Maryland Crops

Wheatt and Corn Crop Bring the Good Returns in This State.

A corn crop calculated to bulge the granieries of Maryland farmers is in sight this year, if average growing conditions prevail from now until harvest. This fact is brought to the fore by John S. Dennee, Federal crop statistician for Maryland. He makes the statement, he says, after reading scores of reports from farmer-correspondents on the average date of August 1 and summing up his own observations made while on a trip over the State during July.

Conditions on August 1 was estimated by the Crop Reporting Board of the United States Department of Agriculture at eighty-six per cent. of a normal, according to Mr. Dennee, suggesting a yield of thirty-eight bushels to the acre and probable production of 24,556,000 bushels. Production last year was 18,538,000 bushels, and the average for the five years, (1920-1924) is 23, 926,000.

A short crop last year caused for the most part by unfavorable weather at planting time and subsequently, combined with a purpose on the part of farmers to increase feed crops this year are believed to be the major reasons for larger acreage—estimated to be eight per cent. over that of 1924.

Persistently dry weather in June allowed close cultivation of the crop, and farmers paid a good deal more attention last spring to the selection of their seed. Figured at current prices the crop in sight this year has an estimated worth of about $30,941,000 at the farm gate. Little of Maryland's corn is marketed as grain. The product goes mainly to maintain work animals and breeding stock on the farms. What is not used in that way is marketed in the form of live stock and livestock products.

Corn is the most important single crop grown in Maryland.

A winter wheat crop of 11,613,000 bushels is predicted for Maryland by the United States Crop Reporting Board, according to Mr. Dennee. Production last year was 8,532,000 bushels and the five-year average (1920-1924) is 9,603,000 bushels. The harvested area this year was 553,000 acres, comparable with 540,000 acres harvested in 1924.

MILLINGTON

Our canning factory opened last Saturday for the season.

Miss Gertrude Tyler, of Keyser, W. Va., is the guest of her grand-mother Mrs. Jennie Johnson.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilmer Brown and Mrs. Lizzie Brown, of Philadelphia and Mrs. S. A. Orem, spent the week-end with Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Godwin near town.

Asbury M. E. Sunday School held its annual picnic at Tolchester last Wednesday.

Lieut. Commander F. E. Fitch, of Norport, L. I., is visiting his family at the home of his wife's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Ahern.

Mr. and Mrs. George Thompson, of Chester, Pa., were guests last week of her sister, Mrs. H. L. Higman and were accompanied home by little Miss Marjorie Higman.

Miss Elizabeth Stevens and Mr. Stanley Guest and family, of Philadelphia, and Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Sparks, of Hillsboro, Md., spent last Sunday with the latter's brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Stevens, near town.

Mrs. Ada Glenn and little son, Albert, of Wilmington, visited her aunt, Mrs. Annie Newnam, this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Willis, of Camden, N. J., were guests last Tuesday of his aunt, Mrs. F. C. Numbers, Sr.

Misses Marie and Alice Higman, of Philadelphia, spent the past week-end with her father, Mr. Norman Higman, near town.

Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Maddox, of Glenburnie, Md., Mrs. Edward Harrel and little son, Edward, Jr., of Newport News, Va., Mr. John Coleman and family, Mr. and Mrs. Henry M. Tonkin and little son, Henry, Jr., and Mrs. Alice Hurtt, of Wilmington, visited Mrs. L. A. Hurtt last Sunday.

Mrs. Grace Burns and Mrs. Mabel Dayton, of Wilmington, were guests this week of Miss Helen Stevens.

Mrs. S. L. Pippin and two little sons, William and James, of Philadelphia, spent this week with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Hurlock.

The regular monthly meeting of the Queen Esther Circle, of Asbury M. E. Church, was held last Tuesday evening at the home of Miss Ethel Jones.

Little Miss Edna Catts, of Clayton, Del., is visiting her grand-mother, Mrs. Mary Catts.

Mr. Frank Lambert, Jr., of Wilmington, spent the week-end with his family at the home of his wife's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Woodall.

Miss Helen Tyler returned home last Sunday, after spending several weeks with relatives in Keyser, W. Va. and Cumberland Md.

Miss Mildred Clark, of Centreville, spent Thursday of last week with her aunt, Miss Marie Vensant.

Mrs. Lydia Jones returned home last Tuesday after spending a few weeks with her daughter, Mrs. C. L. Turner, near town.

Mrs. W. G. Painter, of Harrisonburg, Va., was the guest this week of her sister, Mrs. Merritt Brice.

Miss Myrtle Faulkner, of near Black, visited her aunt, Mrs. John Moore.

Miss Ella Jones returned home on Thursday of last week, after spending two weeks at Atlantic City.

Mrs. Annie Poore spent the past two weeks with relatives in Wilmington.



BEAUTIFUL WORTON MANOR

Handsome Home of the Maxwells, at the Union of Worton Creek and the Bay, One of the Most Lovely Residences Upon the Chesapeake's Shores.

Worton Manor, the home of the Maxwell family, situated upon a high-flung plateau, at a point commanding alike a full view of beautiful, winding, picturesque Worton Creek, and, at the same time, as far as the eye can see, the blue waters of the Chesapeake pouring in their clean, brine-laden flood upon the white shores of Kent County, presents a picture at this time of the year that will challenge the admiration and will make the mind reel to find words with which to pay it a fitting tribute.

The other day we had the pleasure, with a party of friends, of seeing this palatial estate, encompassed about, as it was, with the vine and verdure and fragrance of summer. From the high plateau of perhaps fifty or more feet, we could catch a full vision of the blue waters of the Chesapeake as they rolled out yonder beneath the blazing rays of dying August's afternoon sun. Close to shore, tthe Chesapeake was a colossal mirror, into which was caught visions of trees and shrubbery which lined its banks, suggesting quiet, peaceful nooks in which one might well and easily wile away many peaceful hours. Further out beyond the far-flung shadow of the cliff, the Chesapeake was rolling its blue waves shoreward, their crests shimering and swirling into eddies, which catching the blazing rays of the sun, held them just long enough to transform them into a fairy picture of sunlight glory, and then to hurl them onward toward the white shoreline, upon which they have beaten perhaps since the beginning of time itself.

Pool's Island, a dark and somber and green sward in the distance, presented a fitting addition to an already complete picture. Upon its shores beat incessantly the Chesapeake's persistent tides, as if bent upon wiping it from the scene altogether. Many miles from the shore that it is, entailing great hardship to its residents in both summer and winter in their trips back and forth to the mainland, it nevertheless always holds its charm. Beyond it lie the broad and seemingly limitless tides of the bay, rolling at times almost mountain high as some storm catching the waters in its grasp, seems bent upon its inundation.

At this point beautiful Worton Creek, which has joined hands further eastward with a creek of almost equal beauty, pours into the bay a flood of waters which have drained from the springs of a tenth of the county. From this viewpoint can be seen what is perhaps the most beautiful sweep of water in this county, as it pours from the two creeks between winding and fragrant shore lines.

To make this picture complete, the lovely Maxwell home, known as the "Worton Manor," which name has applied to residences upon the same site for numberless generations, flings out its challenge of beauty for many miles into the bay, and is, without doubt, one of the real show places upon all the numerous beaches and eminences of the Chesapeake. Situated several hundred yards from the cliff, with its countless pillars and its stucco fairly blazing in their white beauty, encompassed with bushes of roses of many colors and of many hues, with their faint perfumes transforming the air into a rich and lasting frangrance, and with the great lawn a picture of green and exquisite beauty, "Worton Manor" presents a picture at this time that challenges the admiration of every one who has the pleasure and the opportunity of seeing it.

Not only is "Worton Manor" a place of real beauty in summer, but it also has its charms in all seasons. In the fall, when the Great Artist is busy in the woodlands with his matchless brush, "Worton Manor" also has its charm, when it stands in the midst of nature's many-colored robes. In winter, when all the world seems desolate, and the woods and fields and hills are bare, "Worton Manor" stands out prominently from the bay with its pillars blazing in the sun. And in spring, when all earth is being woed from its winter refuge by the soft and fragrant breezes from the south, and when the hills and meadows and fields are alive with the song of birds and the hum of bees and the fragrance of flowers, "Worton Manor" completes nature's picture with its beauty.

In years that are now away back in the past, it is not improbable that "Worton Manor" occupied a most prominent part in the life of the half-savage people who peopled the county. With its situation, commanding, as it does the entrance to Worton Creek and the creek that empties there it is quite likely that a city or village occupied this very spot, into which poured the populace who made its living and resided upon the creeks that run into the bay nearby. In our imagination we can see them at their task of meager cultivation around the fields that border the creeks and the bay; we can see them thronging the mythical city where Worton Manor now stands; we can see their campfires burning a red flare that reflected far into the dark waters of the Chesapeake; their canoes, laden with human freight, ply back and forth, while their war cries pierce the midnight gloom and can be heard for many miles. This is, of course, all only problematical, but it is not all impossible or even unreasonable, that if a true history of Worton Manor could be written, far back into the past the predominaing race of red men once held high carnival and thronged and conducted their various enterprises upon this very spot where this palatial homestead now exists.

Mr. J. D. Maxwell purchased the Worton Manor property, consisting of about 560 acres of land, and the buildings thereon, from Mrs. Costelle, who had moved there from Baltimore. The old Worton Manor residence having burned some years after its purchase by Mrs. Costelle, the present residence had been erected by her at great expense. Upon the purchase of Worton Manor by the Maxwell family, the task was immediately begun of remodeling it and making it into a home that would be suitable for them and present those comforts to which they had been accustomed in their modern abode. As a result, every luxury known to life in a big city is theirs. On the grounds they have their own electric light plant, a tremendous affair large enough for a small town. With this they make their own ice, furnish their light and heat, pump their water from their private well; operate a large-sized family laundry and preform countless tasks that electricity has by the hand of man's genius been made the slave.

One of the features of the place is perhaps the tremendous machine shop, with tools of every description for the repair and manufacture of parts used in farm implements and gasoline engines. In this shop permanent occupation is given to from eight to ten men. Taken all in all, this machine shop is perhaps the best equipped on the entire Eastern Shore of Maryland, and many farmers find it mighty convenient to bring their broken implements there for repair and for the renewal of parts. At the present time a large scow is being made in the shop. This will be used in divers ways around the shores of the farm.

A large part of the big farm is under a high state of cultivation, with the usual crops grown upon the average Kent county farm. Besides this the Maxwells conduct quite a large dairy farm, and have quite a few bees and chickens, which find a most useful range around the farm adjacent te the lawns.

Recently a large chicken and waffle supper was held on the farm for the benefit of the St. Paul's Church, and a good sum was realized. It is said that this supper was one of the most successful ever held in the district.

Mr. and Mrs. Maxwell were both born in the state of Indiana. The former was one of the pioneers of the automobile business. The first automobile that he built was the "Northern," which was manufactured for several years. Then Mr. Maxwell organized the Maxwell Motor Co. and erected the "Maxwell "car, which was the leading moderate priced car for many years, until the advent of the "Ford." Now this company is building a medium priced car.

The Maxwell family consists of Mr. and Mrs. Maxwell, Sr., and Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Maxwell and son. Mr. Jesse Maxwell has charge of the farm, while Mr. Maxwell, Sr., devotes a large part of his time to his work in the big shop, superintending the various enterprises which he is conducting there.

Our visit to "Worton Manor" was one long to be remembered. Both Mrs. Maxwell, Sr., whose hobby is the growing of roses, and Mrs. Maxwell, Jr., whose hobby seems to be to show all visitors a good time, were tireless in their efforts to make our visit pleasant. In this they were successful and their hospitality was certainly on a par with the undertaking on the place and perhaps surpasses it in the cordiality with which we were welcomed and invited to return.

As we left the beautiful place, the sun had almost made its slant across the skies, and was hanging like a ball across the somber outline of Poole's Island, sending a flare of gold across the blue waters of the Chesapeake and painting a picture of sky and bay and land that will live long in memory's casket, a vivid reminder of a most beautiful spot, a most beautiful bay and most pleasant and affable hostesses and companions.

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