

ADDRESS OF MAYOR DAVIS

Valuable Information on Business and Taxation.

The following represents, in part, a very interesting and instructive address that was made by Hon. Harry P. Davis before the Kiwanis Club on May 16th:

Another fallacy is that everything from the Government is free.

Free seeds, it used to be; now free publications, free advice, free help, free this and that. Such a ghastly joke! There is no such thing as free government, any more than there is free rent, free clothing or free groceries. Government costs real money. Every self-supporting citizen shares his income with the million-odd men and women now on government pay rolls.

A gentleman, visiting Washington, hired an old dinky to drive him around to see the sights. The dinky grew enthusiastic. He waved his arm at the Botanical Gardens, the museums, the parks and monuments, and said to the gentleman: "Just think, it's all free. It don't cost nobody nothing. The gov'mint pays for it."

Taxes are hidden in everything we buy. The landlord passes on part of his taxes in the bills for our rent; the baker wraps them up with the bread he sells us. The insurance company includes them in its premiums.

Bills from the butcher and milkman include a tax as surely as if the postman brought a notice from the tax office.

Business is interested in reducing taxes, not alone selfishly, because business after all, simply collects taxes from the consumers of things. Business sees money wanted which can be used by individuals to get things which would give greater business and contentment. House furnishings, a trip to Europe, a new car, a sweater. Business sees clearly that it is the consumer of things who pays, and because that consumer does not know what he pays, that he is apt to advocate and urge an expenditure which he would never favor if he knew that it was to be paid out of his pocket.

When the individual understands clearly that he pays the bill, he will consider more carefully increased government appropriations and services.

If each man who signs a petition or writes a letter to a congressman or state legislature or calls on his local representative, urging a public expenditure, were required by law to enclose his check for his part of the expense, there would be sharper scrutiny of each of such proposed activities.

Enough has been written and spoken about taxes to discourage further contributions, even from one who might profess to have something worthy of utterance. The subject is painful to most of us whether we feel directly the pinch of tax obligations or whether we escape altogether. In conventional discourse the mention thereof is certain to provoke a venting of spleen unparalleled. The greatest reduction we have thus far been able to observe in modern taxation is the harm wrought upon the human constitution through devastating and futile argumentations.

If one-half the energy so frequently spent by good minds in bitter denunciation of taxation were devoted to an attempt to vindicate conscientious taxation and the other half employed in thoughtful study of the uses to which taxes are put, we should undoubtedly have better government generally and more peace of mind individually.

These observations, however, offer encouragement sufficient to attempt a statement of certain pertinent facts which develop out of a study of the financial aspects of Virginia government.

The first observation is that more taxes are directly imposed by the local governments of Virginia, that is county, city and town, than by the central governmental authorities.

Taxes collected by the Virginia central government in the past year amounted to approximately \$34,000,000. This amount represented a per capita contribution of \$13.32. Taxes collected by Virginia local governments, that is, counties, cities and

SCHEDULE OF EXERCISES FOR HIGH SCHOOL COMMENCEMENT

Class exercises, High School Auditorium, Thursday night.

Commencement exercises, Friday night. Mr. C. J. Hyslop will make the address to students.

Alumni banquet, Saturday night, Parish Hall.

MAY MEETING OF TOWN COUNCIL

Important Improvements Authorized.

The Town Council met in regular session on the evening of Monday, May 28.

In addition to routine business the following new business came up for discussion:

Improvement of portions of Battle, West, Lee, Grant and Church Streets was authorized upon condition that the abutting property owners subscribe 50 per cent of the cost per lineal foot for such improvement.

Sewer extension on Prescott Avenue and Maple Street was discussed and the town manager instructed to secure further information as whether suggested extensions would fit in with possible annexation of additional territory.

While these vitally important matters were being discussed there was a total attendance of four persons beside the councilmen and the town manager. Two of these persons were town employees.

MAY MEETING BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

The regular meeting of the Prince William County Board of Supervisors was held on Tuesday. Many accounts were approved and some matters vital to the progress of the road program were acted upon. A sum of \$1,500 was appropriated for the road from Aden to Harrison's Ford, and a committee was appointed to ascertain the cost of a bridge at Woodyard's Ford.

The Board also authorized a conference with the authorities of the Town of Manassas in reference to adequate compensation for the local fire department when called out into the country.

A Holt tractor was ordered purchased with allowance on cost from exchange of the steam tractor in Gainesville District.

Dr. Marsteller was appointed a member of the County Board of Health. Reports were received from the County Nurse and from the Home Demonstration Agent, which were approved and filed.

WOOD CHOPPING CONTEST

The Manassas Hardware Company is conducting a wood chopping contest which is attracting considerable attention. A substantial hickory log is on exhibition which will be attacked on June 11 at 11 A. M., on the vacant lot between the National Bank of Manassas and the Journal Office by a world figure among woodsmen, Peter Larsen, who will pay \$50.00 to any local champion if he cannot cut through in two-thirds the time.

NUMBER 30 TO STOP

Through the activity of Mr. James E. Bradford and Mr. Cocks, Town Manager, the Southern Railway has telegraphed authorities here that Train No. 30 will continue stopping at Manassas to let passengers from Alexandria. The order discontinuing this service has been cancelled.

towns, amounted to approximately \$44,000,000 or a per capita contribution of \$17.22.

Real estate and other tangible property levies constitute the main source from which local tax revenues are derived. Approximately 38,000,000 dollars in taxes were assessed by the counties, cities and towns of the state against real estate and tangible personal property in the past year.

All these taxes, however, are not borne by individual property owners. In his concluding remarks Mr. Davis presented some very interesting figures on the tax assessments of surrounding towns. These figures will be presented next week.

TOURNAMENT AT HIGH SCHOOL

Dorothy Beachley and John Hopkins Win Honors.

Dorothy Beachley flashed a beautiful brand of tennis in capturing the girl's singles crown in the Manassas High School tournament. She defeated Laura Beachley handily by scores of 6-1, 6-2. The younger Beachley showed that in another year she will be a strong contender by her neat returns of her sister's smashing drives. L. Beachley also stopped the winning streak of the champion who had not lost a game in reaching the finals. However, the titleholder failed to drop a set in her march to the throne of feminine tennis in Manassas.

The most startling upset of the season was registered when John Hopkins, heretofore little thought of, smashed out a clean-cut victory over Miller, seeded No. 3 player. Hopkins jumped into an early lead but spectators merely grinned and remarked that the smiling senior would soon crack. After a hard-fought first set, Hopkins made several miraculous return shots and took a long lead which Miller, with all his pretty lobs and drives, was unable to overcome. Hopkins continued to smile through another match, when on May 27 he downed Martin Wetherall, flashy young sophomore, in straight sets, 6-4, 6-3.

Waters was the first to make the finals when he subjected R. Athey's terrific service drive and raced to the finish. Waters increased his ace to 11, thus tying Beachley for second.

The tournament results are as follows: Girl's singles, finals—D. Beachley won from L. Beachley, 6-1, 6-2. Boys' singles—First round, Hopkins defeated Miller, 6-4, 6-2; quarter finals, Hopkins defeated Wetherall, 6-1, 6-3; Waters defeated C. Athey, 6-1, 7-5; R. Athey defeated Kline, 6-4, 6-3; Mitchell defeated Hall, 6-0, 6-2. Semi-finals, R. Athey lost to Waters, 6-1, 6-3.

Here are the leaders in service aces: Mitchell, 15; D. Beachley, 11; Waters, 11; L. Beachley, 10; R. Athey, 9; Hall, 7; Wetherall, 7.

MEETING OF W. C. T. U. 4 H CLUB PROGRAM

Clubs holding their meetings during the week of June 2 through June 7 are as follows:

Woodlawn Room Improvement Group Monday, June 2, at 9 o'clock at the school building.

Greenwich Room Improvement Group Monday, June 2, at 2:30 o'clock at the school building.

Bethel 4-H Club Thursday, June 5, at 2 o'clock at the home of Stanley Reid, Hookey.

Cherry Hill Garden Group, Thursday, June 5, at school building at 10 o'clock.

STANDING AT HOME.

Notwithstanding the Democratic primary for the Eighth Congressional district, of which Culpeper County is a part, to select a candidate to succeed the Hon. R. Walton Moore, perhaps the most able representative the South has in Congress, who refused to stand for re-election, is only a little more than two months away, very little interest has been taken, so far, in the behalf of either of the four candidates, Judge Howard W. Smith, of Alexandria; Senator Frank Ball, Attorney Crandal Mackey, of Arlington, and Attorney E. H. DeJarnette, of the adjoining County of Orange. Although the candidates, who have so far made addresses, have taken advantage of the usual crowds attending circuit court in the various counties, in some cases, only small crowds availed themselves of the opportunity to hear the speakers.

Impressive statements, however, were made last week regarding the candidacy of one of the above mentioned Democrats by well informed citizens of Alexandria, the home of Judge Smith, and by citizens of the large County of Fauquier, where he was born and still operates a farm, who stated, for a fact, that the Alexandria candidate holds the confidence and good will of the voters in the sections where he is best known to such a degree that he will poll at least eighty per cent of the votes cast in the Democratic primary on Tuesday, August the fifth.

Friends and neighbors of a candidate for public office are better qualified to judge his fitness for the position to which he aspires than citizens residing in a more distant county. The standing of a citizen among his home people also always seems to effect very materially the support given him by voters in other cities and counties of the territory which the candidate wishes to represent.

This fact was forcefully illustrated last fall in the contest between Dr. John Garland Pollard and Dr. William Moseley Brown, when the news was published that only two or three of Brown's former associates at Washington and Lee University favored his candidacy, while the professors of William and Mary College, where Pollard had recently taught, were practically unanimous for the Democratic nominee. The broadcasting of this fact over the state, it is said, aided Dr. Pollard in no small degree, in receiving the tremendous majority of more than seventy thousand votes over his opponent.

—"Virginia Star" (Culpeper)

MANASSAS GARDEN CLUB HOLDS FLOWER SHOW.

The ladies of the Manassas Garden Club are to be warmly congratulated on the flower exhibit in the Guild Hall last Saturday. The exquisite blending of color and simplicity of design were carried out with artistic detail that would have been creditable to professional talent. The table decorations were themes for the most delicate water color expression. Too much cannot be said in praise of the phase of social culture that invites and encourages the wonderful possibilities of those who are willing to give time and labor to the development of flower gardens.

Following is a list of the judges' awards:

Best White Rose, Mrs. W. N. Wenrich, 1st.

Best Pink Rose, Mrs. W. N. Wenrich, 1st, 2nd and 3rd.

Best Red Rose, Mrs. Pullen, 1st; Mrs. Hoof, 2nd; Mrs. Wenrich, 3rd.

Best Yellow Rose, Mrs. Wenrich, 1st.

Best Vase Roses (one color), Mrs. Robert Smith, 1st; Mrs. Pullen, 2nd; Mrs. Ollie Payne, 3rd.

Best Collection of Roses, Mrs. Ely Swavely, 1st.

Best Climbing Rose, Mrs. Allison Hoof, 1st; Mrs. Diddle, 2nd; Mrs. H. P. Daval, 3rd.

Best Poppy Annual, Mrs. Gillum, 1st.

Best Poppy Oriental, Mrs. Wenrich, 1st; Mrs. Gillum, 2nd.

Best Iris (single specimen), Mrs. W. Johnson, 1st; Mrs. W. Johnson, 2nd; Mrs. Diddle, 3rd.

Best Iris (Pallida Dalmatica), Mrs. Robert Smith 1st; Mrs. J. P. Leachman, 2nd; Mrs. J. P. Leachman, 3rd.

Best Collection Iris, Mrs. W. Johnson, 1st; Mrs. Diddle, 2d; Mrs. C. R. C. Johnson, 3rd.

Best Delphinium, Mrs. Margaret Lewis, 1st.

Best Peony (pink), Mrs. C. K. C. Johnson, 1st; Mrs. Allison Hoof, 2nd; Mrs. C. R. C. Johnson, 3rd.

Best Peony (white), Mrs. Allison Hoof, 1st; Mrs. C. R. C. Johnson, 2nd; Mrs. C. R. C. Johnson, 3rd.

Best Collection Peony, Mrs. Margaret Lewis, 1st; Mrs. Gillum, 2nd; Mrs. Ollie Payne, 3rd.

Best Gaillardias, Mrs. Ely Swavely, 1st; Mrs. Margaret Lewis, 2nd; Mrs. Wenrich, 3rd.

Best Pyrethreums, Mrs. Margaret Lewis, 1st.

Best Sweet William, Mrs. Margaret Lewis, 1st; Mrs. Wenrich, 2nd.

Best Table Piece, Mrs. H. P. Davis, 1st; Mrs. Diddle, 2nd; Mrs. Allison Hoof, 3rd.

Miscellaneous Collection, Mrs. Ely Swavely, 1st; Mrs. Margaret Lewis, 2nd; Miss Janie Herell, 3rd.

Best Odd Flowers, Mrs. Margaret Lewis, 1st.

Best Collection by Children under twelve years old, Howard Cooksey.

BRADLEY LEAGUE

A strawberry and ice cream social will be held by the Bradley League on June 4 at 7:30 P. M. Everyone is cordially invited to attend and help a good cause.

TOWN MANAGER PRESENTS FACTS CONCERNING MANASSAS

Public Is Advised of Progress of City Government.
By W. F. Cocks

An old adage says that "clothes do not make the man." While there is more truth in this saying than is to be found in many of the "old saws" it must be admitted that very few of us possess so much intrinsic worth as to ignore with impunity the asset of neat and suitable attire, because the world in general is prone to judge by what it sees, and it is certainly true that if clothes do not make, they do indicate the man. On the other hand a certain contempt is always felt for the person who provides himself with good clothes at the expense of nourishment, sanitary surroundings, and other essentials which are of more importance to material welfare than the matter of appearance.

Thus it is with the municipality with respect to its attitude toward its streets, because they, together with the buildings abutting them, constitute the clothing of the town which meets the eye of the stranger and also creates in the community itself a certain self-respect and confidence in its own worth.

However, just as with the case of the individual, there are other items of municipal development, such as an adequate supply of pure water, sewers for the disposal of wastes, and adequate lighting, which must not be sacrificed or curtailed in order to secure an up-to-date street system, even though the latter may appeal to the passer-by and the superficial resident as the most important factor in the making of a desirable town.

In this, and in the series of articles which are to follow, it is proposed to discuss the obligation of the Town of Manassas to its taxpayers as expressed in the several services and utilities which the town is supposed to provide in return for the tax money collected, and as the streets are what appeal first to the stranger and the casual observer they will be taken up first in order and discussed in this article.

Despite the foregoing analogy it must not be assumed that improved streets are desirable only for the sake of appearance and convenience. Modern business, employing motorized transportation, is absolutely dependent for its existence upon hard and reasonably smooth roadways. Furthermore, without hard and dry street surfacing sanitation is difficult and, to a great extent, inefficient.

As this particular article is to be devoted to the discussion of streets, a brief outline of what has been already accomplished will not be out of place.

About the year 1910 the late Robert Portner, using his own private funds, constructed a waterbound macadam road along North Main Street. This would seem to have been the first attempt at real street surfacing undertaken in the town. However, this roadway was practically destroyed when the water and sewer mains were laid about 1914, although some of the old ballast still remains.

Subsequent to the work done on North Main Street by Mr. Portner the town purchased considerable crushed stone which was spread on several important streets and formed what might be termed "Traffic Bonded Macadam." While rough this stone surfacing kept traffic out of the mud for many years and much of the material is still in evidence, particularly on South Main Street. However, it is to be regretted that a small per cent of additional money was not expended in shaping, rolling and bonding the crushed stone thus used.

In 1922 the first really modern paving was constructed when five city blocks of Penetration Macadam were laid on Center, Main, Battle and West Streets in the business section of the town.

This work was very economically carried out under the supervision of the District Engineer of the State Highway Commission and was most excellent in quality as evidenced by its present condition after eight years of service with little or no expense for upkeep.

No further attempt was made toward hard surfacing of streets until

1928 when the State awarded a contract for the improving of Center Street and Prescott Avenue over the entire length of State Route 28 within the Corporate Limits, omitting two blocks on Center Street which had been paved in 1922 as previously mentioned. This contract was for the paving of a strip only 18 feet in width. However, the town arranged to supplement the State funds to the amount of \$3,886.36 to provide for full width paving between curbs, approximately 80 feet, from the corner of Center Street and Grant Avenue to the corner of Prescott Avenue and Quarry Street a distance of about three-quarters of one mile. This paving consisted of one inch of Kentucky Rock Asphalt laid on a seven-inch crushed rock base.

During 1928 a contract was also let, by the town for the laying of a two-inch penetration surface on the old traffic bonded macadam along Main Street for a distance of about two and one-half blocks north of Center Street.

Both of these 1928 projects were paid for from town tax moneys supplemented by approximately an equal amount subscribed by the abutting property owners on the basis of their respective frontage.

During the past year, 1929, portions of two residence streets were improved, viz.: Grant Avenue, between Lee Avenue and Bennett Street; and West Street, between Lee Avenue and Portner Avenue. This construction consisted of nearly 7,000 square yards of six-inch local rock base, hand broken, with a wearing surface of one and one-half inches of "Mixed in Place" Tar Macadam. The work was done by town forces and the cost was considerably less than that of any paving previously laid. The 1929 work was financed in the same manner as described in connection with the work done in 1928.

The space allotted to this article will not permit the stating of the detailed costs on each project, however, these costs are on record in the office of the town manager and are available to any one who may be sufficiently interested to inspect them.

Exclusive of the paving laid at the cost of the state on Center Street and Prescott Avenue, the Town of Manassas has constructed with its own funds approximately 17,000 square yards of smooth, hard surfaced pavement at an average cost of \$1.70 per square yard, inclusive of the cost of the heavy excavation on Grant Avenue and West Street, also the curbing and gutter on Grant Avenue.

At the present time the Town of Manassas is maintaining eight and a fraction miles of streets and roadways. Of this total mileage 75-100, or 22 per cent, is smooth paved; 3 25-100 miles, or 41 per cent, is partially surfaced with crushed stone, shale, cinders, etc., and 3 miles, or 37 per cent, is entirely unimproved except for drainage.

The annual cost for maintaining traffic over the partially improved and the unimproved streets is far in excess of the proportionate cost for the upkeep of the improved streets. Therefore as each additional street is improved the total cost for temporary maintenance is reduced.

Up to the present time no municipal bonds have been issued for street improvement and the present administration proposes, with the co-operation of the property owners of the town, to continue each year to add to the smooth paved streets without resorting to bonds for financing the work.

With this in view plans and estimates have been prepared for the improvement of the following streets with the expectation that the work will be done during the present year providing the abutting property owners are willing to subscribe their proportionate part of the cost as estimated, viz.:

BATTLE STREET—Between Center Street and Church Street, 248 feet. "Mixed in Place" surface 30 feet wide to be laid on reshaped existing base. Curb and gutter to be

(Continued on Eighth Page)