

P 4704

Fifty

REASONS WHY STATE CAPITAL SHOULD BE LOCATED

AT
Clarksburg
W. Va.

Facts and Figures Showing Why the Seat of Government of West Virginia Should Be Removed To West Virginia's Most Prosperous City—CLARKSBURG—The Geographical Center of Forty of the Fifty-Five Counties of the State, Accessible 365 Days Each Year by Railroad, Electric Lines and State Highways.

**"LET'S BUILD THE CAPITOL IN
CENTRAL WEST VIRGINIA."**

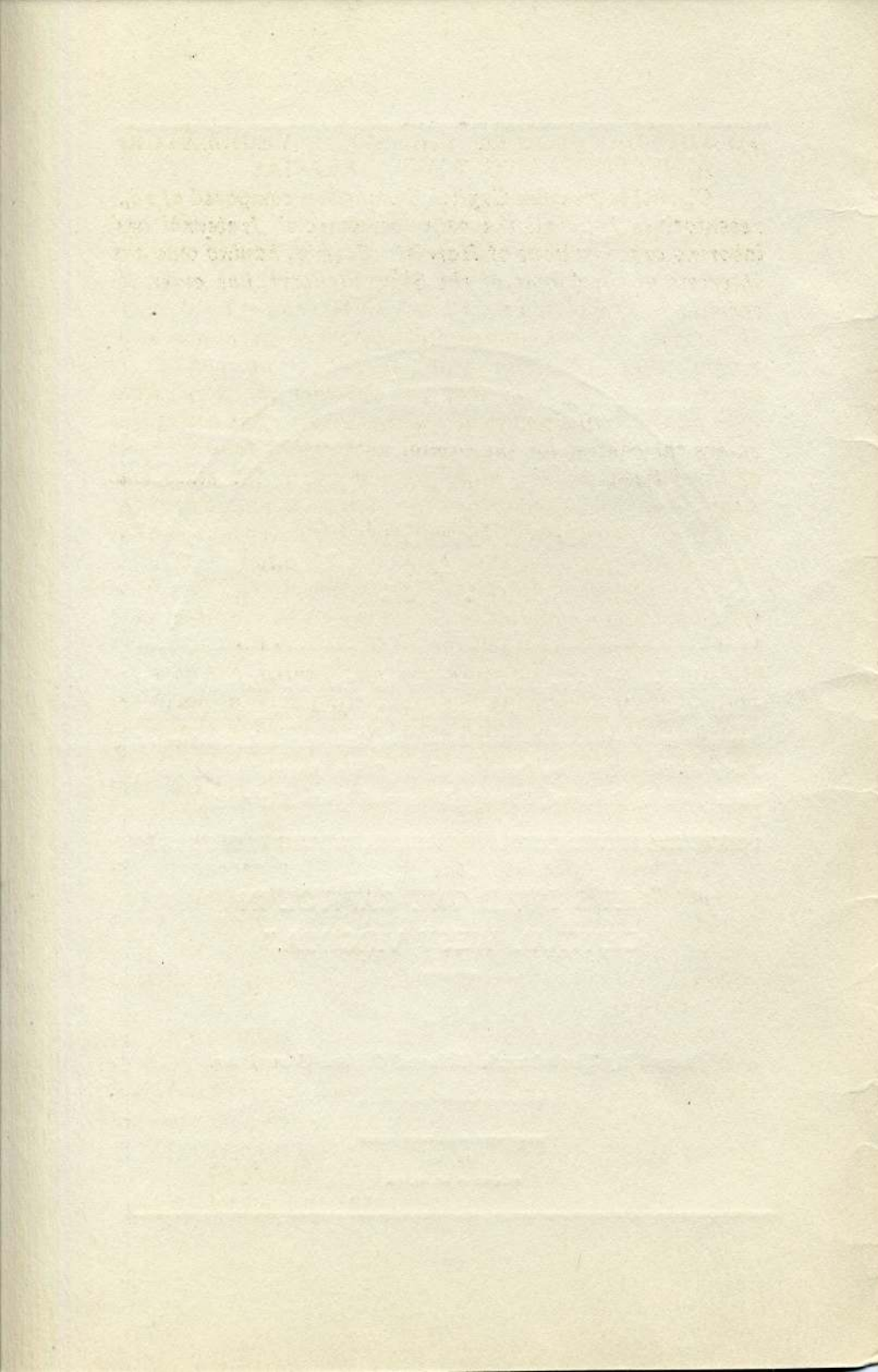


Issued By Clarksburg's Citizens' Capital Committee.

WEST VIRGINIA LABOR NEWS



CLARKSBURG, W. VA.



TO THE MEMBERS OF THE STATE LEGISLATURE
AND CITIZENS OF WEST VIRGINIA:

Clarksburg's New Capital Committee, composed of representatives from all the civic, commercial, fraternal and laboring organizations of Harrison County, having only the interests of the people of the State at heart, has given its services in supporting a well defined movement in all parts of the state to remove the capital of West Virginia to a more central and accessible point, and, in presenting its arguments, kindly asks that you consider the proposition with an open mind and in an unbiased way. The committee enters the contest for the capital with malice towards none of the citizens of any other community in the state who might have their minds set on the same goal, nor against the people of Charleston, who will, no doubt, wage a similar campaign to retain the state house in their city.

The citizens of Harrison County, as well as those from thirty-six other counties in the northern and central part of West Virginia, have felt for years the necessity of having the seat of government more centrally located, but have refrained from organizing and conducting such a movement owing to the expense which would be incurred in constructing a new Capitol. Now that the building has been destroyed, creating the necessity of constructing anew, we feel that Clarksburg, because of its geographical location and its accessibility, is the logical location for the capital of the State.

Clarksburg initiated the movement pursuant to the urgent requests of various organizations in the counties surrounding Harrison. These counties have effected their organizations and have expressed their wishes to join local citizens in their efforts to locate the State Capital at Clarksburg.

The committee has endeavored to view this matter as a state-wide project, and to avoid purely local interests in the development of its plan. It does not care to dictate nor to impose its plan upon you, but it believes that its aims are worthy of your serious consideration and support.

CITIZENS CAPITAL COMMITTEE,

By ARTHUR PARSONS, Chairman.

"50"

REASONS WHY THE CAPITAL SHOULD BE LOCATED IN CLARKSBURG

BECAUSE:---

1. Clarksburg is more readily accessible than any other city in the State of West Virginia because of its location on the main East and West Line of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.

2. Clarksburg is the geographical center of forty of the fifty-five counties of the State, being twenty-seven miles from Buckhannon, Upshur County, which Dr. I. C. White of Morgantown, State Geologist, states is the center of West Virginia.

3. Clarksburg has 105 coal mines in operation within a radius of 25 miles, which insures its stability and constant growth.

4. Clarksburg is located in Harrison County, which stands third in property valuation among the fifty-five counties, and yet it does not have one single state institution of any kind. The assessed valuation of all real, personal and public service corporation property totals \$105,000,000, which justifies the citizens of this county in asking for the location of some state institution here.

5. Greater Clarksburg extends over an area of four square miles and has acres of available building locations and sites.

6. Clarksburg experienced the most remarkable growth

"LET'S BUILD THE CAPITOL IN CENTRAL WEST VIRGINIA"

in population of any city in the State of West Virginia, showing an increase of 202 per cent since 1910.

7. Clarksburg has recently passed a bond issue of \$900,000 for the improvement of all the principal streets in the city, the construction of five bridges and the purchase of additional fire fighting apparatus.

8. Clarksburg has a municipally owned water works and filtration plant that is unsurpassed in the state. In the supply of pure city water Clarksburg is reputed by engineers to have the most efficient system of any city in the United States.

9. Clarksburg has three large hotels with accommodations for 700 guests and with a proposed enlargement of the Waldo Hotel, this capacity will be increased to 900.

10. Clarksburg has a water works system with an average pressure of 110 pounds to the square inch but running as high as 148 pounds, which insures adequate fire protection for buildings of any height and size.

11. Clarksburg is one of the healthiest places in the State of West Virginia with an altitude of 1,100 feet with surroundings hills reaching 1,600 feet.

12. Clarksburg's water supply for drinking purposes comes from the West Fork river which originates in the mountains and is dammed just above the city to form a reservoir with a capacity of 150,000,000 gallons.

13. Clarksburg has railroad facilities unequalled by any other city in West Virginia, being situated on the main line of the B. & O., the Monongahela Branch of the B. & O., the West Virginia Short Line Railroad, the most direct line to the Ohio River from central West Virginia, and the West Virginia and Pittsburgh branch to Richwood and other points in the southern part of the state.

14. Clarksburg is the center of the Monongahela Valley

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Traction Company's Lines which operates a passenger and freight service over 100 miles from Fairmont, Mannington, Weston and intermediate points. This company plans extension of its line to all leading cities in this section.

15. Pullman sleepers originate at Clarksburg for Pittsburgh, Washington, New York, Cincinnati, St. Louis, Huntington and Charleston, W. Va., and three through East and West trains pass each way through Clarksburg daily.

16. Clarksburg is within nine hours of the national capital at Washington, D. C., the distance being 275 miles.

17. Clarksburg has a progressive spirit and an uplifting atmosphere due in a great measure to its seventeen churches and splendid ministers. The McClelland Bible Class of this city won national honors last year in a nationwide contest for new members.

18. Clarksburg's banks are the strongest in the state, having on deposit on September 1, 1920, the sum of \$21,000,000 with resources of \$23,000,000.

19. Clarksburg has an average temperature of 52.1 degrees ranging from an average of 29.4 degrees in February to 72.8 degrees in July. The highest official temperature for the city is 99 degrees.

20. Clarksburg is the heart of the coal industry in central West Virginia, there being 35 coal companies with headquarters located in this city.

21. Clarksburg has an ideal form of city government, the municipal affairs being administered by the Commission Form of government with a mayor and two commissioners.

22. Clarksburg has a most progressive Chamber of Commerce with a membership of over 700, representing practically every business house and industry in the city.

23. Clarksburg is never bothered with high water or

"LET'S BUILD THE CAPITOL IN CENTRAL WEST VIRGINIA"

the sudden overflowing of any streams such as other cities in West Virginia.

24. Clarksburg boasts of the most efficiently organized school system in the state, supporting two large high schools with a student body exceeding 1,100.

25. Clarksburg has two large, modern hospitals equipped with the latest inventions used by medical science.

26. Clarksburg has three newspapers, two dailies and one weekly with a circulation which extends to a score of counties.

27. Clarksburg's fire department is completely motorized with an efficient corps of paid firemen who are drilled daily. This insures adequate fire protection for any state buildings which might be constructed.

28. Clarksburg's growth has been steady and consistent and will continue so because of the large number of diversified industries located here.

29. Clarksburg can be reached in less than 7 hours by residents in the Eastern Panhandle who sometimes find it necessary to go through Washington, D. C., in order to get to the capital of the state of West Virginia.

30. Clarksburg has numerous sites upon which the capitol building could be constructed which are available at this time.

31. Clarksburg Masonic Orders own their own building which is the headquarters for many state and district meetings.

32. Clarksburg is in the center of one of the greatest gas fields east of the Mississippi with main lines of many large companies operating in southern and central West Virginia passing through the city.

33. Clarksburg is surrounded by 250,000 acres of Pitts-

"LET'S BUILD THE CAPITOL IN CENTRAL WEST VIRGINIA"

burg coal within a radius of twenty-five miles, thus insuring adequate fuel to meet any demand.

34. Clarksburg has an abundance of skilled labor, expert craftsmen of all kinds, and there has not been a serious labor dispute for many years.

35. Clarksburg is within fourteen hours of New York, 9 hours from Washington, D. C., 6 hours from Pittsburg, Pa., and 19 hours from St. Louis and Chicago.

36. Clarksburg has a Country Club situated amidst beautiful suburban scenery with a nine-hole golf course, two large theatres showing high-class vaudeville and the best stage attractions from New York besides a half dozen up to date and modernly equipped moving picture houses.

37. Clarksburg has five modern office buildings, five, six, seven, nine and ten stories high, insuring adequate office room for business and professional men. Another skyscraper is now under construction.

38. Clarksburg is one of the largest revenue producing cities on the Baltimore and Ohio system, the passenger and freight receipts exclusive of coal and coke revenues totalling over \$4,000,000 for the current year.

39. Clarksburg has one of the most highly organized Public Health Service Bureaus in the State of West Virginia with five full time nurses in the employ of the city.

40. Clarksburg has two sources of electricity for lighting and power purposes at rates considerably less than is charged in other West Virginia cities.

41. Clarksburg secures her natural gas at the small cost of 20 cents per one thousand cubic feet and with an adequate supply for all needs.

42. Clarksburg supports a live Rotary Club, Kiwanis Club, Mercantile Board, Civic Club, Playgrounds Associa-

"LET'S BUILD THE CAPITOL IN CENTRAL WEST VIRGINIA"

tion, College Club, American Legion and a dozen other progressive, social, and fraternal organizations.

43. Clarksburg has an efficient street railway system which reaches to every section of the city and the immediate suburbs.

44. Clarksburg is the home of the West Virginia Sunday School Association which exerts a strong religious influence throughout the state.

45. Clarksburg will be the intersecting point of the main east and west and north and south state highways which will be built from the state bond issue.

46. Clarksburg's telephone service and equipment is second only to that of Wheeling, according to the official rating of the Chesapeake and Ohio Telegraph and Telephone Company and in anticipation of greater demands, extensive improvements in the way of extensions, lines, operators are now under way.

47. Clarksburg is the fourth city in size in West Virginia with close to 40,000 people within its borders and the immediate suburbs.

48. Clarksburg is located within 58 miles of the State University at Morgantown and it is to the advantage of both that they be located as near each other as possible.

49. Clarksburg, because of its location on the famous Northwestern Pike, will be the mecca for thousands of tourists annually when that important highway is finished from the state bond issue funds.

50. Because the seat of any state government should be located where it is accessible to all people in the state instead of those residing in nineteen of the 55 counties.

Fifty-Four County Seats Closer To Clarksburg by 1462 Miles Than Charleston

Official figures compiled by J. T. Crutchfield, Traffic Manager of the Clarksburg Chamber of Commerce show that fifty-four county seats in West Virginia are closer to Clarksburg by 1,462 miles via rail than they are to Charleston, the present seat of the state government. In other words the total distance from the county seats of the fifty-four counties to Clarksburg is 8,043 miles while to Charleston it is 9,505 miles.

The figures also show that of the fifty-five counties in the state, thirty-three are closer to Clarksburg than Charleston. According to the official tabulation of the vote cast for president at the last general election there are 508,249 voters in West Virginia. If each voter made a round trip to the state capital each year at its present location, it would require \$3,013,345.39 or just \$16,837.42 more than it would to come to Clarksburg. In ten years the saving in railroad fare alone would be \$168,374.20 and a sufficient amount would be saved in 50 years or in one generation to build a capitol costing \$1,000,000.

Legislator Travels 400 Miles To Get To Capital

Representatives in the State Legislature from Jefferson County travel 400 miles to get to the State Capital while a Berkeley County legislator covers 347 miles in order to get to Charleston. The trip of the Jefferson County representative sometimes consumes over 30 hours and necessitates a routing through the nation's capital in order to get to that in his own state.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

PHYSICS DEPARTMENT

PHYSICS 309

LECTURE 1

LECTURE 2

LECTURE 3

LECTURE 4

LECTURE 5

LECTURE 6

LECTURE 7

“LET’S BUILD THE CAPITOL IN CENTRAL WEST VIRGINIA”

“Thirty-Seven”
ADDITIONAL REASONS WHY
CAPITAL SHOULD BE
IN CLARKSBURG

BARBOUR

BERKELEY

BRAXTON

BROOKE

CALHOUN

CLAY

DODDRIDGE

GILMER

GRANT

HAMPSHIRE

HANCOCK

HARDY

HARRISON

JEFFERSON

LEWIS

MARION

MARSHALL

MINERAL

MONONGALIA

MORGAN

NICHOLAS

OHIO

PENDLETON

PLEASANTS

POCAHONTAS

PRESTON

RANDOLPH

RITCHIE

ROANE

TAYLOR

TUCKER

TYLER

UPSHUR

WEBSTER

WETZEL

WIRT

WOOD

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