

Unless you help  
the Eighth District  
will be destroyed.

# The Manassas Journal

Fight the  
Dismemberment  
Bill.

VOL. XXXVII, NO. 37

MANASSAS, VIRGINIA

THURSDAY, JANUARY 28, 1932

SUBSCRIPTION \$1.50 A YEAR

## ANNIVERSARY OF KIWANIS HELD

R. A. Hutchison Recites Doings  
of Local Club.

Following an expression of regret that Raymond Ratcliffe, the club's first president, is ill in a Washington hospital, Col. R. A. Hutchison, former president in 1930 and Lieutenant-Governor of the Capitol District in 1931, arose to remind of the club of its own history. Bob's speech is quoted in part as follows:

"Anniversaries may be either grave-stones, which commemorate failures, or milestones which note the progress of achievement.

On this, the seventeenth anniversary of the birth of Kiwanis International over sixteen hundred clubs in the United States and Canada, embracing a membership of approximately one hundred thousand, are engaged in what is commercially known as "taking stock."

The Manassas Kiwanis Club was sponsored by the Alexandria Kiwanis Club, and was organized in October, 1924, with G. Raymond Ratcliffe as the first president.

While it took the first fifteen months for the club to get into its stride, and its members, as well as the community at large to fully realize that the major fixed objective of the club, (as is that of all Kiwanis clubs) is the work of the underprivileged children, from the very beginning, the organization has rendered a splendid community service in bringing together so many of the business men, who have labored enthusiastically and harmoniously for the advancement of the community interests.

Even in the first year of its existence, the Manassas Club was instrumental in sending a number of crippled children to the hospital at Richmond, Va., and to the one at the University of Virginia, at Charlottesville, Va. About thirty children were, through the agency of this club, sent to the Georgetown Hospital, at Washington, for treatment of their throats and noses. A number of undernourished children were provided with well-balanced luncheons each school day in the winter, at the expense of the Kiwanians.

As a part of its program to promote a better understanding and a closer co-operation between the town man and the farmer, a series of meetings were held at which an effort was made to entertain many of the leading farmers as the guests either of the club or of its members.

An early recognition of the spirit and aims of the organization found expression in an editorial of The Manassas Journal which said: "A new spirit has come to Manassas. It is Kiwanis."

With G. Raymond Ratcliffe again president for the year 1926, it broadened its sphere of activity, and enlarged upon the work already projected.

Among the outstanding work successfully undertaken for the underprivileged children was the renewal of the work of providing hot lunches for a number of children each school day, and providing for twenty-one tonsil operations on children, in the Washington hospitals. Besides these, the club paid a hospital bill of \$150.00 for one crippled girl, provided a brace for another, and had still another cared for in the hospital.

This year saw the beginning of two new club activities: The club took a very active part in the bringing to the attention of the State Highway Commission its long neglect of the roads in Prince William county; and inaugurated the custom, which has never been omitted or neglected since, after as careful a survey as possible, the distribution, through volunteers from the club, of Christmas cheer to underprivileged children throughout the county.

With Eli Swavely as president, the year 1927 brought to the underprivileged children of the county renewed efforts on the part of the club to relieve their distresses. The club was very active in the promotion of the county nurse plan, and to a large extent financed this plan while it was in the experimental stage. It renewed its efforts to induce the State Highway Commission to complete the road from Manassas to Centerville, as well as to secure other state road locations, and allocations. It is impossible to estimate on the one hand the time and money expended by the individual members in promoting the road interest of the county, or the value of such efforts on the other. The work and interest of the club in the underprivileged children was maintained, and the Christmas work among the children was likewise re-

(Please turn to page 8)



G. RAYMOND RATCLIFFE

Mr. Ratcliffe, prominent banker and business man of northern Virginia, who underwent a major operation recently, is recovering rapidly to the great satisfaction of his wide circle of friends.

## MASONIC CELEBRATION

Grand Lodge of Virginia Will  
Feature Bicentennial  
Program.

Tentative plans which have been made for the celebration by the Masonic fraternity of the 200th anniversary of the birth of George Washington indicate that the year 1932 will be one of the most important from a Masonic standpoint in the history of Virginia Masonry.

The ceremonies will commence in Richmond on Thursday morning, February 11, when the Grand Lodge of Virginia will open the year's program by a celebration to take place in the Masonic Temple. This will be the last day of the Grand Lodge's annual communication, and Masons from all over the State will be present. The exercises will last for one hour and will consist of a short musical program and two addresses. The opening address will be made by Dr. A. M. Showalter, Grand Master of Masons in Virginia, to be followed by Hon. Arthur R. Robinson, United States Senator from Indiana and a thirty-third degree Mason.

On February 22, the birthday of Washington, the program will be shifted to Alexandria, where ceremonies in connection with Washington's birth will take place under the direction of Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22. At 9:30 in the morning, representatives of that Lodge, together with delegates from Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4, Fredericksburg, Va., Liberty Lodge, Beverly, Mass., Washington Lodge of New York City, and William E. Elkins Lodge of Philadelphia will meet and proceed to Mount Vernon, where wreaths will be placed on the tomb of Washington and brief exercises held within the mausoleum. On the evening of the 22nd, the annual banquet of Alexandria-Washington Lodge will take place, and Dr. S. Nelson Gray, Worshipful Master, will preside.

The week, commencing May 9, has been officially designated by the National Bicentennial Commission as National Masonic Week, during which time Masonic organizations all over the United States are requested to hold celebrations of the birthday of Washington. The greatest interest for the nation, however, will center in Alexandria, because of the dedication during that week of the Washington National Masonic Memorial Temple which has been erected at a cost of approximately \$5,000,000. Prior to the dedicating a number of National Masonic meetings will be held in Alexandria, among them the meeting of the Masonic Librarian Association of the United States on May 9; the meeting of the Grand Secretaries of the Grand Lodges on May 10.

(Please turn to page 2)

### WEDNESDAY LUNCHEON

A fifty-cent luncheon will be served Wednesday, Feb. 3, in the assembly room of Grace M. E. Church, South, by Mrs. E. A. Wood's Sunday school class. Public is cordially invited.

### SPECIAL NOTICE

No convertible automobile tags were shipped to local agents, so all applications for them must be mailed to the Motor Vehicle Department in Richmond.

Mrs. G. T. Weir.

37-2

### DATE SET

March 18 has been set as the date of the Minstrel Show at the Manassas high school. Miss Virginia Spiden, director of music, is in charge.

# RE-DISTRICTING FIGHT HAS JUST BEGUN

DEATH OF WILLIAM M. BELL,

PROMINENT OKLAHOMAN,  
NATIVE OF PRINCE WILLIAM

Residents of Prince William were shocked and grieved on Tuesday last to learn of the death of William H. Bell, a highly-esteemed native of this county.

Death came to Mr. Bell at his home in Weleetka, Okla., where, with his wife and only son, he had resided for some years past, and where, for a long time, because of his genial personality and his successful mercantile and oil interests he enjoyed wide popularity.

He was born July 17, 1872, at Gainesville, Va., where, as a young man, he began his business career as associate with the late Malcolm Cave.

A few years later, he settled in Callwell, Tex., and there married Lena Childs who survives him. With his wife, Mr. Bell spent portions of almost every summer with relatives in Haymarket where his kindly presence will be missed by a large circle of friends.

He was the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. James William Bell of Haymarket and is survived by seven sisters and one brother: Mrs. William M. Jordan, Mrs. Frank H. Pickett and Mrs. J. W. Garrett of Haymarket, Mrs. Catherine Price of Lynchburg, Mrs. Stuart Thornton of Panama, Mrs. William J. Webber and Miss Virginia Bell of Washington and Howard S. Bell of Haymarket.

## APPEALS FOR FAIR PLAY

Board Condemns Dismembering  
of Eighth District.

The Board of Supervisors on Tuesday passed a special resolution appealing to the General Assembly not to dismember the Eighth District. (This resolution was delivered yesterday afternoon by the Commonwealth's Attorney, Mr. Lion, to Mr. Herring).

The Board also approved the measure before the General Assembly cutting the tax on auto tags in half.

The sum of \$50 was ordered paid to the estate of the late W. E. Varner for a right-of-way for the Brentsville-Aden road.

C. C. Lynn and Chairman D. E. Earhart were appointed a special committee to prepare the next budget.

C. B. Roland was appointed the Board's representative to the Good Roads convention in March.

The following resolution was unanimously passed:

Ordered that on and after February 1, 1932, until the further order of this Board rewards for scalps of predatory birds as defined by law, as follows: hawks 25c, crows 10c upon the following conditions, that all claims must be accompanied by satisfactory proof that said birds were killed in Prince William county, and within the season provided by law.

## BASKET BALL TOURNAMENT

Prince William Championship  
Next Saturday.

The Prince William county basketball championship tournament will be held in the gymnasium of the Manassas high school next Saturday, Jan. 30.

Preliminaries will take place from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The four girls teams will play first, and then the boys, and the winners of this contest will play the county championship in the evening, beginning promptly at 8 p.m.

The event is always one of great interest and is well attended by school patrons and friends generally. On account of the especially good playing which has been done this year more than usual interest attaches to the event.

As far as the names have become available for publication as we go to press the players are as follows. The Occoquan list, unfortunately, has not been received.

The probable lineup for the boys team of Nokesville high school will be: Shepherd, Gorman, Swank, Wood and Varner with the following substitutes on deck: Moss, Hively, Allen M., Allen W., Gorman J.

The lineup for the girls team will be: Allen E., May L., Benjamin O., Payne T., Trenis J., and Kerlin E., with the following substitutes: Beahm E., Smith E., Smith A., Hooker R., Flory N.

Haymarket team (boys): R. McCuin, S. Garrison, F. Ashby, B. Garrett, H. Melton and substitutes: A. Little, J. Piercy, H. Latham, R. Smith, C. McCuin. Girls: M. Carroll, F. Robertson, M. P. Peters, E. Harrover, D. Bodine, V. Gaines and substitutes: I. Ritenour, M. Thomas, E. Lambert, G. Godfrey.

Manassas team (boys): M. Smith, R. Leith, W. Kite, F. Vetter, T. Kite, C. Allbright, C. Gilroy and M. Bradshaw. Girls: M. Burke, M. Lynch, L. Gibson, M. E. Marsteller, L. Kinche- loe, R. Russell, E. Flaherty, D. Riffert, and M. Lunsford.

## GOLDEN WEDDING

Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Wood  
Celebrate 50th Anniversary.

Fifty guests and relatives assembled at Greenwich on Friday, January 22, to celebrate the golden wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Wood.

Seven sons, with their families and friends and neighbors, composed the happy group which honored the couple who have lived together so happily for half a century. Many beautiful gifts were given in testimony of the love and affection with which they are regarded.

Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Wood were married at Nokesville by Rev. E. H. Vaughn on Jan. 22, 1882. Mrs. Wood was Miss Marian Mandley of Nokesville.

Please Pay Your Subscription.



Attend the  
BI-CENTENNIAL BALL  
AT MANASSAS  
February 5, 1932

This is an event which will become a cherished memory for those who come and enter into the spirit of the occasion.

COME IN COLONIAL COSTUME

The Manassas Volunteer Fire Department will hold a Valentine Benefit Dance on Friday evening, Feb. 12. Help the boys who day and night are always ready to protect your life and property when the fire alarm sounds. Don't forget the date—Feb. 12.

## LEE-JACKSON CELEBRATION

Patriotic Celebration by Daughters  
of Confederacy.

HON. C. A. SINCLAIR IS  
MASTER OF CEREMONIES

On January 19 the auditorium was paced to hear the splendid patriotic exercises commemorating the birthdays of Lee and Jackson, which was presented under auspices of the Manassas Chapter, United Daughters of the Confederacy.

Hon. C. A. Sinclair, treasurer of Prince William county and former Delegate in the General Assembly of Virginia, was master of ceremonies.

The musical program was under the direction of Miss Virginia Speiden. After singing America the invocation was given by Rev. O. L. Gochenour. The Daughters of the Confederacy Ritual was led by Rev. A. S. Gibson, after which the school chorus sang "Carry me back to old Virginia."

A paper on General Robert E. Lee, written by Mrs. Harriet Green Davies, was read by Mr. James Cooke, and this was followed by the song, "How firm a foundation," by the audience. On account of the time limitations an interesting paper by Mrs. Hibbs on Matthew Fontaine Maury had to be omitted.

An essay on Stonewall Jackson was read by Miss Hattie Mae Partlow, which is being published in the Journal. Mrs. Hatcher then played "Under the Shade of the Trees." This was followed by "The Bonnie Blue Flag" and "Dixie" by the audience.

The benediction was pronounced by Rev. W. A. Hall.

## SEEK PLACING OF NEW HOSPITAL

Manassas an Ideal Location.

On Wednesday, Hon. H. P. Davis, mayor of Manassas, and Messrs. E. R. Conner, E. H. Hibbs and R. S. Hynson appeared before the Hospitalization Board, Colonel Hine presiding and argued for the new million dollar government hospital to be placed on the Porter Tract just outside of Manassas.

Mr. Davis acted as spokesman, and introduced the members of his party, each of whom gave some substantial reason for bringing the new project to our town.

Forty communities were represented, including Fredericksburg and Alexandria. Among those who will file briefs later are Luray and Mount Weather.

Col. Hine announced that the findings of the Board would be made public prior to March 1. The hospital will be put somewhere in Virginia, and our townsmen have done yeoman service in bringing our ideal location to the attention of the Federal Government.

## HAYMARKET GRADUATE PRACTICES LAW

Mr. Henry Gordon Herrell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry S. Herrell of Haymarket, and a graduate of the Haymarket high school, is now practicing law in Washington, D. C., and has made a splendid record.

At the age of 19 Mr. Herrell graduated from the National University of Washington, and was admitted to the bar. In order to be admitted to practice before the Supreme Court of Appeals of the District of Columbia, he was required to wait until his 21st birthday, Sept. 2 of last year.

He has already received many honors by legal fraternities and his many friends in Prince William wish him continued success.

It is stated that the Government will provide offices for the county home demonstrator in the new post office at Manassas.

Public Hearing Next Wednesday.

The "Fighting Eighth" has apparently realized its serious danger and delegations are arriving at Richmond every day. Everybody capable of taking official action has appealed for the integrity of the present Eighth. There is a grim battle on, and a desperate one. Much depends on the results in the next ten days.

The whole situation is fraught with serious political hazards, and the tenseness has become almost feverish. It is overshadowing all other phases of legislation. Every angle and every little development is watched with the most careful scrutiny. One interested observer stated, "We got a lot of sympathy but what we have most to fear is what those same sympathetic listeners will do if they are given their orders."

No piece of legislation in recent years has attracted more general attention. It is a matter of moment and the outcome is very much in doubt.

Advices are to the effect that two more bills will be introduced this week affecting the redistricting of the Congressional Districts of Virginia. One of these was brought in to the committee on Tuesday and the other was expected any day. Other bills will be introduced prior to the general hearing which will be held in the committee rooms of the house committee next Wednesday evening. Owing to the sudden and severe illness of Senator Ferguson who is a prominent figure in this contest, the Senate has withheld any hearings at this time.

The Wright bill as it is generally known has for its Senate patrons, Conner of the Eighth District and Holland of the Second. It retains the integrity of all Districts but the Seventh and Tenth. The Tenth is thrown in five directions, Appomattox, Buckingham and Cumberland going to the Fourth District; Alleghany, Craig and Botetourt are given to the Sixth; Bath, Highland, Rockbridge, Augusta, Amherst and Nelson are given to the Seventh, and Fluvanna is given to the Eighth. The Eighth is given four counties and one city from the Seventh, Charlottesville and the counties of Albemarle, Green, Madison and Rappahannock.

Roughly outlined the plan uses the mountain line as a division, throwing the eastern slope into the Eighth District, working its way down to the river boundaries of Albemarle and Fluvanna.

While this bill may not be the one finally adopted, it is certainly the most logical and homogenous yet advanced. The last proposal now in the field is to throw the Seventh District in two directions, giving Albemarle to the old Tenth, Louisa from the Eighth to the old Tenth, Stafford and King George to the First, and leaving all the rest of northern Virginia in one immense District. This bill originates in the Tenth, and has its adherents mainly in that area. Not less than six or eight bills will be before the committee before the opening barage ceases. All of these bills will have some support. The attitude of the delegations of the Fifth and Ninth Districts is eagerly sought after by all as virtually no plan is expected to affect those districts and their delegations should be left free to vote with open minds.

## HISTORIC HOUSE DESTROYED

Old Van Pelt Home at Bull Run  
Burned.

About 4 o'clock on Tuesday of this week the old Van Pelt home near Bull Run Bridge was completely destroyed by fire. More recently the place had been known as the Hundley Place, but at the time of the Battles of Manassas it was designated as the Van Pelt property and occupied a strategic position during the battle.

It was in this house that Corporal Tanner, later a member of Congress, had his feet amputated after the second battle of Manassas. The house was an old one at the time of the War between the States, and its passing removes from the Bull Run Battlefield a structure of considerable historic interest.

The fire originated in the roof from sparks from the chimney and when discovered had made too much headway to be controlled, although opportunity was afforded to remove most of the household effects.