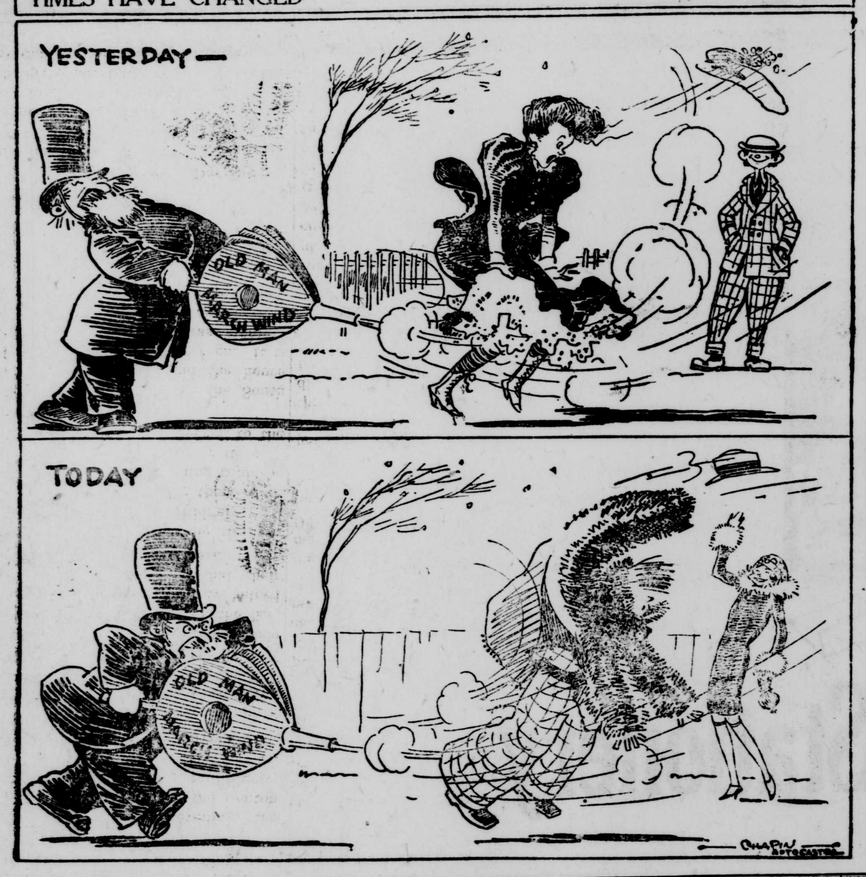
TIMES HAVE CHANGED By A. B. CHAPIN





FIRE CO. ANSWERS CALL AT RIDGELY

At 9:40 Wednesday evening, the fire siren sounded, calling the Denton Volunteer Fire Company to Ridgely, where it was found the home of Mr. Ed Carter was burning fiercely.

The fire was not discovered until the entire house was on fire inside and the flames were bursting out all over the building, especially at the back of the house. The Ridgely firemen soon had several lines of hose on the fire, but it had gotten such headway, helped by about a 45-mile gale, that their efforts proved of little avail.

The Denton engine made the run from Denton bridge to Ridgely in 7 minutes, and on arriving there were asked to stand by as notning could be done to save the building or its contents, and the building burned to the ground.

Mr. Carter has been in the South since December 15th and the house has been unoccupied since then. It is thought that someone was stealing from the house and either accidentally set it afire by dropping a match, or else deliberately set it afire to cover their tracks. The building and contents were covered by insurance in about half of their value.

High Winds Cause Damage

The high wind on Thursday last demolished one of the chickenhouses belonging to Mr. Harry A. Ritchey, near town. In overturning, the chicken house crushed the roof of his garage and smashed the top of his automobile.

DORCHESTER "RAT" CROP DISAPPOINTS

Cambridge, Md., Feb. 28.—With the end of the msukrat season fifteen days away, persons interested in the industry are beginning to figure up what the "crop" will bring this year to Dorchester and how results compare with seasons of former years.

During the greater part of the trapping season which began January 1, there has been complaint that the catch was poor as compared with former years.

The explanation has been that during exceedingly dry weather last summer many rats died for lack of water Others have been inclined to the belief that the Eastern Shore "marsh rabbit" faced extiction for the same reason as the Chesapeake Bay oyster, namely, that too many had been caught, though others still have thot that a few years ago a number of rats died from some cause unknown even to those who have spent their lives trapping them,

W. A. Gibbs, of Chester, Pa., who for many years has owned and scientifically conducted a muskrat farm some miles below Church Creek, explained the decrease in early season by citing the fact that during a great part of January, when most of the trapping is usually done, conditions for taking the rats were unusually bad, owing to snow and ice covering the marshes where the rats live.

One of the largest buyers in Dorchester declares the catch of rats this season will be about three-fifths of that of last year, but the cash value of the crop will run a little better because of the higher price of pelts, which are now bringing on the Cambridge market from $1.60 to $1.35 according to quality.

The crop last season is said to have brought in about $500,000 in Dorchester county alone. This year it is said that $350,000 will be about the figure.

While this sounds discouraging, a few years ago the rat pelts sold none too readily on the local market for 50 cents and the meat could be bought for 5 cents each retail. Nowadays the meat brings from 18 to 20 cents in the Cambridge market and during a goodly part of this season they were none too plentiful at the latter figure.

A score of years ago the crop of the county was thought to have made a good return when it brought in $100,000.

Starts Health Class in High School

At the meeting of the Public Health Committee on Tuesday, Miss Jackson spoke of the class that she had organized in Caroline High School, which is composed of the seventeen girls of the Senior class. Shewill teach them home hygieen and the care of the sick. This work will be in connection with the domestic science work, the pupils receiving credit therefor. One forty-five minute periold three days a week wil be devoted to this instruction. Miss Jackson had hoped to organize this class much earlier in the year. The girls seem to be well pleased with the idea. Owing to the bad roads during February, much of the time nas been devoted to visiting schools and inspecting the pupils, although a total of 78 visits has been made.

Spicy conversation should be handled gingerly.



A general display of Spring Styles in every department of Women's Wearing Apparel—Coats, Dresses, Shoes, Dress Goods and Accessories—will occur at this store on

Friday and Saturday, March 12, 13

Not only will we show the newest interpretations of Dresses and Coats for Spring, but many of them will be worn by young Women, thus enabling you to see the actual appearance of each costume most effectively.

In the Dress Goods section, too, a variety of new and charming fabrics may be seen while the latest effects in Footwear and accessories will keep pace with the ready-to-wear apparel.

We invite every woman interested in being well dressed to be present at our store on

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY. MARCH 12 AND 13

Long & Short

Federalsburg, Maryland

SUMMARY OF ANNUAL REPORT OF AMER. T. & T.

Progress in the quality and extent of telephone service is the keynote in the annual report of President W. S. Gifford, of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company. He states that more than 813,000 telephones were added to the Bell system during 1925. At the end of the year 16, 720,000 telephones were interconnected so that practically any one of them can be connected with any other one thruout the United States, at any time, day or night. Over 50,000,000 toll and exchange connections, each an individual transaction, are handled daily.

$365,000,000 was expended by the Bell system on new plant construction, including new plant to replace $107,000,000 of plant retired. Net additions to plant were $258,000,000 This brought the assets devoted to furnishing telephone service up to $2, 938,000,000. The number of persons employed, including those in the Western Electric Company, was over 332,000.

The gross revenue of the Bell system, he states, was $761,200,000 and net earnings were 6 1-2 per cent on the amount invested in plant and other assets. Earnings available for contingencies and surplus amounted to 1 1-3 per cent on the investment—less than a cent a day a telephone, a necessary but relatively small margin of safety.

It is shown that there were over 362,000 stockholders of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company at the end of the year, making the Bell System in a sense publicly owned. The amount of capital stock of the American Company outstanding was $921,579,500, an increase of $33,119,400 for the year.

The net income of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company was $107,405,000. Of the resulting balance, after payment of dividends at $9 a share, $6,000,000 was appropriated for contingencies and the remainder, $20,360,000, was carried on surplus.

Another Gas Man

Mr. and Mrs. William Carroll are rejoicing over the arrival of William, Jr., on Tuesday a. m. at 9 o'clock. Mother and baby are doing nicely. Mr. Carroll is in charge of the Standard Oil Company works at Denton.

EVOLUTION

AND THE

EASY WASHER

Fifty years ago the idea of washing clothes by means of air pressure and suction was conceived. The old "Cone on a Stick" served well to lighten the labor of washing.

BUT NOW

Electricity drives the Vacuum Cups. This wonderful saver is yours for only $1.00 down and the balance in easy monthly payments.

Phone for a demonstration.

Eastern Shore Gas & Electric Co.

DENTON, MARYLAND

Always at your service

DR. TITSWORTH WILL SPEAK AT HIGH SCHOOL TONIGHT

Dr. Paul E. Titsworth, president of Washington College, will give a talk on his recent trip to Scotland in the high school auditorium this (Thursday) evening at eight o'clock.

Even the woman who paints isn't always true to her colors.

A young husband came home from work one evening and found his bride in tears. He took her in his arms and tried to comfort her and asked her why she was crying.

She replied, "I baked a cake for you today, dear, and just put it out on the veranda to cool and the dog ate it."

Her hubby answered, "Is that all? Cheer up, dear, we'll get another dog."

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