# Chestertown Transcript.

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## APPEALS COURT HOLDS LIQUOR LICENSES VALID

The Maryland Court of Appeals sitting at Annapolis on Friday of last week handed down a decision in the Kent County Liquor Case to the effect that the Legislative Act, which established dispensaries in Kent County was valid but that the provisions of the act did not invalidate the licenses of the inedpendant liquor dealers in the County.

This ruling upheld the legal contention of Mr. Richard Carvell who representing the independent liquor dealers, carried the case to the Kent County Circuit Court and then to the Maryland Court of Appeals.

The result of the decision handed down by the Maryland Court of Appeals last Friday is, that at the present time there are four county dispensaries operating at Chestertown Rock Hall, Betterton and Galena in addition to the independent liquor dealers throughout the county. The large number of sales places does not necessarily mean an oversupply of liquor.

The his tory of the much discussed contention as to the legal right of Kent County Liquor Dealers to continue operation after January 1st as published in various issues of THE TRANSCRIPT follows:

"December 17—Richard Carvell attorney for the liquor dealers of Kent County, has filed a bill with the Circuit Court for Kent County asking that the act establishing the County Dispensary system be held inapplicable to the present licensing system. The County Commissioners as such and as the Liquor Control Board of License Commissioners for Kent County, shall be perpetually enjoined from enforcing as against the license and business of the complaints any of the provisions of the acts of 1943 Chapter 16 (acts establishing the County Dispensary System.)

Mr. Carvell will ask the Court for an injunction restraining the Board of License Commissioners from revoking the licenses.

It is expected that a hearing on both a preliminary and permanent injunction will be held sometime next week."

January 7—"The Circuit Court for Kent County late Wednesday evening sustained the demurrers filed by the County Commissioners and dismissed the bill of complaint filed by the licensed liquor dealers for Kent County.

The decision of the Circuit Court with Chief Judge Stephen R. Collins and Associate Judges Owen Knotts and Raymond Horney on the bench followed a three day hearing in which the licensed liquor dealers through Mr. Richard Carvell as attorney, attempted to restrain the County Commissioners from closing the stores due to the recently enacted dispensary law.

The sense of the decision is that the licensed liquor dealers shall cease operations and that said sale of liquor of more than 14% shall be only by the four county dispensaries.

The County Commissioners have agreed to suspend for 30 days the enforcement of the closing of the liquor dealers, which period of time will enable them to secure a decision from the Maryland Court of Appeals. The County Commissioners were represented in the case by Mr. Preston P Heck assisted by Mr. Herbert Perkins. The liquor dealers were represented by Mr. Richard Carvell of Beck & Beck."

January 14—"The hearing on the appeal taken by the Kent County Liquor Dealers was heard before the Maryland Court of Appeals at Annapolis yesterday, Thursday, January 13.

The appeal taken by Mr. Richard Carvell, attorney for the independent liquor dealers of this county is from a ruling handed down by the Circuit Court for Kent County last Wednesday which in effect denied the right of the present liquor stores to continue operation due to the acts of the Maryland Legislature which set up a dispensary system for the county.

Mr. Preston P. Heck, assisted by Mr. Herbert Perkins represent the County at the appeal hearing."

The present licenses of the independant Kent County liquor dealers expire May 1st and it is understood that practically all of the present dealers will apply for a renewel of these licenses. It is also understood that petitions are being circulated requesting a referendum vote on the issue. There is also a possibility that a special session of the Legislature might be called and that during this session a bill introduced invalidating the licenses of independent dealers. It is anybody's guess as to the final outcome.

## Burning Of Mortgage At Rock Hall Methodist Church Last Sunday

**Board of Trustees pictured above. Back Row—Left to Right: Alexander Tyler, Robert A. Shallcross, Rev. F. C. Louhoff, W Stanley Grant, George Berger. Front Row—Left to Right: William E. Leary, Charles W. Thomas, W. Ruben Rodney, T. Bayard Ayres.**

A large crowd filled the Rock Hall Methodist Church last Sunday evening when the final debt was cleared in burning of a mortgage of $3,500 The Rev. F. C. Louhoff, in completing his 8 years of pastorship at that church, was asked by the Rev. E. C Hallman, now of Laurel, Del. and former District Superintendent to return to the local charge, at the end of his first year there, if he were helped with the debt. Mr. Louhoff consented and Mr. Hallman was the instigator in enabling the church to raise the first $2,000.

At the beginning of this conference year only $900 remained unpaid

Four Captains, Mr. James Davis Mr. J. Leroy Boyer, Mr. T. Bayard Ayres and Mr. W. Ruben Rodney were appointed under the leadership of Mr. W. Stanley Grant. Each captain selected their helpers and all set to work with zest and zeal. Mrs Cora Dowling under Captain Ayres alone, raised $300.

So, on Sunday evening the program under the able leadership of Mrs. F. C. Louhoff, was one of inspiration and beauty as the music praayers, and talks concluded with the actual mortgage being burned in a copper urn.

Mr. Louhoff, commenting upon the success of the loyal workers of the church, stated that only by the utmost cooperation of every member of this church was the fine accomplishment attained. The community and county compliment the pastor and his congregation for their faithful and untiring work.

## DRIVING PARK PLANS FOR NEXT SEASON

The annual stockholders meeting of the Kent and Queen Anne's Driving Association was held at the office of the Peerless Fertilizer Co., Tuesday evening at which time officers were elected and plans for the coming racing season made.

Officers elected were:

President—R. Oscar Roe, Sudlersville.

Vice President—Eugene Thornton Worton.

Secretary—Robert A. Shallcross Rock Hall.

Treasurer—H. Gilpin Brown, Chestertown.

A new management plan was arranged at the meeting whereby all physical equipment of the association will be under the control of a manager. The manager named was Harry Nichols and Mr. Eugene Thornton was named Assistant Manager.

Among the physical improvements planned for this season is the erection of a fence along the home stretch. This fence will overcome one of the most serious faults by keeping spectators off the track.

In the past the crowding onto the home stretch has presented a problem to officials and racing drivers as well as a dangerous condition to the spectators.

The post-war plans at the track include the erection of a grand stand which although out at the present time due to the scarcity of materials is definitely on the program for the future.

The report of activities during the past year showed that $1100.00 was spent on stables and improvements and that there is a sufficient bank balance of approximately $1000.00, to complete preparations for the coming racing season.

This track has probably afforded more sporting amusement at a nominal expense than any other one thing in Kent County during the past year Diversion from the strain of the war effort is necessary during these troubled times.

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## Liquor Rationed At Dispensaries

The county owned dispensaries which opened for business last week inaugurated a rationing system so as to more equally divide a limited supply. This rationing applies only to whiskey. Under the rationing system the No. 3 food ration book is used by special permission from the O. P. A. for each purchase is noted on the back cover by a stamped date and punch mark. Under the present setup one sale is permitted each two weeks. No sales are allowed on books of anyone under 21 years of age and sales are only to individuals presenting their own book.

## Commended

**David M. Stavely**

David M. Stavely, U. S. Navy recently received the following commendation for Performance of Duty in Amphibious Operation:

"For your efficient performance of duty as a member of a landing boat crew, for your untiring efforts over a long period of time without relief, for your energetic persistence and courageous proceeding in the face of enemy fire, all of which greatly contributed to the efficient and expeditious accomplishment of the assigned mission of your ship during operations in hostile waters while landing troops and equipment in an amphibious operation on the hostile shores of Italy."

David is the son of Mr. and Mrs Harry Stavely, of Fairlee. A brother William S. Stavely, is a member of a Bombardment Squad, U. S. Army Air Force and until recently was stationed at Laurel, Miss.

(Other Armed Forces, Page 8)

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## LOCAL GROUP TO STUDY POST WAR PLANNING HERE

Committees will be appointed by the following organization to meet and appoint a county committee to study post war conditions in Kent County. The Committee will make a canvass of the county to see all those who contemplate new buildings and repairs new installations of machinery and other improvements that will require work for the returning service men. The move was first sponsored by the Rotary Club and other organizations in the County that will be asked to participate are the Lions Club, AAA, Business Men's Association, County Extension Service, County Commissioners and Town Council.

## MILLINGTON WAS SCENE OF P. T. A. MEETING

The Kent County Council of the Parent-Teachers Association held its midwinter meeting in the Millington High School auditorium on Thursday evening, February 3rd, 1944 at 8 p.m Mrs. Harry R. Rasin, president of the Millington High School P. T. A. acted as hostess.

A unanimous vote of the council passed a resolution directing the president, J. Lewin Burris, to write to Governor Herbert R. O'Conor and urge the continuance of the teacher bonus after May first. Similar aaction is anticipated on the part of the several P. T. A. locals in Kent County.

The council also decided to hold a card party in the Chestertown High School sometime in April soon after Easter. The proceeds of the party will go toward a cash prize in an essay contest which will be open to children of the Kent County public schools. The topic of the essay will be "Why I would like to have the benefits of education in a twelve year school system. Details concerning the contest will be published later.

Dr. James T. Barrs, acting head of the English Department at Washington College gave an interesting and instructive address at the conclusion of the business meeting. He discussed the deficiencies observed in graduates of the eleven year system, such as we have in Kent County, when they enter college, and also told of the extra advantages which accrue to students who have the opportunity of twelve years of study in the public schools.

Dr. Barrs' services as a lecturer are much in demand. His subject was ably presented, and he left his audience with much food for thought relative to the shortcomings of the eleven year school system.

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## MAYOR, COUNCIL PLAN ANOTHER BOND PURCHASE

The Mayor and Council of Chestertown, in establishing the 65 cents tax rate for 1944 have provided for the purchase of $10,000 in government bonds at a future bond sale this year according to a statement by Mayor Wilmer.

This $10,000 in bonds, with the $10,000 in bonds purchased last year will be held for post-war town improvements. Improvements to streets sidewalks etc., is practically prohibitive at the present time and by the time the post war period arrives considerable work will be required. The nest egg being set aside now will be very welcome at that time.

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Classified adds on page eight.

## COUNTY OVER THE TOP IN BOND DRIVE

Bond sales in the 4th War Loan drive in Kent County totaled $339,000 Thursday noon. Sales amounting to $15,000 were sent in by the American Telephone and Telegraph Co. Although Kent County is over the top by $39,000, the rest of the nation is lagging behind. Both Mr. Wheatley and Mr. Huey urge the continuance of buying bonds in this drive which lasts until February 15th.

Lloyd E. Partain of the Research Department, Curtis Publishing Company and Agriculture Consultant and War Finance Division points out that farmers are vitally affected by Bond Sales.

"Aside from sending his own blood into battle to defeat the enemy, the most patriotic duty of the American farmers in wartime is to keep Backing the Attack with his home front efforts. His aid in bringing a quicker victory comprises many activities but two of his most important functions are the maximum production of essential foods and fibres and full financial support of the war effort through investment of every possible dollar in War Bonds.

Farmers have done an excellent

(Continued on page four)

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## TYDINGS SPEAKS AT DAIRYMEN'S DINNER HERE

The Kent County dairymen's association held a banquet at Firemen's Hall, Wednesday evening. Stockton Startt acted as toastmaster for the occassion. Clayton Reynolds, field manager of this district introduced the officers of the association and distinguished guests.

Mr. McVean stated his office hoped to have help for the farmers this summer. He also offered the farmers of the county a form to fill out which wil lbe of great assistance to them in making out thei rincome tax return

Senator Tydings in his talk stated that there was a strong indication that the war in Europe would be over this year an dthe war in the Pacific some-time thereafter. "The post war problems" said the Senator, "Are storm clouds on the horizon of the future."

20,000,000 people are at work in war plants in this country and there will be about 10,000,000 in the armed forces. Within 24 hours after the peace has been signed, a telegram will go out to all with war contracts "Stop all production at once." This and the service men returning will mean about 15 to 25 million out of work.

The national debt at the end of this year wil lbe three hundred billion dollars. All the banks in the country have one hundred and sixty billion dollars. 70% of the total is in War Bonds. Also the life insurance companies have a large part of their investments in War Bonds. The financial structure of the country is imperiled by the national debt growing larger and larger. The only remedy to this very long and costly war is economy on the home front.

Every man returning home from the war, wants to come back to a country wit hthe kind of government that he had when he left. Radicals cummunists want the chaos and confusion because it is during such a period that they rise to power. The time has come when people cannot take their government for granted Congressmen only reflect the sentiments of the people and it is up to the people to be conservative in what they ask the government for.

The Senator pointed out that it is a big problem an donly suggestions he had for the farmers was first, to get out of debt and keep their property in repair.

Continuing his talk the Senator brought out many more post-war problems.

B. H. Welty gave a talk on "What Interstate is Doing" and brought out the important fact that organized labor is getting just what it wants from the government while the farmers were getting the full benefit of the "Hold the Line"order. He further pointed out the difference in the price the farmer received and the ultimate cost to the purchaser.

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## Fleming Home Sold

The Fleming Home, located on the river side of Front Street was sold at Administrator's sale on Tuesday of this week ,the highest bidder being Miss Francis B. Denton who owns the adjoining property to the south Miss Denton's bid was $5,750.00. The property was sold following the death of Mary Flemming.

## *Kent Board Of Education Holds First Of Open Meetings For The Discussion Of School Problems*

### Dr. Mead Suggests Name For School

February 9, 1944

Mrs. Charles W. Whaland, President
Kent County School Board
Chestertown, Maryland

Dear Mrs. Whaland:—

Will you kindly read this letter to the members of the Board of Education for their discussion and possible action.

As you know, I am very much interested in the improvement in the facilities for education in Kent County which the new proposed High School will bring. I think it is a necessary progressive step which can not be avoided and which should not be neglected. I hope that plans for its development are being completed so that construction may begin immediately after the war as soon as materials are available.

I have been in Kent County now ten and a half years and in that time I have met no one more deeply interested in this propostioin, or more unselfish in his time and abilities than our late friend, Marion deKalb Smith, Jr. I know how freely he always gave of his technical abilities in working out preliminary architectural and engineering plans for the proposed building, though he knew it might be years before they would come to completion.

He gave much deep interest and time to all matters of public good and during recent years, since he had no children of his own, he took the High School proposition into his closest affections so as to do what he could for the benefit of the coming generations of Kent County children

Like his father before him, he bore a name which was well and favorably known throughout the whole State of Maryland. The name I feel, should be perpetuated.

For these reasons, I propose that the Board of Education take action giving his name to the proposed High School, so that in all future discussions and further plans, as well as in the final finished product, the school shall be known as "The Marion deKalb Smith, Jr. High School".

Since it is to be a Kent County School, I think it is not sufficient to name it merely "Chestertown High School"; also, to name it "The Kent County High School" will not be entirely correct since there are other high schools in the county. I believe that naming it in honor and memory of our late friend will solve this problem, as well as perpetuate his honorable name.

Yours most sincerely,
Gilbert W. Mead,
President of Washington College

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## Dickens Club Celebrates

The lovers of Dickens gathered as usual on his birthday, the 7th of February, at the attractive home of Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Kratzer. It was the ninth year that such celebrations has been held at the same place, the blazing candles on his birthday cake showing that fact.

"Mrs. Skewton", the hostess, outdid the charm of her personality by her hospitality.

"Mrs. Boffin" was there with her big heart, Mrs. Lirriper, Little Dorritt, Mrs. General, Mrs. Gamp and Betsey Prig and Mr. F's Aunt.

"Mrs. Gamp" and "Betsy Prig" created quite a diversion by having a war of words before the public.

Surely Dickens' heart would have been gratified to have seen the lovely table as the guests gathering around the festive board, with his favorite geranium center piece, and partaking of the tasty viands and the punch made by his own recipe.

The toast to the immortal memory of the author was given with much applause.

After the singing of "Auld Lange Syne" and "God Save the King", the guests went to their different homes hoping that they may meet again next year.

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Norman Peterson, who recently composed a song titled, "Write A Letter To A Soldier Boy Somewhere" signed a contract this week with a recording company, which will pay him a royalty on each disk made by them.

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Next Friday, February 18th the Rock Hall Minute Men will sponsor a dance at the local armory. A feature of the dance will be an exhibition of "Jitterbuging" by a local couple. The Washington Collegians will play for the occasion.

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Exterior paint may be slightly poorer quality after present stocks are exhausted. The new paint will use more thinner and linseed, by Government specification.

The Board of Education of Kent County held the first of a series of meetings on Tuesday of this week at the Bellhaven Tea Room, Chestertown for the purpose of acquainting the heads of the governmental and civic organizations in Kent with the problems confronting the schools and to seek their help in the solution of them.

Those invited to this meeting were the legislators; President of the Board of County Commissioners; President of the Kent County Farm Bureau; President of the Kent County Council of Parent-Teacher Associations; Counsel to the Board of Education and the high school principals.

Dr. T. G. Pullen, Jr., State Superintendent of Schools and Dr E Clarke Fontaine, State Supervisor of High Schools, who were also guests of the School Board, presented most clearly and concisely the following problems for the solution of which the schools will have to make provision:

(1) Further increase in high school enrollment at the end of war;

(2) Need for an extended and enriched school program;

(3) Need for a change in the nature of the school curriculum;

(4) More teachers to make possible the reduction in average number of pupils per teacher;

(5) Additional responsibilities following the war such as the extension of adult education, and rehabilitation of disabled soldiers

Some significant facts brought out by Dr. Pullen while outlining the problems mentioned are:

Despite the phenominal increase in high school enrollment during the past thirty years in which it multiplied more than nine times only one-half of the youth of high school age in Maryland are in school. The other half that are now employed will lose their jobs upon the return of the soldiers at the close of the war.

If society does not wish juvenile delinquency to increase by leaps and bounds at that time it will have to see to it that adequate school facilities—both buildings and equipment—are provided and the schools properly staffed with fully trained teachers in order to take care of the interests of those boys and girls. It is far more economical and much more conductive to a good social order to provide schools that can take care of all of the different educational interests of youth than it is to provide jails to house more than the normal number of culprits.

Returning soldiers all of whom have benefited from their training in the army and navy will emphasize more than ever the importance of public education, both vocotional and avocational.

Half of the children in Maryland—those in Baltimore City and three counties—receive twelve years of education at public expense while the other half in nineteen counties, one of which is Kent, are given only eleven years of education before they have to go out and compete in colleges and industry with their better trained and more mature rivals. Many graduates of the eleven year system are too young to enter industry or a nursing school.

Superintendent Louis C. Robinson quite opportunely raises these questions: Are not the Kent County boys and girls just as deserving of the longer school program? Is it denied them because the county cannot afford three cents additional on the tax rate? The record does not say so. Kent County is the third wealthiest county on the Eastern Shore and sixth wealthiest among the twenty-three counties of Maryland. In effort, so far as buildings and other school facilities are concerned,—the spent per pupil it stands at the bottom of the list—twenty-third. Now that the County is on a cash basis, as pubilshed recently, it can well afford to provide as good school facilities for its youth and as long an educational program as those provided the youth of other sections.

Among those at the meeting were Senator, Clarence Newsome; Representative, Roger B. Harris; the school board, composed of Mrs. Charles Whaland, Mr. Norman Wallen, Dr. F G. Livingood; County P. T. A. head Lewin Burris; County Superintendent, Louis Robinson; Dr. Fontaine and the school principals of the county. Unable to attend were Julian Hurtt, president of County Commissioners; H. S. Leaverton Farm Bureau head and Frank Jester Kent County's other representative An account of the meeting is as follows:

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Tonight, Friday, the Middle Kent Minute Men will hold a dance in the Armory with the Blue Hen Ramblers furnishing the music.

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