

# Brevities

At the time of going to press the Board of Supervisors were discussing with interested citizens the proposed stray dog ordinance which provides for the establishment of a pound and the destruction of dogs after they have been impounded for more than five days. County Game Warden Walter Flory is anxious to have the ordinance passed and expects to be able to employ an assistant.

Master Sergeant Lawrence M. Hall and his wife and family, have come home from Germany where Sergeant Hall was stationed for several months. He was taken ill while overseas and was found to be suffering from malnutrition, as the result of treatment when he was a prisoner of war in World War II. The Hall family arrived back in the States on August 12. Sergeant Hall is in the Naval hospital at Portsmouth, Va., and his family is residing at the home of Miss Osburn, 339 North West Street.

The Middleburg Pasture Experiment Field Day program will be held tomorrow and farmers of Prince William County are being urged by Frank Cox, county agent, to attend. In a letter sent out to all farmers County Agent Cox announced that it is not too late to make summer seedlings of Ladino and Orchard grass or other grass and Ladino mixtures.

An executive meeting of the Manassas Garden Club was held recently at the home of Mrs. Amelia Brown McBryde. Mrs. John Cox, president, presided and plans were made for the coming year. The next club meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. McBryde on September 25. Topic of the meeting will be Flower Arrangements for Tables and each member is asked to bring a table arrangement.

Special objectives for Fall of the Manassas UDC chapter have been announced as follows: to aid in having proposed UDC headquarters constructed in Richmond, to enlarge the UDC scholarship fund, and to encourage and facilitate the erection of a statue of "Stonewall" Jackson in the Hall of Fame, New York.

The Manassas Junior Woman's Club will sponsor a dance tomorrow evening (Friday) in the Osborn high school gymnasium. Hours are 10 p. m. until 1. Proceeds will be used for the Club's charity work and not to benefit the Manassas Recreation Association, as last week's Journal mistakenly reported.

The year old Charles Easton, Manassas, is in serious condition at Physicians' Hospital, Warrenton, with two wrists broken, one of which is a severely compounded fracture. He and his brother and sister were playing in a wooded area near his home last Sunday afternoon when a limb of the tree in which he was climbing broke and he fell. The fall was on his hands. Both bones of the left wrist were broken. The boy's father is an employee of the Moser Construction company of Warrenton.

J. A. Vetter, general manager of the Central Mutual Telephone Co., Tuesday entered Arlington Hospital for a check-up. After being in poor health for several months he went upon recommendation of his physician. Friends expect him home in a few days.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Adamson and son returned home on Thursday to Clearwater Beach, Fla. after being in Manassas for a week. They came for the funeral of Mrs. Philibita Nash who was Mr. Adamson's grandmother.

Navy Chaplain Carey Young will again be guest minister at Manassas Presbyterian Church this Sunday. Church service is at 11 a. m. Sunday School is at 10 a. m. and the young people meet at 7 p. m.

Mr. and Mrs. Garland Boatwright of Manassas announce the birth of their third son, Charles Warren, in Doctor's Hospital, Washington, on September 1. Mother and son are now at home and doing fine.

Revival services, led by Rev. Ralph Shober of Roanoke, are now in progress at Valley Church of the Brethren and will continue through September 17. Rev. Shober will preach on The Christian Home this Sunday morning and on The Love of God at 8 p. m. Sunday evening.

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The Journal: Read in More Prince William County Homes Than Any Newspaper

# The Manassas Journal

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Yearly Subscription, \$2.50 in advance outside Prince William County  
Yearly Subscription, \$2.00 in advance in Prince William County

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## EARLY COUNTY SCHOOL REGISTRATION INDICATES INCREASE OF 15 PER CENT

### Letters Voice Opposition To Telephone Toll Rate Plan for Triangle Calls

Whether hearings on the proposed establishment of toll rate for telephone service between Triangle and Manassas will be held by the State Corporation Commission in Richmond or in the two towns affected will depend entirely upon how much pressure the telephone users of Manassas and Triangle are able to exert upon the commission. The commission, according to Commissioner H. Lester Hooker, as disclosed in discussion with the Journal, is not inclined to come to either Manassas or Triangle for public hearings. "It is necessary for two commissioners to hold such hearings," Mr. Hooker stated, "and we do not have the time to leave Richmond."

If the commission holds to this decision then any objections to establishing toll rates or hearing protests about the telephone service will have to be voiced by protesters who are willing to go to Richmond to state their complaints.

Letters received by The Journal from Joseph H. Wall, of Quantico, C. C. Cloe, Jr., of Triangle, and Mrs. Edgar A. Bocock of Bristow are indicative of the sentiments of telephone users regarding both the service and the proposed toll rates. Numerous individuals who are in business have also made comment regarding the editorial in last week's Journal requesting that the commission hold public hearings in Triangle and Manassas. One of the outstanding points feared most by businessmen about instituting a toll charge between Triangle and Manassas is the tendency to drive business in the lower end of the county away from Manassas, the county seat, to Alexandria and Fredericksburg.

One of the main points which objectors to establishing toll rates to Triangle want established is the original cost of the construction of the line to the Central Mutual Telephone Company. It is understood the line was built for military use of the Marines and part of it by the forest service for the fire tower located below Independence Hill.

The federal government is believed to have paid the company handsomely for the use of the line and that the return which the company is now making on the original investment is so great that establishment of a toll rate to Triangle is not justified. Indicative of the enormous profits of the Central Mutual Telephone Company is the fact that stockholders hold the stock of the company at high prices and reportedly none of it is available for sale.

Letters which The Journal has received on the subject of the telephone toll rates and the service generally follow:

Gentlemen: We wish to register our objections to the proposed toll charges asked for by the Central Mutual Telephone Co., Inc. on calls between the Manassas and Triangle, Dumfries area.

Prince William is a long narrow county and until a few years ago the lack of a good road between Manassas, the county seat, and Triangle greatly restricted business operations between the two towns. Now, with good roads and no toll charges on telephone calls, a substantial business relationship has developed between the two areas, and is continuing to grow, especially to Alexandria and Fredericksburg. The Triangle area is continuing to grow and there will be more and more need for communication between it and the county seat. Instituting toll charges on a presently free line would certainly impede such communications and impose hardship on the people in the Triangle area.

We, of course, cannot speak with any authority regarding the financial position of the Central Mutual Telephone Co., Inc., or the return being realized on its invested funds. However, its stock appears to be considered very desirable and we know of none that is for sale. To us, it seems greatly out of line that a corporation appearing to be in as good financial condition as the Central Mutual should require a 30c toll in order to convert a presently free line of about 18 miles in length from steel to copper.

Before any decision is made in this case, we earnestly request that

### ANNOUNCEMENT

Yesterday, — September 6, 1950, — the editor of The Manassas Journal reached the age of 62.

Some ten years ago I set that age as the date for my retirement from active newspaper publishing. The objective having been reached I will retire as editor and manager of The Manassas Journal after the next issue, September 14, 1950.

Very truly yours,  
W. M. HINES, Sr.  
the Commission views on the matter.

Very truly yours,  
Joseph H. Wall, Agent  
September 4, 1950

Editor, Manassas Journal: Let me compliment you on your splendid front page editorial concerning the Central Mutual Telephone Co., Inc. which is asking for a rate increase. It is about time that something should be done about the deplorable, antiquated, inefficient system that the subscribers in the Manassas area have endured for many years.

For the past many months there has been much concern about encouraging government and private businesses to consider Manassas as a favorable location. In these modern times one of the first essentials to any successful business is an efficient telephone system and it is an insult to human intelligence to ask any new business to consider Manassas as a business opportunity with the existing telephone system. The reason Manassas is not expanding like other towns within commuting radius of Washington is that there are certain groups within that are static and resist a change. A good house-cleaning is in order and one of the thickest and dirtiest cobwebs to be cleaned first is the telephone system.

It is inconceivable that subscribers in any area have any greater irritations than those in the Nokesville area. The patience of the saints would be exhausted at the trifling, haphazard way that calls are executed. The time that it takes to get the operator and then to get the call through would allow anyone to get to Manassas and back again with time to spare.

Many times it has taken a good half day to get the operator and at these times to deal just "harshly" with the situation is a very mild reaction. Three times within the past three and one-half years it was impossible to arouse the operator all day and the next morning when she was asked what the trouble could be the reply was that the line was all clear and she knew of none, nevertheless with apparent efficiency within ten or fifteen minutes an inexperienced lad came dashing to the scene, turned a screw and the very next day it only took a few hours to get the operator. The next time the lad came I told him that he could turn the screw if he included that no such antics could possibly make the line clear one day and not clear the very next day.

I know I voice the sentiments of all the subscribers in the Nokesville area and the only reason no one has done anything about it before this is that farmers are busy people and cannot take the time to start petitions or other efforts to initiate a reform. Just let me say this to the directors of the phone company that the day when anything was just "good enough for those dumb farmers" is long past and you had better sit up and take notice because the farmers have a right to as much efficiency as the town folks. Do you think for one moment the wealthy and influential notable of Warrenton would put up with a system such as ours? Just because they have more money and influence is no reason why we poor folks should have any less. Nobody would oppose a rate increase if we would really get some service but we are not even getting the service that the present rate calls for.

Just look at the telephone posts that lean on the farmers fences at certain places along the country roads. Now, directors of the telephone company please get busy and really do something and break up your clique.

Thank you for having the courage to start a much needed reform and for expressing the voice of the people through your paper. I hope this time everybody will pitch in and give the support necessary to put this thing over. We don't

### School Board Starts Bond Issue Plan On Its Way

The Prince William County School Board yesterday unanimously adopted a resolution requesting the Board of Supervisors to join them in supporting the proposed \$2,400,000 bond issue for the County schools building program. The Supervisors, meeting today, will consider the school board's recommendation.

If the Supervisors approve the resolution it will then be passed to Circuit Court Judge Paul Brown for approval, and he will set the date for a referendum which Superintendent of Schools R. Worth Peters said he hopes can be held before the November general elections.

As described in the School Board resolution the proposed bond issue would be for \$2,400,000, payable not later than thirty years from date contracted and not exceeding six per cent annual interest.

One member of the Board of Supervisors told the Journal yesterday that he would certainly favor the resolution if the interest rate is not too high. He expressed a belief that a rate of two and one-half per cent was as high as the County could afford to pay.

The bond issue would replace funds which might have been granted through the State Literary Loan had that agency not been swamped with applications far exceeding funds available.

The amount of the approved literary loan application was several hundred thousand dollars less than the bond issue but did not include revised estimates of construction costs and the proposed Macrae-Antioch school.

Following is an outline of the County schools' building program as revised last month. Total proposed expenditures are \$2,400,000 and the total estimated enrollment in the schools is 4,965. Bennett, estimated enrollment, 900 alterations and addition, \$60,000; Bethel, estimated enrollment 80, alterations and addition, \$7,500; Brentsville district, estimated enrollment, 600, alterations and addition, \$235,000; Dumfries, estimated enrollment, 500, alterations and addition, \$100,000; Garfield, estimated enrollment, 400, new \$50,000; Haymarket, estimated enrollment 350, alterations and addition, \$100,000; Macrae-Antioch, estimated enrollment, 175, new, \$150,000; Occoquan Elementary, estimated enrollment, 500, alterations and addition, \$45,000; Osborn, estimated enrollment, 600, new, \$880,000; Regional high and elementary, estimated enrollment, 350, alterations and addition, \$375,000; Woodbine, estimated enrollment, 100, alterations and addition, \$7,500.

### Historic Sites Of Dumfries To Be Toured

The Manassas Recreation Association will sponsor a tour of the Dumfries historical area this Saturday. R. Jackson Ratcliffe will lead the group and act as narrator. After leaving from Ratcliffe's office on Battle Street at 9:30 a. m. the tourists will drive to Dumfries and visit sites of early settlements. Included on the agenda are old mill sites, the colonial tobacco inspector's office, granary landings at Newport on the Potomac, "Leesylvania," the home of "Lighthorse Harry" Lee, and Rippon Lodge, which dates from the days of George Washington.

All the sites are accessible by car and no hiking will be necessary, Ratcliffe said.

Everyone who is interested in visited and Dumfries residents are invited to meet the group there. Officials of the Association ask that those who go bring their cars. Further information is available from Ratcliffe or Rev. H. E. Hudgins.

Temple School opens its 21st session next Monday. The school located on Grant Ave. is for boys and girls 7 through 8 years of age. Miss Margaret Hopkins is principal and is assisted by Mrs. Frances Ellis.

### Here Is the Price of Unpreparedness—



### Fredericksburg Will Hold Agricultural Fair Sept. 18

The Fredericksburg Agricultural Fair, which will open at the new Fair grounds on Monday, September 18th, brings to this area the second full scale Agricultural Fair since 1931. The Fair will continue through Saturday, September 23rd, and will be the biggest spectacle in the fields of Agricultural exhibits and entertainment that has ever been presented within a fifty mile radius of Fredericksburg.

The Fair Premium List will be mailed to some 6000 prospective exhibitors in eleven departments and 428 classes. Some 2300 ribbons, rosettes and trophies will be given to the best exhibits as well as over 7500 dollars in cash. To house the many hundreds of exhibits, the fair will erect mammoth tents, one of which will be as large as a football field.

### Farms Ready For Emergency - We Hear That

The plant and equipment of Virginia farms has never been in better condition, and the state's farmers are prepared to meet any emergency that may lie ahead, according to Harry P. Davis, Cashier of the National Bank of Manassas, who represents the Virginia Bankers Association as a county agricultural key banker.

Mr. E. C. Owens, Nokesville postman, is recovering from a major operation in Doctor's Hospital, Washington.

Deck Payne of Occoquan returned Monday to Bethesda Naval Hospital for further treatment of a foot infection.

Mrs. Margaret Mayhugh and daughter, Eleanor, are greatly improved and have returned home to Greenwich from the hospital.

W. M. Jordan of Haymarket has returned home after a check-up at Doctor's Hospital.

Dorothy Jurigan of Dumfries is a patient at the Navel Hospital in Quantico.

Dennis O'Neil of Manassas is ill. Virginia Gray is indisposed at her Nokesville home.

Mrs. Guy Allen of Manassas is feeling badly.

Robert DeWolfe of Manassas is Convalescing.

### Manassas To Show Biggest Gain; Most In Elementary

Early registration for attendance in Prince William County School during the coming school year indicates an increase of ten to fifteen per cent over 1949. Enrollment figures are for the first two days of school this year.

Although registration is never complete until a week or more after school opens, Superintendent of Schools R. Worth Peters said definite trends can be discerned by the preliminary figures.

Manassas schools are expected to show the greatest increase, although school officials earlier thought this increase would be most prominent in the Dumfries-Occoquan area.

Osborn high school during the first two days had enrolled 392 pupils compared to 370 in September 1949. Similarly, Regional elementary and high schools have enrolled 472 compared to 450 last year, and Baldwin-Bennett elementary schools have enrolled 716 compared to 657. "There are undoubtedly more to come," Peters said, "since many students fail to register the first few days of school."

On the other hand Occoquan school has enrolled only 423 compared to 496 last year and Dumfries thus far has 270, an increase of only four over September 1949. Both schools will probably exceed last year but the increase will not be as great as expected.

Registration figures for the first two days at County schools follow. The 1949 figures are for membership which is the final enrollment total.

School	1949	1950
Brown	173	179
Macrae	not available	not available
Cabin Branch	not available	not available
Summit	35	35
Antioch	71	73
Regional	450	472
Bennett-Baldwin	657	716
Osborn	370	392
Haymarket	278	286
Nokesville	433	379
Occoquan	496	423
Dumfries	286	270
Woodbine	117	94
Bethel	not available	not available
Technic-1	250	241

### Cornwell Case To Go To Grand Jury

Attorneys for Andrew Cornwell, who is charged with the August 23 murder of Richard Cornwell, 62, yesterday waived preliminary hearing in Trial Justice Court and the case was set for the October term of the Circuit Court.

At the same time charges of murder which had been placed against Richard Watson and Mary Dixon were dismissed. Both were released on \$1,000 bond and ordered to appear as material witnesses before a grand jury on October 2.

Richard Cornwell was found beaten to death Sunday afternoon, August 26, on the kitchen floor of his farm home several miles from Manassas. Police, who said Cornwell had been beaten, quickly rounded up Andrew Cornwell, the Dixon woman and Watson and charged them with murder.

### VFW News

Remodeling of the home of Francis Cannon Post, No. 7888, Veterans of Foreign Wars, at Former avenue and North Main street, is nearly enough complete to permit the members of the post to begin planning for an open house celebration within the next 30 days.

The meeting hall has been furnished, in fact meetings have already been held in it; the trophy and recreation room is complete except for furniture and throughout the building floors have been sanded, new wallpaper put on and all the woodwork painted.

All this work has been done by the members in their spare time. Those who have participated in this are James Davis, John Martin, Clyde Albrite, Leon Mills, Eugene Worley, Robert Wilt, Melvin Shuster, Curtis Polen, John Sney, Odeh Bredren, Jr., Harvey Lack, Claude Albrite, Wallace Parlow, Ernest Brown and Robert Swank. The members of the post expressed sincere appreciation for the work of Ralph Shusher, a non veteran, who has devoted his time to assisting in the remodeling.

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