

The Big Stone Gap Post

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Some people are perfectly willing to feed millions of dollars to the birds—provided they are other people's dollars. Europe never tires of importuning this country for great loans, while at the same time they are spending their own money on the maintenance of immense armies. With Europe on the brink of another war, with industries torn and disrupted, with bolshevism boring under the surface, with hatred and distrust everywhere, it is difficult to understand how adequate security can be offered for such loans. International bankers and bond houses may advocate them, but such concerns do not as a rule invest their own money. The glib public supplies the "dough" when it buys the bonds. And incidentally, Mr. International Banker slices off his full pound of flesh by underwriting the bond issue. If we have any money to feed to the birds we can find plenty of the featherly tribe in our own yards. Feeding, like charity, should begin at home.

For many years the women of this country have been demanding equal rights with men in the matter of voting and holding office. Man, realizing the justness of their demands, has conferred the right of franchise upon them. Is woman making the most of her newborn freedom and independence? She is not. The toy is becoming old, and rather troublesome. It does not appeal as strongly to her as it did when it was a forbidden article. This is not to be regretted, for men of character had hoped that the women would aid in driving the crooks out of public office. Upright and honorable officials feel just as keenly on this subject as do the layman who are disappointed in the dwindling feminine vote. When the women are in strong force at the polls the crooks and the professional barnacles have a hard road to travel. With women becoming indifferent and remaining at home on election days gang rule will become as firmly established as ever before. Women, as well as men, owe a duty to their country. That duty, having been assumed, should now be performed.

Steadily Improving

People who expected to see the United States resume its normal status following the war were disappointed.

Those who pinned their hopes to a slow but gradual readjustment are witnessing the vindication of their judgment.

Neither wages nor prices will ever go back to the pre-war level. Men who have enjoyed a long taste of high wages and easy work will not willingly return to long hours and grueling toil and poor pay. Manufacturers and dealers who have reveled in sky profits fight shy of the old system of slim pickings and few of them.

That is human nature, and nature makes all laws and regulates all things.

It was, however, manifestly impossible to maintain wages and profits at the sky peak of war days. Abnormality may prevail for a period, but in the end it must give way to national thought and action.

Prices of necessities, and of even luxuries, have been steadily declining for a long time. The same is true of labor, and of all of the raw materials that go into construction or production of articles of daily use.

The fall has been slow but gradual, and some time must still lapse before we reach that level which will insure the return of a full measure of prosperity to the country.

The situation, however, is fairly satisfactory and full of promise, and the future is bright to those who can see.

Jury service is one of the first duties of citizenship. It is one of the last duties the average citizen is willing to perform. Men of character and ability who are possessed of the qualifications necessary to the rendering of fair and intelligent verdicts will go to great lengths in order to evade service on a jury. At the same time they will criticize the verdicts of those who are willing to serve. The average man feels that he cannot afford to neglect his business interests in order to spend two or three days of a week in a jury box at small pay. The financial sacrifice such service entails is a barrier between him and his duty to his community. He forsakes duty in his efforts to evade the sacrifice. In too many cases this attitude fills the juries with men who are not fitted morally or intellectually to perform their duties without fear or favor. The result is spread broadcast over the country in the form of criminality that appears to be unchecked and constantly on the increase. The law of nature requires that we reap as we sow, and even now the hum of the reaper is deafening in our ears.

Do not spend too much time looking for soft berths in this life. It may wait for the hard one in life to come.

COEBURN'S MAYOR IS VICTIM OF ENRAGED MINER

Mayor Quillin, of Coeburn, is Shot Four Times by John King, a Miner of That Place—Quillin Had Sent King's Son to Reformatory for Housebreaking

Believing that Mayor Quillin, of Coeburn, had unjustly sent his son to the reformatory for house-breaking, John King, a miner, shot Quillin when they met on Main Street in front of Bloom's store about 11:45 yesterday morning.

The shooting took place while the town election was in progress, and in view of many people who were standing on the street. Mayor Quillin was not a candidate for re-election and the shooting did not rise from a political difference as was first reported.

After being shot Quillin ran sixty feet up the street, and into a store. As he ran one bullet lodged into his arm and three more in his back. He was rushed to the Coeburn Hospital, where his condition is said to be critical.

King was placed under arrest and held without bond.

Rev. and Mrs. E. C. Burns left Monday morning for Lynchburg where they will spend several days.

Mrs. D. A. Sargent and little daughter, Ruth, are spending this week in Bristol and Gate City visiting relatives and friends. Mrs. A. J. Wolfe, who has been in the Gap several days, accompanied them.

G. N. Knight returned to his home in the Gap Friday night after a week's visit to his daughter, Mrs. P. H. Graham, at her home in New York. Mrs. Gilberta, his daughter, who accompanied him up there will spend the summer in New York.

Mrs. R. T. Irvine and children, who have been spending a few weeks with relatives in Richmond returned home Sunday night. Little Miss Helen Irvine, who spent the winter in Richmond attending school, returned to the Gap to spend the summer with her parents.

Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Cochran, who have been spending the past month in Richmond visiting their daughter, Mrs. W. G. Hopkins, returned to their home in the Gap Monday night. Mrs. Tom Cochran went over to Bristol Monday morning and accompanied them home.

Why not make your store windows attractive, says Mr. Morton. This week Mr. F. L. Morton has displayed in the line of groceries one of the most attractive windows ever seen in the Gap. From the bell on the steam engine to the last box car, all of groceries, was originated by Mr. Morton, himself. The most attractive to a small town is the well decorated show windows.

Mrs. F. B. Stone left Friday morning for Athens, Tenn., where she will spend two or three weeks visiting homefolks. She will also visit at Knoxville and Chattanooga before returning to the Gap.

Dr. and Mrs. Samuel Nickels have returned to their home in Clinchport after spending several days in the Gap with relatives.

CARD PARTY FOR VISITOR

Last Wednesday afternoon Mrs. G. F. Scott entertained with several tables of "Hearts" a large number of her friends in the Gap, complimentary to her sister, Mrs. Sanders of Roanoke.

Mrs. W. M. Lyle received the least number of Hearts during the afternoon and won first prize. Mrs. Caroline Lewis received the most Hearts and won the Booby prize. Mrs. J. J. Kelly, Jr., won the Consolation prize.

Mrs. Scott served a delicious two-course luncheon to the guests at the card tables at the close of the game.

CORRECTION

The scholarship medals given each year by the Big Stone Gap Chapter, U. D. C., were won this year by Arthur Foster, Senior Class, Miss Ruth Smith, Junior Class, Sarah Broadwater, fifth grade.

"I say old man, did you see that perfectly priceless girl smile at me?"
Oh yes! but that's nothing. I laughed out loud when I saw you first, but I soon got used to it."
Bystander.

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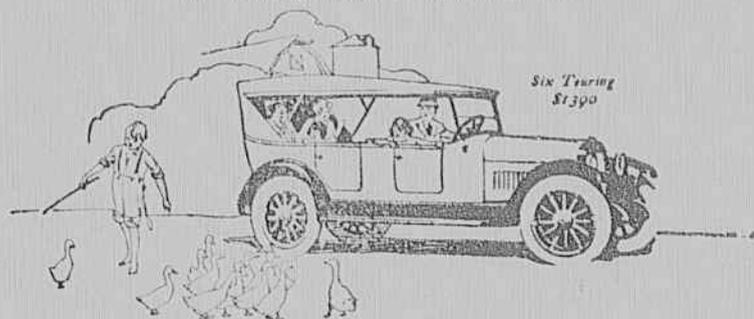
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