportunity of showing what he is capable of. He has been instructed by illiterate teachers without character. The mission of education is to stick the country with intelligent men and women. Our schools are in need of better libraries, laboratories, and courses in manual training, but all this is fruitless without the trained teacher in the classroom. The program for the evening closed with an enjoyable solo by Mrs. J. A. Mathews.

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Spring. He urged that a teacher should not see her profession as a stepping stone to something else. The teacher should be thoroughly unconnected, a person with high ideals, common sense, deep convictions, non-sectarian, and non-partisan. Supt. Stearns, of Roanoke, gave an explanation of the work done by the State Teachers' Association and exhorted all teachers to concerted efforts in this line. A vocal solo was delightfully rendered by Miss Vineyard. The last speaker of the evening was introduced in a pleasing manner by Congressman Slomp, of Big Stone Gap. There was no dissent in the audience who was highly entertained by Col. Miles, of Radford. His language was chaste, his delivery excellent, and his thoughts most instructive. He traced the educational progress of Virginia from colonial times. The program closed with an enjoyable instrumental solo by Mrs. J. A. Mathews.

RESOLUTIONS.

The following resolutions were offered by Supt. Russell, Chairman of Committee on Resolutions. "The Teachers' Association of the Ninth Congressional District declares our mature and earnest conviction that the supreme interests of the commonwealth center in its schools. We believe that 'civilization, wealth and the continuance of representative institutions' cannot be secured by education. We therefore believe that education is the position in our whole official system so vitally related to the welfare of the people and the greatness of the State as that of Superintendent of Public Instruction; and we also believe that there is some involving greater responsibility in requiring qualifications of higher order. We believe that the present salary of this office is wholly incommensurate with its requirements, and that the attachment of such a salary is a practical deprivation of its high duties and also prejudicial to the interests of the schools. We are in the opinion persuaded that the efficiency of the schools requires the appointment of Division Superintendents upon the basis of devoting their whole time to the duties of their profession and that they should be adequately compensated. We wish especially to express our gratitude to Mr. R. H. Sheppe, Hon. R. T. Irvine, Chairman of the General Assembly, and Mr. Otis Mouser, of Stonega, for their kindness in making our stay pleasant. We wish to thank the authorities of the Big Stone Gap and Powell Valley, Radford, the Louisville and Nashville, and North Carolina, for their cordial cooperation. We thank the Big Stone Gap School Board for the use of the school building, and are highly grateful to the ladies who furnished the delightful music for our sessions. We wish to express our appreciation of the good reports of reports of members of the Association who were present at the meeting. This contribution was an impetus to all who attended. The addresses delivered during this time would do credit to a national meeting of teachers. The success of the meeting was largely due to Pres. Fitzpatrick, Superintendent of Lee County, Supt. Hulvey, of Smyth County, and Prin. Sheppe, as local managers. The hospitable homes of the residents were thrown open to the visiting guests, and the excursion to Stonega was thoroughly enjoyed. It is hoped that the day is not distant when we will have another educational meeting of this kind in our town. THE EXHIBITION. A feature of the meeting, which attracted much attention, was the exhibition room, where there was displayed a great quantity of the school work of the county and town. This was a new departure and every one who saw it was astonished that Wise county had made such great progress in school work. Those competent to judge decided that the exhibition was one of the best ever seen in this section of the State. The display consisted of manual training work, basketry, paper cutting, maps, language exercises, and number work. As visitors said by all means it should be sent to St. Louis and installed there. A gentleman who had charge of the Chicago City's exhibit at the world's fair in 1893, said that this work is well worthy a position in the St. Louis exhibit, and that it is work any state might feel proud of. There is now a movement on foot to raise the money necessary to properly install the work at St. Louis. Sentimental and patriotic as the citizens are, and ruffianism, as the community is, a display of this kind at the world's fair in 1893, said that this work is well worthy a position in the St. Louis exhibit, and that it is work any state might feel proud of. There is now a movement on foot to raise the money necessary to properly install the work at St. Louis. Sentimental and patriotic as the citizens are, and ruffianism, as the community is, a display of this kind at the world's fair in 1893, said that this work is well worthy a position in the St. Louis exhibit, and that it is work any state might feel proud of. Among the members present were: Washington County—Supt. W. J. Edmondson, Prin. R. H. Snodgrass, Prof. T. Surface. Wise County—Prin. R. H. Sheppe, Mrs. R. H. Sheppe, Miss Susan Thrift, Miss Virginia Reed, Miss Mary Powers, Miss Lela Moore, Miss Alice Bruce, Miss Christina Jones, Miss Lora Kennedy, Mr. R. E. Kennedy, Mr. C. V. Chapman, Mr. C. M. Kennedy, Mr. R. M. Kennedy, Supt. E. L. Counts, Hon. R. T. Irvine, Hon. J. E. Hulitt, Mr. W. A. Head, Mr. C. B. Slomp, Russell County—Prin. Albin Hatton, Lee County—Supt. W. M. Davidson, Mr. C. D. Stewart, Capt. Balco, Miss Coy Bales, Mr. T. J. Sweeney, Miss Pearl Swainson, Miss Scepta Duff, Miss Maud Duff, Mr. H. C. Williams, Miss Lela Smith, Miss Alice Ely, Mr. E. E. Skaggs, Mr. Peter Moore, Mr. A. L. Smith, Mrs. Maud Duff, Mrs. R. C. Slomp, Miss Minnie Slomp, Mr. Geo. W. Hinton. Buchanan County—Mr. J. M. C. Sutherland. Scott County—Prof. F. B. Fitzpatrick.

OUR VISITORS AND THEIR HOSTS. We consider ourselves fortunate in having with us this last week so many eminent men from a distance. Dr. Robert Frazier, formerly president of the Mississippi Agricultural College, then of the Farmville, Va., Normal School, now Field Agent for the Southern Educational Board, was the guest of Gen'l R. A. Ayers, as was also Col. Geo. W. Miles, formerly Headmaster of St. Albans School at Radford. Judge H. A. W. Skeen, entertained Superintendent W. M. Davidson, of Lee county, the Judge's old teacher, and also Superintendent R. C. Stearns, of Roanoke county, and President of the State Teachers' Association. Prof. A. H. Tuttle, head of the department of biological studies at the University of Virginia, was entertained at the home of Mr. J. F. Bullitt. Mr. R. A. Sheppe entertained the President of the Association for the Ninth Congressional District, Prof. Franklin B. Fitzpatrick, who is likewise President of Shoemaker College at Gate City; Superintendent E. H. Russell, of the city of Bristol, Chairman of the Executive Com of the Association, who was largely responsible for the arrangement of the good program rendered during the meetings, and Superintendent Geo. H. Hulvey, of Roanoke county, an old teacher and a superintendent of eighteen years experience, and one of the pioneers in normal work and organization of teachers' meetings. Mr. Hulvey is the chief exponent of consolidation of schools and transportation of children in rural districts. At the home of Mr. Jerome Wells, Mr. Sweeney and daughter, of Lee county, were entertained. Mr. D. C. Wolfe cared for Hon. W. J. Edmondson, the wide-awake Superintendent of Washington County, and one of his excellent principals, Mr. R. H. Snodgrass, of Glade Springs. Mr. J. M. Goudlin looked after the comfort of Dr. J. T. Henderson, president of Virginia Institute, of Bristol, who made the splendid address on Thursday morning. Hon. R. L. Counts, the splendid superintendent of our own county, spent a part of the time with Mr. Emmet Kennedy. Gracious and generous Mr. Shanklin, of the hotel Eugene, had as his special guests, the secretary of the Association, Superintendent R. E. Copenhaver, of Marlinton, Prof. G. T. Surface, of Emory and Henry College, and Prin. Albin Hatton, of Roanoke. Mr. J. W. Chalkley, Mr. Irvine, Mr. J. A. Mincey, Mr. Knight, Mr. John Taylor, Mr. H. K. Palmer, Mr. W. B. Hutton, Mr. and Mrs. Burgess, Mr. W. B. Nickels, Mrs. W. A. Head, and Mrs. John M. Willis entertained visitors either at their homes or the hotel. There are, no doubt, others who had guests, but we have not been able to secure their names. Mr. Shanklin and Mr. Stewart gave reduced rates for the occasion to members of the Association. JOHN FOX, JR. The Knoxville Sentinel, in speaking of John Fox, Jr., the author of this place, who is now in Japan as special war correspondent for Scribner's Magazine, says: Mr. Fox was a special correspondent for Harper's Magazine in Cuba during the Spanish-American war and made a record for himself not only as one of the south's most original authors but as a picturesque war correspondent. While in Cuba Mr. Fox contracted yellow fever and came near losing his life. Tennessee and Kentucky lay claim also with Virginia for John Fox, Jr., as most of Fox's stories have been of Kentucky mountain life and many of his characters are Tennessee mountaineers. Mr. Fox's latest book, "The Little Shepherd of Kingdom Come," has run through its 150,000 number. Mr. Fox, according to Mr. Walton, has written another book of short stories, entitled "Christmas Eve on Little Lonesome," which will be published by the Scribners in September. It is thought this volume will come up with Mr. Fox's earlier stories, considered by many his best work. Mr. Fox's home is in Big Stone Gap, Va., not far from the Tennessee line. His home is a pretty, but plain cottage, and behind it is his "shack," where most of his literary work is done. Big Stone Gap is considered one of the prettiest spots in the Virginia mountains. When at home Mr. Fox spends a great portion of his time in the mountains studying character, and one of his recreations is playing baseball. He is said to excel at this game. FOR SALE. We have for sale hay, chop and corn at reasonable prices. Call and see us. We are also dealers in coal. J. B. PATTERSON & Co.

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Spring. He urged that a teacher should not see her profession as a stepping stone to something else. The teacher should be thoroughly unconnected, a person with high ideals, common sense, deep convictions, non-sectarian, and non-partisan. Supt. Stearns, of Roanoke, gave an explanation of the work done by the State Teachers' Association and exhorted all teachers to concerted efforts in this line. A vocal solo was delightfully rendered by Miss Vineyard. The last speaker of the evening was introduced in a pleasing manner by Congressman Slomp, of Big Stone Gap. There was no dissent in the audience who was highly entertained by Col. Miles, of Radford. His language was chaste, his delivery excellent, and his thoughts most instructive. He traced the educational progress of Virginia from colonial times. The program closed with an enjoyable instrumental solo by Mrs. J. A. Mathews.

RESOLUTIONS.

The following resolutions were offered by Supt. Russell, Chairman of Committee on Resolutions. "The Teachers' Association of the Ninth Congressional District declares our mature and earnest conviction that the supreme interests of the commonwealth center in its schools. We believe that 'civilization, wealth and the continuance of representative institutions' cannot be secured by education. We therefore believe that education is the position in our whole official system so vitally related to the welfare of the people and the greatness of the State as that of Superintendent of Public Instruction; and we also believe that there is some involving greater responsibility in requiring qualifications of higher order. We believe that the present salary of this office is wholly incommensurate with its requirements, and that the attachment of such a salary is a practical deprivation of its high duties and also prejudicial to the interests of the schools. We are in the opinion persuaded that the efficiency of the schools requires the appointment of Division Superintendents upon the basis of devoting their whole time to the duties of their profession and that they should be adequately compensated. We wish especially to express our gratitude to Mr. R. H. Sheppe, Hon. R. T. Irvine, Chairman of the General Assembly, and Mr. Otis Mouser, of Stonega, for their kindness in making our stay pleasant. We wish to thank the authorities of the Big Stone Gap and Powell Valley, Radford, the Louisville and Nashville, and North Carolina, for their cordial cooperation. We thank the Big Stone Gap School Board for the use of the school building, and are highly grateful to the ladies who furnished the delightful music for our sessions. We wish to express our appreciation of the good reports of reports of members of the Association who were present at the meeting. This contribution was an impetus to all who attended. The addresses delivered during this time would do credit to a national meeting of teachers. The success of the meeting was largely due to Pres. Fitzpatrick, Superintendent of Lee County, Supt. Hulvey, of Smyth County, and Prin. Sheppe, as local managers. The hospitable homes of the residents were thrown open to the visiting guests, and the excursion to Stonega was thoroughly enjoyed. It is hoped that the day is not distant when we will have another educational meeting of this kind in our town. THE EXHIBITION. A feature of the meeting, which attracted much attention, was the exhibition room, where there was displayed a great quantity of the school work of the county and town. This was a new departure and every one who saw it was astonished that Wise county had made such great progress in school work. Those competent to judge decided that the exhibition was one of the best ever seen in this section of the State. The display consisted of manual training work, basketry, paper cutting, maps, language exercises, and number work. As visitors said by all means it should be sent to St. Louis and installed there. A gentleman who had charge of the Chicago City's exhibit at the world's fair in 1893, said that this work is well worthy a position in the St. Louis exhibit, and that it is work any state might feel proud of. There is now a movement on foot to raise the money necessary to properly install the work at St. Louis. Sentimental and patriotic as the citizens are, and ruffianism, as the community is, a display of this kind at the world's fair in 1893, said that this work is well worthy a position in the St. Louis exhibit, and that it is work any state might feel proud of. Among the members present were: Washington County—Supt. W. J. Edmondson, Prin. R. H. Snodgrass, Prof. T. Surface. Wise County—Prin. R. H. Sheppe, Mrs. R. H. Sheppe, Miss Susan Thrift, Miss Virginia Reed, Miss Mary Powers, Miss Lela Moore, Miss Alice Bruce, Miss Christina Jones, Miss Lora Kennedy, Mr. R. E. Kennedy, Mr. C. V. Chapman, Mr. C. M. Kennedy, Mr. R. M. Kennedy, Supt. E. L. Counts, Hon. R. T. Irvine, Hon. J. E. Hulitt, Mr. W. A. Head, Mr. C. B. Slomp, Russell County—Prin. Albin Hatton, Lee County—Supt. W. M. Davidson, Mr. C. D. Stewart, Capt. Balco, Miss Coy Bales, Mr. T. J. Sweeney, Miss Pearl Swainson, Miss Scepta Duff, Miss Maud Duff, Mr. H. C. Williams, Miss Lela Smith, Miss Alice Ely, Mr. E. E. Skaggs, Mr. Peter Moore, Mr. A. L. Smith, Mrs. Maud Duff, Mrs. R. C. Slomp, Miss Minnie Slomp, Mr. Geo. W. Hinton. Buchanan County—Mr. J. M. C. Sutherland. Scott County—Prof. F. B. Fitzpatrick.

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FRIDAY MORNING—10:00.

The devotional exercises on this occasion were conducted by Mr. Austin, of Big Stone Gap. The convention was entertained by a duet, rendered by Messrs. Vera White and Margaret Naff. The first topic introduced for discussion was "How Best to Improve Rural Schools." This subject was impressively discussed by Supt. Edmondson, of Washington County. The speaker considered local taxation and consolidation of schools necessary before this question could be solved. In Washington County this speaker stated there is to be a county tax of 20 cents and a district tax of 12 cents, and in every way this assessment has seemed advantageous. He urged that we try to build up the country districts and give the same advantages that the towns offer in order to hold the country boy. Mr. Irvine called attention to the fact that 45,000 school buildings were in process of erection at East Stone Gap, Appalachia, and Coanona. Mr. Chapman stated that the building at Norton, which was under way, would be completed in the summer months. The topic, "More State Normal or High Schools with Normal School Courses, Which" was discussed by Supt. Long, of Dickenson County. The speaker considered local taxation necessary if the county high school is established. He spoke very encouragingly of the outlook for the future. Mr. Hatton, of Richlands, made remarks on the same topic. Dr. Frazier was asked to give some suggestions. He stated that some advocated one high school at least in every county of the State, while others favored one high school in every school district. Each school should have a good normal course. Mr. Frazier asked, is it better to have four or five high schools with normal courses or 100 schools? If we have one in each county, where will the teachers come from where will you find pupils who are ambitious enough to attend? Mr. Frazier enthusiastically advocated four or five schools at present and as our needs grow then establish a larger number. Supt. Russell, of Bristol, ably discussed "The Dangers of the Present System of Education." He stated that he thought the negro question was probably