

NORTON CHURCH FORMALLY OPENED

Wise County Baptists Gather at Norton for Opening Service of County's Finest Church—More Than 1,000 Hear Congressman Upshaw

THREE SPECIAL SERVICES

Story of Raising Funds for New Building Like a Page From Arabian Nights—\$50,000 Raised First Year

The new Baptist church at Norton was formally opened in that city on last Sunday morning when Congressman W. D. Upshaw, "the Georgia Cyclone," delivered the opening sermon.

The great building was filled to capacity when Congressman Upshaw began to speak. It is estimated that more than one thousand people attended the morning service.

The weather was ideal. Long before the hour set for the service people began to file into the church. Baptists from all over the county attended. Many visitors especially invited from other denominations were present. Not since the great throngs of the Billy Sunday revival in Norton has there been a more representative congregation gathered in that city. The fame of the new building has traveled far, and the ability of Congressman Upshaw as a speaker is national. The two served as a magnet to draw all in Wise county who are interested in the moral advancement of Southwest Virginia.

Perhaps the greatest surprise came when it was discovered that the Georgia visitor was an invalid, bound to crutches. Speaking part of the time leaning on a crutch, the distinguished statesman from Georgia, delivered one of the greatest sermons ever heard in the county.

At the evening service the Rev. J. B. Craft, of Gate City, delivered a four-minute talk. Always a forceful speaker and not averse to a sally of wit and good cheer, he begged his energetic Baptist brethren not to conceive the notion of taking High Knob.

"If you do," he said, "it is good bye High Knob, for you'll dig it away. You folks get what you go after!"

Following Mr. Craft Congressman Upshaw made the principal address of the evening. The building was not filled to capacity during the evening service. The lower floor was filled, but several vacant seats remained in the balcony.

The opening of the new church is said to mark the greatest single achievement of Christianity in Southwest Virginia. Few churches in the whole state rank higher in modern church and Sunday school architecture. The cost of the building was \$70,000 exclusive of equipment. In addition to this amount the members have raised more than \$3,000 for equipment, and will shortly let a contract for a \$5,000 pipe organ.

The story of the raising of the funds to build the church is a page from Wise county's Arabian Nights. For loyalty, generosity and faithful work the magnificent temple will long stand as a monument to the Baptists of Norton and Wise county. During the first year the members subscribed \$45,070.00 of the total amount. An additional \$4,550.00 was subscribed by non-Baptist friends in Norton, and another \$500 by friends of the church living out of Norton, making a total of \$50,120.00 raised during the time the building was being erected. The balance of \$20,000 will be raised this year.

WREN MOVES INTO POLLY BUNGALOW

W. H. Wren, general manager of the Mineral Motor Company, has moved into the Polly bungalow which he purchased a week or so ago.

He sold his old home to Harold Ramsey, who will move into it at once.

Some people are experts at getting into trouble and keeping out of jail.

THE TRI-COUNTY ANNUAL SINGING CONVENTION

The fourth annual singing convention for Lee, Scott and Wise counties is drawing near. The fourth session of this wonderful organization will be held at Big Stone Gap, at the Ball Park, beginning on Saturday at one o'clock p. m., May 27th, then at the Northern Methodist church at seven o'clock at night. Then on Sunday, May the 28th, at nine o'clock a. m.

This promises to be one of the greatest conventions of the kind ever held in Southwest Virginia.

It is the wish of the officers that as many choirs as can be present on Saturday afternoon, as the business of the convention will be transacted at this time. If there are some choirs that can not be present at the Saturday afternoon meeting, then it will be your duty to send a representative, that you may have part in the electing the officers for the year 1923.

The song service at night will be conducted by the leaders of the different choirs. Many choirs in Wise county can come to this night service in automobiles and return home the same night, and then get ready for the Sunday singing.

The convention proper will be held on Sunday. We are expecting about fifteen choirs on Sunday, besides the quartette classes. There will also be some solos and duets during the day. The officers and teachers and leaders are going to work out a program that will be very interesting.

Our reason for going to Big Stone Gap two years in succession is this: In May, 1921, we held our annual convention at Big Stone and it was such a great success that the good people of Big Stone Gap asked us to come back again in 1922. We shall be more able to give the people a better chance to hear the singing this year than in 1921, for the fact is Patrolman Jervis and Mayor Horsley, with the co-operation of the other boosters of singing are going to erect a stage in front of the Grand Stand so the singers will be on an elevated position, facing the audience. Then there will be ropes stretched across the road way, to prevent automobiles from uttering their unmusical sounds the whole day through.

There will be refreshments on the grounds at a reasonable price, which will be a great accommodation to the general public.

If the editors of the different papers of the county will copy this article, and run it in their papers, it will be greatly appreciated by the singers, and singing boosters, and may also add to their subscription list one or more subscribers.

L. V. JONES, Sec'y.

TWO MEN KILLED IN JOSEPHINE MINES

One of the worst accidents that has happened in the coal mines at Josephine occurred Friday morning about nine o'clock, when Harry Lee Snodgrass, Jr., and Clarence E. Sloan were killed by a fall of slate.

The two men were working together in No. 6 mine, which is being operated by J. D. Poore and Company. They were about two thousand feet back under ground from the main entrance. The piece of slate which fell was about fifteen feet long, eight feet wide and one foot thick. Mr. Snodgrass was killed instantly and Mr. Sloan died in seven minutes after they reached the Norton Hospital with him. The bodies of both men were taken in charge by Undertaker Fred H. King, of Norton, and prepared for burial.

Mr. Sloan, aged about 40 years, was born in Scott county at Fort Blackmore. He is survived by his wife and two small children. He was buried Sunday morning about 10 o'clock in the cemetery at Norton by the Order of Red Men.

Harry Lee Snodgrass, Jr., aged 23, was a veteran of the World War. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Hannah Snodgrass, and by his parents and seven brothers and sisters.

He was buried in the O'Neil cemetery near his home in Josephine Monday afternoon at two o'clock.

GARRETT'S ATHLETES ARE EASY WINNERS IN INTER-HI SCHOOL MEET

Letcher Bunn and George Goodloe Carry off Major Share of Honors for Gap—Kemp, of Norton, and Fulton, of Wise, Do Great Work

BUNN OUTSTANDING FIGURE OF DAY

Gap Wins All But Three Events and Pile Up a Total of 70 Points—Norton Has 26, Wise 19.

About five hundred people witnessed the Inter-High School Field Meet here last Saturday when the local boys romped to an easy victory over Norton and Wise.

The work of Bunn and Goodloe for the Gap, Kemp for Norton and Fulton for Wise were the outstanding features of the day. The ball game between Wise and Big Stone had given much promise but the Law Makers were unable to fathom the twisters of Littrell and went down 8-0. The first half of the game was interesting, but once the heavy slugging of Coach Garrett's champions started the game was all over.

In all but three events the local boys held first place. Norton was victorious in the 100-yard and 220 yard dashes. Fulton, of Wise, won the mile race against the whole field. In all other events the Gap boys demonstrated their superiority and maintained their reputation as leaders in Wise county athletics. The visiting boys were keen sportsmen, hard workers and good losers. They fought gamely in every event and went down only after a gallant struggle.

Letcher Bunn and George Goodloe were the stars for the local school. Kemp, of Norton, was the outstanding figure among the visitors. Bunn won the shot put, broad jump, high jump and 120-yard low hurdles, and piled up a total of 27 points for his team. George Goodloe done his most sensational work in the pole vault event against Hamilton, of

Wise. Perhaps no one event during the day had so many thrills. Hamilton contested every inch the Gap boy climbed upward, but was finally unable to cross the bar at 104 inches.

Goodloe crossed it with ease and won. He amassed a total of 15 points for the Gap. Kemp, Norton's sprinter, made a total of 13 points. The greatest single achievement goes to Bunn. His work netted the Gap more points than did the combined work of Norton's fine team.

When the day closed the score stood as follows: Big Stone Gap, 70 points; Norton, 26 points, and Wise 19 points. Coeburn did not show up.

The surprising things that happened during the day were many. Carl Knight walked away with the half-mile race for the Gap, and came in third a few minutes later on the mile chase. But perhaps the biggest surprise came when little 13 year old J. A. Youell chased his Wise competitor around the track for the mile and came in a close second. He is following close on the heels of his brother, Pat, who Y. M. C. A. Turner says is the best sprinter in the county.

It was a pity that more people were not on hand to witness the efforts of the boys. The afternoon was ideal for athletics. The diamond was fast, and all the boys in great form. They provided many a thrill, and left no doubt in the minds of the crowd what sort of stuff Wise county boys are made of.

GAPITES JOURNEY TO RESERVOIR

Thirteen men of this place spent Sunday at the Gap's big reservoir. The party, including L. O. Pettit, L. B. Wilcox and son; W. J. Rogers and son; D. C. Wolfe, Beulah Banks, A. L. Witt, G. D. Jenkins, J. M. Blessing, Nick Seals and Mr. Wells, left Kelly's drug store at eight o'clock and went to the foot of the mountain in the big truck of the Taubel-Scott-Kitzinger Company. By ten the party reached the reservoir and at noon had their lunch.

After lunch the party climbed Huff's Rock and looked for Big Stone through their field glasses. Nothing but the postoffices could be located. About three the mountain climbers started home.

CIVIC BETTERMENT CLUBS

The Wise County Federation of Civic Betterment Clubs will hold a semi-annual meeting at Wise, Virginia, at Baptist church at 10 o'clock a. m., May 11, 1922. Among the speakers will be Dr. Daisy Robinson, of Washington, D. C. Subject: Woman's responsibility in health. Mr. C. R. McCorkle, Subject: Public Service and County Government. All citizens of the county are welcome.

HOTEL NORTON INSTITUTES NOVEL PLAN

Manager J. Arch Sterne, of the Hotel Norton, has instituted a novel plan to attract traveling men to "Sunday" in Norton. Most of the knights of the grip head for the big towns to spend Sunday where conveniences are supposed to be the best.

Believing that the Hotel Norton is as good as anything Bluefield, Bristol or Roanoke has to offer Manager Sterne offers the boys a reduction of 50 cents per day on each room, starting with Friday. The plan is already drawing salesmen to Norton who wish to have the best for a little less.

MANAGER TAYLOR COMPETES FOR PRODUCER'S PRIZE

Manager of Local Theatre Will Try for Cash Prize Offered by Producers of Robinson Crusoe, the Serial Now Running at the Amuzu.

The story of Robinson Crusoe, now gaining in popularity with the children of Big Stone Gap as it is being run at the local playhouse, has created a nation wide interest. The story of Defoe is known to all. The children, as well as grown-ups, delight in the hardy adventure of the famous old gentleman.

To make the story more interesting to the children Manager Taylor is offering a real parrot to the boy or girl who has received the largest number of votes when the great serial closes. While the boys and girls are working for the parrot the Amuzu manager is working just as hard to win a prize offered by the producers of the pictures to the theatre creating the most novel method of advertising the film.

Several brilliant ideas have been submitted to the Universal people by Mr. Taylor and he is confident of carrying one of the prizes.

BODLEY-STUART

The wedding of Miss Ellen Pearce Bodley and Mr. William Alexander Stuart, of Big Stone Gap, Va., took place at 8 o'clock last night at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Temple Bodley, on Oak Street. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Dr. Chas. R. Hemphill in the presence of the two immediate families and a few close friends. The house was decorated with iris and other spring flowers and illuminated with candle light.

Mrs. Harry Boone Porter of Kansas City, was the matron of honor. Miss Edith Bodley, sister of the bride, was the maid of honor. Mr. Walter P. Stuart, of Elk Garden, Va., was his brother's best man.

The bride wore a wedding gown of white satin trimmed in duchess and rose point lace. The satin fell in an unbroken line from the neck to the hem in front, with a brilliant effect at the hips. The neck was edged with the lace, which formed the tiny cap sleeves. The court train was ornamental at the hem with a bertha of lace caught with wreaths of orange blossoms. The tulle veil was adjusted with a flaring bandeau of rose point lace caught at the nape of the neck with a cluster of orange blossoms.

A shower bouquet of lilies of the valley and columbine composed the bridal bouquet.

The bride's attendants were dressed in rose and pink chiffon cut in pointed petal draperies with the waist line defined with a deep rose satin sash tied at the side in a large bow.

Both carried bouquets of pink roses, lavender ageratum and blue daisies.

The bride's table was decorated with iris pink roses and ageratum. At this table were seated: Mr. and Mrs. William Alexander Stuart, Raymond Gordon Clark, Joseph Rodes, Mrs. Harry Boone Porter; Misses Edith Bodley, Margaret Stuart, of Elk Garden, Va.; Margaret Wise, of Macon, Ga.; Meta Baldwin, Catherine Burge and Margaret Norton; Messrs. Walter Stuart, Harry C. Stuart, of Elk Garden, Va.; Lawrence L. Anderson, Jr.; Neville Miller, Jack Speed, James Thompson and Horace Coleman. Mr. and Mrs. Stuart left last night on their wedding journey, and at its conclusion will make their home in Big Stone Gap.

Among the out-of-town guests for the wedding were: Mr. and Mrs. John J. Stuart, of Abingdon, Va., parents of the bride-groom; former Governor Henry C. Stuart, Miss Margaret Stuart; Messrs. Walter Stuart and Harry Stuart, all of Elk Garden, Va.; Mrs. Rogers Shatleigh, of St. Louis; Miss Margaret Wise, of Macon, Ga.; Mrs. Harry Boone Porter, of Kansas City; Miss Hazell Cornell, of Winnetka, Ill.; Mr. Foster Witt, of Richmond, Va.; Miss Florence Davenport, of St. Paul; Mrs. Charlton Messick, of St. Louis and Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Irvine, of Big Stone Gap.—Louisville Courier Journal.

HI FARCE SCORES BIG HIT FRIDAY

"Nothing But the Truth" Presented Successfully by Faculty and Students—Large Audience Delighted With Work of Local Actors—

To pick the star of "Nothing But the Truth," the successful High School farce, which was presented to a delighted audience in the school building on last Friday night, would be no easy task.

The cast was well balanced, exceptionally well directed for an amateur production, and was entirely free of that familiar drag found in almost all non-professional efforts. There is much to praise and little to criticize. Miss Rice performed a hard task well. The "business" of every character with the exception of Miss Mary Davenport as Mrs. Ralston, and Arthur Foster as Bishop Doran, was not up to the standard set by the rest of their work. There was a tendency throughout the play for the actors to keep to their feet, and to unconsciously locate the position in the picture the director had given them during rehearsal. But even this did not keep the play from being one of the finest pieces of amateur acting ever seen in this county.

Charles Stacy, as the truth-loving Bob Bennett, gave a finished performance and had the audience with him from the curtain. His work gave every evidence of careful directing and artistic conception. He is an actor of exceptional ability, and should he desire to, could develop into a comedian of much promise. The quaint, unconscious humor of his work was a rare treat, and was a deciding factor in the success of the evening.

Playing opposite him was Miss Blanche Kennedy as Gwen Ralston. Ability and charm is a rare combination even in the professional ranks, and Miss Kennedy possessed both. In the difficult courtship scenes, usually made ludicrous by the amateur stage lover, she established herself as a young woman of real ability. She took her work seriously and never stopped working. Her gowns were lovely and tastefully picked for each scene.

Character work in amateur or professional plays is always a pitfall for a perfectly good production to fall in. In the case of E. M. Ralston, played by John Allen Kilbourne, the role was admirably filled. John Allen was a "hard boiled" business man, monstache and all. Not once did he unconsciously revert back to John A., but remained steadfastly E. M. Ralston to the final curtain. And this was a particularly pleasing feature of the play. Only real ability can persuade an audience to forget the actors are home town folks and not the play things of a gifted author's imagination. This is what he did, and in doing it he established a reputation that will stand unrivaled in Wise county for a long time.

Miss Mary Davenport, as Mrs. Ralston, gave one of the finest performances seen in Big Stone Gap in some time. She knew her part, moved with the ease and certainty of a finished actress, and made the most of a difficult role. Her gowns, like Miss Kennedy's, were carefully and tastefully chosen. She would be at home on any stage.

Arthur Foster, as Bishop Doran, had the most difficult role in the play. He is a youngster, but (Continued on fourth page)

DELIGHTFUL GATHERING AT MR. MORRIS' HOME

Saturday evening about 40 folks from East Stone Gap and Cracker's Neck met for a singing at the home of Mr. and Mrs. T. G. Morris above East Stone Gap. Delicious sandwiches, cocoa and candy were served. Cordial reception given the guests by Mr. and Mrs. Morris, and the apparent happiness of all present made the occasion an unusually pleasant one which will be long remembered by those who attended the gathering. It is such whole-hearted hospitality and good fellowship which makes life worth while.