

Unless you help
the Eighth District
will be destroyed.

The Manassas Journal

Fight the
Dismemberment
Bill.

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MANASSAS, VIRGINIA

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COMMITTEE REPORT FAVORS EIGHTH DISTRICT PRESERVATION

Wright-Hall Bill Would Preserve Unity of Northern Virginia.

GARDNER BOOTHE DEFENDS EIGHTH DISTRICT

Proponents of the Wright-Hall Bill (preserving the Eighth Congressional District) had a thrill of joy yesterday evening when after the committee hearings, the committee voted by 7-5 to report the measure in preference to the Early-Watts Bill (also known as the Stringbean Bill).

Legislation has been almost paralyzed while the contending forces have battled to get the upper hand. The climax of the situation so far came when Ashton Dovell, chairman of the House Committee, called the meeting to order and Senator Russell Cather, of Winchester, arose to defend the Early Bill.

Referring to Accomac and Northampton counties, Senator Cather said, "These counties must go somewhere. Travel and interests are associated with Norfolk (Second District) but there is no objection on our part to allowing them to remain in the First."

Senator Cather alluded to the Hoover debacle in 1928, and showed that the revised Seventh District under the Wright-Hall Bill would have gone Democratic by less than 500. Mr. Cather charged the authors of the Wright-Hall Bill with "dismal ignorance" of the political complexion of the Valley. He concluded by stating that his delegation would "accept any reasonable plan and co-operate to that end."

"The creation of nine Democratic Districts has been in my mind all along," said Mr. Cather, "and when I vote it will still be there."

Mr. Moore, of Lexington, then arose to defend the Stringbean Bill, stating that a Senator was called on to attend to a whole state, and why could not a Congressman cover more ground. He cited the feverish changes under this bill, and openly defended any gerrymandering plan.

Mr. Samuel Rogers, of Petersburg, appeared rather friendly to the Early Bill and proudly referred to the fact that the Fourth District stood by her guns in the landslide of 1928. He stated that he was in favor of a bill which would "leave the old Fourth untouched, as a compliment" to her patriotism in that instance.

Delegate Stuart Maffett, of Augusta, was based on his entire plea on gerrymandering.

At this juncture, Hon. Gardner Boothe, of Alexandria, chairman of the Eighth District Democratic Committee, took the floor and presented his brief in the defense of the Wright-Hall Bill. He stressed the unique situation and condition of the Eighth District with respect to the National Government. Next he cited Section 55 of the Virginia Constitution to the effect that "The General Assembly shall by law apportion the State into districts corresponding to the number of representatives to which it may be entitled in the House of Representatives in the Congress of the United States; which districts shall be composed of contiguous and compact territory containing, as near as practicable, an equal number of inhabitants."

Referring further to the make-up of Congressional Districts Mr. Boothe declared:

"It is submitted that in the solution of this question the following elements are of paramount importance:

"First. The duty to be performed by the Members of Congress as governed by the proximity of his district to the National Capital or by the number of Federal activities in his district, and other considerations.

"Second. The community of interests and similarity of pursuits and industry in the district.

"Third. The homogeneity of the people of the district, and the convenience of communication between the different sections of the district.

"The Eighth District lies contiguous to the National Capital. Until 1849 Alexandria City and Arlington county, now comprising practically 30 per cent of the population of the district, were a part of the District of Columbia. Due to the proximity of Washington, the business, trade, and social activities of the people trend in that direction. Likewise the convenience of northern Virginia to Washington has resulted in the establishment of many Federal activities in this area, which have been of vast and growing benefit."

Defending the Wright Bill, Mr. Boothe added:

"The only material changes occur in the Seventh, Eighth and Tenth

JUNIOR CLUB BENEFIT

The Junior Club will give a benefit bridge party at 8 o'clock Saturday evening, Feb. 16, in the reception room of the Swavely School, instead of in the dining room of the Prince William Hotel as was formerly stated.

Districts, and the effect of these changes is to create a Piedmont District of the Eighth, and a Valley District of the Seventh, preserving the homogeneity of interests, industries, inhabitants and pursuits with a due regard to the element of practical equality of population.

"We believe that this submits the fairest, most equitable, and most comprehensive plan of redistricting yet proposed, taking into due consideration all of the practical elements involved.

"It may be found practical to shift a county here or there in the plan, but we do not believe that on the whole the general plan can be successfully attacked from any standpoint.

"So far as the Eighth District is concerned, there has been no reason or argument advanced as to why it should be dismembered. Its homogeneity, community of interests of its people, and the vital need that the area has for representation in Washington, are generally conceded. The only argument against it has been that it was deficient in population. We respectfully submit that it should be increased by addition rather than subtraction. As to what the additions should be is for the Legislature to determine. We believe that the suggestions contained in the Wright Bill are most feasible."

Mr. Boothe presented figures to show that if the area next to Washington maintained the growth of population of the last two decades that in another ten years the territory contiguous to Washington would have 30,000 more people in it.

Bearing on this point, Mr. Boothe stated that no District in the State placed heavier demands on its Congressman.

In concluding, Mr. Boothe asserted: "We are asking nothing but a square deal. A fair and equitable general redistricting involves a State wide view and consideration, and a solution that is fair to all sections. The changes under this plan are confined exclusively to a little corner of the northern and eastern section of the State, affecting less than one-sixth of the total area of the Commonwealth."

"The Second District now has a population of approximately 303,000, which is 34,000 more than the average. The Early Bill proposes to increase the population of this already overpopulated district to 317,000, a proposal that we do not believe even the authors of the Bill will attempt to justify. The proposal in the Early Bill to add the counties of Arlington, Fairfax, Prince William, Stafford, King George, and the City of Alexandria to the First District, with the centralized population at Newport News approximately 240 miles from the upper end of the district, and increase the population of that district to over its proper quota, cannot be justified on any ground, and we do not believe that the authors of the Early Bill have the temerity to attempt to do so."

Mr. Boothe then yielded the floor to former State Senator F. L. Ball, of Arlington county, who greeted his former colleagues with a few pleasantries that greatly relieved the tension. Incidentally Mr. Ball was given quite a hand when he rose.

The "fish" story was so pointed that even the most ardent backers of the Early Bill burst into laughter. He repeatedly referred to the "right" bill.

Coming back at Mr. Maffett, Mr. Ball humorously referred to the incorporation of the Valley, in which he showed that they themselves had just about followed out the suggestions contained in the Wright Bill.

"The Democratic Party has lost more votes by mistakes than by any other. Put through the Early Bill and you will create more Republicans in northern Virginia than you have in the Valley. Why, I haven't seen a Republican in six months. If there are any, they must be in the Valley."

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THE WILD OATS BOY

The Methodist Sunday school will give a play, "The Wild Oats Boy," at the Brentsville District high school auditorium at 8 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 12.

TENTATIVE BUDGET

Submitted by the Finance Committee of the Council of the Town of Manassas at an adjourned regular meeting of the Council held Monday, February 1, 1932, and ordered published in The Manassas Journal for four consecutive weeks.

THE TOWN OF MANASSAS, VIRGINIA			
Amount Expended 1930-1931		Amount Required 1932-1933	
\$ 900.33	Fire Department	\$ 956.00	
1,865.88	Police Department	2,400.00	
186.96	Rest Room	186.96	
600.00	Clerk-Treasurer	600.00	
600.00	Town Manager	600.00	
110.00	Town Attorney	100.00	
150.00	Mayor	150.00	
98.87	Health Department	100.00	
99.21	Cemetery Maintenance	257.86	
1,159.12	Landing Field Maintenance	125.00	
1,434.36	Miscellaneous Expenses	1,060.00	
0.00	Street Cleaning	418.00	
0.00	Rubbish Collection	325.00	7,278.82
7,179.73			
	Street Maintenance	2,056.00	
1,030.07	Street Deficit	3,113.79	
4,690.00	New Street	0.00	5,169.79
5,891.47			
	Sinking Fund	4,278.98	4,278.98
8,802.50			
8,802.50			
\$27,593.77	TOTAL	\$16,727.59	

REVENUES			
Automobile Licenses (Est)		\$ 1,200.00	
License Taxes (Est)		3,500.00	
Bank Stock Tax (Est)		1,300.00	
Assessed Valuation based on 1931 Assessment—			
\$900,000.00 at \$1.25 per 100	11,250.00	17,250.00	
Basing Tax Rate of \$1.25, Necessary Levy for—			
Corporation Purposes at 45c	4,050.00		
License Taxes	3,500.00		
		7,550.00	
Street Purposes at 45c	4,050.00		
Auto Licenses	1,200.00		
		5,250.00	
Sinking Fund at 35c	3,150.00		
Bank Stock Tax	1,300.00		
		4,450.00	
Total Levies and Licenses		\$17,250.00	

The Town Council will meet in regular session at 7:30 p.m. Monday, February 29, 1932, at which time a public hearing will be held prior to the adoption of a budget for the ensuing year.

FINANCE COMMITTEE,
Town of Manassas, Virginia.

NUMBERING SYSTEM FOR MANASSAS VALENTINE DANCE BY FIRE DEPT.

Gas Company Supplies Numbers Free. Opportunity to Help the Boys on Feb. 12.

The historic town of Manassas took a step in metropolitan development today when representatives of the Gas Company began attaching numbers to the doorways of the business and residential properties in the town.

Center and Main streets are the axes from which the numbering is done. The number increases a hundred each block north and south and east and west from the intersection of these two streets. For example the Journal office has now attained the dignity of No. 113 West Center Street. The odd numbers are on the north side of streets running east and west and on the east side of streets running north and south.

The Gas Company was given permission to do this numbering with the understanding that the numerals would be furnished by them, and the designation of properties in this way is already proving to be of advantage to everybody.

MRS. SPEIDEN ENTERTAINS U. D. C.

Mrs. Speiden, Mrs. Weedon and Miss Speiden delightfully entertained the Manassas Chapter, U. D. C., in Mrs. Speiden's home on the afternoon of Feb. 3, twenty-two members being present.

The chapter's president, Mrs. Ashford, presided. Reports of the last meeting were read and approved. The chapter voted a letter of thanks to be sent to Miss Osborne, principal of the Manassas high school, for her cooperation and that of her faculty and student body in the Daughters' celebration of General Lee's birthday.

The ways and means committee will meet at an early date to make arrangements for some phase of money making so that the chapter may contribute to the various calls received from the General Society, U. D. C.

Letters were read from the Stratford committee, urging all Daughters to give towards the mortgage still standing against "Stratford,"

SPECIAL SPEAKER AT WOMAN'S CLUB BI-CENTENNIAL BALL FEB. 5

All Members Urged to Be Present.

The February meeting of the Manassas Woman's Club will be held at the high school building Wednesday, February 10, at 2:30 p.m. A splendid speaker has been obtained and all members are urged to be present.

Miss M. L. Williamson, who will speak, was a member of President Hoover's Commission to investigate Communism in the United States. She is also a member of the National Defense Council. An invitation has been extended to everyone to attend.

A meeting of the executive committee will be held at the home of Mrs. C. M. Larkin, secretary, Monday, Feb. 8, at 2 p.m. All members of the board are earnestly requested to be present, as the budget for the year 1932 and 33 will be made up for presentation at the next regular meeting of the club.

CELEBRATE GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY

Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Powell Receive Congratulations.

On January 22 Mr. and Mrs. Adoniram Judson Powell—who live in the historic Henry House on the Manassas Battlefield, celebrated their golden wedding anniversary, receiving many congratulations. Both are natives of Prince William county, Mr. Powell having been born 78 years ago near Antioch Church, at the foot of the Bull Run Mountains.



MR. AND MRS. A. J. POWELL

Mrs. Powell was born near Bradley, and does not begin to look the 68 years that she claims. Mr. Powell is the son of the late Burr Powell, a gallant Confederate soldier who served with Mosby and who was with that daring band of patriots who captured General Stoughton at Fairfax in the midst of his own army.

Mr. Powell is custodian of the Manassas Battlefield and as such possesses rare qualifications for the position, having been an eye witness of the great battle which was fought there, and having lived all of his life in the community. His great knowledge of local history has been manifested on many occasions as he has so genially and efficiently guided distinguished visitors over the battlefield.

MEN'S SOCIAL CLUB

The last meeting of the Men's Social Club of Manassas was the best attended in recent times. Judge Wheatley Johnson of the Juvenile Court was the guest of the club. Certain phases of the charitable work of the club were thoroughly discussed and Judge Johnson gave the legal side of these charitable cases.

An article by former president Welton P. Farrow, "Is Man Free?" was read by the president. It contained references to happenings which occurred while Mr. Farrow was a resident of Manassas. These happenings were used to illustrate the article which had appeared in "The Homiletic Review." Discussion of the article followed and greetings were ordered sent to Mr. Farrow.

Music by the Kline brothers enlivened the evening. The committee appointed to be in charge of the next meeting consists of Dennis Baker, Ferris Gue, R. T. Wharton, W. F. Cocks and F. G. Sigman. The continued illness of Dennis Baker will no doubt prevent him from doing his part. The meeting takes place next Thursday, the 11th.

Colonial Costumes and Modern Apparel Will Mingle in Brilliant Event.

Under auspices of the Community League of the Bennett School in Manassas a Bi-centennial Ball will be held on Friday night, February 5, which promises to be one of the most delightful social events of the season, as well as an historical observance which will commemorate the 200th anniversary of the birth of George Washington.

All that can be making plans to appear in Colonial costumes, and this will insure a brilliant affair, but the committee in charge has called attention to the fact that no one need feel at all reluctant to come and enjoy the evening to the fullest extent, if it is not convenient to arrange an old-time costume, for there will be many there in their 1932 regalia. In fact one of the charming features of the evening will be the contrasting beauties of the present day and those of 1732.

Throughout the United States the idea of Colonial balls in commemoration of Washington's Bi-centennial has proven very popular, many of these events having been arranged. The Manassas affair is one of the first to be held, but will be followed by one at Gadsby's Tavern in Alexandria on Feb. 22, and also one on this date at the Mayflower Hotel in Washington. On January 22 a historic ball was held at Berryville, Va., which was attended by descendants of the founders of Clarke county in authentic historic costumes which are heirlooms in Clarke county homes. On January 29 a "Mount Vernon Tea Party" was held at Washington and Lee University at Lexington. Owing to the military aspect of this occasion many French and British officers' uniforms were worn.

Regardless of the weather tomorrow night a big attendance is anticipated at Manassas and those present are promised an evening of such delight as to form a cherished memory hereafter.

BRIEF SESSION HELD BY COURT

Push in Fairfax Circuit Calls Judge over There.

Court being in session only one day this week, there have been no jury trials. The case attracting the most attention was the Miller case involving the shooting of Oakley Taylor. Judge McCarthy heard the case and sentenced the man to one year.

A grand jury with C. R. Earhart, foreman, found the following true bills: R. N. Spencer, felony; Dewey Lambert, felony; Howison Hooe, prohibition felony, and William Wearing, pro. mis.

Cases set over to the April term are Vincent Kincheloe, Nathan Hensley, Claud Thomas, H. E. Hooe, and the matter of Murphy vs. Arnold et al.

Those who plead guilty and their sentences: Arthur Cornell, pro. mis., \$50 and suspended sentence of one month; W. B. Van Graven, pro. mis., \$50 and suspended sentence of one month; Emory Liming, pro. felony, \$5 and six months; Charles Jones, pro. mis., \$50 and one month; Lloyd Abel, (possession of still), fined \$50.

Following cases were dismissed: Comm vs. W. H. Mann; William Tolson, pro. fel.

The following appointments were made in Gainesville District: to be justice of the peace, R. R. Smith, and to be constable, L. M. Toombs.

Court will be resumed next week.

"WEST OF BROADWAY" HAS ENTERTAINING PLOT TWIST

"Mademoiselle from Armandieres." Singing doughboys . . . marching feet . . . hurrahs . . . heartaches . . . John Gilbert in A. E. F. uniform . . . shades of "The Big Parade!"

Such were the thrilling reactions to the opening of "West of Broadway," John Gilbert's new Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer starring vehicle which opens Wednesday, February 10, at the Dixie Theatre.

Returning from the war, broken in health, Jerry finds the girl he is engaged to awaiting his arrival home only to break the truth.

(Please turn to page 5)