

The Big Stone Gap Post.

VOL. XXVIII

BIG STONE GAP, WISE COUNTY, VA., WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1920

No. 8

Mr. Chase

Writes Letter to the Henry N. Tate Post of American Legion.

Hon. Roland E. Chase, representative for Wise and Dickenson counties, who is now in Richmond attending the present session of the legislature, has written the following letter to the Henry N. Tate Post of the American Legion:

Gentlemen:—I have from your secretary, a copy of the resolution passed by your post, on the 9th day of February, 1920, favoring the bills introduced in the General Assembly of Virginia, to provide for the establishment of a system of public libraries throughout the state as a permanent memorial to the sons of Virginia, who gave their lives in the service of the United States during the World's war. I am heartily supporting these bills and shall continue to do all I can for them.

I desire to add, I prepared and am one of the joint patrons of a resolution offered in the House of Delegates of Virginia, amending section 20, 21 and 22 of the state constitution, so as to allow all soldiers, sailors and marines, of the World war, to register and vote without the prepayment of poll tax, and to allow them to register whether they can read and write or not, and to allow these soldiers, sailors and marines to call the judge of the election, of his choice, to assist him in the preparation of his ballot. My motto is to this being, that any boy or young man, that was good enough to fight for his country, and to risk his life for that country, is good enough to register and vote, whether he can read and write or not, or whether he has paid his poll tax or not. Write me what your post thinks of my resolution to amend our state constitution as above indicated.

I desire to further add, I have prepared, and introduced in the House of Delegates, a bill, which is House Bill No. 118, a copy of which I enclose you herewith. The title to this bill being:

"To authorize and empower the board of supervisors of the county of Dickenson, Virginia, to lay a special county levy to raise money for the purpose of providing for the construction of a county memorial, industrial and high school building, to be built in the town of Clintwood in Dickenson county, Virginia, and providing for the securing land upon which to erect and equip said building, and to authorize and empower the said board of said county to lay a special district levy in the Clintwood magisterial district in said county to raise money for the purpose of supplementing said special county levy, and also to authorize and empower the town council of the said town of Clintwood to lay a special town levy in the said town to raise money for the purpose of also supplementing said special county levy. The said school building to be known as the 'Dickenson County Memorial, Industrial and High School Building,' and the said school building shall stand as a monument and memorial to the soldiers, sailors and marines from said county of Dickenson in the late world's war, who lost their lives in this war."

Write me what your post thinks of something of this kind as a monument and memorial to the sailors, soldiers and marines from Wise county in the late world's war, who lost their lives in that war.

Let me hear from your post at any time, that I may be of any service to you, as it will be a pleasure for me to do anything I can for you.

With all good wishes, I am
Your friend,
(Signed) ROLAND E. CHASE

to lay a special county levy in the said county of Dickenson for the years nineteen hundred and twenty and nineteen hundred and twenty one, or either of said years, not exceeding in one year fifty cents on the one hundred dollars' worth of taxable property in said county, the funds received from said special levy to be used by the said board of supervisors of said county for the construction of a county memorial, industrial and high school building, the said building to be built in the town of Clintwood in said county, and the said board of supervisors of said county is authorized and empowered to secure land in said town upon which to erect said building, and the said board is authorized and empowered to erect and equip the said building.

The said board of supervisors of said county is also authorized and empowered in its discretion to lay a special district levy in Clintwood magisterial district, in the said county, for the said years of nineteen hundred and twenty and nineteen hundred and twenty one, or either of said years, not exceeding in one year fifty cents on the one hundred dollars' worth of taxable property in said district, the funds received from said special district levy to be used to supplement the said special county levy provided for in section one above of this act.

The town council of the town of Clintwood in said county is authorized and empowered in its discretion to lay a special levy in the said town for the said years of nineteen hundred and twenty and nineteen hundred and twenty one, or either of said years, not exceeding in one year, fifty cents on the one hundred dollars' worth of taxable property in the said town, the funds received from said special town levy to be used to supplement the said special county levy provided for in section one above of this act.

The said school building is to be known as the 'Dickenson county memorial, industrial and high school building,' and the said school building shall stand as a monument and memorial to the soldiers, sailors and marines from the said county of Dickenson, in the late world's war, who lost their lives in this war.

An emergency existing by reason that the board of supervisors of said county is desirous to laying said levies for the said year, nineteen hundred and twenty, this act shall be in force from and after its passage.

Club Meeting

The special meeting of the club featured with a banquet to be held at the Monte Vista Hotel last Friday night, had to be postponed until a later date on account of the illness of C. W. Roberts, secretary of the Bristol Commercial Club, who was to have been one of the principal speakers. In a letter to Secretary D. E. Allen, Mr. Roberts stated that he had been advised by his physician not to make the trip, but would be more than glad to come at any future date the club may arrange for him. He was also scheduled to visit the commercial clubs at Norton and Appalachia previous to coming here. Being moved and seconded by members of the local club Mr. Roberts will be asked to come here on March 5th at which time arrangements will be made for a banquet and a number of other speakers to address the meeting.

A short session of the club was held Friday night and some unfinished business which was taken up previous, was gone over. C. S. Carter, vice president, presided, D. B. Sayers, the president, being absent on account of illness. Only a few of the members were present, possibly on account of much sickness prevailing in town at present.

Exeter Notes

There is still several cases of flu in camp and several cases of other sickness.

Arthur Barnett, a son of Chris Barnett, who has been down with tuberculosis for some time, has been worse this past week and is not expected to live long. Mr. Barnett has a wife and one child.

A little child of Joe Cox died last Monday and was taken to Cadet for burial. We did not learn the cause of its death.

Carl Ward, little son of H. A. Ward, electrician at this place, has given one year's subscription to the Big Stone Gap Post for his grandfather, J. E. Ward, Dot, Lee county, Va., to the Girl Scouts, who are getting subscriptions to the Post.

P. R. Wagner, of Imboden, has asked that the Girl Scouts put his name on their list of subscribers to the Post. We presume he had in mind when he asked for the paper, that he might get word from "Wild Cat" more often by subscribing—and then it might have been Exeter.

H. B. Jones made a business trip to Kingsport, Tenn., this week; on his return he reports a fine time.

J. J. Strong, of Stonega, has been over twice this week on business; while here, the Girl Scouts got a three months subscription from him to the Post.

Wm. McArthur, store manager, went to Stonega Tuesday on a business trip.

In spite of bad weather this week, people are still working on their yards. Lots of improvement has been made.

W. J. B. Mayo says he believes in nature having her way—and is expecting her to win him a fat prize this fall when a pumpkin patch inspection comes off. John Barnett says if he gets a prize he is of the opinion that his wife will win it for him.

Dill Spangler, second vice president of the Home Improvement League, is getting his premises in good shape. He doesn't believe in preaching a thing unless he can practice what he preaches. This however, doesn't mean that other folks will not make him feel that he has won all the praise he gets.

Policeman Shuler reports that most every body who has formerly been in the habit of housing their cows and pigs under the same roof that the family lives, has about decided to get the animals a little further from the house.

Mrs. Andrews visited Imboden one day this week and spent the night with a friend down there.

The Union Aid Society of Exeter at a meeting of their society Thursday night donated to the near east relief, for the relief of the starving Armenians a check of \$15.00.

Master George McClure is busy taking collections from those who will give, for the near east relief, he himself gave five cents which was all he had, and said he would give more if he had it.

The Union Aid Society, of Exeter, is busy looking after those who are not able to look after themselves. The society is furnishing clothing and other necessary things to a family which is all down sick except the man. The society asked Mr. Evans to find some one to do the washing for this family; he did so, but had to go to Imboden before he found any one to do the work.

We noticed W. H. Carrier, claim agent, in town today.

The Young People's Union is doing fine work, and as the spring opens up we hope to do still greater work. The membership is holding up pretty well, considering this being a mining town, where people come and go so much.

Exeter has one of the best Sunday schools in Wise county; as time goes along we expect to make it the best. Good attendance and good interest.

FOR SALE.—Potato onion sets. 'Phone or write Catron & Hunter, Big Stone Gap.—adv. feb18-2m.

The Memorial Ceremony

It is generally agreed that the memorial ceremony held on Sunday afternoon, February 22, to do honor to the memory of the boys from this neighborhood who made the supreme sacrifice in the World war, was by far the most impressive and inspiring occasion of the kind ever known in Big Stone Gap. The religious exercises, the solemn music of the chorus and orchestra, the dignified simplicity and fine conception of the pageant, the presence of the bereaved families of the dead heroes, and the great audience of respectful people from all the surrounding country all combined to make a unique and very moving event. No one who was present failed to experience a rebirth of patriotism as well as a fresh sense of grief for the losses inflicted by the war upon the splendid young manhood of the community and of respectful sympathy for the bereft families of the honored dead. The homage of the French people in the form of the dignified and beautiful memorial certificates added still further to the solemnity of the scene.

The ceremony was held at 3:30 p. m. in the Amusa Theatre, which was presented by the management for the occasion; but, long before that hour every seat was occupied and a throng of more than one hundred had collected about the entrance unable to find places inside. The ceremony was held under the auspices of the Henry N. Tate Post of the American Legion, of which A. M. Greenfield is chairman and P. W. Gundry, secretary, but all the local patriotic and benevolent organizations co-operated. The program was worked up by a committee of the ladies of the Community League under the efficient and untiring chairmanship of Mrs. D. B. Sayers. The hall was beautifully decorated in the national colors by a committee of the United Daughters of the Confederacy, consisting of Mesdames J. L. McCormick, H. A. Alexander, H. A. W. Skeen, Hagy, W. T. Goodloe, C. G. Cochran, C. C. Long and Malcolm Smith. The stage in addition to the national colors was also decorated by a number of stands of the flags of the allies and by a large service flag bearing twenty four gold stars, one star for each name on the honor roll. The service flag and also two American Legion flags were made by Mrs. Hagy and were presented to the Henry N. Tate Post for use in its club room after the ceremony.

Mrs. J. W. Chalkley procured the use of automobiles to bring in the relatives of the dead from the surrounding country and almost all of these families were present. Miss Jane Morgan and Mr. James Hodge of the local Red Cross Chapter gave assistance in locating the families and in communicating with them. The program was opened by the "Marseillaise" rendered by the orchestra under the capable leadership of Johnny Ray. The sacred song "The Son of God Goes Forth to War" was then given by the chorus of sixteen mixed voices under the leadership of Miss Lois Duff, Mrs. J. H. Matthews being the accompanist. A. M. Greenfield, post commander of the Henry N. Tate Post, then stated the object of the gathering. A scripture lesson was read by Rev. J. M. Smith and the gathering was led in prayer by Rev. Monie. After a further selection by the orchestra, "The Soldier's Chorus" was impressively rendered by the chorus. Wm. A. Stuart, state commander of the American Legion, then spoke briefly upon the history and objects of that organization. The chorus then rendered "Crossing the Bar" and this was generally felt to be their most successful effort. The address of the occasion was made by Hon. R. Tate Irvine. After sketching the growth of the principal of liberty, he paid an eloquent and splendid tribute to the motives which actuated the American armies in the World

war and to the memory of the boys whose names appear on the roll of honor. With regard to the future, he expressed his confidence that the ex-service men would bring the same high and patriotic ideals to the aid of their country in times of peace as they had previously displayed in war. Miss Oberacker, of Louisville, then sang in the most charming and moving manner "My Khaki-Clad Hero" and "America Comes." The program was concluded by a pageant symbolizing the sympathy of France and "Columbia" for her dead soldiers, and the presentation of the French Memorial Certificates. Miss Olga Horton took the part of "Columbia" and Miss Kate Lay represented "France." The other parts were taken by Miss Helen Burchfield and Messrs. K. Lane, Edward Bird and Howard Stemp. Miss Lay read the Roll of Honor of twenty four names, which was as follows:

John Edgar Bailey
William Walters Berry
Frank Cain
Billy Selvester Collier
James Patrick Coosh
Warley Green
Rufus Moreland Durham
Chester Habern
Orville Kinnaman Lewis
James Maggard
James Richard Marks
Chester Melton
Aron Rompke Mosser
Charlie Neely
Evelyn L. Sampson
George Stangell
Henry Snowberry Tate
John Williams
Robert Williams
James Oscar Willis
John White
Burtie Alston (son)
Roger O. Neal (son)
Carlos Warner (son)

A very fine feature of the pageant was the singing of the "Marseillaise" and the national anthem by a chorus of fifty children under the leadership of Miss Duff. The pageant was presented very sympathetically and successfully.

The actual presentation of the French Memorial Certificates was not made at the ceremony, but these certificates were mailed out to the various families in

time to reach them by February 22. If any families entitled to these certificates have not received them, they are requested to notify P. W. Gundry, Stonega, Va., or Wm. A. Stuart, Big Stone Gap. Arrangements have also been made by which the certificates will be suitably framed for preservation free of charge. Any family desiring to get their certificate framed should bring it to G. D. Jenkins, photographer, Big Stone Gap, who will do the framing without cost for them.

Rural Carrier Examination.

The United States Civil Service Commission has announced an examination for the county of Wise, Virginia, to be held at Big Stone Gap and Norton, Virginia, on March 13, 1920, to fill the position of rural carrier at St. Paul, Virginia, and vacancies that may later occur on rural routes from other post-offices in the above mentioned county. The examination will be open only to citizens who are actually domiciled in the territory of a postoffice in the county and who meet the other requirements set forth in Form No. 1977.

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We have struck oil and will shut the well within a few days. We are now shipping to drill another hole. Our leases are on 8,000 acres in Laurel and Rocaucle counties, Kentucky. Incorporated at \$200,000. Non-assessable. Parties are arranging to put two more drills in our boundary. Now is your time to get stock. Apply to W. A. Head, G. M. Brown, W. F. Bess and I. N. Kelly for information and to purchase stock from J. H. Catron, all of Big Stone Gap, Va. Resp., CATRON OIL & GAS COMPANY, J. H. Catron, President.

Miss Esther Marsee, of Pennington Gap, spent the week end here with Miss Eula Tack-

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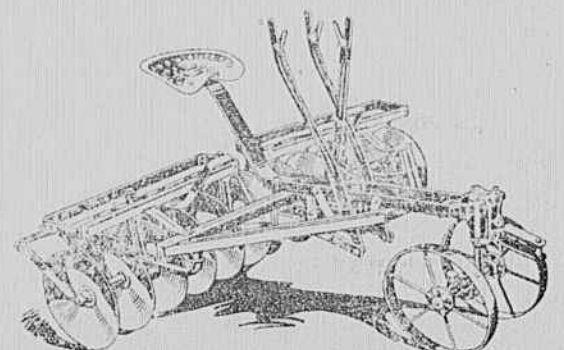
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