

The Big Stone Gap Post.

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COMES "BACK HOME" FROM THE WEST

Last Saturday Mr. J. A. T. Bacon arrived in Big Stone Gap from Seattle, Washington, and is now at the home of his brother-in-law, Mr. J. E. Bunn, Mr. Bacon formerly lived in Washington county, Tennessee, but before going West some years ago, was a resident of Bristol, Virginia. He says he has come back east to stay, and may make his home in Wise county.

Already quite well and favorably known in Virginia and East Tennessee, Mr. Bacon has come into rather unusual prominence in the past year through his connection with the "Back Home" movement. It was he who, in adding the founder of the movement, Mr. W. D. Roberts, to promote it in the Far West was persecuted and made to leave a position to hold in Seattle.

"Nothing," said Mr. Bacon in an interview today, "that has occurred in the South for many years caused such a stir in the Northwest as this 'Back Home' movement. It is talk of an every hand—on the streets and railway cars, in hotels, clubs and stores, and in the homes of the people. I doubt if there has been such a general movement in the South where the movement originated. The worst effect of this movement, as it is regarded out west, is that it is keeping thousands of people from going to that country. But it is, also, taking thousands out of the West. The agent of the Southern Pacific railroad in Seattle told me shortly before I left the coast that the company had sold about one thousand tickets to Oregon and Washington points by people coming East in the last three months. And in Seattle, where my property is, which I have long been trying to sell, there are not more than five thousand other people, and only about twenty, but more or less, to say.

The people of Virginia and the South should know that practically all the claims put forward by the western railroads and land sharks to induce them to go west are grossly exaggerated, and that what is really wanted of them is to pay fares to the railroads and buy worthless land. Sheep raising and the promotion of "skit games" are the principal subjects of conversation out on the coast, and "hookers" from the East are always a necessary part of such schemes. Of course now and then there are men from the East who do well, but the vast majority are simply victims. It's like the gambling at Monte Carlo; you never hear of the losers.

"My earnest advice to the people of Wise county and all of Virginia and the South is, stay in your own country, and help push the 'Back Home' movement in behalf of your own country."

It is quite an interesting coincidence that Mr. Bacon comes to Wise County just at the time we are sending out the Wise County number of the "Back Home" Magazine, which is edited by the founder of the movement.

A small cottage worth about \$300, the property of Charlie Johnson, and located near the residence of C. R. Hawley, at Wise, was destroyed by fire Saturday night.

School Notes.

(Edited by the Senior Class.)

Remember, every Friday night at the Amos is school athletic night. Special programs rendered.

We wish to thank the editor of the Post and one of his worthy assistants, Harry Wallace, of the high school department, for donating to the school 150 copies of the honor system regulations.

Recently we enjoyed very much having two of our school board, Messrs. Reeder and Wolfe, spend a full hour visiting our school. They expressed themselves as being very much pleased with what they saw.

Gymnasium

Mr. Young reports most encouraging progress in regard to the movement to equip the school gymnasium room in fact, his plans are now a certainty, and we may hope to see within a few days of the time set for the accomplishment of this worthy enterprise, one of the best equipped high school gymnasiums in the southwest. We will all agree that this room in our school, so noble for this particular purpose, has been laying idle long enough, and it should be put to good use. All of us, who are interested in school progress and in the proper development of young men, find and wonder in its lack of use and broadness, physically, mentally and morally, not in name, but in reality, as we know they are fully emphasized and brought in our school, both by precept and example, will be glad to learn that definite physical culture and training is becoming a part of our school work and life.

We wish to thank our many friends for their assistance and their school spirit. We are grateful to the teachers for their willing and generous help in behalf of our school's best welfare. Messrs. Reeder and Wolfe, who have had special training in normal schools, have volunteered their services from three to three and a half hours, giving suitable physical training exercises to the various classes that will be arranged. Messrs. Reeder and Wolfe, who have had special training in normal schools, have volunteered their services from three to three and a half hours, giving suitable physical training exercises to the various classes that will be arranged. We propose, in a later issue, to tell you more definitely of our plans, and what equipment has been put in our gymnasium room, from what source it came or the funds came, and to show you that there is greater efficiency and brighter prospects in every way, than ever before, for success in physical development, and in athletic victories. We believe, because of the manner in which it has been brought about, our school boys and girls, and the school, will reap the richer harvest, at the same time there will be less expense to the school, and less time and energy thrown away, as it were, by our pupils, as it is generally believed they do each year, because of the lack of definite plans and management. School and inter-school athletics are in the world to stay, so why not just make the best of them.

John W. Chalkley To Speak At Suffrage Headquarters

Hon. John W. Chalkley, who is recognized as one of the brightest and most forceful speakers in the Legislature, will give an informal talk Saturday afternoon at 8:00 East Broad Street—headquarters of the Suffrage League of Virginia.

Mr. Chalkley has a large number of friends among the Richmond people, and the members of the Equal Suffrage League are throwing open their doors and inviting all who remember Mr. Chalkley's recent delightful address at the suffrage hearing before the Senate committee to be present on Saturday next and have again the opportunity of listening to what Mr. Chalkley knows so well how to say.—Richmond Journal.

Coming Campaign

Will be Fought Out For the Most Part on the Tariff.

Washington, Feb. 17.—With the dates for the assembling of the national conventions of the two great political parties only about ninety days distant, interest of anticipation in their developments grows apace along with livelier activities of the advocates who get into the field early. So far the president-making industry has mainly been confined to disseminating literature in which the aspirants loom heroically, but all that will be forgotten when things begin to happen in primary elections and conventions which choose delegates to the national event. Unbiased, sensible people, are only amused by straw votes and vociferation as proceeding from some other impulse than interest in a wise conclusion. The next few weeks will see something of this sort which will afford the one reliable evidence of preferences.

It now looks as though the coming campaign will be fought out the most part on the tariff, or questions closely related to methods of handling money derived from the people by a vast system of taxation. The Democrats have lacked tariff reform with an energy that will be productive of interesting results, containing for revision and reduction solely with regard to lowering the cost of living and at the same time producing sufficient revenue. President Taft and his following have accepted the issue of consumption against the recognition of the protective system and will not shrink from waging the campaign to a finish with that as a paramount question.

Engagement Announced

The most notable event of the cold winter season was the charmingly designed Valentine luncheon at which Mrs. Richard Horner was hostess on Wednesday at high noon, at which was announced the engagement of one of Bristol's social favorites, Miss Pauline Coffey, to Mr. Geo. Kerton Holtz of Grand Rapids, Michigan.

The bride-elect is probably the most popular unmarried woman in Bristol, both on account of her lovable disposition and her charming personality and many friends here and elsewhere will be interested in the above announcement.

The groom is a prominent business man of Grand Rapids and has been a frequent visitor here during the last two years.—Bristol Herald Courier.

Miss Coffey is well known in Big Stone Gap, she having visited friends here last summer.

Warring On White Plague.

Vigorous Campaign to Begin in March in Various Parts of Virginia

Richmond, Va., Feb. 17.—March is to witness the beginning of a renewed and aggressive campaign against the White Plague in Virginia, if the plans of the State Anti-Tuberculosis Association and the State Health Department are carried out. Beginning in those cities which have no modern health departments, a campaign of education will be inaugurated looking to the reorganization of the health forces and to the opening of tuberculosis dispensaries. At the same time, efforts will be made to organized a general fresh air movement, with especial emphasis on the prevention of tuberculosis among the negroes.

P. W. Slamp, agent for the L. & N. at Cumberland Gap, spent Sunday visiting relatives and friends at this place.

Preach Health On Trains.

Health Department Lecturer Touring With Agricultural Institute.

Richmond, Va., Feb. 17.—To carry the gospel of good health to farmers, the State Health Department has sent Dr. A. W. Freeman, Assistant Health Commissioner, to accompany the Agricultural Train now operating on the Shenandoah division of the Norfolk and Western Railroad.

So successful was the health campaign conducted last year in connection with the Farmers Institute Trains, that the Health Department, with the cooperation of the Agricultural Department and the railroads, plans to cover as much of the State as possible this season.

Last year Dr. Freeman carried with him models of sanitary and insanitary outdoor wells, and models of sanitary latrines to these disease which most afflict rural Virginia, typhoid fever and hookworm disease. While pursuing the same line and distributing literature, the lecturer this year will devote much time to "preaching the gospel" of fresh air, and to instruction in the prevention of consumption.

"This is a most important aspect of our educational work," said Health Commissioner Williams today, in discussing the matter, "and our educational work is in many respects the most important of all health duties. Much money and much sickness can be prevented by instructing the people in the methods of self-protection. The best results of health work in this and other States are to be attributed directly to the better information of the people."

SCOTT COUNTY MAN HONORED

E. L. Bickley President Tusculum Bank

Carries Head

From the Tusculum Alabama Dispatch we learn that Mr. E. L. Bickley, a native of Scott county, was recently elected president of the Tusculum Bank and Trust Company, the Alabama Dispatch says Mr. Bickley the following well merited compliment:

Major Bickley was a brave officer in the confederacy, and while many of these old heroes have reached that age where they cannot take their former interest in business affairs with Mr. Bickley it is different. He would appear to be a man of fifty and handles his wide business interest with all that good judgment and wisdom possessed by only a few men. He not only has large interests in this and adjoining counties, but is President of the large wholesale clothing firms of Bickley, McClure & Co., of Knoxville, Tenn., and New York city. He is a Virginian by birth, but has resided in this county for the past forty years, until recently he moved with his family to Florence. And he owns a beautiful home in Tusculum as well as Florence, it would be pleasing to his many friends here for him to move back.

Proposals.

Bids will be received by the Board of Supervisors of Wise County at Wise, Va., up to 11 a. m. Tuesday, March 12, 1912, for the construction of a wooden bridge over Powell's River near Big Stone Gap.

Plans and specifications may be seen at the County Engineers office at Norton, Va., or Assistant Engineer's office at Big Stone Gap, Va.

WM. F. COCKE, County Engineer.

IN THE INTEREST OF WISE COUNTY PEOPLE

Civic League Column

EDITED BY PRESS COMMITTEE.

Meetings Second Friday of Each Month.

The Woman's Civic League held its monthly meeting at the home of its president, Mrs. E. K. Goodloe, on February 16th at 1:30 p. m. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. The treasurer reported \$25.00 in the treasury. This amount has been voted for the cemetery gates. Spring is coming, when a great deal of work will fall to our lot. With a depleted treasury the work cannot be done. We, therefore, ask for dues of our members for 1912.

The different committees that called upon the Mayor personally, reported the result of their requests.

Miss Lula Moore was advised to again take up the matter of flower plots for both railroad stations.

Some of the business men on Wood Avenue are anxious to see the streets cleaned during the summer, and have asked our cooperation. We heartily endorse the movement, and shall lend our influence to the attainment of cleaner thoroughfares.

The Junior League wishes to organize a Band of Merry. It was moved and seconded that the Junior Constitution be amended so as to allow the organization of a Humane Society in their midst.

It was moved and seconded that a committee of the Senior League meet with the Junior League in their next session.

We had in our midst Prof. Young, who gave us many valuable suggestions along educational lines.

Our next meeting will be held the second Friday in March in the school hall at 7 o'clock. We urge all members to be present, as the election of officers for the coming year will take place.

Secretary

Dissatisfaction Over

School Property.

Alumington, Va., Feb. 17.—There is some dissatisfaction in the Holston conference relative to the title to much valuable school property within its bounds. It is claimed that in many instances the state has become the owner of school property primarily intended for the Methodist church. Emory and Henry and Martha Washington colleges belong to the Holston conference and the title to them is vested in trustees appointed by the conference. But there are two important schools within the bounds of the conference which are, in all intents and purposes, managed and supported by that body, yet do not belong to the Methodist church. They are Sullins college, in Cleveland, Tenn. The title to these valuable properties is not, as many think, vested in trustees of the conference, and that body has no legal claim to them. The trouble arises in the fact that these two schools are treated as church schools, and that they are fostered and patronized by the conference to the detriment of schools which do belong to that body. Tuesday evening last, the executive committee of the board of education of Holston conference met here to discuss the situation and recommend a solution of the matter. Some contended that these schools should belong to the conference to entitle them to recognition as denominational schools. Others took the opposite view.

Don't forget the box supper Thursday night, February 22d, at the Goodloe Hall. You can buy ice cream, cherry ice, coffee and cake there too. Be sure to come and help the ladies.

If you live in Wise county or if you do business in Wise County, it is to your interest to help bring more people into Wise County. It is greatly against your interest for people to leave Wise County for the West, and the experience of many has shown that it is against their best interest to go. If you are willing to do your part in building up your county you will have your part in the results which will come. There is no community anywhere with better opportunities and in the West there are none so good.

But you must do your part. Merely assisting to the facts does neither you nor the community any good. "Pointing with pride" to what has or can be done has no value. If you want people to come into your county, you must ASK them to come, give them reasons why they should come, and keep on asking them. If you do not want people to leave Wise County for the West or elsewhere, you must give them reasons why they should stay in their own county. Even if they are already gone, ask them to come "back home"; and be assured that every man whom you ask to do so will show your invitation to ten others who may become interested in Wise County.

The "Back Home" movement is a campaign of personal interest and appeal, and, for that reason, it has given the western railroads more anxiety than any other plan ever devised in sections from which they have been accustomed to draw people. Do not stop to theorize about it. Just work, that's all.

Spanish Swindle Is

Tried On Bristolian

The Spanish swindle, which has been worked in this country with more or less success for the past six or eight years, has just been tried on a wealthy Bristol man. He received a lengthy letter Friday from a Spanish city, written by a person who represented himself as a former Russian banker, arrested in London and thrown into prison in Spain. He says he has a fortune of \$150,000 and also a young daughter and desires to give the Bristol citizen the daughter and \$100,000.

Only last week a Memphis merchant lost \$3,000 through the same swindle and the incident recalls that a Bristol man some time ago sent a check to the same swindlers. Another Bristol man went to the Western Union to cable to the address and almost by accident, the clerk let it drop that some one else had sent a cable to the same place. He investigated and when the two compared notes the first saw that he had been victimized. Through the activity of the postoffice department his money was taken from the mails before it reached the hands of the swindlers.—Bristol Herald Courier.

Something New.

Here is a new one along the line of appendicitis, according to a dispatch sent out last week from Lawrenceburg, Ind.

"Stricken with appendicitis while on a hunting trip, Benjamin Kremer died during an operation to-day, and the surgeons found a loaded cartridge in his appendix, which was distended to eleven inches in length. Kremer, 19 years old, hunted rabbits with a rifle, and it is supposed he held a cartridge in his mouth for quick loading and swallowed it.

Union services will be held at the Christian church on next Sunday night, Rev. R. K. Sutherland, pastor of the Southern Methodist church, will conduct the services. These services will be held every Sunday night at one of the various churches in town, and every one is cordially invited to attend.