SOLDIER'S V-MAIL NOW AVAILABLE AT POSTOFFICE

Postmaster Wm. B. Usilton, announced this week that the soldier's V-Mail Service, inaugurated on June 15, 1942, is now past the expermental stage and the necessary letter sheets have been distributed to all postoffices, including Chestertown.

Facilities for photographing and reproducing V-Mail to and from the United States and the British Isles, Australia, India, Hawaii and other points are now in operation. A similar service is being planned for Iceland and other points where the volume may warrant.

Pointing out that V-Mail provides a safe means of communication with members of our Armed Forces, the Post Office Department gave assurance tha tthe film (upon which the communications are reproduced) are given the most expeditious dispatch available. Because of the small space taken up by the rolls of film, they often can be carried on ferry planes or bombers.

V-Mail Service provides for the use by patrons of a special letter sheet form which is a combination letter and envelope of uniform size and design. The patron writes his message, completes the name and address of the addressee and the return card in the space provided, folds, seals, and mails the letter in the usual manner. Patrons are warned that only the inner or letter side of V-Mail letters are photographed, and should be careful to show the complete address of the person to whom the message is sent in the panel provided therefor above the space for the message. It is preferable to print the address in large block letters. Enclosures must not be placed in the letters.

The War, Navy and Post Office Departments all cooperated in developing this Service, largely with a view to decreasing the volume of mail to be carried oversesas and providing an expenditious service.

V-Mail letters are photographed on micro-film by automatic machines at the rate of 2,000 to 2,500 per hour and the film rolls containing 1,500 letters each are transmitted to destinations. Reproductions are then made by other automatic machines and delivered to the addressee in individual sealed window penalty envelopes.

Steady shrinking of idleness in Maryland is shown by the decrease of the number of benefit claims received by the Maryland Unemployment Compensation Board in recent weeks. The four weeks terminating August 22 recorded a drop of forty-four per cent from the corresponding period immediately preceding, while the five weeks ending August 29 showed a drop of fifty-four per cent from the like period of last year.

Payments of unemployment benefits register a decrease from day to day. The total in August was only $320,906, a decrease of twenty-six per cent from the July outlay, and thirty-four per cent from August of last year.

The average weekly benefit check in August amounted to $12.52. In August 1941 the rate was $11.53.

WEATHER REPORT JOHN R. WEEKS

Synopsis of Weather and Crop Conditions in Maryland and Delaware for the week ending Tuesday, September 8, 1942.

This week was dry and moderately warm, with plentiful sunshine. The mean temperature was 4 degrees above normal and 8 degrees higher than the preceding week. There were two days with light rain. The week was very favorable for plant growth and for outdoor operations.

Crops, pastures, and grasses are mostly good to excellent.

Threshing grains ended in north-central and western Maryland. Haying, plowing, and preparing the ground for fall sowing of grains continue. Hay yields are good.

Corn is good to excellent. It is developing and is maturing in the Allegheny Mountain region. In the other divisions the crop is mostly matured and cutting became rather general.

Picking tomatoes and pulling sugar corn for the markets and the canneries continues. These crops are good. The peak of the tomato harvest is over at Highland. One half of the tomato crop is picked at Ridgely.

Digging early potatoes in the western portion of Maryland continues, except it ended at Keedysville. The crop is a good one La Plata and 50 per cent of it is dug.

Late potatoes are maturing in western Maryland. Late potato plants are blooming in the other divisions.

Sweet potatoes are maturing or are matured; some are being dug locally over the section, except in extreme western Maryland.

Cutting tobacco continues. Nearly all of the crop is cut at La Plata, but more housing room is needed.

Picking tree fruits continues. Picking autumn apples in western Maryland continues. Smokehouse, Grimes Golden, and Banana apples, late Elberta, Fox Seedling, and Roberta peaches, and Bartlett and Duchess pears are being picked and grapes and alfalfa are being cut at Chewsville. Peach pickers are busy at Keedysville. Winter apples are coloring and Kieffer pears are plentiful at Highland. Harvesting peaches is ended and harvesting pears is ending at Bel Air.

Silos are being filled. The second hay crop is considerably advanced and more barley than usual is to be sown at Grantsville. Wheat stubble for hay, clover for seed, and soy bean plants are being cut at Marriottsville. Sowing barley will begin within ten days at Highland. Soy bean plants are good at Bel Air. Wheat stubble hay is being cut, soy bean hay is being hauled, the tomato harvest is ending, and the sugar corn harvest ended at Queen Anne. Soy bean plants are podding finely at Ridgely. Sweet peppers are good at Hurlock. Soy bean plants are ready for cutting, haying is ending, and it was an excellent week for making Lespedeza hay at La Plata.

John R. Weeks.

River Diverted

The swirling American river, near Placerville, Calif., has been turned four miles off its course through flumes of chemically treated lumber to give long life under water. The river flows across ravines, through tunnels and along mountain-sides to a power plant.

Versatile Radio Waves

Aside from commercial broadcasting and communications, radio waves are used for such unusual purposes as guiding ships to port, danger signals for navigators, airplane control and—in medicine—for exterminating parasites.

When to Fly Flag

The Flag of the United States may be flown during rain and snow storms unless the wind is of such severity that it is likely to be torn. Since the flag should be color fast it is not damaged by being wet. The flag should fly from sunrise to sunset. It may be flown every day, but it should be taken down at sunset.

SHAKE HANDS

MORE corn for Victory—More corn for Peace—More corn to feed the World — that's the job of the American Farmer today and in the years to come. And there's a man in your neighborhood whose job is to help you do your job better, easier and more economically. That man is your local DeKalb dealer. His specialized knowledge of corn and his practical knowledge of your local growing conditions enable him to help you select the best varieties for your farm — to tell you of the latest DeKalb hybrids and to help you increase your yield on less ground.

Make it a point to get acquainted with your DeKalb dealer. He's a real farmer just like yourself, and your problems are his problems. See your DeKalb dealer.

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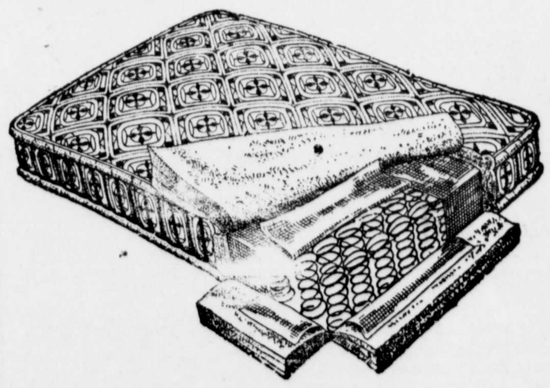
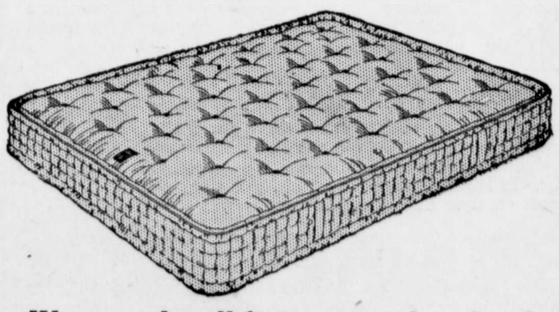
The kind that heat. Come and see for yourself

LOTS OF GOOD STUDIO COUCHES

We can suit you in a good couch while our stock lasts. Prices 35.00, 39.50, 47.50 up

IF YOU NEED A MATTRESS DON'T WAIT!





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We are also buying ripe tomatoes on the open market

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GREEN TOMATOES
(NO CRACKS)
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Delivery on Green Tomatoes Accepted
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