



The Del-Mar-Va peninsula has long been known for its canned products. At the steam table pictured above tomatoes are being steamed for peeling. The canning of tomatoes, beans, peas, corn and other products furnishes an important cash return to this area. Recently there has been a systematic effort to improve the quality of canned products.

## Opportunities Abound on DEL-MAR-VA Peninsula

By DR. T. B. SYMONS

Director, University of Maryland Extension Service.

There was a reason for the early settlers locating on the Del-Mar-Va peninsula. That section afforded wonderful advantages under conditions existing at that time and it affords unusual possibilities under the economic conditions of today. The basic factors for a sound system of agriculture are present in exceptional degree and it has been possible to successfully make the adjustments to meet the vastly changed conditions between pioneer days and the present times. That has been a severe test for many sections of the country.

From my knowledge of the peninsula over a period of many years I am familiar with successful production in practically all phases of agriculture, although there are particular sections that have developed naturally along special lines, such as truck crops, including small fruits, strawberries, tree fruits, and with livestock, including beef cattle, hogs and sheep. In comparatively recent years, the dairy industry has made considerable growth and has become an important factor in the economic situation.

There is no need to record here the many advantages offered by conditions on the Del-Mar-Va peninsula, nor to enumerate the wide variety of products which may be produced in abundance and of as high quality as can be found anywhere. It may be worth while to emphasize a few of the major factors, even to those who live in that area and depend upon the agriculture of the section, either directly or indirectly, for their livelihood and their standard of living.

In the first place, the fact that the area is so nearly surrounded by large bodies of water assures an equable climate and especially long growing seasons that make it suitable for raising most of the crops adapted to the Temperate Zone. This, together with a wide variety of soils, makes it possible to adjust the kinds of crops grown to changing economic conditions more easily and more successfully than can be done in sections of more limited range in climate and soils.

A factor which has been of increasing importance to the agriculture of the Eastern Shore is its nearness to markets and the development of transportation facilities for reaching these markets.

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Dr. Thomas B. Symons has directed the extension service since it was started over twenty years ago.

## Forester Points to Little Known Facts About Shade Trees

Walter W. Simonds, forester of the Maryland extension service, points out that practically all people realize it is dangerous to stand under a tree during an electrical storm, but few are aware that all trees are not equally susceptible to being struck by lightning. Oaks, elms, pines, poplars, willows and ashes, in the order named, are most susceptible. There is no record of a beech, holly, birch or horse chestnut having been struck.

It is well to remember that some trees cause more dirt and litter than others. Red maples, in addition to being short-lived, are susceptible to breakage during storms.

## Maryland 4-H Work Wins High Honors



THESE MARYLAND 4-H BOYS piled up 3,929 points, outranking all eastern teams and coming within nine points of first place at the National Dairy Show Cattle Judging Contest at St. Louis, last fall. Left to right: County Agent and Coach Horace B. Derrick, Towson; Frank McFarland, Cumberland; Nelson Phelps, McDonogh; Douglas Lee, Phoenix; alternate Douglas Bennington, Ridgely; and Prof. Howell C. Barker, Dairy Extension Specialist, State College. The teams were required to judge classes of Holsteins, Jerseys, Guernseys and Ayrshires. Maryland was first in Ayrshires, tied for second in Guernseys, fourth in Jerseys and

## Marketing Study Urged to Solve Farm Problem

Townsend Points to Small Part of Food Dollar Reaching Farmer

By JOHN G. TOWNSEND, JR., United States Senator from Delaware  
Within my lifetime, the point of view of the farmer has changed from that of the man who sought simply to provide his family with a substantial living from the products of his farm and the profitable barter of the surplus, to that of the man who has constantly the point of view of one accustomed to reckon profit and loss.

Recently, I found in an old account book, record of a farmer, who according to his account, paid his white hired man the sum of \$125 a year. And he was a good hired man, the son of a neighboring farmer. He worked from sun to sun and was interested in his work. He was treated as a member of his employer's family. He was present at all their festivities and was given the use of the best horse and buggy to court his girl. He was faithful, industrious, and thrifty, and, today, is a landowner and a person of high standing in the community.

That was before the days of easy distribution of farm products; before canneries, grain elevators, creameries and packing houses had been established; before refrigeration had been thought of; before the days when the farmer, in addition to his worries regarding the weather, must compete as any business man.

Basically Agricultural  
The people of the United States look with great pride upon the nation's industrial achievements; but they do not overlook the fact that the United States of America is basically an agricultural country; that the economic backbone of our Republic is the thirty odd million men and women who comprise our farming population. They know that these people have been deliberate of thought and action; that, as a class, they have been close thinkers of intelligence and vision. To their moderation, the nation owes much of its traditional freedom from hasty and hysterical action.

It is natural that there should be a persistent effort on the part of the gov-

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## LAWLESSNESS PERILS ROADS

By COL. P. D. SHINGLETON, Superintendent, West Virginia Department of Public Safety

The state police are out to make West Virginia's highways safe.

This is the program which was launched after the last session of the Legislature increased the appropriation to cope with West Virginia's growing accident toll, which took 409 lives in 1934.

On August 1st, 78 new men were enlisted into the department after two months' training. These men were immediately placed on road patrol duty, enabling an increase to a full-time road patrol of 80 men.

Late in September these men began a series of traffic checks, stopping all cars on a selected main-traveled highway to inspect them for law violation. Those who pass the tests are given OK stickers, those who are flagrantly violating the law are arrested, and those guilty of minor violations are ordered to report to any state police headquarters with the violation corrected within two days.

Check Shows Accident Cause  
So far 11,700 cars have been checked near 19 West Virginia cities, and the results of these tests clearly reveal the cause and indicate the remedy for many highway accidents.

More than ten per cent of the cars checked were found to have defective brakes; nine per cent with inadequate lights; three per cent lacked a windshield wiper, and one per cent had no horn. During the checks 93 drivers were arrested on the spot for flagrant violations of the license laws, or for drunken driving.

These checks have a powerful psychological effect, causing many motorists to remedy dangerous defects.

1400 Accidents Investigated  
The state police road patrol investigated over 1400 motor vehicle accidents, in which 203 persons were killed, 1400 injured and nearly \$200,000 property damage suffered.

Most of these accidents were in rural districts. Cities for the most part have to cope only with a large number of minor accidents, but a main highway in the open country or through smaller towns is a lane of potential death, over which speed entirely too many drunken, reckless and careless drivers.

A study of these accident reports, submitted by state policemen who visited the scene of the accident and made a thorough investigation of the facts, reveals that law violation is the major cause of accidents. It is surprising how many persons are arrested after accidents for drunken driving.

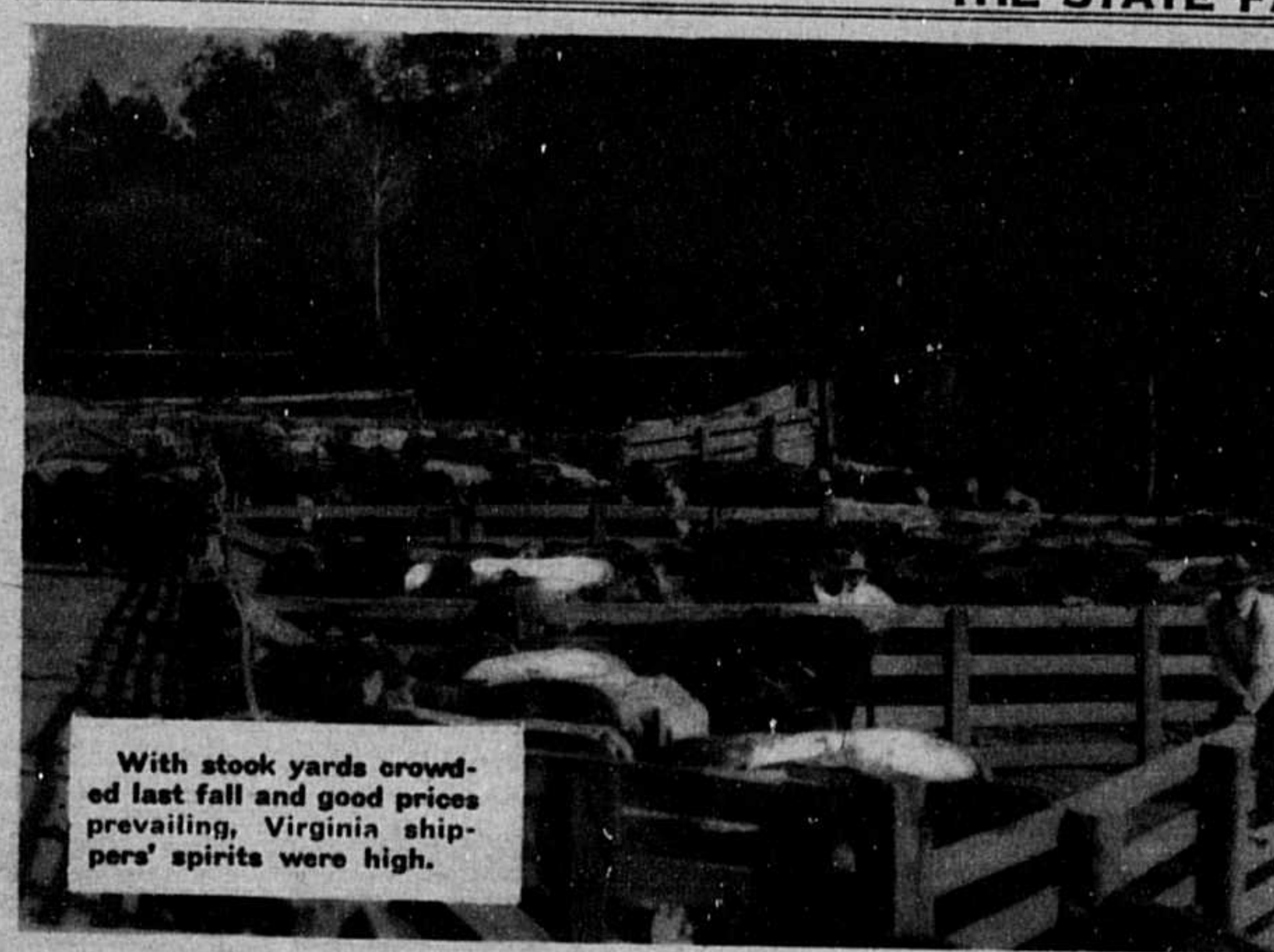
Weather Not to Blame

Rarely can the blame for an accident be placed on weather, condition of the highway or other natural cause. One thing is certain—an everyday regard for the law would prevent most accidents. State police are determined to bring a greater respect for law through education and enforcement. About 2,000 drivers have had their operator's licenses revoked for law violation.

The educational feature of the state police program is supplied by a safety car, a conspicuous white car equipped for broadcasting. It visited many public gatherings and county fairs during the fall, and is at present on a tour of the schools. It is hoped that the influence of this program will also extend into the homes of parents, who above all others, have reason to be interested in highway safety.



Col. P. D. Shingleton



With stock yards crowded last fall and good prices prevailing, Virginia shippers' spirits were high.



Careful grading is the first step in cooperative sales to eastern packers by West Virginia sheepmen.

## Virginia Livestock Men Face 1936 with Optimism

By a Staff Writer

LIVESTOCK producers in the Virginia and Maryland enter 1936 with considerable optimism due both to the stronger prices prevailing during the late fall and also to future possibilities.

The increasing importance of livestock in Virginia was reflected by the strong position occupied by Virginia exhibitors at the Baltimore Livestock Show in October. To Virginia went not only the blue ribbon for the Grand Champion steer of the show, but also first place for the best carload of fat steers and the Grand Champion trio of steers.

A purebred Aberdeen-Angus, fed by Charles M. Perry, Tazewell, Va., was champion in the 4-H Club class and also won the Grand Championship in competition with steers of all breeds. It sold for 40 cents a pound. George Haltzman, of Mt. Jackson, Va., took first place with a carload of Herefords, and C. W. Litton, Tazewell, claimed honors for the best trio of steers.

Add To Facilities

Further evidence of increasing interest in livestock in Virginia is seen in the additions made during the fall to market facilities. Sales headquarters were established at Orange in Orange County, and at Abingdon in Washington County.

Representatives of twelve packing houses and many other buyers were present at the opening of the Orange Livestock Market, Inc. M. W. Carter is president and M. W. Price manager.

At Abingdon a modern stock yards has been erected by C. A. Johnson. There are 32 cattle pens, pens for other stock and a roofed section containing an office, restaurant and farmers' room. A siding from the main line of the N. & W. is being run to the yards.

Prices Above 1910-14

During October, November and early December, several weeks of dry weather spurred shipments of cattle and good prices generally prevailed. The Virginia Extension Service showed on October 15, 1935, beef cattle per 100 pounds—

\$6.30, as compared with a \$5.21 average for the 1910-1914 period. On the same date hogs were \$10 as compared with a 1910-1914 average of \$7.38.

The Farmers Livestock Market in Bristol, Va., reported weekly sales from \$35,000 to \$50,000 with runs of 1000 head upward. The Shenandoah Valley Livestock Sales, Inc., reported offerings heavy at that market. On one day 2,454 head passed through.

In West Virginia an increased inter-

supervised by the Extension Service in cooperation with the State Department of Agriculture and the local county farm bureaus represented by the county agricultural agents. This was the fifth year since the sales were started. Each year has seen a substantial increase in the number of cattlemen participating.

Late in November, managers of county cooperative marketing associations from 26 major livestock producing counties of West Virginia, met at Clarksburg for

market livestock and wool cooperatively, dispose of scrub sires and replace them with purebreds and similar progressive steps.

Highest average scores for the period 1934-1935 went to C. P. Dorsey, county agent, Pocahontas County; J. M. Pierpont, county agent, Harrison County; R. W. Godley, county agent, Ritchie County, and A. H. Lough, county agent, Summers County.

Southdowns Lead Demand

At twelve cooperative regional sales held during the fall by the West Virginia Purebred Sheep Breeders' Association, sheepmen purchased 290 purebred rams. Southdown rams were in greatest demand. Shropshires ranked second and Hampshires were third. Others sold included Dorsets, Corriedales, and Cheviots.

Twenty-eight counties in Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia were represented in the Pittsburgh Livestock Show and Sale. There were 241 entries made by 225 individuals and consisting of 751 lambs, 104 cattle, 40 hogs.



A Virginia county agent shows Scott County farmer the good points of a Shorthorn.

est in the production and cooperative marketing of feeder-calves is evident. In six regional feeder-calf sales held in that state during the fall, 708 calves were sold for a total of \$25,195.50, according to Benj. F. Creech, extension animal husbandman for the College of Agriculture, West Virginia University.

Careful Preparation Paid

Success of these sales, according to Mr. Creech, was due in a large measure to the fact that the greater part of the calves were previously tested for tuberculosis, Bang's disease or contagious abortion, and all were vaccinated for blackleg, dehorned, male calves castrated and graded into uniform lots according to breed, sex, size and quality before being offered for sale.

Of the 708 calves sold, 386 were steers, 322 heifers. The steers brought \$15,159.25, an average of \$39.27 each. The heifers brought \$10,036.25, averaging \$31.17.

These West Virginia sales were all

the annual meeting of the West Virginia Livestock Marketing Association. This meeting included meetings of the state advisory board of the Eastern Cooperative Livestock Marketing Association and of the West Virginia Wool Association.

Contest Spurs Progress

An important stimulating influence to the livestock industry in West Virginia is a general animal husbandry program promoted by the Extension Service and provided with awards by the Marketing and Wool associations for the county agents in the four counties making the highest average score over a two-year period.

The object of the contest is to develop a well-balanced livestock program in each county including: a calf and lamb improvement campaign; treatment of sheep flocks for internal parasites; encouraging farmers to dock and castrate lambs, castrate and dehorn calves, construct and use community dipping vats,

Livestock progress in Maryland was well reflected in the Baltimore show. Maryland exhibitors claimed honors for the Grand Champion fat lamb; Reserve Grand Champion steer; Reserve champion trio of steers; Reserve Grand Champion fat hog and pen of five hogs. The Grand Champion fat lamb, a purebred Southdown, was bred, fed and exhibited by Cremona Farms, Mechanicsville, Maryland. At auction this lamb brought \$1 a pound.

NEED FEWER ACRES

The American farmer used to devote one out of every four wheat acres to supplying a foreign market, which practically disappeared before the depression. One out of every six corn acres used to be devoted to an export trade which has dwindled down until one out of 15 corn acres will supply all pork products the United States can sell abroad. Three out of every four acres formerly used to raise cotton will supply all the cotton the United States can profitably sell at home and abroad.

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