THE SHORE OFFICIALS MEET IN CENTREVILLE

At least two very definite conclusions were reached at the semi-annual conference of the County Commissioners Association of the Eastern Shore, held in Centreville Monday of last week when county officials from six counties gathered there to discuss vital problems affecting administrative and governmental policies of the various communities.

These two conclusions were:

1—That the County Agent is an officer worthy of the support and encouragement of each community, and that his work is most valuable in promoting agricultural efficiency and prosperity.

2—That the counties of the Eastern Shore should take immediate steps to obtain a portion of the gasoline tax, to be used in the maintenance of dirt roads throughout the various sections.

The proposal of State officials to plan for elevated crossings at railroad intersections was not discussed.

It was the unanimous opinion of the assembled Commissioners that the County Agent's work is valuable and important and should be continued. Sentiment was divided over the value of Home Demonstration work, but the majority of Commissioners were of the opinion that it might be dispensed with without jeopardizing the best interests of the Shore.

In discussing the proposed increase of one cent a gallon in the gasoline tax, it was the opinion of the Commissioners that steps should be taken to obtain the proceeds from at least one cent—creating an annual sum of approximately $750,000—to be used as a maintenance fund for dirt roads in the counties. The proposal was not to have this fund used for elevated crossings, as this is regarded as purely a State project.

An address of welcome was delivered in behalf of the Town Commissioners of Centreville, by their counsel, Attorney Edwin H. Brown, Jr.

J. Watson Thompson, counsel to the Board of Commissioners of Dorchester county, made the response and expressed the pleasure of the visitors in being so heartily and hospitably welcomed to the shire town of Queen Anne's.

The morning business session then was called by President John A. Baker, president of the Dorchester Board of Commissioners, and also head of the Commissioners Association. Addresses were delivered as follows:

"Co-operation," by John M. Mumfor, of Worcester county.

"Relation of the Local Press to County Government," by P. Watson Webb, Cambridge publisher.

"Road Machinery," by County Engineer John R. E. Turpin, of Queen Anne's county.

"Twenty Years of Road Work," by Engineer Henry Corkran, of Dorchester county.

"Road Maintenance," by Engineer Clark, of Wicomico county.

At 1.30 o'clock the morning session was adjourned after which the visiting executives enjoyed a typical Queen Anne's county banquet at the Hotel Alexander. In the afternoon the various subjects listed for discussion were taken under consideration.

The visitors warmly expressed their appreciation for the splendid entertainment provided by the Commissioners. It was unanimously pronounced one of the most interesting, pleasurable and helpful conferences in the history of these semi-annual gatherings.

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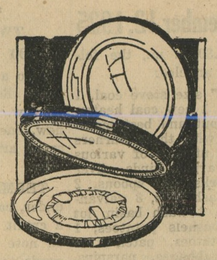

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