GOOD ROADS MOVEMENT

ADDRESS OF CHIEF CONSUL CONWAY W. SAMS IN EASTON.

Many Practical Hints Given—Issuance of Long-Term Bonds Recommended. Better Roads for Same Money.

As announced in this paper last week, Conway W. Sams, the Chief Consul of the Maryland Division of the League of American Wheelmen, was in Easton on Wednesday in the interest of good roads.

Mr. Sams spent the morning in riding over our roads, and on being questioned by a GAZETTE reporter as to what he thought of them, he said that Talbot's roads, so far as he had the opportunity to observe them, were indeed splendid, and much finer than he had anticipted

He said that he had enjoyed his outing in Talbot very much, and would avail himself of the many invitations to meet us again soon. Arrangements had been made to give him a banquet at the Hotel Avon, but important business compelled him to return to Baltimore Wednesday night.

A meeting was held at the court house in the afternoon, at which Mr. Sams made a very interesting and practical address, after which he was requested to explain some of the plans which he knew to be good by which roads could be improved.

Among those present at the meeting were the Board of County Commissioners, a number of members of the Talbot County Road League, farmers and wheelmen.

In his address Mr. Sams said among other things that the question of first importance in road building is the material out of which the road is to be built. On the Eastern Shore oyster shells are considered about the best material. They are expensive. About thirty miles from Easton in a straight line northward there is a very large deposit of gravel rich in iron ore, in very thick deposits around the mouth of the Sassasras river. This deposit is equally available by water or rail. It is very valuable road material, and no doubt there are other gravel deposits on the Shore which will prove to be a most excellent substitute for oyster shells. Therefore you have at your very doors two sources from which you can take your road material. The question is, how to put that material in use.

It is an inside figure to put the amount this country contributes to the mud fiend at $250,000,000; a total loss. The whole country is aroused as never before over the subject of better roads. The necessity for such improvements is everywhere admitted. The road tax has been doing its work ever since civilization taught mankind how to use the shovel and the hoe; but the road tax has not made much headway in making permanent roads. It has made more mud, but few better roads. A different plan of finance is what is wanted; not more taxes; not more money. My plan would be to borrow money on a long-time bond at a low rate of interest and use the taxes to pay the interest and principal.

Favors Borrowing Money for Roads.

I am in favor of allowing the people of a county the right to vote upon the question of borrowing money to use in road building. I would have road improvement a county matter, based on local option. If the people of one county want to build a certain number of miles of good roads, I would not permit the people of another county to prevent it. If the majority of the people of a county want good, permanent roads, at a cost within certain limits, I would not put it in the power of the minority to prevent it. I would build good roads with the taxes now paid. I would cover the State with a network of durable, permanent roads, which can be used every day in the week on which to haul a full load, and I would do this without increasing the present road taxation one mill.

$10,000 Spent in Talbot Every Year.

For instance, take your own county. You spend about $10,000 per annum on your roads. With that same amount of tax used to pay interest on long-time bonds you could build many miles of first-class roads and provide a sinking fund to meet the bonds when they fall due; at the same time you would not increase your taxes one cent. The only difference would be that Talbot county would have at once a permanent improvement in her roads, which could be paid for with the same taxes you now pay.

The roads having been well built in the first place, then comes the question of keeping them in good condition. As an illustration of the cheapness with which this can be done, let us look at how the French attend to the matter. France has at this time about 130,000 miles of macadam roads, and these roads are maintained in perpetually good condition at a yearly expense of about 48 cents for each inhabitant. That is wonderful. American brains will accomplish the same result as soon as we make up our minds to it. The plan I suggest is that the counties should borrow money to build their own roads. This is local self government.

Shouldn't Blame the Farmers.

It has long been the fashion among the sincere road reformers to put all the blame for the backwardness of road improvements upon the farmer. I do not wonder that when the farmer is told that he is a "moss-back" because he has the manhood to stand up in a public meeting to protest against the hasty legislation which might add unjustly to his already heavy burden, he gets mad. The truth is, there is no class of men more anxious to find practical ways to carry out road improvement than the farmer. Just show the thinking farmer the way for wise road improvement and he is with you every time. He knows that his farm products are coming every year in close competition with the cheap labor of other countries. In order to save this mud tax of $250,000,000 and the almost useless, as now expended, road tax of forty or fifty millions more, is the farmer's main idea. Show him how to prevent that waste and he will work out his own salvation.

Means More Money in Our Pockets.

That good roads means money in your pockets is well explained by this illustration: In a well-known city in the West during a bad spell of weather in the spring the price of hay went up to $30 a ton, and the market was supplied by a railroad from outside of the State, while on farms a few miles from this city hay could be bought for $10 a ton, but was embargoed by the mud. This was a mud tax pure and simple. The farmer lost a market and the citizen his money. I call to mind the story of a farmer who went from his place to a neighboring city with five dozen eggs for sale. On his arrival he had one dozen and one-half to sell. The mud tax again. That good roads have a money value to the farmer will be admitted by all. The ease of transportation, the save of wear and tear on vehicles and live stock, the smaller number of horses needed when your highways are in good condition, the improvement of value in farm lands on first-class highways, justify the cost of construction. The cry has gone forth that, owing to the great depression in business of all kinds, this is not the time for the agitation of this road-improvement question. The contrary is the case. One of the great causes of hard times is bad roads. That is a strong way to put it, but I am borne out by R. G. Dun & Co., who in a very recent review attribute slow collections and a general depression in business to that cause.

There has been an almost entire cessation of railroad building in this country. The number directly or indirectly concerned in railroad building and now thrown out of employment is estimated to be about 800,000 men. These men are a direct charge on the public. They cannot starve. There is a tremendous amount of idle money in the banks seeking investment. Give it an opportunity to come out by being invested in road building, which will have a permanent improvement in your midst, you would add to your taxable basis, give the idle employment, create improvement which will last. If any man doubts the practical value of road improvement, let him visit the counties of Camden and Burlington in New Jersey and he will find farming communities really getting rich in these hard times by reason of their good roads.

TELEPHONE TATTLINGS.

Central is Kept Busy Connecting for Our Prosperous Business Men.

Hellow, hellow, hellow! Hellow yourself some. Is that No 42? Yes. Is that you Mr. Wright? Yes. Well I left an order at your store this morning—yes—well please add some of that shredded wheat and postum, they make the cheapest and most delicious food and drink. Good bye.

Is that the Citizens' Provision Depot? Yes, Well, that was the best steak for breakfast I ever ate. Save me a big roast off the same beef, will you? The madam says your vegetables are the best in the market and will send you a list of what she wants by the girl. Good by.

Hellow! Well? Give me No. 29. There you are, go ahead. Say, Mr. Chaffinch, have you any more of those clothes like I bought of you last Spring and can't wear out? Yes but—But what? has the price advanced? No, if you had not been so quick I was going to say they are cheaper this season. Can I sell you a suit? In all probability you can. I will call. Good by.

Give me 43, Central, if he is not busy. Sorry to say 43 is most always busy and the wire is in constant use. Will ring you up as soon as I can. Good by. (Later) 43 is that you? Yes. Garey & Bros. Grocery? Yes. Well send your wagon around to our house this morning with a pair of plump fowls for baking and enough vegetables for dinner. Include celery. That's all. Thanks. Good by.

Central give me 61, please. Is that Meintzer's bakery? Yes. Are you going to deliver those Spanish Buns every afternoon fresh to your customers? Yes. Well, just put us down for a standing order. We do not think we can ever tire of them. They are delicious. Good by.

Hellow, is that M. B. Nichos? Yes. Have you any more of that lovely 29 cent wash silk on hand? Plenty of it. Well, send me twenty yards off the same piece, I intend making it up for the children. It will wear better than anything I can get at the price.

Give me J. J. Wright's store please. It is not mine to give. Well send to him and say I must have shoes for my three children and myself. He knows our number and the kind we always get. Good by. Say, also tell him that he is the most accommodating and satisfactory shoe merchant I ever dealt with, it will please him to know it. Be sure to tell him to send me the shoe and to "charge it."

Central give me No. 21, please.—All right go ahead.—Is this Shannahan & Wrightson Hardware Company?—Yes. I bought some of your Lucas paints last spring for my dwelling and want more of it for my new house. Have you the same or better paint? We have the same and also some of the celebrated John's paint; will guarantee either to make you a most satisfactory job. Call and select colors.—I will—Good by.

Hellow No. 6, is Mr. Griffith in? This is he at the 'phone. All right. Mr. Griffith we have a visitor here who says the mixed cakes you sent us are the freshest and nicest she ever saw at a grocery and wants to take some home with her. Yes, Madam. Can you send your porter here with two pounds of your best? I can. Thank you very much. Good bye.

Hellow, Brush, that you? They say Ned Plummer is painting a picture as big as a barn door and laying on paint four inches thick.

In a letter to the manufacturers, Messrs. Davis & Buzzard of West Monterey, Pa., say "Chamberlain's Cough Remedy has cured people whom our physicians could do nothing for. We persuaded them to try a bottle of it and they now recommend it, as do the rest of us." For sale at 25 and 50 cents per bottle by Harry Roberts, Easton; P. M. Pastorfield, Royal Oak; J. F. Sisk, Cordova.

WANAMAKER'S.

PHILADELPHIA, Monday, April 5, 1897.

About Bicycles and other things.

A bicycle is a luxury. With many it has come to be almost a necessity. With thousands the buying of the wheel means careful economy to gather the money—with all, the investment is worth being careful about. Bicycles have cost too much. They may cost too little. On the whole, the dangerous mistake is buying one that costs too little. It may be guaranteed. But guarantees are easily evaded; and, after all, the wheel is meant for use, not to be frequently sent in for repairs. We have had experts studying bicycles since the time when we sold the high-wheel affairs at $135—and saved buyers money on them. Production has enormously increased; expenses for manufacturing have almost correspondingly decreased, but today no entirely safe and durable bicycle can be retailed under $37.50. Not every low-price wheel will quickly go to smash. But there can be no assurance as to any particular one proving really cheap.

We confidently state that no wheel need sell for $100, if wasteful expenses are clipped off; or for



$80, for that matter. Absolute satisfaction is yours with a Continental at $50 or a Continent at $37.50. The country has been searched to find a safe wheel to sell for less. Our experts have not found one.

Now bicycles are wonderfully like other goods—as to true cheapness, and all the beating of tom-toms, and fine talk in the papers, cannot make collections of stale goods truly interesting. Pin printed promises to the things you buy and see how they tally.

New Gloves THE world's best glove maker is working for us, and Paris shall not sell gloves better than they're sold at Wanamaker's. These lots just here from France—

For Misses—The Reta. Real kid, 4 pearl buttons; embroidered backs. Tan, browns, mode, pearl, white, black. $1.
The Dauphine. Real kid, 4-button; richly embroidered. The finest, $1.50.
For Women—Largo. A fine suede glove; 4-button. Colors and black. $1.
The Dauphine. Our finest glove. All colors, black and white. $1.75.
For Boys—One-clasp real kid gloves; embroidered. Tan, red tan, pearl white, black. $1.50.

Different from usual gloves as this store is different from other stores.

Rose Bushes TWO YEARS ago we sold 25,000 Rose Bushes. Last year we sold 50,000. This year? We'll sell all we can get. These Roses are grown in Holland—great big stalky bushes that only need your tender planting and a few sun-kisses to produce a wealth of blooms.

They are all hardy roses and are TO BE PLANTED AT ONCE. If your bed is not ready to put the roses in their intended positions, just plant your entire purchase in a bunch, and they will keep in good order. Do not put them in the cellar.

15c each; 2 for 25c.; $1.25 a doz.

Too big to mail, but they may be expressed at your expense. We have arranged to pack them even better than last year.

Names and Colors of Roses—

General Jack, scarlet.
La France, bright red.
Magna Charta, brilliant pink.
Paul Neyron, dark rose, very large.
Ulrich Bruner, cherry red.
Perle des Blanches, white.
Madame Gab. Luizet, satin pink.
Baroness de Rothschild, light pink.
Marshal P. Wilder, cherry rose.
Persian Yellow, yellow.
Madame Plantier, white.
Mrs. John Laing, soft pink.

John Wanamaker

CHARLES E. SHANNAHAN,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
102 E. LEXINGTON STREET,
Near St. Paul St., opposite northwest corner Court House Square, first floor front,
BALTIMORE, MD.
Practices in all the Courts—Federal City County and the court of appeals.
Will attend promptly to all business entrusted to him either in county or city.

Potatoes, Potatoes,

Early Rose Potatoes at FIFTY CENTS bushel at Garey & Bros. Dover Street.

White Wash Brushes
White Wash Brushes
White Wash Brush

AND EVERYTHING ELSE IN SEASONABLE GOODS, ALSO THE BEST ASSORTED STOCK IN TOWN OF

Groceries, Queensware,

Headquarters for SHREDDED WHEAT, CRACKED WHEAT and POSTUM CEREAL, FINE CONFECTIONS a SPECIALTY.

MARTIN M. WRIGHT.

3 South Washington Street.
Telephone Call 42.

Excelsior Egg Preserver

will keep Eggs fresh as new laid for One Year. It only costs

One Cent Per Dozen,

to treat the eggs, and a child can treat them. Every family should buy a package and lay away a few dozen when eggs are cheap. For Sale only by

N. Tuthill & Son,
Easton, Md. t6-27

BOOTS, SHOES AND —GROCERIES.—

A complete line of specialties. Call and be convinced. We have a stock that will surprise you for quantity and variety. Prices low.
E. H. FURNESS & CO.
No. 9 S. HARRISON ST.

STATEMENT SHOWING THE CONDITION OF THE MASSACHUSETTS MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY OF MASS., DECEMBER 31st, 1896.

ASSETS.

Value of real estate and ground rents owned by the company, less amount of encumbrance thereon	$	540,250 42
Loans on bonds and mortgage		6,591,330 26
Stocks and bond absolutely owned by the company (market value)		7,276,908 76
Amount of all loans (except mortgages) secured by stocks, bonds, and other securities hypothecated to the company for cash actually loaned by the company		678,910 00
Interest due and accrued on stocks, bonds and other securities		326,988 63
Cash in company's principal office and belonging to the company deposited in bank.		516,504 73
Premiums due and in course of collection		534,896 81
Loans on Companies policies		1,377,571 00
Premium notes		699,988 29
All other admitted assets detailed in statement on file in this office		3,711 06
Total admitted assets	$	18,546,959 96

LIABILITIES.

Losses reported, adjusted and unpaid	$ 170,590 65	
Reserve as required by law	16,916,438 00	
Unpaid dividends due and to become due to policy holders	112,030 83	
Premiums paid in advance	5,208 84	
Total liabilities		17,204,268 32
Surplus as regards policy-holders	$	1,342,691 64
Total income		4,463,573 68
Total expenditures		2,849,129 11
40926 policies in force in United States on 31st Dec., 1896		102,867,061 00
114 policies written in Maryland during the year 1896		316,500 00
Premiums received on Maryland business in 1896		39,493 07
Losses paid in Maryland during 1896		3,000 00
Losses incured in Maryland during 1896		3,252 00

STATE OF MARYLAND.
Insurance Department, Commissioner's Office,
ANNAPOLIS, ——— 1897.

In compliance with the Code of Public General Laws, I hereby certify that the above is a true abstract from the statement of the MASSACHUSETTS MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY OF MASS., to December 31st, 1896, now on file in this Department.
F. ALBERT KURTZ.
4-3-3t Insurance Commissioner.

F. S. BIGGS, Manager, 4 South Street Baltimore, Md.

STATEMENT OF THE

ÆTNA LIFE INSURANANCE COMPANY

Of Hartford, Conn., to December 31, 1896.

Capital	$ 1,750,000 00
Total Admitted Assets	45,557,272 15
Total Liabilities	38,845,769.90
Net surplus	6,711,502 25

H. B. MEIGS & CO., Managers Life Department, E. E. STEINER, Manager Accident Department, Herald Building, Baltimore, Md.

HENRY SHREVE, AGENT, EASTON, MD.
4 3-3t

The Coming of APRIL

Reminds the men that it's time to buy their Spring and Summer Clothing and Furnishings. You've not bought yours yet? Then we have something that will please you.

In Clothing

We can give you the nobbiest, neatest, nattiest suits made to order, any style from $10 up. Over 700 samples to select from, so you're sure to find something to please. These suits are made by two of New York's best merchant tailors and fit is guaranteed.

In Shoes

We've everything for men and boys in Calf, Tan and Patent Leather; all the newest last. Calf and work shoes for men and boys in all styles and grades. A big line of men's and boys' tans, in the new colors, both in Calfskin and Vici kid, in all new styles, toes and lasts, in all grades; at prices that will suit you. Men's Calf Welt Patent Leathers in all latest styles, $3 to $5; they're beauties, too.

You Want a Hat?

Of course you want a hat that's becoming and in style. Nothing in the world gives a man a more outlandish appearance than a piece of out-of-date headgear. We've just what you want in stiff hats soft hats, alpines and caps in all styles and colors worn this season. A big line of straw hats have been bought and will be along later, when you are in need of them.

Furnishings

To be well and neatly dressed you must give some attention to your collars, cuffs and shirts. You've noticed, no doubt, how poorly fitting or out-of-style linen has marred the appearance of many a man. Why not wear the right kind, when its just as easy as to wear the wrong kind. In shirts we have the newest and latest creations in white and colors, neat and nobby patterns; pleasing styles; and the prices are a feature. In collars and cuffs you get your pick of as pretty a line as you can wish to see.

Stylish Neckties.

The manufacturers say our line of Neckwear is the prettiest and nobbiest lot ever displayed in Easton. But you don't have to take their word for it. Suppose you take a look for yourself. The lot contains all the newest styles and colors in four-in-hands, tecks, puffs, bows, and string ties.

Underwear in cotton and lisle thread, plain and fancy. Cotton and thread hosiery in whites, blacks, tans and grays; all prices.

Handkerchiefs, gloves, suspenders, umbrellas, canes and everything else required to complete a gentleman's outfit for the season.

Wm. T. Williams,

Easton's Haberdasher. 4 South Washington St.

STATEMENT SHOWING THE CONDITION OF THE

HARTFORD FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY,

OF HARTFORD, CONN.

December 31st, 1896.

ASSETS.

Value of Real Estate and Ground Rents owned by the Company, less amount of encumbrance thereon	$	459,575 00
Loans on Bonds and Mortgage		1,375,500 00
Stocks and Bonds absolutely owned by the Company (market value)		5,659,833 00
Amount of all loans (except Mortgages) secured by Stocks, Bonds, and other securities hypothecated to the Company for cash actually loaned by the Company		10,800 00
Interest due and accrued on Stocks, Bonds and other securities		25,181 93
Cash in Company's principal office and belonging to the Company deposited in Bank		991,814 44
Premiums due and in course of collection		1,091,613 65
All other admitted assets detailed in statement on file in this office		845 53
		$9,615,263 55

ASSETS NOT ADMITTED.

Securities deposited in various States for the protection of Policyholders in such States (market value)	389,434 00	
Liabilities in said States	252,999 86	
Surplus over said liabilities		136,434 14

LIABILITIES.

Losses reported, adjusted and unpaid	524,648 56	
Reserve as required by law	4,641,406 98	
All other claims	71,250 00	
Total Liabilities		5,237,305 54
Surplus as regards Policy-holders		4,377,958 01
Assets not admitted as above stated		136,434 14
		4,514,392 15
Capital Stock paid up	1,250,000 00	
Surplus as regards Stockholders	3,264,392 15	
Total Income	6,156,498 19	
Total Expenditures	5,485,101 20	
Amount of Policies in force in United States on Dec. 31, 1896	788,511,825 00	
Amount of Policies written in Maryland during the year 1896	3,732,276 00	
Premiums received on Maryland business in 1896	47,024 19	
Losses paid in Maryland during 1896	22,288 54	
Losses incurred in Maryland during 1896	27,401 14	

STATE OF MARYLAND, INSURANCE DEPARTMENT, COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE, ANNAPOLIS, April——, 1897.—In compliance with the Code of Public General Laws, I hereby certify that the above is a true abstract from the statement of the HARTFORD FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF HARTFORD, CONN., to December 31st, 1896, now on file in this Department.
F. ALBERT KURTZ, Insurance Commissioner.

ROBERT B. DIXON & CO.,
RESIDENT AGENTS, - - EASTON, MD.
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PRIZES

for Euchre or Whist Parties are easy to select from the large assortment of such goods we always keep in stock.

WEDDING GIFTS

of Gorham Silver, Plated Ware, Fancy Brass Ware.

O. F. STURMER, The Jeweler.