

Japan, Italy, and Germany declare War on U. S.

LOCAL GROUPS TO JOIN OBSERVANCE

County Chairman Haydon Urges All Organizations To Take Part

On December 15th the 105th anniversary of the adoption, by the states, of the first 10 amendments to the Federal Constitution—the amendments which constitute the American Bill of Rights will be celebrated.

Here in Virginia we deserve this day, which, by coincidence falls on the same day as the birthday of George Mason, a famous Virginian who was very influential in molding the Constitution.

The Northern Virginia Regional Defense Council has requested that there be community observances of the sesquicentennial in all communities in this region.

The precise event signified by these ceremonies will be the ratification of the Bill of Rights by the State of Virginia, whereby the assent of the necessary three-fourths of the States was secured; and whereby it became a part of the Constitution of the United States.

Manassas will have two ceremonies of this famous date. On Friday night, December 12, a group of high school students will aid in a celebration at the Kiwanis Club.

As December 15 has been proclaimed Bill of Rights day, the American Legion call attention to the fact that all those owning flags should have them out on display this next Monday.

A HANDSOME GESTURE OF CO-OPERATION

Sponsored by the Kiwanis club, but actually put on by two of its most active members, F. R. Hynson and J. P. Royer, an "L. Q." entertainment was put on for the boys of the Manassas State Vocational school on Tuesday evening at the weekly assembly.

Mr. Hynson acted as master of ceremonies, and a grand total of eighty one prizes (collected by Mr. Hynson from the various business men of the town) were distributed.

The show afforded fun and a new brand of entertainment. Fred always was a wizard at getting up brain twisters, and Tuesday night witnessed another good job.

Next Tuesday evening, Mr. Royer is having his electrical class put on a free show for the town. This was briefly described in last week's Journal. Mr. Royer expressed the hope that at least five hundred would attend as he wanted a full house.

PRIZE FOR BEST WINDOW

The Manassas Garden Club is offering a prize of \$1.50 to the business house of Manassas decorating the most attractive window.

The judging will take place Monday, December 22 in order that the merchants may have an opportunity to remove their stock for sale.

P. T. A. MEETING AT GAINESVILLE

There will be a P. T. A. meeting at the Gainesville District School on Tuesday, December 16th at 7:30. A speaker will be present to speak on Safety Measures. Every citizen is urged to attend.

ALUMNI DANCE

The annual alumni dance at Haymarket will be held in the auditorium of the school on the evening of December 26th, beginning at 10 o'clock. A popular Washington orchestra,

TEXT OF PRESIDENT'S WAR MESSAGE TO CONGRESS

The text of President Roosevelt's message to Congress follows: To the Congress of the United States:

Yesterday, December 7, 1941—a date which will live in infamy—the United States of America was suddenly and deliberately attacked by naval and air forces of the Empire of Japan.

The United States was at peace with that nation and, at the solicitation of its government and its Emperor looking toward the maintenance of peace in the Pacific. Indeed, one hour after Japanese air squadrons had commenced bombing in Oahu, the Japanese Ambassador to the United States and his colleague delivered to the Secretary of state a formal reply to a recent American message.

It will be recorded that the distance of Hawaii from Japan makes it obvious that the attack was deliberately planned many days or even weeks ago. During the intervening time the Japanese government has deliberately false statements and expressions of hope for continued peace.

The attack yesterday on the Hawaiian Islands has caused severe damage to American naval and military forces. Very many American lives have been lost. In addition American ships have been reported torpedoed on the high seas between San Francisco and Honolulu.

Yesterday the Japanese also launched an attack against Malaya. Last night Japanese forces attacked Hong Kong.

Last night Japanese forces attacked Guam.

Last night Japanese forces attacked the Philippine Islands.

Last night the Japanese attacked Wake Island.

This morning the Japanese attacked Midway Island.

Japan has, therefore, undertaken a surprise offensive extending throughout the Pacific area. The facts of yesterday speak for themselves. The people of the United States have already formed their opinions and well understand the implications to the very life and safety of our Nation.

As Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy I have directed that all measures be taken for our defense. Always will we remember the onslaught against us.

No matter how long it may take us to overcome this premeditated invasion, the American people will in their righteous might win through to absolute victory.

I believe I interpret the will of the congress and of the people when I assert that we will not only defend ourselves to the uttermost but will make very certain that this form of treachery shall never endanger us again.

Hostilities exist. There is no blinking at the fact that our people, our territory and our interests are in grave danger.

With confidence in our armed forces—with the unbounding determination of our people—we will gain the inevitable triumph—so help us God.

I ask that the Congress declare that since the unprovoked and dastardly attack by Japan on Sunday, December 7, a state of war existed between the United States and the Japanese Empire.

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT. The White House, December 8, 1941.

LOCAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Northern Virginia Defense Committee has set up a local set up a local advisory board for Prince William County. It is through this committee that the most immediate contacts may be had for such matters as may properly come before the defense committee which headquarters at Alexandria.

This committee is composed of Rev. Murray Taylor, chairman of the County Board of Supervisors; Hon. W. Hill Brown, commonwealth's attorney, and Harry P. Davis, mayor of the town of Manassas.

which has played at a number of points in Northern Virginia, has been engaged for the affair.

Mayor Davis Calls Civilian Defense Meeting

AIR RAID PRECAUTIONS

The following precautions are to be followed by the people of our COUNTY in case of an air-attack by enemy planes.

The first and most important rule, and I can not over emphasize this, IS TO KEEP COOL and not BECOME PANICKY, under any circumstances.

LISTEN for the WARNING-SIREN, as same will be blown for two (2) minutes. Immediately leave congested areas and places of business and schools and report to the following men or women who are directors for the Town of Manassas and other towns and areas in Prince William County, who will direct your further actions.

For Manassas

- Mayor Harry P. Davis
Mr. Hunton Tiffany
Mr. R. D. Wharton
Mr. W. H. Lamb
Mrs. John Broadus
Mrs. Marion Dickens
Mrs. M. M. Ellis
Mrs. Marion Lewis
Prof. Rich. C. Haydon
Prof. R. Worth Peters
Mr. C. A. Sinclair, Sr.
Mr. Ernest Trusler
Mr. William Hill Brown, Jr.
Mr. Jack Ratcliffe
Mr. C. C. Fisher
Mr. Mike Holler
Mr. Lewis Carper
Mr. C. W. Staggs
Mr. Jack Royer
Mr. Dennis Baker
Mr. D. J. Arrington
Mr. John Burke
Dr. H. E. Pickeral

Colored

- Dr. Jno. D. Williams
Rev. W. H. Barnes
John Chapman
Willis Alexander

For Catharpin

- Mrs. Will Brower
Triangle
Mr. Dudley Martin

Keep these instructions in mind also report all suspicious persons and any fires or suspected attempted sabotage and remember we are now in a state of war, and as patriotic and loyal civilians must do our part and be ready for any and all emergencies and ready to make extreme sacrifices so that we may preserve our freedom of religion, speech and our democratic form of government.

These are advance notices and final adjustments will come later, so please watch the Manassas Journal for further bulletins.

George B. Cocke, Chairman. Civilian Defense Committee for Prince William County.

AIR RAID ALARM

A new type of shrill alarm has been installed in the Town Hall. It will be tried out at noon on Saturday. This is merely a test.

VOLUNTEERS RAID WARDENS

Mr. E. G. Parrish has called for volunteer air raid wardens. Most of the stations are within ten miles of Manassas. Mr. Parrish will give details to any public spirited person.

RED CROSS EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING CALLED

Mrs. Wm. Lloyd, Chairman of Prince Wm. Co. Chapter, American Red Cross is calling a meeting of the Executive Board and Committee chairmen, Monday, Dec. 15th, at 2 P. M. At the residence of the chapter's Secretary, Mrs. L. H. Marsteller, Manassas.

As the business to be transacted is of importance to the community, members of the chapter other than the officers are urged to attend and lend assistance to the Red Cross whose duties and needs are world wide.

THE WAR DECLARATION

Following is the text of the formal declaration of war resolution passed by Congress at the conclusion of the President's message:

"Whereas, the Imperial Japanese government has committed unprovoked acts of war against the Government and the people of the United States of America therefore be it.

"Resolved, by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled: That the state of war between the United States and the Imperial Japanese government which has thus been thrust upon the United States is hereby formally declared; and the President is hereby authorized and directed to employ the entire naval and military forces of the United States and the resources of the Government to carry on war against the Imperial Japanese government; and, to bring the conflict to a successful termination, all of the resources of the country are hereby pledged by the Congress of the United States."

Because of the unusual upturn in national and international affairs, no end of rumors of any and every sort have become current during the past week.

In an attempt to clarify matters, Mayor H. P. Davis has called a meeting of all interested citizens at the Town Hall, Manassas, Virginia, at 7:30 P. M. tomorrow night (December 12), at which time information will be given out and matters discussed in a manner that will impart data and preparations of an essential nature. The public is urged to attend and find out things without depending on sheer rumor.

PRINCE WILLIAM'S FIRST WORLD WAR HERO

William Thomas Anderson, corporal and expert radio operator, is Prince William's first contribution to the god of war. He was a native of Triangle having been born there on April 7, 1922, the oldest son of Herbert C. and Mabel B. Anderson.

Corporal Anderson had been in service for two years, having enlisted before he was eighteen years old. He had made a fine record and become an expert in his work.

Besides his parents, there survive two brothers, Wesley and Herbert and four sisters, Christine, Ruth, Delores and Louise, all of whom reside with their parents at the home place.

Such news is too stunning to make suitable comment. It is the beginning of the messages of sorrow that will continue to come into our midst in the weary and dreary months ahead.

Young Anderson died at his post and goes down as one of the hundreds of young heroes of Prince William who have given their lives in the defense of American soil. He belongs to Prince William's hall of fame. We bow our heads in sorrow while we also feel that intense pride that the years have not dulled the strong sense of patriotism that is an integral part of Anglo-Saxon nature.

May the spirit of Thomas Anderson and those thousands who will follow in his path to a hero's grave bring to us that sense of thankfulness that Democracy will never die.

COCKE NAMES AREA DIRECTORS

Dr. George B. Cocke, Chairman of the Prince William County Civilian Defense, acted early Monday to perfect the County Civilian Defense organization, sending out letters naming directors of the various areas and asking them to select men or women to serve with each director.

In many cases Dr. Cocke's letters were received even before Congress had passed the Declaration of War. He requests that each director immediately advise him of his selections of aides.

"Your duties," Dr. Cocke states to his area directors, "are mainly to organize your community to serve in case of a National Emergency, as leaders to get your people to a place of safety in case of air raid bombings, auxiliary fire-fighters, guards of vital spots such as water supply stations, power plants, railroads, highways telephone and telegraph centers, storage warehouses, school houses, outhouses, etc. Train your people in your community how to act and what to do in case of sabotage, fire and what-not, especially children in your school."

NAMED AIR RAID WARDEN

Capt. Thomas F. Joyce, USMC, retired, has been asked to serve as county air raid warden. In this capacity he will coordinate all existing set-ups.

Capt. Joyce has had a wealth of wartime experience and in a position to offer the best sort of organization advice.

FLASH! FLASH!

The officials of the Central Mutual Telephone Company, respectfully request that our subscribers and others do not call the switch-board when an alarm is sounded for a fire, as we are taxed with work due to this war emergency.

Calls will be answered from firemen and the Town Manager for their information only when an alarm goes in.

Your co-operation will be appreciated in this matter and thus help us to give you the service you desire under these trying conditions.

J. A. Vetter, Mgr.

OUR COUNTRY IS NOW AT WAR

"Dastardly Attack" by Japan Plunges the United States into the Conflict

Listeners to radio programs last Sunday, December 7, were electrified shortly before 2:30 P. M. by interruption of their broadcast to announce that from the White House had come the astounding information that the Japanese had without the slightest warning that they were at war, launched an air raid upon the United States defenses at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

A few minutes later it was announced that a similar raid was in progress at Manila, but later this was believed to have been an error, although hostilities against the Philippines soon did begin. Simultaneously Japanese forces attacked Malaya, and Hong Kong, indicating a general offensive against the United States and England. Then our possessions of Guam, Wake Island and Midway Island were attacked.

At noon on Monday, December 8, a joint session of Congress met to hear President Roosevelt request a declaration that a state of war between the United States and Japan existed.

The Senate unanimously adopted the declaration by a vote of 82 to 0. The House of Representative shortly after approved the declaration by a vote of 388 to 1. A unanimous vote in the House was blocked by Miss Jeannette Rankin, of Montana, who was immediately subjected to an avalanche of protest from prominent citizens of her native State.

Making good Churchill's promise that England would declare war against Japan within the hour, if Japan went to war against the United States, Great Britain moved even more rapidly than our own country, not requiring parliamentary action.

"It only remains now" Mr. Churchill told the House of Commons, "for the two great democracies to face their tasks with whatever strength God may give them."

Central and South American countries that began to declare war, with Costa Rica leading, off followed by Nicaragua the same day. Monday they were followed by Haiti, El Salvador, Honduras, Panama, the Dominican Republic and Guatemala. Other nations, such as Mexico and Columbia are in progress to a war footing with Japan while Brazil, Argentina and Peru have indicated friendship for the United States, while not yet entering the conflict. The various colonies of the British Empire immediately declared war.

Caught unawares the United States suffered a heavy blow in the first encounter. The Japanese made extravagant claims respecting the damage inflicted, claiming seizure of the 10,000 ton 'President Harrison.' Unable to release exact figures without giving military information helpful to the enemy, high American officials, nevertheless, were greatly chagrined that our armed forces had apparently been caught napping at a time when an explosion in the Pacific was widely believed to be imminent.

Chronological arrangement of these dramatic and historic events is complicated by the fact that time in Japan is fourteen hours ahead of Virginia (Eastern Standard) times. Hawaii, on the other hand is 5 1-2 hours behind our time.

That Uncle Sam is in for a real war may be gleaned from the relative size of the two naives involved coupled with our necessity of fighting on two fronts.

According to a statement of Chair-

(Continued on page 8.)