CHURCH HILL HAS BLAZE

Nearly a block Wiped out in the Business Section.

Queen Anne's county's worst fire many years occured at 6.30 last Saturday morning, when business, section of Church Hill, were laid waste, by firewhich caused damage estimated at $50,000. Volunteer firemen from Centreville Chestertown, Millington and Easton, answered the alarm for help sent out by Church Hill people and forthree hours fought the blaze, which swept by a strong north west wind, threatened to destroy the entire village

The fire, the cause of which is unknown, broke out in the store of A. F. Golt. located about midway of the block on the south side of the street.

By the time the blaze was discovered, by Elmer Golt, grandson of the owner the entire interior was a mass of flames.

Mr. Golt immediatelysounded the alarm, and soon the entire village was aroused

Church Hill fireman with their New $3,000 pumping engine responded to thealarm and after connecting to one of the plugs found to their dismay that water had been left in the suction hose and thishad frozen putting their engine out of commission.

By this time the Golt store had practically been destroyed and the flames, swept by a strong north west wind spread to the adjoining combination millinery store and dwelling owned by Miss ElsieWalls. The garage of J. L. Tatman & Co. next caught as also did a vacant store and warehouse located on the left side of the Golt Store Theywere ownedbyJames E. Thompson.

As soon as it was discovered that Church Hill engine was out of commission, because of of the frozen hose, W. H. Good fire chief, called Centreville and Easton both places responed to the almar in qucik time sending theirlargest pumping engines.

As the J. L. Tatman garage burned and the flamesspread to the beautiful home owned and occupied by Harry Walls, Chief Good sent alarms to Millington and Easton. The Millington fireman responded and connected to one of the town wells located near the grammar school A short time after the arrival of the Millington engine, two engines of the Easton Fire Department arrived. They did not go into action, but aided firemen on duty at the nozzles.

Prior to the arrival of the Millington engine, the Church Hill fireman had succeeded in thawing out their suction hose and they placed their engine in to actionpumpingwater through two lines of hose.

While Chestertown and Centreville firemen battledthe blaze at the end of the block near Thompson's store, on the corner which from time to time caught fire, the Millington firemen started the battle to check the fire at the other endof the block which they succeed in doing after the home of Harry Walls had been destroyed and flames were beginning their work on the home of J. L Tatman As the fire was stopped the well which was supplying the Millington fireman with water, went dry.

At 10 o'clock the fire was declared under control and firemen still continued topourthousands of gallons of water on the ruins. The cold weather and the blinding snow storm made the fight one of the most difficult that the firemen have ever been called to fight. Thepumping engines were covered with ice, but they never failedin their work. Water running into the streets of the village froze, and several firemen had bad falls when they slipped on the ice covered streets.

As the sirens and bells of the arriving engines shrieked out their warning messages people who resided in the business section of the town were ordered to move out all their household effects, and soon the streets of the village were filled with all sorts of household effects.

Firemen suffered badly from the cold weather and in many instances their coats and hats were solid masses of ice. Line of hose spread across the main highway halted all traffic between Chestertown and Centreville. Women in town served the firemen with hot coffee and sandwiches.

T. Rigby Valliant, member of the Good Will Fire Company of Centreville, wae painfully injured when he steppedon a long nail while fighting the blaze near the Walls home. It entered the under part of his foot and a fellow fireman, with a pair of pliers pulled out the nail. The injured fireman was rushed to the office of Dr. Dudley where he was given the anti-tetanus treatment for prevention of lock jaw, and the wound dressed. This was the only casualty reported

---

Maryland State Foresters announce that trees on the Del Mar-Va Peninsula made unusual growth during 1926. They base this statement on the fact that the annual ring growth of trees during the last year is twice the width of former years Unusually mild weather, plentiful rainfall and very little wind is given as the reason for the unusual growth.

DOINGS OF THE WEEK.

Local and other Itema of Interest of Our Readers.

3 airtight stoves, reasonably. New farmwagon, good as new, for sale cheap. William Walter Grasonville, Md.

For sale Young pigs and also Shoats H Kehm, Queenstown Md. Phone 17F2

W. B Chance is overstocked with household effects and will dispose of some Saturday, January 22, at 2 P. M.

One hundred and six persons were killed and 8249 injured in transportation accidents during 1926

Flicker has been informed that the Town Commissioners have ordered four dozen lanters to hang on the lamp posts. Due to our weak current severalpersons have run into the electric light poles at night. We believe this a very goodsuggestion and the should be commended.

Traffic on the State highway thruout theEastern Shore isnow open to the traveling public. The snow stormof last Saturday had stopped all travel on some of the roads. State snow plows have been hard at work removing some of the drifts which were 6 feet high.

A child hygiene clinic will be held in theQueen Anne's county health Nurse's office, in the Court house next Monday afternoon, January 24 White children will be examined between the hours of 1 and 3 and from 3 o'clock has been reserved for colored children.

Now that the electric traffic officers of Centreville is away for repairs, Jim Quimby suggests that no one can feel more virtuous and law abiding than the manwho waits for thegreen light to come on when there isn't any traffic, even if he has a bottle in his jumper pocket at the time.

Unless the State make adequate provision for the care of insane and tubercular patients of Baltimore before the end of the present session of the Legislature, the city will be faced with the necessity of asking for a $3,000,000 bond issue to pay for needed improvements and extensions at the Baltimore City Hospitals.

A card party will be given at the home of Dr. Norman Hitch Friday eveningFebruary 4, 1927 Proceeds to purchase furnace for P. E.parsonage. Admission 35c. Refreshments. Everybody invited to come and enjoy a game of whist, 500, pinochle or pitch. Given by the Ladies Guild.

The United States Senate on Monday confirmed the appointment of Elmer W. Sterling as postmaster of Church Hill. President Coolidge reappointed Postmaster Sterling on December 22 and the appointmentwas officially confirmed on January 10. The appointment is for another term of four years. Postmaster Sterling was associated with the Weller faction in the recent Republican primary.

Fire, last Saturday morning at 2 o'clock destroyed the mansion house on the farm owned by C. P. Merrick, near Church hill, and Joseph Thompson, tenant, his wife and four children were forced to flee from theburning building in their night clothes. Alarms of fire were sent to Church hill and Centreville and both towns sentpumping engines to the scene, but because of lack of water theywere helpless to combat the flames.

A subscriber sends in the following valuable information "How to Use a Telephone in Queenstown:" If you desire to make a call before 9 A. M., always retire early the night before, give theoperator threerings before retiring. Set the alarm clock for 1 o,clock A. M. and 3 o'clock A. M. and give her three rings each time. Again at 8.45 A. M. ring until 9 A. M. By following these suggestions you will most always get service. If you desire a call after 9 A. M., the best thing is to get a Taxi and deliver the message in person.

Proceeding in the contest for clerk of the Court for Cecil County were started in Elkton this week, and will later come before the Maryland Legislature. Emerson R. Crothers, defeated democratic candidate in the November election is contesting the election. S.Ralph Andrews Republican, winner in November is defending the contest. The contest at present consists of questioning electon officials of four precincts of Cecil County where irregularities in the November election are said to have been committed

At the request of the Postmaster General, the UnitedStates Civil Service Commission announces an open competitive examination to fill the position of postmaster at Queenstown. This notice was sent to CivilService examiner T. E. Dewing at Centreville this week has attrated considerable attention inasc much as Harry Roberts, a Weller, man had recently been appointed acting postmaster in place of George E. Lane, who worked for the Hill faction.

According to the circular as sent out bythe governmene, the post office has been declaredvacant since January 24, 1926. This probably means that the new appointee to the post will have a term to date back from that time.

HAPPENINGS IN PINEY NECK

Items from Grasonville and other sections of Interest

Our duckers are having poor luck of late as most of the good ducks seems to have left our waters.

Ice skating on nearby ponds has been enjoyed by lovers of the sport during the week, and other holidays.

The freezing weatherhas been hard on our trappers but they have been having good luck and good prices.

The few warm days have made driving on our dirt roads very slippery, but our autoists have been able to get over them.

Travel on the shell road between here and Queenstown is nearly as bad as our dirt roads. Autoists have to be very care careful in driving unless they get stuck.

Yesterday morning's fog was trying on our citizens. They had to use compasses or lead lines to get their bearings to and from their homes. It was the worst fog for many years.

Uncle Billy Walters tells us that he can remember years ago that the darling girl set her cap for a husband, but it different now—she shows her knee caps. You don't mean that some of them are bare at that?

Sparks from the chimney of the colored parsonage in Wye Neck, set fireto the roof of the building Saturday about noon. The building which was destroyed was fuliy covered by insurance.

The play, Bashful Mr. Bobbs, given at the schoolhouse Thursday evening was appreciated by a good audience. The characters were all home talent and deserve much credit for the able manner they took their parts.

Herbert Edenfield read in the daily press were a writer claim that a man who uses 8,000 words is well educated. Herbert thinks our reporter's education must be on the blink as he only uses 711 words and the dictionary is not proud of them.

Mr. and Mrs. John P. Roe, of Stevensville, announce the marriage of theis daughter, Miss Isabel Glayds Roe, to Wm. Carl Newnam, of Chestertown. Miss Roe, who is one of the most attractive younger set on Kent Island, is well known and extremely popular in Grasonville.

The weatherman certain cut loose a good brand of blizzard Saturday and it looked that our citizens would have to be dug out their hones, but the snow only lasted a few hours, and but little trouble was experienced in getting to and from homes. Our watermen are having quite avacation as theriver and creeks are frozen hard.

Archie Coursey remedy: A sure cure for gossip and slander is to breathe through your nose keep your mouth shut. A certain amount of your dying body (for you die daily), momentairly floats offon your breath intothe air. And God has filled thewor ld with plant life to absorbsuch products, such effete and poison material. But gossip and slander on your outgoing breath have only people to absorb them.

Fake Dry Agents

That relays of crooks, operating as professed prohibition agents, and armed with fake search warrants, may reach Queen Anne's County at any time, is forecast by news dispatches from nearby neighborhoods telling of the activities of these new "hold up" criminals.

During the last few days numerous Wilmington homes have been invaded and the occupants intimidated by these fakers. In at least a few instances, individuals have paid handsomely to avoid "arrest."

The scheme of the band of crooks is to first learn the names and addresses of individuals who may have liquors, either legal or contraband, in their homes.

The next step is to make their appearance armed with a bogus search warrant, and usually little difficulty is experienced in locating the liquor.

Overtures then usually are made to the householder, where by the matter can be hushed-up for a sum of money.

Queen Anne's countians are advised ofthe operations ofthese crooks, and in the event oftheir appearance here prompt steps should be taken to notify the authorities.

New Dance

About this time each year a new dance craze flares up in Queen Anne's among worshippers at the shrine of Terpsichore

The present year is no exception and within the next few month everybody will be dancing the "Valencia." The new step already has taken New York by storm and is an exaggeration of the present fox trot and tango.

It is said that the days of the "Charleston" are numbered. Originally a stage dance, it did not become popular until it was modified for ballroom use. Aside from the new steps, the old fox trot and waltz continue it first and second places, respictively in popularity and probably always will, in the opinon of many dancers.

INTEREST TO FIRE FIGHTERS

Bill to be Introduced In The Maryland Legislatvre.

Residents of Queen Anne's county towns and villages will be interested in the provisions of a bill to be introduced in the Legislature which contemplates giving adequate fire protection to the smaller communities of Maryland.

Among the points to be covered in the proposed measures are:

Right of way for fire apparatus on all the roads of the State

State-wide fire prevention system to follow the Baltimore system as closely as possible.

Prohibiting automobilists from following fire apparatus on the State roads at close range and from stepping their cars in the fire area.

Standardization of the fire hose couplings.

The details of the proposed bill are being studied by the following committee.

Frank M. Bond, representing the Maryland State Firemen's Association.

B. S. Mace, representing the Maryland Fire Prevention Committee.

Charles H. Robinson, chairman of the fire prevention committee of the Baltimore Safety Council.

Walter R. Hough, president of the Baltimore Fire Board.

August Emrich, chief engineerof the Baltimore Fire Department.

The committee will meet at the office of the Fire Board in Baltimore within the next two or three weeks, and take up the general provisions of the bill, which are extended to cover every feature necessary to be included in an effective law.

Chief Emrich, of Baltimore city, asserted that it was important that fire hose used through out the State conform ly to the national standard as to coupling in order, that the different companies might be of service in all the towns and cities. The standard was adopted by the Baltimore departmentsome time ago.

"It is also important that fire apparatus be given the State roads, Chief Emrich said There is no reason why this point should not be covered in the proposed law, because every minute of delay to apparatus is dangerous to life as well as to property.

The committee is going into every phase of the situation, realizing that the State Firemens Association must be backed up in its plans for adequate protection of every community in Maryland.

Several featurers of the bill are not yet ready to be made public, because they require most careful study and the cooperation of the Governor and the State government as a whole. What we aim to do is give Maryland the most modern system of fire protection that can be devised."

Must Use Delaware Tags

Queen Anne's County trucks engaged in hauling freight for hire over Delaware roads must carry the 1927 Delaware license, according to a ruling this week by Delawarehighway authorities.

This recalls the controversy which occurred between E. Austin Baughman, Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, andSylvester D. Townsend, Secretary of State in charge of motor vehicles and of Delaware last summer.

Charges that Maryland violated the principle of reciprocity and thereby incurred the tax on her trucks now enforced in Delaware were repeated yesterday by C. C. Reynolds, superintendent of the State Highway police of Delaware. "All other States have observed reciprocity and their trucks are not taxed, Mr. Reynolds asserted.

Public Sale

—OF—

Households GOODS

Having rent part of my home, I find I have a surplus of household effects that I will dispose of at public auction to the highest bedder, at my residence in Queenstown, on

Saturday, January 22, 1927,

commencing at 2 o'clock, P. M., the following valuable goods, namely:

2 Iron Bedstead,
2 Mattresses and Springs,
5 piece Oak Living room Suite
Washstand, bowl and pitcher
Buffet, Tables, Desk,
Dishes and many other valuable Household Effects

W. B. CHANCE, Owner

E. O. WILLIS
GENERAL AGENT
Continental Life Insurance
Centreville, Maryland.

VETERINARIAN
Dr. F. S. Wharton
Permanently located in Centreville.
Phone 176.

PERSONAL CHRONICLE

Concise items of Friends, Relatives Anaes.ant da niaucq

Mrs. Harry Perry returned home Thursday evening after spending a week with relatives in Baltimore.

Mrs. Hiram Pinder is nursing a bad case of measles. She like other younger folks of the town are getting along nicely and will soon be out.

Mr and Mrs. Henry Stewart of near Sudlersville, are receiving congratulations upon the recent celebration of their 60th wedding anniversary.

Mr. George Hitch of Salisbury who has been spending several days with his son, Dr. Norman Hitch and family, returned home Wednesday evening.

Mr. JosephGinsberg leftTuesday for a touring trip with friends tn Baltimore and York, Pa In a letter to a friend he said that hewas having a splendid time.

Mr. John Selleberg and family have returned to Crisfield after spending several weeks with his father, brother and sister. John is simplywild about the climate around Crisfield

Beverley N. Sparks, of the Centreville Observer Staff, who since last November has been confined to EmergencyHospital Easton, with a broken hip, yesterday was considerably improved. Hospital physicians are of the opinion that the bone had knitted perfectly and it is expected that Mr. Sparks will be able to return to Centreville within the next week.

Miss Edith Hopkins, secretary to Ernest W Grubb, Queen Anne's County Agricultural Agent, with offices in theCourt House was painfully injured Wednesday evening, when she fell down the stairs leadingfrom the office to the lower floor. Miss Hopkins missed her step at the top of the flight and fell heavily the entire length of the stairs.

Messrs. Nathan DraperJames Smith end JackBishop returned home Saturday evening after a ducking trip on Synapuxent bay They had a grand trip for their health. Had a close call from freezing to death when their boat stopped about seven miles from shore, Saturday morning. They never fired off their guns as it was so cold everplace was frozen up.

Science Develope Super-Oyster

How the New York State Conservation Commission is raising a pedigreed strain of oyster fat and succulent, at the same time fast growing and hardy has been related to the convention of the America Association for the Advancement of Science,, in session at the University of Pennsylvania

William F. Wells, biologist of the New York commission decribed the triumph.

The new and superior oyster partly the creation of nature and partly the invention of Mr. Wells, was exhibited at the zoological laboratory. This oyster has an improved shell decorated with a symmetrical pattern, and differing widely from the elumsy and misspapen hapitations of the ordinary oyster.

Until recently the oyster stoutly resisted domestication and could not be subjected to the scientific breeding methods which have produced the paper shelled pecan and the tripletailed goldfish.

For half a century efforts were made to grow oysters in laboratories from the egg, so oyster men could select and combine types and rais bigger and better oysters Until recently all such attempts failed because the minute oyster eggs either died or escaped.

The Mr. Wells, after removeggs from an oyster and festilizing them in a jar of water, periodically whirled them about in an apparatus resembling a cream separator. The eggs were retained on the walls of the separator while the impure water ran out. Fresh water was then introduced This operation was report swimming things like minute tadpoles on which microscopic shells began to develop

With this teachnique the biologist was able to raise oysters by the millions in captivity.

Soon he was rearing pedigreed oysters—oysters whose ancestors were individually known and their characteristics recorded With the obstacles in the way of oysters breeding all conquered the effort to select and improve the stock began.

The first major result of these experiments has been the discovery and artificial rearing of a hitherto unknown species with the handsome shell This oyster differs from all other known relatives in that it does not set that is, does not attach itself to a shell, or rock or other hard substantive and take up permanent residence there It lacks the muscle which attaches the ordinary oyster to its site.

John P. Aker,
SHOES and HARNESS

Home Made Silo

Farm Bureau members throughout Kent county are greatly interested in an experiment being tried out by J. Weiden Walbert, a young farmer near Chestertown, which may revolutionize the dairy industry in the county, so far as the tenant farmers areconcerned, and greatly increase the annualdairy revenue of the county.

Walbert conceived the idea of building what he terms a home made silo, horizontal in shape, in order to learn for himself as a tenant farmer whether ensilage which forms the bulk of the dairy cow's rations can be successfully preserved and fedto the cows without danger.

The silo is simply a hole in the ground eight feet deep, twelve feet wide and twenty feet long, dug by the regular farm force intwo Saturday afternoon work.

The silo is covered with a gable fodder roof, and the ensilage is covered with a thick covering of wet straw whichprevents it from becoming unfitfor use.

Walbert, in explaining his "invention" to Secretary William G. Smythe, of the Kent County Farm Bureau, state that during the short time the silo has been in use it has demonstucted its great value in a decided increase in milk production, and, contrary to the prediction of some, of more skeptical of his neighbors, the ensilage is as sweet and in as good condition as it is when kept in the much more expensive silos now in use.

Secretary Smythe was greatly interested, for it seems certain that if Walbert's experiment proves permanently successful, and there seems to be no doubt that it will, it will be possible for practically every tenant farmer in the county toown his own silo, which will cause a great increase in the number of dairy cows and will result in increased profits.

Health Notes

Preliminary reports from the Bureau of Communicable Diseases of the State Department of Health, show a marked decrease in typhoid fever and in diphtheria in1926 in comparison with 1925. There was a decrease in tpyhoid fever of 204 cases and in diptheria of 103 cases.

Commenting on the declinein in these diseases, Dr. John S. Fulton, Director of the State Department of Health said; "It is only when we compare the outbreaks in recent years with the sickness and deaths from the same diseases some years ago, that we are able to realize what dividends being paid to the people of the State, in the way of health and the freedom from disease, as a result of the steady, persistent fight against the communicable diseases by the State Department of Health and themedical profession, back by the intelligent cooperation of the people of Maryland."

"To a large extent, this improvement has been brought about through the cooperation of the party of the third part the wide awake individual. In the case of typhoid, it has been shown in the public spirited interest in community measures for protecting water and food supplies from sources of infection, and in the steady progress, year after year of individual protection through vaccination against the disease.

Queen Anne's county's worse snow storm of the winter escoted by a 40 mile an hour galer arrived last Saturday about 3o' clock inthe morning and after a visit which lasted until the wee small hours of Sunday morning returned bach to the snow kingdom. As a result roads were blocked and after midnight Saturday motorists found it impossible to navigate and all trafric was stopped betweenCentreville Easton and Elkton,

At the time that the storm started, ice began forming in the bay and many of the boats were forced to cancel their regular trips. The temperature at that time in Queen Anne's was down to 11 degrees above zero.

KODAK FILMS AND FILM PACKS DEVELOPED AND PRINTED
P. O. Box 1
WILLIAM F. PARROTT
Am also equipped to take all kinds of photographs and views. Give me a trial.
Centreville, Maryland

Please Pay Your Subscription

PERRY'S
Department Store.

MEATS

Our Prices will interest you
Give us a call.

If you desire
Fany Grown VEGETABLES
of all kinds, give us a call.

PERRY'S
Department Store.

Roberts' Cash Store

Let us make your
Sunday Dinners
one of happiness for yourself and friends. All the Fresh Vegetable, Fruits and Meats awaiting you.

A pair of SHOES or GLOVES, a SWEATER, a SLICKER will make an ideal present.

Drop in and give us the once over. Our PRICES must be right

H. F. Roberts, Queenstown

Goods delivered Free.

Phone 34

Queenstown Bank of Maryland.
Qneenstown, Maryland

CAPITAL $10,000.00

Surplus and Undivided. Profits. $13,350.78

Checking Accounts
Savings Accounts
Certificates of Deposits
Safe Deposit Boxes
Christmas Saving Clnb.

WE SOLICIT YOUR ACCOUNT

WM. E. KING, President. W. I. TUTTLE, Cashier.

Our Store is always supplied with
GROCERIES
Fresh Vegetables
Prices rights.
WILLIAM T. BOOKER
QUEENSTOWN, MARYLAND.
Goods delivered free