NOW AND THEN

CHRISTMAS

The trees are hung with crystal lamps, the world lies still and white,
And the myraid little twinkling stars are sharp with keener light;
The moon sails up the frost-clear sky and silvers all the snow,
As she did, perchance, that Christmas night, two thousand years ago!
Good people, are you waking?
Give us food and give us wine,
For the sake of blessed Mary
And her Infant Son Divine,
Who was born the world's Redeemer—
A Saviour—yours and mine!
—Anon

Christmas was a wonderful time this year in Chestertown. The bright lights and the festal dressing made the old town shine out, while the weather man did all he could to make it a happy occasion. The churches celebrated with joy at the coming of the Christ child while the children and the radios sang their Christmas music. "Joy to the world the Lord has come."

But while one expresses his joy, there is a thought of sadness when one thinks of the people in those war torn countries, but even these show that bravery and heroism are not dead, and while greed and rapine seem to be having their way at present, yet that truth and right will prevail at the last.

THE GLORY WILL NOT YET BE FLED

Historic London Landmark Hit by German Bomb Westminster Abbey is Reported Badly Damaged.
—News Item.

Not even this will rouse from sleep
The lords and ladies where they lie
In crumbling stone, secure and deep,
Beneath the frenzy of the sky.

Not even this will wake the kings
Or call the queens from ancient dust.
Not even death on gleaming wings
Can summon those whom time has thrust.

Beyond all terror and all grief,
Beyond the insolence of men.
Here poet, lady, knight and chief
Take their repose, nor rise again

To dreadful summons, to defend
Their final refuge, when the foe
Roars overhead and sees descend
The seeds of death that burst below

Upon the green and pleasant land,
Upon the edifice where years
Slide by like beads through time's dark hand.
The knights still lean upon their spears.

And though upon the outraged dead
The glorious stones come thundering down,
The glory will not yet be fled
From God's proud house in London Town.
—Ralph Friedrich.

Some things revealed by the census taker.

One census taker learned:

That skirts are a thing of the past for women at home. Slacks are the most common mode of clothing.

That 80 per cent of the people do not understand the word "refrigeration." They believe it is synonymous with electric refrigeration.

That practically every American family is a pet owner. Dogs are most common with canaries second and cats third.

That women are seldom home between the hours of 2 and 4 in the afternoon.

That 50 per cent of the women are not sure of their husbands' age, date of birth or salary.—Scribner's Commentator.

Mark Twain was always ready with his jokes and repartee. The following is told of him:

When he was living in Hatford, Conn., he went to hear one of Dr. Doane's outstanding sermons. After it was over Twain approached the Doctor and said politely, "I enjoyed your sermon this morning. I welcomed it as I would an old friend. I have a book at home in my library that contains every word of it."

"Why, that can't be," replied the astonished clergyman.

"All the same it is so," said Twain.

"Well, I certainly should like to see that book," replied the Doctor with dignity.

"All right," replied Mark, "you shall have it." The next morning Doctor Doane received, with Mark Twain's compliments, a dictionary.

Evaporated milk may be used in place of whipping cream. The evaporated milk should be heated in the can for 20 minutes and then chilled thoroughly. Use an qeual amount of evaporated milk to amount of cream called for.

NEWS GATHERED ON PENINSULA

The General Assembly will have to approve the State's purchase of the Claiborne-Annapolis Ferry Company property before the deal could be consummated.

A bill incorporating powers not available under existing legislation will be submitted early in the coming session as an emergency measure and will be put through as quickly as possible.

The purchase has been approved by the Board of Public Works, subject to the passage of a new enabling act, and the ferry company had a meeting Tuesday when it agreed to sign a contract of sale conditioned on the needed lgeislation being passed.

Watermen are enjoying the most prosperous oyster season since the World War. It was recalled by one of the residents at Tilghman that the year in which the armistice was signed the oystermen enjoyed a very prosperous year. The present season has been the most successful one since that time, and this in spite of the proposed embargo on oysters by the British Government.

One tonger worked about five days last week alone and earned $100. The oysters are in fine shape and the demand is greater now than it has been for several years. Consequetnly the watermen are making money.

A twenty-months-old infant boy was burned to death and two other small children were saved, when fire, of unknown origin, destroyed the two-story frame home of Clifton Manuel, colored tenant on the Goldey Ward farm, at Welbourne, around ten o'clock Tuesday morning.

Authorities in Eastern Shore counties have spread a dragnet for a Negro who escaped last Saturday night, after shooting Constable Lennie T. Parks, in an alley at Pocomoke City.

The officer was shot and wounded around 11:30 o'clock Saturday night, after he passed two Negroes standing in an alley near the Pocomoke City ice plant. One of the Negro men, who recognized the officer, called out: "Mr. Parks, this here 'nigger' has a pistol on him."

As Constable Parks turned around the Negro ran down the alley. The officer gave chase on foot. Halting suddenly, the Negro drew a pistol and fired point blank at Constable Parks, the bullet passing through the upper part of his right arm.

Using his left hand, Constable Parks drew his service revolver and fired four shots at the fleeing Negro, none of whcih struck the man.

Superintendent J. A. Schwab, Delmarva Division of The Pennsylvania Railroad, today announced that the Steamer "Maryland" had been placed in service on Sunday, December 15th, and would thereafter operate daily between Cape Charles, Old Point Comfort and Norfolk, Va.

About $13,000,000 worth of highway construction for Maryland's Eastern Shore is proposed in the five-year plan of the Maryland Highway Planning Survey, it was revealed this week-end, as additional details of the survey's work were made public.

The plan proposes construction of virtually an entirely new highway from Elkton to Cambridge and from there via Salisbury to Ocean City.

Sections from Elkton to Galena and from Berlin to Ocean City would be dual highway. All cities and towns along the route except Cambridge would be by-passed by the proposed new road.

Measuring phosphorous content as an index of the productivity of the Chesapake Bay waters, Dr. Curtis I. Newcombe, director of the Virginia Fisheries Laboratory and associate professor of biology at Willian and Mary College, reports great variations in the amount with regular changes each day and by seasons.

The study is a part of a long range series of researches on the numerous factors affecting the abundance of fish, crabs, oysters and clams in the shallow waters of the bay and its tributaries.

With 28 enrolled, the second civil pilot training course has been started at the Dover community school, sponsored by the Dover Junior Chamber of Commerce in cooperation with the Civilian Aeronautics Authority.

Karl D. Dorzback, Jr., coordinator of civil pilot training of the junior chamber, announced the enrollees this week as follows:

The class will receive 72 hours of ground instruction under Howard Turpin, manager of the Dover Airport and licensed flight instructor. The five obtaining the highest rating in the ground course will receive flight instruction from Mr. Turpin.

The five who won flight instruction in the first class have now completed the course and have received their pilots' licenses, Mr. Dorzback announced, stressing that there was no accident and no incident in the instruction endangering a student, instructor, or others.

Mr. George Norman Pusey, well known East Princess Anne farmer, is claiming an all time record of 8,915 pounds of ear corn per acre, or 127 bushels and 25 pounds of shelled corn.

A committee of local farmers officially checked and weighed the corn yield, made this year on a measured acre of ground.

Keenly interested in proposed legislation which will affect their industry, to be introduced at the next session of the Maryland Legislature, members of the Crisfield Seafood Association met at the Firemen's Hall Tuesday evening and discussed some of the questions involved.

Disapproval of the tentative plan to place all conservation under one head was voiced most generally. The members of the Association feel that their problems are stictly commercial, and that the commercial end of conservation should remain separated from the rest of the proposed new conservation program, as, in their opinions, it can be hadled to better advantage that way.

Rock Imbedded Metals
Almost all metals are found imbedded in rock.

RADIOTELEPHONE SYSTEM WILL CONNECT "LOST ISLANDS" OF TANGIER AND SMITH

Proposed Project Launched By C. & P. Telephone Companies Of Maryland And Virginia Will Cost Approximately $30,000

The 2,200 inhabitants of Tangier Island, Virginia and Smith Island, Maryland, are getting ready to do annual battle with old man winter. What he has in store for them not even the weather bureau can predict, but if, as happened in 1936, he goes on a rampage, chokes the blue-green Chesapeake with ice and cuts off the islands from the mainland, he will find the Tangerians and Smithmen well prepared for him, armed with a new weapon against isolation—the telephone.

Nestled in the corner of lower Chesapeake Bay some ten or twelve miles off the eastern shores of Maryland and Virginia, the islands have for years engaged in a never-ending struggle with the elements. In fair weather months the several miles of water separating them from Crisfield, Maryland, the nearest point on the Bay coast, have served as a valuable ally in the islanders determination to prevent destruction, by the march of progress taking place in the outside world, of the privacy and independence they value so highly. But with the advent of winter these waters often become jammed with ice—ice which locks in the mail boats and other craft constituting the life-line of communication and food between the islands and Crisfield. Then it is that Tangier and Smith literally become "lost islands." Left to their own meager resources the residents of Tangier and Smith have frequently been faced with serious food shortage. Illnesses requiring hospitalization resulted in story-book rescues and pilots flying planes from the mainland. Milk for babies and medical supplies were transported under hazardous conditions.

But in the latter part of 1939 the islanders appealed to the forces of modern science for aid. The Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Companies of Maryland and Virginia responded to their appeal by installing portable radiotelephone equipment on the islands and at Crisfield for the transmission of urgent messages. At that time the equipment was to be used only in case of emergencies, but the large number of calls sent out served as irrefutable evidence of the pressing need for telephone service and gave impetus to a plan for even better facilities to the islands.

These "better" facilities are now being installed in the form of a radiotelephone system designed for everyday use to the mainland and for connection with the two islands.

Briefly this is how the system will work. Several public telephones will be installed at strategic places on Tangier and Smith. A call to the mainland merely involves picking up a receiver and signaling the operator at the Crisfield central office switchboard where control of the system is to be centered. Equally simple will be a call from Tangier to Smith or Smith to Tangier. As there will be no direct circuit connecting the island, this type of call will also be handled by the Crisfield operator.

For intercommunication between inhabitants of Tangier and Smith Islands, telephone engineers have equipped each telephone with a key switch. This will be operated by the telephone user who switches it one way for a call over the radiotelephone system and another way for communication with a person on the same island.

On each of the islands there will be constructed two 65-foot radio antenna poles together with associated radio and power equipment located in two small radio huts. Outside of Crisfield the telephone companies will construct three poles to carry the equipment needed on the mainland. Additional equipment will be installed in the Crisfield central office. It is estimated that the total cost of the project will be approximately $30,000.

Telephone officials emphasize that a communication system such as that planned for Tangier and Smith Islands cannot be constructed over night. It is hoped the system will be in operation for use this winter, but even if it isn't, the Tangiermen and Smithmen will have their portable radiotelephone set-up with which to maintain contact between the islands and the mainland, and they will be secure in the knowledge that in future winters the system now being installed will serve as an effective defense weapon against all the forces old man winter has to throw against them.

Phone Service Restored

Suspended since the outbreak of the Spanish Civil War in 1936, regular telephone service between the United States and Spain was recently restored with the opening of a direct short-wave radio circuit between New York and Madrid.

Milk Producing Farms

Seventy per cent of the 7,000,000 U. S. farms produce milk.

Telephone And Trains

Trains on approximately 65% of the total railway mileage of the United States are now being handled by telephone. Miles of road over which trains are operated by means of orders transmitted by telephone total 148,248.

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