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POLITICAL SQUIBS

Our friend the Democratic Advocate is acting on the old principle that "everything is fair in love and war—and politics".

From Democratic politicians and from convenient statements made by taem, from mud slinging and acrimonious newspaper article and editorials, good Lord deliver us.

Now don't you Democratic candidates get scared. "We aint said nothing 'bout you, 'cept what we could have proved, if we had said it."

What's become of the other Democratic candidates? Is all this bluster by the Democratic Advocate only a smoke screen put up to hide them from the public? You Republican candidates had better root around and find out what they are doing.

When the Democratic Advocate attacked the office of M. C. Keefer, tax collector, Mr. Keefer came back with a statement which appears in this issue of the Sentinel. Read it and he convinced that all the fuss and billingsgate published by the Advocate is buncombe.

Besides his salary Samuel J. Stone, treasurer of the county and Democratic nominee for the same office, during his present term, cost the county $1500 to have an audit made of his books, which he should have made up himself, and $375 interest lost by withdrawing money without making an inquiry about it.

Don't the Democratic politicians wish Democratic State Roads Commission had paid that $70,000 spent by our county commissioners on the Littlestown road. Their Democratic friends on the State Roads Commission put this county in a hole and our Democratic political friends as well.

And, after all the bluster, charges and recharges, criminations and recriminations on the part of the Democratic Advocate it turns out that the county's floating debt is the small sum of $36,691.56. Considering the period of labor we thought something bigger was going to be born.

From reading the Democratic Advocate one is almost pursuaded that but two men are running on the Democratic ticket, namely, F. L. Hann for county commissioner and Samuel J. Stone for treasurer. The other candidates must have "taken to the woods".

The Democrats of the county have their right and left wings broken and are charging with their center, their objective point being the Board of County Commissioners. They are trying to imitate Marshall Foch at the battle of the Marne—but "they shall not pass."

When a politician assumes the editorial department of a partisan newspaper he must expect an attack from the other side. Every thing has two sides—even the editor pro tem of our very esteemed contemporary the Democratic Advocate. His personal side is likable and companionable but his political side—oh, well, he is just a Democrat and a darn good one.

Every candidate on the Republican ticket should receive the support of every Republican in the county. We never have been, and are not now, in love with the primary election law, but it is the law of the State, and anyone who participates in the election is bound by its results, even though the methods used by some of the successful candidates were reprehensible.

Why didn't treasurer Stone inquire under what terms fifty thousand dollars had been deposited by his predecessor Martin L. Hess with the Westminster Savings Bank before he checked it out and, for partisan reasons deposited it in another bank? He knew the money was there, but he waited just three days and drew it out. That piece of partisanship cost the county $375 in forfeited interest. Had Stone waited just 15 days the county would have received the interest; as it was nothing but principal was paid.

By Wednesday next all this blamed fussing will be over for this year, for which, on Thanksgiving day we will give an extra thank.

We have stated our case, put our witnesses on the stand and made our argument to the jury (the people) and the case is now in its hands. We should receive a verdict in our favor.

Some of the Political Squibs published last week must not have suited some of the Democratic politicians. They are yelling their heads off.

For the sake of the argument, and only for the sake of the argument, we admit all the Democratic Advocate has said and will say in its issue of this week to be true. But is the election of Mr. Hann over Mr. Repp going to improve things? If our friends, the enemy, are so all-fired anxious about the taxpayers why don't they jump on the Democratic State Roads Commission and the Democratic Governor for getting the county in a hole? Honor to whom honor is due, but a darned good cussing to whom a cussing is due. Selah.

Charge 62 cents to the Democratic Board of Education, 15 cents to the Democratic State Roads Commission and Governor Ritchie, and you have 63 cents left to be charged to the Republican Board of County Commissioners for the purpose of building roads, bridges, and all other county expenses. In other words, 26 cents for schools and 63 cents for county expenses is a fifty-fifty divide. If the Democrats get 77 cents and the Republicans 63 cents out of a $1.40 levy, what becomes of all the charges of the Democratic Advocate.

On Sunday, or any other day, when you get your family all "set" in your auto and drive out on the smooth hard roads of Carroll county and admire the beautiful scenery for which the county is noted, and breathe the pure air from the eternal hills which surround you, and wind up at the home of a friend, or relative, where you are treated to one of Carroll county's famous fried chicken meals, oh, Boy, aint it a grand and glorious feeling? And do you ever stop to growl about how much money has been spent by the county commissioners to build those fine roads? We say you don't. But you do feel like cussing that Democratic State Roads Commission and Governor Ritchie for keeping the commissioners out of that $128,000, and the interest thereon.

In his letter addressed to the editor and published in this issue of the Sentinel Mr. Steele states: "And by it you attack my character for honesty and good faith, and my ability as a lawyer, for no student in political economy or law would have drawn so worthless a bill as you seek to make out this was." Hold on there, Brother. Your standing as a lawyer is impregnable. No one disputes your high position at the bar, but, at the same time, don't you think the county commissioners have a right to feel that you, as editor pro tem of the Democratic Advocate, have been attacking their characters and standing as business men of this community? The "Treasurer's Bill" is history. Why hold a post mortem over its remains?

This week the Sentinel received from Guy W. Steeles Esq., a prominent attorney of this city, a letter in which he defends himself against an alleged attack on his character and standing as an attorney contained in an article, last week published in the Sentinel under the caption "That "Treasurer's Bill"—"Reasons, for its Defeat". Having known Mr. Steele from his early manhood and, having watched him rise from comparative obsurity to the front rank of of Maryland lawyers, the Sentinel would not if it could, and could not if it would, impugn his professional standing, or that as a citizen. The letter received from Mr. Steele appears on the front page of this issue of the Sentinel, together with a reprint of the article of which he complains.

The Treasurer's Bill Article And Mr. Steele's Letter To The Sentinel

"The American Sentinel" has received a letter from Guy W. Steele, Esq., with request that it be published. The article to which Mr. Steele takes exception is reproduced below, parallelled by his letter, without other comment than this, that those portions of the article which refer to the provisions of the bill are verbatim quotations from the letter of the business man to whom reference is made, which were written to various members of the Legislature on March 27th, 1920, while the Legislature was in session, evidencing the fact that this criticism of the bill was not machine made, in the heat of a political campaign, for partisan purposes; nor would publicity have been given to it at this time, if such publicity had not been invited by Mr. Steele himself, or some other anonymous writer, in the columns of the Democratic Advocate, who, impugning the good faith and honesty of the County Commissioners of the county, and of its representatives in the Senate and House of Delegates, charges that "this bill was defeated for no other reason than that it would have deprived the Republican County Commissioners of an appointive office and thrown Mr. Keefer out of a job."

Westminster, Md.,
October 31, 1921.

Mr. Joesph D. Brooks,
Editor of The American Sentinel,
Westminster, Md.

In your issue of October 28th, you publish an article called "That Treasurer's Bill", which attempts to explain its defeat in the Legislature by the Republican Delegation from Carroll County. Amongst other things this article, giving the reasons of the person wohm you call "a gentleman and a business man", for opposing its passage, states that it required the Treasurer to account only at the end of his term of four years, and quoting,

"That if the Treasurer shall make a full statement only at the end of his term of office he could be short ten thousand dollars in his account the first year ,twenty thousand the second year, thirty thousand the third year, and how much more at the end of the fourth year can not be estimated".

The person who made this criticism was either careless in his reading or a very ignorant man, for Sec. 24-d of bill provides,

"SECTION 24-d: On the first day of October, January, April and July of each year ,and oftener if the County Commissioners require it, the Treasurer shall make a report to them of his receipts and disbursements for the preceding months showing the sources of such receipts, and the balance in the respective appropriations accounts on account of which disbursements were made and the items of all payments made them the contingent fund;"

Thus instead of requiring the Treasurer to make a report at the end of his term he makes it every third month and oftener if the Commissioners require it.

This section also required a report to be made on the first of July of each year for the full year.

SECTION 28-m, upon which his attack is based, refers to tax bills that have not been collected under the levy for the year the Treasurer goes out of office, and deals only with what he turns over to his successor on the first Monday of December, the Bill requiring all taxes to be paid before the third Monday of April of each year, otherwise they are collected by law.

The Republican Delegation was familiar with these provisions, for it carefully read the bill before it was introduced and suggested changes, particularly those keeping Mr. Keefer in office, postponing its operation until 1921 &c.

And by it you attack my character for honesty and good faith, and my ability as a lawyer, for no student in political economy or law, would have drawn so worthels sa bill as you seek to make out this was. If you were not familiar with the Bill, do you not think you should have asked me for a copy.

I might add that the Bill had been submitted originally to the State Tax Commission, and the changes necessary to make it harmonize with the Budget Bill, to which it was a companion, to the Auditor of the Public Service Commission, and had received their approval.

These Bills were drawn by me because I was willing to co-operate and aid the Republican Delegation to serve Carroll County faithfully; I received no compensation for my work and was acting only as a citizen interested in and doing what I could for the good of our County.

Of course the policy of having the offices of Collector and Treasurer consolidated, is hardly open to discussion. Every County in the State, except ours has a law similar to the one defeated, and no County after trying this policy has returned to the method we are pursuing.

You have unintentionally or deliberately treated me shamefully, by publishing this article, which in addition to its attempted deception of the people of Carroll County is a cowardly and scurrilous attack on me. It even intimates that my labor on these bills was for political reasons, as if I would try and help a Republican Delegation in any matter, save one for our County's good! But you do a greater wrong to the tax payers, whom you would keep asleep to the legal safe guards necessary to be thrown around their money.

I naturally expect you to give the same prominence and publicity to this letter as to the article which would make me out to be either a knave or a fool.

I am writing a similar letter to the Editor of The Times, which also published it.

Very truly yours,
Guy W. Steele.

THAT TREASURER'S BILL
Good Reasons For Its Defeat

(Sentinel of October 28.)

Anonymous writers in the columns of the Democratic Adocate and the reputed author of the so-called treasurer's bill, introduced in the last Legislature, providing for the consolidation of the offices of County Treasurer and County Tax Collecter, on the stump, are raising a great hullabaloo because that bill was defeated. In the Advocate it is alleged that "the bill was defeated for no other reason than that it would have deprived the Republican County Commissioners of an appointive office and throw Mr. Keefer out of a job." A better reason for the defeat of the bill is the well-known reputation of its author to seek to "put one over," which caused the Carroll county representatives to suspect the presence of a "colored gentleman in the woodpile", and to be chary about accepting and enacting into law anything proposed by the individual in question.

Another good reason is found in the bill itself, reason not given by the county commissioners of Carroll county, but pointed out to the members of the Legislature by a well-known business man, who had no axe to grind, but who was actuated solely by interest in the county, not a politician, and in no way connected with county affairs, except as a private citizen.

Protesting against the passage of this bill, this gentleman, wrote to our representatives in the Legislature, calling their attention to the glaring defects in the bill. First, he pointed out the fact that on line 334, page 11 of the bill section 24 m, it is provided that "At the expiration of his term of office the Treasurer shall make a full statement to the county commissioners of all uncollected taxes in his hands, and all erroneous and insolvent tax bills, for which he shall claim a credit." Commenting thereon, he says "This section appears to be very unbusinesslike and antiquated, for the reason that if the Treasurer shall make a full statement only at the end of his term of office, he could be short ten thousand dollars in his account the first year, twenty thousand the second year, thirty thousand the third year, and how much more at the end of the fourth year can not be estimated". He then pointed out that the bill empowered this new County-Treasurer—Tax Collector to employ clerical assistance to help him for three months in the collecting of taxes, and also provided for a clerk to the Board of County Commissioners instead of making the county treasurer the clerk; and that the cost of administering the affairs of the treasurer's office and of collecting the taxes would be very much greater than under the present system.

Incidentally it may be said in this connection that when the collection of taxes was first consolidated in one tax collector for the whole county, with a Democratic Board of County Commissioners, the tax collector received a salary of $1800.00 per year, which was reduced by a Republican board for its first appointee to $1500.00 per year, and it has cost the county less for the collection of taxes, fifty per cent more than was formerly collected, than it cost for the collection of the smaller sum.

SUNDAY SCHOOL PARADE A REVELATION

1800 Marchers And Four Bands of Music.

Carroll County A God-Fearing Community.

The parade of the Men's Bible Classes of the Protestant churches, of this county, which took place Sunday last, was a revelation to the exceedingly large gathering that viewed the same—and, we might add, to the participants themselves. Had the question been asked "How many men of Carroll county belong to Bible classes?" very few or none would have said there were more than about five hundred. But on Sunday last when eighteen hundred men, both young and old, with four bands of music, paraded the streets of this city, we again repeat, it was a revelation.

The parade, from a spectacular view, did not amount to very much, but from a religious one it was magnificent. It represented the untiring efforts of the protestant ministers of the Gospel of this county and their assistants. Many, many ministers who have gone to their reward helped to build up the imposing organizations which participated in the parade, and others, who followed, have carried on the work to bring men to Christ and instruct them properly in the teachings of the Bible. This has meant years and years of hard and patient work on the part of these ministers and their assistants and, while they will apperently receive little credit in this world they have earned crowns of glory in the next.

The parade fully demonstrates the fact that Carroll county is a God-fearing religious community.

At 2:30 P. M., the parade formed on Belle Grove Square, W. Green and Bond streets and, New Windsor Bible Class 175 strong on the right of the line with the Westminster band leading, marched to W. Main, to Union street, to E. Main, to Court, to Willis and to the Armory, where Hon. Wm. H. Upshaw, the "Georgia Cyclone" Congressman from Georgia, delivered the principal address. A large number of the members of the parade were not able to get into the Armory. The building seats 1200 and it was jammed with people, standing and sitting.

The parade was composed of the following organizations: New Windsor, Stone Chapel, Mt. Union Chapel, Middleburg, Keysville, St. Mary's Reformed, of Silver Run, St. Mary's Lutheran of Silver Run, Krieder's Reformed, Krieder's Lutheran, Deer Park M. P., Western Maryland College, West Falls, Mt. Olive, Lazarus of Lineboro, Taneytown Lutheran, Immanuel of Manchester, St. Paul's Reformed of Westminster, Grace Lutheran, of Westminster, Bethel of New Windsor Circuit, Linwood, Blue Ridge College, Church of God, of Carrollton, Sandy Mount, Pleasant Grove, Union Bridge, Church of God of Westminster and Pleasant Valley Adult Bible Classes and the Westminster, Taylorsville, Morgan Chapel and Pleasant Valley Bands.

The meeting in the Armory was presided over by Rev. J. Walter Englar, of New Windsor. Rev. W. E. Parrish, of New Windsor M. E. Church circuit, introduced congressman W. D. Upshaw, who delivered a convincing address. A greatly augmented choir sang sacred music and all present felt that—"It is good to be here".

Centenary M. E. Church, this city, was crowded with women who were edified and instructed by an address delivered by Mrs. P. A. Heilman, whose husband i sthe successful pastor of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Baltimore. For a number of years Mrs. men in her husband's church. Mrs. D. F. Shipley, chairwoman of the woman's committee, presided at the meeting and music was furnished by the church choir.

To Taxpayers of Carroll County: Affidavit of M. C. Keefer Tax Collector

We publish below a statement and report of M. C. Keefer, Tax Collector for Carroll County, made to the County Commissioners of Carroll County. This report is an absolute refutation of the false report that Mr. Keefer is short in his accounts.

One thing is observable about the report and that is that, although Mr. Keefer collected last year $134,742 more county taxes last year than was collected in 1916, yet the cost of collection last year was $333.25 less than in 1916.

October 24, 1921.

To the County Commissioners of Carroll County, Westminster, Md.
Gentlemen:—

Your attention has been called to a report that there is a shortage in my accounts and I therefore desire herewith to submit to you attached hereto a full and complete statement of my work as collector of county taxes for the years 1919 and 1920. I have verified the correctness of this statement by affiavits. I hold in my hands the receipt of Samuel J. Stone, Treasurer, for the amounts collected as shown in the attached statement and the release of your board for the amounts of the erroneous assessments and the tax books show the delinquent tax payers the aggregate of which equals the amount of taxes shown by the statement to be uncollected.

Any other information which you may desire I shall be glad to furnish.

Very respectfully submitted,
M. C. KEEFER,
Tax Collector.

State of Maryland, Carroll County, to-wit:—

I hereby certify that on this 24th day of October 1921, before the subscriber a Notary Public of the State of Maryland, in and for Carroll County aforesaid, personally appeared McClellan Keefer, Tax Collector for Carroll County, and made oath in due form of law, that the matters and things, in the attached statement are true as herein stated.

In testimony whereof I here unto set my hand and affix
(Seal) my notarial seal the day and year first hereinbefore written.

CORA ADAMS,
Notary Public.

STATEMENT FOR 1919:

Total levy on real and personal property	$349,515.86
Total levy on securities	7,201.58
Total additions after levy	796.41
Interest due from delinquents	2,449.67
Total amount chargable in 1919	$359,963.52
Amount paid treasurer	$347,859.25
Amount of interest paid treasurer	2,449.67
Amount of discounts allowed tax payers	4,333.75
Amount of erroneous assessments	5,051.47
Amount remaining uncollected	269.38
Total amount accounted for	$359,963.52

STATEMENT FOR 1920:

Total levy real and personal property	$360,723.25
Total levy on securities	7,185.28
Total additions after levy	2,044.13
Interest due from delinquents	2,003.36
Total amount chargable in 1920	$371,956.02
Amount paid treasurer	$351,965.41
Amount of interest paid treasurer	2,003.36
Amount of discounts allowed tax payers	4,240.20
Amount of erroneous assessments	5,532.03
Amount remaining uncollected	8,215.02
Total amount accounted for	$371,956.02

Statement of the cost of collecting taxes since the inauguration of the single tax collector system:

Year.	County taxes collected.	Cost of Collection		
1916.	$227,998.89	Salary	$1800.00	
	O. E. Dodrer, Collector.	Clerk Hire	302.75	$2100.75
1917.	192,759.01	Salary	1800.00	
	O. E. Dodrer, Collector.	Clerk Hire	225.08	2025.48
1918	349,515.86	Salary	1500.00	
	C. H. Diller, Collector.	Clerk Hire	268.00	1768.00
1919	352,712.73	Salary	1500.00	
	M. C. Keefer, Collector.	Clerk Hire	258.00	1758.00
1920	363,740.89	Salary	1600	
	M. C. Keefer, Collector.	Clerk Hire	169.50	1769.50

Published by authority of JOHN H. CUNNINGHAM, Treasurer.

ILLICIT STILL HOLDING 100 GALLONS SEIZED

Seven Men And Boy Flee, Are Fired On, But Escape.

What is said to be the largest still ever taken by the Baltimore prohobition officers was seized yesterday in this county. The still was found on the farm of J. B. Edmondson, at Morgan Run, near Lewisville. It had a capacity of 100 gallons.

Seized with the still were five large vats of mash and a quantity of distilled liquor. The officers poured out most of this on the ground. The still was so large that it had to be roped to the bumper of the officers' automobile before it could be taken to Baltimore.

Seven men and a boy were operating the still when the officers drove up. They scattered in haste when the officers were some distance off. None of them was caught and none recognized. A fire was burning under the still and a run was being made.

The "tip" that there was a still in the vicinity of Morgan Run came to State's Attorney Theodore F. Brown, of this county. He notified the Baltimore office of the Federal Prohibition Department, and two agents, H. D. Parks and W. P. Flinchum, were sent here. They were joined by Deputy Sheriff Blizzard and proceeded in an automobile to Morgan Run.

When the automobile approached the group gathered about the still scattered. The officers, jumping from the machine, called on the fugitives to halt. When the quarry kept running the officers fired several times, but say they do not think any of the bullets found their mark.

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