

Coles District Fire Company Organized; Citizens Will Ask County For Truck, Equipment

Cole's Magisterial District, the only major section of Prince William County without fire protection, has organized a volunteer fire department, and spokesmen for the district will wait on the Board of Supervisors at their next meeting with a petition for a grant to be used for fire equipment.

At a meeting at Samsky's Store, Independent Hill, Monday night, E. L. Hering was elected first president of the Independent Hill Fire Department of Cole's District, and Bill Reid was named chief and electrician of the company.

Other officers selected were John Samsky, assistant chief; Charlie Chrepko, captain; Carlin Posey, first lieutenant and assistant electrician; Mickey Shutlock, second lieutenant; Ray E. Wood, secretary-treasurer; Lawrence Runion and C. S. Johnson, engineers; Frank Samsky, assistant engineer; Franklin Keys, first aid man, and Andrew E. Samsky, recording secretary.

Armed with a petition signed by nearly 125 residents of Cole's District, officials of the fire company will go before the supervisors to ask for a truck, a 1,000-gallon tank and a pumping apparatus.

According to Andrew Samsky, an estimated 15 business establishments and about 500 farms and homes will be protected by their own fire company for the first time if the supervisors grant the request for aid. Samsky told The Journal that at least three homes, destroyed by fire in the last two years, could have been saved had there been a fire company in the district. At present, Cole's District residents must depend on aid from volunteer companies located at Manassas, Triangle, Nokesville or Occoquan.

Another meeting of the new fire company is scheduled for Friday at Samsky's store, when Chief John Peety, of the Triangle-Dumfries fire company, and President R. S. Hall, of the Occoquan-Woodbridge-Lorton organization, will give the Cole's company pointers on operation of a fire fighting unit.

Signatories to the petition include: Mrs. Dorothy Keys, Mrs. Virginia J. Miller, Russell E. Cornwell, E. L. Hering, Floyd Davis, Andrew E. Samsky, June C. Cornwell, John A. Gaba, Joseph G. Samsky, Nellie Davis, Minnie Posey, James B. Cole, H. F. Keys; Lillian Abel, A. R. Posey, Mrs. Thelm Cornwell, Laura Cornwell, Dorothy Redman, Elmer Redman, Eugene F. Breeden, Ella V. Redman, Mrs. Ruth Redman, Gordon Keys, W. C. Reid, Jr., J. A. Samsky.

Unions Eye Farm Labor Of Manassas

Labor unions are making a drive to organize the farm workers of Prince William County. Representatives of organized labor have been quietly endeavoring to develop information for a membership drive among the dairy workers, particularly around Manassas, and among the first employer to be approached was W. T. Thomasson, one of the best known of Prince William County.

Mr. Thomasson reported on Tuesday that a labor organizer from Richmond had appeared at his dairy on Route 28, west of Manassas, and began questioning him as to the number of hours his help worked, what wages he paid and other questions about working conditions.

Mr. Thomasson asked the man, who did not give his name, if he wanted the information because he, instead of Mr. Thomasson, intended to pay the men's wages. To this the man replied, "If you don't want to cooperate, then someone will see you with whom you will want to cooperate."

Mr. Thomasson said the man's attitude was aggressive but he appeared to have been in contact with some of Mr. Thomasson's employees endeavoring to get additional information. Some of the men have been employed at Mr. Thomasson's dairy for more than ten years.

Unionization of workers in Prince William County began in other fields also during the present week. The Manassas Journal was notified by a printer of the Washington Typographical Union that the Washington union had taken jurisdiction over Manassas and that printers would be required to get \$90 a week salary and work only 37½ hours. For years Manassas has been considered to be outside the required affiliation with the Typographical Union and its print shops, like most weekly newspaper establishments of the country, operated on an open shop basis, mixing union and non-union printers together.

The advent of labor organizers into the farm area was a development that dairymen considered a serious problem due to the fact that farm work is controlled by fluctuating conditions not found in industrial localities.



This simple but forceful picture, symbol of Red Cross service, is the work of Stevan Dozanos, noted magazine artist.

\$7000 Jump In Town's Budget

Town Manager James Ritter will submit a budget of approximately \$124,000 for the 1950 fiscal year to Town Council at its regular meeting Monday night. This is an increase of about \$7,000 over the 1949 Town budget. The budget for 1948 was \$102,000.

Electric power will represent both the largest single revenue and expenditure. The Town will collect about \$37,000 in the coming year from its subscribers and will pay the REA about \$36,000 for the raw power. The difference of \$21,000 goes for maintenance, replacement, extension of lines, and debt retirement.

Other revenues are expected to be \$15,000 from water, \$9,000 from business licenses, \$21,000 from real estate taxes, \$5,000 from ABC alcohol taxes, and \$27,000 from miscellaneous revenues.

Battle Not To Be at Sewage Demonstration

Although extended an invitation to attend the official opening of the Manassas town sewage disposal plant on March 14, Governor Battle wrote the town council yesterday afternoon, that he would like to be present but at this time could not attend. Perhaps on some other occasion he wrote. The letter will be received today by the town council. The information was given to The Journal by the governor's secretary Wednesday afternoon.

Invitations to the dedication ceremonies of the sewage treatment plant have been sent to many persons. The ceremonies will be held at four o'clock and include a demonstration of the automatic operational devices on the plant. Several prominent guests will give interest.

Program For Symphony

The following is the program of the National Symphony Orchestra which is to appear in concert at the Osborn High School Auditorium on March 3, under the auspices of the Lion's Club.

- Beethoven: Lenore Overture Op. 72, No. 3.
Delius: The Walk to the Paradise Gardens.
Mozart: Symphony No. 35 in D major "Haffner".
Alligere con spirito.
Andante.
Menuetto.
Finale: Presto.
Intermission.
Dukas: The Sorcerer's Apprentice.
J. Strauss: Thunder and Lightning Polka.
R. Strauss: "Der Rosen Kavalier."
Tickets are available at the Manassas Journal Office.

Ack-Ack Unit Is Discussed

Possibilities for the organization of an anti-aircraft battery of the Virginia National Guard in Manassas were discussed at a meeting of interested citizens last night in Legion Hall.

M. S. Burchard reported that the American Legion Post 158 has received several letters from Major General S. Gardner Waller, adjutant general of the Virginia National Guard, indicating that he would be favorably disposed to recommend Manassas as the site of one battery of a proposed Northern Virginia anti-aircraft battalion. Requirements for battery headquarters would include, Gen. Waller wrote, a building suitable for close order drilling, locker and shower rooms, strong room for storage of arms, offices, a classroom, and an adjacent open field.

Farm Youth Here Celebrate National Future Farmer Week; Stage Plough Contest March 1

What Two Future Farmers Say

At the request of The Manassas Journal, two vocational agriculture students of Brentsville District High School, members of the Future Farmers of America, have contributed articles on their respective fields of agricultural interest. In observance of National FFA Week, their articles are printed below:

Dairy Offers Varied Work

By Eric Mauck

I have always been interested in farming, mainly because I have always lived on a farm and you just can't live on a farm and not be interested in it. Up until this time I really hadn't thought very much about one specific type of farming. After studying some of the advantages and disadvantages of some of the various types of farming it suddenly dawned upon me that of the various types, dairy farming is far more interesting than any other.

Dairy farming offers more of a variety of work. The dairy farmer not only works with cows but he also is a producer of grain. There are many secondary crops and varieties of livestock that fit very well into the program of work on the dairy farm and also convert the surplus and residues of the farm products into a very profitable cash income for the farmer.

There are on every farm certain waste feeds which do not have a direct and ready cash market. Milk or cream, on the other hand, is always in demand and possesses a direct cash value. It is economically important that these waste feeds be utilized. Since the dairy cow is capable of using such feeds with a higher degree of efficiency than other farm animals, it is only natural that dairy farming would be a much more interesting and desirable type of farming.

Dairy farming also provides a continuous cash income. Many farms are less productive and less profitable than they could be made to be if the operator had more capital at his disposal. The dairy business is one which supplies a continuous income and therefore in a sense it provides its own operating capital. In other words, a dairy farmer always has the milk check coming in regularly, whereas the other types of farmer get their income almost entirely in one lump and if this isn't sufficient then he probably will go into debt.

Farm products, especially roughages, are very bulky. It is desirable that they be consumed near where they are produced and a less bulky product marketed in their place. Dairy products, especially cream, are not very bulky and therefore offer an advantage in marketing. Also in order to conserve the fertility of the soil it is almost necessary to produce some legume crops that are quite bulky. The conversion into milk or butterfat on the farm solves the problem of getting these bulky products to market and also makes a higher cash income for (See DAIRY, Page 12)

All Have Stake In Saving Soil

(See EDITORIAL, Page 8)

By Lloyd Green

Soil conservation is the science of preserving our natural resources. Soil is the major means of wealth for an individual person, for a state, country, and for the world.

Conservation of our soil does not mean ur "soil" only. It also means our forest, and natural resources such as our mineral deposits, and coal.

To conserve our soils we must control erosion. There is no excuse for erosion. Erosion is like sin; you can accuse erosion as much as you like and still not hurt anyone's feeling. We're all against soil erosion and even if we weren't we wouldn't admit it. There are farms all over America that have been ruined by soil erosion. It needn't happen to another farm if we use only four tools which have proved their ability to stop erosion.

The first is organic matter. If soil is high in organic matter, it absorbs rain fall readily, like a sponge. There is much less loss of soil eroding because of small granules of earth are held together by the organic matter in the soil.

The second tool is contouring and terracing, for slopes too steep for organic matter to handle alone. Contour lines and terraces won't do the job alone. They must work as partners of grasses and legumes.

The third tool is permanent grass for slopes too steep for cultivated crops. With our new knowledge of land management we can make these grassed slopes kick out as much income as fairly good corn ground.

The fourth tool is tree planting. To be used when the land is very steep, or the soil is so thin most other crops will not grow. The country is not growing trees as fast as they are using them. This makes (See SOIL, Page 12)

The 1950 crop season will be opened March 1, weather permitting, with a plowing contest under the sponsorship of the Brentsville District High School chapter of the Future Farmers of America, as part of the national observance of National FFA Week.

The contest will be held on a 40 acre tract a mile north of Nokesville on Route 655. The property is owned by V. W. Zirkle, of the Bank of Nokesville.

Farm equipment dealers of Prince William County have entered their latest machinery in the contest. These are Allis-Chalmers, represented by the Lewis Supply Company, of which R. A. Gibson is head; John Deere represented by the Manassas Hardware, and C. H. Seely, and International Tractors represented by R. J. Wayland. There will be other representatives handling farm equipment as well as fertilizer dealers, hybrid corn exhibitors, and a Washington engineering firm engaged in engineering for contour farming.

There are 28 members of the Brentsville High School FFA Chapter of which the officers are Herbert Wood, president, Jay Carman, vice president, L. R. Cowne, secretary, Harry Miller, Jr., treasurer, Eric Mauch, reporter, Charles Caton, sentinel, Lee Yankey, first conductor, and Charles Jones, second conductor. Other members are: Jack Green, Lloyd Green, Robert Herndon, Billy Manuel, Joe Spittle, Harold Wright, William Davis, Morris Fitzgerald, Jimmy Flickinger, Jack Garner, Mansdell, Gough, Jerry ...

According to Philip B. Reading, vocational agricultural instructor at the high school, Virginia, in addition to being mother of presidents, is the mother also of the Future Farmers of America, the organization having started as the Future Farmers of Virginia in 1926.

The organization has approximately 300,000 members in 48 states, Hawaii and Puerto Rico. There are about 7,500 local chapters of FFA in rural high schools of the nation. Virginia has 216 high school chapters and a total membership of 7,571.

The Virginia association provides each of its members with official membership pins, emblems and supervised practice record books.

Personality of The Week:

Etaoin Shrdlu, Printer's Imp, Oldest Hand in News Business

You think you have troubles? You should come into a print shop sometime.

In every printing establishment there is a little man whom nobody ever sees, whom nobody ever pays, whom nobody ever talks to. His name is Etaoin Shrdlu, and he is the printer's imp.

Not the printer's devil—that functionary is a tangible character, the junior member of the composing room staff. He cleans up, distributes type and does other odd jobs. Quite a different person is Etaoin Shrdlu, who works not only for—or rather, against—The Manassas Journal, but against every other printing establishment, large and small, in the world. Shrdlu is the man in charge of typographical errors.

No one knows how old Shrdlu is, but his handwork can be found in the first edition of Mark Twain's "Connecticut Yankee," and it is rumored that he was on the staff of Gutenberg, who invented movable type back in the 1400's. It is reported by some—though without authentication—that Etaoin Shrdlu is not just one person, but many, like the seedy Santa Clauses who ring bells on street corners at Christmas time. Others contend he is actually a magical sprite like THE Santa Claus, and that this one character single-handedly plays hob with all the newspaper operations in the world.

craftily inserted two lines of a legal notice into a clergyman's contribution to "The Pastor's Study" and fixed things so that three Nokesville men—Phillip Reading, George D'Agata and George Sonafrank—found themselves playing on a ladies' basketball team.

Some printers like to work in small printing shops and others prefer the bustle of big composing rooms. Etaoin Shrdlu operates in both types of establishments with fine impartiality. The Saturday Evening Post reported in last week's issue that a whole section of a short story was thrown out of the magazine and its disappearance was not noticed until about thirteen minutes after the last million copies had come off the press.

It is always thus. Etaoin Shrdlu does his dirty work and then casts a magic spell over the eyes of printers and editors so they cannot see the damage done until after the press run is complete. One of the largest papers in the midwest had a bad three days one time due to the whimsy of Shrdlu. The paper ran a picture of a war hero who had returned to town, and on the first try the caption over the picture read, "Battle-Scared Veteran." The veteran objected, so the paper tried again. This time it came out "Boodle-Scared Veteran." Etaoin Shrdlu apparently lost interest on the third try, because the hero was correctly designated as "Battle-Scared Veteran." (Ed. Note: (See ETAOIN SHRDLU, Page 12)

Don't Worry If Kids Watch TV; They Won't Grow-up As Indians

William, television-radio editor of the Washington Times-Herald, tells a story which is both amusing and, of this column's knowledge, true. It concerns a scene in a television show sometime between five and six o'clock.

A lady of the house had put a fire-frying fat on the stove to keep warm, and had added to the second floor to spruce up the place. Daughters five-and-a-half, going to be seated on the floor in front of the television set.

The mother heard daughter "Mommy, the kitchen's on fire." About half a second later, Mommy reached the first floor to investigate, daughter was in the middle of the living room, undisturbedly gazing at the TV.

It is the sort of thing you are sure to experience if you own both a television set and a five-and-a-half-year-old child. That such a scene could take place is not against a television set; it is against a television set, if you are going to depend on a preschooler to help you fight fire. You need is more fire insurance.

There are other arguments against television for children, but in my opinion none holds water. Some parents would say they couldn't get the children from the set long enough to do their homework, but such a complaint seems to be an admission of parental control. The likelihood of the kids are

WOMAN'S CLUB

The Fine Arts Section of the Woman's Club of Manassas voted to contribute \$5.00 to the Osborn High School band at its meeting held Tuesday at the home of Mrs. W. L. Lloyd. The club announced its plans to sell tickets to the National Flower Show in Washington March 23-29.

Speakers at the meeting were Mrs. Paul Coksey whose topic was "Women Poets in the United States" and Mrs. Frank Cox who spoke on "Women Painters in the United States."

Refreshments were served by the hostess, assisted by Miss Katie Lewis and Mrs. Clark Wood.

News from Prince William Communities

Quantico

By Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Peters
At the regular meeting of Quantico American Legion, Post No. 28, on February 14, Adjutant C. F. Kessler of the Department of Virginia American Legion was honored guest. Other guests also present were S. T. Crawford; Department of Virginia American Legion F. C. Knight; Past National Committee-man R. G. Caldwell; Grande Cheffe Garde Passe and Officers of Post No. 313 Porte Belvoir, J. R. Alexander, T. D. Forez, Bill Maix, E. W. Finney and Walter Cooke.

Adjutant Kessler's subject was "Why Should I Belong to the American Legion." An interesting point brought out in his talk was that the Nat. American Legion paid out more money to the state of Virginia for welfare purposes than any other state in the Union. Mr. Kessler also brought out in his talk (See QUANTICO, Page 2)

Triangle

By Joan Amidon
Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Gurtler and Miss Hilda Amidon dined out and later visited Mr. and Mrs. Fred Dillon in Rectory, on Sunday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry S. Amidon were dinner guests of his parents on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. O. A. Cooper of Independent Hill visited their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Kinchele and family, on Sunday.

Major and Mrs. L. F. Shoemaker dined out and later attended the movies at the Post on Friday evening.

Mrs. Mary Maloney and Mrs. Myerhoof were among the luncheon guests at the club, honoring their bowling captain on Thursday afternoon.

Dumfries

By Mrs. Dorothy Acord
Mr. and Mrs. Albert Bishton and Mr. and Mrs. Harry Winfree, Jr. attended a dinner dance celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Winchester Lions Club in Winchester, on Tuesday night.

Mrs. Raymond Ratcliffe of Manassas was guest of Mr. and Mrs. Clay Speak on Wednesday.

Mrs. Robert Platford was honored at a surprise baby shower at her home on Tuesday afternoon. Present were, Mesdames Gordon Cato, Robert Cable, Harry Robelen, Horace Cato, Leary Cato and Miss Elizabeth Brawner.

Mrs. Frances Keys entertained at a luncheon on Tuesday for Mrs. Elvan Keys, Mrs. Ira Hill and Mrs. Theodore Smith.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Bishton attended the wedding of Mr. James (See DUMFRIES, Page 2)

Nokesville

By Mrs. Fred T. Shepherd
Valentine week meant quite a few Nokesville children enjoying parties which usually are quite evident at this time of the year. For the six graders Peggy Wilkins entertained nine of her classmates in her home on Tuesday evening. Those who enjoyed an evening of party games and refreshments were Bertha Wood, Mary Ann Carter, Shirley Jones and Betty Randall, Bobbie Lunsford, Danny Newland, Bobby Manuel, Freddie Mowry and Gerry Baggett.

At the Sonafrank home, Nancy entertained a large number of her eighth-grade friends on Monday evening, including Myrna Dove, Shirley Poole, Sarah Wood, Anita Bayne, Mary Thomasson, Elsie Smith, Laura Bowman, Bob McClue, (See NOKESVILLE, Page 6)