

# The Big Stone Gap Post.

VOL. XXVIII

BIG STONE GAP, WISE COUNTY, VA., WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24, 1920

No. 12

## Important Committees Appointed

At Meeting of the Young Men's Club on Last Friday Night.

The Young Men's Club is still striving in some way to solve the housing situation that has confronted Big Stone Gap for the past year or more. At its regular meeting last Friday night this subject seemed to be the chief topic as it is apparent Big Stone Gap's future growth depends entirely on this particular object. In addition to the houses wanted by the Southern Railway the hosiery mill people will require several and it was decided something definite had to be done at once. Acting upon this theory a committee of five was appointed by President D. B. Sayers to meet and discuss the most feasible plans by which a building campaign could be financed and report the results at a next meeting of the club next Friday evening. Those appointed were J. H. Wampler, W. H. Wren, W. A. Stuart, John W. Chalkley and R. E. Taggart.

Another committee consisting of W. H. Wren, chairman; E. A. Harner, J. P. Wanda, H. E. Fox, B. E. Rhoads, J. R. Taylor and D. B. Sayers was appointed to make a report on condition of roads, sewerage and water. They are to give figures and make recommendations for the betterment of these three subjects and report at the next regular meeting.

It was also reported at this meeting that the hosiery mill people had enlarged their plans for the construction of a plant here. Mr. Kitzmiller, one of the promoters visited Big Stone Gap again last week to complete arrangements for the construction work which will commence in about thirty days. He found everything satisfactory, especially the cooperation of the public and seemed to be much elated over the progress. He visited Appalachia and completed arrangements for the installation of a plant at that place. Two floors of the Gunner building, a large brick structure in course of construction, were rented and a floor of another building was secured where machinery will be installed at once for the purpose of training labor. Efforts are also being made to establish branch factories at Pennington Gap, Gate City and Rogersville, Tenn. Mr. Kitzmiller, in company with R. D. Stratton, industrial agent of the Southern Railway, left here with the intention of visiting Gate City and Rogersville. Plans have already been completed for a branch mill at Norton. Mr. Kitzmiller said in addition to the main knitting mill here there will be constructed a big factory, spinning mill and a printing plant, to print labels and a dye plant. The products will be finished here and placed on the market ready for sale. They will employ from six to eight hundred people in the mill here when it is in full operation, and will make between two and three thousand pairs of hose per day.

E. S. Suttle, farm demonstration agent for Lee county, was in Big Stone Gap on last Thursday and paid the editor of this paper a pleasant call. Mr. Suttle is a well educated and informed man and is doing good work in Lee.

## College Glee-men to Perform Here

March 30th in the school auditorium is the date set for the local appearance of the glee club from Emory and Henry College, to which every one here has been looking forward with unusual interest. Their last local performance was in 1917, when, it will be remembered, they were repeated at a private house at the high school auditorium.

Sixteen of the most accomplished singers and entertainers at Emory and Henry compose the club, and accompanying them this year are Prof. Park and Burkel, of Martha Washington College. Prof. Park is director and pianist and Prof. Burkel is violin soloist. The appearance of the club here is always considered as a real boost to the town as a whole and a rare treat for all who enjoy wholesome entertainment.

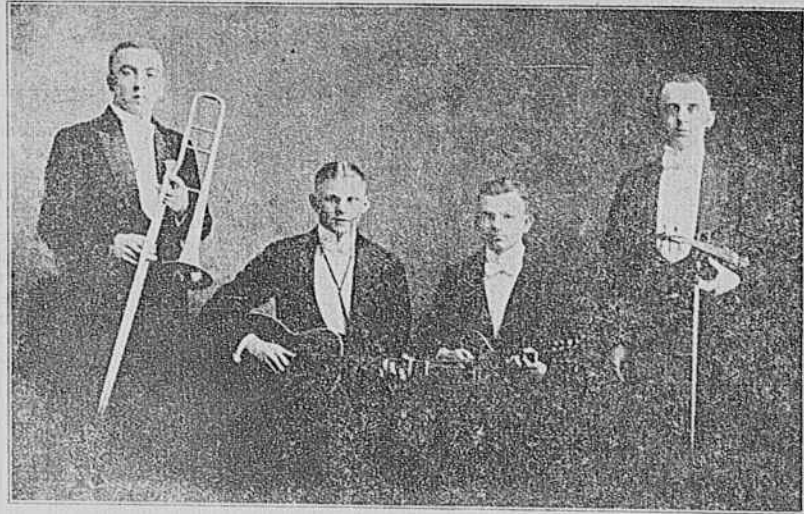
Rolling choruses, close harmony quartets, solos, readings, a guitar mandolin ukulele melody, and a grand opera production that can be readily enjoyed, compose the program.

Chief of the soloists is R. O. Sharrif, who won a medal in 1918 at a vocal contest for high school vocalists of the South Virginia District. His solos are set for to find favor. N. P. Lawrence, the melodist in the stringed instrument orchestra, is a composer of music who has already "delivered the goods." His latest composition will be rendered by the club before being published. J. J. Waterhouse learned to play the ukulele during his residence in California, under the tutelage of a native Hawaiian. A Virginia newspaper says of him: "There is no question but that he is the best ukuleleist to be found in Virginia." G. B. DeWalt, the reader, is the 1919 mediator of the Virginia interschool oratorical contest.

Debits are now on sale by the principal of the high school, Admissions: Children 45 cents; adults, 75 cents. The school here will get 25 per cent of the gross receipts.

## RICHMOND DISTRICT SCHOOL LETTER

Dear Fellow workers:  
What are we doing about it? We are interested in education. We think that it is very much worth while for the boys and girls of the communities in which we labor to be in school. Does it really trouble us, however, to have so many children out of school? Do we not feel some very keen responsibility in the matter? The children do not



Members Emory and Henry Glee Club, at School Auditorium, Mar. 30

realize what they are missing, nor do the parents. But we know that their lives will be crippled by the loss of these days in the classroom. What are we doing about it? Are we visiting the home? Are we sending notes to the children? Are we doing our level best to make each day and each hour as interesting and so vital that the children really do miss a great deal?

For the month of February East Stone Gap had a remarkable record. Most of the teachers of that school are far up in the list of percentage of attendance. The supervisor tried to find out the secret of the last meeting there. He finds that in the high school department every absent pupil receives a visit from a teacher or a note at once showing a friendly interest and wanting to know the cause of the absence. This is one of the things that never fails to count. If a pupil knows that he is really counted—that he is truly missed when not there, he is going to be at school if it is reasonably possible for him to be there. Try it, teachers, if you have not done so.

East Stone Gap High School and Attendance.

Meeting at East Stone Gap.  
The last group meeting was held at East Stone Gap last Friday afternoon. Misses Shippe and Della White and Mrs. Potter were present. All the grade teachers took part in observation and some really good work was observed. A later discussion and program followed. Prof. Huddle gave a good talk on "The Necessity of Good Order and How to Keep It." The next meeting will be at Roca Friday, March 19.

Membership on the Community League at Appalachia.  
Mrs. Holly, president of the Community League and Mrs. Cooper, chairman of the membership committee, are planning a spirited drive for members on Wednesday of next week. The work of the league has so commended itself to the citizens of the town that every one should be glad to be a member. We predict that when the new members are counted at night there will be not less than 100 on the roll.

It was good to see our chief's signature again to a letter. We are glad indeed to welcome Supt. Kelly back to this county, his county, his office and his beloved work. We trust he is quite well again.  
Mrs. Dorothy Gilly has been sick for two weeks. Her place at Buffalo has been filled by Miss Collier, a former student of the school.  
Mrs. Huddle, of Emboden, has resigned her position and entered the service of the government. Her place is temporarily filled by Miss Rita Parks.  
The Time is Short.  
We have not many more weeks of school. And there is very much to be done. While we must not work too hard, there is danger that we lose our grip as the spring comes on. Let us watch ourselves. Our pupils deserve the best that we can give; we will not offer them less.  
Geo. A. Jordan,  
Rural Supervisor.

Hazel Currier Vicars.  
A Tribute.  
The visit of the death angel to a bed of travail has cast a gloom over the entire community of Wren.

In this strange, this wonderful thing called life, every man and every woman, has his or her place. Some lay down their life work early, others later, but sooner or later all must surrender their trusts to God. Hazel Currier Vicars surrendered her life because God that gave it in the heyday, the flush and bloom of young womanhood, and long before it had reached its zenith. We plan, but our plans are not always for the best, and a wise Providence frequently overrules them.

We often wonder why, but that is not for us to know. It is enough for us to know that there is a God supreme, and that all of us should bow submissively to His will. The way is often dark. It is dark today for the bereaved and lonely hearted husband, children, father, mother, relatives and friends of Hazel Vicars. The pain hangs heavily over the household which she has left, but God willed it so, and we bow reverently to His decree. When the golden bowl is broken and the silver cord is severed, we pause, we wonder and we weep.

Hazel Vicars knew, as her friends know, that nothing abides save God and the soul. There is nothing enduring in this world except God and His law. This, indeed, is the les-

son taught by the lifeless clay within the casket, lowered by reverent hands, under a liberal bower moistened by the tears of loving friends and loved ones, into the earth to await the call into the sweet summer land of rest.

"Death does not end all"—the first and foremost post of the Bible, when his heart was bleeding, as ours are today, by inspiration wrote for all the ages, and for the consolation of one and all, that when a man dies he shall live again. Hazel Vicars believed that statement, as all of us believe it. Here, then, we find a balm for these bleeding wounds, and that earth has no sorrow that heaven can not heal.

This is a sad day for this once happy home, but there was never a cloud so black that did not have a silver lining. Hazel Vicars, whose untimely death the whole community mourns, was a devout Christian, a faithful and devoted mother, a true and constant wife, a neighbor and friend whom to know was to love. God never made a truer, nobler more womanly woman. A friend to all, an enemy to none, and the world is better because she lived in it.

Gone from the throng of the living, her short life stands out boldly as a model of Christian charity and womanly modesty. Religious, sympathetic in every fiber, generous to a fault, she leaves behind her as a heritage to her husband, children and friends, a character as spotless as the lily, and as unsullied as a ray of light.

The afflicted family have around them in their tribulation, hosts of loving friends. The warm hands of all our people are stretched forth to comfort them in their deep sorrow and bereavement.

Words fail of expression on an occasion like this. When wife and mother is taken, God alone can give comfort and relief.

Peace to her Ashes,  
Rest to her Soul.

A FRIEND.

Theatrical.  
Wellington Playter, who is Captain Rydal in "Back to God's Country," makes a dive underneath the ice in the frozen Arctic, in a scene from this picture which will be shown at the Amuzu Theatre on Thursday, March 25.

In the story he loses his life by falling through the ice. He makes the real dive and you see him gradually sinking in the water under the broken ice, and it is not until the scene is "shot" that he swims back to the surface. His final warning was to make the footage short and no retakes.

This beautiful story of the northlands was taken from "Wapt, the Walrus," in "Good Housekeeping," written by James Oliver Curwood, the foremost portrayer of animal life of the present day.—adv.

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

## WYOMING IRRIGATED LANDS

The following information has been gathered from publications of the department of the interior:

**The North Platte Project—Fifth Unit.**  
In the southeastern corner of Wyoming is open to ex service men only, up to May 1, 1920; after that day, to the general public.

Local land offices at Cheyenne and Torrington, Wyoming; The latter, on the reservation and about 100 miles north of Cheyenne, is the first point to go to. The average farm unit is 30 acres, the range being from 40 to 100 acres.

Filing fee for 80 acres, \$7.00. Payment in advance of water rental for three years is required. The minimum annual rate per acre of irrigable land is \$1.70, the initial payment for the three years is \$5.10 for each acre of irrigable land on the farm selected. This water rental is a continuous charge, varying slightly from year to year, being designed to cover cost of maintenance of the project.

A project construction charge is inferred, similar to that given following for the Shoshone project.

**The Shoshone Project—Eighth Unit.**  
This is 75 miles east of Yellowstone Park. Is open only to ex-service men up to May 12, 1920, but after that day to the general public.

Local land office at Lander, Wyoming, to which point one should first go.

Farm unit, 40 to 80 acres. Filing fee probably same as for the North Platte.

Annual water rental about \$1.25 per acre of irrigable land, initial payment not specified. The construction charge is \$25.00 per acre of irrigable land, payable in installments, one of 5 per cent at time of filing application, the next one 5 years later, also 5 per cent, and thereafter annually for 14 years, 7 per cent each. These total 108 per cent, the amount being calculated, apparently, to cover interest on the deferred payments.

**Applicable to Both Projects.**  
The capital required is estimated at \$2,000 to \$5,000, to provide for house, fences, well, provisions for family and food for stock for one year, farm machinery, tools, seed etc. "Few men will succeed without some capital," mortgage of a homestead is almost impossible, credit at local stores is not granted.

By obtaining outside employment the necessary capital may be considerably reduced, but it is a requisite condition that 10 acres be put under cultivation the first year, with increased acreage following, and part of the land requires some labor to put in shape for cultivation.

In general, 3 years' residence on the land is required, but for ex-service men a deduction is made, equal to the length of their time of service. A certified copy of discharge certificate must accompany the application.

The average value of the crop of 1917, from the 80,760 acres of crop area of the North Platte project, is stated to have been \$41.92 per acre, and the average value per farm \$2,657.03. One farm of 80 acres yielded an average of \$119.26 per acre. While prices of products were even then high; the season was unusually unfavorable.

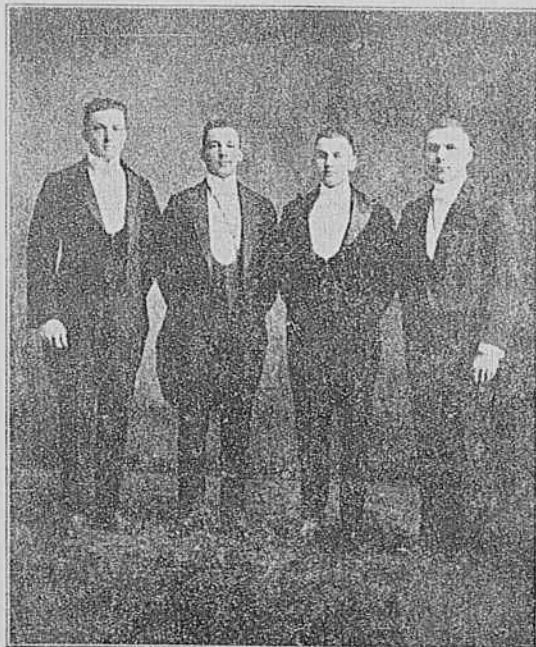
Those intending to apply should be on the ground as soon as possible, to make their choice, which must be done, before application is permitted. Consultation with earlier settlers should precede the application.

HOME SERVICE SECTION, A. R. C. Big Stone Gap, Va.

## Dies of Influenza.

Freeling, Va., March 19.—News reaches here in effect that Thomas Sluss, of Skootrock, died of influenza on Thursday.

Sluss's daughter, Mrs. Tolby Ratchiff, and her husband both died of influenza last week, and it was while waiting on them that the decedent contracted the malady that resulted in his death.



Members of Emory and Henry Glee Club School Auditorium, March 30th.