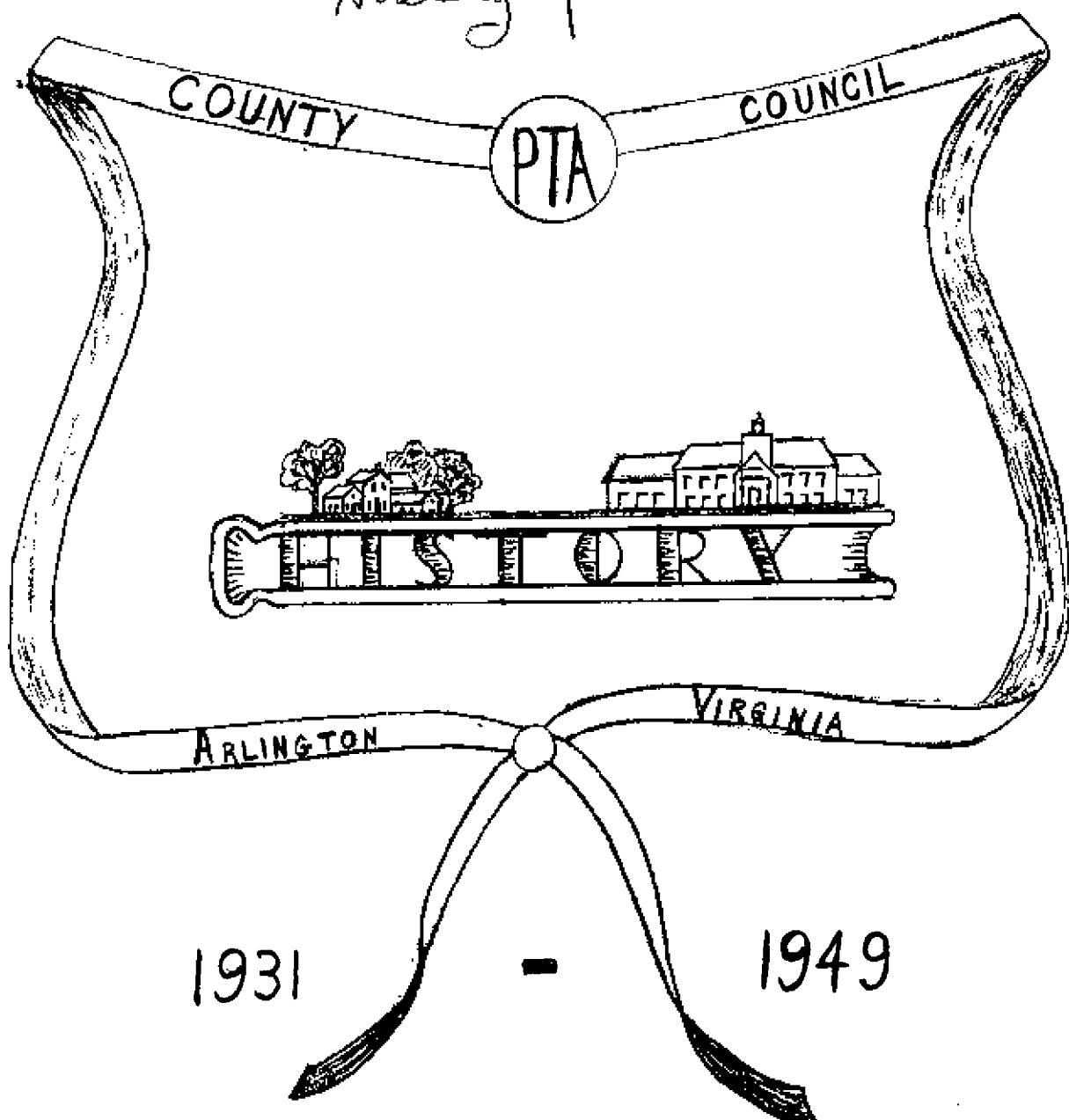


History of



H I S T O R Y of the

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PARENT-TEACHER ASSOCIATIONS

Arlington

Virginia

Belva Margaret Owens

Mistress

County Council of Parent-Teacher Associations
Arlington, Virginia

1949

OFFICERS OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL

1948-49

President

Dr. Erwin R. Draheim, Barcroft Parent-Teacher Association

1st Vicepresident

Major John A. Mathews, Kate Waller Barrett Parent-Teacher Association

2nd Vicepresident

Mr. Fletcher Kemp, Superintendent of Schools, Arlington Virginia

Secretary

Mrs. Viola Jasper, Fairlington Parent-Teacher Association
(Resigned, September 1948 - Moved from the County)

Mrs. Nellie Hendrickson, Stonewall Jackson Parent-Teacher Association

Treasurer

Mr. Raymond Colton, Matthew F. Maury Parent-Teacher Association

Parliamentarian

Mr. Clarence A. Steele, Walter Reed Parent-Teacher Association

Historian

Mrs. Belva M. Owens, Washington-Lee High School Parent-Teacher Association

F O R E W O R D

FROM THE EXPERIENCES of the past often comes the best guidance for the years that lie ahead. It is hoped that this record of County Council affairs may serve that useful purpose. This history, or summary of the activities of the Arlington County Council of Parent-Teacher Associations from the time of its organization in 1931 to 1949, was written during the Spring of 1949. The material is organized into separate sections, chronologically by years.

The record of the early years was hard to compile because the book containing the minutes of Council meetings from the time of its organization in 1931 to May 1941 is lost. The history of these early years has been reconstructed mainly from the memories of those active in the Council during that period and from occasional bits of correspondence or other records retained in the personal files of these former Council workers. As the years pass, memory becomes less vivid. The task was also hampered by the fact that some who had been most active have moved away and could be reached only by correspondence, if at all. Also, some of the materials remaining in personal files had no date on them. For all these reasons the record for some years is much more complete and accurate than that for other years. In each case, however, the summaries have been read by someone active during the year and checked, insofar as possible, for accuracy and completeness.

Many have helped with this undertaking, especially for the early years. Each person who was consulted furnished information and, often, the names of others who in turn were helpful. And so, link by link, the chain of the past has been reconstructed. Even though it is incomplete, it throws important light upon Council development and on educational trends in Arlington County. Ivan A. Booker, who has long been active in the Council, read the entire manuscript, made valued suggestions as to its form and content, and arranged for its production. To all those who cooperated in this project our sincere thanks are expressed.

If anyone who reads this history discovers in it any inaccuracies or significant omissions — and because of the meagerness of official records there may be inaccuracies as well as omissions — please give the correct information to the present historian of the Council in order that proper revision can be made in future records. Cooperation in this matter will be greatly appreciated and will be a distinct contribution to parent-teacher work in Arlington.

Belva Margaret Owens, Historian
Arlington County Council of
Parent-Teacher Associations

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A PTA SONG

*

(To the tune of "Sweet and Low")

*

P - T - A, P - T - A,
God in his love enfold thee;
Guide thee, tenderly,
And in his wisdom mold thee.
Come to our meeting, here tonight,
Show us the true and perfect light,
Our inspiration be,
Constantly guiding, ever-abiding love.

*

(The copy of this song, which was sung at
some of the meetings of the County Council during
its early years, was supplied by Mrs. Ralph Turner.)

*

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RECORD OF COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

YEAR BY YEAR in the sections which follow, the principal activities of the Council are reviewed. The entrance of new Council units is noted; major goals and projects are listed; committee work is mentioned; and thumb-nail sketches of important meetings are often included.

In these year-by-year reports the name of the president is regularly given. And, usually, either a complete list or the names of certain committee chairmen are also included. For a (virtually) complete list of the elected officers, however, the reader must consult the list of "Officers of the Council, by Years, 1931-32 to 1948-49" which begins on page

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES, 1931-32

Mrs. Gladys Monroe, President

N THE FALL of 1930 a movement was started to organize a federation of School Leagues, Civic Leagues, Mothers' Clubs, Parents Clubs, and PTA's for the purpose of working for a bond issue for school improvement. The School Leagues were Cooperative Education Association groups which were doing much the same work as the PTA's before the union of the State PTA and the Cooperative Education Association. However, at a meeting in November of 1930, Mrs. C. C. Carver, seventh vicepresident of the State PTA, explained that PTA's could not join a federation of Leagues but could cooperate in any movement for school improvement. It was then decided that the local PTA needed a County Council for united action.

At a meeting at Washington-Lee high school, a committee was named to draw up the bylaws of the County Council. The committee consisted of Mrs. Beatson, Mrs. Russell Clapper, and Mrs. Gladys Monroe. A nominating committee was named, headed by Mrs. Edith Rogers.

On February 9, 1931, at the Matthew F. Maury school, the Arlington County Council of PTA was formed. Mr. H. G. Luther was the presiding officer. The following seven schools sent delegates: Stonewall Jackson, Thomas Nelson Page, Washington-Lee, Patrick Henry, Woodrow Wilson, Henry Clay, and Matthew F. Maury. The bylaws were adopted and the following officers were elected: (a) president, Mrs. Gladys Monroe; (b) 1st vicepresident, Mr. Munson Lane; (c) 2nd vicepresident, Mrs. Russell Clapper; (d) corresponding secretary, Mrs. Martha Rauh; and (e) recording secretary and treasurer, Mr. H. G. Luther. The president appointed the following committee chairmen: (a) membership, Mrs. J. B. Lowell; (b) program, Mrs. Rachel Taber; and (c) publicity, Mrs. Edith Rogers. The Council was to have three meetings each year on the third Thursdays in November, February, and May. Committee chairmen were to be selected from different schools in order that as many schools as possible would have representation on the Council.

At the executive meeting on April 22, 1931, three members-at-large were elected. They were: Mrs. Beatson, Miss Williams, and Mr. Dewey.

The second meeting was held in May 1931 at the Henry Clay school. Ten schools were represented. All locals were asked to join the Council.

The main concern, for a while, was the problem of getting organized. Mrs. Monroe said that she had been elected president of the Thomas Nelson Page PTA earlier, without knowing anything about PTA work, and that she did not know much more when she was elected to the Council presidency. She and Mrs. Rauh realizing their need, took a ten-week course on the work of the PTA at the George Washington University. This course was taught by Mrs. Arthur Watkins.

An important goal of the Council was to have all associations in the Council qualify as "standard locals." A "standard association" now would be called a "banner association." Mrs. Monroe said that at that time some people thought that for locals to strive to become standard units would undo all the efforts made so far. They evidently thought it a goal too high for attainment and, therefore, discouraging. Continuing, Mrs. Monroe said, "We were, indeed, infants! How we have grown! Now we know that to strive to be greater will never undo what has been done for the good of a PTA."

Similarly, the idea of making each school yard a community play ground did not seem feasible at that time. Nevertheless, the Council concerned itself with playground improvement and with such additional problems as social hygiene, safety, and teachers' pay.

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES, 1932-33

Mrs. Gladys Monroe, President

THE OFFICERS for this year were the same as for 1931-32 except that Mrs. Rauh, the corresponding secretary, was replaced by Mrs. Niklason and Mr. Luther, council treasurer, was replaced by Mrs. Clarence Simmons. Mrs. Monroe does not remember any changes in the committee chairmen.

The first meeting of the second year was an Institute, the first one to be held. It was held on November 22, 1932, from 10:00 A.M. to 3:15 P.M. at the Stonewall Jackson school. The state historian, Mrs. C. C. Carver, gave a history of the PTA. Mrs. Arthur Watkins, staff member of the National Congress, urged each PTA to have a historian. Mrs. Watkins also taught "Policies and Principles of the National Congress"; "Program Building"; and "Duties of Committee Chairmen." This was a very interesting and instructive meeting. For years afterward the first meeting of each year was an institute of instruction, so that new officers and chairmen could learn what they were to do and how to do it.

The activities of the second year were probably much the same as the first year. So much time has passed that Mrs. Monroe cannot clearly separate the work of the two years in her memory. 1/

1/ Mrs. Monroe, the Council's first president, later served as president of the Northern Virginia district for 4 years (1939-1943). She was present at the convention when the State PTA and the Cooperative Education Association united and became, "The Cooperative Education Association, Virginia Branch of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers." The governor had requested the union, saying he would not recommend an appropriation for both of them since they were doing the same work. In order to keep the state aid, the PTA agreed to the union.

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES, 1933-34

Mrs. Martha Rauh, President

THE FIRST MEETING of the year was a special meeting and institute held at the Cherrydale school, September 26th. The speakers were Mrs. Arthur Watkins, Superintendent Fletcher Kemp, Mrs. Ruby Simpson, and Mrs. C. C. Carver. The program included special sections on the "Duties of Officers and Chairmen" and "Program Building and the Value of Programs."

At the second meeting of the year, held November 21st at the Patrick Henry school, the speakers were high-school principal S. A. Vanderslice, Mrs. Ruby Simpson, Miss Margaret Troxell, and Dr. Peyton Chichester, county health officer.

A special meeting was called on February 8, 1934, to discuss the current school situation in Virginia and to urge acceptance of the legislative program then being proposed by state superintendent Sidney B. Hall.

A Founders' Day pageant and a health play were given at the February 20th meeting at the Hume school.

Another special meeting was called on April 3rd, at which Mr. Montgomery, then executive secretary of the Cooperative Education Association, explained many important phases of State PTA work to Council members and local leaders.

Annual reports were received and the officers for the coming year were elected and installed at the annual meeting which was held on May 15.

During this year, planned programs were stressed. The president, Mrs. Rauh, took an additional course on parent-teacher work at the George Washington University under Mrs. Watkins. This course was ten weeks in duration. Certificates were issued to those who attended at least eight of the ten sessions

and passed the examination. Eleven local presidents completed the correspondence course of the National Congress for leaders and potential leaders.

The annual institute was greatly improved during 1933-34. Also the Council supported Dr. Hall's three-point legislative program and sent a delegation to Richmond to work for it. The three points were: (1) full 9-month sessions for all the children in Virginia; (2) a minimum teachers salary of \$720 per annum; and (3) free textbooks for all the children. Mrs. Rauh was sent as a delegate to the state convention at Roanoke. Her report was mimeographed and sent to each local. A summer round-up was conducted at each school, so successfully that Arlington led the state that year in the number of its "five-point" children (those meeting five important health standards).

Delegates at large during this year were Mrs. Russell Clapper and Mrs. Frances Ferrell. The committee chairmen included: program, Mrs. Gladys Monroe; publicity, Mrs. Edith Rogers; membership, Mrs. Joseph Shawhan; publications, Mrs. Sarah Redfield; hospitality, Mrs. Charles D. Monteith; and finance and budget, Mrs. Clarence Simmons.

The local presidents during the year 1933-34 were: Cherrydale, Mrs. O. B. Fitts; Henry Clay, Mr. Carleton Lewis; Hume, Mrs. Noe; James Monroe, Mrs. A. Anderson; John Marshall, Mrs. Charles D. Monteith; Matthew F. Maury, Mrs. J. A. Huff; Nellie Custis, Mrs. Cole; Stonewall Jackson, Mrs. Edith Rogers; Thomas Nelson Page, Mrs. Onie Howell; Washington-Lee, Mrs. Joseph Shawhan; and Woodrow Wilson, Mr. Nichols.

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES, 1934-35

Mrs. Martha Rauh, President

THE FALL INSTITUTE was held September 18, 1934, at the Patrick Henry school with Mrs. Rawlings, Superintendent Kemp, and Mrs. Ruby Simpson as the principal speakers. The program concerned program planning, the duties of officers and committee chairmen, and the requirements for a "standard" and a superior local unit.

At the February meeting (February 19th) a Founders' Day pageant traced the growth of the parent-teacher movement and outlined its present scope and achievements.

The program for the meeting on May 21, 1935, was on the topic: "The Parent Teacher Movement: Its Value to Teachers." Annual reports were received at this meeting and the officers for the coming year were elected.

Among the committee chairmen were: program, Mrs. O. B. Fitts; publicity, Mr. Grover Payne; hospitality, Mrs. Onie Howell; finance and budget, Mrs. Gladys Monroe; publications, Mrs. Gladys Riely; membership, Mrs. Russell Clapper; and chaplain, Mrs. Peyton Chichester.

Again, this year, courses were conducted similar to those described before. The subjects for discussion this year were "Parliamentary Procedure," and "High School Associations." Ten members completed the course on High School Associations. These courses were open to anyone interested.

The Council helped to get a ruling that children should be near their 6th birthday before they would be eligible for school entrance. Heretofore, a child could enter as soon as he was in his 6th year. Consequently many 5-year-olds were in school.

The Council also was responsible for getting a ruling that children must attend the school in their district rather than be allowed to move about if they decided that they did not like the teacher.

A summer round-up was conducted and Arlington was again leader in number of five-point children. Mrs. Rauh attended the state convention at Lynchburg.

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES FOR THE TWO YEARS, 1935-36 and 1936-37*

Mrs. Russel Clapper, President

THE MEMBERSHIP in the Council for 1936-37 consisted of 13 schools: Cherrydale, Henry Clay, Hume, John Marshall, James Monroe, Matthew F. Maury, Nellie Custis, Patrick Henry, Robert E. Lee, Stonewall Jackson, Thomas Nelson Page, Washington-Lee, and Woodrow Wilson. Barcroft, Saegmuller, and Glencarlyn were the only schools in the county that did not belong.

Since there were so few schools and the dues were low, each local was asked in 1935-36 to have a card party and contribute the fund to the Council. The dues were then \$2 per local.

One year a three-day institute was held at Stonewall Jackson school. The subjects covered were: "Parliamentary Procedure," "Duties of Officers," and "The Work of the Summer Round-Up Chairman." Mrs. Arthur Watkins conducted the institute courses.

Two other regular meetings were held at the Cherrydale and Nellie Custis schools.

One of the objectives of these years, as shown by correspondence, was to have every local a banner organization and, therefore, have the county a banner county. This was accomplished.

*Note - The information for the two years of Mrs. Clapper's term of office is so meager that no attempt has been made to divide it into two parts. She is no longer a resident of Arlington. Wherever possible, the year has been indicated.

The president attended the state convention at Norfolk in 1935-36 and correspondence indicates that she also attended the convention at Bristol in 1936-37.

During both terms the Council assisted the county medical society with the round-up of preschool children. About 500 were examined and vaccinated in groups at the various schools. For those unable to pay, no fee was charged. Otherwise the fee was \$2. Dr. R. N. Sutton did most of the examining.

The County Board was urged to devote more funds to school building and operation, especially for the junior high school.

In the fall of 1936 the Thomas Nelson Page PTA enlisted the aid of the Council in securing some type of training for the handicapped children of the county. A survey showed that a considerable number of handicapped children lived in the county. Mrs. Riely, Council secretary, got a delegation of 16 parents representing several schools to appear before the school board and make their request. The school board was very cooperative and the result was the beginning of home training for these children.

Mrs. Martha Rauh, the immediate past president of the Council, served as chairman of the state Social Hygiene Committee for 1935-36. Local committee chairmen included: program, Mrs. Martha Rauh; finance, Mrs. Ralph Turner; and summer round-up, Mrs. William P. Davis.

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES, 1937-38

Ivan A. Booker, President

THE YEAR STARTED with 13 active locals. During the year the local at Saegmuller school was reactivated and did fine work. A new local was formed at the Thomas Jefferson junior high school but it did not become an active member of the Council until the following year. There were 2,781 members in the 14 active associations. Four of the 14 had memberships of less than 100. Eight of the associations had memberships between 100 and 400. Two associations had more than 400 members.

The typical PTA in Arlington County at that time was described as an organization having 200 members. It held 9 meetings during the year and had 5 standing committees at work. It spent \$100 on school improvements that were more or less permanent in character and about the same amount on pupil welfare and civic and community enterprises.

One of the problems of that year was an empty treasury. Dues heretofore had been \$2 per local. An amendment was adopted this year increasing the dues. The new scale of dues was: \$2 for the first 100 members (or less), and \$1 for each additional hundred or major fractional part thereof. On the basis of the anticipated income, a budget of \$34 was adopted.

The objectives for the year were: (1) to create wider interest in, and better understanding of, the school program in Arlington, and (2) to organize a PTA in every Arlington school. There were 17 white schools in the county, 14 of which were active in the Council. It was hoped that PTA's could be organized in the three remaining schools.

The first meeting of the year was a two-day leadership training institute. It was held at the Cherrydale school on Thursday and Friday (day and evening) September 30 and October 1, 1937. The subjects for discussion were "Appraising the Work of the Public School (local, state, and nationwide)," and "Should the Federal Government Contribute to the Support of Public Education?" In addition to local speakers there were: Dr. Abner Robertson, newly appointed executive secretary of the Cooperative Education Association; Miss Frances Hayes of the National Congress; Dr. Fred Alexander of the State Department of Education; Dr. Walter E. Eells, formerly of Stanford University; Howard P. Bailey of the Evening Star; Howard A. Dawson of the National Education Association; and William H. Bristow, then executive secretary of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers.

The meetings were well attended, the average attendance being 50. Special certificates were awarded for attendance at all or all except one meeting. Thirty of these certificates were awarded.

Two other meetings were held during the year, one of which was at the Stonewall Jackson school.

One of the activities of the year was help with the organization of the PTA at the new Thomas Jefferson junior high school. The first organizational meeting was held on February 25, and was attended by about 200 patrons and teachers. At another meeting, later in the year, officers were elected, by-laws were adopted, and standing committees were created.

The Council attempted to interpret to the public the Virginia curriculum, which was then new enough to attract considerable attention.

Letters were written to the state legislators from Arlington opposing the Neff bill which proposed to delegate to the Board of Supervisors the selection of the school board members. A delegate was instructed to appear before the legislature's Committee on Schools and Colleges to say that the Council was opposed because they wished "to keep the selection of school board members out of politics."

Letters were sent to the sheriff and public welfare agent urging enforcement of a regulation which prohibits the sale of obscene literature in the County.

Mrs. Mathusa, the secretary, was sent as a delegate to the state convention at Roanoke. Mrs. Gorman F. Freer was chairman of the "schools" committee; Mrs. Martha Rauh, of the legislative committee; and Mrs. William P. Davis, of the summer round-up committee. There were also committees on membership, program, and publicity, but the names of the chairmen could not be found in any available records.

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES, 1938-39

Mrs. Ralph E. Turner, President

NINETEEN LOCALS belonged to the Council this year. Five of these units joined during the year. They were: Barcroft, Charles Stewart, Glencarlyn, Thomas Jefferson, and Walter Reed. Thomas Jefferson had organized the year before, but this was its first year to pay dues to the Council. Walter Reed and Charles Stewart were new schools. Barcroft and Glencarlyn were old schools which had had working organizations operating as Mothers' Clubs. Mrs. Turner and Mrs. Gladys Monroe, who was then District Chairman, held meetings and talked to these groups about the advantages of belonging to the Parent-Teacher organization. Mrs. Turner said it was a great victory when Barcroft finally joined, for it had resisted all efforts for a number of years, even to the extent of asking Council representatives to leave a meeting.

The meetings were held at the various schools by invitation. There were no fund-raising projects. The regular dues from the locals were the only source of income.

Three regular meetings were held during the year, one of which was an institute. Emphasis was placed on training local presidents on parliamentary procedure.

The objective of the Council was expressed by the President: "Our aim this year is to teach the policies and principles of PTA.... We feel that there is a lack of understanding along this line."

The Presidents Club was organized this year. This brought all of the presidents of the county together once every three months to share problems and successes. The Council aided in the organization of the Safety Patrols in the schools. The President spearheaded the movement for more supervised playgrounds for summer vacation similar to the one which had been started the year before in the Patrick Henry school.

The President and others attended the state convention which was held in Alexandria.

Committees and their chairmen were as follows: program, Mrs. Russel Clapper; membership, Mrs. Gladys Monroe; publicity, Mrs. Charles Storey; hospitality, Mrs. Frank B. Wilkinson; legislation, Mrs. Ruby Simpson; summer round-up, Mrs. B. Oddsson; chaplain, Rev. Clark Main; and delegate to the safety council, Mrs. Russell Clapper.

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES, 1939-40

William A. Lockard, President

THE PRESIDENT announced that all schools have now become members of the Council. This meant that 19 locals were now members.

The meetings were held at the various schools and the attendance seems to have been good. Attendance at the institute on October 3, 1939, was 99 according to the register. The institute was a three-session meeting held at the Thomas Jefferson junior high school. The theme was "Parent Teacher Work in Arlington County." The presidents of Councils in adjoining counties were present and gave talks on parent-teacher work in their sections. Representatives came from Prince William, Fairfax, Fauquier, and Loudoun counties and from the Alexandria City Council. A luncheon was served for the price of 40¢.

The president, who had attended a state convention in Norfolk, gave a good report to the Council.

The president served as a member of a committee to consider changes in the Virginia Bulletin. Correspondence also indicates that he submitted sketches for the cover of the Bulletin which were accepted and used.

Correspondence also indicates that the Council worked to secure a mental hygiene clinic for Arlington.

The committees and their chairmen were: hospitality, Mrs. Lucy Bussey; program, Mr. H. A. Serr; membership, Mrs. St. George; publicity, Mr. Raymond Brown; legislative, Mrs. Sidney McClelland; summer round-up, Mrs. James Strickland; registrar, Mrs. Charles Bonneville; and chaplain, Rev. Henry J. Miller.

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES, 1940-41

William A. Lockard, President

THE USUAL MEETINGS were held in the various schools. Membership in the 19 locals totaled 3,785.

The institute was held in the Cherrydale school on October 10, 1940. It was well attended, there being 111 present, according to the register. Seventeen certificates were awarded for attendance at all sessions. Attendance at the May meeting was 105. The subjects on the institute program were varied. Parliamentary procedure still had a prominent place. Others were "Child Development," "Diet," "Books for Broader Reading," and "The Parent Teacher Magazine."

This year it was decided to hold future meetings in the three high schools with other schools acting as assistant hostesses.

A special committee was appointed for recognition of the work of the School Safety Patrols. Mrs. Appleton, chairman, and her committee planned a picnic at Lubber Run Park for the patrol members.

Preschool clinics were held, at which 107 children were examined and 55 were vaccinated.

Mrs. Bussey, vicepresident of the Council, was a member of a committee which aided the Lions Club in selecting the recipient of their citizenship award. Mrs. Bussey also was chosen to present the medal.

Under the leadership of the Council, the bylaws of locals were amended to make the principal of each school automatically vicepresident of the local unit and a member of the nominating committee. Other amendments made past presidents of the Council eligible to vote and added the office of Parliamentarian to the list of elected officers.

Schools having 100 percent teacher membership and attendance were: Barcroft, Cherrydale, Charles A. Stewart, Robert E. Lee, Stonewall Jackson, Thomas Jefferson, and Woodrow Wilson.

The number of committees was increased, as will be apparent from the following list: membership, Mr. H. A. Serr; program, Mrs. W. L. Cross; budget, Mrs. H. L. McCormick; publicity, Mrs. Paul A. Smith; hospitality, Mrs. Ivan A. Booker; child welfare, Mr. Erich Nordholm; summer round-up, Mrs. George Strother; publications, Mrs. Frederick Appleton; parent-teacher magazine, Mrs. Paul Haywood; procedure and bylaws, Dr. C. D. Benson; institute registrar, Mrs. Ruth Irvine; auditor, Dr. C. D. Benson; and safety council delegate, Mrs. Russell Clapper.

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES, 1941-42

Mrs. Frederick Appleton, President

ALL SCHOOLS in the county were dues paying members of the Council. A new PTA was organized at Claude Swanson junior high school. It held its first meeting on November 6, 1941.

The regular meetings of the Council were held at Claude Swanson, Thomas Jefferson, and Washington-Lee high schools. The time for meetings was set for the fourth Wednesday in the month. The attendance at the February meeting was 60 delegates and 14 visitors.

A one-day school of instruction was held for presidents, committee chairmen, and members with Mrs. Arthur Watkins as the instructor. Thirteen schools were represented, with a registration of 31 members.

The institute was held at Thomas Jefferson junior high school, with 49 delegates and 16 visitors present. Some of the subjects discussed at the day sessions were: "Visual Education," "School Health Program," and "Preparation of the Child for Junior and Senior High School and College." The evening session concerned itself with "How To Combat Fear in Our Children in National Defense." It was discussed from the standpoint of home, school, church, and community responsibility.

The theme for the year was: "Closer Relationship between the Parent, Teacher, and Child."

A special Defense Committee was appointed to work with the School Board to meet the needs of war time. This committee was made a standing committee for the duration of the war. Mr. Clarence Campbell was named chairman. It concerned itself with equipping basement rooms as air-raid shelters.

A letter was sent to the Cooperative Education Association urging it to work for a high priority on rubber for childrens' galoshes and overshoes.

A special Education Committee was formed to work for increased teachers' salaries and sound retirement laws. This committee, with Mrs. E. L. Campbell as chairman, made a survey and presented a report. The Legislative Committee was asked to (1) obtain information regarding additional financial needs of the schools, (2) furnish this information to the PTAs, and (3) assist in informing the public of these financial needs. Dr. C. D. Benson made the report for that committee.

The Council sponsored a safety-slogan poster contest and presented medals to three winners and scrolls to three who received honorable mention. Mr. Clifton Stoneburner, chairman of the Arlington County Safety Council, presented the awards.

The President was sent to the state convention at Lynchburg.

The Council directed the attention of locals to the general PTA policy that no contributions are made to outside organizations.

The Council, on behalf of the combined PTAs, presented Mr. Kemp with a \$50 bond in appreciation of his 25 years of service as Superintendent of Schools.

The sum of \$20 was given toward the purchase of a refrigerator for the school health clinic.

Amendments to the bylaws were proposed (1) to make the voting body of the Council consist of officers, committee chairmen, the president, two delegates from each local, and the principal of each school, (2) to make the superintendent of schools automatically the second vicepresident at all times, and (3) to amend bylaws by a two-thirds vote.

The committees and chairmen were: bylaws and procedure, Dr. C. D. Benson; hospitality, Mrs. Lucy Bussey; institute registrar, Mrs. L. C. McNemar; membership, Mrs. Carl Erlanson; publicity, Mrs. Max Hoover; parent-teacher magazine, Mrs. Harry Carver; safety council delegate, Mr. John Cotton; music, Mrs. Herbert Marcey; program, Mrs. Byron Van Ness; budget, Mrs. Ralph Lewis; summer round-up, Mrs. George Strother; and audit, Mr. Hugh Johnson.

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES, 1942-43

Mrs. Frederick Appleton and Dr. C. D. Benson, Presidents

ALL SCHOOLS in the county were active members of the Council. The attendance was smaller than before, due to gas rationing and to the fact that OPA had ruled against using automobiles for attending PTA meetings. The attendance, as reported by the registrar was as follows: 44 delegates and 7 visitors at the institute; 33 delegates and 1 visitor in February; and 56 delegates and 2 visitors in May.

The meetings were held on the fourth Wednesdays at the high schools of the county, with a committee of other schools assisting. The day sessions of the annual institute were held at Thomas Jefferson junior high school and the evening session at Washington-Lee in order to divide the traveling distance. The program of the institute centered on two themes: (1) becoming better acquainted with the work in the schools, particularly special school services such as the school nurse and dentist, and (2) determining how the PTA can help in the war effort.

Mrs. Appleton resigned on January 7, 1943, due to ill health, and Dr. C. D. Benson was elected to finish the term.

Although no objective was stated in the minutes, the main aim of the Council seems to have been cooperation in the defense program in any way possible. The Defense Committee entertained the service men two weekends at the Clarendon Service Center. A weekend consisted of a Saturday night dance and a Sunday night buffet supper. Funds were appropriated for this. This committee also gave a party for the boys in the graduating class of Washington-Lee high school who would soon be going into service. All locals were urged to aid in the salvage campaign. A resolution of thanks was sent to the teachers for their part in the war work.

A committee was formed to help the new Claude Swanson PTA become an active member of the Council.

Due to the fuel emergency, it was decided that executive committee meetings could be counted by the locals as part of the 9 meetings required to be a "banner organization."

The Council was host to the Northern Virginia District meeting. The president was sent to the state convention at Danville. Mr. W. A. Lockard, past president of the Council, served as vicepresident of the state organization for the year 1942-43.

The Council sent a resolution commending the School Board for increases in teachers' salaries. It also urged further increases and supported the measure for state aid for teacher salaries.

Committees and committee chairmen included: hospitality, Mrs. Lucy Bussey; institute registrar, Mrs. W. C. Holley; membership, Mrs. Carl Erlanson; publicity, Mrs. Ruth Watkins; parent-teacher magazine, Mrs. Karl Trever; safety, Mr. L. A. Cotton; defense, Mr. Clarence Campbell and Mrs. F. O. Appleton; music, Mrs. Herbert Marcey; program, Mr. Alvin Murphy; summer round-up, Mrs. Roy Richmond; budget; legislative, Mrs. J. A. Tolley; and audit, Mr. Roy Richmond.

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES, 1943-44

Mrs. John A. Tolley, President

ALL SCHOOLS were members. A new local was in the process of being organized at Fairlington under the direction of Miss Hall.

A budget of \$86.50 was presented and approved. The usual meetings were held on the fourth Thursdays in September, February, and May. The attendance was still low due to war-time restrictions on the use of gasoline. The attendances that were recorded are: 25 delegates and 4 visitors; and 24 delegates and 19 visitors.

The institute was held on September 23. The day sessions were at Thomas Jefferson and the evening session at Washington-Lee. At the forenoon session Mrs. Arthur Watkins discussed "The PTA and Its Work." The afternoon was devoted to a discussion of "Problems of Committee Chairmen" by members of the Council. At the evening session "Parent Teacher Associations at Work" was the subject discussed by Dr. Sidney Hall, Professor of Education at the George Washington University, former State Superintendent of Public Instruction in Virginia.

At the February meeting the James Monroe school furnished the Founder's Day program and Dr. James H. Fox of the George Washington University discussed the subject, "How the Home Can Help the School."

Each local was urged to have a defense chairman and committee to keep in touch with the boys in service. The defense committee of the Council raised funds by a paper sale and sent Christmas cards to 300 service men.

The summer round-up chairman, Mrs. Richmond, reported that two clinics had been held reaching all but two schools. Of the 289 children examined, 25 nutritional, 35 eyesight, and 40 dental deficiencies were found. Fifteen had vital defects. Two hundred and fourteen were vaccinated.

The problem of increased taxes was beginning to be discussed. The Council went on record as opposing a sales tax.

The president attended the state convention at Charlottesville. Mrs. Bussey, delegate of the Council, was elected President of the Northern Virginia District.

The committees and their chairmen were: program, Dr. B. H. Jarman; membership, Mrs. James M. Strickland; publicity, Mrs. Charles J. Walsh; finance and budget, Miss Lena Wolfe; hospitality, Mrs. Marshall Simmons; defense, Mrs. Frederick Appleton; summer round-up, Mrs. Roy Richmond; institute registrar, Mrs. K. Milton Irvin; publications, Mrs. J. R. Hutchinson; music, Mrs. Herbert Marcey; and audit, Mr. Charles J. Walsh.

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES, 1944-45

Mrs. James M. Strickland, President

WO NEW MEMBERS were added to the Council, namely, the Fairlington and Woodmont parent-teacher associations. The George Pickett school had organized a PTA but did not join the Council. A budget of \$76.50 was drawn up and passed.

The three regular meetings were held at the high schools. Attendance as recorded at each of two meetings was: 48 delegates; and 44 delegates and 6 visitors.

The theme for the year was "The Responsibility of the Home and School to the Youth of the Community." This was the subject of one of the leading talks at the annual institute by Dr. Howard S. Anderson. Other subjects for the institute programs were: "Junior Recreational Activities," "The School Curriculum," and "Parent Teacher Work" (emphasizing the responsibility of the PTA in the postwar readjustment for children). This latter subject was discussed by Dr. Abner Robertson, executive director of the Virginia Cooperative Education Association.

At the May meeting the Washington-Lee Glee Club, under the direction of Miss Florence Booker, and the choral group of Claude Swanson, under the direction of Mr. Rich, furnished the program.

The Council attempted to inform the members and the general public concerning the Literary Fund and the Denny Report. An open meeting was held at the Washington-Lee high school at which Col. Christopher Garnett explained the Literary Fund. This fund was established from confiscations, penalties, and forfeitures and is used to make loans for the construction of public school buildings. The current proposal was to "freeze" the fund at \$10,000,000 and use the excess for teacher retirement and student loans for college education. At another meeting, Dr. Walter Newman, Assistant Superintendent of Instruction for the state of Virginia, spoke on the Denny Report. This report consisted of recommendations on various phases of public school education in Virginia, based on public hearings and information from the State Department of Education. All present were urged to take the information on both subjects back to their locals.

The Council passed a resolution supporting the Denny Report, with the exception of the proposed change in the method of selecting school board members to that of popular election. Members of locals as well as delegates were urged to attend the Council meetings. Seven health clinics were held during the year. The School Board was commended for postponing the opening of schools due to the polio epidemic. Christmas cards were sent to 292 service men from the county. Members of the Council helped at the Junior Recreation Center. The Council was represented on the War Memorial Committee by Mr. Roy Richmond. The schools were urged to continue the sale of war bonds.

Council committees and their chairmen were as follows: budget, Miss Lena Wolfe; defense, Mr. W. A. Richardson; educational, Dr. B. H. Jarman; hospitality, Mrs. W. C. Holley; legislative, Dr. C. D. Benson; membership, Mrs. Frederick Appleton; program and music, Mrs. Louis R. Simpson; institute registrar, Mrs. Ivy Ransom; safety council, Mrs. Claude Richmond; and summer round-up, Mrs. James V. Buckner.

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES, 1945-46

Mrs. K. Milton Irvin, President

THERE WERE 8,103 memberships in the 26 locals this year. Three new PTA units joined the Council this year. They were the Shirley Homes, Woodlawn, and George Pickett PTAs. A budget of \$76.50 was passed.

The three usual meetings were held, each one preceded by an executive committee meeting. The attendance was recorded for only one meeting. It was 79 delegates, 14 officers, and 5 visitors.

The theme for the year was "Planning with Youth in a Community for a Democracy." This was the subject for a roundtable discussion at the institute in October. Some of the participants besides the citizenship chairman were: Mr. Merril F. Hartshorn, Executive Secretary, National Council for the Social Studies; Col. John N. Andrews, official in charge of postwar planning of the National Selective Service; Dr. B. H. Jarman, Registrar, George Washington University; and Rev. Walter Wolfe, Pastor, Arlington Presbyterian Church. Another subject considered was "Vocational Guidance" which was discussed by Dr. Edwin Wallace Davis, professor of psychology and director of the Washington Counseling Center, George Washington University.

The Council joined the newly formed Community Council and sent delegates to its meetings.

The motor vehicle license law was studied and a revision was recommended to the state authorities that no child be allowed to drive until he is 16. The existing code permitted a child to have a driver's license at 14 if he already knew how to drive and could pass a test, but otherwise a learner's permit could not be obtained until age 16.

A school of instruction was recommended for new presidents.

A special meeting was held to study the question of half-day sessions and the need for kindergartens. The Council supported a resolution of the Kate Waller Barrett PTA to petition the County Board for large enough school appropriations to allow for building expansion, more teachers, full-day sessions for first and second grades, and the establishment of kindergartens. A committee of delegates was sent to the budget hearings to stress the resolution.

In the same connection the Council requested information from the superintendent of schools on the tax rate necessary to support the above resolution, and discussed the advisability of polling PTA groups on their reaction to the additional taxes.

The sum of \$50 was contributed to the film library of the county.

The president attended the conference of the State Board in Richmond.

The committees and their chairmen were: citizenship, Mrs. Margaret Bryant; education, Dr. B. H. Jarman; publicity, Mr. Edward W. Paulette; legislative, Dr. C. D. Benson; hospitality, Mrs. Paul H. Hayward; program, Mrs. James Strickland; budget, Miss Lena Wolfe; and summer round-up, Mrs. Fred Martin.

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES, 1946-47

Mrs. Art Brown, President

THE MEMBERSHIP of the Council was made up of 26 locals. A budget of \$134 was adopted.

The school of instruction for new presidents, which was suggested the previous year, was held early in September at the Claude Swanson school. The policies of the National Congress were outlined by Mrs. Lucy Bussey. The objectives of the Northern Virginia District were given by Mrs. G. A. Justusson, chairman of the district. Mr. Edmund Campbell spoke on "The Financial Situation in Arlington County." Council committee chairmen gave suggestions on finance, programs, and membership problems in the locals.

An evening session was held for the fall institute instead of an all-day session. It was decided that another evening meeting could be held if it seemed advisable. At this institute, Miss Ware, state elementary supervisor, spoke on "Characteristics of a Good Elementary Program." Miss Jane Stoddard, state director for handicapped children spoke concerning that problem. Miss Sarah Joyner, art director for the state, told of cultural and creative work of school children and illustrated it with slides.

The objective for the year was, "to bring about closer cooperation between parents and teachers and to help advance the school administration's long-term program for the education of our children." Specific aims were to obtain needed funds to meet the unprecedented growth of the school system, to obtain more qualified teachers, more supervisors, and guidance directors, and better salaries immediately.

These objectives were furthered in every way possible. Programs were held to inform the membership on the proposed bond issue for school buildings and on teachers salaries. The school board was petitioned for a special hearing on the school bond issue. A delegation was sent to the hearings supporting an issue of $3\frac{1}{4}$ million dollars. Local units were also urged to send delegations. A letter was sent to the governor urging action on teachers salaries, and telegrams were sent to our legislators urging support of measures for increased salaries.

The school board was commended for setting a minimum salary of \$2400 for an accredited teacher.

The education committee was asked to study the trimester system in the county schools. Ivan A. Booker and his committee brought in an extensive report on recent trends, but urged further study since there was so much diversity of local opinion.

A committee was appointed to study the bylaws of the Council with a view to amending them. The executive committee as now constituted is unwieldy in size. A Council quorum is 14 while an executive committee quorum is 21.

The president of the Council attended both the state convention at Bristol and the district meeting at Warrenton and made reports of each to the Council.

The committees and their chairmen for 1946-47 were: program, Mrs. George Terburgh; membership, Mrs. Harrison Mann; legislative, Mr. Nicholas Cottrell; summer round-up, Mrs. Rufus Jasper; institute registrar, Mr. Edward Paulette; safety council, Mr. Claude Richmond; education, Dr. Ivan A. Booker; budget, Mr. A. C. Kalbfleisch; child welfare, Miss Mary Barber; hospitality, Mrs. Paul H. Hayward; and community council delegates, Mrs. James M. Strickland and Dr. C. D. Benson.

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES, 1947-48

Mr. Harry C. Cook, President

THE YEAR 1947-48, like other years, was a busy one. The objective for the year was to integrate the work of the locals and to promote countywide unity in parent-teacher association work. The membership of the Council consisted of the representatives of 25 locals. A budget of \$197.58 was approved.

There were six general meetings, the meeting places being the Swanson and Thomas Jefferson junior high schools. The first meeting was the customary institute, at which Mrs. Arthur Watkins, former executive secretary of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers, and Dr. Abner Robertson, executive secretary of the Cooperative Education Association, Virginia Branch of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers, took part in the program. The November meeting was an open session at which Dr. Albert Goddard, a lecturer on United Nations activities, spoke on "World Understanding." The January meeting featured a workshop program which was led off by a talk by Dr. Abner Robertson.

A delegate attended the Montgomery County Workshop. A reception was held for the school board. A delegate was sent to the national convention of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers held in Cleveland in May 1948, that delegate being Dr. E. R. Draheim nominee for the office of president for the year 1948-49.

The Council committees for 1947-48 and their chairmen were: budget, Mr. Joseph Harry; child welfare, Mrs. Stan Stanton; credentials, Mrs. Evelyn Barnes; devotional, Rev. Hadley J. Williams; education, Mrs. F. B. Stoutenburg; finance, Mr. O. S. Fink; hospitality, Mrs. Winifred M. Brown; legislative, Mr. Clarence A. Steele; membership, Mrs. Charles B. Quade; music, Mrs. John M. Rasely; program, Mrs. L. B. Price; public relations, Mr. Robert C. Rollings; recreation, Mr. W. A. Richardson; religious education, Dr. C. F. Williams; safety, Mr. Sheldon F. Dean; summer round-up, Mrs. Roy R. Richmond; and visual education, Mrs. Helen Gourley.

Local presidents for the year 1947-48 were:

Barcroft	Dr. E. R. Draheim	Matthew Maury	Mr. Paul M. Netzer
Charles A. Stewart	Mrs. Fritz Marx	Nellie Custis	Mr. E. C. Betts
Cherrydale	Mrs. Jesse L. Ward, Jr.	Patrick Henry	Mrs. Dorothy Marwaring
Claude Swanson	Dr. Charles P. Cake	Robert E. Lee	Mrs. LeRoy Bove
Dolly Madison	Mr. Jean P. Jacquette	Shirley Homes	Mr. Thornton Talbott
Fairlington	Mrs. Rufus Jasper	Stonewall Jackson	Mr. Ernest Newman
George Pickett	Mr. George M. Nash	Thomas N. Page	Mrs. A. E. Scott
Henry Clay	Mr. Charles O. Pratt	Walter Reed	Mr. Franklin R. Zeran
Hume	Major T. C. Jones	Washington-Lee	Mrs. Carl Kloss
James Madison	Mrs. Christopher Garnett, Jr.	Woodlawn	Mr. Chas. B. Tyson, Jr.
John Marshall	Mrs. W. A. Jewby	Woodmont	Capt. A. C. Richmond
James Monroe	Mrs. S. J. Elson	Woodrow Wilson	Mr. Philip M. Mayer
Kate W. Barrett	Major John A. Mathews		

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES, 1948-49

E. R. Draheim, President

THE YEAR STARTED with a membership of 28 locals. Early in the year two new PTAs were organized in the two temporary junior high schools, at the Thomas Nelson Page and Woodrow Wilson schools. Countywide individual memberships at the end of the first semester totaled 11,572.

Besides its three regular meetings of the year, the Council held three special meetings, two executive meetings, and eight meetings of officers and committee chairmen. The first regular meeting was held on September 29 at the Peyton Randolph school and was a combination business meeting and workshop. The second regular meeting was held on February 28 at the Stonewall Jackson school. The third was the annual meeting, held May 26 at the Thomas Jefferson junior high school.

Three special meetings were held. The first was an organizational meeting of officers, local presidents, and principals, held on June 9, 1948, at the Washington-Lee high school. Its purpose was to get acquainted and get plans underway for the work of the new year. The second special meeting was held on December 1, 1948, at the Kate Waller Barrett school. Its main purpose was to approve a budget, give the membership a report on the state convention, and follow through with appropriate action on recommendations of the convention. The third special meeting was held on January 31, 1949, at the Walter Reed school. It was a panel discussion to inform the members about the state tax structure and its bearing on schools. Mr. Robert Cox of the Arlington Civic Federation was moderator. Speakers were: State Senator Charles A. Fenwick; Mr. W. Alvord Sherman, chairman of the emergency tax study committee of Fairfax; and Mr. E. L. Morphet, staff member from the U. S. Office of Education.

The two meetings of the executive committee were business meetings and the meetings of officers and committee chairmen were for planning purposes. All meetings were well attended.

A budget of \$343.45 was presented and approved. The increased budget was made possible by a voluntary increase in dues of double the amount set in the bylaws, until the change could be made in the bylaws to increase the dues. The necessity for the increased budget was in part due to the inflationary price level and, in part, to the hope that the Council could furnish added services to the locals.

The objectives for the year as stated by the president were: (1) to make the Council worthy of its existence in terms of service to locals; (2) to assist all locals in carrying out the objectives of the National Congress; (3) to cooperate with the school administration by helping all locals to inform the citizens about the need for passage of the bond issue for school improvement; (4) to assist each local in making a study of the state and local tax structure in Virginia, with special consideration to the continuing problems of financing school construction and operation; and (5) to assist the school administration in informing all citizens as to the need for an adequate budget for school purposes, and in informing the county board of these needs.

In attaining these objectives the president of the Council attended and participated in 90 odd meetings, including conventions, Council meetings, installation of officers of locals, meetings with locals on bond issue and budget, school board meetings, hearings on the budget and bond issue, and faculty conferences. In addition, other officers and committee chairmen aided and participated in many meetings to further the objectives of the Council.

The outstanding activity of the year was support of measures for school improvement, both on local and state levels. On the local level a resolution was approved by the Council commanding the superintendent of schools and the board of education for their thorough survey of the needs of the Arlington schools and approving the requested authorization of school construction bonds in the amount of \$4,750,000. It also aided in securing the authorization and passage of the issue by helping to circulate petitions to bring it before the citizens and, later, by supporting the Coordinating Council for the Arlington School Bond Campaign. Three members were elected to serve on this Coordinating Council. Speakers were furnished to inform the locals, and to urge them to support the Coordinating Council by contributions to the fund needed for this educational campaign.

In the spring of 1949 the Council passed a resolution asking locals to study the proposed school budget of \$3,065,000 and support it by writing to the county board urging its acceptance. Another resolution asked that hearings on the budget be held in a large school auditorium which would accommodate a large number of people.

The Council voted to participate in the Nominating Conference for the selection of nonpartisan school board candidates. Members of the Council were numbered among the officers as well as among the delegates. This was done with the written approval of the National Congress.

The mass meeting as a means of selecting nonpartisan candidates for the county board was approved by the Council.

Another attempt was made to secure bus service that would enable the high schools to open at 9:00 A.M. instead of 9:30 A.M., as at present.

The Council offered its services to the local Negro PTAs to assist them in organizing in such manner that they may eventually become eligible for membership in the Council.

Due to the statewide emergency in education, the Council early in the year adopted a resolution urging each local to write to the governor, and to our local representatives in the General Assembly of Virginia, requesting a special session of the General Assembly to consider emergency needs and to provide funds for school construction.

A resolution was adopted recommending that each local establish a legislative committee to study all phases of school finance as a basis for appropriate action. To further this educational campaign, the Council held the special meeting on the tax structure of the state of Virginia as described earlier.

The Council voted unanimously in support of a resolution favoring federal aid to education and specifying that a letter be sent to Chairman Graham A. Barden, House Sub-Committee on Federal Aid to Education, commending his bill, H.R. 4643, and urging its passage.

Representatives of the Council attended and participated in national, state, and district conventions. The vicepresident, Major John A. Mathews, and Col. Rolland Stoebe, chairman of the safety committee, were delegates to the National Convention at St. Louis in June 1949. The secretary, Mrs. Hendrickson, represented the Council at the state convention at Roanoke. In addition 16 other representatives from Arlington attended. The Council was host to the Northern Virginia District at its annual meeting.

The Council passed a resolution recommending to the state Board of Managers the inclusion of the president or some other member of the executive committee of the Council as a member of the nominating committee. If not included, it was further recommended that the Council be allowed to make recommendations of suitably qualified candidates for state officers and for the advisory council. This was done to secure adequate representation for the membership of Arlington which is approximately one-tenth of the total state membership.

Early in the year the president and secretary of the Council participated in a radio program on "Headlines from the Convention." This was a report on the National Convention which they had attended in the spring of the previous year at Cleveland. The vicepresident participated in a radio program on "Education as a Factor in National Defense."

At the beginning of the year the secretary prepared a mimeographed directory of the officers of the locals. Later this was enlarged to include committee chairmen. A Council bulletin, The County PTA Counselor, was started. Its purpose was to serve as a clearing house for ideas and information. Four issues were published and sent to all locals.

The historian of the Council prepared a short history and summary of activities for each year of the Council from its organization in 1931 to 1949.

Outstanding work was done by committees. The committee on world understanding prepared an outline for study which was sent not only to locals but also to the state and national PTA offices and to other interested organizations. The health and summer round-up committee did a survey of the health habits of the children in the Matthew F. Maury school and made the findings available to the Council and locals.

The Council committees and their chairmen were as follows: publicity, Mrs. Howard Murphy; budget and finance, Mr. George Sutton; health and summer round-up, Mrs. B. A. Lilywhite; hospitality and room representatives, Mrs. C. Harrison Mann; safety, Col. Rolland Stoebe; program, Mrs. Joseph Wheeler; membership, Mrs. A. E. Scott; legislative, Mrs. Fritz Marx; procedure and bylaws, Mr. Paul Netzer; education, Dr. Ivan A. Booker; art and music, Mr. Raymond R. Reed; audio-visual education, Major T. C. Jones; reading and library service, Mr. E. C. Betts, Jr.; parent education and preschool service, Mrs. C. M. Torrance; world understanding, Major John A. Mathews; exceptional child, Mrs. Robert C. Young; The County PTA Counselor, Mrs. A. E. Scott and Mrs. Ashley Sellers.

Under the guidance of the program chairman, the Council sponsored a performance of the Dance Theatre at the Washington-Lee high school. The benefits accrued to the locals on the basis of the number of tickets sold by each one.

Representatives of the Council participated in the exploratory meetings of the extension department of the University of Virginia to consider the possibility of increasing the service of this department in Arlington. Mr. Clarence A. Steele of the Council was selected as chairman of a committee which will work toward this end.

The bylaws were amended: (1) to increase the dues to \$4 for the first 100 members or fewer, plus \$2 for each additional 100 or fraction thereof; (2) to increase the number of regular meetings from three to four; (3) to provide that the executive committee consist of the officers, the standing committee chairmen, the superintendent of schools or his representative, a school board member, two principals or teachers from schools at large, and the presidents of two PTAs at large - this committee to meet at the call of the president; and (4) to provide that the bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting of the Council by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting, providing the proposed amendment is approved by the state Board of Managers and written notice has been given 30 days in advance to members of the executive committee and to the presidents of each local.

The presidents of the locals in 1948-49 were as follows:

Barcroft	Mr. Fielder P. Greer	Nellie Custis	Mr. E. C. Betts, Jr.
Chas. A. Stewart	Mrs. Fritz Marx	Patrick Henry	Mr. Bernard A. Foster
Cherrydale	Mr. Edwin A. Eisenhart	Peyton Randolph	Mr. Howard Gammon
Claude Swanson	Mrs. R. S. Clarke	Robert E. Lee	Mrs. Leroy O. Bove
Dolly Madison	Mr. H. L. Burlingame	Henry G. Shirley	Mrs. Whaley
Fairlington	Mrs. Robt. Lancefield	Stonewall Jackson	Mr. Ernest Newman
George Pickett	Mr. William Mallen	Thos. N. Page (Elem)	Mr. Thomas English
Glencarlyn	Mr. Richard White	Thos. N. Page (JrHS)	Mr. Justus U. Mackay
Henry Clay	Mr. Harry O'Neill	Thomas Jefferson	Mrs. T. F. Jackson
Hume	Mr. Warren Cox	Walter Reed	Mr. Harry F. Cook
James Madison	Prof. L. C. Keating	Washington-Lee	Mrs. Carl W. Kloss
John Marshall	Mr. Howard R. Massey	Woodlawn	Mr. Chas. B. Tyson, Jr.
James Monroe	Col. Rolland Stoebe	Woodmont	Mr. Wm. S. Harris
Kate W. Barrett	Mr. P. A. Davis	Woodrow Wilson (Elem)	Mr. Phillip Mayer
Matthew Maury	Mr. Raymond Colton	Woodrow Wilson (JrHS)	Dr. B. H. Jarman

BUILDING ON THE PAST

THE RECORD of parent-teacher work in Arlington as set forth in these pages is one of steady growth and development. Beginning with seven "charter" locals in 1931, with probably a total membership of 1,000 to 1,500, the Council has grown until in 1948-49 it included 30 locals with combined memberships of nearly 12,000. Likewise, from 3 committees at the time of organization, that phase of the Council's work has expanded until in the final year covered by this report there were 17 standing committees, carrying on their activities throughout the year.

The Council's achievements have been numerous - as the record shows. It has been the agency through which the people's desires for school improvement have often been expressed. It has carried its requests to local, state, and national authorities and has urged the various PTA units to study school problems and to work constructively for school improvements. It has interpreted the school program to school patrons. It has been an important workshop and forum for the training of community leaders.

Careful readers and those who actually participated in the work which here is so briefly described will recognize, of course, that PTA work in the county has not been uniformly effective. The Council, like many other organizations, has had its periods of vigorous work and other periods of lesser activity. There are differences in the size of the Council and in its procedures which reflect the unprecedented growth of Arlington county and the inevitable variations in leadership and dynamics. Most readers will agree that the comprehensive and vital program carried out in 1948-49 sets a new challenge before parent-teacher workers, and that it augurs well for the years that lie ahead.

This history of Council achievement indicates a constant striving for the goal of better schools, and better parents and teachers. Indeed, the reason for the formation of the Council was to unite the PTAs to work for school improvement. Questions with respect to bond issues, increased appropriations for school, salary increases for teachers, and federal aid for education are at the forefront through the years as well as in 1949.

To those who are now active in Council affairs it is impressive to note that we are carrying a torch that was handed to us by others, and that we, in turn, will hand it on when our time is done. This makes one realize that the parent-teacher movement is bigger and more important than any individual or any period of time, and that it is worthy of our highest service.

LIST OF THE PRESIDENTS
of the
Arlington County Council of Parent-Teacher Associations

<u>Name of president</u>	<u>Years served</u>
Mrs. Gladys Monroe	1931-32 1932-33
Mrs. Martha Rauh	1933-34 1934-35
Mrs. Russell Clapper	1935-36 1936-37
Dr. Ivan A. Booker	1937-38
Mrs. Ralph E. Turner	1938-39
Mr. William A. Lockard	1939-40 1940-41
Mrs. Frederick Appleton (Dr. C. D. Benson after January 7, 1943)	1941-42 1942-43
Mrs. John A. Tolley	1943-44
Mrs. James M. Strickland	1944-45
Mrs. K. Milton Irvin	1945-46
Mrs. Art Brown	1946-47
Mr. Harry C. Cook	1947-48
Dr. E. R. Drabkin	1948-49
Mr. Warren Cox	1949-50

OFFICERS OF THE COUNCIL, BY YEARS, 1931-32 to 1948-49

Office

Officer

1931-32

President	Mrs. Gladys Monroe
1st Vicepresident	Mr. Munson Lane
2nd Vicepresident	Mrs. Russell Clapper
Corresponding secretary	Mrs. Martha Rauh
Recording sec'y and treasurer	Mr. H. G. Luther

1932-33

President	Mrs. Gladys Monroe
1st Vicepresident	Mr. Munson Lane
2nd Vicepresident	Mrs. Russell Clapper
Corresponding secretary	Mrs. Niklason
Recording sec'y and treasurer	Mrs. Clarence Simmons

1933-34

President	Mrs. Martha Rauh
1st Vicepresident	Mrs. Herbert Marcey
2nd Vicepresident	Mrs. Louis Mankin
Secretary	Mrs. O. B. Fitts
Treasurer	Mrs. Clarence Simmons

1934-35

President	Mrs. Martha Rauh
Vicepresident	Mrs. Russell Clapper
Secretary	Mrs. Arthur Cartwright
Treasurer	Mrs. R. C. Frink

1935-36

President	Mrs. Russell Clapper
Vicepresident	Mrs. O. B. Fitts
Secretary	Mrs. Gladys Riely
Treasurer	Mrs. R. C. Frink
Historian	Mrs. Gladys Monroe

1936-37

President	Mrs. Russell Clapper
Vicepresident	Mrs. Charles Storey
Secretary	Mrs. Gladys Riely
Treasurer	Mrs. Margaret Wilkinson
Historian	Mrs. Gladys Monroe

OfficeOfficer

1937-38

President
Vicepresident
Secretary
Treasurer
Historian

Dr. Ivan A. Booker
Mrs. Helen Hayes
Mrs. J. L. Mathusa
Mrs. Margaret Wilkinson
Mrs. Russell Clapper

1938-39

President
Vicepresident
Secretary
Treasurer
Historian

Mrs. Ralph Turner
Mrs. J. L. Mathusa
Mrs. Lane Cricher
Mrs. Guy Ramsdell
Mrs. Onie Howell

1939-40

President
Vicepresident
Secretary
Treasurer
Historian

Mr. William A. Lockard
Mrs. J. L. Mathusa
Mrs. Charles E. Kellogg
Mrs. Guy Ramsdell
Mrs. Onie Howell

1940-41

President
Vicepresident
Secretary
Treasurer
Historian

Mr. William A. Lockard
Mrs. Lucy Bussey
Mrs. James M. Strickland
Mrs. J. L. Mathusa
Mr. A. I. Van Emden

1941-42

President
1st Vicepresident
2nd Vicepresident
Secretary
Treasurer
Historian
Parliamentarian

Mrs. Frederick Appleton
Mr. Henry A. Brown
Mr. Charles Walsh
Mrs. Marshall E. Simmons
Mrs. James M. Strickland
Mrs. Elizabeth Campbell
Mrs. J. G. Pollard, Jr.

1942-43

President
(after January 7, 1943)
1st Vicepresident
2nd Vicepresident
Secretary
Treasurer
Historian
Parliamentarian

Mrs. Frederick Appleton
Dr. C. D. Benson
Miss Lena Wolfe
Supt. Fletcher Kemp
Mrs. Marshall E. Simmons
Mrs. James M. Strickland
Mrs. Elizabeth Campbell
Mrs. Ernest Brassee

OfficeOfficer

1943-44

President
 1st Vicepresident
 2nd Vicepresident
 Secretary
 Treasurer
 Historian
 Parliamentarian

Mrs. John A. Tolley
 Miss Mary Barber
 Supt. Fletcher Kemp
 Miss Elizabeth Beale
 Mr. D. S. Bender
 Mrs. J. E. McMurrer
 Mr. Alvin Murphy

1944-45

President
 1st Vicepresident
 2nd Vicepresident
 Secretary
 Treasurer
 Historian
 Parliamentarian

Mrs. James M. Strickland
 Mr. Charles Walsh
 Supt. Fletcher Kemp
 Mrs. K. Milton Irwin
 Mrs. Roy Richmond
 Mrs. J. E. McMurrer
 Mr. James Small

1945-46

President
 1st Vicepresident
 2nd Vicepresident
 Secretary
 Treasurer
 Historian
 Parliamentarian

Mrs. K. Milton Irwin
 Mr. Charles Walsh
 Supt. Fletcher Kemp
 Mrs. Martha VanNess */
 Mrs. Roy Richmond
 Mrs. Jane Day
 Mrs. Art Brown

1946-47

President
 1st Vicepresident
 2nd Vicepresident
 Secretary
 Treasurer
 Historian
 Parliamentarian

Mrs. Art Brown
 Mr. Paul Sullivan
 Supt. Fletcher Kemp
 Mrs. Paul A. Smith
 Mr. Sheldon F. Dean
 Mrs. Ewing Day, Jr.
 Mrs. Paul Myatt

1947-48

President
 1st Vicepresident
 2nd Vicepresident
 Secretary
 Treasurer
 (after October 15, 1947)
 Historian
 Parliamentarian

Mr. Harry C. Cook
 Mr. Norman W. Lee
 Supt. Fletcher Kemp
 Mrs. Marian F. Klutey
 Mr. Frank H. Greer
 Major H. E. Wilson
 Mrs. W. I. Gideon
 Dr. C. D. Benson

*/ Mrs. Ruth Watkins was elected as secretary but resigned at the first executive committee meeting of the year, September 20, 1945. Mrs. VanNess was selected by the Executive Committee to fill the vacancy.

Office

Officer

1948-49

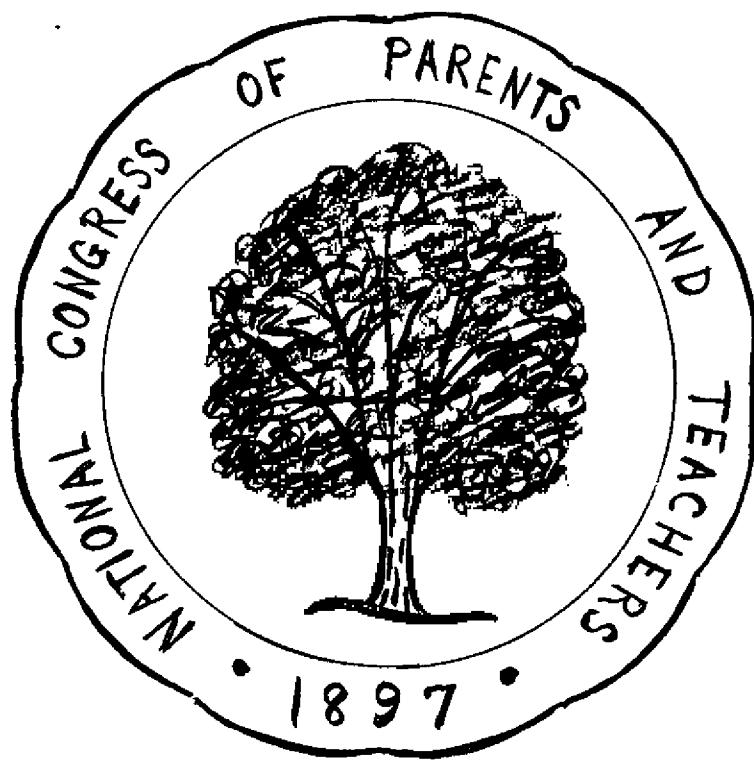
President
 1st Vicepresident
 2nd Vicepresident
 Secretary
 (after September 29, 1948)
 Treasurer
 Historian
 Parliamentarian

Dr. E. R. Draheim
 Major John A. Mathews
 Supt. Fletcher Kemp
 Mrs. Viola Jasper
 Mrs. Nellie Hendrickson
 Mr. Raymond Colton
 Mrs. Belva M. Owens
 Mr. Clarence A. Steele

1949-50

President
 Vicepresident
 Secretary
 Treasurer
 Historian
 Parliamentarian

Mr. Warren Cox
 Major John A. Mathews
 Mrs. Florence Hincks
 Mr. Raymond Colton
 Mrs. Belva M. Owens
 Mr. Clarence A. Steele



COUNCIL ACTIVITIES, 1949-50

Mr. Warren Cox, President

* Dr. Drahsem was reelected in May to serve for 1949-50 but after he became a candidate for the school board, he resigned and Mr. Cox was elected to succeed him. The Vice-President, Major Matthews was unable to undertake the responsibility. Major Matthews later resigned and was replaced by Mr. B.A. Lilywhite. (Note for bottom of page)

The membership of the Council continued to grow. During the Summer the Old Dominion Junior High School PTA was organized. This school was another temporary junior high school. Later in the year locals were formed at the newly completed Yorktown elementary school and the Edison school for the physically handicapped which was held in the Arlington helath center. The county wide membership this year reached (ask Mrs. Scott)

Locals grew in size as well as in number. It was learned from the state office that Arlington had the distinction of having the largest local in the state and perhaps the whole Eastern area. This local was the Washington-Lee High School which had a record membership of over 1900.

Another tendency of interest in Arlington was the increasing participation of fathers in leadership in PTA work. In 1933-34 out of ten local presidents, only one was a man. In contrast, in 1947-48 13 out of 25 were men. This tendency continued at a rapid pace in 1949-50 when at the beginning of the year 20 out of 30 local presidents were men. This growing interest also shows up in the official staff of the Council. In most of the early years only one of the elected officers was a man. Several years no men served. In 1949-50 five out of seven officers were men.

The four general meetings, instead of three, were held as provided for in the amended by-laws. The first was held on September 28, at the Washington-Lee High School. The remaining three were held at The Thomas Jefferson Junior High School on November 30, February 15, and May 17, respectively. In addition, a special meeting and a workshop were held. The special meeting was for local presidents and past presidents, to acquaint them with matters that were to come before the state convention at Richmond beginning October 31. This meeting was held at Kate Waller Barrett School. The Council wokshop was also held at Thomas Jefferson Junior High School on November 30. This meeting was well attended. Included among those in attendance were: Mrs. Hunter Barrow, State PTA President; Dr. Abner Robertson, Executive Director of the of the State PTA; Mrs. Sommers, President of the Northern Virginia District; Mrs. Lucy Bussey, Vice Chairman for the Piedmont Region; and Mrs. James H. Strickland, member of the Board of Managers.

Each of the above meetings was preceded by an executive committee meeting for planning purposes. During the Summer two meetings were held for organizational purposes. This made a total of 13 meetings for the year. All meetings were held in the evening.

A budget of \$500 was proposed and accepted without change. This amount was based on the increase in dues provided for in the amended by-laws.

The aim of the Council was to continue the policies of the previous year of giving more service and leadership to the locals, working for improvement of school plant and curriculum, and furnishing information to the citizens on school needs and the means of securing improvements.

In accordance with these aims, the Council carried on many activities. It urged support of an adequate school budget. A meeting was held to explain the budget and to urge local representatives to attend hearings along with council representative.

Early in the year need for a new senior high school was pointed out by Mr. Early, the new Superintendent of Schools. The Council appointed a special committee on high school construction to study this need. Later the scope of the committee was enlarged to include all types of school construction. Mr. Howard Gammon, chairman, presented reports of its findings. These were made available to the locals, civic organizations, and the press. The questions were: (1) What new schools are needed? (2) When are they needed? (3) How can they be financed? The answers, in short, one new senior high school, one new junior high school, plus 50 elementary classrooms per annum (by 1952) and they must be financed by bond issue. Longer range forecasts of needs were also made.

A special committee on taxation and revenue, headed by Mr. C. A. Steele was formed to study the tax problem, and to furnish information to the locals on present sources of revenue, additional sources that might be tapped, and tax reforms that might be made. Mr. Steele made a preliminary report in the Spring. The committee was continued in order that the study might be completed.

The legislative committee was very active. Resolutions were passed under its sponsorship urging support of the Barden Bill for Federal Aid to Education, the Bailey Bill for Aid to Federally Affected Areas, liberalization of Teacher Retirement Act in Virginia, and legislation providing for non-partisan election of school boards, and a resolution expressing appreciation to Governor Battle and our representatives in the General Assembly for the \$45 million grant for school construction in Virginia. The Council also urged support of legislation to provide a referendum for citizens of Virginia to decide whether or not they desire non-partisan election for county board and school board.

The committee on Classroom Instruction presented the pros and cons of the alternate entrance dates for beginning school children. This committee, in conjunction with a similar committee of the Citizens Committee, made a study of curriculum development and instructional practices in Arlington. This survey is a preliminary step to plans for suggesting improvement.

The Council cooperated with the Director of the Extension Division of the University of Virginia in plans for the enlargement of their services in Arlington. Mr. C. A. Steele of the Council was elected chairman of the Arlington committee.

The Safety Committee made a survey of sidewalk and safety needs of all of the schools to present to the county board.

The standing committees and their chairmen are as follows: (see list)

A filing system for the records of the Council was set up by the Historian. The file is in the office of the school board. The history of the Council, 1931-59, which was compiled last year, was duplicated and copies were sent to each PTA, school library, public library, the Federal Office of Education, N.E.A., State Board of Regents, the Executive Director and the National President.

Two representatives from Arlington served the state organization. Dr. E.R. Draheim served as state Chairman of Citizenship and Adult Education

Major Matthews served as state chairman of International Relations. His outline for study, "Guide to World Understanding," was revised and published by the state. Major Matthews also wrote the plank on World understanding in the platform of the National Congress.

The PTA Counsellor was continued and became a very effective organ for dissemination of information to the locals. _____ issues were sent out. Mr. B.A. Lilywhite was elected editor to work with Mrs. E.P. Hendrickson. It is hoped to make this a monthly bulletin.

The Council participated with the League of Women Voters and other organizations in sponsoring a tax institute conducted by the staff of the University of Virginia on January 27 and 28.

Efforts were renewed to make the negro parent groups accredited units of the National Congress. Since membership can come only through the state and the state has no provision for negro units, this matter had to be left on an informal cooperative basis.

A policy of giving first importance to Council business at Council meetings was adopted by the Council and such a policy was recommended to the locals for their consideration.

The Council was host to a county-wide reception for the new Superintendent of Schools and Mrs. Early William A. Early. This social event was held at Thomas Jefferson Junior High School on Sunday December 11, from 4 to 6 p.m. and was attended by approximately fourhundred and fifty parents in spite of the rainy weather. Mrs. Mann, chairman of Hospitality, and her committee, made his a memorable event.

Representatives of the Council and many of the locals attended PTA conventions and meetings. Mr. Cox was the delegate from the Council to the state convention at Richmond on October 24, 25, and 26. _____ representatives from Arlington were registered. At the meeting of the Northern Virginia District at Leesburg on February 1, Arlington was represented by 34 registered delegates. Mrs. Henry Kiblet was sent by the Council to a Workshop on Parent Education held at Longwood College, Farmville, Va. on February 20 to 23.

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES 1950-51
Dr. Ivan A. Booker, President

The Council had an exceedingly active year in 1950-51. Most outstanding of its activities was its action in the community on behalf of the school bond issues. Prior to the Nov. 1950 election, the Council acted upon the findings and recommendations of its School Construction Committee by: (1) inviting other organizations to participate in a "Council For A School Bond Campaign", to coordinate the efforts of all civic organizations in the community wishing to support the school construction program of the School Board; (2) preparing and circulating through locals, petitions in support of a referendum for a school bond issue of \$7,450,000 for a 3-year construction program, as estimated by the School Board (\$8,700,000 was the amount estimated by the Council's School Construction Committee); (3) suggesting procedures for signature-gathering for guidance of local PTA's which wished to undertake the work. In addition, a plan for obtaining lists of qualified voters by school districts was developed by the County Council in pursuance of an aggressive campaign for urging the electorate to vote in favor of school bonds.

When this issue failed to pass in the Nov. election by a narrow margin, Council raised money by contributions from the locals and continued to work aggressively toward passage of a school bond issue of \$3,750,000 in a special election in April, 1951. Council urged the locals to help new voters to meet voting requirements in time for the special election. The School Construction Committee continued its study and reiterated the importance of passing a bond issue to meet building inadequacies immediately. The Committee's report opposed temporary buildings, half-day sessions, stripped classrooms, any elimination of multi-purpose rooms in school building plans. Council also urged locals to increase their usefulness as channels of information on school policies and practices to counteract the misunderstanding and misinformation of that part of the voting public that had defeated the bond referendum in November.

The four regular meetings of the Council during 1950-51 were held in different schools, as follows: Nov. 29 at Walter Reed; Jan. 24 at Yorktown; Feb. 28 at Stratford; and May 23 at Thomas Jefferson. The membership was also called together at three special Meetings: Sept. 11 at Thomas Jefferson, to hear the Chairman of the School Board present the administration's view of school construction needs; March 28 at Jefferson, to receive materials regarding the special election and to discuss the School Budget for the ensuing year; April 25 at Oakridge, to select four delegates and four alternates to represent the Council at the School Board Nominating Conference, and to hear a progress report on plans for civilian defense.

There was also a workshop, or leadership conference, for all parent-teacher association workers on June 7 at Barrett. About 200 attended. Last, but hardly least, the Executive Committee held nine meetings to steer the work of the Council.

Combined membership of all locals was approximately 14,000.

A policy on dues assessment for new locals was established. Newly-organised PTA's are to be assessed on the basis of paid memberships as of the end of November of the year in which they are organised.

A budget of \$521.24 was adopted on Sept. 11. Above this, two recommended assessments were adopted by the membership during the year. The first was levied to defray expenses of the school bond campaign as mentioned above. Money that wasn't spent was returned to the locals in proportion to their contributions. In most cases the refund amounted to more than half of what they had contributed. The second was an assessment of 10¢ per teacher in each school to cover the cost of the luncheon given for new teachers in the fall, 1951.

One change was made in the by-laws. In order to permit the PTA's in Arlington's negro schools to participate in Council decisions more fully, even though they may not be members of the State PTA and thus are ipso facto denied membership in the National organization, an amendment was made to Article IV of the by-laws to create an associate membership in the Council for organizations of parents and teachers of recognized public schools of Arlington County which subscribe to the aims of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers but for other reasons are not eligible for membership therein.

During the year, resolutions were adopted: (1) Urging local PTA's to study the School Board's Budget with special attention to teachers' salaries; (2) requesting the National Production Authority to allocate scarce materials for school construction; (3) urging the school administration to establish an advisory committee on adult education which would concern itself with bringing the night school program up-to-date; (4) recommending to the School Board the \$400 increment in teachers' salaries requested by the Arlington Education Association, and urging that greater recognition be accorded for teaching experience prior to entry into the Arlington School system; (5) recommending that salary increases for all county personnel be included in the next county budget.

Three issues of the PTA County Counsellor were distributed, edited by Warren Cox, Public Relations Chairman.

Curriculum Chairman, Barbara Marx, cooperated in establishing a Parents Council on Instruction. This Council is made up of the Curriculum Chairman of each PTA and representatives from the Administrative Staff. The monthly meetings, planned and directed by C. Glen Mass, Assistant Superintendent in Charge of Instruction, were well-attended and well-received as a splendid method of getting facts from the school staff to the parents through PTA representatives. The Parents Council studied the Virginia Course of Study and the Parents Handbook.

A special sub-committee on Defense developed plans for stocking the schools with supplies that would be needed in the event of atomic attack while children were at school.

Another special committee on Teacher Service worked with the Administrative Staff on aspects of housing and orientation for teachers new to the County. The PTA luncheon, already mentioned, was held for about 175 new teachers and staff members in August 1951 at the Yorktown School.

Attached : News Clippings of Activities 1950-51
List of Council Officers and Local Officers & Chairmen 1950-51

Alice P. Letsler, Historian
Arlington County Council of Parents
And Teachers, 1950-51