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P.T.A. Presents Argument For School Improvements

The following is the second of a series of articles sponsored by the P. T. A. of Chestertown High School in an attempt to answer arguments advanced against the improvement of school facilities for Chestertown High School pupils.

ARGUMENT NO. 2. — That the present Chestertown High School Building would not be overcrowded if Kennedyville, Fairlee, and Betterton High Schools had not been closed.

In considering this argument, three factors must be taken into consideration,—first, the rate of increase of high school pupils in the county and in the State during the past twelve years; second, State regulations governing high schools; and third, whether parents in the smaller communities would send their children to the smaller high school in preference to the larger high school.

Between the years 1923 and 1928 three additional high schools were maintained in Kent county at different periods,—Kennedyville, Fairlee, and Betterton. At no time did any one of these high schools have a greater number than 20 pupils enrolled, and in one of the high schools, during the last year that it was open, but nine pupils were enrolled. The highest total number of pupils enrolled in all three schools in any one year was 37 pupils in 1925, the last year that all three high schools were open.

In the twelve year period from 1923 to 1934 inclusive, the total enrollment in the high schools of Kent county increased from 267 pupils to 508 pupils, an increase of 90 per cent. During the same period the State high school enrollment increased 108 per cent. In 1923 Chestertown High School, prior to any consolidation, had a total of 123 pupils enrolled. On the basis of the above rate of increase of high school enrollments, Chestertown High School, exclusive of consolidation, would have approximately a total of 234 pupils in 1934, 61 pupils less than the total number of pupils enrolled in Chestertown High School in 1934. It is also significant to note that the total enrollment of each of the now closed high schools increased each year as long as they were open, with the exception of the last year of each school. Betterton dropped from 30 pupils in 1923 to 9 pupils the year it closed, Kennedyville has 10 pupils in 1924 and 13 pupils in 1925, the year closed, while Fairlee dropped from 15 pupils in 1925 to 11 pupils in 1928, the year closed. The question can well be raised why each of the small high schools should decline in enrollments each year while open while the larger high schools of the county increased in enrollment, as did total high school enrollments in counties all ober the State of Maryland. The answer is quite evident, namely, that pupils were withdrawing from the smaller high schools to attend a large high school with its increased advantages.

State regulations for high schools provide among other things,—that in order for a high school to be a first class high school offering four years of work, it must have an enrollment of not less than 30 bona fide high school students and two full time academic teachers including the principal; that in order to be a second class high school, limited to giving only two years of instruction and requiring one academic teacher, the minimum enrollment must be not less than 15 pupils. The year that the smaller high schools closed, not a single one of the now closed high schools met the requirements for a second class high school, hence it is easy to see that the county school authorities had no alternative other than to close these high schools. Even were it possible to maintain the former small high schools as second class high schools, pupils would have to attend one of the larger high schools in Kent county for the third and fourth years of high school work. It is quite evident that this would not greatly relieve Chestertown High School if any considerable number were to take their final years of high school work in the country's largest high school.

In the third place, the attitude of parents toward sending their children to the small high school must be taken into consideration. By reason of the fact that enrollments in the closed small high schools declined each year that they were open, it is hardly reasonable to assume that any of the small high schools would be able to attract their full quota of pupils. Parents would probably continue to send their children as pupils to the larger high schools with the increased educational opportunities.

Finally, in view of the fact that Chestertown High School was built to accommodate but 150 pupils, it is evident that the high school building would have exceeded its capacity in 1934 regardless of the continuance of the closed high schools.

The Maryland Tercentury Commission has named W. Raymond Moody Kent county publicity chairman for the pageant to be staged in the Baltimore Stadium the nights of October 5 and 6. Old Kent Chapter, D. A. R., of which Mrs. George W. Baldwin is regent, is today considering assuming the task of selecting the "Duchess of Kent," two maids of honor, two pages and a standard bearer to represent the county in the historical play. Mrs. Joseph P. Franklin, wife of the former deputy State health officer here, was recently named "Duchess of Allegany". Dr. and Mrs. Franklin live in Cumberland.

JOSEPH DAVIS SENTENCED FOR BEATING OF WOMAN

Police Justice Charles R. Kerr, of Rock Hall, sentenced Joseph Davis, of Edesville, to thirty-five months in the House of Correction for assaulting and beating Mrs. Maude Price, of Rock Hall, on the night of June 17, 1933.

The woman was found lying along the roadside the morning after the assault and was taken to Easton Hospital, where she was confined for treatment for several months, until she was able to give an account of the attack at a hearing held in Rock Hall.

Sheriff John T. Vickers arrested Davis the day after the attack and lodged him in the county jail here, where he remained until the hearing. Davis has taken an appeal to the Circuit Court at its October term, for which Associate Judge Thomas J. Keating drew the jury on Thursday.

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EAT MORE OYSTERS

The oyster season opened Saturday in Maryland. Tongers down the bay have been busy for a week or more preparing for the loosening of legal restraint from catching bivalves for the market.

The Chesapeake waterman's lot has not been a happy one during the last year and a half. The great storm of August, 1933, smashed his boats and ruined his gear; the oyster season vouchsafes him only a scanty return for his labor; crabs were comparatively scarce in the waters which once were full of them.

The outlook for the coming season has been declared to be brighter and the stabilizing effect of the new code on prices is expected to assure the industry a more certain reward for the labor it expends.

The oystermen of the Chesapeake are a hardy set of men and well they may be. The hardships their vocation calls upon them to endure are great. The service they render to people who earn their bread in comfortable environments is great.

Let everybody remember his or her debt to these men and do their best to make this a good season by eating oysters plentifully and often. —Evening News.

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We make a specialty of insuring HAY and WHEAT, either in barns or in stacks.
Remember the "HOME" is the largest American Company.
CHESTERTOWN & ROCK HALL

NEW FLOORS FOR OLD ONES
The other day I dressed off some floors that were put down in 1740. They were well preserved with paint and were tough pine, but came out beautifully, showing twelve-inch boards clean and white as the day they came from the sawyers, with numerous knots and the old hand-made nail heads two to a board in very joist, these did not help the sandpaper on the machine much but still the floors were sanded and in a reasonable time.
Your floors no doubt would sand up as well and once again be beautiful and smooth. Drop me a card and I will gladly see you about them.
GEORGE SALTER
Floor Surfacing Contractor
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[Political Advertisement]
Reuben Jamar

Candidate for the Democratic Nomination For
SHERIFF
A Kent Countian and A Democrat in the Truest Sense of The Words
Your Support Of Reuben Jamar On Wednesday Will Help To Assure A Democratic Sheriff In November.
VOTE FOR HIM

CONLEY for GOVERNOR

Dr. CHARLES H. CONLEY
Democratic Candidate for Governor of Maryland
Will Make His Final
RADIO TALK OVER
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at 7.45 P. M.
MONDAY, SEPT. 10th
Every Democratic Voter
Should Hear This Broadcast

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ONLY CAR UNDER $2500 WITH A V-8 ENGINE
We invite you to drive the Ford V-8 and see for yourself why it is the year's outstanding value.
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Political Advertisement

William Mason Shehan
Candidate For Chief Judge
Of The
Second Judicial Circuit
Of Maryland

Now that the case is about to go to the jury of all the voters to decide at the ensuing primary election, voters, by marking X opposite the name of William Mason Shehan for Chief Judge of Second Judicial Circuit of Maryland, will do so with positive assurance in the correctness of their judgment. And, they will be equally assured that the people of our Circuit in their local cases, and that the people of the State of Maryland in their appeals to the Court of Appeals of Maryland, may rely upon Mr. Shehan for intelligent and impartial administration of justice in the high office for which he is so eminently qualified.

Let us here review some of Mr. Shehan's outstanding attainments by reason of which he is entitled to receive, and undoubtedly will receive, the favorable consideration of the voters in the primary election to be held next Wednesday.

1. His high character and personal integrity are beyond question.

2. From the humble and limited position of a country boy, the son of parents of modest means, he has, through his own efforts, and through his willingness to serve others, achieved an outstanding position of leadership and distinction in the State.

3. Having started at the bottom, he has that keen and sympathetic insight into the problems of all the people that can be gained only by such experience.

4. Mr. Shehan's understanding of people has made it possible for him to serve them well, both in countless individual matters and in public service.

5. His wide and varied business experience is a decidedly important judicial asset.

6. His unsurpassed eminence and success as a trial lawyer reveals in him the legal qualification essential to the Judge sitting in Court trials.

7. An examination of the Maryland Report in which are found the record of appeal cases from the entire State of Maryland which have been decided in the Court of Appeals of Maryland give unmistakable evidence in the numerous cases tried by Mr. Shehan before the appelate Court that he is especially well qualified to be a member of that Court in connection with whose deliberations he has for many years occupied so prominent and so preeminent a position.

8. His legal attainments and learning have been so generally recognized as to have brought him practically every office of honor and distinction that could be accorded in this State to a leading lawyer, among which offices and affiliations, all of which have been without compensation, may be mentioned the following in which he has served:

PRESIDENT OF TALBOT COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION.

PRESIDENT OF THE MARYLAND STATE BAR ASSOCIATION.

MEMBER OF THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF MARYLAND.

MEMBER OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF LAW.

MEMBER OF COMMITTEE TO REFORM CRIMINAL PROCEDURE IN MARYLAND.

His wide experience and wise judgment were made available to the State in his selection as a member of the Committee on Reorganization of the Departmental Government of the State.

His many other public services without compensation, upon commission appointed to give consideration to matters of great importance in which the people of the State were interested, together with the many services included in the enumeration above, which have extended over thirty years of public life, present to the people of our Judicial Circuit a record which deserves thoughtful consideration on the part of every voter.

9. It would be hard, if not impossible, to find anyone in the State of Maryland who has more unselfishly given of himself or to whom a reward may now more fairly be given in appreciation of public service than may now be done by each and every vote in favor of William Mason Shehan for Chief Judge of this Circuit.

10. Without intending in any way to reflect upon either of the other candidates for this most important office, it can, however, be said that the people of this Judicial Circuit may be especially gratified that they have the opportunity through their vote to line up squarely and solidly with voters of our sister counties, whose votes will be given in assuring our Circuit and our State able, intelligent and fair administration of justice with the Honorable William Mason Shehan as Chief Judge of the Circuit.

JOHN C. NORTH,
Political Agent for William Mason Shehan.

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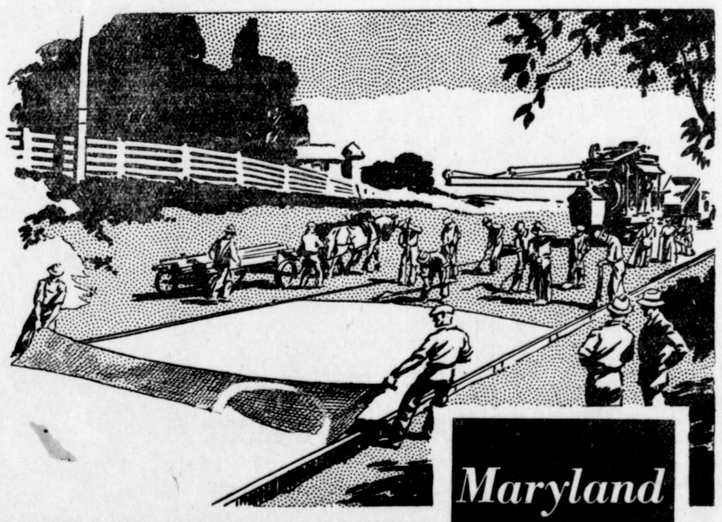
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