

# The Big Stone Gap Post

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GILBERT N. KNIGHT, Editor  
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## COMMUNITY SPIRIT

What Big Stone Gap needs more than anything else is a genuine revival of community spirit. A community, according to Webster, is a body of people having common organization on common interests, or living in the same place under the same laws and regulations. Then Big Stone Gap is a community. Our people have common interests; and the people as a whole, are benefitted when these interests are properly guarded and conserved. But it seems very easy for people to live to themselves here. This may be accounted for by the fact that many of them reside here but have their work or business elsewhere. Nevertheless, our homes and families are here, and wherever there are homes and families there should be a healthy community spirit. But what is community spirit and how can it be aroused. In the first place it is a willingness to work with your neighbor in order that together you may do and secure those things which will be conducive to your mutual welfare and happiness. It is cooperation, and the only way to get cooperation is to cooperate. Think about this. Every good thing the town has come through cooperation. Our school, churches, streets, sidewalks, water supply—all came through general consent and joint effort. Many good things have been done. Many remain to be done. Our neighboring towns accuse us of being indifferent to progress and satisfied with what we have. Are we? A community seldom stands still. It either goes forward or backward. We have as many capable people here as any town of its size in the state. But the simple fact that they are here doesn't amount to so much. They must be live, active, and interested in every good movement. They must be more than interested. They must be giving their time and effort where that time and effort will count for a bigger, better, and more progressive community. That is community spirit.

## THE DARWIN TOMMYROT

Editor Crawford took a smash at all and sundry last week, but more particularly did he direct his attack on the law and the church.

Somehow, somewhere Editor Crawford obtained

a lot of queer ideas about the Bible and the wholesome influence it has held for good in a naughty world. He laments the fact that he finds it necessary to "give the same credence to the Adam and Eve story that he gives to the account of the cow jumping over the moon." He also finds it impossible "to swallow the unsubstantiated assertions, such as "The Lord said Let there be light."

Granted that Mr. Crawford has the right to his own beliefs and opinions, no matter how far wrong they may be, it does seem that the press and the pulpit could let such a subject rest. There is too great a tendency on the part of many so-called thinkers to belittle and becloud religion. Such controversies can do no good and a great deal of harm.

To the most of us the childhood conception of a Savior and a Heaven are among our most cherished possessions, even though we have strayed afar. The ideals formed then have been the means of preventing many serious blunders in after life. Men obsessed with the idea of evolution, Darwinism, and such Tommyrot should remember that children are still growing, still entering into that period where life's habits and life's most sacred obligations are unconsciously formed. The pen or the mouth that would intentionally or unintentionally lead one astray would be guilty of an unpardonable crime.

Editor Crawford is a brilliant writer, a close student of men and affairs, and could well direct his thoughts into channels more profitable to his readers and to himself.

## GANGWAY! HERE WE COME!

Doctor John Edward Peatee, the eminent Norton scribe and pilot of the Norton Daily Occasional, was all wrong about the Gap according to the bond election figures. Doctor John had the gall to say the Gap was asleep, and forthwith proceeded to get funny about it. But sundown of the memorable 18th of April showed conclusively that the great Norton doctor had the dope all wrong.

The Gap was wide awake that day. Something started that isn't going to stop right away. It was an epidemic of work like Hellen B. Happy for a good cause and a good town. We had all the excitement we wanted without experiencing the necessity of locking up some foolish Norton sport who had gotten all lit up on monkey rum and come down here "to start something."

It was a great day, Dock! No mean liquor, you know—just the grand old citizenry of the sleepy old Gap manifesting some of its latent pep.

Gangway! We're coming Wise County!

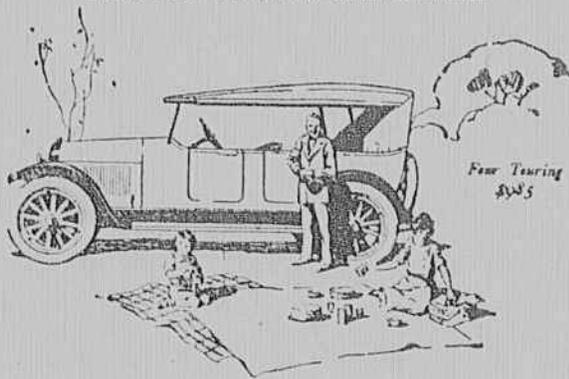
There's a heap of satisfaction in publishing a country newspaper. We know that we earn our money honestly and we earn every penny that we get.

This is the time we beat the other fellows to it by predicting a bumper crop this summer.

The chronic grinch may be without friends, but everybody knows him.

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## J. A. MORRIS

BIG STONE GAP, VA.

## ROAD WORK TO START IN JUNE

(Continued from page one) some street and the First National Bank, and repair bridge at L. & N.

The rebuilding of East 5th street and the widening of Wood avenue from Taylor's store to the bank building will only be done if sufficient funds are left after the contract for the depot to depot portion has been let. Members of the council are confident they will have ample funds to make all the improvements promised.

## SEARCHING FOR STOLEN HORSE

Freeling, Va., April 21.—A party of eight or ten armed men from Kentucky were searching for a stolen horse, which they think was brought across the Cumberland into this state during the week, but so far as known, the search was fruitless. The horse was stolen, they allege, by some one on that side of the border line, brought across and sold for liquor. Certain parties are suspected of having a hand in the deviltry, but the names are not made public yet.

The animal was valued at \$200, being a fine saddle, besides having several points that count in equine value.

## COEBURN IS NO LONGER A DRY TOWN

Our little town of Coeburn is no longer dry, and hasn't been dry for the last week. Although there is a great scarcity of drinking water in Coeburn, it is still a wet town! Now, don't be alarmed fellow citizens, I'm not going to tell a falsehood about your beloved town; nor report any citizen for violating the law.

Old Mother Nature spread her beautiful dark clouds over the earth and gave the command, "Burst!" and a very, very wet town is the result.

The streets have been very muddy, and in terrible condition, even the sidewalks have been frightfully wet but why should we girls worry, our skirts never get within splashing distance of the water, anyway!

The old race track place has been flooded with water, and the meadow between the new garage and the railroad also has been flooded during the last few days. But no harm has been done.

Several small boys spent a pleasant afternoon boarding around our jail during the wet season.

Young men! you should be proud of Mother Nature, as she has done a task that not even the old ridge runners of the back woods have ever succeeded in doing, turning Coeburn into a wet town.—Chinax.

## EXAMINATION FOR TEACHERS

The regular state examination for applicants to teach will be held at Wise, Va., on Friday and Saturday, April 28th and 29th, 1922.

The examination on the Reading Course for the extension or renewal of certificates will be offered on the afternoon of April 29th. This examination will be on O'Brien, Silent Reading and Smith, Teaching Geography by problems.

A second examination, open to all teachers who care to take it, whether in attendance at the summer schools or not, will be given at the summer normal schools at the close of their summer sessions. The examination on the Reading Course for extension or renewal of certificates will be given on the afternoon of the second day of the examinations.

J. J. KELLY, Jr.,  
Division Superintendent.

Live merchants advertise because they want the people to know of the goods they have to sell, especially when more than ordinary values are offered. People read the ads because they want to know where they can buy to the best advantage, and this can only be determined by knowing what the merchant have to offer. The local paper is the medium between seller and buyer. The one should use it, and the other should read it.

Brainless people are fortunate. They are never troubled with brinstorms.

Judge Day may now retire upon his laurels. He has broken into national print.

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