

THE BIG STONE GAP POST.

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Don't Criticise Your Government.

One of the foremost hardware companies of this country has issued a little booklet that is one of the finest pieces of pure patriotism. This booklet is directed to its traveling men, and contains some sound advice as to their attitude toward the government in its conduct of the war. It advises the men, whatever their politics may be, to refrain from any criticism of the administration, assuring them that our leaders are doing all that mortal men can do to bring this country through the crises that faces us. It also reminds them that all the really big men of the nation have forgotten, for the time being, that they are either Republicans or Democrats, and are standing shoulder to shoulder with the President and his fellow laborers.

This is loyalty of the purest brand. And it is an example that more could follow with profit. Every idle criticism of those in authority is just so much influence against the cause to which we are irrevocably pledged. It is just so much adverse force that our leaders must overcome to win. And worst of all, it all tends to encourage the enemy. The most idle and thoughtless criticism by Americans of their government is walled straight to Berlin, and by the time it reaches there it is expanded to represent the common sentiment of Americans.

President Wilson is not asking for our loyalty on the ground of his democracy. He doesn't ask it on the ground of his learning of superior attainments. He asks our allegiance because the American people have placed him in a position where he is largely responsible for the welfare of the nation, and it were ingratitude on our part, after placing him there, to cravenly desert him and leave him to bear the great burden alone, and worse still, hampered at every step by our senseless complaints.

American soldiers are on the firing line in France. They are going across by thousands and hundreds of thousands. No army can give its best service that has not the solid moral support of its home people. It is treachery of the worst kind to send our boys to fight OUR battles, and then bicker and quarrel among ourselves as to the methods and means. We have men of the highest character as our leaders. Let us have faith in their ability and integrity, and instead of annoying and nagging, support them to the last drop of our blood. That's what our boys will do, and can we do less?

Many officers of the Marine Corps and the Navy are members of a class receiving instruction at Washington, D. C., in defense against the use of gas.

Marks-Thompson Wedding.

A wedding of much interest to a wide circle of friends was solemnized at the Episcopal Church here Saturday at 12.30 o'clock, when Miss Retta Mae Thompson, eldest daughter of Mrs. Sarah Thompson, became the bride of Sergeant James B. Marks, of Roanoke. Rev. J. B. Craft, pastor of the Baptist Church, officiated, using the ring ceremony.

The church was tastefully decorated with red and white carnations in French baskets, smilax and red candles in crystal candelabras. Back of the altar decorations of holly were beautifully arranged, running to the ceiling.

Before the bridal party entered Mrs. Sam McChesney rendered a violin solo, "Berceuse," from Jocelyn, accompanied by Mr. Byron Rhoads on the organ, after which Miss Margaret Pettit sang sweetly "At Dawning." The bride, who entered on the arm of the groom, was becomingly attired in dark blue chiffon broadcloth and gray accessories and wore a large corsage of bride's roses. Miss Jess McCorkle, the maid of honor, the only attendant, wore a stylish suit and carried an arm bouquet of Killarney roses.

Immediately after the ceremony Sergeant Marks and bride left for Roanoke, where they will remain a few days until the groom leaves for Anniston, Ala., where he is stationed with the 116th Regiment. Mrs. Marks will return to her home and resume teaching in the public schools at this place.

Ashmore-Bunn.

On Friday evening, December 28th, at six o'clock, in the parsonage of the M. E. Church, South, at Scottsboro, Ala., Miss Nell Ashmore, of Scottsboro, was quietly united in marriage to Mr. Charles E. Bunn, of this place, by Rev. R. T. Cantrell of Scottsboro.

After the ceremony the bride and groom left for the groom's home at this place.

The bride is the attractive and accomplished daughter of a prosperous and wealthy farmer of Jackson County, Ala. The groom is the youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Bunn, of the Gap.

Dr. Hugh Gibson Dead.

The sad news was received in the Gap last week of the death of Dr. Hugh Gibson, of Richmond, Ky., which occurred in a sanitarium in San Antonio, Texas, last Saturday week, after an illness of three years. His remains were brought back to Richmond, accompanied by his wife, who was formerly Miss Bernice Orr of the Gap, and his brother, Dr. Moss Gibson, and interred in the Richmond Cemetery on Christmas day.

Dr. and Mrs. D. F. Orr, parents of Mrs. Gibson, and Mrs. Guy Fugh, of St. Paul, attended the funeral.

Uncle Sam's Boys Home for Holidays.

A few of the Gap's boys, who are in Uncle Sam's service at the different cantonments spent a few of the Holidays in the Gap with their relatives. They were Josh Bullitt, Jr., of the Aviation Training School at Princeton, N. J., Lieut. Vivian Mouser, of Camp Lee, Malcolm Mullins and Talmage Wells of Camp McClellan, George Roebuck, Layne Miller and John Allen Goodloe, of Camp Lee.

More than 50 night classes have been established to train radio and buzzer operators for the United States Army, with an enrollment of about 3,000 men.

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Human Hearts

"Human Hearts" with many seasons of success to its credit will be the attraction at the Amuzu Theatre Monday, January 7th, and will give seekers after popular amusement an opportunity to laugh, cry and applaud the many pathetic and laughable scenes of the grand



old play. The scene of Tom Logan's cross roads blacksmith shop, the interior of the Little Rock, Arkansas, prison, and the cottage on the Logan Farm with its bush of roses at the corner are all pretty stage pictures and will be produced in an excellent manner.

Knitting Party.

Miss Janet Bailey entertained a few of her friends last Thursday afternoon at her home from three to six o'clock.

The afternoon was spent in knitting sweaters, scarfs and helmets for the Navy League and Red Cross, during which Misses Margaret Pettit, Kathleen Knight and Mary Skeen sang several selections.

Miss Bailey served a delicious salad course to the guests at the close of the afternoon.

Those present were Mrs. W. S. Guggill, Misses Helen Ralston, of Middleboro, Edith and Ethel VanGorder, Grace Long, Kathleen Knight, Nemo Vineyard, Mary Skeen, Myrtle Wolfe, Mattie Kobb, Margaret and Adelaide Pettit, Sarah Cochran, Midge Muney and Margaret Mitchell.

Afternoon Party.

Miss Myrtle Wolfe was the lovely hostess to a number of her friends last Wednesday afternoon from three to six o'clock at her home.

The afternoon was spent in knitting and at the two tables some of the guests played five hundred.

Delicious hot chocolate and cake were served late in the afternoon to the following guests:

Mrs. Paul Martin, of Jonesboro; Mrs. G. Brown, of Innan; Mrs. Will Jones, Misses Mattie Kobb, Mabel Willis, Kathleen Knight, Grace and Corrie Long, Mary and Bruce Skeen, Dorothy Owens, Grace Wolfe and Janet Bailey.

The woman's committee of the Council of National Defense has arranged to furnish a badge to every woman who registers to work in cooperation with the committee.

WANTED—Highest cash prices paid for fat cattle. E. A. HARNER, Big Stone Gap, Va.

NOTICE.

I am agent for all the leading magazines and publications and solicit your subscriptions, whether you want to renew or subscribe. I can give you as low a rate as any one. Clifford Smith.

Purchase War Savings Stamps And Help Your Country Down the Kaiser. Until the last day of January, 1918, you can buy a \$5.00 stamp for \$4.12. Twenty stamps constitute a War Savings Certificate, costing until the last day of January, \$82.40. On January 1, 1923, five years from now, the government will pay you \$100 for such certificate, giving a net earning of \$17.60 to you. After the last day of January the price of these stamps will increase at the rate of one cent a month. Better buy at once and save the advance. FOR SALE AT ANY POSTOFFICE. THIS SPACE DONATED BY THE BIG STONE GAP POST TO HELP DOWN THE KAISER.

Death of D. A. Mullins.

Death claimed Davy Albert Mullins last Wednesday night after a months siege of typhoid fever. For three weeks the stricken man had lain unconscious and his death did not come as a surprise, though it cast a mantle of gloom over the town of Wise and the whole county as the news spread. He was deputy clerk of the county, which position he had held for a number of years and in which he had made many friends. It is doubtful if there was a better liked man in the county. He was no respecter of persons but was good, patient and kind to every one alike. He never got too busy to do you a favor, and it seemed to be a pleasure to him to do a kind deed.

He was being prominently mentioned as a likely successor to W. B. Hamilton whose term will soon expire, and should he have entered the race, he would have been a hard man to beat. The sun of life was shining brightly for him and not a cloud upon his sky, when the dread malady laid hands on him and struck him down. But his memory will linger for many a year in the hearts of those who had seen his kindly smile and heard his friendly voice and been stronger and better for the contact.—Norton Progress.

The number of men now being served by American Red Cross canteens in France is more than 15,000 a day.

J. E. HORSMAN, Florist DOOLEY, VA.

Telephone 1030 Norton, Va. Another reminder not to forget us when in need of Flowers for any occasion. Roses, Violets, Sweet Peas, Orchids, Carnations, Chrysanthemums and Potted Plants. Corsage work and Floral Designs a Specialty. Out of town orders filled promptly by Parcel Post. Special Delivery, Express or Telegraph.

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