St. Mary's Enterprise

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SHORT CUTS IN STATE NEWS

The Latest News From All Over the State

HAPPENINGS OF THE WEEK

Frederick.—Vital issues with which farmers of the country are struggling will be threshed out at the annual meeting of the Maryland State Grange in Frederick this week. Three hundred farmers, who represent every grange association in Maryland, will attend.

Hagerstown.—Reduction in bread prices was announced by leading bakers here. One of the largest bakeries made a straight reduction of one cent a loaf. Other bakeries increased the size of the loaf. The reductions here followed reductions made by Chambersburg and Waynesboro bakeries, which were shipping large quantities of bread into Hagerstown.

Cumberland.—That cattle are not affected by the one-way traffic law in Cumberland was the decision rendered by Magistrate Humbird in court here when he discharged O. F. Shobe, of Cumberland, who was arrested on the charge of driving steers north on a street designated for southbound traffic only. The magistrate held that the ordinance applied only to horses and vehicles.

Cumberland.—Joseph Holzinger, aged 57 years, supervisor of county school equipment, died of heart disease at his home here. Mr. Holzinger was born in Cumberland and was a son of the late Joseph Holzinger, and was supervisor of the local Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company repair forces for a number of years prior to his appointment 22 years ago as supervisor of school equipment.

Frederick.—Chester M. Hauver, aged 53, a former deputy sheriff and for years a county constable of the Frederick district, was instantly killed when his automobile crashed into a truck operated by Elmer K. Ramsburg, Jr., aged 18, near Utica, Md. The collision occurred on a dangerous curve near Hansonville. There was a thick mist at the time. Hauver was found on the floor of his demolished car with his head crushed.

Cumberland.—William Bear, aged 41 years, died on a train while being brought to this city following injuries received when an engine, returning from the mines of the Berkeley Coal Company, at Meyersdale, got beyond control, raced down a steep incline and crashed into a car at the bottom. The car was overturned, with Bear underneath. Bear was married only one month ago.

Hagerstown.—The Blue Mountain Food Products Company, Inc., was incorporated here with James E. Feese, of Smithsburg; Challie W. Baker, of Edgemont, and Harry E. Hennebergerr, Roland Q. Tarbutton and Phillip E. King, all of Waynesboro, as the incorporators and directors for the first year. The company will engage in the wholesale and retail business of canning, preserving and evaporation of fruits.

Belair.—The efforts of federal agents to eradicate bovine tuberculosis in Harford county have been waged vigorously this week, with surprising results. A number of herds have been tested, the figures showing that 104 out of 146 animals were diseased. In one herd of 73 animals 48 were condemned, and in another of 20 animals 16 were found infected. It is learned that there are at present in Harford county five carloads of animals awaiting shipment to be slaughtered. A drive is being made to have Harford the first county in the United States entirely rid of tuberculous cattle.

Belair.—The wave of crime that is sweeping over this immediate section is deeply concerning the people of Belair, and there is a general cry for better police protection for the financial, business and residential sections of the town. By way of convincing proof why immediate vigorous precautions should be taken against possible robbery, in particular, citizens are pointing to the recently attempted bank burglary at Aberdeen, the robbery at Richardson's drug store and the attempted robbery at the Harford Garage, both in Belair, and the numerous holdups on the Belair and Conowingo roads.

Westminster.—John H. Cunningham, treasurer of the Republican party in Carroll county, has filed with the clerk of the Circuit Court his report showing his receipts and expenditures. He received from Galen L. Tait, chairman of the State Central Committee, $1,000; from A. A. Blakeny, $200; from Carroll county Republicans, $472.50; total, $1,672.50, and expended $1,513.03, leaving a balance of $150.49. N. H. Baumgartner, Democratic treasurer, received from J. Hubert Wade, treasurer of the State Central Committee, $500; local Democrats, $350; balance on hand from campaign of 1919, $333.96; total, $1,185.96; expended, $1,151.25; leaving balance of $34.71.

STATE CAPITAL

Simmons and Shanahan.

Annapolis.—The State is preparing to push actively the cases of Thomas W. Simmons, former Secretary of State, and William J. Shanahan, former treasurer of Harford county, against both of whom steps have been taken to recover public funds.

Comptroller E. Brooks Lee, it is understood, has consented to hold open the record in the Simmons case for only a limited number of days, to give Mr. Simmons the opportunity he desires to insert a more detailed explanation of his side. At the end of the period Comptroller Lee is said to intend placing record in the hands of Attorney-General Armstrong for legal action.

Comptroller Lee conferred with the Attorney-General over the Shanahan suit, which has been removed from Harford county to the Baltimore county courts. It was announced after the conference that the State is prepared to join in the county action for its share of the funds in question.

In his letter notifying Mr. Simmons that the record will be held open for a brief period, Comptroller Lee is understood to have made a pointed suggestion that the State would welcome an immediate settlement of its claim. He is said to have intimated that "the record is left open and also the alternative of immediate remission."

In the Simmons case the State is requesting the return to the Treasury of $2,600 drawn by Mr. Simmons from the fee funds of his office, and of $5,261.27 placed in bank to await legal settlement of its ownership, and withdrawn by Mr. Simmons without notice at the expiration of his term.

The County Commissioners of Harford have entered suit against the bond of Mr. Shanahan for more than $20,000, representing the difference between the tax levies presented him for collection and the collections turned into the Treasury.

The State Roads Issue.

An opinion which Attorney General Armstrong has been asked by Major Lee to file has to do with the right of the State Roads Commission to a fund of $142,000 from Harrington Budget of 1919-1920. It has practically been completed.

If he goes to the fundamental question here involved, say those who have watched development of application of the budget system to Maryland governmental appropriations, Mr. Armstrong may open up a question which will show the policy of flexibility which has been followed in the budget plan in Maryland to be way off the intent and the letter of the law.

The $142,000 which Mr. Mackall, of the Roads Commission claims is due him from the motor vehicle fees, was set forth in Governor Harrington's explanatory budget tables furnished the members of the legislature. This explanation was that the item was "simply an estimate of the residue" (remaining after the expenses of the Motor Vehicle Commissioner's office had been paid) "and the maintenance money which the State Roads Commission will actually receive is whatever the residue may be." The "residue" exceeded the amount put into the budget bill. Mr. Mackall claims it.

Comptroller Lee holds that only the sum put in the bill as passed was due and this has been paid.

Oysters Plentiful.

Harrison W. Vickers, chairman the State Conservation Commission, wore a broad smile as he reviewed the receipts from the bushel tax on oysters collected during the month of November. The commission collects on each bushel of oysters opened in the State one cent, and during the month of November, 1920, it exceeded the amount of the corresponding month of last year by $1,497.11.

As compared with the tax collected last year, which was $15,943.88, this year's collection will amount so far to $17,340.99. This decided increase in the receipts from this source, according to Chairman Vickers, indicates that the present oyster season in Maryland will be a banner one. Oysters today on the bar in the Potomac River are selling as high as $1.30 a bushel. This, according to the reports of Captain Amos Creighton, of the oyster navy, is an unprecedented figure. The number of persons employed in the taking of oysters so far this season is largely in excess of last year.

To Attend Sessions.

Maryland is entitled to 11 delegates to the convention of the National Women's party, to be held in Washington February 15 to 19, inclusive, according to an announcement by Miss Sheldon Jackson, credentials chairman. Five hundred and forty-two accredited delegates will attend the convention from the various States. All members of the Womens party will be invited to attend as visiting delegates. Mrs. Donald R. Hooker will head the delegation from Maryland.

Easton.—The new Zion Methodist Protestant Church has just been erected at Elwood, Dorchester county, was dedicated Sunday. The morning and evening sermons were delivered by Rev. J. M. Sheridan, D. D., of Baltimore.

GRAIN GRADING AND MARKETING

Columbia University Added to Number of Colleges Giving Course of Instruction.

OTHER INSTITUTIONS AIDING

United States Department of Agriculture Is Preparing Sets of Trays Illustrating Various Grading Factors.

Columbia university has recently been added to the number of colleges giving instruction in grain grading and marketing. The United States Department of Agriculture, charged with the administration of the grain standards act, is keenly interested in having such instruction made a part of college curricula, particularly of agricultural colleges, and today there are 20 colleges where students study grain handling.

Columbia University Helping.

At New York city the local federal grain supervision office is giving active assistance to Columbia university in outlining and presenting the grain grading course to be given, and similar help is being accorded other colleges by federal grain supervision officials located in 33 distributing points throughout the United States. The department is also preparing sets of grain trays illustrating the various grading factors of shelled corn, wheat, oats, to be sent to colleges teaching grain grading under federal standards.

Last fall a conference of teachers of farm crops in a number of agricultural colleges with federal grain supervision officials was held at Chicago, where the entire grain situation was discussed with a view to equipping the instructors with information that would enable them to formulate courses of study in grain grading and marketing. Every phase of the grain trade was covered and a report of the conference prepared for distribution among the various colleges interested.

Grading Demonstrations.

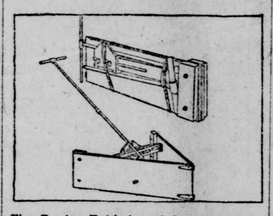
Grain grading demonstrations covering a period of from one to twelve days have been given by United States Department of Agriculture experts before students of agricultural colleges in 17 states. The department is prepared to assist colleges in every possible way in furnishing them with authoritative information regarding the objects of the grain standards act and the practical application of its provisions.

SNOWPLOW IS COLLAPSIBLE

Simple and Inexpensive Contraption May Be Folded Up and Carried From Place to Place.

The Scientific American, in illustrating and describing a snowplow, the invention of V. W. Mason of Bridgeport, Conn., says:

The object of the invention is to provide a simple, inexpensive and collapsible plow, which when folded may be easily carried from place to place.



The Device Folded, and Open for Use.

A further object is to provide a plow of the manual type, so constructed and counterbalanced that its pushing and pulling steering handle, relatively fulcrumed, exerts a varying downward pressure according to the depth and resistance of the snow. The plow can be adjusted to clear a path from 28 to 36 inches in width.

AUSTRALIAN WHEAT IS GOOD

Larger Yield Obtained on Pacific Coast Than Some of Native Commercial Varieties.

Tests made by the United States Department of Agriculture with 130 lots of Australian wheats recently introduced into this country have brought out three varieties adapted for growing on the Pacific coast, where they have produced larger yields than some of the native commercial varieties. They are known as Federation, Hard Federation and White Federation. The Australian varieties in general are susceptible to most cereal diseases, but many of these are not destructive in the Pacific coast region.

ERADICATION OF COCKLEBUR

Plant Is Double-Barreled Gun Affair, Carrying Two Seeds—Circular Tells How to Kill It.

In eradicating the cocklebur, remember that it carries a double-barreled gun. Every bur carries two seeds, only one of which sprouts the first year. Even when the product of that seed has been killed the other will be in shape to make trouble the next season. The United States Department of Agriculture has a circular on the cocklebur—how to get rid of it.

WOOD CUTTING GOOD JOB DURING WINTER

Work Does Not Interfere With Regular Field Crops.

Logs Cut in Cold Weather Season Are Not Subject to Rapid Drying—Farmers May Profitably Turn to Some Sawmilling.

Farmers, as a rule, have too much to do at certain times of the year and not enough at others. Many farms are unprofitable because their owners have little or nothing planned for winter. Wood-cutting can be done at any time, but cool weather favors the rate of production, and in the winter the work does not conflict with that on regular field crops. If cut in winter logs are not subject to rapid drying,

Cutting Wood for Fuel by Use of Gasoline Engine.

nor to checking at the ends of the logs, which often occurs in summer-cut logs and apparently reduces their sale value.

Because of injury resulting from the southern pine bark beetle in the hot season, it is practically necessary to cut pine in the fall and winter months. Damage and loss in summer often come from wood-rotting fungi, including the "oluing" and other staining of wood. For these reasons a good many farmers turn profitably to logging and sawmilling for a few fall or winter months each year. Nearly every kind of wood product can be satisfactorily handled in winter, according to the forest service of the United States Department of Agriculture.

MALE BIRD MARKINGS

1. He should possess the characteristics and markings of the breed and variety of which he is a member.
2. Strong vitality.
3. Active movement.
4. Good health as indicated by ruddy combs and wattles.

(It is not advisable to use a bird for breeding which has ever had a disease even if there are no indications of it at present.)

5. No marks of effeminacy. Crow should be strong and clear.
6. Remember the foundation of success in the breeding of poultry is the correct matings of the breeding pens.—B. W. Fairbanks of the Colorado Agricultural College.

FERTILITY IN TON OF STRAW

It Has Ability to Increase Crop Just as Much as Manure, Although It Is Slower to Act.

A ton of straw contains as much fertility as a ton of manure, and although the fertility does not become available quite so quickly, it nevertheless has the ability in the long run to increase crops just as much as manure. Of course the ideal way to use straw is to use it as bedding for animals and then spread it on the land mixed with manure. Where this is impractical the straw should by all means be spread on the land at the rate of around one and a half tons per acre and plowed under.

CHICKENS NEED GREEN FEED

Fowls Must Be Provided With Something to Take Place of Grass Obtained in Summer.

To take the place of green grass obtained by the fowls in summer the flock must be provided with green food in some form. Mangels and sprouted oats are very good. Alfalfa and clover meal are high in protein content and make good additions to an egg-producing ration. Cabbage and carrots are also good green foods.—E. J. Peterson, North Dakota Agricultural College.

WILD ANIMALS SEEK SAFETY

Find Protection in Game Sanctuaries at the Beginning of Every Open Hunting Season.

Wild animals know where they can find protection, says a United States Department of Agriculture circular on the fur industry. In places where there are game sanctuaries, wild creatures hasten to them at the beginning of every open hunting season.

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