

John Fox, Jr.

If the Gap were not famous for anything else, it would still be a famous spot, when it was remembered that it was, and is, and we hope will always be the home of John Fox, Jr., whose stories of the Virginia mountain have made his name a household word throughout the length and breadth of the United States. While Mr. Fox is a Kentuckian by birth and intensely loyal to his native state, yet the early history of the Gap is so interwoven with that of the Fox family that we have gotten into the habit of thinking that John Fox, Jr., never belonged anywhere else.

Mr. Fox is one of the few Harvard men in town, having graduated from that illustrious university before he was twenty-one, the youngest man in a class of five hundred. He is a true sportsman, with little of the bookworm in his composition. He plays baseball, is an enthusiastic goffer, belongs to the local company of militia, bowls well and plays tennis, and whatever he does, he does well.

U. D. C.

Through the efforts of Mrs. L. O. Pettit a local chapter of the U. D. C.'s was formed at this place about four years ago and a charter secured. Mrs. C. C. Cochran was the first president. At the present time there is a membership of over thirty and the chapter has done splendid work along educational and relief work lines. Mrs. L. O. Pettit is now president, Mrs. C. C. Cochran, first vice president and chairman of the Educational Committee, Mrs. H. A. W. Skeen, second vice president and chairman of Relief Work, Mrs. Malcolm Smith, secretary, Mrs. Wade Barner, treasurer, Mrs. H. A. Alexander, historian, Mrs. J. G. Hagy, registrar, Mrs. Geo. L. Taylor, director of the Junior division.

Children of the Confederacy

This is the junior division of the Big Stone Gap Chapter of the U. D. C. It is under the direction of Mrs. Geo. L. Taylor and has only been organized about nine months. There are over twenty members and enthusiastic meetings are held once a month. The present aim of this division is to raise a fund for a memorial to the loyal slaves of the South, which will be in the nature of a public fountain, or something similar, for the benefit of the public. The officers of this division are Adelaide Pettit, president, William Goodloe, first vice president, Clifford Smith, second vice president, Bruce Skeen, secretary.

Bowling.

While there is no regular organization of bowlers in the Gap, nor has been since 1905 when the bowling matches were a part of the celebration on the glorious Fourth, yet there are some very enthusiastic lovers of this sport here, and the recent tournament with the Y. M. C. A. team from Bristol have been very exciting. The

third game of the tournament will be played at Big Stone Gap in a short time. The score at present stands one game in favor of Big Stone Gap and one in favor of Bristol, and the next game will, no doubt, be unusually interesting.

Equal Suffrage League

That the Gap is not going to be left behind in any progressive movement is proved again by the fact that an Equal Suffrage League has been in existence at this place for the past year, and while no active work has been done, no parades, and no speeches made on the capitol steps, yet the League believes just as firmly in Votes for Women as if all these things had been done by the maids and matrons of the Gap.

Mrs. James B. Ayers is the capable president; Mrs. Mayo Cabell, first vice president; Mrs. Jno. W. Chalkley, second vice president; Miss Eugenia Baumgardner, secretary; Mrs. D. B. Sayers, treasurer. On the Executive Committee are Mrs. H. A. W. Skeen, Mrs. Robt. D. Morrison, Mrs. E. E. Goodloe, Mrs. H. E. Benedict and Mrs. D. C. Wolfe. About thirty ladies belong to the League.

Odd Fellows

The Odd Fellows have about fifty members at present. Their lodge room is on the second floor of the Sheppe building on Wood Avenue, where weekly meetings of both lodges are held.

The present officers of the Odd Fellows are: Chas. T. Ornder, noble grand, W. W. Bickley, vice noble grand, R. P. Barron, secretary, H. H. Slemp, treasurer, J. S. Beaman, warden, W. B. Kilbourne, chaplain, and also district deputy grand master.

Of the Rebekah Lodge, Mrs. A. J. Williams is noble grand, Mrs. H. H. Slemp, vice noble grand, H. H. Slemp, secretary, Mrs. W. B. Kilbourne, treasurer, Mrs. H. E. Benedict, chaplain, Mrs. Lohi Coleman, Lynchburg, Va., is the present state president.

Modern Woodmen

This lodge was organized about ten years ago and has always been regarded favorably in this section. The Woodmen use the same lodge room as the Odd Fellows, and the present list of officers is as follows: E. H. Willis, consul; Harry C. Wallace, advisor; D. F. Orr, district deputy; Geo. L. Taylor, clerk. The lodge has about 41 members at the present time.

Tennis Club.

Last year, the Tennis tournament was such an exciting and interesting feature of the celebration that this year there will be similar tournament with Dante, Wise, Norton and perhaps Pineville again. The Cumberland Tennis Club has a membership of fifty. It was organized in September of 1914 and was the champion club in

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Big Stone Gap, Virginia

the tournament last season. The officers of the club are R. E. Taggart, president, and L. T. Winston, secretary and treasurer.

Golf Club.

We began to play golf in Big Stone Gap in 1905 when the Mountain Golf Club was organized through the efforts of John Fox, Jr., and several other sportsmen. At the present time the Gap boasts the prettiest nine-hole course in this part of the state with a total length of 2,597 yards.

The Club now has 66 members. H. E. Fox is president, J. P. Horne secretary and treasurer, D. B. Sayers, chairman greens committee.

Quite recently, several very interesting tournaments have been played with the County Club of Bristol.

Judge H. A. W. Skeen

Judge Skeen is county and circuit judge for the counties of Lee and Wise and is considered one of the best circuit judges in the State. He gained considerable prominence a few years ago in suppressing election frauds in his circuit, which has had a great deal to do with fairer elections in this section. He resides in Big Stone Gap and is one of our most progressive citizens.

N. J. Lawson

Mr. Lawson is one of the best cobblers in this section and has a shop on East Fifth Street, where he does all kinds of repair work for a large number of customers.



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Tenn-Cola Bottling Works

This growing business, which was opened here about eighteen months ago, is owned, operated and managed by our townsman, Mr. P. H. Barron. Besides bottling the famous Tenn-Cola they put up all kinds of soft drinks, which are sold not only to the local trade, but to consumers in the surrounding towns. The plant is equipped with modern machinery, and is located on East Fifth Street, across the dummy bridge.

Big Stone Subscription Agency

This agency is conducted by D. R. Doak, who came to the Gap from Rural Retreat, eighteen months ago, to accept a position in the mechanical department of the Wise Printing Company. He says he will meet, or beat, prices made by any reliable magazine or news paper, or subscription agency. He will make you prices on any magazine or newspaper printed in the world. His price list will be mailed shortly. He occupies rooms in the Polly Building.

The Village Cafe

is run by J. N. Carroll, colored. "Chef", as he is better known, came here about two years ago, as chef at the Monte Vista Hotel, which place he filled for six months, before opening the Village Cafe. He has a ladies' dining room and a counter for men, also a department for colored people.

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