

THE NEWSPAPER
EVERYBODY
READS

The Manassas Messenger

BUILDING
BETTER
BUSINESS

VOL. 1, NO. 10.

Entered at the Post Office at
Manassas, Va., at second class matter

The Advertising Medium of Progressive Business

MANASSAS, VIRGINIA - FRIDAY, AUGUST 17, 1945

5 CENTS A COPY

JAPS SURRENDER - THE WAR IS OVER

State, National And World News IN REVIEW

Hear On Earth

President Truman announced at 7 P. M. Tuesday that the Japanese government has accepted the terms of surrender without qualification. Hostilities have ceased. General Douglas MacArthur will receive the Japanese emissaries and accept the formal surrender on board a United States naval vessel. Thereafter he will govern Japan with Emperor Hirohito as his mouthpiece.

The Chain of Events

The collapse of Japan followed two dramatic and portentous blows. On August 6 the fearful new British-American 2-billion dollar invention, the atomic bomb, was unleashed with the blasting of the Japanese city of Hiroshima, followed by the even more devastating blasting of Nagasaki. On Wednesday, August 8, Russia declared war on Japan and marched immediately into Manchuria.

On Friday morning at 7:35 E.W. T. Radio Tokio was heard broadcasting in English that "in conformity with the august wish of His Majesty to restore the general peace" the Japanese government had decided to "accept the terms" laid down at the Potsdam Conference.

But there was a snag in it. The Japs offered to take this step only on the understanding that Emperor Hirohito would continue to rule them. A nationwide, and indeed a world-wide, debate began at once as to whether the ousting of Hirohito was worth going on fighting for. The radio was filled with it. Wherever people met, whether at the Manassas Kiwanis meeting and the Quantico Chamber of Commerce or in Chicago hotel lobbies, the debate went on, while the Big Four and their diplomats hurried to a solution of the problem by radio and telephone.

Saturday, President Truman, replying on behalf of the United States, Great Britain, Soviet Russia and China, told the Japanese that they could keep their Emperor for the time being provided he remained subject to the commander of the Allied Occupation Forces.

In many places rejoicing began with the first Japanese offer of surrender. Riotous celebrations took place among American boys in uniform at many stations overseas. Londoners also celebrated, but in most American cities the attitude was one of tense expectancy until further news. A false bulletin went over the United Press wires at 9:33 o'clock Sunday evening announcing that Japan had accepted the surrender terms. The report was corrected three minutes later but not until it had set off momentary but wild celebrations in many cities. The president of the United Press offered \$5,000 reward for information leading to the identification of the person who put the false report on the wire.

What Is Cost

The Second World War started September 1, 1939, with the German attack upon Poland. The United States participation began with Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941 and lasted 3 years, 8 months and eight days. Fifty-six nations were at war, 49 of them United Nations.

45 million men were mobilized, and casualties totaled 80 million. Deaths totaled over 14 million compared with 8,538,000 killed in World War I. More men were killed in the war just finished than in all the other wars of the world since 1793. The United States lost 251,000 killed and 817,000 wounded. Mis-

The dollar cost of the war to the United States alone is estimated at 300 billions, or twice the cost of running the government, including the expense of all previous wars, from 1789 to Pearl Harbor.

Prisoners of War

Many thousands of families have a personal interest in the surrender terms which will provide that prisoners of war in Japanese hands shall be delivered without harm to Allied transports. There are 17,000 American prisoners in Japan, 13,400 from the armed services and 3,600 civilians.

DEMOBILIZATION:

Discharge Points To Be Cut

Of the Army's 8 million men it is estimated that only 450,000 are now needed in Europe, and 1,000,000 are believed to be sufficient for the occupation forces in the Pacific. Draftees are still being called up at the rate of 90,000 a month, or over a million a year.

An immediate repeal of the Selective Service Act is being advocated in many quarters and it is probable that Congress will consider the matter soon after it convenes September 4. It is possible however, that action will be delayed until a decision is reached on the size of the post-war army and navy and on the question of compulsory military training.

Demobilization of men now in uniform may be stepped up to as many as 500,000 per month. The army discharge point requirement is expected to be reduced from 85 to 50 or less, but men with the high point scores will be given priority. Experienced railroad men and coal miners will be released promptly regardless of points.

UNEMPLOYMENT:

Many Factories to Close

The greatest damper on the celebration of peace came from the picture of widespread unemployment which, for a time at least, it seems impossible to avoid. Confusion was hurried back to Washington to deal with this problem in committee sessions preparatory to an early convening of Congress.

At the peak of war expenditures the Government was spending 100 billions a year, and the figure is now expected to be gradually reduced to 25 billions. More than 20,000,000 including the Armed Services, were employed in direct war work. Production contracts for tanks, guns, ammunition, military aircraft and naval construction are now being cancelled or cut-back as fast as officials can handle the papers. Factories will close and millions will be laid off.

Only a small proportion of these laid-off workmen can find jobs now in other factories. Months must be spent first in the reconversion of factories from war to peace production. This reconversion job, itself, changing over machinery and equipment, will provide work for only a handful.

The New York Times estimates that 4 million men will be idle within 90 days. War Production Board and Department of Labor estimates saw from 7 to 9 million

Prince William Rejoices

Though big city crowds were lacking, the peace news brought rejoicing Tuesday evening to every corner of Prince William County and neighboring Fairfax, and laughing and shouting groups congregated in Manassas, Nokesville, Quantico, Triangle, Occoquan, Dumfries and Centerville.

EARLY ISSUE

In order to bring you details of the Great News without delay, we regret that it has been necessary to omit items from Quantico, Dumfries, Triangle, Catharpin, Sudley and Brentsville and the "Kiwanis Reporter." They will appear in our next issue.

Legion Auxiliary Planning Horse Show

The Prince William American Legion Auxiliary met at the home of the secretary, Mrs. Stewart McBryde, Sr., on Monday, August 13. Mrs. Benjamin Jacobson, president, appointed Mrs. Marshall Haydon, Mrs. Wheatley Johnson and Mrs. H. E. Pickeral to serve on the Auxiliary executive committee for the coming year. Other officers for 1945-46 not previously announced are Mrs. M. S. Burchard, second vice president; Mrs. Marshall Haydon, who will serve as chaplain and sergeant-at-arms; and Mrs. Joseph Mills Hanson, historian.

Mrs. Jacobson, Mrs. Pickeral and Mrs. Hanson serving as a committee of three were asked to meet with J. Carl Kincheloe, Robert Lake, Joseph Mills Hanson and Raymond Grass, member of a committee appointed by the post, to make plans and set a date for holding a horse show in the near future for the benefit of the Auxiliary.

SPECIAL NOTICE

The Manassas High School has requested that all students desiring to enroll in vocational classes at Manassas for the fall term notify the school at once as to their plans. Registrations may be made by letter, telephone, or in person any time from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. during the week of August 20-24 at the High School.

Additional courses are offered and students may now choose from the following:

1. COSMETOLOGY (Beauty Culture) Note: Limited and selected enrollment.
2. VOCATIONAL NURSING Note: Limited and selected enrollment.
3. COMMERCIAL AND FINE ARTS. Note: Prerequisite: One year Drafting.
4. ADVANCED BUSINESS PRACTICE. Note: Operation of office machines and filing. Prerequisite: Commercial work in Typing, Bookkeeping and Short-hand.
5. AUTOMOTIVE MECHANICS.
6. RADIO SERVICING.
7. ELECTRIC AND ACETYLENE WELDING.
8. ELECTRICITY.
9. DRAFTING.
10. SHEET METAL.
11. MACHINE SHOP
12. CARPENTRY.

unemployment will increase steadily until it reaches a peak in about 6 month's time. After that, renewed production of peacetime goods and new peacetime construction projects will reach sufficient momentum to begin a reduction of the unemployment figure. Catching up in production of civilian goods and new developments in aviation, refrigeration,

PROCLAMATION

BY THE MAYOR OF MANASSAS
ANTICIPATING AN EARLY CESSATION OF THE WAR WITH JAPAN, I, HARRY P. DAVIS, MAYOR OF MANASSAS, VIRGINIA, DO HEREBY DECLARE THAT THE WEEK DAY FOLLOWING THE OFFICIAL NOTIFICATION OF THE TERMINATION OF THE WAR IN THE PACIFIC, A HOLIDAY BE DECLARED FOR THE TOWN OF MANASSAS. I FURTHER SUGGEST THAT ALL PLACES OF BUSINESS BE CLOSED FOR THE DAY AND THAT ALL CHURCHES BE OPENED FOR PRAYER AND WORSHIP.

SHOULD OFFICIAL NOTIFICATION BE RECEIVED AFTER 2 O'CLOCK P.M. IT IS REQUESTED THAT ALL PLACES OF BUSINESS BE CLOSED FOR THE REST OF THE DAY AND THAT THE FOLLOWING DAY BE OBSERVED AS THE OFFICIAL HOLIDAY.

SIGNED: HARRY P. DAVIS
MAYOR

Quantico Chamber Discusses Locker

Adoption of amendments to its constitution and discussion of a locker project mainly occupied the Quantico Chamber of Commerce at its regular meeting last Friday evening, held in the Odd Fellows Hall in Dumfries.

The change in the constitution provides for meetings in the future on the second and fourth Fridays instead of on Thursdays as formerly, and reduces the quorum requirement from 20 to 10 members.

The refrigeration locker project was discussed following a proposal of the Spewich Realty Co., which is prepared to construct and operate a plant with local help. It was decided first to survey the possibilities of forming a local stock company for the purpose by sending out questionnaires to business men who might be interested.

Team B, the losing team in the recent Seventh War Loan drive, with Miss Sarah Reddish as chairman entertained with light refreshments the winning team, Team A, headed by Mrs. Adele Parks.

About 30 attended the meeting with President A. R. Kirby in the chair. Mr. and Mrs. Piper of Chicago were present as the guests of Dr. O. J. Ferlazzo.

Beverly's Mill To Continue Operation

From S. K. Rock, business manager at North Wales, it is learned that, contrary to local understanding here, Walter Chrysler intends to continue operation of Beverly's Mill at Broad Run, buying and selling for the benefit of the public. Mr. Chrysler recently purchased the mill and adjoining property from Mrs. Audrey Kerr and expects to take possession this coming fall.

Prince Wm. Chamber Discusses Airport

Discussion of the airport purchase problem mainly occupied Tuesday's meeting of the Prince William County Chamber of Commerce. Dr. George B. Cocks, speaking for the special airport committee, reported his visit and that of J. Carl Kincheloe, chairman of the committee, to the Board of Supervisors and read the report which the Planning Committee made to the Board on the subject. After a general discussion, the chamber voted to authorize the public affairs committee to request the Town Council to again circularize the tax-payers of Manassas in the form of a referendum on the matter of the airport purchase.

Chairman C. C. Cose reminded of the postwar planning committee of the imminent end of the war and the fast approaching unemployment problem, and Hunton Tiffany, chairman, assured the chamber that his committee is working on plans to meet the situation in cooperation with the Prince William County Planning Commission.

Kirby's Jewelry Store At Quantico Robbed

The show window of Kirby's jewelry store at Quantico was broken and robbed of about \$300 worth of merchandise early last Monday morning.

The robbery is thought to have been a one-man job, according to Arthur Kirby, proprietor of the store, who believes the robbery occurred some time between the hours of 12:30 and 1:30 a.m.

The thief first broke the window with a rock which made a hole large enough to permit him to reach in with one hand and remove a portion of the display of ladies' rings and costume jewelry. The store proper was not entered.

The case is being investigated but so far no arrests have been made.

Keep On Canning

Peace Will Not Ease The Food Shortage This Year

Cannery Schedule

MANASSAS: Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Phone Lorton 25-F-22.
(Wednesday reserved for the colored people).

NOKESVILLE: Mondays, Thursdays and Saturdays.

OCOQUAN: Mondays and Thursdays. Phone 177.

Hours for Bringing Food: 9 a.m. to 12 Noon

SUGGESTIONS AND INSTRUCTIONS OFFERED

BY CANNERY INSTRUCTORS

IF YOU WISH TO CAN CORN, bring it in the shucks—do NOT

husk at home before you come to the cannery.

IF YOU WISH TO CAN CHICKEN, bring it in the shucks—do NOT