The Queenstown News

A DEMOCRATIC PAPER

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Chamber of Commerce Formed on Kent Island

PERSONALS

FOLKS YOU KNOW

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Ginn of Washington, D.C., were weekend visitors of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Linden Brittingham.

The ladies of the W.S.C.S. made a trip to Annapolis on Tuesday.Every one had an enjoyable time.

Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Messick, Mr. Albert Stant, Sr., and Mr. Virbrook (Pete) Beecher left on Tuesday for a trip to Daytona Beach, Fla.

Mrs. Patsy Bongovanni and children of Philadelphia are spending this week with the Messick children.

Mr .and Mrs. George Oldham, accompanied by Mr. Joe Oldham, Mr. John Oldham and Miss Helen Oldham of Cecilton, spent Sunday in Washington, visiting their aunt, Miss Henri Oldham, who had just undergone surgery.

Mrs. Harry Barton, Sr., and Mr. and Mrs. Yates spent a few days in Philadelphia, visiting Mr. and Mrs. Pete Bongiovanni and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Yates and youngster of La Plata, are spending sometime with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Barton, Sr.

At the last meeting of the Mother's Club held at the Queenstown Elementery School, they were voted into the P.T.A. From now on everyone is cordially invited to attend meetings held on the second Tuesday in each month at 7:30 P.M. at the Elementary School.

Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Howard entertained a host of relatives from Wilmington over the weekend at their Wye River Home.

Mrs. Goldie Slaughter and daughter, JoAnne of Greenbelt, Md., spent the weekend with her father, Mr. Joseph Berry.

Dr. and Mrs. Norman Hitch were Sunday guests of his brother and wife, Mr. and Mrs. George Hitch on their farm near Chestertown.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Charles Bishop and Mr. and Mrs. George Aldridge attended the Forty and Eight Dinner Sunday evening at Shamrock Inn.

Mr. and Mrs. Milton Kaufman were Baltimore shoppers on Thursday.

Mrs. William Yateman and son, Arthur, of Easton, spent Sunday with Mrs. Mary Morris.

Many of our young teen-agers attended the "Sweetheart Dance" held at the CHS Auditorium on Saturday evening.

Miss Margaret Jane Jester was an evernight guest of Miss Fay Dean on Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Reese have been housed for several days with the intestional grippe.

FIRE COMPANY BUSY

The Queenstown Vol. Fire Company has been busy fighting woods fires this week. They were called out four time on Tuesday. The same woods catches fire every year. The area known as the "Dagger Track on the Grasonville-Perry Corner road.

Grasonville

Mr. and Mrs. Elliot Risley spent a few days last week in Glendale, Ohio with relatives and attended the funeral of Mrs. Risley's father, Mr. Peter Newell .We extend to them our deepst sympathy.

Miss Annie Ogden of Landsdown, Pa. ,spent last week with her neice, Mrs .Joseph W.A .Evans and her brother in law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Poole and son of Philadelphia, spent the weekend with her and attended the Re-opening service of the Immanuel Methodist church on Sunday.

Mr. Emrson Tarr has been housed with the mumps, we hope he will soon be well.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Gilley are receiving congratulations on the birth of a fine baby boy, born Thursday, Feb. 11.

Mr. Lawrence Quinn entered Memorial hospital at Easton last Thursday, and underwent an operation on Monday ,and is as well as can be expected at this writing. We hope for him a speedy recovery.

Mr .and Mrs. Robert Johnson of Dover, Del., Mrs. Helen King and Mrs. Vernon South of Glenburnie, visited relatives and friends here

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Reduced Toll In Sight For Bay Bridge

It became a virtual certainty last Tuesday that tolls on the Chesapeake Bay Bridge will be reduced late this summer.

There is also a good chance that tolls may be cut on the PotomacRiver bridge at Morgantown. And efforts may be made to chop the present 20-cent toll on the heavily-used Susquehanna River bridge at Havre de Grace.

Governor McKeldin wrote the State Roads Commission that "it is essential that users of the Bay bridge be given any relief . . . possible."

Shortly afterwards, Joseph D. Buscher, assisant attorney general who handles much of the commission's legal work ,disclosed that it anticipates reducing the Bay span tolls.

It now costs $1.40 per one way trip for each automobile and driver crossing the Bay bridge. Each additional passenger is charged 25 cents. It will be possible to reduce those rates after July 330, the second anniversary of the opening of the bridge to traffic, if a professional survey shows that it is taking in more money than anticipated originally.

There s no doubt that it is.

As tolls on the Potomac and Susquehanna bridges are tied in with those of the Bay span ,it also would be possible to reduce them on those bridges too.

Under terms of the bond trust indenture, tolls may be cut in the amount which would bring in the same amount of revenues as were anticipated when the bonds were sold.

In its first full year of service, the Bay bridge carried 1,896,826 vehicles and collected $3,674,621 in tolls. Advance estimates had been that it would handle 1,200,000 vehicles for $2,400,000.

Traffic volume in its second year has also greatly exceeded estimates.

The Governor's letter asked the commission to complete its rate study as soon as possible and report to him.

Queen Anne's Club Honors "Jack" Laird

The four Lions Clubs in Queen Anne's county held a joint "Jack Laird Night" meeting at Stevensville last Thursday night in honor of Andrew J. (Jack) Laird.

He was given an award as the Queen Anne's county resident who has made the best adjustment in overcoming a handicap.

Mr. Laird, 42, and the father of two children, lost his right arm and leg in a hay-baler accident in 1951. He now has an artifical arm and leg and operates a filling station on Route 213 between Centreville and Church Hill.

Miss Catherine Kirwan, chairman of the Queen Anne's County Governor's Committee for the Promotion of the Handicapped, presented the award.

About 50 persons, including a delegation from the Easton LionsClub attended the meeting in the Kent Island Fire House. The Kent Island Lions Club was host to clubs from Queenstown,Centreville and Church Hill.

Shortly after Mr. Laird's accident, farmers in the county donated the proceeds fro mone day's milking to Mr. Laird, raising $4,000.

Mr. Laird said Thursday night how wonderful the people of Queen Anne's county had been to him. Other members of the Governor's committee are Patrick Duggan,Sudlersville, vice-chairman Louis H.Perkins, Centreville, secretary, and Dan Tabler, Centreille publicity.

After Mr. Laird's accident he was assisted in his rehabilitation by Frank Tarbutton, vacational rehabilitation counselor for this section of the shore.

FOR SALE OR RENT—Frame house on Route 50 near Queenstown Md., 6 rooms with bath and utility room. Nice spacious shaded lawn. Hot air heat. Phone Queenstown 2242.

$2,000,000 To Rescue Oysters

This article will be published in A Series until completed. This is the first in the Series.

EDITOR—It is the most complete article I have read on the oyster. Read it carefully and then you will have the answer, maybe.

When fishermen charged that offshore drilling was killing shellfish, the oil companies started a research program which could make mollusks as common as beef.

It was the kind of request that scientiists dream about, but seldom get.

"We want to know if the oil is killing the oysters." That's how the oil companies worded their request.

The reason for the request was a lawsuit, or, rather, a slew of them.

Oystermen, who had been tonging and dredging the coastal Louisiana water bottoms for many decades and gaining from their hard work an aggregate income of about $3,000,000 a year, claimed that the oysters were dying. They blamed the oil companies whose overwater drilling operations had grown, in a relatively few years, to an enormous $400,000,000 annual production. Collectively and individually they sued, asking damages that totaled more than $40,000,000. And that, in 1947, was when the Gulf Oil Corporation turned to Albert Collier, a marine biologist who has had long experience as a researcher in the Gulf of Mexico.

Gulf was by no means the only corporation sued. Others, including the Texas Company and big bustling Humble, the production unit of gigantic Standard of New Jersey, also were named in the $40,000,000 worth of law suits. But all the defendants had the same reaction—they went to men of science with essentially the same request that Gulf made.

Thus, almost simultaneously, research projects sprang up at many places—Pensacola, Texas, A. & M., Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, the Mellon Institute in Pittsburg—all dedciated to prying from the lowly, reluctant oyster the innermost secrets of its living, feeding and breeding habits.

Presently the men involved in the separate projects began to exchange information. The different researches started to take on the force of combined action. Now, after six years of the most meticulously recorded studies carried on at the combined cost that may well exceed $2,000,000, the American oyster, or Ostrea virginica as it is technically known, might as well move into a department store window for all the privacy it has left.

Normally, the preparations for a lawsuit are carried out more or less in secrecy since each side usually hopes to spring a decisive surprise on the other. This case has been different. As their researchers progressed, the scientists channeled a steady flow of reports into their technical journals. When completed and collected, these likely will constitute the most voluminous, exhaustive and authoriative study ever made of any species of marine life.

Whether the lawsuits ever come to trial—they have languished on the dockets for seven years now—these reports represent a $2,000,000 gift by the oil industry to the oyster dredgers. For the facts they provide hardly could have been collected at less cost, and the oyster industry is too small and scattered to have raised so large an amount to get the information.

The information, however, will benefit oyster fishers from Maine to Mexico, if of course, they make use of it.

It has been estimated that four acres of suitable water bottom can be made to produce 36,000 pounds of oysters (net, after shucking) in three years, while the same area of dry land will, in a like period, produce only 700 pounds of dressed beef.

Continued Next Week

Castellani-Durando In Rubber Bout Fri. Night

Rock Castellani, runner-up to champion Bobo Olson in the middle weight division, and Ernie Durando, the kayo artist, meet for the third time in a scheduled 10-round match as the Friday (February19) television and radio feature from Madison Square Garden on the Gillete Safety Razor Company Cavalcade of Sports.

In their first meeting, Rocky won a close decision while Ernie avenged this by kayoing him in their second get-together. The impending tilt promises an interesting evening for viewers and listeners since both boys are regarded as crowd pleasures with their aggressive styles. The NBC television cameas and ABC microphones will be set up at ringside to provide national coverage of the bout, starting at 10 p.m.

Castellani, boxing in the pro rank since 1946, is noted for a fast combination style of attack. Among his victims in a total of 46 wins are, inaddition to Durando, Pierre Langlois, Johhnny Bratton, Joe Giardello and Gene Hairston. Although he has gained only 8 victories via the kayo route Rocky has developed into a dangerous hitter, especially after being hurt by his opponent.

Durando, known as "The Rock," is well remembered by fans for his five appearances against Paddy Young. A total of 36 wins gained since his pro debut in 1946 includes an impressive total of 27 knockouts. Along with Young and Rocky Castellani, Norman Hayes and Joey DeJohn have met defeat at the hands of Ernie.

Byrd Address Kent-Queen Anne's Firemen's Association

Members of the Kent and Queen Anne's Volunteer Firemen's Association heard Dr. H.C. "Curly"Byrd, candidate for the Democratic nomination for governor of Maryland give a non-political talk at their recent dinner meeting in the Betterton firehouse.

Dr. Byrd, former head of the University of Maryland, and a native of the Eastern Shore, praised the volunteer firemen and explained how the fire extension service school was started at the University of Maryland. The facilities available to any fire company in thestate were pointed out as he extolled the unpaid fire-fighters who take further time off to attend classes in the school.

Rockfish Bills Hit

The chairman of the Maryland Tidewater Fisheries Commission, Arthur H. Brice, a native of Betterton, spoke on bills now pending in the United States Congress that would prohibit the taking of rockfish with nets.

Since rock is "money fish" for the watermen in this section, considerable agitation has been started to get the passage of these bills halted. Congressman Edward T. Miller is said to be working for the watermen in trying to prevent the passage of the measures and Mr. Brice said that he had requested a hearing before both the Senate and House committees which have these bills under consideration.

57 Alarms Answered

Following the dinner, President John Decker, Queen Anne-Hillsboro, called the business meeting to order and the roll showed 89 firemen present and a grand total of 57 alarms answered by the two-county group in the past month. There were seven assits and two false alarms, both reported by Queenstown. Companies with ambulances reported 17 runs.

State Senator Edward Turner Queen Anne's County, reported on a bill which he will have drawn up in reference to fire police for the two counties. He said because of the short session of the Legislature, this bill would not be introduced this year, but drawn up and presented to the association for approval and then introduced next session.

175 Hear Dinner Speaker Call Good Farming an Art

One hundred and seventy-five were in attendance at the annual Father and Son banquet of the Centreville Chapter, Future Farmers of America, held at the Centreville High School auditorium, last week.

Kenneth A. Clark, manager of the livestock buying station of Esskay at Wye Mills, spoke on the "Four C's: Character, courage, capacity and culture."

He said, "In order to be truly successful in the game of life, you must possess the four qaulities. The four C's must be achieved by the individual alone and cannot be given you by your parents."

"Everyone should be an artist in his own field, he said. A good farmer is just as much an artist as is a man who paints a beautiful picture."

The Dekalb Achievement Award was presented by Merrick Wilson of the Wilson Feed Company to Jarrett Everett, who had been selected as the outstanding senior taking vocational agriculture at Centreville High. His was chosen because of qaulities of citizenship, leadership, scholarship and his work in the supervised farming program.

Jarrett has as his project at home the rearing of four registered Guernsey cows, four registered Guensey heifers, and two Yorkshire gilts.

A slide presentation of "The Future Farmers in Action," was shown by Bill Knotts and James Carter. The two boys showed slides of important events in agriculture at Centreville High.

Franklin Walbert, a junior, was master of ceremonies.

The dinner was served by high school girls under the direction of Mrs. James Larrimore, Mrs. Marion Wilson and Mrs. Calvin Richardson.

All March of Dimes Cards Are Not In

In an appeal to hasten the announcement of results of the January 1954 March of Dimes, former U.S. Senator George L. Radcliffe, State chairman and Baltimore City campaign director, urged Marylanders to return their dimes cards immediately.

"There are thousands of cards not yet in," Mr. Radcliffe said, "and it's not too late to mail your contribution so that we may get an accurate total of Maryland's participation in this nation-wide appeal.

"We realize that some March of Dime cards have been thrown away the chairman said, "but we know, too, that there are many more lying around collecting dust, instead of dimes. Fill them up promptly and send them in to headquarters. The need for funds is great."

While returns are not yet complete, Mr. Radcliffe said, spot checking in the counties reveals an upward surge in contributions, with Allegany County trippling its 1953 total.

False Representation of The State Police to Gain Contributions

Numerous instances have been reported to this Department of persons representing themselves as members of this Department in an effort to secure adertising for police and other magazines, contributions or other aid for an individual or the Department of MarylandState Police.

The purpose of this message is to alert and advise our citizens that this department does not condone the selling of advertisements or the collecting of any contributions and persons so doing are misrepresenting themselves when they claim to be members of this department.

Should you be approached it is suggested that you get all the information possible and then notify your nearest barracks of Headquarters.

By Direction of the Superintendent, Author Major W.H. Weber, FFC, MSP Pikesville, Md.

Chamber of Commerce Formed on Kent Island

A Chamber of Commerce with a new name was organized last week on Kent Island and officers of the group say that 78 persons have signed petitions urging the formation of such an organization.

This new group, called the Tidewater Chamber of Commerce of Queen Anne's County, adopted by-laws, elected officers an ddirectors, and made plans for a membership drive to over the postal areas of Stevensville, Chester, Grasonville and Queenstown.

There were 30 businessmen at the meeting held in the Stevensville High School and the new officers said that over 100 are expected to sign up in the organization.

Three men from each of the four towns in the area were named to a board of directors that will operate the chamber. They are: Lee Bell, Jack Gardner, and J.D. Sparks, all of Chester; Linden Brittingham, James Friel and Gilbert Dunn, Queenstown; A.B. South, W.A. Thomas ,and Irvin Drummer, Grasonville; Charles Bright, W.E. Denny, and Alfred Hudson, Stevensville.

Lee Bell was named president and the other officers are: Irvin Drummer, vice president;Jack Gardner, treasurer ,and Morris Jones, Stevensville, secretary. Bell said the groups plans incorporation as soon as possible.

State Senator Turner Seeks Maryland Budget Cuts

"I am sure we can recommend substantial cuts in the Governor's proposed record-breaking budget," was the word last week from State Senator Edward Turner of Queen Anne's County, the new chairman of the Steering and Policy Committee for the Maryland Senate.

Turner was named Monday night by Senate President George Della. It was the third time that Turner had been selected to lead the Democratic committee. Last year, at the "long" session, no committee was named, due partly to delay in getting organized.

The purpose of this group is to study the budget carefully, recommend cuts and to look for new sources of revenue in order that there will be no increase in taxss to meet the demands of the proposed budget.

Other members of the committee, all Democrats, are: Leroy W. Preston (Fifth District, Baltimore); Hubert P. Barton (Second District, Baltimore); Ralph Mason, Worcester; C. Ferdinand Sybert, Howard; Mrs. Margaret J. Crothers, Cecil; and Frederick C. Malkus, Dorchester.

Said Turner, "The main purpose of this committee is to study and make an analysist of the budget and other signficant legislation during the session and to determine policy and position to be taken by the Democratic members of the Senate."

The group will meet with fiscal authorities to discuss term by term, the budget and receive advice on the needs against the requests. The idea being, according to Turner, to reduce the budget, if possible.

"This is the largest budget in the state's history," pointed out Senator Turner, "A great many items could be done away with or the operation performed in a way that it would cost much less money."

He concluded, " I believe that we can recommend substantial cuts and also find new sources of revenue for the state.

TALBOT COUNTY'S WONDERING BOY

According to rumor Tom Meredith of Wye Mills, is a candidate for Sheriff of Talbot county. Hazel Dudley is Tom's financial and political advisor. Anyone wishing to contribute to Meredith's campaign please make checks payable to Hazel Dudley. All contributions will be greatly appreciated.

FOR SALE—16 ft. skiff, 4 h.p. Wisconsin motor, fuly equipped, weedless wheel. $200.00. Phone Stevensville 2061.