OLD QUEENSTOWN

By Gillis Jewell
of Grasonville, Md.

Three centuries ago there lived along the southern shores of Chester River a tribe of Indians known as the Ozinies. They hunted, fished and tilled the soil, living peacefully among themselves and their neighbors. Their chief town was near the mouth of Corsica Creek and their hunting grounds took in much of present Queen Anne's County. A favored spot of theirs to camp around Queenstown Creek, where today many weapons and utensils can be found that they used.

After the coming of the white men to Queen Anne's County, they gradually moved farther north until they finally settled in New York. Soon after ,three boatloads of these Indians returned to Quenstown to remove their dead to a tribal burying ground on Kent Island. Their old chief had been buried in the yard of what is now Bolingly. They removed his body and performed a war dance around it. They left immediately after. This scene was witnessed by Martha Hall when she was a child.

The first white settlers in this part of the country probably emigrated from Kent Island, while the disrupted between Claiborne and Lord Baltimore was being conducted Queenstown was probably the center of these settlers, as is indicated by the old highways and the situations of the oldest settlements.

1706, the General Assembly of Maryland created Queen Anne's County out of Talbot and Kent Counties, this part of the county formerly belonging to Kent. The General Assembly also stated that a county seat be named and a courthouse and jail erected.

In the original grant of Queenstown in 1720, the town was called Baltimore. However, it was changed to Queenstown in honor of the English Queen, for whom the county also was named. Queenstown was named as the county seat and the construction of the courthouse and jail was begun. The town was one hundred acres in area, and was divided into lots that were sold to various purchasers under one condition, that they erect homes on the lots and become inhabitants of the town. The triangle now in Queenstown was once the town green and the courthouse and post office were located on it. A little forther down was the jail, where the home of Mrs. Benjamin Cockey is now located. The first jublic school was located at the edge of town on the road leading toward Centreville ,opposite the home of Dr. Samuel J. Price. The old colonial brick house on the corner of Main and Delrhodes Avenue was at that time the home of Miss Mary Brown, who converted it into an orphanage for girls.

Executions were conducted in Gallow's Field. It was located close to the jail. A whipping post, pillory, and stocks were erected. One day in September, 1748, a man stood in the pillory, with the word "cheat" on his back, while the people threw stones at him. His crime was reducing the peck measure below standard. Branding irons were also used. They bore the initial letters of certain usual crimes and were heated and applied to the offenders. "M" for manslaughter, "T" on the left hand for thief, "R" on the shoulder for rogue, "P" on the forehead for perjury.

In 1732 an act was passed for the purpose of erecting a school as near the center of the county as possible. Before this, there were no schools in this county. Visitors were chosen to direct the school and were instructed to purchase one hundred acres of land and build a school house and residence for the master. The master had to be a member of the Church of England and capable of teaching grammar, mathematics, and writing. His salary was one hundred dollars a year and he taught the year around.

In 1756 Quinton Malcolm was master. He startled the visitors and delighted the pupils by teaching dancing. However, he was forced to resign. In 1776, Luther Martin took charge of the school. He was later distinguished by being appointed appointed Attorney General. He was a bitter opponent of the Federal Constitution. In 1788 the school house was turned into an almshouse and a new one erected.

In 1776, Queenstown had the only post office in the county, but she was losing her prestige. Strong pressure from the upper part of the county was brought to bear to have the county seat moved to a more centrally located position. So in 1782 the General Assembly moved it to the head of Corsica Creek, now the site of Centreville. In 1790 the post office was also moved there.

There is no record of the religious life in Queenstown before the Revolution, but it is known fairly well what it was. The people were firm believers in Christianity and realized the need of churchs and sacraments.

In 1696 there were no Roman Catholics in Queen Anne's County, but in 1708 there were 179 of them here, despite the rigorous laws against them.

Continued Next Week

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CONGRESSMAN DAVID J. WARD

Congressman David J. Ward, Salisbury, Maryland, announced today that he would be a candidate to succeed himself as Representative in Congress from the First Congressional District. The announcement was made from his office in Washington, D. C.

Congressman Ward, after receiving the unanimous vote of the Democratic State Convention as the Democratic candidate, was elected to Congress for the first time at a special session, held on June 6, 1939 to succeed Congressman T. Alan Goldsborough who resigned to become a Federal Judge in the District of Columbia.

In 1940 Congressman Ward was nominated by his party and won in the election over his Republican opponent, Ex-Judge Robert F. Duer, of Somerset County.

In his announcement today, Congressman Ward said: "In these dark and critical days, when our Nation is fighting desperately for its very existence against a strong and unscrupulous foe seeking to destroy and enslave us; when loved ones from every home are in the battle fronts risking and giving their lives to preserve for us and those to come after us the heritage of liberty, freedom and the right of free government; we have little time for other thoughts than war and how we can help to win it.

"Our Republic, however, must have leadership and our government must provide this leadership. Congress is an essential arm of our government. Under the provision of our constitution the entire membership of the House of Representatives must be elected this year.This gives the people themselves the right and power to select this leadership.

"The records wil show that during my service in Congress, as Representative of the First Congressional District, I have supported and voted for every major measure designed to help and further the war program. As long as I am a member of Congress, I shall continue to do so, until that day when victory is won and peace is established.

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NOTICE

BY THE

SUPERVISORS OF ELECTION

OF QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY OF A

New General Registration

OF ALL QUALIFIED VOTERS IN QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY IN THIS PRESENT YEAR OF 1942.

CHAPTER 134 of the Acts of General Assembly of Maryland of 1941 directs that a new General Registration of all qualified voters in general and primary elections in Queen Anne's County shall be made by the Boards of Registry of said County in the year 1942.

The law provides that the Register of Votes to be made at said registration shall be used in the place of and shall supersede the present Register of Votes in Queen Anne's County.

In compliance with said Chapter 1344 of the Acts of the General Assembly of Maryland of 1941 notice is hereby given by the Supervisors of Election of Queen Anne's County to all qualified voters in said county that the Boards of Registry of Queen Anne's County will sit for said new registration in the respective districts and precincts of said county at the times and places hereinafter mentioned.

All persons who are entitled to vote in the General Election and Primary Elections to be hereafter held in Queen Anne's County are hereby notified to apply in person so they can be duly registered in the Districts and Precincts in which they may reside between the hours of Nine (9) o'clock in the morning and Nine (9) o'clock in the evening on the following dates, to wit:

ON FIRST
TUES., OF JULY 1942
ON FIRST
TUES., OF AUG. 1942

The Board of Supervisors of Elections of Queen Anne's County also gives notice to all persons who may be entitled to register in said new General Registration that said Board of Supervisors has designated the following places for the Boards of Registry to sit for said new registration to wit:

FIRST DISTRICT
At Cox's Hall, in Sudlersville

SECOND DISTRICT
Fire House, Church Hill

THIRD DISTRICT
FIRST PRECINCT
The Little Theatre, Centreville

THIRD DISTRICT
SECOND PRECINCT
Mrs. Smith's Store, Water Street Centreville.

FOURTH DISTRICT
At Henry Grollman's Unoccupied Store, Stevensville.

FIFTH DISTRICT
FIRST PRECINCT
Queenstown Fire Company Queenstown

FIFTH DISTRICT
SECOND PRECINCT
Knights of Pythias Hall Grasonville

SIXTH DISTRICT
Community Hall, Ruthsburg

SEVENTH DISTRICT
Katie Wallace Property
In the Town of Crumpton

E. O. WILLIS, Pres.,
S. OSCAR SPARKS,
MEDFORD GOLT,
Board of Election Supervisors for Queen Anne's County.
Madison Brown, Attorney,
Vachel A. Downes, Clerk.

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