

The Big Stone Gap Post.

VOL. XXVII,

BIG STONE GAP, WISE COUNTY, VA., WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30, 1919.

No. 18

30 Per Cent.

Rise in Building Materials is Predicted for the Fall.

The above prediction appears to be that of the majority of those who are both directly and indirectly connected in any way with the building situation as it exists all over the country.

The Government of the United States realizing the seriousness of the situation, has begun, as every one should know, an active propaganda to promote the building of more homes everywhere throughout the country.

The Government.—Owing to the fact that in the last four years practically no building has been done, you might say the world over, now that we are free from the responsibilities of the terrible days of the war, we find the whole country sadly in need of homes for its people. Especially is this true in the outlying towns in farming and mining districts.

As a result of the awakening consciousness of the immediate needs of our own small community, the Young Men's Club, of Big Stone Gap, was organized and succeeded in putting on its feet an organization to further the ways and means for the man of small means to build a home. Not only did the club stimulate thought along building lines, it hoped to stimulate action in the direction of home-building in our town, and it succeeded, but only in part.

A Warning.—What the club wants to know is what has become of the twenty odd men who promised to build on their own initiative? Are these men holding up the fulfillment of their verbal yet actual and matter-of-fact promises because lumber and other building material is too high? They will wait in vain. And when the time comes that they will be known for their false promises, — and it will come, — unless they begin building very soon, building material will have advanced no doubt 30 per cent., owing to the unavoidable shortage of lumber stacked in the yards and the increased demand for all kinds of lumber to be used for building purposes.

The Farmer's New Year Book

Commissioner Koerner, of the State Department of Agriculture, is mailing out his new Year Book. It is sent free to all farmers who desire a copy.

This Year Book is full of practical and helpful information to all classes of farmers. The report gives an account of the various lines of work the department is doing to help the farmer. Valuable articles are given on soil improvement in the most practical and economic way, the care of the fruit orchard, including a full spraying calendar for all fruits and vegetables — important to every farmer and owner of a garden; the feeding and care of live stock; discussions on cattle, hogs and sheep; in fact, nearly everything relating to good farming is discussed in this Year Book. It is free to the farmer and all farmers would be interested in reading it. A postal addressed to G. W. Koerner, Commissioner, Richmond, Va., will get it.

YOUNG MEN'S CLUB MEETS FRIDAY EVENING

We have the pleasure of announcing that Hon. C. Bascom Slemph has indicated his willingness to address our club Friday evening at 8:00 o'clock on the subject of Building More Homes. All are cordially invited to come and hear what a well-informed man has to say about the situation with which the country at large and our community in particular is confronted. Mr. Slemph speaks with authority.

(Build more homes).

Veterans of World War

Organizing "American Legion" Southwest Virginia Branch to Hold Meeting at Bristol on May 3rd.

The veterans of the great war in the armies of the United States are taking active steps to organize themselves into a great national body called the American Legion corresponding to the United Confederate Veterans or the Grand Army of the Republic. The movement started at a meeting of American soldiers in Paris, France, on March 15, 1919, which passed the following resolution: "We, the members of the Military and Naval Services of the United States of America in the Great War, desiring to perpetuate the principles of Justice, Freedom and Democracy for which we have fought; to inculcate the duty and obligation of the citizen to the State; to preserve the history and incidents of our participation in the war; and to cement the ties of comradeship formed in service, do propose to found and establish an Association for the furtherance of the foregoing purposes.

Those eligible to membership shall be: All officers and enlisted personnel of the Military and Naval Services of the United States of America at any time during the period from April 6th, 1917, until November 11th 1918, both inclusive; excepting, however, persons leaving the service without an honorable discharge or persons who having been called into the service refused, failed, or attempted to evade the full performance of such service."

A great National Convention has now been called to meet at St. Louis on May 8-9 with delegates from every state in the Union to create a national organization and make general plans looking to the future.

Lieutenant-Colonel Stuart McGuire is chairman for Virginia and the local chairman for Southwest Virginia is Major W. A. Stuart, of Big Stone Gap. A meeting of all soldiers who can attend is called for May 31 at the Hotel Bristol, at Bristol, Virginia, at 1:30 P. M. Eastern Time. At this meeting the Southwest Virginia Branch of the American Legion will be organized, and delegates will be elected to the St. Louis convention, Southwest Virginia being entitled to two delegates.

The returning soldiers are taking up this idea with great enthusiasm everywhere and a large and representative meeting is expected at Bristol to start off the Southwest Virginia Branch. The national organization will be very powerful and all soldiers who can possibly do so should help in forming it. Wise County should be well represented at the Bristol meeting.

Just Facts

The government of the United States is your government.

That government has given its sacred word to do certain things.

These things require the expenditure of great sums of money.

Your government must keep its word, must spend these sums of money.

This money can only be secured now in two ways: either by taxation or by borrowing.

Taxes are high enough, are they not? Nevertheless, they will not produce enough to meet the present need.

Then, the only way the United States can pay for peace is by borrowing the balance needed, \$4,500,000,000.

All right then, your government must borrow \$4,500,000,000 and since other countries have no money to lend, it must borrow the money in the United States and from one or two sources.

Your government must borrow from the banks and other financial institutions or it must borrow from millions of patriotic citizens.

If this money could be borrowed from the banks, would it be wise? With all of their capital tied up in government securities, how could the banks perform their normal functions of financing regular business enterprises and development projects? Without being financed, how could factories and business operate, how could the country be developed, how could labor be employed, how could people live? Think it over!

Very well then, there is one course left open. Your government must borrow from you and from every other individual up to each one's limit of lending.

Hence the Victory Liberty Loan on April 21, 1919—the loan of victory, peace and thanksgiving.

These are just facts. Can you see any other way out of it? We can't. The Treasury Department cannot, and after you think it over and consider that the government is asking you to subscribe for an absolutely gilded, short term, good interest bearing security, and by doing it help pay for victory and peace and prosperity, you won't want to find any other way out, but will. Like a true American, you will step up and say—

"Sure, we'll finish the job! Uncle Sam can have the use of all my money to pay for peace! I can go over the top in the Victory Liberty Loan if my boy could do it at St. Mihiel!"

DELIGHTFUL EASTER DANCE

The Stonegap Dancing Club gave a delightful dance on Tuesday, April 22nd, which was largely attended by dancers from Big Stone Gap, Appalachia, Norton, Wise, Coaburn, Rota, Exeter, Keokee and Osaka. Music was furnished by Harris' Saxophone Orchestra from Bluefield, and was thoroughly enjoyed by the large number present. Refreshments of sandwiches and coffee were served at midnight, after which they danced until 3:00 a. m. All left seeming to have had a good time. The following people danced:

Big Stone Gap.—Mrs. Louise Waverly, Miss Ruth Crosscut, Miss Margaret Miller, Miss Christine Miller, Miss Janet Bailey, Miss Miriam Taylor, Miss Edna Taylor, Mrs. F. W. Lewis, Mr. W. C. Shank, Mr. J. B. Christian, Mr. T. I. Cantrell, Major W. A. Stuart, Mr. W. C. Nimsler, Mr. Guy Patrick, Mr. Browne Polly, Mr. Byron Rhoads, Mr. Chapman, Mr. F. C. Saburn, Mr. E. E. Fleming, Coaburn.—Miss Mary Lee, Mr. J. S. Siphers, Mr. Claud Nowels, Norton.—Miss Kate Counts, Mr. Thos. R. Williams, Mr. Donald W. Cooke, Osaka.—Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Tate, Rota.—Mr. Curtis Robbins, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Estill, Dr. and Mrs. B. C. Benson.

Stone, Ky.—A. C. Culbertson, Dunbar.—D. N. Stallard, Exeter.—Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Crocker, Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Adkins, Miss Edith Lent, Mr. W. J. B. Mayo, Imboden.—Miss Evans, Mr. Robert Wells.

Keokee.—Miss Backman, Miss Pannell, Mrs. South, Miss Page, Mrs. Reppas, Miss Sarah Reese, Miss Anna Reese, Miss Ruth Reese, Miss Cochran, Miss Cooper, Miss Velma King, Miss Nell Lavin, Miss Lane, Miss Roland Wells, Miss Alma Wells, Mr. and Mrs. King, Mr. A. H. Hund, Mr. F. H. Cavill, Mr. Hugh Reese, Mr. Dave Reese, Mr. Tom Reese, Mr. E. W. Petty, Mr. Sam Rawlston.

Appalachia.—Miss Grady Lee Johnson, Miss Elizabeth Edwards, Miss Patsy Hamilton, Miss Bailey, Mr. Moody, Miss Edna Carrier, Miss Elizabeth Sullivan, Mr. Denver Brown, Mr. Howard Cross, Mr. Jack Flanery, Mr. Hugh Silcox, Mr. Carl Shumaker.

Stonegap.—Mr. and Mrs. C. G. Duffy, Mr. and Mrs. M. H. Duff, Mr. and Mrs. S. J. Gundry, Mr. and Mrs. J. Young, Mr. and Mrs. McCoy, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Groseclose, Miss Abbe Horne, Miss Beas Young, Miss Nita Collier, Miss Mae Tilly, Miss Williams, Miss Grace Stair, Miss Horton, Miss Margaret Payton, Mr. and Mrs. P. W. Gundry, Mr. Fred Haley, Mr. Chas. Duff, Jr., Mr. A. S. Pennington, Mr. Louis Fisher, Mr. Howard Collier, Mr. Kyle Carico, Mr. O. W. Rhodensiser, Mr. J. B. Jarvis.

Congressman C. B. Slemph, who has been in Big Stone Gap for the past week, was an Appalachia visitor Tuesday. He says that he can and will get an appropriation for a Government building in Appalachia if a suitable building site can be procured.—Appalachia Progressive.

Asks Davis

To Make Known His Position on Road Project.

Richmond, Va., April 24.—Strong resolutions were adopted today by the executive committee of the Virginia Good Roads Association "respectfully, but earnestly" calling on Governor Westmoreland Davis to make known his position in the matter, and his reasons in writing, for not having called a special session of the General Assembly, as requested by the association on March 11, to match the Federal appropriation for the construction of roads in the state. In view of the fact that the Governor is confined to his bed by illness and could not receive visitors, the committee named to deliver the resolution called at the Executive Mansion and left them with Colonel LeRoy Hodges, the Governor's aid.

The resolutions, which were passed unanimously by the committee, stress the importance of the good roads movement, and place the matter square before the Governor, seeking an explanation why he has not acted in the matter. They set forth that approximately \$6,000,000 is now available for road work, and that an additional \$375,000 will be obtained by taxation next fall, while the highway department has already negotiated contracts for \$850,000, leaving \$125,000 with which to meet the residue of the Federal appropriation. The matter is placed squarely before the Governor in the closing section of the resolutions, which are as follows:

"The Virginia Good Roads Association, Chambers of Commerce, Boards of Trade, Boards of Supervisors, Rotary Clubs, Automobile Clubs and Kindred organizations throughout the state, together with numerous private individuals and a considerable number of the members of the Legislature have requested the Governor to call an extra session for the purpose indicated.

"Governor Davis has not yet acted in response to the previous request of this committee made on March 11, 1919, and a prompt decision on this important question is vital. Now therefore, be it

"Resolved, That the Executive Committee of the Virginia Good Roads Association earnestly renew its former request to the Governor that he call an extra session of the General Assembly at once to consider making adequate provisions to meet a part of the Federal aid for road construction now available during the year 1920.

"Resolved, That Governor Davis is respectfully but earnestly requested to make known his position on this most important matter at once in writing, giving his reasons therefor."

Theatrical.

"He's all right as a husband, but when it comes to acting in motion pictures with him—no, thank you!"

This is the reply of Mildred Harris, dainty star of Lois Weber's latest Jewel Production, "When a Girl Loves," to a query as to whether it was true that she would co-star with her husband, Charlie Chaplin, on the screen. The report was current soon after their recent marriage.

"We are altogether different types and of different temperaments," she exclaimed. "I do not care to appear in comedies of the kind in which Charlie is popular."

In "When a Girl Loves," Mrs. Chaplin is appearing in her first six-reel Western drama. It is a thrilling story of an atheist's reformation by a beautiful girl. She is supported by an excellent cast.—Amuzu To-Day.

Go to church next Sunday.

Enthusiastic Good Roads Meeting

With only a few hours notice of a good roads meeting, a big bunch of Harlan county boosters met at the court house last Friday evening to greet Congressman J. M. Robson and listen to his talk on securing Federal aid for good roads in Harlan and adjoining counties.

Congress has appropriated over two hundred million dollars for road building in the various states, Harlan, Letcher and Bell counties are designated for Federal aid, and for every dollar the county spends the Government proposes to spend two dollars. The proposed roads would connect with the Government Highway in Letcher county and the Dixie Highway in Bell county.

The meeting was organized with P. V. Cole as president and D. G. Jones as secretary. A committee composed of W. F. Hall, G. T. Howard, W. L. Bailey, J. S. Forester, J. G. Forester, Senator Brock, and D. N. Hawkins was appointed to confer with Letcher and Bell county citizens on the plan of co-operating to obtain Federal aid, and the committee met at the county judge's office last Saturday and formulated plans to go after such help. A joint committee from Bell, Harlan and Letcher counties will be appointed to confer with the State Road Commissioner Wiley.

After Mr. Robson's speech a round-the-table discussion was offered and the slogan will be "Federal Aid for Harlan County roads."

Under the present law the government agrees to spend two dollars for every dollar the county expends, and the state one dollar. Thus if Harlan county expend \$100,000, the state would put up \$100,000 and the government \$200,000, making \$400,000 in all.

The road plans and routes approved by the government experts and the construction work done under state supervision, thus ensuring the work to be done according to governmental and state standards.

Bell county has already sent word they will work in hearty co-operation with Harlan county and will build their roads to the Harlan county line. Whatever is done in the matter will have to be arranged before July 1st, as on that date if the different counties do not comply with the terms the money available will revert to the treasury.

Everyone knows we need good roads in Harlan county, and this is the greatest opportunity to get three dollars for every one we expend ever offered, and every man in this county should constitute himself a committee of one to boost the project.

It not only means good roads, which we must have to develop our immense resources, but it means employment to hundreds of men in the country as well.—Harlan, Kentucky, Enterprise.

Fire in Turkey Cove.

The residence of P. M. Reaser on his farm in Turkey Cove was totally destroyed by fire last Friday afternoon at about 2 o'clock. The building was occupied by a tenant by the name of Tom Fanon, who by the help of some neighbors, managed to save part of the household goods. The fire originated in the roof and had gained much headway when it was discovered. There was no insurance.

Sale Saturday, May 3rd.

Cakes and pies, the best of eats Children's clothes and dainty feats of sewing and embroidery, to be seen And bought, of course, by you, queen, Or king, indeed, if such there be Anywhere in this vicinity, Who dominates the home and purse His wife, their children and the nurse. Monte Vista Hotel, 10 a. m.

Wise County

Goes Over the Top in the Victory Loan

In the drives held in Big Stone Gap, Norton, Appalachia and Wise up to the present time these towns have put Wise County \$80,300 over the top in the Victory Liberty Loan now going on. The County's quota is \$393,700, and with the drives yet to be conducted at Coaburn and St. Paul it is believed the county will almost double its quota before the close of the campaign on May 10th. Big Stone Gap was the first town in the county to start a campaign and more than double its quota of \$29,200 was subscribed in one day. Since then several thousand dollars have been added to the subscriptions.

On last Friday Norton held its drive and enrolled \$155,000 in subscriptions, exceeding its quota of \$100,000 by \$55,000. On Saturday afternoon Appalachia conducted its drive and subscribed \$265,000, exceeding its quota of \$112,000 by \$153,000. On Sunday afternoon the drive at Wise took place and the county seat subscribed \$41,000, exceeding its quota of \$33,000 by \$8,000, making a total subscription subscribed \$464,000.

County chairman, C. S. Carter, and vice-chairman, R. B. Abover, and those engaged with them throughout the county in putting it over the top in the list of the liberty loans, are to be congratulated on the magnificent and faithful work they have done. They said it could be done, and it was.

Sunday School Worker to Visit Big Stone Gap.

Miss Katharine Groh, state superintendent of the children's division of the Virginia Sunday School Association, will be in Big Stone Gap Wednesday to assist the Sunday Schools of the town in their work. Miss Groh is in position to make valuable suggestions to Sunday School teachers who have small children in their classes.

In order that all the Sunday School workers of the town may have an opportunity to meet her, and to receive her assistance during her visit to the town, a union prayer meeting service has been arranged for Wednesday night to be held in the Presbyterian church at 7:00. It is earnestly hoped that every Sunday School teacher in town, as well as those who substitute from time to time, will attend this meeting and meet Miss Groh. She will also give a demonstration in teaching a class of small children, who will be present for this purpose.

This service will be concluded in ample time to permit those who attend it to go to the entertainment at the school which begins at 8:30.

Fire at L. & N. Depot.

The building formerly known as the Central Hotel and occupied by Dan Darnell at the L. & N. depot caught fire Sunday night, but was extinguished by a bucket brigade before much damage was done. The fire started in the roof, supposedly from a spark from the chimney.

NOTICE!

Big Stone Gap, Va., April 14th, 1919. To the Stockholders of the Big Stone Gap Land Company: The next regular annual meeting of the stockholders of this company will be held at its office in the town of Big Stone Gap, Virginia, on Wednesday, May 7th, 1919. BIG STONE GAP LAND COMPANY, 10-18 By John W. Chakley, Secretary