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COURT HOUSE NEWS

TRANSFERS OF REAL ESTATE, ORPHANS COURT, MARRIAGE LICENSES, ETC.

Transfers of Real Estate.

Francis T. Davis et al. to Joshua O. S. Shipley, 7 acres, \$1500.
Alverta M. Wolbert and husband to Anthony Z. Kimmel, 10 1/2 for \$10.
George W. Adridge to Elmita Adridge, 2 tracts, for \$10.
Emerson C. Brown et al. to William D. B. Hepper, 39 square perches, for \$350.
William D. B. Hepper and wife to Margaret A. Hobbs, 39 square perches for \$350.
Mills Easton to Ralph E. Bennett, one acre, for \$1.
Benj. F. Brown, Jr. and wife to Benj. F. Brown, Sr., lot for \$5.
Henry Steele and wife to Harrison Talbot, 8 acres, for \$800.
Henry M. Fitzhugh and wife to Margaret L. Smith, 1-8 acre, for \$10.
Joseph W. Smith et al. to Henry M. Fitzhugh, lot for \$10.
John C. Elserod and wife to Lily E. Miller et al., 2 acres, for \$1100.
Harvey J. Lippy to Raymond P. Buchman, 18 acres, for \$5.
John T. Stoner and wife to William H. Jones and wife, tract, for \$5.
John J. Reese, executor, to Eugene Reese, 1/4 acre for \$500.
Nathan H. Baile et al. to Margaret Smith, 28,500 square feet, for \$10.
Howard C. Merkel and wife to Harry E. Fieagle, 5 acres, for \$468.
Laura S. Bankert et al. to William O. Fleishman and wife, tract, for \$250.
Ernest C. Gelman and wife to Alfred Stevenson and wife, 10,000 square feet, for \$10.
Oscar W. Harris et al. to Franklin R. Bohm and wife, 38 acres, for \$4200.
Eva G. Garner and husband to G. Fielder Gilbert, tract, for \$10.
Grover C. Fox and wife to Charles T. Hoffman and wife, 21 acres, for \$400.
William Stoffer and wife to William G. Little and wife, 23,360 square feet, for \$800.

Jurors for May Term of Court

Chief Judge William H. Thomas drew the following jurors to serve the May Term of the Circuit Court for Carroll County, which will convene on May 9th next:
Taneytown district—Harry Sentz, Harry A. Allison, Howard F. Legore and George I. Harman.
Uniontown district—Joseph Calvin Dodder, Walter G. Snader, Edward C. Keefer and Milton A. Zollicoffer.
Myers district—William A. Kirkhoff, Charles W. Kooniz and Theodore M. Bowman.
Woolery district—John F. Schaeffer, Leonard J. Frick, Bradford B. Blizard and William T. Harris.
Freedom district—Daniel H. Arrington, Asa Hepper and John L. Bollinger.
Manchester district—John H. Leese, Charles F. Lippy, John T. Harris, Theodore R. Strevig and William C. Keck.
Westminster district—William H. Bowers, Charles H. Leese, John Sentz, Nathaniel H. Baumgartner, Harry C. Hesson, Harvey M. Petry, John D. Belt, George M. V. Wantz, and Herbert G. Mathias.
Hamptstead district—Joseph F. Utz, Granville Reed and Lee C. Leister.
Franklin district—Howard L. Price and Charles A. Flemming.
Middleburg district—David B. Reitsnyder and Newton E. Slix.
New Windsor district—Herbert G. Englar, John W. Smith and William Hesson.
Union Bridge district—Oliver J. Stoner and John T. Miller.
Mount Airy district—Thomas W. Poole and Oliver T. Davis.
Berret district—Joshua G. Trayer and Albert Selby.

Orphans' Court

Monday, April 19th.—Edward E. Reindollar, executor of Edward W. Reindollar, deceased, returned an inventory of personal property and received an order to sell personal property.
John C. Shreeve and George L. Stockdale, executors of Agnes M. Shreeve, deceased, returned an inventory of debts and settled their first and final account.
Edward E. Beard, acting executor of Rachel E. Caylor, deceased, returned an inventory of debts and settled his first and final account.
Tuesday, April 19th.—The last will and testament of Abraham H. J. W. Black, deceased, was admitted to probate and letters of administration with the will annexed were granted unto Calvin E. Bankert, who received warrant to appraise and an order to notify creditors.
John J. Reese, surviving executor of William Reese, deceased, reported sale of personal property and settled his fourth and final account.
Carroll G. Warehime, administrator of Mandell Shaeffer, deceased, returned an inventory of debts.

Marriage Licenses.

Lionel Sinclair Lockard, of Westminster, and Naomi Beulah Taylor, of Patapsco.
Joshua S. Cross, of Sykesville, and Ruby Johnson, of Kent county, Md.
Paul John Noll and Elmina S. Hoffacker, both of Hanover, Pa.
Harry M. Black, of Finksburg, and Amanda Willette Abbott, of Baltimore city.

FARMERS ORGANIZED

OFFICERS ELECTED—HERBERT R. WOODEN, PRESIDENT; ROBERT GIST, TREASURER—CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS FRAMED.

The final meeting of organization, drawing up of a Constitution and By-Laws was held in the County Agent's Office, Saturday, April 9th. The meeting was composed of delegates from the different organizations of the county. All organizations were not represented because they have not had a meeting to accept constitution and elect delegates.

Following is a list of the organizations answering roll call and their delegates:
Smallwood Grange—John E. Nelson, Geo. A. Shipley, Mrs. G. A. Shipley, Feenly I. Hering, Columbus Shipley, Mrs. Columbus Shipley.
Snydersburg Grange—Mr. H. R. Mathias, Mrs. H. R. Mathias, Mrs. Laura Snyder, Hon. H. R. Wooden, Jacob Brehm, Mrs. Liza Smith.
Barrett Grange—J. J. Brandenburg, Mrs. F. J. Brandenburg, J. M. Grimm, John C. McKinney, J. R. Davis, C. Raymond Beck.
Country Association—T. W. Kemp, Roy C. Hook, Dr. G. L. Wetzel, D. F. Shipley, Jr., Mrs. C. W. Williams, Geo. Mather.

Sweet Corn Growers' Association—Lester S. Patterson, G. Harry Heaver, Jesse P. Weybright, Geo. E. Sauble, A. P. Frizell, Carroll Kaver.
Pomona Grange—George A. Leister, Chas. S. Conaway, Mrs. Chas. Pelz, Mrs. G. A. Leister, Mrs. James Beacham, J. T. Gosnell.
Fruit Growers' Association—Dr. Luther Kemp, Ray Fogle, A. P. Snader, J. M. Myers, Roy Singer, John Sentz.

Several changes were made in the constitution and by-laws before its final adoption. The most important was the name of the organization which will be known as the Carroll County Farmers' Council.

The annual meetings shall be held on the third Tuesday of March, and the bimonthly meetings will be held on the third Tuesday in the months of May, July, September, November, January and March.

The election of officers took up very little time as most of the delegates seemed to have formed a slate beforehand. Hon. Herbert R. Wooden was elected President, Mrs. Chas. Pelz, Vice-President; County Agent Fuller, Secretary, and Mr. Robert Gist, Treasurer.

The following committees were appointed:—Appropriation Committee, Committee on Program of Work and Publicity Committee.
Dr. Bomberger, acting Director of Extension Work in Maryland, was present and took part in the discussions. He urged the affiliation of the Carroll County Farmer's Council with the Maryland Agricultural Society which in turn is affiliated with the American Farm Bureau Federation.

The Council voted to affiliate with the Maryland Agricultural Society and appointed Lester S. Patterson delegate to the Council of that body.
The next meeting of the Council will be on 17th of May in the County Agent's Office, Westminster. All who are interested in the rural life of the county are welcome.

"The Boys' Bride" at Blue Ridge College, April 29th.

Wm. Rhys Herbert's Operetta "The Boys' Bride" will be given at Blue Ridge College by the Music Department, next Friday night, April 29th. The amusing nautical yarn, combined with the pretty, sprightly melodies will make an evening of pleasure for the large number of persons who have come to look forward with pleasure to these annual Operettas at Blue Ridge.

Another Music Store.

J. E. and W. H. Nace, of Hanover, Pa., will open another music store on Saturday, April 30th, at Westminster, Md. This will be their fourth store. Each of these carry a complete stock of Pianos and Player Pianos, Columbia Gramophones, Hanover Talking Machines, and "The New Edison" Phonographs, in addition to a full line of Records, Roll Music, Sheet Music, and Band and Orchestra Instruments. Each of these stores has a girl in charge at all times, and they have a truck leaving from Hanover every morning to sell and deliver the instruments sold. The other stores are located at Hanover, Pa., Gettysburg Pa., and Hampstead, Md.

County Commissioners.

The following business was transacted by the County Commissioners: The road from Uniontown road to Linwood road was accepted by the board.
A delegation from Union Bridge was before the board and asked for improvements to the Bark Hill road.
John D. Roop, New Windsor district, was appointed county surveyor to fill out the present year.
The sitting of the board for transfers and abatements has been completed for the year 1921.

REBEKAH LODGE AT MT. AIRY

NEW FRATERNAL ORDER HAS CHARTER MEMBERSHIP OF 163.

Dorsey Rebekah Lodge, No. 68, I. O. O. F., was instituted at Mt. Airy, April 12, with a charter membership of 163. The initiation was performed by the degree staff of Queen Esther Rebekah Lodge, No. 2, of Baltimore, after which the new lodge was instituted by Mrs. Lillian F. Stickle, president of the Rebekah Assembly assisted by the past president, Mrs. Margaret Roberts and Secretary Mrs. Susan Jones. The name was given in honor of the past grand master, Frank C. Dorsey, who died several weeks ago. The following officers were elected and installed: Noble grand, Mrs. D. E. Smith; wife grand, Mrs. C. Fleming; recording secretary, Mrs. Blanche Spurrer; financial secretary, Mrs. W. D. Snyder; treasurer, Mrs. H. R. Zepp. The degree staff, No. 2, of Queen Esther, did splendid work, under the direction of William E. Kerr and McGowan. Other persons whose names were on the petition but who could not be present will be initiated later. Past Grand Charles E. Smith was appointed deputy president.

The newly-organized lodge will be an auxiliary to Prosperity Lodge, No. 28, of Mt. Airy, and starts out very auspiciously.

Elope to Westminster.

Mr. Frank A. DeVore, of Baltimore, and Miss Alice G. Fines, of Washington, D. C., were married in this city Saturday and were married by Rev. Van Dyke, pastor of the Methodist Protestant church, this city. They had their attendants with them. The elopers were put to some embarrassment at first as they could not locate a pastor. The Methodist Protestant church, after asking several citizens, the whereabouts of a pastor, Rev. Van Dyke was located and the ceremony performed.

Ministerial Union of Carroll County Special Gathering.

Next Monday, April 25th, will be Rally Day for the Ministerial Union of Carroll County. A special program has been arranged at the Methodist Episcopal Church and it is expected that every minister of the evangelical Protestant churches in the county will be present. Business session from 10 to 10:30 a. m. From 10:30 the gathering will be addressed by Rev. Doctors F. T. Little, Charles W. Baldwin, and S. J. McDowell, all of Baltimore, on vital and pressing issues. On this special occasion the Sunday School Superintendents in all the churches of the county are also cordially invited to attend.

Mr. Edmondson Surprised.

A surprise birthday party was given at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. T. Edmondson on the night of April 12 in honor of Mr. Edmondson's 40th birthday. The guests began to arrive about 7:30. All spent a very pleasant time in playing games of all kinds and music by the piano, until a late hour, when all were invited to the dining room, where the table was laden with many good things to eat, to which all did ample justice. The birthday cake containing 40 candles, was lighted by Mr. Edmondson and Mr. Day. Mr. Edmondson received many useful and beautiful presents. There were 60 or more people present. The surprise was complete, as the host did not know anything about it until they all had arrived. After thanking the host and hostess for the pleasant evening spent, at a late hour all departed for their respective homes, wishing Mr. Edmondson many more happy birthdays.

Return of "Princess Bonnie."

None, who, in February, 1909, heard the rendering of Willard Spencer's beautiful operetta, "The Princess Bonnie," by Westminster musicians, has ever forgotten, and all will learn with pleasure that after a lapse of years it is to be repeated, at the Opera House, on May 26th and 27th. The rehearsals are now in progress. Mrs. Noah Schaeffer, who as Miss Elizabeth Slagle, was the pianist and assisted in the direction of the former production, is again the director. Her sister, Mrs. Howard Ramsey, of Baltimore, who then as winsome "Princess Bonnie" reached the climax of brilliant success, as she sang gloriously of "Love, First Love," and swayed all hearts with the beautiful melody in waltz tempo, that runs through the opera, from overture to finale, "Dreaming of Love so True," will again take the leading part. The opera will be rendered by the benefit of the Westminster Free Library.

W. M. C. Quarantined.

On account of diphtheria Western Maryland College was quarantined. The College will be closed until the disease is brought under control. It is said that the cases are only in a mild form.

ATHLETIC CONTESTS BY COLORED SCHOOLS

SYKEVILLE COMES THROUGH WITH 40 POINTS, CLOSELY FOLLOWED BY WESTMINSTER—PAGE BELL WINS DECLAMATION CONTEST—JOHNSVILLE GIRL THE RECITATION PRIZE.

The Third Annual Athletic Meet of the Colored Schools of the County was a decided success. There were 163 children who participated in the meet. The meet was won by the Sykesville school, this school having made the highest number of points. The results are as follows:
Sykesville, 40 points.
Westminster, 32 points.
Prestland 22 points.
Bark Hill, 8 points.
Fairview, 6 points.
White Rock, 5 points.
Western Chapel, 4 points.
Johnsville, 1 point.

At 3 p. m. the annual declamation and recitation contest was held at Union street Methodist Episcopal Church. There was a hard fight made by all contestants to win the prize, which was \$2.50 in gold, and this became eligible to take part in the State contest which is to be held at the State Normal School, Bowie, Maryland. The winning contestants were Page Bell, of Union street school, (declamation) and a little girl from Johnsville school (recitation). The colored schools of the county will be well represented by these two pupils at the State Contest and feel that there is no doubt but that they will come back with the State prize. Both the meet and the declamation and the recitation contest were well attended by patrons and parents.

Nail-Hoffacker

Miss Elmina Hoffacker, and Mr. Paul J. Nail, both of Hanover, Pa., were married Saturday evening, April 16, at the Lutheran parsonage, Silver Run, by Rev. A. G. Wolf.

Hiltzbride-Boone

Charles F. Hiltzbride, of Woodstock, and Miss Ella A. Boone, of Johnsville, were married by Rev. L. J. Murray, at Woodstock, on April 12.

Weaver-Sappington

Stephen C. Weaver, of Littlestown, and Miss Caroline May Sappington, of Keymer, were married by Rev. T. J. Kayanough, pastor of the Catholic Church, at Liberty, on April 12.

WARNING—DIPHTHERIA.

There are several cases of diphtheria in Westminster. There has been a rather extensive exposure. Parents are advised to examine their children's throats every day, and if there is any indication of trouble to call in their physician at once. The cases that are not seen early and properly treated are very much more likely to be serious. These unrecognized cases are largely responsible for the spread of the disease.

To Dedicate Brethren Church.

The members of the Church of the Brethren at Reisterstown will dedicate their new house of worship on next Sunday, April 24th. Edger C. D. Bensch, of New Windsor, will preach the dedicatory sermon at 11 a. m. Elder A. P. Snader, of New Windsor, will have charge of the services at 2:30 and Elder George A. Early, of Westminster at 7:30.

\$6307.50 Contributed.

The excellent amount contributed toward the LaFrance fire truck for the Westminster Fire Department has reached \$6307.50 up to last night, with \$263.75 promised. The contributions by districts are as follows:
Precinct No. 1.....\$2167.25
Precinct No. 2.....1908.60
Precinct No. 3.....1298.40
Precinct No. 4.....932.25
Total.....6307.50
Amount in sight.....368.75
\$6676.25

The fire company proposes to give exhibitions at Union Mills and other towns around Carroll county to demonstrate to the citizens what a LaFrance fire fighter will do when called upon for active service.

Fined For Having 377 Quarts.

Pleading guilty of the illegal possession of 377 quarts of whiskey at Ridgeville, on January 20 last, Jacob Winebrenner was fined \$125 and costs by Judge Rose in the United States Court, Baltimore.

Prohibition agents swept down upon a garage used by Winebrenner on the night of January 20 last and confiscated several truckloads of the liquor.

"One Glass of Wine"

The citizens of Statewood and community, will, tomorrow night, present with home talent in the J. O. U. A. M. Hall, Statewood, a play entitled "One Glass of Wine." This promises to be an excellent show and a crowded house should be on hand.

SEMINARY COMMENCEMENT

SESSIONS FROM MAY 1 TO 3—LIST OF GRADUATES AND THESE—DR. ELDERDICE TO DELIVER BECALAUREATE SERMON.

Thirty-eighth commencement of the Westminster Theological Seminary, Westminster, Maryland, will be held from May 1 to 3.

Sunday, May 1, in the Methodist Protestant Church, 10:30 a. m. Baccalaureate Sermon, President Elder Joseph William Kirk, A. M., B. D., D. D., 1885.

Monday, May 2, in the Seminary Chapel, 8:00 p. m., thirty-eighth anniversary by the Stockton Literary Society.

Tuesday, May 3, in the Seminary Chapel, 10:00 a. m., annual meeting of the board of Governors.

Tuesday, May 3, 8:00 p. m., Commencement Exercises; anthem, Seminary Double Quartette; Scripture lesson, P. M. Holden; prayer, Rev. J. W. Gill, D. D.; solo, T. J. Turkington; class oration, P. F. Warner; address to the graduating class by Rev. J. C. Brownfield, D. D., Fairmont, W. Va., "Unto Timothy, my son in the faith, Diplomas and degrees, doxology; benediction, Rev. J. D. Sinkinson, D. D.

Graduates and These are as follows:
Earl Cummings, Baltimore, "Biblical Diseases and Demonic Possessions."
Charles H. Dobson, Oxford, Md., "Confession and Faith."
Charles Melville Keiser, Washington, D. C., "The Virgin Birth."
Russell Murphy, Bridgeton, N. J., "The American Social Ideal."
Bachelor of Divinity—John Clyde Auman, Seagrave, N. C., "The Efficacy of the Atonement."
Joshua Tracey Fenby, Reisterstown, "The Doctrine of the Person of Christ."
Ferry E. Grim, Parkersburg, W. Va., "Regeneration."
Paul F. Ira Hoelzel, Lost Creek, W. Va., "Simon Peter."
Paul Farwell Warner, Baltimore, "The Authority of the Scriptures."

Trinity Lutheran Church.

"Here I stand, I cannot do otherwise. God help me. Amen." On April 18th, 1523, at the Diet at Worms, Martin Luther spoke these memorable words. The 400th anniversary of this event, which is called by Thomas Carlyle "The Greatest Moment in Modern History," was celebrated last Sunday throughout the world. It was the intention of the congregation of Trinity Lutheran Church, Deer Park Road, to observe the day, but the inclemency of the weather prevented, and its celebration was postponed until next Sunday, when it will be commemorated with a Sunday School rally and reorganization at 9:30 o'clock, and special service and sermon at 10:30 o'clock. All members and friends of the congregation are urged to bring their children to the rally and church service.

Ritchie To Probe Purchasing Bureau

Governor Ritchie is not entirely satisfied with the operations of the State Purchasing Bureau, a new department of the State government, created within the last year, and he has decided to make a personal investigation of that bureau. The Governor has been moved to such action by complaints, and he is determined to probe these "kicks" and act to eliminate the causes wherever they exist.

Disc From Injuries.

Francis W. Brown, aged 51 years, of Sykesville, died Monday at the University of Maryland, Baltimore. Mr. Brown's death came from a fractured skull, broken collarbone and internal injuries, caused by a fall of 20 feet from a mechanical coal chute at Springfield Hospital Saturday.

Saves Negro Floater From Death in Fire

Five negro "floaters" without homes or work, were rounded up in the southern section last week as the result of an order issued by Acting Marshal Henry.

Special Notice.

There will be no services in the Methodist Protestant Church next Sunday evening, as the Christian Endeavor Society will make a return visit in a body to the C. E. Society of the Reformed Church of Silver Run. Morning services as usual; Sunday school at 9:30. Preaching at 10:30 by the pastor, Rev. Dr. E. H. Van Dyke, subject "The Signs of Jesus."

TO FACE MURDER CHARGE

BOWMAN AND MRS. MURRAY INDICTED BY WEST VIRGINIA GRAND JURY FOR DEATH OF W. A. MURRAY.

Mrs. W. A. Murray and W. A. H. Bowman, of Martinsburg, W. Va., formerly of Oakland Mills, near Sykesville, were indicted Tuesday by the Berkeley County Grand jury, for the poisoning and death of W. A. Murray at Martinsburg on March 16. None of the defendants appeared before the grand jury in person, the evidence against them being submitted by the State in the form of alleged confession made by Mrs. Murray and evidence given by Mrs. Murray and others involving Bowman. The trials of the accused are set for next week. Mr. Murray's death was caused by strychnine put in his food by his wife. His remains were brought to Oakland and buried. The cause of his death from indigestion did not satisfy the officials here so they had his body removed from the grave and the stomach sent to Baltimore for examination, where it was found he was poisoned which was the direct cause of his death. This resulted in the arrest of Mrs. Murray and Bowman.

Identifies Stolen Automobile.

After a search since March, David Shulman, Philadelphia, located his Paige automobile in the possession of David Stoeser, near this city. Mr. Stoeser became owner of the Paige car through a deal with the Baltimore Police Department. Stoeser was working in York and had his Oakland roaster with him. The crook had several cars and proposed a deal in which the roaster and \$300 was paid by Stoeser. Of course the deal was bought about by the thief that Stoeser did not suspect that he was receiving a stolen car. After a short while when business slackened he brought the car home and used it Saturday a detective from York, Mr. Shulman, the owner, and a representative from the North American Insurance Company, having learned that a car tallying to description of his was brought here, came and identified the machine. The machine was held by Sheriff Bloss until this morning when the insurance company arrived and took the machine home. Stoeser is out of his car and \$300.

Shall We Put Carroll County on the Poultry Map?

This is the question to be decided at a meeting of the Carroll County Poultry Association to be held at the County Agent's Office, Westminster, Wednesday, April 27, at 8 p. m. As a member of the association you are urged to be present. Every county surrounding us has an annual poultry show of which it is proud. Carroll County has had one to be proud of and it is up to you if we have another. Thomas W. Kemp, President.

Farmers' Calendar.

April 26—Frigellburg Grange.
April 27—Poultry Association, County Agent's Office, Westminster 8 p. m. sharp.
April 28—Mt. Airy Grange.
May 3—Smallwood Grange 7:30 p. m.
Westminster Grange 7:30 p. m.
May 4—Berret Grange.
May 5—Grange 7:30 p. m.
May 7—Union Bridge Grange 7:30 p. m.
May 17—Carroll County Farmers' Council.
May 24—Pleasant Valley—Woman's Meeting 2 p. m. Community Meeting 8 p. m.
May 25—Eldersburg—Woman's Meeting 2 p. m. Community meeting 8 p. m.
May 26—Keymer—Woman's Meeting 2 p. m. Community meeting 8 p. m.
May 27—Westminster Woman's Meeting 2 p. m.

Sergeant Durling Round-Up of Vagrants Rescues Man from Car.

Five negro "floaters" without homes or work, were rounded up in the southern section last week as the result of an order issued by Acting Marshal Henry.

RETRENCHMENT AND REFORM

GOV. RITCHIE IS PREPARING TO CONSOLIDATE SEVERAL DEPARTMENTS TO REDUCE EMPLOYEES OF THE STATE AND ALSO REDUCTION IN SALARIES.

Baltimore April 21, 1921. The program of retrenchment and reform which Governor Ritchie is preparing is based on the consolidation of the several departments of the State Government, and will result in the reduction of the large and unwieldy force of employees, and in many instances in the reduction of salaries, will soon be ready for publication. In this plan it is proposed to prevent the many duplications which now exists in the cumbersome system of commissions, which has grown with a steady growth during the last twenty years—for this present system of Government by commission in Maryland, is a growth almost entirely of the period since 1910. In the past twelve years, the Legislature has created the Good Roads Commission, the Public Service Commission, the State Tax Commission, the State Accident Commission, the Board of Prison Control, The Conservation Commission and has enlarged the powers of the State Health Commission, the Lunacy Commission, besides creating numerous boards of lesser importance, many of which really overlap each other and result in no little confusion in the Administration of the functions of the State Government. At the present time of abnormally high taxes is of special importance and take large sums from the State Treasury. All these bodies, which together form a cumbersome and unwieldy whole, are to be reduced, according to the Governor's plan, to certain compact and efficient boards, composed of a few able and skillful men, who's duties and powers are to be carefully defined and limited, and who's expenses are to be rigidly regulated by law. One Commission after another has been created by the General Assembly, often for the purpose of making official positions for party spoilsman, than for any real necessity to the State Government, and usually the men who were selected to hold the jobs were on hand to help pass the bills through the law-making body. As a result, the taxpayers have had loaded upon the Treasury, an army of office holders—not a few instances two or three inefficient men are paid by the public to do what are really competent men ought to do. Twenty years ago two or three rooms in Baltimore were sufficient to accommodate all the State Officials whose duties were performed away from the State Capital. Now whole floors in several of the largest office buildings in Baltimore are crowded by Commissions of all sorts and kinds, and their hundreds of subordinate, literally making up a small army, at a cost of hundreds of thousands of dollars every year. And all these Commissions are making for more room, more money and more people to aid them in their work. That there is much waste of labor and efficiency, and no little waste of money, is apparent to all who are familiar with the way public work is done. For nearly a year the government has been making an exhausted and thorough examination of all these matters and has reached certain definite conclusions in regard to them. In a short time therefore he proposes to make certain recommendations as to what he thinks should be done, in order to give the people time to consider them at their leisure and on their merits. Heretofore Governors have reserved their recommendations until the opening of the General Assembly, and then presented their views and plans in messages to the two Houses. The plan of the present Governor seems to be a great improvement over the old system. Making it public months before the law body meets, will give the people a slow and steady look into all these matters for themselves and will open them for discussion during the campaign in which the men who are to vote on them at Annapolis, will have a chance to discuss them before the people, and find out what they think of them. In this way, the voters can pass on the plans of the Executive at the polls and he will find out whether public sentiment is with him or against him.

There is no doubt of the fact that the Governor's program is the most revolutionary ever placed before the people of Maryland, and will bring about great changes in the effectiveness of the State Government. There is also no doubt that its enactment will greatly reduce the expenses of the public service, which has been going on in a shipshape, inefficient way as a slow steady since the Civil War, now nearly sixty years ago. Most of the officials during all that period of time have been honest and faithful men, and whatever evils have existed, have been those of a system of administration, and legislation, which the people of the State have long outgrown. Now that, as well as all sorts of government agencies are obliged to retrench and economize, it is well for the people of Maryland to give consideration to these problems a solution of which the Governor is preparing to propose to them.

Hotel Rennett, Baltimore April 21, 1921.

The program of retrenchment and reform which Governor Ritchie is preparing is based on the consolidation of the several departments of the State Government, and will result in the reduction of the large and unwieldy force of employees, and in many instances in the reduction of salaries, will soon be ready for publication. In this plan it is proposed to prevent the many duplications which now exists in the cumbersome system of commissions, which has grown with a steady growth during the last twenty years—for this present system of Government by commission in Maryland, is a growth almost entirely of the period since 1910. In the past twelve years, the Legislature has created the Good Roads Commission, the Public Service Commission, the State Tax Commission, the State Accident Commission, the Board of Prison Control, The Conservation Commission and has enlarged the powers of the State Health Commission, the Lunacy Commission, besides creating numerous boards of lesser importance, many of which really overlap each other and result in no little confusion in the Administration of the functions of the State Government. At the present time of abnormally high taxes is of special importance and take large sums from the State Treasury. All these bodies, which together form a cumbersome and unwieldy whole, are to be reduced, according to the Governor's plan, to certain compact and efficient boards, composed of a few able and skillful men, who's duties and powers are to be carefully defined and limited, and who's expenses are to be rigidly regulated by law. One Commission after another has been created by the General Assembly, often for the purpose of making official positions for party spoilsman, than for any real necessity to the State Government, and usually the men who were selected to hold the jobs were on hand to help pass the bills through the law-making body. As a result, the taxpayers have had loaded upon the Treasury, an army of office holders—not a few instances two or three inefficient men are paid by the public to do what are really competent men ought to do. Twenty years ago two or three rooms in Baltimore were sufficient to accommodate all the State Officials whose duties were performed away from the State Capital. Now whole floors in several of the largest office buildings in Baltimore are crowded by Commissions of all sorts and kinds, and their hundreds of subordinate, literally making up a small army, at a cost of hundreds of thousands of dollars every year. And all these Commissions are making for more room, more money and more people to aid them in their work. That there is much waste of labor and efficiency, and no little waste of money, is apparent to all who are familiar with the way public work is done. For nearly a year the government has been making an exhausted and thorough examination of all these matters and has reached certain definite conclusions in regard to them. In a short time therefore he proposes to make certain recommendations as to what he thinks should be done, in order to give the people time to consider them at their leisure and on their merits. Heretofore Governors have reserved their recommendations until the opening of the General Assembly, and then presented their views and plans in messages to the two Houses. The plan of the present Governor seems to be a great improvement over the old system. Making it public months before the law body meets, will give the people a slow and steady look into all these matters for themselves and will open them for discussion during the campaign in which the men who are to vote on them at Annapolis, will have a chance to discuss them before the people, and find out what they think of them. In this way, the voters can pass on the plans of the Executive at the polls and he will find out whether public sentiment is with him or against him.

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