

THE BIG STONE GAP POST.

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There's a Great Day Coming.

As Foch has shortened to victorious weeks the racking months of our foreboding, faith has been quickened into hope. The fruits we thought to gather in some vaguely-distant harvest are ripening fast. The peace we dared not mention, so remote did it seem, is heralding its coming in a thousand instant sounds. The vengeance of a God of Justice is at hand. The war of righteousness is won.

When we shall see in a signed treaty the evidence of victory and the promise of lasting peace, we shall reckon this war worth all it has cost; and when we shall welcome our boys home, we shall forget the doubts, the numbing darkness and the dread suspense of that grim season of the Hun's advance. What a day will it be when Virginia's veterans return to her. This old Commonwealth of ours will rejoice as never it has since that panting rider dashed into Richmond with news that Cornwallis had surrendered. The day of the great review in Richmond will be as memorable as March 25, 1775, when Henry sounded the tocsin of revolution, or April 17, 1861, when the old state put on her armor of self defence.

But to some the day of our boys' return and every day thereafter will bring the misery of remorse. Some who think that peace will bring reunion will find it brings division and some who would rejoice that seas no longer separate us from our lads will find a wider gulf fixed. For our Virginia soldiers are to return to us in a new knowledge of men and of service and in that knowledge they will judge us. With unerring eye will they measure our manhood. They will know which of us have stayed at home because we were cowards and which of us because we had a larger work to do. They will discern which of us have served and which have idled. And they will love or despise, honor or detest as they shall find us false or true. Their verdict will be our fate: Denied fellowship with them, we shall have no part in the new age.

The moral equivalent of war is to be found only in constancy of service. No gift from a man's abundance ever exalts; no shrewd investment, in the guise of patriotism ever deceives. No single act of display and no passing share in broad "good works" will raise a man to the place of those who have met the eternities on the field of battle. Those returning boys of ours will mock at us if we claim comradeship with them because we subscribed to a loan, or served on a committee, or made a speech or increased a crop for which we received the highest prices of record. The boys will say, "We spent winter months in the mire of frosty trenches; we faced the week long bombardment of the Hun; we knew pri-

vation and cold and hunger, daily, hourly, incessantly—what did you do?" And we must hold our tongue and lose all claims upon them, even though they be our sons and brothers, unless in our hearts we know that our service was not less constant, if less gallant, than was theirs. The daily discipline of self for country is what distinguishes them. We cannot be distinguished by less.

This daily discipline of self, this constancy of service, are virtues not beyond attainment by the true patriot. They must be deliberately sought, yet not ostentatiously expressed. They must be ascetic and yet not Pharisaeal. They must, in short, represent a constant effort on our part to forego our pleasure for our nation and to stint our bodies for our souls. To this end nothing is more serviceably useful and few things are more vital than individual self denial, the fruits of which are invested in War Savings Stamps.

Does this seem a prosy moral to a lofty tale? Does it seem a ludicrous contrast to the service our boys are rendering overseas? It is, if it be measured in the concrete result, substantial though that be. But it is not this concrete result we need: It is the spirit that yields the result. By drawing one's check for \$1,000 against an ample balance in bank, and by purchasing War Savings Stamps with the proceeds, one helps one's country and one's finances but not one's spirit. But by saving \$1,000, dollar by dollar, and by investing it in War Savings Stamps, one practices a self-restraint and exhibits a constant thought of country that ennobles spiritually even more than they benefit financially. It is, in short, not what a man purchases, but why and when and how he purchases that give him something of the moral equivalent of war. With al, virtue is its own reward—if we are selfish enough to claim it—or an investment of one's patient savings in War Savings yield a better return than any security of even relatively the same strength in the world. Ten years ago, so profitable an investment would have seemed unbelievable.

We Virginians have lived for one generation in the memory and under the spell of a great war. To our fathers, fidelity to old Virginia in the sixties has been the consolation of age. To us, it has been the inspiration of our public service. We are destined to survive as the actors or spectators of a drama vaster and even more memorable. We can neither evade present responsibility nor escape future reflection. The one regret of life will be that it was not more fully given to country in these tremendous times.—Douglas Freeman in the Richmond News Leader.

BRISTOL HAS BIG FIRE

According to a telephone message received here yesterday Bristol, Va., was visited by the most disastrous fire in its history. Three large business houses were totally destroyed and a number of others damaged. The fire, which started early in the morning in the basement of Dosser Brother's big department store, consumed this building together with the Mahoney-Jones Co., wholesale dry goods merchants, and the Bell Telephone Company. Considerable damage was done to the buildings of Mrs. N. E. Snyder and Hedrick Bros. The loss is heavy and will probably reach a million dollars as these buildings were the finest in Bristol and right in the heart of the business district.

Miss Kathaleen Merriman, of Jonesville, spent Tuesday night in the Gap with relatives, being enroute to Abingdon to attend school at Martha Washington College.

SCOUR THE MOUNTAINS FOR "FLU" SUFFERERS

State Health Officers Do Effective Work With Emergency Hospital at Pennington Gap.

Richmond, Va., Nov. 14.—Richmond well has occasion to be proud of the speed with which she conceived, planned and opened her emergency hospital in John Marshall High School, but even so, her record is hardly more creditable than that of the little town of Pennington Gap in Lee County. This municipality, which is far more rural than urban, was the centre of a genuine hotbed of Spanish "flu" and the State Board of Health was quick to dispatch Dr. W. A. Brumfield of the U. S. Public Health Service to the scene of distress. In something like five hours the physician, aided by volunteer workers who were happy to help, had transformed the town schoolhouse into a well-appointed hospital and was ready for business.

As the reports concerning the disease were most alarming and a large section of isolated mountain territory was known to be affected, a hospital train was quickly manned and equipped, so that the sufferers for miles around might be reached and brought to the newly opened institution at Pennington Gap. The idea, of course, was to handle only the patients who were in most serious condition and to take chances with the others. But it soon became apparent that much bushwhacking would be necessary in order to reach these sufferers, for many of them lived far up in the hills at almost inaccessible points, remote from the railroad, and even beyond the reach of horse-drawn vehicles.

These unfortunates, some of whom dwell in cabins indicating the direst poverty, had to be borne on cots to the train down narrow mountain paths or over rocky hills. In some instances, the litter bearers had to "tote" their human burdens a mile or so, but they performed this arduous work with the utmost enthusiasm. More litter-bearing had to be done at Pennington Gap, for the schoolhouse was some distance from the station, but always there were townspeople who willingly undertook this duty and left the doctors and nurses to more important duties.

There were times when the Pennington Gap hospital had as many as seventy five patients and possibly a majority of these had pneumonia, but the deaths, according to the latest accounts, did not reach over ten or eleven. This was a splendid record, for the institution received only very ill patients and some of them were far gone when help came to them.

At one stage of his activities, Dr. Brumfield was somewhat staggard to find several cases diphtheria, but he was prompt to administer antitoxin and to quarantine the homes of sufferers. Fortunately the cases of a mild type, but all the same no chances were taken, and in order to prevent a spread of the disease, guards were placed before the habitations of the patients.

The Pennington Gap Hospital force, all told, consisted of thirteen doctors and nurses, who uncomplainingly faced all sorts of hardships and discomforts in order to handle a situation which was menacing in the extreme. In his efforts to find people needing succor, Dr. Brumfield sometimes rode as many as thirty miles on horseback over the mountains nor did even the rain stop him when he went on such expeditions.

Notice

To the members of Big Stone Gap Chapter of the American Red Cross its branches, junior and school auxiliaries. Please take notice that Wednesday, November 27th, 1918, at 3 p. m., has been fixed upon as the date for holding the annual meetings for election of officers adapting by-laws, appointment of committees and the transaction of any other business that may be presented.

The management of the Potomac Division to which we belong, earnestly request that the chapter branches and auxiliaries adopt by-laws in harmony with all other chapters and I will endeavor to furnish all our branches with copies of the forms suggested together with a hand-book—chapter organization and activities giving information in regard to Red Cross work. The executive committee earnestly requests that all members of the Red Cross attend the meetings and participate in the elections. The meeting at Big Stone Gap will be held in the court room of the United States public building and places of meeting of branches and auxiliaries will be fixed and notice given by their chairman. R. A. AYERS, Chairman.

Masonic Notice

Stephenson Chapter No. 19 R. A. M. will hold its stated communication on Thursday evening, Nov. 21st at 8 p. m., work in M. and P. M. degrees. Visiting companions always welcome. J. H. MATHEWS, Sec'y R. P. BARRON, H. P On Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 23rd and 24th M. W. Geo. W. Wright, grand lecturer of the Blue Lodge will be with us. All members are urgently requested to be present.

WAR WORK CAMPAIGN A SUCCESS

The War Work Campaign in Big Stone Gap and Wise county was a success. The quota for Big Stone Gap was \$1,500 and the amount of subscriptions will total over \$2,500. The quota for the Richmond Magisterial District was \$5,200 and the subscriptions turned in amount to over \$8,000. The entire county has largely oversubscribed its quota.

XMAS NOTICE

Our Mr. Moore will be in Big Stone Gap, Nov. 29th and 30th at Monte Vista Hotel taking Christmas orders. Call and look over his magnificent line of diamonds, watches, jewelry, silver and all the latest novelties. D. B. RYLAND & Co., Jewelers.

Ban On Purchase Of Flour Is Lifted.

Washington, Nov. 14.—Regulations requiring householders and bakers to purchase 20 per cent of substitutes with each purchase of wheat flour was lifted with drawn to day by the food administration, effective immediately.

War Savings Sales Near Billion Mark.

Including cash received in the Treasury Department on October 21 from the sale of War Savings securities, the total Treasury receipts from this source amounted to \$801,453, 415.86. This represents the purchase of War Savings stamps to the total maturity value of approximately \$950,824,474.10.

The Red Cross.

Renders a service no other cause can Elevates the spirits of a wounded man. Does all it can for the allies, too. Carries a message of love so true: Rolls away sorrow that knocks at the door Of many a heart that is wounded and sore; Serves all humanity who needs its care, Still never tires of doing its share.

Dr. J. A. Gilmer

Physician and Surgeon OFFICE—Over Mutual Drug Store Big Stone Gap, Va.

LINEN SHOWER

The linen for the Red Cross Hospitals in France was collected this week and is now on its way to our boys. All those who contributed to this collection and helped make the "Linen Shower" an unqualified success, will doubtless be interested in the following table, which shows just how very wide awake the Big Stone Gap chapter and its branches are, its quota having been 25 sheets, 50 bath towels, 100 hand towels, 100 handkerchiefs, 75 napkins:

Table with columns: Big Stone Gap, Stonega, East Stone Gap, Roda, Osaka, Kooke, Arno, Exeter, Imboden, Appalachia, Sheets, Bath Towels, Hand Towels, Handkerchiefs, Napkins.

Our work was greatly facilitated by a contribution from the Stonega Coke and Coal Company of standard Red Cross shipping boxes, and by the splendid cooperation of the Royal Laundry, which concern laundered practically all of the linens absolutely free of charge.

Every person who has, in any way, helped in this work, has added his mite to a humanitarian cause, and on behalf of the Red Cross we wish to thank each and every one most heartily. LINEN SHOWER COMMITTEE, Mrs. R. E. Taggart, Chairman.

Banner Grocery Co.

BIG STONE GAP, VA. Just opened up with a FULL LINE OF HIGH GRADE GROCERIES

Our store is located on the pike across East Fifth Street Bridge in the north side of town, and we are prepared to serve the public with only the best line of groceries and at prices to suit everybody. It is wise not only to protect your pocket book, but as a matter of health you should select pure food for your table. Below we mention a few articles with prices:

- Best No. 1 Salmon 22c or two for 40c
Best Tomatoes 25c or two for 45c
Second Grade Tomatoes, per can 20c
8 ounce Salmon, per can 15c
Best Pure Wheat Flour \$1.75
Best Meal 1.35
Good Brand and Shorts Chop \$3.50
Armour's Best Meat, per pound 35c
Lard, per pound 35c
Irish Potatoes, per gallon 30c
Sweet Potatoes, per gallon 35c
Arbuckles Coffee, 4 packages for \$1.00
R. A. J. Coffee, 2 packages for 45c
No. 2 Sifted Peas, per can 20c
Kraut, per can 20c
Best Sliced Table Peaches in sugar syrup, per can 45c
Argo Table Peaches, per can 35c
Hilldale Peaches, per can 30c
Maryland Pie Peach, per can 20c
Best Corn, two cans for 45c
Best Table Peas in Sugar Syrup 35c
5 lb Karo Syrup 55c or two for \$1.00
2 lb Karo Syrup 20c
1 1/2 lb Karo Syrup 15c
1 1/2 lb Maple Flavor Syrup 25c
Best Oats 15c
Whole Grain Rice in one pound cartons 15c
Heinz 8 oz Spaghetti 15c or two for 25c
Heinz 8 oz Dill Pickles No. 2 20c
Armour's Cane and Corn Molasses, 5 pound cans 55c or two for \$1.00
Instant Postum 20c or two for 35c
Best Grade of Soap and Wash Powders, two for 15c
Heinz 16 oz Baked Pork and Beans 20c
Heinz 8 oz Baked Pork and Beans 15c

The Thrice-a-Week Edition of The New York World in 1919

The value and need of a newspaper in the household was never greater than at the present time. We have been forced to enter the world war, and a mighty army of ours is already in France fighting great battles and winning magnificent victories. You will want to have all the news from our troops on European battlefields, and 1919 promises to be the most momentous year in the history of our universe. THE THRICE-A-WEEK WORLD'S regular subscription price is only \$1.00 per year, and this pays for 156 papers. We offer this unequalled newspaper and THE BIG STONE GAP POST regular price \$1.00 per year together for one year for \$1.65. The regular subscription price of the two papers is \$2.00.