


The Chamber of Commerce  
and Its Importance

to

Northumberland

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The Northumberland Chamber of Commerce is the outgrowth of a meeting of a few business men about a year ago. They met with no other thought than that of trying to solve a few community problems, so that the town in which we have our homes and businesses might be made a better place in which to live and do business.

So many problems were presented, that organized effort was clearly shown to be the need of the community. With this in mind the Northumberland Chamber of Commerce was organized.

Those of us who have lived in Northumberland for a few years, realize, more each day, its increasing advantages. It is a rare thing to live in a town with such superior railroad service, with improved highways that reach out in every direction, ideal drainage, no flood menace, excellent water, cheap electric power, good schools and churches, a free library, strong financial institutions, and industries to employ every one who will work. Then most important, hundreds of homes are owned or are being purchased by those who live in them. These home owners are the real backbone of our community.

What then are our particular needs, with all these advantages?

First—A spirit of loyalty to the town by every citizen in the town, which cannot be better expressed than by membership in an organization like the Chamber of Commerce. Let us take as our slogan,

“Pull for Northumberland or Pull Out”

Second—Ample playground and recreational facilities, so that our future citizens may come into manhood and womanhood with the full vigor of physical well-being. Through the whole-hearted cooperation of our largest employer of labor, the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, a real start has been made in this direction. The swamp between the railroad and the West Branch, will, we hope, by another year, be a playground for children and grown-ups—no longer a swamp, but a beauty spot.

Third—Get firmly back of our present industries. This is vital. At the present time nearly thirty per cent of the people employed in the town live outside. This is due primarily to lack of houses. Every effort, by our banks and Building and Loan Association, is being made to correct this condition, but much yet needs to be done in this direction.

We have many other needs; real hotel accommodations, tourist camps or some similar means of caring for the hundreds of out of the state cars that go through daily; the whole river front beautified, further improvement of the King Street Park, permanently improved streets, boulevard lighting, additional school buildings.

The Chamber of Commerce is the only organized agency that will give us all of these things, if we will but support it. Therefore, let us support it as a Community Enterprise in which we will all have our place. Unselfish service by everyone in Northumberland will make it the outstanding town of this marvelous Susquehanna Valley. For with united effort we can accomplish things that today seem impossible.