ANNUAL HEALTH REPORT OF KENT CO.

DEATH RATE ABOVE STATE AND COUNTY AVERAGE

BIRTHS EXCEED DEATHS IN COUNTY

General Health Conditions

In spite of the economic conditions the general health was good during 1934. There has been a steady decrease in communicable diseases over the past seven years. There was a decided decrease during 1934. More intensive work is being carried on each year in following up the source of such diseases as typhoid, diphtheria, and scarlet fever. While the diseases of childhood have been on the decrease, death rates from some of the degenerative diseases of middle life have been on the increase. This includes such diseases as cancer, and diseases of the heart and kidney, however this increase is general for the country as a whole. The following is the general death rate for Kent County as compared with the counties of Maryland, the state as a whole, and Baltimore city:

Death Rates 1934—Per Thousand Population

Kent County 13.5, Counties of Maryland 11.3, States as a whole 12.3, Baltimore Cty 13.3.

Communicable Diseases

There were 277 communicable disease cases reported to the Health Department during 1934.

Typhoid Fever

There were four cases of typhoid fever reported. All of these cases were investigated and studied personally by the health officer to determine the source of the disease. Contacts in the home were given typhoid vaccine and every measure was taken to prevent its spread to others. This is a notable reduction in this disease as a few years ago it was not uncommon to have reported as many as fifteen or eighteen cases. No deaths were reported.

Diphtheria

Four cases of diphtheria were reported which also is an excellent reduction in this disease. Each case is visited promptly by the health officer and nurse, antitoxin is supplied free for the patient and immunizing doses of antitoxin are supplied to the contacts in the home. No deaths reported from this disease. A vigorous campaign has been carried on each year in the schools in the county to immunize the school and pre-school children. About 98 per cent. of the school children have been immunized against diphtheria and a large percentage of the pre-school population.

Scarlet Fever

Two cases of scarlet fever were reported which has also shown a marked reduction. As soon as a case of scarlet fever is reported in a home it is quarantined and if the case is a school child the school is visited and children examined for early cases. No deaths were reported.

Undulant Fever

One case of undulant fever was reported. A positive blood reaction was obtained from the patient and positive blood reactions obtained from the cows of the herd supplying milk to this home. The milk was being consumed raw by the patient.

Tuberculosis

Twenty eight cases of tuberculosis were reported. A considerable number of these were individuals examined in the clinic which is held every other month at the Health Center. Such clinics are conducted by Dr. Seth Hurdl, a specialist in this disease. Contacts in the home of a known tubercular are given an examination as well as others suspected of having the disease. Individuals found to be positive are sent to the State Hospitals for further treatment. In some cases home treatment is provided and in such instances the nurses make periodic visits to the home. Ten deaths from this disease were reported during the year. The expense of maintaining the Chest Clinic is borne by the sale of Christmas Tuberculosis Seals. Tuberculosis constitutes one of the chief problems of the Health Department as the disease is more prevalent in this section of Maryland than any other.

Social Diseases

The social disease, syphilis, constitures another grave problem for the Health Department. To this end a special clinic is maintained and a local physician, Dr. H. G. Simpers, is employed by the state to treat cases of syphilis free of charge. During 1934 seventy-one new cases of syphilis and five of gonorrhea were reported; 878 treatments were given. This clinic has been in operation for about four years and has accomplished a great deal of good.

Fourteen cases of chickenpox, fifty-six pneumonia, one dysentery, three mumps, one colitis, and two cases of Vincent's Angina were reported.

Pre-School Clinic Service

A Pre-School and Infant Welfare Clinic is held once every month in a different part of the county. Once a year Dr. J. H. Mason Knox, Jr., Chief of the Bureau of Child Hygiene, holds a clinic in Chestertown. During the summer months the healthmobile conducts a summer round up of the pre-school children throughout the county. This affords the parents an opportunity to have their children examined before the opening of school. Five hundred forbefore the opening of school. 542 pre-school children were examined during 1934.

Eye, Ear, Nose & Throat Clinics

An Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic is conducted weekly by Dr. F. A. Holden. This is a private clinic and patients are expected to pay. Dr. Holden examines a few patients free when certified to by the nurses as being without funds.

Mental Clinics

A Mental Clinic is held twice a year by Dr. L. F. Woolley of the Sheppard Pratt Hospital. Cases in this clinic found to be needing institutional care are provided with same. This clinic has been of considerable help with problem cases in the schools. Twenty-five cases were examined during 1934.

Orthopedic Clinic

A clinic for crippled children is held annually by Dr. Harry Rogers assisted by Dr. I. H. Maseritz in conjunction with the Maryland League for crippled Children, of which Miss Mary E. Church is Secretary. Previous to the holding of this clinic children known to have orthopedic defects are contacted and arrangements are made for them to be examined the day of the clinic. Those needing braces or special after care are provided with same in one of the several hospitals in Baltimore devoted to this work. Twenty cases were examined in this clinic.

Dental Clinics

A full time dentist is maintained in the county one half of the year. He is equipped with a portable outfit which he carries with him to the schools where he fills and extracts teeth. The full time dentist has been in operation in the county about four years and there s a decided improvement in the teeth of the school children. A dentist also accompanies the healthmobile with a portable outfit in the summer round up in July. The dentist made 228 examinations and treated 117 cases during the past year.

Pre-Natal Clinics

The Pre-natal Clinics were started in 1934 under the direction of Dr. E. P. H. Harrison, Jr., of the Johns Hopkins Hospital Staff and are now being conducted by Dr. F. W. Smith. These clinics are held monthly and give an opportunity to expectant mothers to be examined previous to delivery. Cases found to have any abnormalities are referred to a specialist or hospital for treatment. Thirty-four patients were examined in these clinics.

Hospitalization

Due to the economic conditions many individuals needing hospital care are requesting free service. This has put an additional responsibility on both the physicians in the county and the Health Department. The physicians frequently request the Health Department to find a bed for patients needing medical or surgical care; in other instances the cases may need to go to the Tuberculosis Sanitorium or a mental hospital. In many instances it is necessary to provide the transportation and often a nurse or an attendant accompanies the individual. The following is a condensed report of the cases sent to hospitals out of the county free of charge.

Medical Care 28, Tuberculosis 19, X-Ray 17, Surgical 42, Pneumonia 3, Obstetrical 3, Mental 4, Blood Donors 5.

The Kent and Queen Anne's Hospital

The Kent and Queen Anne's Hospital opened its door for service in October, 1934. Thirty-one operations have been performed, twenty-nine of these being tonsillectomies. All of these cases have been under the observation of the Health Department and most of them were brought into the hospital by the Public Health Nurse. Doctors F. A. Holden and F. B. Hines performed the operations and Dr. F. W. Smith gave the anaesthetic.

Physical Examination School Children

Each child in the white elementary schools was given a physical examination during the past year. A notice was sent to the parents of those found to have defects with a request that they take the child to their family physician or a specialist for correction. In a certain number of cases it was necessary for the nurse to make home visits and arrange for hospitalization and other consultant service. The colored nurse made several inspections of children in the colored schools. The pupils in the colored high schools were given a blood test for social disease and a skin test for tuberculosis. A total of 448 white children were given a medical examination; 2466 children were given a physical examination.

Infant And Maternal Hygiene

The prevention of maternal and infant deaths is one of the most important activities of the public health nurses. To this end the cooperation of the physicians is urged in the early reporting of births and the requesting of the nurse's services in such cases where they may be of help in giving advice on after-care in a maternity case and the care of the new born infant. 16 infant deaths occurred in Kent County during 1934. Several of these deaths could probably have been prevented had advice reached the family in time. Of course the economic condition of the family greatly affects their ability to furnish the proper care for the new-born. The inability to employ competent medical attention also was a factor in the number of infants dying. There were no maternal deaths reported in 1934. There are twenty-nine midwives registered in the county but of these about one half are actively engaged in practice. The nurses visited these midwives at frequent intervals and give them instructions on the proper procedure in maternity cases. The intensive supervision of midwives over the past few years has aided in reducing the maternal and infant death rate.

The following is the infant death rates estimated on the basis of per thousand live births:

Kent County 75.8, Counties of Maryland 73.7, State as a whole 68.9, Baltimore City 64.0.

Sanitation

In November 1933 an allotment was made for the employment of a sanitary inspector under the Civil Works Administration for this county. This arrangement continud through 1934 with the aid of the County Commissioners. Mr. W. L. Wilkins was employed as the inspector. His first activity was to install sanitary toilets at all of the schools which he completed in 1934. He also made a survey of the water supplies at all the schools in the county and it is hoped that such water supplies will be improved in the next year. Mr. Wilkins has also made numerous inspections of the milk producers in cooperation with the State Inspectors and has also cooperated with the ureau of Food and Drugs in the inspection of oyster houses and canneries. Cooperating with the representative of the Philadelphia Dairy Council and the Supplee Willis Jones Milk Company he has installed a number of sanitary toilets on the farms of milk producers shipping their product into Philadelphia. Frequent inspections have been made at the hotels and restaurants. All food handlers in such hotels and restaurants have been directed to have a blood test taken.

Vital Statistics

The Health Department is the agency charged with the recording and filing of the reports of all contagious diseases and of the birth and death certificates.

Inter-Chamber Health Conservation Contest

For the third successive year Chestertown was entered as a city in this contest conducted by the United States Chamber of Commerce and the American Public Health Association. Chestertown has made an enviable record in this contest having received the highest award for its health activities one year and honorable mention two successive years.

National Negro Health Week

Each year a report of this work is made to the United States Public Health Service and an award is given for the type of work done along negro health lines. Kent County has always received the gold seal certificate or the highest tribute.

On November 1st, 1934, Miss Fanny C. Beckham, the Public Health Nurse for the past four years, resigned and was succeeded by Miss Grace H. Enders. Miss Enders had been connected with public health work in New York State for several years.

VITAL STATISTICS—Births, Live 126 white, 82 colored. Births, Still 7 white, 5 colored. Deaths, Total 113 white, 83 colored. Deaths under 1 month, 5 white, 2 colored. Deaths under 1 year, 1 white, 6 colored. No. reported as births, 133 white, 86 colored.

GALENA

Mrs. Harry Todd left on Sunday to spend several weeks with her nephew and niece, Mr. and Mrs. W. Holton Parr in Baltimore, Md.

Mrs. William Weller is spending awhile with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Vansant, Miss Margaret Burns, of Baltimore, Md., is also a guest of the former.

Mrs. Richard Redding, spent last Friday with Mrs. Stewart Price, in Chestertown, Md.

Miss Lucille Parr spent last week end with her aunt, Miss Jennie Parr, and left on Monday to spend awhile with Miss Anna Bowers in Still Pond, Md.

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Tapper spent last Wednesday with his daughter, Mrs. Davis Smedley, of West Chester, Pa., who is receiving congratulations upon the birth of a daughter.

Messrs. William and Roy Godwin, of Pa., spent last week end with their, father ,Mr. Wm. Godwin here.

Miss Mary Scott, of Baltimore, Md., spent the week end with her father, Dr. E. A. Scott and sister, Mrs. James D. Davis.

Mr. and Mrs. W. Holton Parr, of Baltimore, Md., spent last Sunday with formers aunt, Miss Jennie Parr.

Dr. and Mrs. Earle Gilfillan, who have been on the sick list, are improving at this writing.

Miss Carrie Dempsey, of Dover, Dal., spent last Saturday with her brother, Mr. H. S. Dempsey.

Mrs. George Johnston, spent a few days last week with her daughter, Mrs. George Carroll in Dover, Del.

Mr. Franklin Reynolds and friend, of Philadelphia, Pa., spent last Sunday with his cousin, Mrs. Heston Coxe.

Mrs. Ella Boyles wife, of Benjamin Boyles, died at her home in Middletown, Del., on February 24th after an illness of several weeks, she had been failing in health for the past year, following an attack of pneumonia last winter. She was buried from her residence on Tuesday afternoon at 1 o'clock. Interment in Forest cemetery. She is survived by her husband, three sons, Fred, of Galena, Md., Harry and Arthur, of Middletown, and one daughter, Mrs. Custis Price, of near Warwick, Md.

ADVOCATES NEW HAY CROP

AGRICULTURAL DEPT. RECOMMENDS LESPEDEZA FOR THIS SECTION

Lespedeza—particularly Korean lespedeza—may find its way onto many farms in the Central States this year includng Maryland and the Eastern Shore. It is adapted where the seed shortage of timothy, alfalfa, the clovers, Sudan grass, millet and the lesser crops will be most felt. Supplies of lespedeza seed are ample to plant even more than the record crop of 1934.

The fact that lespedeza has been recommended so often for poor and acid soils does not mean that it is not adapted to good soils. The better the soil, the better the yield, says Dr. A. J. Pieters of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Where the soil is suited and seed can be obtained, alfalfa and the clovers are preferred to lespedeza. This year many farmers have the soil suited to alfalfa and clovers, but not the seed. Including carryovers, there is barely enough alfalfa and sweetclover, but not enough red clover, to seed the normal acreage. This does not take into account extra killed by last summer's drought, which of itself creates an abnormal demand for seed of legumes and grasses.

Although alfalfa and clovers produce more feed and are better soil builders, lespedezas are more dependable in dry weather and on marginal land. They are not, however, dry weather plants, and should not be seeded for hay on poor, droughty upland. Either soybeans or Sudan grass are better. Lespedeza is well adapted to idle or 'shifted' acres. It retards erosion, builds up the soil and at the same time provides hay and pasture. The lespedezas are annuals, but reseed themselves each year. They usually yield more hay than their appearance indicates.

Korean lespedeza may be seeded on winter wheat or with oats in late March or early April. It will be available for late pasture, or, if rains are plentiful, a late hay crop may be harvested. If the small grain lodges, it must be cut at once for hay, or it will smother the lespedeza. To make a hay crop the first year, seeding should be heavy—about 25 pounds per acre. With a lighter seeding, lespedeza takes longer to establish itself. Korean lespedeza may be seeded alone on land that is not too weedy. Growth in any year will depend upon soil fertility and moisture. Where lespedeza has not been grown before, the seed should be inoculated. It may be cut for hay any time before the seed is in the dough stage.

More specific information about lespedezas may be obtained from county agents or State agricultural colleges.

BARNUM DIED TOO SOON

Circus Manager: 'Well what's wrong now?'

India-Rubber Man: 'Every time the strong man writes a letter he uses me to rub out his mistakes.'

SHORE RADIO BROADCASTERS ORGANIZE

Radio operators in Talbot and other points of the Eastern Shore, through the cooperation of United State Radio Station W3SN. in Baltimore, have completed an organization of emergency communication facilities. The group, composed of licensed short-wave amateur operators, plans to relay messages and carry on a regular schedule of communication in the event of emergencies and interruption of other means of communication.

Participating operators and their stations are: H. R. Holliday, W3BYH, of Easton; John E. Harper, W3CFX, of St. Michaels; Edward L. Thompson, W3CGS, and L. D. Powell, W3WJ, of Salisbury; R. E. Ingalls, W3EUB, Cambridge; E. L. Hudson, W3BAK, Laurel, Del., and Leroy Ryan, W3WJ, of Franklin, Del.

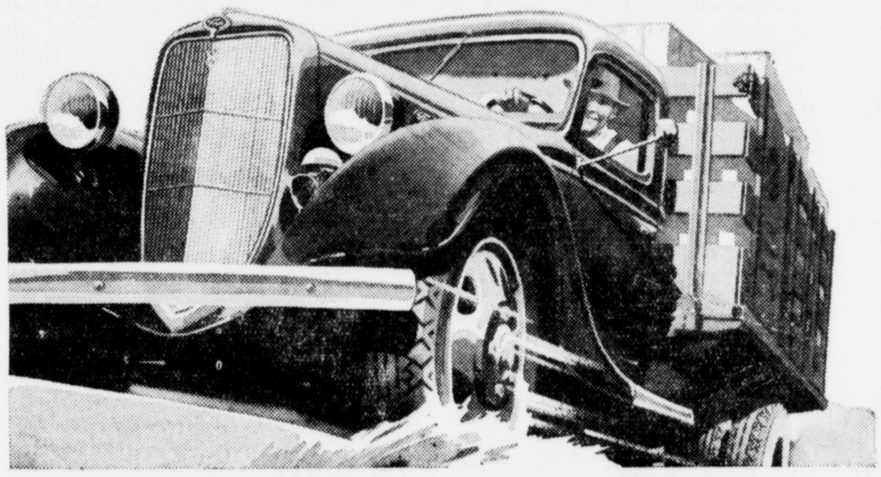
THAT SILVER LINING

Lily: 'So yo' done mortgaged our li'l home.'

Mose: 'Jes, temp'rarily, Honey, 'til de mortgage am foreclosed.'

THE NEW 1935

FORD V-8 TRUCK



BIG, RUGGED, ECONOMICAL

THE big, rugged, economical Ford V-8 Truck is a real truck—built to do a truck's work. Every vital part is full truck size—specially made to stand up under the tough jobs.

Over 80 horsepower. Proved dependability and economy. Get the nearest Ford dealer to let you try it with your own loads—over your own routes. Let it show why it is "America's Great Truck Value."

"IT SAVES YOU MONEY AND SERVES YOU WELL"

SELLING OUT

OUR ENTIRE STOCK

first Let us thank our many friends and customers for their splendid response to our sale announcement. We have done a big business since our sale opened last Saturday.

then Let us assure you that there are still many, many wonderful furniture bargains remaining, many excellent values in floor coverings, beds, springs and mattresses.

and Let us remind you that everything is going for a song, everything sold as is, for cash and every sale final with no exchanges.

John Bartley & Son

CHESTERTOWN PHONE 76

Now Relieve Your Cold "Quick as You Caught It"

1. Take 2 BAYER Aspirin Tablets. Make sure you get the BAYER Tablets you ask for.

2. Drink a full glass of water. Repeat treatment in 2 hours.

3. If throat is sore, crush and stir 3 BAYER Aspirin Tablets in a third of a glass of water. Gargle twice. This eases throat soreness almost instantly.

For Amazingly Fast Results Remember Directions in These Simple Pictures

The simple method pictured here is the way many doctors now treat colds and the aches and pains colds bring with them!

It is recognized as a safe, sure, QUICK way. For it will relieve an ordinary cold almost as fast as you caught it.

Ask your doctor about this. And when you buy, be sure that you get the real BAYER Aspirin Tablets. They dissolve (disintegrate) almost instantly. And thus work almost instantly when you take them. And for a gargle, Genuine Bayer Aspirin Tablets disintegrate with speed and completeness, leaving no irritating particles or grittiness.

BAYER Aspirin prices have been decisively reduced on all sizes, so there's no point now in accepting other than the real Bayer article you want.

NOW 15¢

PRICES on Genuine Bayer Aspirin Radically Reduced on All Sizes

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