



County's Per Capita Income 4th Highest, State Survey Shows

Prince William County is one of the four richest counties in the State of Virginia from a standpoint of per capita income, a study just completed by the University of Virginia indicates. Only Henrico, Elizabeth City and Arlington—each a heavily urbanized area with large numbers of high-salaried residents—had higher per capita incomes in 1947, the latest year for which county figures are available. Eleven of the state's 24 independent cities showed average incomes smaller than Prince William's. This county's 1947 per capita income is reported to have been \$1,169, seven dollars per inhabitant per year greater than that of Fairfax and \$48 higher than that of neighboring Fauquier. Arlington County, with its heavy population of government workers, reported average incomes of \$1,684 per person—more than \$200 higher than the per capita figure for Richmond. Unlike Fairfax County, the high per capita income of which is attributable to an increase in the number of government workers, and unlike Fauquier, which has recently attracted a substantial number of wealthy residents from outside, Prince William's prosperity apparently is a stable, long-time proposition. Figures for 1940, parallel to those of 1947, show this county's pre-war per capita income to have been \$838, against \$584 for Fairfax and only \$216 for Fauquier. While Prince William was one of the outstanding bright spots in the Virginia picture, the entire state shows up well in increased living standards, according to the university's figures. Per capita income in Virginia is up 158 per cent over 1940 against a nation-wide increase of 145 per cent.

Further Steps For Recreation Area Taken

A further step has been taken toward the development of a recreational center for Manassas with the recording of a giving the Manassas Recreational Corporation clear title to two lots upon which it is planned to construct a swimming pool and recreational building. An option on an additional 6-acre tract adjoining the two lots has also been obtained. The price for the additional land will be \$10,000. The idea for a recreational center first advanced by the Lions Club of Manassas. A charter was obtained from the State Corporation Commission, but broader the recreational project it was subsequently decided to expand the activities and organize the Manassas Recreation Corporation, in order they get the citizens at large as well as other civic minded groups behind the project. The land involved in the project lies east of the Manassas water tower. The area has been scraped and leveled, a substantial area cleared of underbrush, two stone fire places built, benches and tables constructed, horse-shoe pitching courts set out, and a wire back-stop erected and a soft-ball diamond laid off. These things were all completed before the winter set in and outdoor recreational activities halted by weather. It is now contemplated to develop the recreational center to its fullest potential with the following three objectives announced by the civic-minded group forming the Manassas Recreational Association: 1-To provide a comprehensive recreation program for the benefit of the citizens of Manassas and vicinity. 2-To provide for the supervision, operation and maintenance of any recreation facilities placed under the control of the association. 3-To foster good fellowship and promote social relations among its members.

Gas Rate Down; New Schedule In Effect Feb. 7

The Virginia Gas Distribution Corporation announced a reduction Thursday in natural gas rates effective on bills mailed on and after Feb. 7, 1950. An average saving of \$4.35 per year to each customer will result. Increased sale of natural gas has increased the company's earnings, the company stated, and made possible the lower rates. The following is a schedule of the new rates for gas through each meter each month: First 500 cu. ft., \$1.00 (minimum); next 3,500, 76 cents per thousand; next 80,000, 65 cents per thousand; next 150,000, 60 cents per thousand; over 250,000, 55 cents per thousand. The old rate started at 400 cubic feet instead of 500, the first jump was to 3600 cubic feet instead of 3500, and the second jump was to 96,000 cubic feet instead of 16,900 cubic feet.

Manassas Seen as Auxiliary to Crowded Capital Air Terminal

Use of the Manassas Airport as the site for a Prince William County fair in late August will depend on whether the Civil Aeronautics Authority has plans to develop the area as a secondary field to the National Airport in Washington. Town manager James Ritter was instructed at Council meeting Monday night to contact the CAA and determine if Federal funds for airport development would be withheld should the airport be used as the site of a fairground. Application for Federal funds for the improvement of the Manassas Airport was made about a year and a half ago and is still pending. Harry O. Swan, of Nokesville, representing the Veterans' Farm Club of Prince William County, reopened the question of using the airport as a fairground. Swan told the Council that the airport was ideal as a possible site for the county fair, and that he was prepared to offer four or five hundred dollars annual rent for the tract of land. Any buildings the fair constructed would be of a semi-portable type, Swan later told the Journal, so that the land could be quickly reconverted to an airport, should the need arise. In the meantime, Harry Parrish told the Council after a visit to CAA that the Manassas Airport is being considered by CAA officials as a possible site for a large Federal-built airport to accommodate some of the heavy air traffic which has recently been partly responsible for several crashes at crowded Washington National Airport. The CAA has definitely decided to build an additional field to serve Washington and there are only two general locations being seriously considered. One location is the Baltimore Friendship Airport. Maryland authorities would like to have the Federal government take it over and assume the operating expenses. It was reported that Governor Lane, of Maryland, has asked CAA to recommend the Baltimore airport. The other possible site the CAA is said to be considering is the Manassas area. Whatever area is selected will be determined by ground and road access to Washington and National Airport. Of the two, Manassas is closer to National Airport since Washington with its heavy auto traffic lies between Maryland and National Airport. Another factor favorable to Manassas, Parrish said, is the mileage from National Airport. The present Manassas airport is 25 radio miles from National, and that reportedly is the exact proximity which CAA seeks for the new field.

Nokesville Boy Honored For 4-H Club Work

Thirteen year old Charles E. Michael, of Nokesville, has received a medal and certificate of merit from the Holstein-Friesian Association of America and granted junior membership in the association for his 4-H Club work in raising registered calves of that breed. The son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Michael, who lives on the Nokesville-Valley road between Nokesville and Aden, is in the 7th grade at the Brentsville district school and his mother says that his work with his calves and those of his father has not interfered with his studies at school.

Clarke on Poll Tax, Schools And Cemeteries

Andrew W. Clarke, State Senator representing Prince William County, said last week that he will support in the General Assembly, a limited constitutional convention to abolish the poll tax. He said he believes the poll tax question is the only matter which should be considered by such a convention. A special session of the legislature would have to follow passage of such a law, he added. Major legislation foreseen by Sen. Clarke was abolishing school construction either through loans or grants. "I favor loans at two and one-half per cent because grants tend to centralize government when the localities can handle their own problems." Sen. Clarke said he would also reintroduce a law requiring graveyard owners to set up funds for perpetual care of graves; a law forbidding trucks to pass each other on inclines, and would oppose all bonding trucks weighing more than 50,000 pounds to use state highways.

Warning On Plowing Near Roads Is Given

An earlier than usual caution about plowing too close to State highways in Prince William County came this week from the State Highway Department. Highway Resident Engineer J. E. Johnson said that the mild winter has started many farmers preparing for spring planting well ahead of schedule, and that much of this is being done too close to the edges of the State's roads. The engineer said that where the roadway is used as a turning point for horses, ditch lines and even the highway shoulders are often plowed up along with the fields. This results in blocked drainage and extensive damage. He pointed out that proper drainage is the most important factor in setting and preserving wider roads and smoother surfaces. The right-of-way width of secondary highways is a minimum of 30 feet—15 feet each side of the center of the highway. Right-of-way on primary highways is much wider and in most cases is marked by small stone monuments.

2 Old Members Rejoin Kiwanis

The return to active membership of two Kiwanians was the highlight of last Friday's meeting of the Kiwanis Club of Manassas. J. Dennis Baker and Robert B. Davis, were welcomed back by the club and its president, E. D. Gothwaite. "Law Observance and Public Safety" was discussed by Arthur Sinclair, who noted that "if some of the millions of dollars spent on law enforcement were spent on law observance, perhaps there would be less need for law enforcement." The Feb. 2 meeting with "Boy Scouts" as the theme will be under the direction of James Myers.

Triangle Votes For Bond Issue For Sewage

By a heavy majority the voters of Triangle Tuesday expressed approval of a \$110,000 bond issue for the construction of a disposal plant and sewage system covering the greater part of the Triangle area. With the election out of the way the officials of the district started at once to work out the construction plans and it is anticipated these will be ready in time to get the work under way in the late Spring.

Local Grain Prices

The following prices were reported for the week ending February 2, in the Manassas Grain Market. From Southern States Cooperative: Corn \$1.30 per bu. Barley \$1.00 per bu. From Herbert Bryant, Inc.: Barley \$1.00 per bu. Corn \$1.30 per bu. Milling wheat \$1.95 per bu.

Town Queries CAA Pending Fair Decision

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Spider in Paper Mark Twain Knew Answer

Many years ago Mark Twain was editor of a small town newspaper. A reader wrote in saying that he has found a spider in his paper and wanted to know if that was an omen of good luck or bad luck. Mark Twain answered: Finding a spider in your newspaper is neither good nor bad luck. The spider was merely looking over our paper to see which merchant was not advertising so he could go to that store, spin his web across the door and lead a life of undisturbed peace thereafter.

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U.D.C. to Distribute Pamphlet in Schools

The Manassas chapter of UDC will distribute in all Prince William County schools a pamphlet entitled "Some Things for Which the South Did Not Fight." Permission has been obtained from Superintendent of Schools Peters and the pamphlets are being prepared, it was announced at Wednesday's meeting. Eighteen members present for the meeting at the home of Mrs. Louis J. Carper voted contributions for the Red Cross and the Osborn High School band heard a program honoring Sidney Lanier and General Richard S. Ewell presented by Mrs. W. A. Newman, club historian.

Ocoquan Fire House Will Be Dedicated

A dedication banquet will be held Saturday night in the new \$20,000 Ocoquan-Woodbridge-Lorton fire house. R. S. Hall, president of the fire company said they now have about \$15,000 worth of equipment, including three fire trucks, and one stationary engine. All funds have come from the citizens of the community. We started in 1938," said Mr. Hall, "when there was only one other fire company in Prince William County. At first we had no money, no equipment, and no house. Now we have all, as well as 40 members in the company." A Turkey dinner will be served by the Fire Ladies Auxiliary, and a Forestry Service movie on Fire Fighting will be shown. Please mention The Journal when you go to the store to buy an advertised product.

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50th Anniversary Party For Mr. & Mrs. Jas. Luck

A surprise reception in honor of Mr. and Mrs. James Luck's 50th wedding anniversary was given at their home Sunday. Mr. and Mrs. Luck were married in Old Belle Haven Church, Prince William County, Jan. 24, 1900. More than 100 friends and relatives attended the reception. Hosts and hostesses for the occasion were the Luck's sons and daughters: Miss Bertha Luck, Mrs. Catherine Ritter, Mrs. Rae Domast, Mrs. Ruth Breeden, Ralph Howard, and Harvey Luck. Twin grand-daughters, Jane and Jean Breeden, served at the punch bowl.

New Judges?

Several names are being suggested as possible candidates for junior judge to the circuit court covering the counties of Prince William, Fairfax and Alexandria City. Names prominently mentioned are Harry L. Carrio and Robert McCandlish, of Fairfax, W. Hill Brown, Jr., and G. Lacey Compton, of Prince William. A bill has been introduced in the General Assembly authorizing the appointment of an additional judge. It has not been passed.

Apple Festival Set For April 27-28

WINCHESTER — Twenty-Third Annual Shenandoah Apple Blossom Festival will be held in Winchester, April 27 and 28. No prediction about the quantity or quality of blossoms was forthcoming from the festival officials who announced the dates. Anyway, they say, the 1950 celebration will be "the most spectacular springtime extravaganza" of the festival's history. ENGAGEMENT ANNOUNCED Mr. and Mrs. Herman Smith, of Arlington, announce the engagement of Mrs. Smith's daughter, Miss Peggy Anne Pickett to Mr. Charles V. Gardner, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles W. Gardner, of Gainesville.

L. J. Pattie Appointed Chairman of PMA

L. J. Pattie, of Catharpin, has been named chairman of the Prince William County PMA Committee to replace P. A. Lewis, who was recently named to the state committee. Mr. Pattie has been a member of the county committee for several years and was elected vice-chairman in the 1949 elections. Mr. Pattie operates a large farm near Catharpin. His appointment is considered advantageous to the farming interests of the county. AGRONOMY MEETING About 100 Prince William County farmers attended the agronomy school at the Courthouse on Thursday and Friday. P. H. DeHart, VPI Extension Agronomist, discussed pastures and man-hay crops. W. W. Lewis, Associate Agronomist, discussed recommended crop varieties.

Grace Methodist Class Sets Annual Banquet

The Men's Bible class of Grace Methodist Church, in Manassas, will have its annual banquet on Wednesday, Feb. 8, at 7 p.m., in the church social room. The speaker will be the Rev. G. Balthis, pastor of Arlington Forest Methodist Church. He is a graduate of Randolph-Macon College and Yale University, a popular pastor and radio speaker. A leader in camping, the Rev. Mr. Balthis has for several summers directed family camps for his own congregation, and was an important factor in establishing the Alexandria District camp, a 126-acre model church camp in Loudoun County. The presiding officer for the banquet will be Warren E. Coleman, president of the class which now numbers 69 men. The men will bring guests, wives, and friends. A turkey dinner will be served by members of the church's Woman's Society of Christian Service.

Osborn Teacher

Joseph I. Puente, a teacher of languages at Osborn high school, has been suspended by Superintendent of Schools Worth Peters pending a hearing next Wednesday before the County School Board. The suspension is based upon his reported failure to be certified properly for teaching in an accredited high school. He has been employed since September during which time the school qualifications had to be met. Superintendent Peters will recommend action to the school board on Feb. 8.

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MARRIAGE LICENSES

Jan. 28—Dorothy Lee Turner, 21, Manassas, and Derald G. Poland, 21, Warrenton. Jan. 30—Maeda Frances Eckard, 18, Woodbridge, and Ashton E. Shiflet, 19, Woodbridge. Hedwig V. Jagiello, 26, Quantico, and John C. Wit, Jr., 29, Quantico. Please mention The Journal when you go to the store to buy an advertised product.

Continued on Page 6

See CATHARPIN, Page 9

See HAYMARKET, Page 9

See DUMFRIES, Page 9

News from Prince William Communities

Catharpin
By Mrs. Wallace Rion
Awakened by a horn blowing continuously about 4 a. m. last Thursday, Mrs. Betty Pickett discovered her car in flames. Another car standing in the same garage was backed to safety and the Haymarket Volunteer Fire Department summoned. The Pickett's car was completely ruined by the fire, and the interior of the two-car stone garage was gutted and the metal roof buckled. Members of the family cannot account for the fire, but think it may have been started by a short. The Rev. Herbert E. Hudgins of Grace Methodist Church, Manassas, assisted the Rev. James L. Duley of Sudley Methodist when Sudley members met last week for the second in a series of study groups. Subject of study was "Our Faith in Christ." Mrs. Sam Poland last week visited her sister, Mrs. W. C. Hall, near Warrenton and helped to celebrate the birthday of her mother, Mrs. Ethel Lion.

Haymarket

By Mrs. A. H. Meyer
The Winter Carnival sponsored by the Gainesville District Volunteer Fire Department which was held Saturday night at the Fire Hall was very successful. In spite of the bad weather a large crowd turned out to take part in the various games and to witness the crowning of Miss Joan Gosson as queen, and the Misses Nancy Thomas and Linda Kruse as her attendants. Mr. Edgar Heflin served as Master of Ceremonies. Col. Benjamin Mueh had the privilege of crowning her Majesty. Master Eddy Melton served as Crown Bearer. Speeches were made by Robert Terrill, secretary for the Fire Department, and Mrs. B. B. Tullos who spoke for the Ladies Auxiliary. After Miss Gosson christened the new fire engine, prayer was said for the continued success of the Fire Department. It has been decided by the members of the Fire Department that the Winter Carnival will be held annually. We extend our thanks.

Dumfries

By Dorothy Acord
Mrs. George Waters entertained after choir practice Wednesday night at her home. Those present were: Mr. and Mrs. Roy Ennis, Mrs. Beulah Brawner, Mrs. Elsie Hall, Mrs. Ethel Jacobs, Miss Jean Ennis, Miss Judy Cable, Misses Elinor, Gladys, Linda, Jacelyn, and Elizabeth Brawner, Mrs. D. J. Davis, Walter Baker, Carl Ennis, Harry Morrison, Francis Waters, Deal Waters, and George Waters. Mrs. James Williams entertained the Chatter-Chatter Club at a luncheon at her home on Tuesday. Mr. and Mrs. Waddell Fraley, Miss Elizabeth Brawner, and Mr. Melford Casner attended a cocktail party at the Shoreham Hotel in Washington on last Saturday night. Mrs. Vernon Acord and children spent Saturday with her two aunts Mrs. M. E. Bresnahan and Mrs. D. Thornton in Hillside, Md. Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Leith, Alexandria, visited Mr. and Mrs. Randolph Brawner on Wednesday.

See NOKESVILLE, Page 9

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Nokesville

By Mrs. Fred T. Shepherd
The ladies of the Nokesville Church of the Brethren are holding a Rummage and Bake Sale at the American Legion Building on Saturday, February 4, beginning at 10:00. There will be baked goods of all kinds as well as home-made articles of sewing. The used clothing is of very good quality. Mrs. J. F. Hale entertained nearly twenty-five ladies at an extra club day at her home on Wednesday. The ladies were members of the Sr. Women's club who came to spend the day textile painting. Quite a few of the ladies present made two or more articles and most of the work done was very pretty. At noon everyone enjoyed a very tasty luncheon around two large tables. After the unusual success of this "extra" club day, the ladies decided to "do this more often." The next regular club meeting will be another all-day affair next Tuesday, February 7, at the Firehall with Mrs. W. R.

Manassas May Lose Ritter As Town Manager

There is a possibility that Manassas may lose Town Manager James Ritter. A committee of citizens of Norton, Va., headed by B. E. Ball, was in Manassas last week interviewing businessmen and members of the town council concerning the capabilities of Mr. Ritter and stated they were considering Ritter among several others as a town manager of Norton. Mr. Ball said that Mr. Ritter had filed an application with the town of Norton for the position of town manager. He did not indicate how long ago that application was made.

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