

Two Are Killed In Auto Crashes Over Weekend

Holiday Accidents Injure 8 Others, Four Critically

Two persons were killed and eight others injured, three of them critically, in two automobile accidents which occurred within eight hours last Saturday in Prince William County.

The dead were David B. Powell, 22, of Buffalo, N. Y., and Stuyvesant McKinney, 20, of Tuxedo Park, N. Y., both students at the University of Virginia.

Powell was killed instantly and McKinney died 14 hours after the automobile in which they were riding crashed into the concrete side of a bridge on Route 1 about a mile south of Woodbridge early Saturday morning.

Four other students, who with the other two were returning to their homes for the Christmas holidays, were injured in the crash. All six students were veterans, and the two dead youths had both served in the Marines.

The injured were taken to the Marine Hospital in Quantico by an ambulance from the Hall Funeral Home, Occoquan.

Philip Schuster, 25, of Hasbrouck Heights, N. J., suffered a compound fracture of the jaw and other head injuries; Harry P. Barlow, III, 23, of Buffalo, N. Y., suffered a compound fracture of the leg; Albert J. Mathes, Jr., 24, of Rye, N. Y., suffered multiple bruises; and William J. Fowl 21, of New York, was badly lacerated.

The second accident occurred Saturday afternoon near Quantico when two automobiles collided and were destroyed by fire. Two persons were critically injured and two others were hurt less seriously.

Most seriously hurt were Chief Pharmacist's Mate Morris Cornelius, 25, stationed at Quantico, who suffered head injuries, and Miss Cecilia Parkes, mathematics teacher in Richmond, who suffered a leg fracture and severe shock. Both are in the Marine Hospital at Quantico.

Less seriously injured were Robert John Marsh, of Dumfries, a pharmacist's mate first class, who suffered multiple cuts, and Miss Nancy Worthington, of Richmond, director of Camp Allegheny near White Sulphur Springs, W. Va., who was treated for minor injuries.

Nokesville PTA Has Open House To Exhibit School Improvements

(By Hazel B. Shepard)

The Nokesville patrons literally swarmed in the school on Thursday night when 250 parents, children and visitors attended the regular meeting of the P.T.A., followed by open house when everyone visited the rooms all dressed up in their Christmas finery. The brass choir, under the direction of Michael Ronca, presented their Christmas music and later Lowen Marshall sang "White Christmas," accompanied at the piano by Mr. Ronca.

After the opening prayer by Mrs. Milton Coy, the second grade teacher, President George Sonafrank was in charge of the business-packed session. Fred Shepherd, backed up by Wallace Wood and Newman Hopkins, all of whom have been very busy on their committee duties, reported that their visits with E. Worth Peters, the School Board and Mr. Peters' later visit with the Board of Supervisors resulted in immediate action on sealing the gym and securing a central heating plant for the school buildings. This committee's next project will be to secure two steam tables, washing machines and various other equipment to be used in preparing the school lunches.

Mrs. L. J. Bowman, aided by the members on the program committee—Mrs. Willard Wilkins, Mrs. Olive Hooker, Mrs. Cale Gibson and Mrs. Howard Marshall—reported on their plans worked out in their meeting

Retires As Local Battlefield Park Custodian



MAJOR JOSEPH MILLS HANSON

Major Hanson Honored At Party After Disclosure Of Retirement

Announcement has been made of the retirement of Major Joseph Mills Hanson as custodian of the Manassas National Battlefield Park, rounding out fourteen years of service in the National Park Service in January.

Major Hanson came to Manassas as Custodian in April, 1942, prior to which time he had done extensive historical research and studies as a basis for the land acquisition and planning of the Manassas National Battlefield Park. He was formerly Historian at the Petersburg National Park, served as Research Historian in the Library of Congress for the National Park Service, and did special studies for Parks at Richmond, Appomattox, Antietam and Saratoga, N. Y.

A writer of some note, Major Hanson had a book, "Campaign on Missouri," published in 1939 and re-published by Rhinehart last year, which has received considerable comment.

On Saturday afternoon friends gathered at the Museum to honor Major Hanson and gave him a number of handsome gifts. Among these present were Mr. Ronald S. Lee, Chief Historian of the National Park Service, of Washington; Col. Willard Webb, Chief of Stack and Reader Division of the Library of Congress; Mr. and Mrs. Francis F. Wilshin (Mr. Wilshin is Historian of the Fredericksburg National Mil-

itary Park); Mr. and Mrs. Helen Stuart, of Washington, (Mr. Stuart is Statistician with the Commerce Department); Capt. E. John Long, U.S.N., Public Relations Officer on the Staff of Secretary of National Defense Forrestal; Mr. Garnett Jew, portrait artist, of Arlington; Mr. Harold L. Peterson, Curator of the National Park Service Museum Laboratory in Washington; Mrs. Francis (See MAJOR HANSON, Page 12)

the preceding Monday night. Their program plans follow:
January—A spelling match with Mrs. Reba Hopkins and Marie Kerlin choosing from the audience. Mr. Gibson will pronounce. Music will be by the Brethren mixed quartet.
February—Miss Ila Breeden will be in charge of a patriotic program. Rev. Fleishman, who by then will be the pastor at the Nokesville Brethren Church, will have five minutes of devotional thoughts. Cherry pie, in keeping with the program thoughts, will be served.
March—Miss Irwin Rion, the senior teacher, with Miss Amy Miller and Mrs. Fred Shepherd as her committee, will be in charge of a Spring Style Show. The devotional thought will be by Mr. Milton Coy.
The April meeting will feature an amateur show under the supervision of Mrs. Willard Wilkins, Mrs. Cale Gibson, Mrs. Clifford Dove, Miss Edna Armstrong and Mrs. Mildred Hale. The devotional thought will be by Eugene Nolley.
In May the committee plans to have Dr. Abner Robertson, the State secretary, for the speaker of the evening. Rev. Daniel Newman will give the devotional thoughts.
At each meeting a five to ten-minute talk on some current events will be given by either a high school student or an adult.
Further business included a decision by the audience to take up (See NOKESVILLE P.T.A., Page 12)

Christmas Tree Program Held

Lions Club Event Draws Nice Crowd

A large crowd attended Tuesday night's first annual Community Christmas Tree program, sponsored by the Manassas Lions Club, on the horse show grounds of the Porter Estate.

The children had an especially happy time as Santa Claus put in an appearance to hand out candy and oranges to those present. It was Santa's second appearance here in the past week.

Dr. Floyd M. Riddick served as master of ceremonies for the program, and a monologue was given by Worth H. Storke.

Another highlight of the program was the playing of Christmas music by the brass choir of the Nokesville High School band and the singing of Christmas carols by a mixed choir from local churches. Clay Ball was chairman of the Lions committee which arranged the program.

Manassas Kiwanis Club Holds Xmas Program; Committees Set

A program of Christmas carols and the announcement of committee appointments for 1948 highlighted last Friday's weekly meeting of the Manassas Kiwanis Club at the Prince William Hotel.

Directed and accompanied by Miss Irene Taylor, a quartet of Osbourn High School girls sang three songs and Betty Ann Ritter sang a solo for the benefit of the club. In addition to Miss Ritter, members of the quartet were Peggy Pickett, Wanda Tomlinson and Ann Warren Coleman.

Following the singing of the quartet, the club joined in singing several Christmas carols. The program was under the direction of J. P. Royer and the club's sponsors, Mrs. Royer and Kitty Baker.

It was announced that Christmas baskets were to be prepared on Saturday for the annual distribution on Tuesday. Stanley A. Owens was thanked by the club for making possible a contribution from the Salvation Army toward the Christmas baskets.

Guests of the club, in addition to Miss Taylor, were Miss Pat Royer, Connie Kincheol, Turner Wheeling, A. E. Cullen and Sam Ford, a

Moses Commission Recommends State Sales Tax; Northern Virginia Merchants, Legislators Oppose It

Assembly Members In This Area Plan To Fight Proposal

Northern Virginia members of the Virginia General Assembly this week pledged a finish fight on the Moses School Study Commission's recommendation for a State retail sales tax.

Such a levy, the legislators declared, would be inequitable. They found no fault with the purpose of the proposal—to raise additional funds for public schools—but said other forms of taxation should be used.

The Northern Virginia legislators said they were not yet prepared to offer substitute proposals but added that they will join in submitting an alternative program.

"We are going to do everything we can to oppose the sales tax," said Charles R. Fenwick, senator-elect from Arlington. "I have written to the organizations which have expressed opposition to a sales tax, asking them to get together and decide on a substitute so we can present a united front in the legislature."

Mr. Fenwick said there is no question that the schools need additional funds, but he continued that other means could be found to provide the money.

A similar view was expressed by Senator Andrew W. Clarke, who represents the City of Alexandria and the Counties of Prince William and Fairfax.

Frank P. Moncure, member of the House of Delegates from Prince William and Stafford, "retorted" against the sales tax.

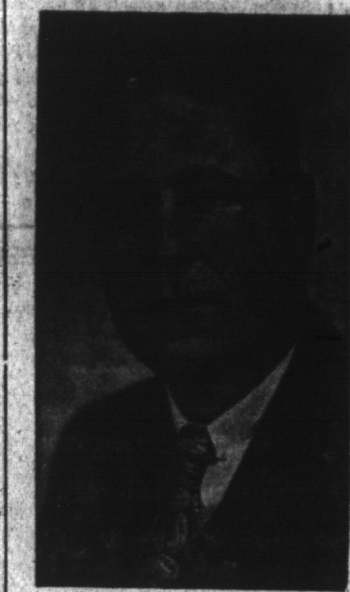
"I have promised my constituents that I will not support a sales tax unless I am convinced there is a real need for more money which cannot be raised in any other way," Mr. Moncure declared. "I want first to find out whether the money is needed."

Mr. Moncure said he felt there was a lot of "duplication of effort" in State administration, and added that he favored a thorough investigation of all financial needs before beginning to worry about sources of money.

Delegate J. Maynard Magruder, of Arlington, said he had not read the report and preferred to withhold specific comment on it, but that he was definitely opposed to the sales tax.

George Damm, who also represents (See Assembly Members, Page 12)

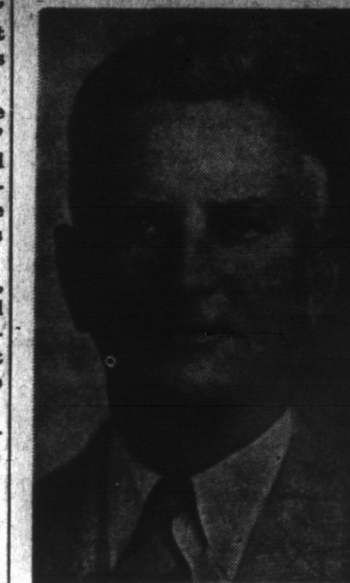
Oppose Sales Tax



ANDREW W. CLARKE



CHARLES R. FENWICK



FRANK P. MONCURE

Two Percent Levy Designed To Meet Needs Of Schools

Developments within the past week have made it evident that the \$64 question before the Virginia General Assembly when it convenes in January will be whether or not Virginia will adopt a sales tax as an additional means of securing revenue.

Coming on the heels of the recommendation for a sales tax of the League of Virginia Counties last week came this week's recommendation of the Moses Commission—sweeping improvements in Virginia's educational system with a two per cent sales tax PLUS increases in present levies to pay for them.

The Moses Commission was created by the Assembly last January to study school needs. Its report to Governor Tuck covered the field of public education expenditures, but it laid emphasis on "the greatest single problem," that of "providing an adequate supply of competent teachers."

Meanwhile, however, the Virginia Merchants' Association, labor organizations and other groups have marshaled a fight against the sales tax, a fight which has gained support of merchants almost unanimously throughout Northern Virginia and particularly in Prince William County.

A number of merchants have commented that money already is getting "tight" and that people will not be able to afford any extra cost on products which already are sky-high in price.

Quite a number of Prince William merchants have questioned the reasons for an increase in taxes, and many have been outspoken in their criticism of the present tax structure and the present expenditure of money by the various State agencies.

"We're paying all kinds of taxes now and we don't seem to be getting anything for them," was a comment many have made. "I don't believe increasing taxes is going to help the situation any."

The Moses Commission report presented a three-fold program designed to attract and hold good teachers, and recommended in addition:

State ownership and operation of school transportation facilities.

An increase to \$800,000 (virtually double that of the current year) of the extra State help to poorer localities.

Further improvements in vocational education.

The report devoted considerable argument in defense of its sales tax (See Moses Commission, Page 12)

Santa Claus' Visit To Manassas Considered Outstanding Success

(See Editorial Comment)

Santa Claus came to Manassas last Friday, and the general opinion was that the merry old gentleman with the red suit and white whiskers made quite a lasting impression.

It's quite safe to say that Santa Claus captivated the children like no one ever captivated them except the same gentleman on his Christmas Eve night visits to the homes.

It was even rumored that some of the "older children," referring to the adults, got as much kick out of Santa's visit as did the younger members of the families.

The whole celebration started when Santa alighted from his plane at the Manassas Airport at about 3 p. m. after being flown in by George King and Nick Latsios, who operate the airfield.

At the airport Santa was greeted by a welcoming address by Harry P. Davis, Mayor of Manassas and President of the Prince William

County Chamber of Commerce, which sponsored Santa's visit.

After the ceremony at the airport, Santa was driven into town by John Gregory and Mr. Davis in a bright red convertible belonging to Dudley J. Martin. Santa rode on the top of the back seat, waving to everyone as he passed.

When Santa reached Manassas, he was whisked into line for a parade which began at Grant Avenue, came up Center Street to East went down East to Church and then came back to Pitts' Theatre.

State Trooper Phil P. Herndon headed the parade with Dr. George B. Cocks, chairman of the Chamber's Santa Claus committee, and Deputy Sheriff Turner D. Wheeling accompanying him.

Next in line and drawing almost as much attention as Santa himself came the Nokesville band, headed by its five majorettes. Led by its (See SANTA CLAUS, Page 12)