

The Big Stone Gap Post.

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BIG STONE GAP, WISE COUNTY, VA., WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1921

No. 40

Henry Ford

Plans to Bring Railroad Into Coal Fields.

Bristol, Sept. 29.—Plans of Henry Ford to bridge the Ohio river at Ashland, Ky., and penetrate the coal fields of that state with his railroad, have just been reported here. It is said that Mr. Ford hopes to make contact with the Elkhorn-Hazard coal fields with the Detroit, Toledo & Ironton Railroad which he recently purchased.

The southern end of the road is at Hitehens, Ky., 30 miles from Ashland toward the Kentucky coal field. Piers still standing on both sides of the Ohio river of the old Zimmerman project of several years ago. These were never completed, and it is said Henry Ford will get control of these and complete them.

From Hitehens it is said Ford can hook up the East Kentucky road to Webbville, then the Ohio & Kentucky between Webbville & Jackson—then the Cumberland & Manchester, with a few "gaps" and be easily in the heart of the best coal district in Eastern Kentucky. This with about 40 more miles of track could even reach Harlan county where he has lately bought out the Banner Fork Coal & Coke Company and others at Kenonia. All this could easily be accomplished, according to rail heads.

Much interest is centered in this project, and coal operators, railroad men and others await further developments as to Ford's future plans to come into the Kentucky coal fields which he is practically sure to do within the next twelve months. Those in position to know say Ford is bent on getting railroad connection into the Eastern Kentucky coal fields, and it is important that he do so.

U. D. C. Entertained.

Mrs. C. C. Long was the delightful hostess of the September meeting of the United Daughters of the Confederacy Chapter at her home Wednesday afternoon, September 21st.

The members answered the roll call with quotations about "Norfolk," Virginia's seaport, the historical topic of the afternoon. Mrs. C. C. Cochran, the president read the excellent report of the work of the chapter which will be sent to the annual convention to be held in Richmond, October 11 to the 14th. Mrs. Cochran and Mrs. Fred Troy being the delegates from the local chapter.

Circle No. 2 of the chapter have planned to have a "Dixie Dance" the second Friday evening in October at the Armory. A colored orchestra will furnish the music and this promises to be one of the most enjoyable unique events of the fall season.

Mrs. H. A. Alexander reported that a number of the books, "Women of the South," had been sold since the last meeting and she still had a large number on hand.

Mrs. Malcolm Smith, the historian, took charge of the program for the afternoon which was as follows:

- Paper—Battle of Hampton Roads
- Mrs. H. A. W. Skeen
- Reading—Imprisonment of Jefferson Davis
- Mrs. J. A. Gilmer
- Vocal Solo—Selected
- Mrs. Henry I. Lane
- Paper—The Sausage and Jeff
- Mrs. J. H. Hagy
- Quartet—Juanita
- Messlames Lane, Alexander, Rush and Skeen.

Following the program during the social hour, Mrs. Long served a delicious salad course to the following members present: Mesdames D. C. Wolfe, E. E. Goodloe, Skeen, Alexander, J. H. Hagy, J. A. Gilmer, H. L. Lane, J. A. Youell, W. T. Goodloe, C. C. Cochran, I. B. Nickels, Rush, Malcolm Smith and C. C. Long.

The meeting adjourned to meet the second Wednesday in October with Mrs. H. A. W. Skeen.

No, the war did not make the world safe for democracy. Too many of them are out of work.

SOME PATRIARCHS OF THE MOUNTAINS

At the Age of 93 One Spry Old Native Can Cut Two Cords of Wood.

While waiting at the little station in Moccasin Gap last Sunday evening for the train from Bristol we struck up a casual acquaintance with an elderly-appearing gentleman, who was also expecting to board the same train, Norton being his objective point of destination, at which place he said he had two sons engaged in business. He was of medium stature, dark complexion, regular features, small black eyes, deeply set but clear and sparkling, smoothly shaven face except for short chin whiskers which were snowy white, and a full suite of hair as black and glossy as a raven. He walked with a cane, having some years ago had his leg broken in a saw mill accident in Dickenson county, this state. Altogether his general physical appearance was that of a man slightly past middle life, probably from 55 to 60 years of age. Now for the interesting part of the story:

John R. Redfield is the name of this gentleman, and he was born in the Old North state early in the year 1830, and is therefore past his 92nd mile post. The family subsequently moved to Carter county, Tenn., and at the beginning of the War Between the States young Redfield enlisted in a Tennessee regiment and served throughout the conflict, having been engaged in 55 hard-fought and bloody battles and a number of minor skirmishes, mostly in Virginia and Tennessee, emerging from them all without receiving a scratch. He was mustered out at Chattanooga after having gone through a continuous siege of seven days and nights, and returned to East Tennessee, where he has since been engaged in farming and lumbering. There are but two members of his regiment now living besides himself, one of whom is somewhat older than he. At the advanced age of 92, he says he can chop, split and pile up two cords of wood a day and cut and bind twenty shocks of corn in the same length of time. He uses tobacco and is not an enthusiastic believer in Volsteadism.

Standing around the Gate City station a few days since we became interested in two elderly gentlemen, who were holding each other by the hands in a warm and happy greeting.

"I have just passed my 87th birthday and am enjoying good health, and feel like a two-year-old," said one of them.

"Well," said the other, "I am slightly your senior, my age being 91, but you haven't anything on me in the way of good health. I have never spent a day in bed from sickness, nor have I ever taken a dose of medicine prescribed by a doctor, and have always felt that when I do lie down sick, I will never regain my feet."

There are scores of men and women in this and nearby counties whose lives would furnish rich material for real human interest sketches, to some of whom we may introduce our readers in future issues of the Herald.—Gate City Herald.

Wedding Announcement.

The following wedding announcement has been received in the Gap by a few of the friends of Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Jennings, of Lynchburg, who formerly lived here in the residence which now belongs to Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Head. They have a large number of friends who will be interested and will remember the bride when she was a very small girl:

Mr. and Mrs. John L. Jennings announce the marriage of their daughter, Mary Gladys

to
Mr. H. William Kriner
Wednesday, September twenty-eight
nineten hundred and twenty-one
Lynchburg, Virginia.

Many Cases Are Disposed of in Jonesville Court.

Jonesville, Va., Sept. 29.—Circuit Court for Lee county has just adjourned, having closed the busiest and longest session for twenty years. Two juries were used so that the proceedings were not delayed, and the cases on the docket were disposed of with despatch.

The last two weeks were devoted to the trial of criminal cases, and out of 105 cases tried, 100 were convicted. More than \$15,000 in fines were assessed, and more than 40 sent to the road force and five sent to the state penitentiary. The majority of the cases were for violations of the Mapp prohibition law, although there were many cases of murder, robbery, malicious wounding, burglary, etc. The regular grand jury for the September term returned 200 indictments, and the most of these yet remain to be tried, as service could not be secured on the defendants in time for this session of court.

Among those convicted at this term are: Abe Hatfield, murder, 5 years; W. E. Amburgey, robbery, 8 years; Frank Maggard, malicious wounding, 3 years; Al D. Jones, escape, 2 years; Dixie White, escape, 1 year; Bill Lawson, robbery, 2 years; Rich Cooper, Mapp law, second offense 12 months in jail, and \$500 fine; Bill Barker, Mapp law, two cases, 12 months in jail and \$700 fine; Fred Mullins and Vernon Garney, Mapp law, each 4 months and \$250 fine; Bill Hart, Mapp law, 6 months and \$500; John Sheppard, Mapp law, 6 months and \$500; William Collins, Mapp law, 6 months and \$500; Hobart Bailey, Mapp law, 3 months and \$250; Herbert Doyle, Mapp law, 6 months and \$500; Joe Morgan, Mapp law, 6 months and \$500; H. G. Thompson, Mapp law, 6 months and \$500; Bascom Crooch, Mapp law, 6 months and \$500; W. H. C. Noe, Mapp law, 2 months and \$250; John Penley, Mapp law, 3 months and \$250; Arnold Combs, Mapp law, 30 days and \$50.

H. A. W. Skeen, judge of the circuit court and L. M. Robinson, commonwealth's attorney for Lee county, have received much commendation for the work done at this term of the court.

THE LYCEUM

I take this method of announcing to the patrons of the school and to the public generally that the principal of the school and the president of the Community League have secured through the Piedmont Bureau, of Asheville, N. C., three excellent lyceum programs to be given during the school session.

The first of these entertainments will be given at the school auditorium Friday evening, October 7, beginning at 8 o'clock last time. These entertainments are known as the Opolo Trio, and they give a program of songs, stories, impersonations, violin, and piano. Later in the season, Mrs. William Calvin Chilton, monodramatist, will give a program consisting of southern stories by southern writers. The third entertainment will be given by the Little Henshaw Ladies' Quartette. This lyceum course has been arranged with the idea of giving to the people of the Gap and surrounding communities a few high class entertainments at a very reasonable cost. Season tickets for the three programs can be purchased this week for the sum of \$1.00. Season tickets for children are 50 cents each. All receipts, after the guarantee has been paid, will be used for the purpose of improving the school.

H. L. SULFIDGE,
Principal.

If a fellow punches you on the jaw you are perfectly justified in pasting him one before turning the other cheek.

A good way to start business to booming again in this country is for every man to pull the strings to his money purse.

ADVERTISING TO BE TAKEN FROM ROADS

State Highway Regulation Will Be Enforced In This Section of State of Virginia.

The following article bearing on the removal of signs from the state highway was recently published in the Bristol Herald Courier and the ruling referred to in this article was put into effect on October 1st.

Instructions for the removal of all unauthorized advertising from the right of way of the improved roads in this section of the state on the highway system of Virginia has been received by J. D. Keeler, resident engineer, from C. S. Mullin, engineer of the State Highway Commission.

Mr. Mullin calls attention to a plan put in operation by E. R. Cooke, Jr., of Staunton, Va., and urges that the same be put in operation in this section. In a letter Mr. Cooke writes on the proposal as follows:

"This office has been directed to have all advertising signs removed from the rights of way of the improved roads in this section of the state highway system, that if these signs are not removed from the roads above referred to by October 1, 1921, that the patrolman and section foreman will be instructed to remove these signs, and also to remove any signs that are erected in the future of an advertising nature, unless it can be conclusively shown that permission has been granted to the firm erecting such signs by the State Highway Commission."

"In order that the law may be fully understood I am quoting verbatim from the rules and regulations controlling traffic on the state highway system as adopted by the State Highway Commission, effective July 25th, 1920, under the provisions of section 4, chapter 31 Acts of 1919 General Assembly in regard to erecting signs: It is forbidden to place or allow to be placed within the right of way of any of the state highways any advertising or advertising signs, without first obtaining permission of the State Highway Commission."

"This applies to advertising signs placed within right of way, or projecting over the right of way."

Injured in Motorcycle Race.

Ed. Williams, of East Stone Gap, was injured in the motorcycle race at the Wise fair last Thursday when a tire bursted throwing him violently to the ground. A piece of glass from his goggles cut an ugly gash on his forehead, and he suffered also slight body bruises. Williams was a strong contender in the race when the accident happened. Bill Perkins, of Lynch, Ky., finished first. John Simms, of Appalachia, won Saturday's race, but he had to go some as Frank DeBusk and Perkins were right at his heels all the time. These races were said to have been the best ever seen at the fair and proved to be one of the best attractions.

President Harrison Believes Business Will Improve.

President Fairfax Harrison, of the Southern Railway, believes business in the south will greatly improve this fall and winter and is quoted as follows: "As to the situation in the south, there is every indication that the corner has been turned."

"The advance in cotton was the breath of wind for which the southern states have been waiting."

There are lots of good people still left in the world—but they are accustomed to being left.

ADVANTAGES IN THE OLD HOME TOWN

They were never in so favorable a mood to consider the village as a permanent place of activity as they are now. The leaders in the life of the smaller communities who not so long ago were deploring the departure of their most talented sons and daughters to the fields of larger reward in the city now have a unique opportunity. They have a rare chance to impress the somewhat disillusioned young people with the advantages of life and labor in the old home town.

These young people are far more valuable assets now than they were before leaving home. They have participated in city life, industry and business and increase their contacts with the world. They return home with new acquisitions of both knowledge and skill and are more than ever qualified to make a worthwhile contribution to their community. What sorts of inducements must be offered to get them to locate permanently where they have now temporarily found a refuge?

The village to retain its energetic youth must offer two sorts of advantages. It must impress them as a livable place and it must have commercial possibilities.

It must offer a satisfying human existence and scope for the realization of the natural human desires for recreation, good fellowship, agreeable relationships and plausible activities. The business opportunities must be discernable and inviting enough to counterbalance the vocational attractions of the city.

The resourceful young man can find no more remunerative field for his enterprise today than the small town. He cannot build up a colossal industry there but he can find more opportunities per capita than in the city. Hundreds of small-town businesses, many of them located in mere hamlets, are doing a gross business of \$50,000 a year without using Napoleonic sales tactics.

The overhead cost of doing business is often under 20 per cent, and the net profit gives the proprietor a far more comfortable living than he could obtain in the city with a much larger income. One store in Ohio situated in a small hamlet does a business of a half million a year and another in Indiana has annual receipts of three hundred thousand.

These records are not the result of a set of unusually favorable circumstances but are the reward of large-visioned business leadership which would win equal returns if applied in any one of a thousand other places.

The only way the village will ever be able to realize its possibilities is by concerted action and organization.

A New England village was located in a natural setting of unusual beauty. But its rundown and shabby appearance presented a drab contrast to its attractive surroundings. Many of the hills about the town were thickly wooded but some of the streets of the town were bare of shade trees. The town hall was in a state of dispair and other structures in the center of town were an eyesore.

A young physician returned to town after an absence of some years to take up his father's practice. He started to agitate for village improvement. After some weeks of propaganda work, he enlisted the support of the leading citizens. A meeting of the whole community was called to organize an improvement association. The meeting was so well advertised that everybody attended. Not only men and women but even the children were admitted to membership. The dues could be paid either in money or an equivalent amount of labor.—The Dearborn Independent.

Merry House Party at Josephine.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred L. Troy entertained a few of their friends from the Gap and elsewhere with an enjoyable house party at their home at Josephine Saturday and Sunday, September 24th and 25th.

The party was begun Saturday afternoon with a motor party over to Dorchester. After supper dancing was enjoyed until 12 o'clock, music being furnished by the Brunswick phonograph.

Sunday morning the whole party was up by 7 o'clock and preparations were begun for a "six mile hike" to the High Knob. They reached the knob after one o'clock where they built a big bonfire and cooked their dinner over the glowing embers in the most primitive fashion. After picking up an abundance of chestnuts they started for home after four o'clock.

Those in the party were Misses Blanche Kennedy, Billy Fulton and Doris Warner, of Big Stone Gap, Babe Chapman, of Norton; Messrs. C. E. Avers, of Gallipolis, Ohio; George C. Stuart, Eddie Carter and Chas. McCorgan, of Norton, Keith Smith and Guy Patrick, of Big Stone Gap, chaperoned by Mr. and Mrs. Troy.

Siphers-Stewart.

A very quiet wedding was solemnized last Wednesday evening, September 28, 1921, at 8 o'clock, when Miss Edna Stewart, of East Stone Gap, became the bride of Mr. Henry Siphers, of Appalachia.

The wedding took place at the Methodist parsonage at Big Stone Gap, Rev. C. W. Dean, pastor of the bride officiating. Those present were Mrs. Dean and daughter Evelyn.

Mr. and Mrs. Siphers will live for the present with Mrs. Siphers' parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Stewart at East Stone Gap.

Free Chest Examination.

How do you feel today? Tired—no appetite—loss of weight? The Virginia Tuberculosis Association and the State Board of Health working with your county health department are holding free chest examinations October 11th, 12th, 13th and 14th. Come and be examined by an expert chest specialist. Know just where you stand on health. Tuberculosis is curable, if taken in time. Early examinations save many lives. Don't be afraid to be told you have an early case. Be afraid not to know until it is too late for a cure. Come to one of the following places:

- St. Paul Oct. 11th—Mayor's Room
- Codorn Oct. 12th—Mayor's Room
- Norton Oct. 13th—County Health Dept.
- Appalachia Oct. 14th—Mayor's Court

These free examinations are made possible by the sale of Christmas seals. You paid when you bought seals last Christmas.

Last year Virginia lost 3,285 citizens from tuberculosis. Of every ten deaths from all causes, one is of tuberculosis. How many people in your community died of this preventable disease—and yet tuberculosis is curable, if taken in time.

For further information, write or phone Dr. W. R. Culbertson, county health department, Norton, Va.

Meetings at Christian Church.

Rev. William Burleigh, pastor of the Christian church, Harlan, Ky., will begin a series of meetings at the Christian church Sunday morning, October 16th, 1921.

Co operation of all religious bodies is invited in this campaign for the Spiritual uplift of our town.

The pastor will preach next Sunday evening at 7:30. Subject: "Profit and Loss." Come, you will be a stranger but once.

Community League Meeting.

There will be a meeting of the Community League in the school auditorium on next Monday afternoon, October 10th at 3:30 o'clock. Every one is especially urged to be present at this meeting.