



# The Manassas Journal



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## LOCAL RATIONING BOARD ISSUES AN IMPORTANT STATEMENT

### Surprise Blackout between October 5 and 12

#### YELLOW FLASH FIRST WARNING

##### Mr. Wyse Gives Further Details Of Approaching Blackout.

Numerous requests have been received by the State Office of Civilian Defense as to the exact date and time of the State-wide total blackout to be held in Virginia between the 5th and 12th of October. Requests for such information have been denied in that they are "wholly impractical," says J. H. Wyse, State Co-ordinator.

"This office wishes to point out," Mr. Wyse said, "that to be prepared for any eventuality, it is necessary to have this test come as a complete surprise. Only in this way will we be able to ascertain whether the people of Virginia are prepared to blackout their lights, on an instant's notice, without having been previously warned."

"Certainly no warning will be given by the enemy if he intends to raid our State. He will strike swiftly and with deadly accuracy. We must, therefore, attempt to simulate an actual raid by surprising the people and having a complete blackout," the State Co-ordinator added.

"Arrangements," the statement continues, "have been made by the local co-ordinators to notify all important installations of the fact that a test is taking place by calling them on the "Yellow" or "Blue" and informing them of the fact. This will be all the warning given these installations. Certain plants and utilities are exempt from participating in this test, having convinced the authorities that they can blackout instantly in event of real danger."

The State Co-ordinator concludes his statement with an appeal for the complete cooperation of all citizens in these words:

"Let us enter into this test with a series intent to comply with requirements, and with the fixed idea of being on constant watch for such alarms, whether they be tests or actual raids. It is only thus that we can become prepared."

#### LEGION LOSES LOYAL LEADER

Special meeting of the American Legion Executive Board was held last Saturday night. This action was necessary in order to receive the resignation of Commander Staggs who is being transferred to Culpeper today and so cannot be present at the next regular meeting of the Legion. Under the circumstances, The executive board had no other choice but to accept Mr. Staggs' resignation though they refused to even consider his transfer as a member of the Legion.

Commander Staggs was just starting his second year as Commander of the Legion and during that time has led the organization to many new records. One of those records was established just a few weeks ago when he beat his own record of membership record of last year which then was an all time high record for the Post. Another record was set in the recent "scrap record" drive in which was collected and shipped over 4 1/2 times the quota set by the National headquarters. These are but two examples of outstanding achievement and many more could be recited to cover the time that Commander Staggs held office.

To fill the vacancy as Commander A. C. Bean was raised from 1st. Vice Commander, W. M. Johnson was made 1st. Vice Commander and John Eagle, 2nd. Vice Commander. These emergency appointments will be confirmed at the next regular meeting.

As his last act as Commander and with the concurrence of the Commander elect, Mr. Staggs announced the appointment of standing and special committees for the ensuing year. The memberships of these committees includes practically the entire membership of the Legion but only the names committee activity and name of chairman is given now.

Membership—W. M. Johnson  
House—J. M. DeChant  
Legal—V. V. Gillum  
Finance—W. N. Curtis  
Publicity—M. S. Burchard  
Service—Miss Margaret Lynch  
Visiting—J. M. DeChant  
Americanism—F. G. Parrish  
Athletic—V. V. Gillum

#### FARM MACHINERY RATIONING BOARD NAMED

At a meeting of the U. S. D. A. War Board Saturday, the following men were appointed as members of the Prince William County Farm Machinery and Equipment Rationing Committee:

William H. Wheeler, Manassas, Chairman.  
M. Bruce Whitmore, Manassas.  
Lester W. Huff, Nokesville.  
L. J. Pattie, Catharpin, and A. H. Roseberry, Manassas, were named as alternate committeemen.

Equipment to be rationed includes disc harrows, feed grinders, combines, lime spreaders, grain drills, hay balers, milk coolers, milking machines, shredders and tractors.

Information concerning the rationing regulations may be obtained from the committeemen, farm equipment dealers or the county agents office.



GIRL STUDENT FROM MANASSAS YOUTH DEFENSE SCHOOL

#### STRIVING TO AID IN FARM CRISIS

##### Public School Children may Work On County Farms.

At a called meeting on Monday afternoon, a special advisory committee met with Professor R. C. Haydon to discuss some possible aid to the beleaguered farmers.

After two hours of earnest discussion, it was decided to put it up to joint action by a specially constructed committee in each area, with Frank Cox, county agent, as central control head.

Farmers who are willing to transport the children and to take every possible care of them while working for them and also in transit, may apply to Mr. Cox who will instantly contact his area committee, and also of the school principal from whom the pupils would most likely be drawn.

A basic wage scale has been developed and no children will be allowed to take out more than five days through October 15th. Any continuance of the plan for the time being is doubtful.

Great care is to be used to prevent unnecessary loss of time from school by those who can least afford to do so. Some of the farm boys have already been out of classes due to work on their own farms and can hardly be spared any further. This, of course, will be in the hands of the school authorities.

Miss Evelyn Spangler, aged 18, of Christiansburg, Virginia, proving herself just as good a man with the acetylene torch in the Pennsylvania Central shop at Washington Airport.

#### MOVIE BENEFIT AIDS DRIVE HERE

##### Hundreds Of Children Attend Free Movie As Reward For Assisting In Scrap Drive.

The Pied Piper and his gang (alias Ben Pitts, O. O. Holler and Company) arrived on schedule last Friday afternoon and evening, with an entourage of nearly one thousand of the school children from the northern end of the county.

It took three shows to handle the crowd, plus the regular attendance. District Manager T. I. Martin represented Mr. Pitts and expressed satisfaction at the result of the project.

Various sorts of junk and scrap is yet coming in which is being handled by volunteer trucks. The most useful of these has been the work done by Mr. C. B. Roland who has taken out time that he could ill afford to spare to haul a lot of tonnage from Haymarket.

Mr. Ellicott has been supervising the work at Woodbine, while Mr. Peters has had the assistance of Messrs. Rice and Fishpaw at Manassas. More exact figures will be announced by the committee which will include reports from other vicinities.

The most encouraging report yet has come from Mr. R. S. Hall who has put his cohorts to work and a veritable pyramid is rising to the sky at Occoquan.

The metal going out of Prince William should keep one mill going several days and that is surely something of which to be proud.

The Manassas-Haymarket committee is taking this opportunity to express to Mr. Pitts sincere thanks for helping in such a worthy project.

#### YOUNG FLYER GETS HIS WINGS



Emlyn H. Marsteller, Jr., son of Dr. and Mrs. Emlyn H. Marsteller 339 Centre Street, Manassas, Virginia, received his wings and was commissioned an Ensign in the U. S. Naval Reserve at Corpus Christi, Texas last week.

The graduation ceremonies marked the completion of a long, strenuous training course designed to fit him for duty with the fleet.

Ensign Marsteller volunteered for flight training in January 1941. He received his preliminary instruction at the U. S. Naval Reserve Air Base, Anacostia, D. C., and was then transferred to the "University of the Air" at Corpus Christi.

Supplementing his actual flying hours here, he has gone through ground school courses and learned the theories behind modern aviation warfare. He learned to fly "blind" while still in a hangar; became familiar with radio code, receiving and sending; came to realize the necessity of navigation procedure.

Now, a finished specialist in flying the Navy's planes, he is ready to match his aerial prowess with the best that Hitler and Hirohito have to offer.

#### COUNTY DOUBLED ITS QUOTA FOR LEE BATTALION.

Mate J R Watkins, of the Navy Recruiting Service, was in the Journal Office today to emphatically deny any rumors that local recruiting work for the Navy had ceased.

Mr. Watkins states that there are more openings now than ever before and men are constantly needed to man the new ships.

The special drive for men to fill the complement on the Cruiser Richmond, which called for a definite quota from every Virginia county, was quite successful, this county doubling its quota.

Mr. Watkins states that the recruiting office at Manassas will be open every Thursday until further notice.

#### GAINEVILLE P. T. A. MEETING

The Gainesville District P. T. A. is having a Talent Show Friday, October 9 at eight o'clock at the Gainesville District School.

There will be a Minstrel Show Readings and Singing. The public is cordially invited.

#### MANASSAS U.D.C. CHANGES MEETING DATE

The Manassas Chapter U. D. C. will meet the second Wednesday in October at 2:30 P. M., at the home of Mrs. Dennis Baker, with Mrs. Marshall Douglas, assistant hostess.

Please note the change in date, from the first Wednesday to the second, the change being made on account of the Virginia Division Convention in Richmond, October 6-8.

#### EXECUTIVE BOARD TO MEET WITH MRS. CARPER

The Executive Board of the Manassas Woman's Club will meet Wednesday morning, October 7, at 10:00 o'clock in the home of the President, Mrs. Lewis Carper.

#### PROGRAM AT VOCATIONAL SCHOOL

Those who attended the wizardry of the electric show being put on by students at the NYA school some months back and who recall how difficulties caused a sudden failure to conclude, will be glad to know that the show will now be put on in the gymnasium of the school next Tuesday evening.

Although no visiting magician will be there, the boys and girls will give you all the thrills that super-voltage produces. You will see things so contrary to fact that you can not believe your own eyes.

The time; next Tuesday evening, 8 o'clock; the place, NYA school gymnasium; the public is cordially invited.

Flag Display—M. S. Burchard  
Legion Home—J. H. Stauff  
Defense—E. G. Parrish  
Scrap Campaign—E. G. Parrish  
Agriculture Day—M. S. Burchard  
Employment—V. V. Gillum

#### WAR RATIONING INFORMATION FOR PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY

Make all applications and inquiries direct to the War Price and Rationing Board No. 76—Phone 247—Office in the Court House Building, Manassas, Virginia. Those who live at a distance from Manassas should transact their business by phone or mail whenever possible. Save rubber and gasoline. The office is open from 8:45 to 5:30 P. M. All rationed commodities come under this board.

Bear in mind—It is not necessary to prove the theft of ration books in order to take action against a person found to be holding stolen books or coupons. Be sure to turn in to the board your ration book when you sell, trade or otherwise dispose of your car. Books cannot be transferred.

Among the new items to be rationed in the near future is fuel oil, and certain of rubber boots and rubber work shoes.

We have recently added to our staff Mrs. Alice Webb Johnson, as Civilian Relationship Advisor. We feel proud of having Mrs. Johnson with us and hope she will be able to contribute something each week to the Journal reviewing some of the high points that this Board would like to get over to the public. We have also added to our staff Mr. O. O. Holler who will be in charge of one of the new commodities to be rationed.

To Taxicab owners—No one may have in operation a greater number of taxicabs than he had in operation on September 1, 1942. The use of taxicabs for personal purposes is prohibited.

C. C. Cloe, Chairman.

#### STATE ASSEMBLY IN EXTRA SESSION

State Will Benefit By Governor's Unique Proposal.

The oldest legislative body in the New World convened in special session on Tuesday to consider Governor Darden's unique proposal to apply existing idle state funds to retirement of the state debt.

Virginia now has an idle surplus approximately equal to the debt. The amount is about \$18,500,000.00 and is so invested that the bonds cannot be retired, but this idle money can be so invested that its interest can be used to offset the interest which must now be paid on the outstanding bonds.

Under existing law only a very small percentage of the surplus funds of Virginia can be used to produce revenue. Hence the Governor has called an extra session to last only a few days to authorize the investment of these funds so that the revenue can be applied to the existing debt.

It is stated that some of this investment is likely to be in U. S. War Bonds. The State Treasurer Tayloe Murphy is quoted as stating, "Not only will the State benefit to the extent of large savings in the operation of this program, but in turn will release funds now idle, to the Federal Government at a time when large sums are so urgently needed in the prosecution of the life and death struggle in which the nation is now engaged."

It is reported that a number of minor bills will also be considered, mostly in the interest of war efficiency, such as lowering the automobile speed limit to the national speed, to permit counties to follow the State lead in investing surplus funds, and probably a few will find their way to the Assembly which are of questionable advisability at this time.

Such a bill, this newspaper believes, would be any like the proposal to permit men in the armed forces to run for public office, and similar political projects which offer possibilities of difficulty in carrying out in time of war and which are said to be frowned upon by the military authorities who object to handling the flood of mail between military headquarters and the political "front" at home.

Senator Aubrey Weaver, of Front Royal, who is chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, is quoted as stating that this session will probably not go beyond the present week and will only cost the State something like \$20,000. The last special session in 1936 cost the Commonwealth over \$75,000.

#### LIBRARY NIGHT OPENING

The Ruffner-Carnegie Library beginning next Thursday, October 8th, will be open every Thursday night from 7:30 to 9:30 o'clock. An interesting program followed by a social hour will be presented next Thursday beginning at 8:00 P. M. Members of the Friends of the Library Club and all others interested are cordially invited to attend.

Traveling difficulties are making this a very good time for all of us to find our pleasures and interests at home and the Library with its growing collection of up-to-date fiction and books of current as well as much standard material offers one of the best possible and most agreeable ways of spending our spare time.

#### CONSUMER RELATIONS

What is Rationing?  
Rationing is a community plan for dividing fairly the limited materials we have among all who need them. It means to share alike, to sacrifice, if necessary, but sacrifice together when your country's welfare needs it. It prevents hoarding, starvation, long bread lines, shoddy goods and run away speculation. It is one assure the government can take to insure equal opportunities for all citizens without exceptions to obtain the necessities of life.

Why Rationing?  
Rationing is necessary in the United States now because:

1. We no longer have an abundance of many articles which once produced in great quantities.
2. We no longer have plenty of raw materials from which many of our products were made.
3. Many of our products were imported from other countries; due to submarine warfare, we can no longer import these materials; due to war conditions in some countries, the sources of materials have been completely destroyed.
4. In wartime we must convert our resources from the normal requirements of the civilian population to produce guns, tanks, ships, planes, munitions, etc. essential to win the war.
5. Civilian transportation facilities must be used to haul essential materials to the armed forces. This is TOTAL WAR. For victory every resource must be used to help win the war. Civilian needs can and must be cut or postponed until victory is won.

Your County Rationing Board is doing its conscientious best to administer the rationing program in the county according to instructions received from State and National Rationing Headquarters. Give your local Board your best cooperation and support. Ask for the minimum amount of products needed instead of a liberal amount. This is one way you can help lick Hitler and the Japs at home. If your wants cannot be met by the Rationing Board blame Hitler and the Japs—not your local rationing Board. Know the facts before you criticize.

Alice Webb Johnson  
Civilian Relationship Advisor.  
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