THE CHESTERTOWN TRANSCRIPT

Entered as second-class matter at the Postoffice, Chestertown, Md., in accordance with Act of Congress.

Publishers—R. H. Collins, & Sons.

Published every Saturday at The Transcript Building, Court Street, Chestertown, Maryland.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9th, 1939

ANOTHER TRAFFIC safety week ends tonight and the Safety Commission, through its various county committees has endeavored to bring to the attention of both motorists and pedestrians the destruction caused by automobile accidents and the proper methods of preventing them. The campaign has been publicized extensively and taken directly into all the schools of the State. It should at least make both motorists and pedestrians accident conscious and should help during the approaching holiday season. Traffic safety week is being conducted along the line of a recently made popular term, "Moral Rearmament," and it remains to be seen how long it will be before people forget.

THE COMMISSIONERS of Kent County will, as soon as possible after January 1st, strike the 1940 tax rate. This rate will be based on a budget of expenditures from June 15th, 1940, to January 1st, 1941, or, in other words, a six months period. That means that the tax rate for 1940 should be a half tax rate and the only thing that might offset the pleasure of paying a half tax rate is, that it is due April 1st and must be paid before October 1st. This new system was brought about by an act of the Legislature which makes the tax year conform with the calendar year. Regardless of the whys and wherefores, the important question in the minds of the tax payer is just how this new setup will affect his pocket book. In the first place, a half tax rate does not necessarily mean a rate that is half of the present one as the fixed expenditures for the six months period of June 15th to January 1st is generally more than that of the other six months due to the payment of the $80,000 road bond issue July 1st and other bond payments due at that time. However, increased gas tax revenues to Kent County under the present set up will partly overcome that burden. In the second place, this six months tax period is for 1940 only, as the rate to be struck in January, 1941, will be for a 12 months period and will necessarily be higher. One bright prospect for 1941, however, is the fact that the road bond payment for that year will be the last of the $900,000 issue and amounts to only $20,000. The gas tax receipts for 1941 should take care of all road bond payments and also the maintenance of county roads for which $30,000 is now levied. In other words, Kent County tax payers have practically completed the payment of a bond issue that paved 50 miles of road with 9 ft. concrete highways. The prospect of a lower tax rate in the future is bright, provided no big unexpected expenditure is necessary under Legislative act or referendum vote. Whether or not the payment of taxes in the spring will be more convenient than in the fall depends on the revenue period of the business of the individual taxpayer. Any drastic change in a routine system of many years, necessitates inconvenience, but once adjustment is made, it will probably work out satisfactorily.

WHILE THIS peaceful community is far removed from the turmoil now going on in Europe and Asia the news of criminal aggression upon weaker nations by the more powerful is something beyond our understanding in what was thought to be a civilized world. As bad as it might be over there it has at least had one effect here. It has awakened the American people to the realization of what a glorious country they have and has driven out any sympathy there might have been here for the various isms that have endeavored to gain headway among disgruntled and weak-minded individuals. There appears to be a nationwide sentiment against Germany and Russia, not because of their forms of government within their countries, but because of their carrying out of the destructive policy of "Might Makes Right" against other, and to be sure, weaker nations. When the time arrives that peaceful individuals including men, women and children cannot go about their daily routine of securing a livelihood without constant fear of being blown to pieces by bomds from destructive war machines, there should be a universal condemnation of such practices. The blame for such uncivilized warfare has been laid directly upon the heads of these above named countries but the socalled dictators are powerless to do such deeds themselves. They must be committed by hundreds of their followers who drop the bombs and see the destruction they render upon innocent victims. These practices have reached a point where we can justly and conscientiously condemn the entire military personel of the two countries, who, if they are driven beyond to act against their conscientious objections, they ar still a menace to the world for their cowardness and weakness.

FROM REPORTS from the water sections of Maryland, the oyster season thus far has been the best for several years. Oysters have been better and more plentiful and the price has ranged from 30c to 35c. The Conservation Commission states that oystermen have cooperated better than ninety percent in the oyster cull law. It will be remembered that during the last session of the Legislature, when the present conservation setup was adopted, there was much ranting about the Chesapeake Bay becoming barren of seafood and if watermen had any representation on the Commission. theer would be no seafood left. It has been our opinion, knowing many watermen, that they are as much interested in the future of the seafood industry, which is their living, as those who put out or believe much propaganda that was spread all over the State. We believe that a well balanced Commission must have the representation of practical watermen as well as those who make a study of the seafood industry. The first year's experience with the new conservation set-up has at least been satisfactory and deserves a further opportunity to prove its worth. We believe that the watermen as a whole will cooperate with the Commission as long as its policy is based on a sensible program and does not become a domineering one. Study and practical experience makes a well rounded individual or organization.

The calendar shows that there are just thirteen more shopping days before Christmas and as the days grow fewer, the rush generally becomes greater. It must be remembered that, as Christmas comes on Monday, all shopping must be completed Saturday. The last minute shopper finds that his ideas are those of the majority the stores are crowded, service is necessarily poor and the selection has been reduced to a minimum. Another important thing to remember this Christmas is that there is no mail delivery after the 23rd. Shop early and mail early is an appropriate slogan for the Christmas season of 1939.

Old Timer Comments On Politics

Dear Mr. Editor:

Seems as how somebody ought to be thinking something about what's going to happen in politicks coming spring cause altho the Rusians and Fins have stole the spotlight from the Germans, French and English it pears to me that politicks is going to break loose here soon and run the European situation to cover.

Course I don't claim to know it all but I bet some of the politick boys are going to be put on the spot and whether or not they can handle it will depend on how smooth they are at politicks.

With Mr. Radcliffe and Mr. Bruce pretty well decided on as wanting to be the Democratic candidates for the big job as United States Senator, it looks like it is going to be a real politikal battle. I say this because everybody remembers what Mr. Bruce did to help Mr. O'Conor beat Mr. Jackson by getting out of the fight himself and swinging all of his support. Then again everybody remembers how Mr. Radcliffe tore himself away from the embrace of Mr. Roosevelt to help Mr. Tydings get to be Senator again. Course they say that politicks hasn't got any conscious but this all happened too short a time ago for the boys who make the X mark to forget. Then again at this particklar time people seem to be pretty much fairminded seeing as how they cussed a lot about the Checq, Poland and Finn affair.

It all sums itself up to the point where Mr. O'Conor and the State Administration with all of the State appointees has got to get back of Mr. Bruce and Mr. Tydings with all of his admirers and Federal appointees has got to get back of Mr. Radcliffe.

Now you got something that looks to me like a tangled up mess where a lot of the big boys are going try to to keep quiet if they can. Course I ain't trying to start nothing or cause nobody no trouble but facts is facts and that is that.

En that ain't all; they got some excitement coming up down here on the Eastern Shore. I see by the papers that Mr. Roe from over here around Sudlersville is going to be a candidate for Congress and also that Mr. Ward is going to run again from Wicomico and also that maybe two other candidates are going to be in the field.

Now then it appears that the State Administration is going to or can have a lot to say about who is who and the question is who are they going to say. I recollect as how Mr. Roe supported Mr. O'Conor in Queen Annes County during the recent election and just about nominated him with the slight margin that Queen Annes gave him but this slight margin was enough to put him across. Course Mr. Ward supported Mr. O'Conor but he couldn't swing his county. Whether Mr. Roe will get the State support is yet to be found out. Course the State may try to stay neutral but that just makes everybody mad, and don't make friends of any of the candidates or their supporters.

I don't know what is going to happen and maybe what I think I know is wrong but anyhow it is going to be right interesting to watch and listen.

When one gets along in years they have got to have some hobby and mine is politicks which makes a good hobby if you don't take it too seriously. Maybe I'll write some more but that's all now.

UNCLE JAKE.

ANNOUNCEMENT

DR. F. A. HOLDEN will be at the Health Center, Chestertown.
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We consider this part of our work as important as any other. Our highest aim is to have our patrons look upon us as trusted friends, ready and anxious to render sympathetic assistance to those who remain behind.

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