The Enterprise

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Editor and Manager
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THE TOWN IMPROVEMENT BOND ISSUE

The Enterprise today prints, in another column, a pen picture depicting the writer's vision of the happy conditions resulting from the expenditure of $100,000 as contemplated in the proposed bond issue for the improvement of Chestertown's streets.

The article referred to, while unsigned, is from the pen of that versatile and fluent writer, Mrs. Nell C. Wescott, a regular staff contributor of this paper.

It has been repeatedly declared in these columns that The Enterprise, nor its editor assumes responsibility for, nor gives tacit endorsement to statements made or opinions expressed by its correspondents.

Indeed this rule is so universal in Journalism and so generally understood that it would seem superfluous to reiterate a similar disclaimer in this instance except for the authorship association mentioned and the peculiar local appeal of the subject.

Under the circumstances it is deemed expedient, perhaps incumbent, that the editor declare, at this time, his attitude toward the proposed Bond issue.

Without any equivocation he hereby announces his unalterable opposition to the contemplated legislation as provided in its present form. In our judgment the expenditure of $100,000, at this time, as proposed in the Bill prepared for legislative enactment, would be extremely unwise, and might produce results little dreamed of and radically different from that desired by even the most enthusiastic sponsers of the measure.

This judgment of the editor is given with all due respect to the opinion and wishes of others, and with all the modesty that public print will admit. He does not assume the role of Sir Oracle, nor claim infallibility.

He has reached this decision after most careful consideration of the proposition from every angle, having in view only the best interests of the community in which he has spent his entire life, and with the entire effacement of self and personal interest.

The article referred to was doubtless inspired by the enthusiasm and optimism of the author's immediate business associations and environs, and draws a pleasing picture. It can do no harm, and was made the basis of this editorial only because it came as a timely suggestion.

We have no quarrel with either optimists or dreamers. There is no objection to optimism. It always sees the bright side. It is a commendable virtue and oft-times an essential pre-requisite to successful accomplishment.

Foresight, or vision, also is a most desirable qualification for pathfinders, pioneers and for all who conceive the extraordinary beyond the ken of the average.

Indeed optimism and vision are twin factors in development and progress. Even the most fanciful dreamer is not without signal honor. His place and part in the world's progress is marked by numerous inventions that have revolutionized industry and added to the comfort and happiness of the peoples of the earth.

No artist ever produced a painting that won admiration but who had indelibly reflected on the retina of his eyes and brain the composite effect of the blended colors before his brush first touched the canvass.

The exact location of every beam and bolt in the contemplated structure is visualized by the master architect ere the blue prints are taken.

So we have only admiration for the vision, the optimism, the enthusism of those who perceive a greater and more attractive Chestertown.

The dreamer, however, too often sees only the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow, and fails to note its inaccessibility.

Our proponents of extensive civic improvements have caught a glimpse of the City Beautiful. We applaud. Have they given due consideration to the rugged pathway to their goal, or do they see only the end of the rainbow?

A prudent and successful builder never begins the erection of the massive structure of steel and iron without first making sure of his foundations.

Are we sure of our foundations?

One Hundred Thousand Dollars borrowed, with 50 years to repay.

Has an appealing sound. Looks well in print. Appears easy—to say. Nevertheless it would add materially to the tax payers' burden, and must be adjudged from this viewpoint, and adopted only if found fully justified.

And what of the additional extraordinary and contingent expenditures during these quickly passing years? Will not every improvement made at this time but add to the demands of the future if the system, symmetry and beauty of the vision are to be preserved and maintained.

Pass the responsibilities and burdens of future expenditures on to succeeding generations? Not illogical nor unreasonable—provided, of course, the present expenditures are reasonable in amount and disbursed in accordance with plans that will not entail upon those who are to follow additional costs as the penalty of our immediate folly, nor discount future resources and detract from municipal credit.

It must not be forgotten that the major portion of the loan now contemplated, while provided for in increased tax rate levied by present town officials, or as fixed by legal statute, will be paid by tax-payers of the next generation.

Every increase in the bonded debt depreciates the market value of the securities and adds to the difficulty of our future generations in negotiating other necessary loans.

Let us be sure of our foundations.

The most vital fundamentals of real civic improvement are adequate and permanent sewerage and water systems.

It is an undisputed fact that Chestertown's sewerage system is wholly inadequate, and our water mains, never up to standard, have deteriorated to the danger point. It is reasonably certain that both systems must be extensively repaired, or replaced altogether, long before the half century period covered by the proposed bond issue.

Are we to pass this urgent and vital demand for funds on to future generations, with the added cost of tearing up those road beds that we are now so carefully planning to build?

It would seem not only extremely unwise, but cowardly, as well, to do so. It is doubtful, indeed, if the taxpayers of today will ratify such procedure no matter how seductive the voice of the optimist, how glorious the colors of the rainbow, or how alluring the enticing charm of the pot of gold.

Come, good friends, let's take counsel among ourselves. Let's stop chasing rainbows and get our feet on good, solid terra firma.

We are a unit in wanting a more Beautiful City, bigger and better in every aspect. Let's unite on a program that will meet the approval of at least a decided majority of our taxpayers and citizens. Let's play safe. Let's be sure of our foundations. Do not risk an undue accumulation of bonded debt thereby injuring our municipal credit, depreciating the market value of our securities, and necessitating abnormal assessments and tax levies, All of which would be reflected in increased rentals or serious loss in property values, retarding investment and provoking evils too serious to contemplate except with grave concern and deep regret.

We would respectfully suggest, that the Bill now before the legislature, or about to be introduced, be recalled and amended in effect as follows:

Reduce the amount of the Bond issue to $50,000; provide for permanent curbs and gutters for every street in town; and for pavements upon a basis fair alike to tax payers and contigious property holders; omit provision for road bed construction except at one or two points that traffic and conditions urgently demand, and which would permit later under ground reconstruction at a minimum cost. This road bed construction may well be deferred —as a matter of fact should be —until the problem of sewerage and water mains is satisfactory solved. And it will not be necessary to wait for future generations to tackle the job of sewers and water mains. This must be met in the very near future, and it may that the tax payers will be so well pleased with the results of $50,000 thus expended, that even the more conservative may feel inclined to approve additional disbursements in due order.

This, in effect, represents the conditions and the maximum amount of Bonds, that The Enterprise editor can support. We believe it is, in effect, the maximum that scores and scores of our substantial tax payers and worthy citizens will approve.

We doubt very much that the proposed $100,000 issue will survive the test of a referendum vote. But even though it should be "put over" by virtue of some apparent advantages to the affirmative support, the result will be a sorely divided, disrupted, and discontented community. And a divided house must fall.

L. BATES RUSSELL.

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THE SHOE PINCHES—SO BOSSES WOULD REPEAL THE PRIMARY

Your hard-boiled political bosses everywhere are finding a shoe on the foot which pinches even more than they thought it was going to. It is the Direct Primary. And now, after a "reasonable length of time," subtle propaganda—and even brazen direct methods are being adopted by bosses in many states to repeal the primary law—and go back to the old boss-ridden and boss-controlled convention system.

Political bosses thought "a way would be found" to get around the primary—and put the men wanted in the desired offices. However, the ante was raised fast and we had the recent Illinois and Pennsylvania money debaucheries. Bosses now know there is "no way around" so they want the convention system again.

One fact the voters everywhere should never lose sight of is that the direct primary system puts the political power and control in their own hands—where it rightfully belongs. One hundred and twenty millions of people won't go so very far wrong—as compared to a handful of political bosses, thinking only of power, self and profits.

Any state which throws out the primary system and returns to the antiquated convention in nominating candidates is taking a step backwards. If any tinkering is to be done with the primary law—let it be to EXTEND the direct primary plan to the general election. Under such plan the party label is abandoned at the top of the ballot and the candidates grouped under the headings of the respective offices they seek. The party designation is placed after the name of each candidate. New England states, California, Oregon and New York have adopted it—and find that it works well.

Instead of letting a grafting political boss wrecking crew work on the primary—why not put a construction gang on the job? Then it won't be many years until the old time rotten boss is as extinct as the dodo.

CHRIST FOR ALL—ALL FOR CHRIST

The Word of God

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.—Psalm 119: 105.

Week beginning Sunday, March 6

GIVING GETS:—There is that scattereth, and yet increaseth; and there is that withholdeth more than is meet, but it tendeth to poverty. Proverbs 11:24.

PRAYER:—O God, Thou didst give us Thy best beloved. May we learn of Thee, and then we shall give as Thou hast given, and grow into the likeness of Thine own image."

What does the Bible say about weights and measures?

Answer, read—Deut. 25:13-15.

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BAKE.

The "Soldiers of The Cross" of the M. E. Church will hold a bake in H. F. Jefferson's store on Saturday, March 12th, beginning at 11 A. M., There will be for sale, bread, pies and cakes.

Announcement

I hereby announce myself as a candidate for Town Commissioner at election to be held on April 25th.

A. E. CULVER.

ORDINANCE NO. 40
PASSED 1927

Be it enacted and ordained, that it is unlawful for any person or persons to fire guns, pistols, cannons, cat rifles, air rifles, sling shots, bow and arrow, within the Town limits; any person violating this ordinance shall pay a fine of not less than $5.00 or more than $25.00 and costs of prosecution, such fines and costs to be collected as provided by law.

By order of
COM. OF CHESTERTOWN.
James W. Crouch, Clerk.

ORDER NISI

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF ISAAC COOPER. DECEASED

IN THE ORPHAN'S COURT FOR KENT COUNTY, MARYLAND

ORDERED by the Orphan's Court for Kent County, this 15th day of February, 1927, that the sale of the property mentioned in these proceedings, made and reported by William Frazier Russell, Jr., Executor under the last will and Testament of the late Isaac Cooper, be ratified and confirmed, unless cause to the contrary thereof be shown on or before the 2 th day of April next; provided a copy of this order be inserted in some newspaper printed and published in Kent County, Maryland, once in each of three successive weeks before the 26th day of March next.

The report states the amount of sales to be $250.00.

EDWARD A. SCOTT,
J. HENRY THOMPSON,
JAMES H. GROVES,
Judges of the Orphans' Court.

True Cop:
Test,
S. G. CALDWELL, Register of Wills.

—The Enterprise $1.00 A Year.

$50.00 Reward

A coupon given with each purchase. Holder of lucky coupons will be rewarded prizes on March 17.

1st prizes $25 on any complete Stewart-Warner Radio
2nd prize $16 Gold Sheaffer Pen and Pencil Set.
3rd prize $9 Sheaffer Gold Pen.

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Geo. Edw. Furbush — Vernor M. Barnett
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When better automobiles are built, Buick will build them

ANNOUNCEMENT

Massey & Wilmer, well known fertilizer firm of Chestertown, have bought out the well established harness business of Walter Bramble.

Our expert harness repair man is prepared to serve our patrons, we are in a position to furnish any equipment needed in this line at reasonable prices.

The new harness and repair shop is located in our warehouse opposite the railroad station.

We also carry a complete line of field seeds with highest tested germination.

We hope thru these lines to be able to give additional service to those who have already favored us with their patronage in the fertilizer business.

Massey & Wilmer

Chestertown, Maryland

Phone 183

ORDINANCE NO. 39
PASSED 1925

Be it enacted and ordained, That no person or persons shall for the purpose of loading or unloading, or otherwise, be permitted to enter upon or cross over the sidewalks and pavements in Chestertown with cart, dray, dearborn, wagon, motor truck or other vehicle; Excepting across said walks or pavements, where there are well defined driveways.

And for violation of this ordinance the person or persons shall pay a fine of not less than Ten Dollars, or more than Twenty-five dollars, and costs of prosecution, such fine and costs to be collected as provided by law.

By order of
COM. OF CHESTERTOWN.
James W. Crouch, Clerk.

CANDIDATE FOR RE-ELECTION AS TOWN COMMISSIONER

Having been solicited by a number of citizens and tax payers of Chestertown, I hereby announce myself as a candidate for re-election as town commissioner, subject to the will of the majority. I make no promises to any particular section or to any individual, but if elected will try to work for the best interest of ALL.

JOHN W. BARNES.

MUSIC—PIANO

Miss Louise B. Russell, holder of Teachers' Certificate from the Peabody Conservatory of Music, is now ready to start, her Fall Schedule and offers her services to all desiring to study the piano.

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Eat Crook's Genuine "Whole Wheat" Bread only 8c Loaf

BUTTER BUNS very delicious dozen in carton	WEEKLY CAKE SPECIAL ORANGE LAYER CAKE with cream icing —each	Banquet or Pound CAKE
16c	49c	Pound 25c

Beardsley's SHREDDED COD-FISA	RICH CREAMY CHEESE	Tall No. 1 Can PINK SALMON
2 Pkges 25c	29c POUND	2 cans for 25c

6 Oz. Bars IVORY SOAP, 4 for 25c

"FRESH FROM THE LAND OF SUNSHINE"
California Lima Beans 2 lbs. 15c

MARSHALL'S HERRING CAN	Schimmels Pure STRAWBERRY PRESERVES	MORNING CHEER COFFEE
27c	Jar 19c	39c

CROOK'S BIG 21c MEAT SALE

TENDER CHUCK ROAST STEAK Pound 21c

SATURDAY SPECIAL — SMALL LEAN SMOKED PICNIC Shoulders lb. 21c — SATURDAY SPECIAL

ROLLED BONELESS POT ROAST Pound 21c

Fresh Tender Beef Liver lb 21c — Dry Salt Fat back lb. 21c

CRISP ICE-BERG LETTUCE —2 Heads	NO. 1 SOUND DRY ONIONS —5 Pounds
21c	21c

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