

Brevities

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The Manassas Journal

GET OUT THE VOTE ON NOVEMBER 7

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CWA ORGANIZES CENTRAL MUTUAL EMPLOYEES

Few Vandals Mar Halloween Festivities Here

Halloween vandalism was kept to a remarkable low Tuesday night, as hundreds of children and teenagers romped and scampered, and certain of immunity, on one night of the year, gaily soaped shop windows while harassed proprietors could only look down their noses and force a grin, for fear of much worse doings when their backs were turned.

A gala parade, sponsored by the Kiwanis Club, replete with small goblins and half-pint spooks, was momentarily disrupted when parading firemen and their engines had to answer a fire call. Somebody had tossed a firecracker under the hood of a truck parked on Church Street, Mrs. George B. Cooke heard noises and, coming out of her house to investigate, saw several kids fleeing the scene. Noticing flames leaping from the truck, she called firemen who brushed scores of children off their trucks and answered the call. The fire extinguished, the firemen returned to Center Street, scores of children again climbed aboard the engines, and the parade was resumed.

About 500 people jammed Osbourn High School auditorium for the crowning of a king and queen and then adjourned to Osbourn gym where Kiwanians served cider and donuts.

The Rev. E. Guthrie Brown, upon returning from Osbourn where he had been a judge in the costume contest, discovered his front porch loaded with trash. An accusative finger points at Durwood Grabbe, the Rev. Brown says, since a laundry ticket bearing Grabbe's name was found in the trash.

Not all was horseplay, however, as a carload of boys drove around town, tossing lighted firecrackers out of the windows. One firecracker exploded against the cheek of a small boy standing on the corner of Center and Grant Ave. The boy's father ran out to help his son, and the boys in the car stopped, got out, and one struck the father in the eye. Town police later rounded up the seven and issued summons for them to appear in Mayor's Court on November 8.

Police reported the names as Robert M. Schaeffer, Harold Lester, Clair Fletcher, E. C. Shortridge, Billy Gavin, Eligha L. Hensley, and Earl Leach. Ages were not available, but all but one were believed to be teenagers.

With the exception of this incident, nothing serious happened, although police working overtime, answered about 20 calls. Destruction of property by pranksters was reported as light and a knifing reported to police was unsubstantiated.

Pranks included: Attempted forceful entry into the Episcopal Church bell tower. The trapdoor was found sprung, but entrance had not been effected.

Water pipe was thrust across Quarry Street and saw horses were strung across Battle Street behind Cooke's Pharmacy.

Town Manager James Ritter reported that six signposts were torn up and scattered around town.

One Manassas resident reported that her porch rug was thrown atop her house.

PERFORMANCE, NOT PROMISES

The Manassas Journal heartily advocates the reelection of Howard W. Smith to Congress from the 8th Congressional District. Congressman Smith is one of America's greatest statesmen, and the people of Prince William County should be proud to cast their vote for him. Judge Smith is well known in this County where he presided as a Circuit Judge for many years. He was born and reared in the neighboring County of Fauquier. His distinguished record in Congress has spread upon the columns of weekly and daily newspapers, not only in this District but throughout the land, for many years. The people of Prince William County will show their appreciation of Congressman Smith's long and valuable service by giving him an overwhelming vote on November 7.

"A CHILD WENT FORTH ONE DAY"

Next Tuesday the voters of Prince William County go to the polls to vote on the proposed \$2,400,000 bond issue for schools construction in this County. This is a matter of vital importance to every eligible voter, for the method of financing a building program will determine how soon money will be available to meet the incontrovertible need for new schools. Will the voters of Prince William allow their children to attend schools which are presently distinguished by grossly inadequate buildings and facilities? The Journal thinks they will not!

There is no sound basis for argument over the immediate need for additional school construction, as proposed in the School Board's revised building program of August. The need is urgent, and voters must act to remedy a situation which, if uncorrected, can be expected to exert a crippling influence on the lives of our children. Clearly, there is but one known way to acquire necessary funds for school construction, and this lies in the passage of the bond issue.

During the last five years, enrollment in Prince William public schools has increased by 800 pupils, or about 25 per cent. Further, it is predicted that this rate of increase will not only continue, but will be accelerated. This prediction is substantiated by figures compiled in a recent survey of pre-school age children who will be storming the doors of our schools within the next five years. At present there are 383 six-year old children in the County, 447 five-year-olds, 450 four-year-olds, 618 three-year-olds, 587 two-year-olds, and 594 one-year-olds. In other words, facilities for first grade students are already over-crowded and yet a 68 per cent increase within five years is a certainty. This is based only on the present population of the County, and an even greater increase reasonably can be expected with the influx of new residents.

The population of Prince William has practically doubled during the last 20 years, while there has been proportionately little capital outlay for schools during this time. Older residents of the County hardly could have foreseen this increase. But, the people are here and they are still coming. New residents are building their homes among us and they are sending their children off to our schools. They are demanding more adequate schools and they do not oppose a bond issue because of a melancholy awareness that even the proposed new schools will eventually become inadequate also. Indeed, one of the most pertinent questions a new resident of any community might ask is, "How good are your schools?" If the answer is unconvincing, the prospective taxpayer has a compelling reason

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Miss Lloyd New Secretary For State SCA

Miss Elizabeth V. Lloyd, of Manassas, has been elected the Student Co-operative Association Executive Secretary of the State of Virginia. It was learned this week Miss Lloyd will begin her new job in Richmond on November 8. Her duties will include supervising and co-ordinating the SCA, a system of student government, in schools throughout the State.

Miss Lloyd is a native of Prince William County, having been born near Greenwich. She attended elementary and high school in Manassas, graduating from Osbourn High School in 1937. Her collegiate training was received at Randolph-Macon Woman's College, from which she graduated in 1941 with a Bachelor of Science degree.

Since her graduation Miss Lloyd has been teaching at Occoquan District High School. Her primary interest has been in the field of health and physical education for boys and girls. She has participated in workshops at both the College of William and Mary and Emory and Henry College. During the war years she was Director of Physical Education for both boys and girls for Occoquan District High School. More recently she was Girls' Physical Education Director at Occoquan and a member of the State Advisory Committee on Girls' Physical Education.

Miss Lloyd sponsored the Prince William County Federation of SCA's, and for the past two years she has been faculty sponsor for the Occoquan SCA. She served for two years as President of the Prince William County Teachers Association. She is a member of Trinity Episcopal Church.

Miss Lloyd is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William L. Lloyd, of Manassas.

Air Defense Command Reorganizes

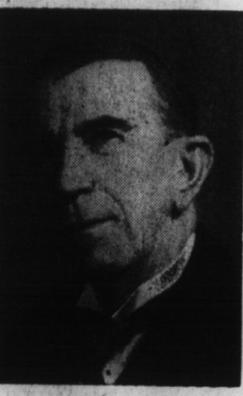
Manassas Air Defense Command will meet Friday night in Town Hall to plan for tests to be conducted Saturday and Sunday.

William A. Barbee is head of the newly formed air observation system and Edgar Parrish is chief spotter. About 70 men have volunteered to serve as watchers from the observation post being installed atop the firehouse.

The Manassas unit is a part of the Ground Observers System of the Eastern Air Defense Command, which is being reorganized. The Command was discontinued following the end of World War II.

Two Greenwich men are recovering from injuries received in recent accidents. Mr. Newman Hopkins fell from a load of hay October 26, resulting in a broken leg and a cut on the head. Mr. Henry Spittle fell from an out-building on October 31. He was treated at Warrenton Hospital for a broken hip.

"Only Hard Work"



Howard W. Smith

Speaking last Saturday to a packed courtroom in Manassas, Congressman Smith told Prince William democrats that 20 years ago he had promised nothing but hard work, and that he promised nothing now but hard work.

Over 51 Per Cent of Workers Now Members. Union Declares

Large Vote Is Expected Next Tuesday

With two bond issues and a Congressional election on the ballots, one of the largest votes ever cast in Prince William is expected next Tuesday.

Congressman Howard W. Smith, now serving his 20th year as representative from the 8th District, is seeking re-election against republican Tyrrell Krum and social-democrat Clarke T. Robbe. Smith, a former farmer, is depending on support from rural voters in order to offset the city vote (Alexandria, Fairfax, Arlington) which he lost to Krum in 1948.

The County referendum on a \$2,400,000 school bond issue is expected to bring out many more voters, and, in addition, voters in Occoquan district must decide on a \$147,677 bond issue of their own to finance a water system for the area.

Officials of the Communications Workers of America, CIO affiliate, this week expected to ask the Central Mutual Telephone Company for recognition as bargaining agents for the approximately 75 non-management employees of the company.

Fifty-one per cent of the employees must sign union cards before CWA can ask for recognition. Union officials believe that they now have this majority.

The telephone company is expected to oppose the unionization, and this will force the union to carry their request for recognition before the National Labor Relations Board, F. L. Evenson, of Richmond, vice-president of Division 33, CWA was in Manassas this week and told the Journal that CWA desired to attain recognition with a minimum of discord. Working conditions improvement and wage increases will probably be the main planks in any bargaining the union would do, Evenson said, although further study of the situation would be necessary.

J. A. Vetter, general superintendent, of the Central Mutual, was not available for comment on the impending unionization of his employees.

Evenson said that CWA never entered a new company except upon the request of employees and that he and Alfred V. Atkinson, president of Virginia Division 33, had received letters from the Central Mutual employees which complained of poor wages and distressing working conditions.

One official of Central Mutual said he did not believe that CWA had the necessary 51 per cent of employees to apply for recognition. And since plans were made this week for the sale of Lorton and Enclave exchanges to Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Co., the union cannot count employees in these exchanges. FCC is now considering the sale and is expected to approve it in January.

Reportedly, Central Mutual is about \$150,000 in debt and sale of the two exchanges was necessary to meet current operating expenses.

If that is true, the company would be in no condition to meet most wage demands, and unionization might, in effect, force the sale of the independent company to Chesapeake and Potomac.

With the sale of Lorton and Enclave exchanges, Central Mutual now has four exchanges with about 3,000 stations.

Wages at the Manassas exchange are slightly higher than at the other exchanges, but according to company officials, 85 cents an hour is tops for operators, and most work for the minimum 75 cents. Operator's wages at exchanges other than Manassas average 65 cents to 70 cents an hour, below the minimum wage, but lawful since telephone exchanges with less than 700 stations are excluded from minimum wage requirements.

Union officials state there is a \$35 a week differential in wages paid highly skilled telephone workers in Fairfax and Manassas, and operators in Fairfax receive an average of \$16 a week more than women doing the same work in Manassas.

CWA interest in Central Mutual, according to Evenson, followed a series of letters written the union by Central Mutual employees. The first of them, complaining of wages and working conditions, was received in August.

One letter writer said that Manassas operators were working for 75 cents an hour, with no increase in sight. Operators with as much as six years experience received the same pay as novices, the letter said. Maximum hourly pay for operators at the Manassas exchange was said to be 75 cents.

Inadequate equipment was decried in a letter, which stated that as many as three operators are forced to use the same headset and mouthpiece. Other operators had to use the same headset used by a woman with an abscessed ear and the operator coming on duty after the sick woman had to clean earplugs from the earphones before using them. Last year one woman left her job with strep throat and three other operators had to use the same mouth piece that afternoon.

A PROCLAMATION

Whereas, free education is a fundamental concept of free men; and Whereas, our public schools are the mainstay of free government; and Whereas, we are now engaged in a struggle to preserve this and other free governments from the force of totalitarianism; and Whereas, our schools are making a special effort to emphasize to our young people the responsibilities and obligations of citizenship, now, Therefore, I, Harry P. Davis, Mayor of the Town of Manassas, do hereby proclaim November 5th through November 11th, 1950, as American Education Week in Manassas, and do urge that all of our citizens join with teachers in ceremonies designed to impress firmly in our minds and in the minds of our children the true meaning of "Government Of, By, And For The People."

Signed— HARRY P. DAVIS, Mayor of Manassas, Va.

VEW Armistice Ball Set For November 10

Francis Cannon Post 7589, Veterans of Foreign Wars, will hold their annual Armistice Ball, November 10, in Osbourn High School gymnasium. Hours: 10:30 p.m. until 1:30 a.m. A popular orchestra has been engaged, according to post officials. Proceeds will go to the post building fund. Tickets may be purchased from any post member.

The Rev. Leigh Bell, of Fredericksburg, will conduct the Holy Communion Service at Bethel Lutheran Church next Sunday morning at 11 a. m. He will also speak to the Men's Bible Class during the Sunday School hour.

Rice Resigns; Successor Not Named

Manassas Councilman James E. Rice resigned last Monday night in a letter to Council in which he expressed gratitude for member's kindness and cooperation. The resignation was accepted "with regrets."

Rice's term was due to expire in June and the three remaining Councilmen will now elect a member to fill out the unexpired term. Council attempted to have Mayor Harry P. Davis appoint a successor to Rice, but found that this was prohibited by the Town constitution, which requires Council to vote on a new member in such a case.

It is believed that Rice resigned for reasons of health which made it a hardship for him to sit out the long, sometimes argumentative, sessions of Council.

No possible successors have yet been considered.

Armed Forces News

Maurice H. Martyn, seaman, USN, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence R. Martyn of Route 1, Herndon, is the Mediterranean.

Two Prince William County men, Jesse A. Peacher, seaman recruit, USN, son of John William Peacher of Route 1, Manassas, and James M. Thurston, seaman recruit, USN, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Thurston of Dumfries, are undergoing recruit training at the Naval Training Center, Great Lakes, Illinois.

Fvt. John M. Van Doren, son of Mrs. Bess J. Van Doren, Rt. 2, Manassas, graduated last Saturday from a school for security patrol air police at Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla.

News from Prince William Communities

Nokesville

By Mrs. Fred Shepherd The Selnor Women's H. D. Club will have their regular meeting one week later than usual because of election day being on their regular meeting day. There will be an all-day meeting at the Fire House on Tuesday, November 14, when the women will be making chairs of all sizes.

Are you planning to eat your supper at the Nokesville Church of the Brethren on Friday evening, November 10? We hope so! Suppers for adults will be just \$1.00, children, 50c. Mrs. A. D. Sines, Mrs. S. D. Somers and Mrs. J. B. Fearnsborough are making the plans for a sales table which will provide a wide variety of articles for sale. There will be plenty of home made wovens rugs, applebutter (they are boiling again Wednesday at Garmans'), pies, cakes, fancy work of all kinds, aprons, dressed chickens, canned foods of all kinds, apples and plenty of unusually lovely Christmas cards.

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Haymarket

By Mrs. A. H. Meyer The following members of the Haymarket Baptist Church were among the approximately 3000 present at the dedication of the new Home for the Aged, at Culpeper, Virginia, Mrs. M. Fewell Melton, Mr. and Mrs. M. S. Melton, Mrs. L. Lightner, Mrs. N. McCuin, Mrs. H. McCuin, Mrs. J. Rollins, Mrs. L. Rector, Mr. and Mrs. Q. Lawler, Mrs. L. Pearson, Miss Edna Griffith and Mrs. R. Fletcher attended. The inspection tour began at 10 a.m. The dinner for adults was served, with all the "fixin's." The formal dedication began and was broadcast over WCVB and WRNL at 2:30 p.m. Presentation of the building was made by E. E. Johnson, chairman of the Building committee, and Mr. James R. Bryant, State Secretary, accepted the building presentations and

stew, cooked in the open in huge iron pots, was served, with all the "fixin's." The formal dedication began and was broadcast over WCVB and WRNL at 2:30 p.m. Presentation of the building was made by E. E. Johnson, chairman of the Building committee, and Mr. James R. Bryant, State Secretary, accepted the building presentations and

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Dumfries

By Dorothy Acord The Home Demonstration Club ladies from all over the country held their Achievement Day at the Dumfries Methodist Church on Thursday, October 26. A record crowd attended. The ladies of the Dumfries Church were delighted to serve them a luncheon at the Odd Fellows Hall, the proceeds going toward the building fund for the Dumfries Methodist Church.

Mrs. Grover King, accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Percy Burdette of Alexandria, visited Mr. Grover King in McGuire Hospital in Richmond on Saturday.

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Centreville

By Nora Good The Lions Club had a dinner at the schoolhouse Tuesday night.

Lt. Col. and Mrs. Van Darn presented Mrs. Harrison's seventh grade with hand-painted draperies last week.

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The Most Expert Television and Radio Service is Provided —By— Hibbies' Inc. 115 N. Main St. Manassas, Va. "Everything Electrical" It is prompt and efficient service that counts and we provide it everywhere.

Pfc. David F. Walters, 19, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Walters of Canova, died October 10 of wounds received in Korea, according to a Defense Department announcement to his parents. Pfc. Walters, a former Osbourn High School student, enlisted in the Army at the age of 17.

Manassas' National Guard Unit stood inspection last night for Col. Henry C. McLaughlin, of the Adjutant General's office, Richmond. The men heard reports that uniforms and vehicles are expected for them before the end of the month, and also that their headquarters, a \$5,000 annex to Osbourn gym, will be constructed before the first of the year.

Travel figures released this week by the State Highway Department hold the answer to congested road conditions throughout Virginia. During the fiscal year which ended June 30, daily travel on the 9,000-mile primary highway system totaled 14,027,576 vehicle miles, an increase of 11.64 over the previous year. On primary roads of Prince William County, a total of 266,452 vehicle miles were rolled up daily.

Orville R. Hersch, Manassas, and Mark S. Kerlin, Nokesville, will represent Southern States from this area at the 27th Annual Meeting of Southern States Cooperative in Richmond, November 9 and 10.

Sheriff John P. Kerlin announced this week that three of his deputies, Roy A. Wright, R. F. Hoskins, and Robert Alvey, have been attending the F.B.I. Zone School for law enforcement officers at Orange County Court House, Orange, Va., since October 23. Town police are also attending the classes.

Mrs. R. Worth Peters, clerk of the Prince William County Board of Selective Service, announced this week that the following men are slated to report for induction into the armed forces on Friday, November 3, at Richmond: Sydney Bryan Bryant, Manassas; Joseph Ashby Yoder, Manassas; Rene McCorn, Haymarket; George Howard Dawson, Haymarket; Archie Daniel Arnold, Woodbridge; and Thomas Herbert Robinson, Broad Run.

The Fine Arts Section of the Women's Club of Manassas is sponsoring an art exhibit again this year. The exhibit will be held in the basement of the Methodist Church on November 9, from 2:30 to 5 p.m., and from 9 to 9 p.m. The public is invited. Anyone wishing to exhibit his paintings, ceramics, trays, or textile painting, please take them to the Methodist Church before 11 a.m. on Thursday, November 9.

The State Highway Department receive bids on November 28 for 24 miles of hard surfacing on Secondary Route 538 between Bethel and U. S. Route 1.

Three steers belonging to E. R. Conner of Manassas were found drowned last Saturday. Veterinarian Dr. John Waters performed a post-mortem and sent stomach contents to a laboratory. Source of the unidentified poison has not been determined, but Waters suggested that it might have come from paint cans (white lead) or fertilizer, which is a gastric irritant. The steers were valued by Conner at \$250 - \$300 each.

County Agent Frank Cox recommended this week that hogs be butchered when they weigh about 300 pounds, rather than attempting to fatten them further. Cost of feed of producing 100 pounds of pork increases almost 100 per cent as the hog grows to the 300 pound class.

Judge and Mrs. Howard W. Smith were guests of honor at a reception sponsored by the Women's Executive Committee of Fairfax, Sunday, October 29, at McLane, Va. The Ladies Aid Society of Manassas Baptist Church will meet at the home of Mrs. I. E. Cannon, Tuesday, November 7, at 8 p. m.

Fairfax County Police will sponsor a hillbilly and western chicken fry and barbecue Sunday, November 5, from noon until 10 p. m. at the Hybla Valley airport hangar. Proceeds will be used for the Police Safety Education Program.

E. D. Hanback, Manassas, recently purchased a registered Ayrshire, according to the Ayrshire Breeder's Association.