

The Big Stone Gap Post.

VOL. XXIV,

BIG STONE GAP, WISE COUNTY, VA., WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5, 1916.

No. 1

Chicago Capitalists.

Buy Interest in Black Mountain Coal.

Although unwilling to be interviewed concerning the details, Benjamin L. Dulaney, head of the Black Mountain Coal Lands Corporation, Monday admitted that he had sold a large interest in the Black Mountain Coalfield, in Lee county, Virginia, one of the largest measures of fuel and coking coal in the south.

"It is true," Mr. Dulaney said, "that the By-Products Coke Corporation has purchased an interest in the Black Mountain Corporation, and the new purchasers, who represent important capital in Chicago and Syracuse, N. Y., are to operate the properties on a large scale, not only for their western markets, but through the port at Charleston, S. C., for their eastern markets."

Mr. Dulaney admitted that he will retire from the presidency of the corporation early in January. In this connection he is given credit for having been instrumental in making Charleston a public, instead of a private port for coal shipments, and his services to the Southwest Virginia coalfields in this respect can hardly be estimated. Until this was done it was not possible for Southern coal operations to compete with Eastern coal operators in reaching markets by water.

Mr. Dulaney made the fight before the Interstate Commerce Commission that brought to light the difficulties under which Southwest Virginia coal operators were placed in respect to reaching the markets of the country and the world. With no port at Charleston for the easy and convenient loading of coal, the Southwest Virginia fields were tied out of all important markets reached by water. As a result of the investigation, the Southern Railway got busy in an effort to establish at Charleston a pier that would not be in the nature of a private dock, but a public one, and open to all shippers of coal who care to reach out for the eastern markets and for the markets reached by the ocean vessels of all countries.

This great pier is now ready for coal shipments, and it opens a way whereby the new owners of the Black Mountain coalfield may ship their coal by water in competition with the big coal corporations of the east, who have heretofore had the Southwest Virginia coalfields in a manner sewed up.

Mr. Dulaney, when seen, was leaving for a brief visit trip east. From the east he will go directly to his winter home in Florida, where he expects to remain with his family until spring. He was in the best of spirits. He takes an optimistic view of the business situation, and seems thoroughly convinced that an era of big developments awaits this section as one of the things of the immediate future.

He is impressed that the by-products plants now being established in this region, and others soon to be established, of themselves bespeak a new era, in what they mean that practically all natural resources are to yield double and triple their former value under primitive methods of development. In the coal and in all vegetable matter are stored elements that have heretofore been destroyed as utterly useless, but some of which have been found to be of far greater value than the products that have been utilized. This has been found true of woods from which acids have been extracted for tanning, explosives, etc. The lifeless pulp from which these juices have been extracted, has now been found of value in making paper, and may be used even more economically than the wood in its native state. On the other hand, woods taken in their native state for paper making are capable of yielding their acids for other purposes before

being used in the process of making paper.

The program of the new purchasers of the Black Mountain coalfield has not yet been made public. However, it is anticipated that it not only means that coal will be mined on an extensive scale, but that large quantities of it will be reduced to coke, while the by-products of the coke will be used in the making of dyestuffs and for all other purposes for which the same are used in accordance with new scientific developments. This company installed there some months ago a large electric power plant, and the same is being used to operate all the mines of the region by electric power, the old, antiquated steam plants being relegated to the rear, and few of them now remaining in the territory.

Mr. Dulaney said that a little later he would probably be in a position to speak with more definiteness concerning what is in store for the Black Mountain coalfield, but that for good reasons, pending the development of plans, he was not in a position to go into details.

Among those of Bristol who are interested in the Black Mountain Coal Land Corporation are: Ben L. Dulaney, Col. S. L. King, John H. Caldwell, N. D. Buchanan, Jr., and Rev. I. S. Anderson, of Rose Hill, Va.—Bristol Herald Courier, Dec. 28th.

Wax—Stone Wedding.

At one o'clock Thursday afternoon, in the parlor of State Street Methodist Church, there was solemnized a wedding that will prove of wide interest to friends and kin in Virginia, Tennessee and portions of other States. At that hour Miss Lydia Belle Stone became the bride of Mr. Samuel Wingfield Wax, of Big Stone Gap, Va. The nuptials were solemnized by the Rev. John C. Orr, D. D., president of Sullins College, and were witnessed by only the immediate resident members of the family.

The bride is the eldest daughter of Mr. Riley Stone, Sr., of No. 101 Third street, this city, and is a sister of James A. Stone and W. Riley Stone. She is a sister of Mrs. Jesse N. Boring, Jr., of Pulaski, Va., and Mrs. G. H. Miles, of Greensboro, N. C., and in recent years has made her home with these two sisters. She is a most estimable and popular young woman and enjoys the esteem of a large circle of friends and acquaintances.

The bridegroom is a well known and successful business man of Big Stone Gap and Wise county. For a number of years he has been closely identified with the Virginia Coal and Iron Company and kindred companies operating at Stonegap and other points in Wise county.

The bride and groom were generously remembered by friends in the way of wedding gifts. Among the costly gifts was a chest of Mr. Vernon silver given by the brothers of the bride.

The bride and groom left on the Memphis special for a visit to the principal eastern cities. They will be at home at Big Stone Gap after January 1st.

The bride wore a traveling gown of blue broadcloth. Quite a number of relatives and friends were at the Union Station to extend greetings and congratulations.—Bristol Herald Courier, December 24th.

THE BAND.

The Big Stone Gap Band was out Friday night for the first time, to celebrate the coming in of the new year.

The band began playing near the town hall and played several times in different parts of town. The playing seemed very appropriate as many parties were being held, and the music was just in time to be enjoyed by those participating.

As the boys have been practicing for only a short time, the music surpassed the expectations of many who heard it. Many who heard the band are sure that in a few months we will have a good band in Big Stone Gap.

JOY OF YULETIDE FILLS WHOLE TOWN

Nearly a Thousand Children, Militia and Boy Scouts Take Part in Song Service.

Streets Thronged With People at Big Stone Gap's First Community Christmas Tree.

Big Stone Gap's first Community Christmas Tree on Christmas Eve was a great success. Over three thousand people witnessed the beautiful celebration. Quiet and orderly crowds thronged the streets adjacent to the Minor Building and the weather was ideal for December.

At 5:30 o'clock, seven hundred children formed in line at the school building, preceded by the Boy Scouts and the local company of militia, headed by Capt. Bullitt, and marched down to the grounds.

The bugler gave the calls to the east, west, north and south and the musical program was begun, conducted by Mrs. Hoff and ably assisted by the Rodeo Band, Miss Virginia Beverly and Mr. Chapman, violinists, and Mrs. Everett Drennon at the piano.

A wonderful electric star moved slowly towards the tree as the opening carols were sung and as it blazed for an instant in solitary splendor directly over the tree, myriads of colored lights were turned on and the Community Tree became a veritable "Tree of Light" to the topmost branch of its fifty-eight feet, lighting up the whole square.

Too much cannot be said in praises of the 700 children who took part in the musical program. They did their part splendidly and sang with feeling the beautiful carols. Among them "Under the Stars" and "Holy Night" were especially good. "We Three Kings of Orient" was nicely sung by Rev. W. J. Alfriend, Mr. D. B. Sayers and Mr. Connor. "While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks by Night," "Hark, The Herald Angels Sing" and "O Little Town of Bethlehem" and "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear."

Following the singing of the carols and illuminating the tree the children formed in line and marched to the Summerfield Building where each child was given a bag of candy and an orange. Another distributing point for the colored people was wired off near Goodloe's lumber yard. All during the evening hot coffee and buns fresh from the oven were served in the Summerfield Building by the Entertainment Committee, refreshing numbers of people who had come in from a distance to attend the exercises.

As this was the Gap's first attempt to get in line with other and larger towns and cities in a Community celebration, those in charge deserve the highest commendation for the success of the undertaking.

To Mrs. Hoff is due in great part the success of the celebration. The beautiful singing of the children bore witness to her earnestness and hard work during the two months' time given for the training of 700 children.

Mrs. Hoff, whose home is in Richmond, has spent the past

year and a half in Appalachia and has done wonderful work among the sick and needy. A woman of many gifts and a beautiful spirit in her work, she has given of herself freely and has made her way into the hearts and homes of the people.

The Committee wishes to thank Miss Nemo Vineyard for her help in the music, Messrs. Sampson, Wedge and Barron for a cord of wood each, Messrs. Collier, Nickels, Bostic, Flannery, Burgess, Kennedy, Wolfe and Hamden for coffee, the serving of which was such a pleasing feature of the occasion, the Pawwells Valley Light and Power Company for their kind assistance and help in furnishing lights, and Messrs. Taylor, of the Amuzu Theater, for the use of their piano and lantern slides for the carols, to Mr. Walter Shunk for his untiring help and to Mr. Harry Price for kind assistance.

Many donations were received by the Associated Charities and later distributed among the needy poor, so that no one went away empty-handed. Numbers of baskets were sent out Christmas day by the Charities to destitute families.

For these donations, also, the Committee wishes to express their thanks.

The most spectacular feature of the Community Christmas Tree was the large illuminated star that traveled from the East into the Tree, which stood in darkness until the star reached it, when it blazed forth a brilliant light with its myriad, colored lights. This beautiful picture brought forcibly to our minds the star of Bethlehem "westward leading" to the Light of the World, the Christ-Child, who was promised and long-foretold to a world lost in darkness. Then who can forget the strains of the music, floating on the twilight stillness, as all our children sweetly chanted the Christmas Carols. These children were well-trained by Mrs. Hoff, who gave of her best most willingly to instill the words and music of the best and oldest Christmas Carols known. Many a child had not heard them before, and to each life has been added a treasure which will be ever useful. We feel that Mrs. Hoff, with her prayers (for no committee meeting was opened without the request for Divine guidance) and her vocal and executive abilities was the mainspring of the success of our Community Tree.

Wedding Invitation.

The following wedding invitation was sent out last week:

Dr. and Mrs. David Flemming Orr request the honor of your presence at the marriage of their daughter

Irene Lucille

to

Mr. Guy Lucius Pugh on Tuesday morning, January the eighteenth at eight o'clock Trinity Church Big Stone Gap, Virginia.

Deafness Cannot Be Cured

By local applications, as they cannot reach the diseased portion of the ear. There is only one way to cure deafness, and that is by constitutional remedies. Deafness is caused by an inflamed condition of the mucous lining of the Eustachian Tube. When this tube is inflamed you have a rumbling sound or imperfect hearing, and when it is entirely closed, deafness is the result, and unless the inflammation can be taken out and the tube restored to its normal condition, hearing will be destroyed forever. Nine cases out of ten are caused by Catarrh, which is nothing but an inflamed condition of the mucous surfaces.

We will give One Hundred Dollars for any case of Deafness (caused by catarrh) that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure. Send for circular, free.

P. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, Ohio. Sold by Druggists. Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

W. S. Luckey Dead.

MONTREAL, Dec. 20.—William S. Luckey, winner of The New York Times Aerial Derby, died this morning at the Royal Victoria Hospital of injuries received at Sturgeon Falls, Ontario, Sept. 6, when his back was broken by a fall from his machine.

His wife, mother and two sisters survive him.

William S. Luckey was best known to New Yorkers as the winner of The New York Times Aerial Derby on Oct. 13, 1913. The race was around Manhattan Island, and Luckey covered the course of about sixty miles in 52 minutes and 23 seconds. He drove a 100-horse-power Curtiss Machine, and as he had to combat a wind of more than forty miles an hour, his was considered a splendid performance. It was the more remarkable because he was laid up and crippled with rheumatism less than ten days before the race. His prize for finishing first was \$1,000.

Mr. Luckey was one of the surprises of aviation. He was nearly 50 years old, with iron-grey hair, and looked more like a prosperous business man than a flier. Until the beginning of 1912 he had been a manufacturer of trunks and suit-cases. Then he deliberately took up flying for the sake of his health. His early days as an aviator were unfortunate, as he had a number of minor accidents, usually resulting in the breaking of his machine. However, as his skill increased, he became one of the best and steadiest of the exhibition fliers.

His fatal accident took place on Labor Day, while he was flying at the Sturgeon Falls Fair, in Canada. At the Aero Club of America it was said that he had made a most successful flight, and was about to land when the tail of his machine struck a railroad embankment, throwing him from his seat to the ground. In making the landing he tried to fly over a railroad embankment and under the telegraph wires. His machine would have passed between the two safely if he had not turned it upward, throwing the tail down, so that it struck the embankment. He was unconscious when picked up, and was immediately rushed to the Victoria Hospital in Montreal, where it was found that his back was broken.

Mr. Luckey's body will arrive here tomorrow, and will be met by a number of those interested in aviation. The burial will take place in Warwick, N. Y.—New York Times.

Mr. Luckey was the aviator who made several successful flights in Big Stone Gap on July 2nd and 3rd and August 14th.

WHERE SANTA SURELY STOPPED.

Santa has been to Stonegap!

And he was no cheap Santa, either; for all the way from Canal Row to the very last white-washed shack at the very head of Fossom/Trott one could find toys, warm caps—like the kind that Santa wears his very self—nuts, popcorn and a whole pound of candy to each child.

Just think of 750 eager children waiting for the curtain to rise on the biggest treat dear old Saint Nick ever "totted" into a coal camp. But they were all there in the Stonegap Theater when Mr. C. G. Duffy gave the signal for Santa to make his entrance. The dear old man stood knee-deep in what seemed to be tons and tons of candy, nuts, oranges and apples; and to every child he gave one pound of candy, one toy, one orange, two apples, one box popcorn and a nice warm "toboggan". And it was all made possible through a liberal donation from the Company and the hearty support of every man in Stonegap. Yet the real credit is due Mr. C. G. Duffy, the Superintendent.

For weeks he has worked night and day to make this Christmas the happiest Stonegap has ever celebrated. And no one knows how well he succeeded better than those homes where five and six little ones were made happy. Not only the white children enjoyed the fruits of his work but the colored children as well. Monday was Colored Day. James Durham thanked the Company and Mr. Duffy on behalf of his people. He told of the great love his race held for their Superintendent; concluding with fitting remarks on what a

happy Christmas it has been on Red Row and the Trott.

Every one is of the same mind. Mothers love those who love their children—that is why they all love C. G. Duffy, the original Santa Claus Man of Southwest Virginia.

G. E. R.

Plant Celery.

We wish to suggest to our farmers, particularly our truckers, that they plant out a small plot of celery in their richest moistest soil. A great deal of this delicious, healthy plant is consumed in the County, and very little of it grown for market purposes. It is possible to realize a net profit of several hundred dollars per acre on this crop. During the fall and winter seasons the grocery men of Wise, buy from out of the County large quantities of celery and yet they do not supply the demand.

We have seen as fine celery grown by Capt. J. F. Bullitt, W. H. Roberts, Jesse McLemore and other residents of the County as can be grown anywhere.

Our climate being cool, much of the soil low and moist and a good market within the County makes celery growing for a profit a very attractive undertaking.

The seed should be sown in trays during the winter and early spring and the trays kept in doors as long as the weather is bad. The plants should be reset into specially prepared beds covered with glass where they are allowed to grow until such time as the weather will permit of them being planted in the garden or field. It is very essential to get seed that will germinate with vigor and make a rapid growth. For full information on celery write to U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., for Farmers Bulletin No. 282.

J. C. STILES.

DIES IN LOUISVILLE.

A. K. DeBusk, of Dryden, Succumbs Shortly After An Operation.

A message was received here to the effect that A. K. DeBusk, a prominent and well known citizen of Dryden, Va., had died in Louisville shortly after an operation in the Deaconess Hospital Friday morning. He was taken there by Dr. J. A. Gilmer, of this place, last Wednesday, and after the operation much hope was entertained for his recovery, but owing to his advanced age it made recovery difficult.

Mr. DeBusk was 68 years of age and was a man of fine moral character, and was one of Lee county's foremost and progressive citizens. His last words were expressive of peace with God and a willingness to depart and be at rest with Him. For many years he was an active member of the Baptist Church.

He is survived by a wife, two children, and sister and two brothers, namely: Mrs. Frank Linton, of Dot, Va., Mrs. E. M. Carter, of Zion Mills, Va., Mrs. J. B. F. Witt, of Big Stone Gap, Va., John W. Debusk, of Indianapolis, Ind., and Russell DeBusk, of Columbus, Ind. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. J. B. Craft, of this place, and Rev. T. B. Forrester at the Baptist Church at Dryden Saturday afternoon and the body laid to rest in the Zion grave yard, in the presence of several hundred people.

The Clinch Valley News makes this inquiry: "What has become of the boy who used to brush the flies from his horses legs with a long cow's tail brush while the blacksmith tacked on a shoe? And the boy who parched corn on the miller's old wood stove while waiting for his 'turn'?" Some of them are at the head of great corporations and some are still doing business at the old stand. Much depends on the boy you know.—Times Dispatch.