

ASHBY GETS HIGH STATE OFFICE

County Clerk Named to Conservation Commission

Appointment of Mayor L. E. Litchford of Lynchburg and James Ashby, clerk of the Stafford County Circuit Court, to the State Conservation Commission was announced last Saturday at the Governor's office.

The new members were appointed for terms ending December 31, 1942. Mayor Litchford succeeds S. C. Carter of Bristol and Mr. Ashby takes the place of Braden Vandeventer of Norfolk, whose terms expired December 31.

Chairman N. Clarence Smith said he planned a meeting of the commission April 8 to consider several matters requiring action. One is the authorization of expenditures for erection of the Manassas Battlefield monument to Sontewall Jackson.

Mr. Smith said the commission probably will consider the question of building a roadway through Seashore State Park, a project that has met with vigorous objections from seaside residents on the ground it was destructive of the park's natural beauties.

Problems that have arisen in connection with the proposed transfer of the Richmond Battlefield Park to the National Park Service also may be presented for consideration at the meeting.

WIMODAUUS CHAPTER INSTALLS OFFICERS

The installation of officers of Wimodausis Chapter, O.E.S., was held on Friday, March 24th. The installing officer was Miss Louise Schwarzman, of Alexandria. She was assisted by Mrs. John Burke, as Grand Marshal, Mrs. Frank Sigman, as Grand Chaplain, and Mrs. Dennis Baker as Grand Organist.

The officers installed for the ensuing year were as follows:

Mrs. P. L. Proffitt, Worthy Matron; Mr. Robert Hutchison, Worthy Patron; Mrs. Robert Hutchison, Associate Matron; Mr. Paul Cooksey, Associate Patron; Mrs. Jack Stauff, Conductress; Mrs. Earl Hurst, Associate Conductress; Mrs. J. L. Bushong, Secretary; Mrs. John Broadus, Treasurer; Mrs. Frank Sigman, Chaplain; Mrs. Frank Browning, Marshal; Mrs. Dennis Baker, Organist; Miss Sara Donohoe, Ada; Mrs. Thomas Broadus, Ruth; Mrs. C. Wade-Dalton, Esther; Mrs. John Harpine, Martha; Mrs. Edgar Parrish, Electa; Mrs. H. L. Wetherall, Warder; Mr. Worth Storke, Sentinel.

After the installation a social hour was held in the recreation room, after which delicious refreshments were served.

COMMUNITY SERVICE AT NOKESVILLE PALM SUNDAY

On Palm Sunday evening at 8 o'clock the various churches of Nokesville are cooperating with the Brentsville District High School at Nokesville in having a Community Service.

The Glee Club of the High School under the supervision of Miss Sloop will furnish the special music. The Rev. John DeChant, of Manassas, will deliver the Sermon. This Service represents the cooperative efforts of the churches to worship together and you are cordially invited.

CATHOLIC WOMAN'S FOOD SALE

The Catholic Woman's Annual Food Sale will be held on Saturday of this week at Dowell's Drug Store, beginning at 10:00 a.m.

All members of the Club and their friends are busy baking pies and cakes, and preparing a delicious supply of homemade candy. Others are donating liberal supplies of fresh country produce which will also be offered for sale.

J. W. BEARD ASSIGNED TO PRINCE WILLIAM POST

John W. Beard, assistant to Walter B. Nourse, Fauquier County Agricultural Agent, has been temporarily assigned for part time work to Prince William County. Mr. Beard will serve during the recovery of Prince William County Agent Frank Cox, who was injured in a plane crash Saturday last.

BORN THIS MORNING

Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Weber, of Canova, are the proud parents of a son born this morning.

CLEAN-UP CAMPAIGN

How does your property appear from the front gate? Is there paper and trash to greet you, a rubbish pile, an unsightly structure or overgrown hedge row, trees and shrubs? Is your gate or fence broken down, and your mail box crooked? These are a few of the things listed by Home Demonstration Club members as making a home or business place untidy. The eye as well as business follows pleasing sights.

County organizations are working to make Prince William County a more attractive county, thus a more prosperous county.

Cleanliness and neatness are the first essentials to attractiveness. Clean-Up April 1-15 and make Prince William County one that tourist will enjoy passing through enroute to the World Fair. Make your community the neatest in the county by cleaning up all unsightly objects on your property and influencing your neighbor to do likewise.

LADIES BEGIN SALE OF TICKETS

University Glee Club to be Here in April

The Music-Literature Section of the Manassas Woman's Club held its regular March meeting on Tuesday evening in the High School Library.

Plans for the coming concert of the University of Virginia Glee Club were fully discussed and all committee chairmen were instructed as to their duties and each member asked to cooperate in putting on this concert so that it may be a success and a credit to the section and to the town of Manassas. Everyone present started the ball rolling by taking tickets to sell.

This concert is to be on Tuesday evening, April 25th, at eight o'clock, in the High School Auditorium.

Mrs. Lewis Carper and Mrs. Dennis Baker gave an exquisite piano recital composed of four duets, "Bonnie," by Bach, "Minuet" from Military Symphony, by Haydn, "Gopak" by Moussorgsky and "Excerpts from Midsummer Night Dream," by Mendelssohn.

The literary part of the program was given by Mrs. J. T. Broadus who very ably reviewed "Fannie Kemble" by Margaret Armstrong.

Then the Section was taken on a tour of the Library by Miss Eugenia Osbourn who particularly stressed the many and varied reference books available to anyone who desires to use the Library.

The meeting ended by Mrs. Stuart Gibson giving a charming impromptu reading from McGuffey's Fifth Reader.

BULL RUN FIELD TRIALS WILL BE HELD APRIL 5

The Bull Run Field Trial Association will hold field trials on the Eagle farm, on the old Manassas-Centreville road, on April 5.

Hon. Melvin Hazen is president of the organization and Mr. O. J. Trenis is secretary.

Lunch will be served on the grounds and as this is about the last opportunity of the season, those interested should get in touch with Mr. Trenis. The entry fee will be two dollars and four valuable prizes will be offered.

Fifty quail will be liberated for this run and this addition to the local game supply will be appreciated by local sportsmen.

MABEL R. PLANK

We were sorry to hear of the death of Mrs. Mabel R. Plank, mother of Mrs. John M. DeChant, in a Gettysburg hospital last Saturday afternoon. Mrs. Plank had visited her daughter here a short time ago and was in her usual health until she suffered a stroke on Friday evening.

Funeral services were conducted Tuesday morning in Gettysburg by Rev. DeChant. Interment was in Evergreen Cemetery, Gettysburg.

U. D. C. MEETING

The Manassas Chapter, U.D.C., will meet Wednesday, April 5th, at 2:30 p.m. at the home of Mrs. Margaret Lewis. Miss Katie Lewis and Mrs. Robert Smith are assistant hostesses.

BULL RUN HUNT CLUB

The Bull Run Hunt Club had a business meeting on Tuesday night at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Kincheloe in Fairfax. There were about 15 members present.

Yesterday they held their last hunt of the season at Yorkshire.

THE TAX SITUATION IN PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY

With the coming of Spring and the Annual Budget comes the question of a greater or lesser budget, increased or decreased taxes, etc. By far the greater majority of the taxpayers recognize and appreciate the efforts of the Board of Supervisors and the County executives to provide the requirements of the public and protect the public welfare and yet maintain a tax level that is not unbearable. Yet with every proposed increase in the tax rate, comes a minority demand for curtailed functions in the County affairs. A backward step for an otherwise progressive County. The County today is not carrying on any unnecessary functions nor any functions that have not been created or enlarged except by public demand and which must be maintained because of that demand. The increases in the School budget, in the Relief budget, Health or any other functions, are not the REASON for an increase in the Tax Levy. They are merely the excuse.

THE REASON that it is necessary to raise the Tax Rate in order to provide sufficient Revenue to operate our County Government is that: In the past five years the budget has increased from \$99,886.66 in 1934 to \$144,782.32 in 1938 or an increase of 45% or an average of 9% yearly. The total assessed valuation of the County has increased from \$6,839,650 in 1934 to \$7,171,990 in 1938 or an increase of only 4.87% or less than 1% per year. Thus showing that the demands on the County are growing more than nine times faster than its condition exists it must be met by source of revenue. As long as this a higher tax rate.

In comparison with adjacent communities the rate of increase in the budget is somewhat less than average but the increase in assessments is way below average. The causes of the

static condition in the assessments are several.

1. There has not been a readjustment of the assessments since 1925 or in 13 years. Conditions in the County have changed greatly since then. For illustration: lots near the Richmond Highway selling now at \$250. to \$400. are assessed at \$2.30 each; 136 other lots selling around \$75.00 each, pay together \$1.28 in taxes or less than one cent for each lot. On the other hand a certain piece of cut-over land that is not worth its taxes is assessed at \$20.00 per acre. These are extremes and not offered as average. But every taxpayer must realize that because of every inequality in the assessment of property he is penalized in his tax rate.

The increase in assessment of land in the various Districts has been in the fifty years from 1888 to 1938 as follows: Brentsville, 47%; Manassas, 46%; Gainesville, 13%; Coles, 1.7%; Occoquan, 6%; and in Dumfries District 20% loss which after allowing for 5,700 acres taken by the Government, shows a net gain of 3%. Yet those who know the County as a whole, know that with all the development in the lower end of the County in the past 20 years, these figures, though a matter of record, do not reflect the true condition of the County.

2. Another cause is loss in acreage. In 1938 there were 26,687 fewer acres on the Books than in 1888 or about 12% of the present acreage. Just a small problem in "Soil Erosion," but it means just this: that twelve cents out of every Dollar tax you pay on your land pays for land that does not belong to you. About 16,000 acres have been taken by the Government but the other 10,000 acres is largely due to errors in deeds and surveys. Ninety per cent of this can be found and taxed.

(Continued on page 2)

DISTRICT MEETING OF HOME DEMONSTRATION CLUBS

On April 13 at the State Theatre, in Falls Church, members of Home Demonstration Clubs of Northern Virginia will assemble in annual meeting. Mrs. R. N. Harris, District President of the Virginia Federation of Home Demonstration Clubs, will preside. Miss R. Belle Burke, District Agent of Charlottesville, has assisted in arranging an interesting program, which includes addresses by Miss Grace E. Frysinger, Senior Economist of the United States Department of Agriculture, Miss Maude E. Wallace, Assistant Director of Extension of V.P.I., and Mrs. Malcolm Peck, president of the Federation of Home Demonstration Clubs.

Special musical features include numbers by the Falls Church Elementary School Glee Club and a Cappella Choir of the Jefferson High School of Falls Church.

The Fairfax County Home Demonstration Advisory Council is serving on committees in charge of arrangements. Mrs. H. D. Buckman, President of the Council, will extend the formal welcome to the hostess clubs of Fairfax County.

WILL TAKE PART IN HEALTH WEEK PROGRAM

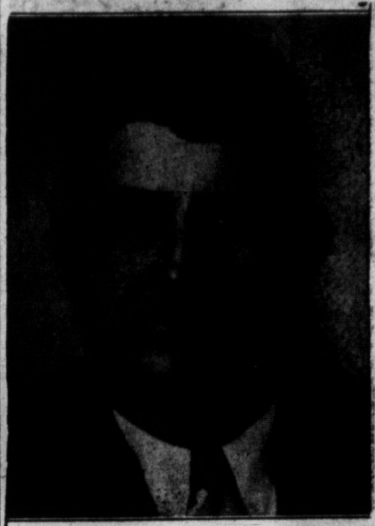
The Prince William County Health Department and the Prince William County Tuberculosis Association, in cooperation with the school authorities, will participate in the movement for observance of Health Week, and will tuberculin test the members of the Regional High School in Manassas, beginning Monday, April 3.

An X-ray Clinic will be held in Manassas during the month of May, and all individuals showing a positive reaction to the tuberculin test will be given an opportunity to have an x-ray examination of the chest.

FINDS BLACK WIDOW SPIDER

While working in her garden last week Mrs. J. P. Haynes, of Briarwood Manor, in Fairfax County, encountered a Black Widow Spider, which is now resting peacefully in a bottle of preservative. The spider has the characteristic red spot which identifies this deadly little creature, popularly regarded as an insect, but which is not a true insect at all, since spiders, having eight legs and other differences, are not insects, but are more closely related to crabs and crawfish. The bite of the Black Widow Spider is frequently fatal.

CANDIDATE FOR LEGISLATURE



E. R. Conner, business man of Manassas, who last week announced his candidacy for the House of Delegates for the legislative district composed of Stafford and Prince William Counties.

STATE TO STUDY ACCIDENT CAUSES

Survey Will Begin Shortly in Fairfax County

The Safety Squad of the State Division of motor vehicles will begin its study of "accident centers" in the Old Dominion on April 15, according to announcement made by Col. M. S. Battle, director of the division, who reported that only six counties in Virginia reported no fatalities for 1938 in highway accidents. His announcement of the survey was made after he had studied the comprehensive report of accidents and deaths in Virginia for the last five years. He said the safety squad, composed of troopers John E. Clinely and G. D. Stoutamyer, has been heading the school bus inspection and would complete that work soon, after which the accident study will be launched.

Major R. P. Bishop, administrative assistant, who will direct the new survey, said the study would begin in the area in which the largest number of accidents and fatalities occurred last year. The safety squad, he said, will be supplemented with troopers and officers working in the area. The duty of the squad, he said, would be to ascertain "the causes of the accidents in the given area; further, to make a complete study of the roads and highways in that area and to begin a drive against any violation of the law which appears to be prevalent."

According to the report on 1938 accidents, Fairfax County led in automobile fatalities during 1938 with 39. Following in order were Norfolk County with 20, August with 18 and Henrico with 16. The counties in which no fatalities occurred were Bath, King and Queen, Middlesex, New Kent, Northumberland and Richmond. The report showed that during the last five years 60,008 accidents have occurred in Virginia, causing the deaths of 3,857 persons. While accidents in the state have increased, fatalities have decreased.

CLUB ENTERTAINS GUESTS

Karl Jors and a squad from the Washington Club came down to visit the Manassas Kiwanis Club last Friday evening. Former Lieut-Governor Harry Kimball made a nice little talk. The program, which was to have come with them, could not be carried out.

Incidentally the program promised by the local club also did not materialize, and is promised again for tomorrow night.

The same quartette of boys, who visited the club last Spring, were present and sang very nicely. They belong to an organization trying to encourage the broader life through music.

Z. D. Blackstone brought out a lot of beautiful gardenias for which the boys drew—President Ed. got one which was later observed in the movies.

DEMOCRATIC CLUB TO MEET AT QUANTICO

The Young Democratic Club of Prince William County will meet at the American Legion Hall in Quantico on Tuesday night, April 4th, at 8 o'clock. Hon. Frank P. Moncure, of Stafford, a member of the House of Delegates, will be the guest speaker. Mr. George Parvis, of Quantico, is in charge of arrangements for the meeting.

F.F.A. LADS STAGE ANNUAL BANQUET

Manassas - Haymarket Groups Meet Jointly

Approximately 140 mothers, fathers and guests attended the annual banquet given by the Manassas-Haymarket F.F.A. boys in the Haymarket Graded school auditorium on Thursday night, March 23. R. R. Fishpaw is instructor of the two schools.

The meeting was presided over by Robert Carter, of Haymarket, and Selwyn Smith, of Manassas, acting as joint toastmasters.

The invocation was given by Mr. O. R. Hersch, of Manassas, after which a bounteous repast which consisted of tomato cocktail, baked chicken, peas, slaw, riced potatoes, gravy, pickles, rolls, coffee, ice cream and cake was served by the Haymarket home economic girls under the direction of Miss Trueheart.

The program opened with the address of welcome by Rolfe Robertson, Jr., of the Haymarket Chapter, and the response was given by Mr. P. A. Lewis, of Manassas. Immediately following all F.F.A. boys were called upon to introduce their parents or guests. Mr. W. E. Moore, principal of the Haymarket School then introduced his faculty and guests after which Mr. R. Worth Peters, principal of Manassas, introduced the Manassas faculty. The members of the Junior Farmers Club, who were present, was introduced by Cleveland Flory.

Reports giving a summary of last year's work of the Manassas and Haymarket Chapters were given by Kite Roseberry and Andrew Smith, respectively. Palmer Smith, of Haymarket, gave a report on his hog project and Paul Kline, of Manassas, reported on his laying hen project.

A very interesting talk was given by Gilbert Rollins, a member of the Junior Farmers Club, in which he told the object of this Club.

Lester Harris, of Manassas, gave a very delightful reading entitled, "The Poor Teacher," which was greatly enjoyed.

A harmonica and guitar duet was rendered by John Carter, Jr., and Elijah Baker, of Haymarket, and Earl Fife, of Manassas, gave several selections on the accordion.

Mr. R. C. Hayden, Superintendent of Prince William County Schools, made a brief address while introducing, Mr. W. R. Legge, Vocational Agriculture Instructor of Handley High School, Winchester, Va., in which he told of the difficulties the F.F.A. boys of Haymarket were working under because of cramped conditions of the school.

Mr. Legge, who was the main speaker of the evening, compared briefly the opportunities of farmers today with those of other days particularly the days when George Washington was a leading farmer in this state. He urged all boys to work hard because nothing good comes without a fight and expressed a belief that there are still many opportunities for the youth of today in agriculture if they take advantage of such opportunities as they come along.

Mr. D. J. Howard, Assistant State Supervisor of Vocational Agriculture was also present and gave a brief talk urging all boys to follow the advice given by Mr. Legge in his address.

DISTINGUISHED MILITARY VISITORS TO MANASSAS

Yesterday General Edward Martin, Adjutant General of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and his assistant, Col. William H. Zierdt, were guests of Mr. William F. Cocke, Town Manager of Manassas.

They were making a preliminary survey for the Pennsylvania contingent in the big military maneuvers which will be held here August 5 to 19, and stated that Pennsylvania would send approximately 10,000 troops and that during the first week they would be encamped nearest to our town.

LENTEN SERVICE AT HIGH SCHOOL

There will be a special Lenten Service in Osbourn High School on Thursday afternoon from 2:30 to 3:15. This service will be held under the auspices of the Manassas Ministerial Association. A committee is preparing an order of worship and Rev. Daniel Newman of the United Brethren Church will deliver the address. This service, intended primarily for the students, is also open to the general public.