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ONE DOLLAR A YEAR

Bonds For County Schools And Teachers Urged

\$690,000 Bonds For Schools Urged

Will Be Debated By Civic Federation At Meeting February 8

A plan to sell bonds amounting to \$690,000, to finance Montgomery County school construction is to be submitted to the Montgomery County Civic Federation at its next meeting February 8.

This proposition coming from the Federation's Committee on school is also linked with a recommendation calling for an election Board of Education, instead of an appointive body as now exists.

On the program are 13 projects, one of which calls for a new elementary school building on Massachusetts Avenue extended that would relieve congestion in both the Somerset and Bethesda Elementary Schools. Costing approximately \$120,000, it would contain eight rooms.

Also on the list is a \$30,000 appropriation to purchase equipment for the new junior high school being built at Montgomery Hills and a \$45,000 allocation for necessary equipment for new buildings that would be erected under the 1937-39 schedule.

Other items are: Montgomery Blair Senior High School at Silver Spring, 10-class-room unit, \$120,000.

New junior high school at Takoma Park to supplant present Takoma-Silver Spring Junior High, which would be used for elementary grades, \$190,000.

Bethesda Elementary School, purchase of adjoining land looking to future enlargement, \$5,000.

Bethesda-Chevy Chase and Montgomery Blair Senior High Schools, ground treatment and development as athletic fields and play areas, \$22,000. Gaithersburg High School, new six-class-room unit, \$60,000.

Sherwood, Elementary School at Sandy Spring, new three-class-room unit, \$24,000.

Rockville Elementary School, two new class rooms, ground grading, \$30,000.

Poolesville, enlargements of assembly room and two new class rooms, \$30,000.

Repairs to colored schools at Martinsburg, Sugarland, Sellman, Damascus, Wheaton, Mount Zion and Unity, \$12,000.

To the report will be affixed a resolution asking the present law be changed so that subsequent vacancies on the board will be filled by election by the voters of the county at large.

The executive and advisory committee granted a hearing to the Beer Dealers Association of Montgomery County, at which were present Eugene J. C. Raney, Troy L. Waldrop, Frank B. Proctor and Lawton T. Faulconer. At its conclusion the committee adopted a resolution opposing the enactment of any legislation which would liberalize the conditions of sale of alcoholic beverages in Montgomery County.

Other recommendations which the committee will bring before the Federation are "the enactment of legisla-

tion placing all non-elective County employees under civil service and the enactment of legislation creating a Comptroller for Montgomery County to be comparable in duties and responsibility with reference to Montgomery County as is the Comptroller General of the United States with reference to the Federal Government.

BETHESDA C. OF C. ATTACKS NICE TAX PROPOSALS

The Bethesda Chamber of Commerce, meeting Monday night in the county building at Bethesda, Md., adopted a resolution instructing its secretary, John A. Overholt, to inform county delegates at Annapolis that it is "opposed" to all of the tax proposals of Governor Nice to finance his estimated \$70,000,000 budget.

In another resolution, the chamber urged immediate improvement and beautification of Connecticut avenue between Chevy Chase Circle and Chevy Chase Lake. The chamber has asked immediate grading and improvement as a playground and athletic field of the 12 acre site of the Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School.

In another resolution, the chamber urged that receipts from the special 30-cent "metropolitan tax" be kept separate from other county funds and budgeted each year. The association admitted Dr. Edwin H. Eitz to membership.

American Legion To Give Howitzer Private Medal

At the monthly meeting of the Arnold Wilburn Post No. 30, American Legion, it was decided to present to the outstanding private or private 1st class, of the Howitzer Company of the Maryland National Guard, located in Kensington, a Legion medal of merit for the most efficient and outstanding work as a guardsman for the year ending July 1, 1937.

This award is to be made upon the recommendation of a committee of three officers and the certification of the Arnold Wilburn Post of the guardsman selected.

Rockville C. of C. Will Urge Crossing Elimination

The proposed elimination of the Baltimore and Ohio grade crossing here and abandonment of the old wooden bridge over the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad tracks a short distance to the south when the new modern overhead nearby is opened to traffic within the next few months will be the principal matters considered at the monthly meeting of the Rockville Chamber of Commerce Thursday night, it was stated today by Morris Stern, president.

Both matters were discussed at length at a meeting of the executive committee of the chamber last night. It was decided to continue to urge continuance of the grade crossing and that modern safety devices be installed there and also to insist upon retention of the old wooden overhead.

Washington I. Cleveland, president of the Montgomery County Civic Federation and also head of the Kensington Chamber of Commerce, will address the chamber.

DIVERSION CUTS COUNTY ROAD TAX MONEY

The State Roads Commission announced yesterday diversion of road funds to the general treasury, contemplated in the State budgets for 1938 and 1939, will reduce by \$367,840 the money under the control of the commissioners of the various counties.

Proceeds from the cent and a half gasoline tax, known as the lateral road tax, is divided annually among the 23 counties and Baltimore city and is the only road tax money over which the county governments exercise any direct control. The commissions may designate how the Roads Commission should spend the money within their counties.

The commission said diversion of the funds to other uses than for roads would bring about sharp curtailment of the sums the counties would receive for the 1938 fiscal year—for use in new construction, maintenance of county roads, county debt service, or for assistance to incorporated towns.

Roads To Be Wider Say Roads Board

Two-lane roads built under the present State Roads Commission in future will be 22 feet wide, instead of 20, according to an announcement made at the office of the Commission yesterday. An additional margin of safety was given as the principal objective in the change of specifications.

Pointing to the large number of head-on collisions, sideswipes and collisions with fixed objects off the road, the Commission's statement held that these accidents are a clear indictment of too-narrow roads. Records of the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles show that of 13 fatal accidents in November, eight were head-on collisions, two were sideswipes and six were caused by cars striking fixed objects.

"Nationally recognized formulae call for two-lane roads where traffic volumes average 1,000 or more vehicles a day," said the announcement. "They call for more than two lanes where volumes are in excess of 4,000 cars a day on an average."

Communism and Socialism Out to Capture U. S.

"I want the worker to capture the state!"

Norman Thomas, Socialist candidate for President in the last three campaigns, sounded this call to American workers at Town Hall at the Shoreham Hotel Sunday.

Thomas was debating Neil Carothers, dean of the School of Business Administration of Lehigh University, on the topic, "How to Achieve the Abundant Life."

He expounded a three-point program for the abundant life for the masses, composed of:

1. Social ownership of the means of production and distribution, including public ownership of the Nation's resources.
2. Functional administration of this ownership by a non-partisan organization representing both producers and consumers.
3. A national economic planning board.

Dr. Carothers offered a stout defense of American capitalism, declaring the differences between his and Thomas' theories lies in that "he would burn the ship to get rid of the rats, and I would drive the rats out to save the ship."

Capper and Snell To Attend Ball

Senator Arthur Capper of Kansas and Representative Bertrand Snell, Minority leader of the House from New York, have reserved boxes for the Lincoln Day Ball, February 12th at the Raleigh Hotel. Several other prominent members have declared their intentions of attending and it is expected that a majority of the Republican members will be present for the grand march.

The receiving line will be completed by next week and it is hoped that Montgomery County will be well represented with its prominent Republicans. A refreshment bar and a floor show are planned by the Committee in charge and everything that will make this first annual Lincoln Day Ball a grand success is being considered.

CONN. AVE. FROM CIRCLE RIGHT OF WAY

For the purpose of improving Connecticut Avenue, between Chevy Chase Circle and Chevy Chase Lake, the Democratic Club, of Chevy Chase, is urging that official steps be taken to acquire the right of way of the Capital Transit Co., left in bad condition by the removal of car tracks, when buses went into service.

In a letter to the Montgomery County Commissioners, Curtis Walker indicates that the State Roads Commission has shown a definite interest in the project notwithstanding that funds are not immediately available for the project.

Walker, whose club has long advocated repaving the avenue, wrote the county commissioners after receiving a letter from the State highway body in which its chairman, Dr. H. E. Tabler, inquired whether the Capital Transit Co. would donate the right of way.

"Assuming that the transit company has title to a portion of this right of way, what are they going to do with it, asks Walker. "It would be in their interest to have a better roadway on Connecticut Avenue for their busses. It would also be of considerable benefit to the residents of Chevy Chase—their passengers."

"Now that the tracks have been abandoned," his letter continues, "the right of way is of no use to the transit company, and I should imagine that, in the public interest, they would be glad to assign to the State Roads Commission such title as they may have or claim."

"In the event the transit company would be unwilling to do this, then it occurs to me that the State should have it evaluated and if unsuccessful in negotiating, then it should be acquired by condemnation without further delay. This is a matter of utmost importance to the taxpayers of Chevy Chase."

Traffic Judgments Versus Bankruptcy

The State Assembly has adopted a favorable report on a bill providing that a discharge in bankruptcy does not set aside judgments or penalties returned under the State's automobile owner financial responsibility law. The law provides that in event of failure to satisfy a judgment in a traffic case the automobile owner concerned shall have his license tags and operator's permit suspended.

The Maryland Court of Appeals recently ruled that a bankruptcy proceeding set aside such a traffic judgment.

\$1,384,994 BOND ISSUE PROPOSED FOR TEACHERS

A provision in the budget submitted to the State Assembly, by Governor Harry W. Nice, calling for \$1,384,994 for the teachers retirement system, to be raised as general fund current revenue, is under advisement by the Senate Finance Committee, of the Legislature.

As a means of relieving the general fund, and thereby restoring nearly a million and a half dollars of highway diverted funds, a suggestion has been made to raise the teachers fund by a state bond issue. However, this is declared to be a costly method.

The State law setting up the teachers' retirement fund states that all moneys in that fund shall be used to purchase Maryland State bonds.

The proposed issue would be turned directly into the retirement fund.

However, State Budget Director William H. Blakeman said he felt the plan "certainly would be very costly" to the State and probably would not be workable. Blakeman said:

"If such a plan was adopted and permitted it would be very costly to the State. The law requires that the funds of the retirement system be invested in 4 per cent bonds—a bond would mean the State would have to issue 4 per cent bonds."

"We can issue construction bonds as low as 2 1/2 per cent, possibly as low as 2 1/4. The difference between these and the bonds we would have to place in the retirement system would mean about \$20,000 a year in interest alone. Since the bonds run for 15 years, it would cost the taxpayers more than \$300,000 above what they would have to pay in interest on construction bonds."

Town Council of Kensington Meeting

The Town Council decided at its regular meeting last week to adopt an ordinance to license all dogs within the town, and to collect the same fees as previously collected by the county for this purpose, thereby keeping the revenue so derived within the town.

In answer to a letter from the State Roads Commission, the Council went on record as opposing any parking ban on Howard Avenue at present.

By Resolution the Council opposed any diversion of the State Gasoline Tax fund for any purposes other than those specified in the original law as enacted.

Mayor Edw. R. Saunders explained the organization plan of the County Municipalities. The Council voted to support this plan.

The resignation of former Mayor Alfred L. Geiger from the Kensington Fire Board was accepted and Mayor Saunders was elected to fill the vacancy.

A letter from the Woman's Club of Kensington was read by the Clerk. They made the requests that the unsightly signs at the south entrance of town be removed; that the Council better the condition of the sidewalks in the vicinity of the Kensington school; and that a "One-Way" sign be placed in the alley between the C. & P. Telephone building and the A. & P. store. Favorable action was taken to comply with each request.

The Mayor stated that the trunk-line sewer extension had been promised consideration by the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission in the next bond issue.

351