

# The Big Stone Gap Post.

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No. 10

## WILSON FORMALLY IS INAUGURATED

### Takes First Oath of Office at Capitol.

### PUBLIC CEREMONY TODAY

Parade of Many Thousands, Including Distinguished of the Land, Military and Naval Organizations Escort President to the White House.

Washington, March 5.—President Wilson was formally inaugurated today with public ceremonies which reflected a great national expression of Americanism. He had taken the oath of office at noon in his room at the capitol yesterday.

Before a desk piled with executive business laid before him in the closing hours of congress and surrounded by members of his official family, the president read with uplifted hand and grave features his promise to uphold the constitution in whatever crisis may confront the nation in the momentous four years before it.

After he had repeated solemnly the oath taken first by Washington a century and a quarter ago he kissed the Bible at the passage reading:

"The Lord is our refuge, a very present help in time of trouble."

Chief Justice White administered the oath and was the first to extend his congratulations. When in the president's hand, the chief justice looked reverently into his face for a moment and said, bravely:

"Mr. President, I am very, very happy."

Members of the cabinet then crowded up with expressions of regard. Mr. Wilson received them with a smile and then turned back to his desk to complete his interrupted task.

Today at noon the president took the oath again in the inaugural stand before the capitol. He might have omitted yesterday's ceremony under precedents established by other presidents, but he decided to comply literally with the constitution stipulation that he take office at noon on the 4th of March.

Vice President Marshall did not take the oath yesterday. He was sworn in for his second term today at the special session of the new senate with the usual vice presidential inauguration ceremony.

The capitol, filled with thousands who have come from the four quarters of the nation for the quadricennial event for several days has been a hive in anticipation of today's demonstration. Although the inaugural was planned under the president's direction to be as simple as the circumstances would permit, it was not different in general character from the usual ceremony.

An customary, the president after he has taken the oath and delivered his inaugural address on an open stand before the capitol, rode back to the White House at the head of a parade of many thousands, including the distinguished of the land, military and naval organizations, and a long line of delegations of private citizens. Then he received the marchers from a stand before the White House grounds.

One feature, however, reflected directly the gravity of the international situation. Down Pennsylvania Avenue the parade passed between lines of national guardsmen, chosen from the New York regiments, forming a military barrier on either side of the line of march. Not since Lincoln's second inauguration during the civil war, have troops been stationed to keep spectators back from an inaugural parade.

## REDUCE U-BOATS BY TWENTY

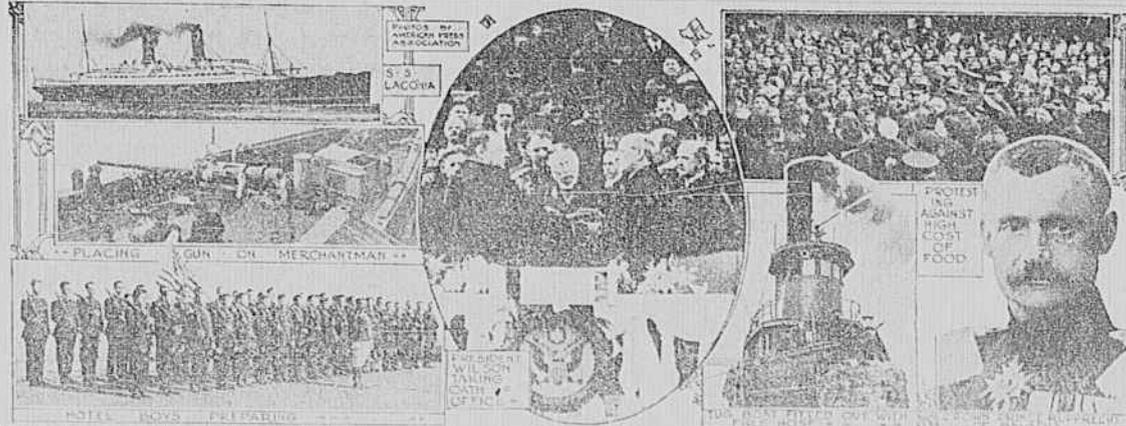
### Senate and House in Conference Reduce Extra Subsea Craft.

Washington, March 5.—The naval appropriation bill, carrying \$35,000,000, went to the president after the house and senate had accepted a conference report reducing the number of extra submarines to be built from fifty to twenty. As the bill was finally approved the bill provides for thirty-eight submarines. The house agreed to the conference report shortly before adjournment and the senate then ratified the report.

The senate conferees yielded the provision for enlarging the Charleston, S. C. dry dock. The conference report does not reduce the total appropriation materially, as the \$35,000,000 emergency fund applied in the senate bill toward immediate construction of submarines is retained.

## A Box Supper.

"A Box Supper will be given at the Seminary High School building on next Saturday, March the 10th, at 7:30. The proceeds will go for the benefit of the school. A cordial invitation extended.



## News Snapshots Of the Week

Even as President Wilson was asking congress to sanction "armed neutrality" the country became apprised of the fact that an "overt act" had been committed by Germany in the sinking of the steamship *Laconia* at night without warning, whereby two American women and others were killed. Congress was urged to hurry preparations to protect our shipping by providing guns for merchantmen. In a war atmosphere, President Wilson was inaugurated while remarkable patriotic enthusiasm was felt throughout with fire hose to be ready to fight flames started by aerial or other bombardment. In France the Germans, led by Prince Rupprecht, evacuated more ground than at any time since the battle of the Marne. Serious food riots occurred in New York city.

## Dissatisfied With Electric Light Service.

There seems to be a good deal of dissatisfaction in Big Stone Gap and Appalachia regarding the charges the electric light company is making for current furnish of their patrons. Some users claim that their light bills have been more than doubled in the last few months. So dissatisfied are the people of Appalachia that they have started a movement looking to the establishment of a municipal plant or a new company to furnish lights for that town.

We do not see any reason why the present light company cannot furnish lights to Big Stone Gap and Appalachia as cheap as these towns can make it themselves.

We suggest that this matter should be looked into by a committee and see whether or no the light company is charging its patrons too high a rate.

## Soldier Boys Return Home

### Company H Greeted With Large Throng of Patriotic Citizens—Given Big Reception.

The brave soldier boys of Company H, Second Regiment of Virginia National Guard, under command of Captain J. F. Bullitt have at last returned home after a campaign of eight months on the Mexican border. They arrived here Thursday night at 11 o'clock on a special train from Richmond, where they have been located for two weeks, following their return from Brownsville, Texas. A more patriotic scene was never witnessed in Big Stone Gap than that shown in greeting the boys upon their home coming. A large delegation of citizens in automobiles, accompanied by the Rays Concert Band were on hand when the train pulled in.

Captain Bullitt marched his men, headed by the band, to the armory, where they received an invitation to attend a reception in the Monte Vista Building, given by the local chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy. The large room was tastefully decorated in national colors of red, white and blue. After a short address of welcome by Hon. R. T. Irvine the Company was served sandwiches and hot coffee, while the band played several national airs. There were a total of about fifty men arriving here, several stopping off at their homes on the way from Richmond. An invitation from Wise was read by Captain Bullitt to members of the Company from that place to attend a banquet to be given by the citizens at the Colonial Hotel on March 7th.

Every member of the company appeared in excellent health, except a few who had

contracted bad colds upon entering a colder climate. Although anxious to get back home again all expressed themselves eager of another chance to go in while necessity arises. Captain Bullitt gave his men special instructions upon their leave of absence to be on the alert for a call may be issued at any time for their return owing to acute conditions prevailing at the present time.

First Lieutenant W. G. McFerran stopped off in Hamble where he will spend a few days with relatives before returning to the Gap.

Below is a list of those who returned here Thursday night:

- Captain—J. F. Bullitt
- Lieutenant—Henry Bullitt
- Sergeants—Samuel H. McCoskey, Fate L. Boney, John E. Horne, Milton O. Boone and Millard Cress and John M. Ewing
- Corporals—Oscar William, Abe Colband, Harry P. Stone, William M. Combs and Clarence J. Bridwell
- Mechanic—R. K. Mullen
- Cooks—M. P. Vance and Jas. P. Wise
- Privates—Joseph A. Aldington, Robt. L. Combs, M. W. Vickers, A. G. Wynn, R. L. Morehead, Steve Stevenson, Frank Phillips, E. K. Lewis, Carl Thayer, Wm. H. Hamlet, Clifton Finney, Robt. Sprules, G. R. Repass, Chas. Reeves, Theodore Hines, M. C. Mullins, Ben Delaney, Elmer Kilgore, Wm. Honeycutt, Jas. Williams, Hesco Thomas, Jas. B. Fannon, Ranie Holbrook, Chas. Lay, G. E. Clark, Arvale Cromwell, W. P. Cassidy and Wm. Hopkins.

James Neil, a former member of Company H, but who was transferred to Company M at the mobilization camp was also among the arrivals.

## WANTED

Ore miners at Irondale mines. Steady employment at good wages. Intermont Coal & Iron Corp.

## Elk for High Knob

The State Game Warden, of Norfolk, was recently in the Gap conferring with State Senator John M. Goodloe in regard to placing a park on the High Knob country in Wise County, which he has definitely decided to do in an early date. These elk are furnished by the government and shipped from the Yellow National Park. The High Knob section is a splendid place for elk and they will no doubt do well and increase rapidly.

## Annual Meeting

### Of Big Stone Gap Athletic Association To-Night.

There will be a meeting of the Big Stone Gap Athletic Association in the Monte Vista Building tonight at eight o'clock for the purpose of electing officers for the year 1917.

You are cordially invited to attend this meeting and bring your friends with you.

## The Parent Teachers' Association Meeting.

The Parent Teachers' Association held their regular monthly meeting last Wednesday afternoon in the public school auditorium.

Save all your old newspapers, the slogan that the members of the Association are now using. Mr. G. N. Knight, the Editor, very kindly offered the Association the use of his paper bullet. So all the old newspapers will be collected, baled and sold. The money being used to carry on the Association work in the school.

A Tea will be given for the benefit of the Association on Saturday, March 17th, St. Patrick's Day, at the home of Mrs. J. W. Chalkley.

After the business of the afternoon had been disposed of, Dr. Wm. Keister addressed the meeting on Medical Inspection in our Schools. Dr. Keister is the new all time health officer of Wise County. He is a clear logical speaker and his address was both very interesting and instructive.

At the close of the meeting tea and cakes were served in one of the music rooms by Mrs. J. L. McCormick, Mrs. L. T. Winston, Mrs. C. F. Camp, Misses Janet Bailey and Olga Horton and a social hour was enjoyed.

The next meeting will be held Wednesday in March and the topic for discussion will be "The Public School System".

## Depot Destroyed By Fire.

The Southern depot at East Stone Gap caught fire Thursday night about 10 o'clock and burned to the ground, causing a loss of about \$500. There was no one in the building at the time and the origin of the fire cannot be ascertained, unless it was caused by an overheated stove. A box car is being used to store freight and other necessities until a new building can be erected.

## High Cost of Living Cannot Be Handled.

Washington, March 5.—Attorney General Gregory today advised Senator Borah that no evidence had been found up to this time, except in two or three cases, to warrant the federal government to seek indictments in its investigation of the rising cost of living.

The sale of foodstuffs by retailers to consumers in various cities, generally falls outside the jurisdiction of the federal government, and increases brought about by a selfish and unscrupulous trader to take advantage of the extraordinary condition of the times are not punishable under any federal law, no matter how lacking in economic justification, nor how extortionate.

Mr. Gregory presented his views in a long letter to the Idaho senator, who is the author of a pending bill to appropriate \$1,000,000 for relief of sufferers from the high cost of living.

One of his suggestions was whether the produce exchange and stock yards of the country should be placed under much closer governmental scrutiny and regulation than now prevails.

"Without stopping now to inquire," the letter said, "how far the federal government could directly regulate such exchanges, it could doubtless accomplish the same objects by prescribing the conditions under which they should be permitted to use the mails, the telegraphic and other instrumentalities of interstate communication in carrying on their business."

Associations existing in almost every branch of trade, the attorney general continued, while performing some very useful functions, "also in many cases make their influence felt in manipulating prices in such a subtle and intangible way that it is impossible to convict them of violating the law."

The leniency of federal judges in imposing sentence upon those convicted of violating the antitrust law, in some instances, were cited. Mr. Gregory declared that a number of federal judges always have been and are still apparently reluctant to enforce the Sherman act.

Largely because of the short time remaining of the present session of congress, it was said, no legislation embodying the department's views had been prepared or was contemplated at present.

## Bone Dry Bill Effective July 1st.

Washington, March 5.—At 2:15 o'clock this morning the senate agreed to the Moon resolution postponing the date of the effectiveness of the Reed "bone dry" resolution in the postoffice appropriation until July 1 next. The house adopted the resolution early last night.

SALESMAN WANTED. To sell lubricating oil, grease, specialties and paint. Part or whole time. Commission basis until ability is established. Permanent position and while field when qualified desired. Man with rig. Address: RIVERSIDE REFINING COMPANY, Cleveland, Ohio.

## BRITISH ADVANCE IN ANCRE REGION

### Capture German Trenches Over Two-Mile Front.

## RUSSIANS WIN IN PERSIA

### Berlin Reports the Sinking of a Number of Enemy Vessels—Trench Raids and Artillery Activity on the French Front.

London, March 5.—Another advance has been made by the British troops in their forward movement in the Ancre area, east of Commeuourt, along a two-mile front of about two-thirds of a mile. Nearly 200 Germans were captured. German front and support lines east of Houchaveuville also were captured on a front of 1,200 yards with 175 prisoners and three machine guns taken. The Germans sustained heavy losses in several futile counter attacks.

The capture of Hamadun, in Persia, slightly more than 100 miles from the Mesopotamian border, has been announced officially by Petragrad. Russian troops also are on the offensive farther northwest and have captured a village within ten miles of Buzar.

Trench raids and artillery bombardments constitute about the only activity on the French front. After intense bombardment the Germans delivered an attack against the French lines at Fleverster in the Verdun sector. The Germans succeeded in entering the first line trenches, according to the Paris war office, but immediately were ejected with considerable losses.

Austrian troops in force attempted to storm Italian positions east of Gorizia after violent artillery preparation. The attacks failed with the Austrians losing heavily, according to Rome dispatches.

Berlin reports that an armed transport steamer of 24,191 tons, with about 800 colonial troops, artillery and horse on board, was sunk by a German submarine last month. Some of the troops on board were lost.

A troopship transport of about 2,000 tons was also sunk; it was named *Albatross*.

A steamer transport under escort, it reported, sent to the bottom south of Malta, while the sinking of thirteen other vessels of a total of more than 25,000 tons is recorded.

The reported sinking of a vessel of 24,191 tons constitutes a record for the war, the largest vessel previously sunk being the *Conqueror* (Austrian), of 20,396 tons.

## RESERVE OFFICERS' CORPS

### War Department Plans Recruiting of Extra Officers.

Washington, March 5.—Plans to recruit at least fifty members in the reserve officers' corps with rank of lieutenant or captain in each congressional district within the next sixty days were announced by the war department.

The department plans to have an examining board in places where a fair number of applications are filed. "An examination is necessary," says a department statement, "but inasmuch as personality and probable fitness are given great weight by the regular army officers who conduct the examination, there is no reason why eligible men should hesitate to apply for commissions on account of being rusty or even deficient on technical military matters. Practical experience under the regular army would remedy this. The important thing is to appoint men of character and force."

## HILBERTS NOT ARRAIGNED

### Held For Death of Small Son Until Grand Jury Meets.

Connersville, Ind., March 5.—Herman and Lillian Hilbert, man and wife, prisoners in the Fayette county jail, held without bond on a charge of first degree murder as a result of the coroner's investigation into the death of Master Russell Joseph Hilbert, who is believed to have been poisoned, have not been arraigned for a preliminary hearing, and it is announced that no action may be taken before the grand jury convenes.

Hilbert and his wife say they are innocent, but they do not deny that the boy might have swallowed strychnine, as the poison was kept in a trunk on the second floor.

## Censor Holds Up Story.

Copenhagen (Via London), March 5.—The Berlin papers contain no reference to the Zimmerman note to Mexico, and apparently the news from America has been held up by the censor. Berlin dispatches to Copenhagen afternoon papers also made no reference to the affair.