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COM'S FAVOR SLAG ROADS

Following up the stand of the Association of the County Commissioners of the Eastern Shore, taken at their recent meeting, favoring the building of slag roads, under the Post and Lateral Road Law in the counties, instead of concrete, John W. Mumford, President of the Association, and President of the Board of County Commissioners of Worcester County, directed the following letter to the State Roads Commission this week. Mr. Mumford is a firm believer in the advisability of building good slag roads as the solution of the counties' road problems and has seen them built and maintained in Worcester County successfully during his administration as a county commissioner. His letter follows:

"At the October meeting of our Association the problem was discussed as to the advisability of build-

ing a cheaper than concrete road under the Post and Lateral Road Law in Counties where the main highways have been completed. A committee to see Mr. Mackall and at our last meeting held in Denton in December this Committee reported that Mr. Mackall was disposed to go along with us if possible. It will soon be time to make our recommendations for 1929 and we would like to get your decision before then.

"Our idea was that in Counties where the State Highways are incomplete or where traffic was sufficiently heavy to demand concrete construction, that the present methods be followed; but in the counties where the main highways have been completed, a cheaper road be built.

"Being more familiar with the situation in Worcester county I will give the facts as they exist here—and in a more or less degree—I am sure they apply to many of the Counties on the Eastern Shore. Some twenty years ago when the State began the construction of Highways and the law was passed making it mandatory on the County Commissioners to provide the money for

whatever share belonged to this County, bonds were issued from year to year until the total became burdensome and it was patent that some method would have to be devised to rid the Counties of this direct tax. At the 1927 Session of the Legislature this burden was lifted by the gasoline tax which in our opinion is one of the finest things to the credit of our present administration.

"The farmer and land owner of farms back from the State Highways have borne the burden with those living on the highway, paying through the nose, and driving thru mud; have seen their land drop in value the last ten years from fifty to seventy-five per cent and for the past four years have barely made a living, and last year they lost heavily. I think we, who are servants of the public good should take cognizance of this situation and see that no part of their tax money shall be wasted. Should you adopt our proposal this year we might have at least fifteen miles of slag road in the County and open up our abandoned farms inviting new settlers and increasing the value of the land, thus

helping the State, County and land owners, instead of about four miles of concrete road the same as in the past. These people have paid their share in opening up our State Highways and maintaining them to the tune of several hundred thousand dollars with scarcely no benefits to themselves. Now that the tourist, the drummer and the trucker from other States has been served, I submit for the next five or ten years we should concentrate on our Lateral Roads and give our own people some of the benefits of their tax money. Since the last General Assessment the transfers of property show that seventy-five per cent of the farms have sold from thirty-three and one-third, to fifty per cent under their assessed value. Mr. Mackall has made some investigation of these slag roads and I am sure can give you data that will be convincing. Any other hard surfaced road-bed would be satisfactory so long as we get a lot more mileage for the same money.

"I shall be glad to appoint a Committee and appear before your Honorable Body at any time you designate if you so desire."

MOUNTS LOSE TO SHORE MEN

GIRAITIS STARS AS MT. ST. MARY'S LOSES 38-27.

Before the largest basket ball crowd of the year Tom Kibler's Flying Pentagon stepped in the path of Malloy's Saints march to the Maryland basket ball championship and defeated them 38-27.

In a thrilling first half that had the fans in a frenzy of excitement the two teams battled on even terms and when the whistle sounded for half-time the Mounts were leading 14-13.

With the beginning of the second half however Washington's offense began to function better and, using a passing attack that carried the ball up under the visitors basket and within scoring distance, Washington soon began to draw ahead. Mt. St. Mary's fought on harder and several times their rallies brought them within a few points of the champions.

Coach Kibler made no substitutions throughout the entire game and all five men played fine basket ball. Giraitis was the star of the game. In the opinion of many Giraitis played the best, and most aggressive game of his career at Washington College. He was all over the court; and linked with his great offense he played a fine defensive game.

The game was the best exhibition of real basket ball that has been seen here this season.

McCarrigan for Mt. St. Mary's and Lewis Jacobs for Washington were also high scoring men.

LACROSSE

Washington's first venture in the field of lacrosse will begin this March when Chief Beatty will assume charge of all aspirants for this sport. Chief was a stellar player at Maryland in 26-27 and is keenly anticipating this year's season.

The sport will not be a regularly constituted one this year, due to the newness of the team and the unfamiliarity of the game. Thus far several games have been scheduled by Graduate-Manager Dumschott, with Maryland and Baltimore. Others are pending satisfactory negotiations.

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