

# The Manassas Journal

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## R.E.A. OPENS MODERN OFFICE-SHOWROOM HERE

### Modern, Functional Design Is Headquarters' Outstanding Feature; Demonstration Kitchen Of Prime Interest to Women Co-op Members

**Statement By Co-op Head**  
By FRANCIS S. VAN DOREN  
President, Prince William Electric Cooperative

The Prince William Electric Cooperative, with its history of nine years of service to its members and consumers, has entered a new phase of operations. With its occupancy of the functionally designed headquarters building in the growing business section of Northeast Manassas, the Cooperative is ready to render continued dependable service.

### Merchants Will Show Goods in Display Space

The sign of our energized times is the Prince William Electric Cooperative's modern building, an outstanding landmark of 1950 at Manassas. Here the member-owned and operated power-generating system will conduct rural electrical service to five Virginia counties, speeding the production and marketing of rich agricultural resources for the Nation's benefit.

In planning this headquarters, the most efficient standards of management were kept in constant view. Every facility was closely gauged for complete utilization, plan and practicality. The handsome buff-brick structure, lighted by numerous windows, is 123 feet long, 41 feet wide, sturdy, fireproof, it sets back from Highway 28 to afford ample parking space for visitors' car at the front and an attractive piece of lawn. Broad truck yards in the rear will handle the line crew's heavy maintenance equipment.

At the entrance of Prince William Electric Cooperative is a huge plate-glass display window, where the various makes of electrical appliances will be exhibited. Merchants of this power area, covered by the Cooperative, will be invited to show their household, dairy and farm appliances in the window, so that trained advisers may make direct contacts with prospective buyers for mutual interests.

A broad lobby opens toward the demonstration room and model kitchen on the right. This arrangement offers additional space before the theater-like kitchen, a seating capacity of 50 persons for Home Demonstration and other groups, members and friends that are expected to attend power-use programs at the Cooperative. The Electrical Adviser, Mrs. Margaret M. Brown, will have charge of this section, which will be open to the public every afternoon in the week, except Saturday and Sunday, and on other special occasions.

As the Board of Directors' meeting place, the demonstration room serves a dual purpose, although its primary function is to provide adequate space for the member-directors. For such usage, folding doors will close off the room from the main lobby, and the kitchen retires behind a heavy curtain.

Facing the front entrance, set back in the lobby, is the cashier's counter, over which monthly service accounts will be received and incidental business transacted. The cashier's room opens directly into the manager's office, bringing Reuben B. Hicks into close touch with all members who appear at the new headquarters. The availability of Manager Hicks is a particularly feature in this highly satisfactory planning, because his office is situated at the focal point for both internal control of the concern and external transactions with members and trade visitors.

Next beyond the manager's private office is located the engineer, Harry K. Bowman, his helpers, and the Assistant to the Manager, James J. Barron, who has charge of the plant and outside activities. This extremely active unit is handily in touch with the big combined shop and garage. Here are the storeroom and loading platform, heated, and closed against cold weather by automatic steel sliding doors. Nearby is the linemen's shower room where the mud and dust of highways and byways may be left behind at the end of day.

Another connected unit is the bookkeeping section, under Charles L. Bauserman. These rooms are situated behind the cashier's cage, secretary's area, and flanked by a huge storage vault for records in the rear of the building, light and airy, these offices are set apart for efficiency.

### Robert H. Smiths Mark Silver Wedding At Cedar Grove

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hancock Smith entertained Saturday at an evening reception at their home, "Cedar Grove," in celebration of their 25th wedding anniversary. Like the quarter-century commemoration, their wedding took place at the historic home.

Mr. and Mrs. Smith, assisted by Mr. Smith's sister, Mrs. Fontaine B. Hooff, greeted their guests in the drawing room, which was decorated with spring flowers. Many of the guests last Saturday were also in attendance 25 years ago when the Smiths were married.

Mrs. Smith wore a dark blue chiffon and lace gown and a corsage of white orchids. Presiding at the tea table, which was decorated with white flowers, silver candelabra and tall white candles, were Mrs. A. A. Hooff, Mrs. C. C. Lynn, Mrs. Nina Wade Dalton, Mrs. D. B. Smith, Mrs. William Leachman and Miss Leone Davis.

Among the out-of-town guests were Mrs. Smith's aunt, Mrs. Carey Buck and her daughter, Miss Lucy Buck of Washington, Mrs. William L. Buck of Atlanta, Sen. and Mrs. Dennis Chavez of New Mexico, Mr. and Mrs. Karl Greene, Mr. and Mrs. B. Y. Martin, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Sullivan, Mrs. Julian N. Priant, Commander and Mrs. Winston Crickenberger, Capt. Charles Snyder, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Tierney and Mrs. J. P. Leachman, all of Washington.

### W. Thomasson, 74, Dies Here

William Trenton Thomasson, of Route 1, Manassas, one of the best known dairy farmers in this area, died at his home Wednesday after an illness of three weeks. He was 74 years old.

Mr. Thomasson was born Dec. 18, 1876, the son of Thomas A. Thomasson, who was a nephew of Jefferson Davis. The elder Thomasson was a standard bearer at the Battle of Manassas when Stonewall Jackson acquired his sobriquet, and held the bridle of Gen. Lee's horse, "Traveler," at Appomattox.

Mr. Thomasson lived in this area practically all his life, and married the former Sally K. Conner of Manassas in 1903. Mrs. Thomasson died in 1948.

Surviving are four daughters, Mrs. Leslie Kline, Mrs. C. Lacey Compton, Mrs. Clark Huffman and Mrs. Clay Ball all of Manassas; a brother, Ed Thomasson of Nokesville; and three sisters, Mrs. Emily Speakes of Manassas, Mrs. Susie Holsinger of Baltimore, and Mrs. Ada Stephens of Washington.

Funeral services will be held Saturday at the Manassas Church of the Brethren, of which Mr. Thomasson was a lifelong member. The Rev. Conrad L. Snavely will officiate. Burial will follow at the Church of the Brethren cemetery.

### Union Pressure Here Same Old Go-round Pegler Asserts

The recent invasion of Prince William County dairy farms by union organizers is another chapter in an old story, according to Columnist Westbrook Pegler.

The editors of The Journal sent clippings of a recent story about a labor incident in the Manassas area to Mr. Pegler, who is sojourning at his happy hunting ground near Tucson, Ariz. This week the editors received the following note, signed "Peg":

"Thanks for your letter and the clips. They tried this in California for years. The teamsters claimed jurisdiction over dairy milkers because milk rolls on wheels to market. They were called 'titular teamsters'."

Mr. Pegler does not mention the status given cows by the union.

### Code Id the Doze Gives Cocke's New Prescription Record

It's an ill virus that blows nobody good, to mix a metaphor almost beyond recognition. The somebody that got some good out of the current virus influenza epidemic, it turns out, is Dr. George B. Cocke, proprietor of Cocke's pharmacy. A new record of prescriptions filled in a single month was hung up this week when Dr. Cocke and his store manager, J. Wallace Hook reported that 2,339 prescriptions had been filled up to the close of business March 28.

The previous in the 30-year history of Cocke's was established in January of this year, when 2,300 prescriptions were filled. By closing time Friday, Hook predicts, the number of prescriptions handed will top 2,500.

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### Rate of \$1.64 Is Studied By Council

A proposal to increase the town tax rate from \$1.25 to \$1.64 is under consideration by the Town Council. The council tabled the proposal for thirty days after a revised budget was presented by Town Manager Ritter for the coming fiscal year.

During discussion Monday evening, Councilwoman Frances Saunders expressed interest in annexation of outlying areas as a means of gaining revenue. A proposal to borrow funds to make up the difference between tax collections and operating expenses was decried by Mayor Harry Davis as "borrowing from Peter to pay Paul."

Other action by the Town Council: Accepted the resignation of Town Attorney Arthur W. Sinclair and named W. Hill Brown, Jr., to succeed him.

Reversed its earlier stand against the furnishing of water to out-of-town property owners and ruled that water could be given to owners eligible to make sewer connections.

Authorized Mrs. Elizabeth Wine to establish a laundry. Heard a letter from C. Lacey Compton to the effect that the town's title to certain property sought by the Negro American Legion post is not clear. The council referred the matter to the new town attorney.

Authorized, on motion of Mrs. Saunders, an additional trash pickup in the center of town provided merchants seeking such service pay additional money to defray the cost.

Three clerks from Cocke's Pharmacy attended a sales school in Washington Tuesday. Held at the Washington Hotel and sponsored by a cosmetic manufacturing concern, the school was an all-day affair designed to instruct in sales techniques and give pointers on cosmetics. Attending were Misses Alma Cooper, Lucy Earls, and Fern Lovenshimer.

### Supervisors Considering Health Center

Plans for a Prince William County health center were shelved this week by the Board of Supervisors until the next meeting after the board heard Tuesday from two state health officials that state and federal grants in aid will amount to 45 per cent of the cost of the project.

Dr. J. C. Neale, Jr., director of local health services, and Ronald Almack, director of the bureau of hospitals and construction, State Department of Health, told the supervisors that the cost of the center was estimated at \$71,000 but that the state "was prepared to go along to the extent of 15 per cent over the estimate."

The state will also pay up to \$75 a month toward the operation of the health center, Neale said. The county, according to Treasurer C. A. Sinclair, has an interest of \$23,495 in the health center at present. Of this figure, \$13,696 was raised by popular subscription and \$201 was subsequently withdrawn, and \$10,000 was appropriated by the Board in March 1949. Architect fees totaling \$2,200 and a lot costing \$3,000 were paid for out of this fund, leaving cash of \$18,295 in the treasury.

Figuring on the basis of 55 per cent state participation in a \$75,000 project the job would require an additional \$8,764 of local funds. Wheatley Johnson, appearing privately before the board, said some individuals who had contributed to early fund-drives might wish their money back for various reasons. He stated he did not believe many of these requests would be justified on the basis of nature of the gift.

E. R. Conner confronted the board to demand refunding of \$125 he had contributed to the drive. He explained that he had given the money with the understanding that it was to be used to construction of a health center "Living War Memorial" on the Paul Nelson lot in the gore between Grant Avenue and Sudley Road. He based his demand on the fact that the center, if and when built, will occupy a different site across the street.

Mrs. Waddell Fraley of Dumfries announces a \$10,000 fund-raising campaign for construction of a new church building for the Dumfries Methodist Church. The drive has an Easter deadline. Mrs. Fraley says. Checks may be made out to the Treasurer, Building Fund, Dumfries Church.

Mrs. H. E. Squires has returned from visiting her daughter, Mrs. Harold Youngblood, in Hampton, Va.

The Rev. and Mrs. Alvera Winn have been confined to their homes the past week because of the flu. Little Sharon Conder has been ill this week.

Mrs. Mary Foster is feeling better now. Miss Rhoda Foster spent the week end of March 18 with Mrs. Foster, and Mrs. Betty Davidge visited her last week end.

Mrs. Haley, who has been very ill of double pneumonia is getting along better now.

### Smith, Krum Seek Eighth District Seat

Rep. Howard W. Smith, Democrat of Alexandria, announced this week for re-election to his seat in Congress. He will seek the Democratic nomination in the August primary. Smith is the second man in as many weeks to announce his intention to run for the Eighth District seat. Tyrrell Krum of Vienna, who lost to Smith in the general election of 1948 by 8,000 votes, said last week he would seek the Republican nomination for the seat.

Smith, a veteran of 20 years in Congress, is dean of the Virginia delegation. He is author of the Smith act under which eleven communists; spies were recently convicted in New York and under which all aliens were fingerprinted and registered prior to the late war.

A native of Fauquier County, Smith served for a time as judge of the 16th Judicial circuit. Krum, a former lieutenant commander in the Navy, set himself up after World War II as a newspaper and radio "veterans' adviser," doing business as Commander Ty Krum. In announcing his candidacy last week, Krum said he had substantial support from Democrats, as well as Republicans and that he felt "compelled to offer his candidacy."

Heads listed his assistants as Mrs. Lucy M. Hartman of Brennsville, Mrs. Bernice Lightner of Haymarket; Mrs. Claudia P. Smith of Stone House, and Mrs. Irene F. Wood Wood and Mrs. Gladys L. Gardner, both of Gainesville. Wright was not available Wednesday, but Helms gave the following names as the thirteen enumerators under Wright's control:

Mrs. Bauchman, Mrs. H. Brown, Mrs. Gladys Bushong, Mrs. Zella E. Cornwell, Mrs. A. Grady, Mrs. V. F. Lambert, Mrs. Ellen Ruff, Michael Oleyar, Mrs. Lois C. Oliver, Mrs. Annie Powers, Mrs. Helen Raincliffe, Mrs. Wilson, and K. Calhoun.

A variety of question will be asked persons interviewed by the enumerators.

EVERY PERSON WILL BE ASKED: Name, relationship to head of household, race, sex, age, marital status, state or country of birth, citizenship status.

EVERY PERSON 14 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER: Employment; status, kind of job.

EVERY FIFTH PERSON: Place of residence one year ago, country of birth of parents, whether person is attending school, highest school grade attained.

EVERY FIFTH PERSON 14 OR OLDER: Number of weeks worked in 1949, income in 1949, veteran status (for males only), duration of unemployment if out of work.

Other questions will be asked of every 30th person 14 or older: every 30th person neither working nor seeking work; every 30th married or previously married person, and every 30th married woman.

Virtually all farm questionnaires already have been distributed. These are to be filled out by the farmer so as to be ready to hand the enumerator when that official calls. Forty-one different questionnaires have been printed, but only one of these will be distributed to Virginia farmers.

Just to keep the record straight, the census considers you a farmer if:

You have a greenhouse, or a nursery, or 100 or more chickens, or collected 300 or more dozen eggs in 1949, or have three or more hives of bees.

The bureau of the census also apparently took perhaps unwitting notice of the habits of rabbits when it directed that farmers must count their bunnies before April 1.

### Census Begins on Saturday 18 Enumerators Ready to Tally Residents of Prince William

Eighteen census enumerators will begin ringing doorbells Saturday in Prince William county as the Seventeenth Decennial census officially begins.

The census takers, who complete a comprehensive course of instruction at the Middleburg Community Center, Middleburg, on Friday, will be responsible for the tabulation of every man, woman and child, and most of the livestock in Prince William County. Though they are theoretically supposed to complete the count by the end of April, area census officials in Alexandria acknowledge that it may take a month and a half or two months to reach everyone in the county.

Authorized by the constitution and enforced by laws with relatively heavy penalties, the census will chart the county's progress in the next ten years and may result in redistricting of congressional seats in this portion of Virginia.

A total of 26 census takers is authorized for this county, but six will be provided by the Marine Corps for enumeration work on Quantico Base. Of the other twenty vacancies, all but two have been filled.

Enumeration in this county will be supervised by Roy Helms of Yorkshire, crew leader for the district covering the upper end of Prince William and the lower part of Loudoun, and by Edward Wright, crew leader for the central and lower parts of Prince William.

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