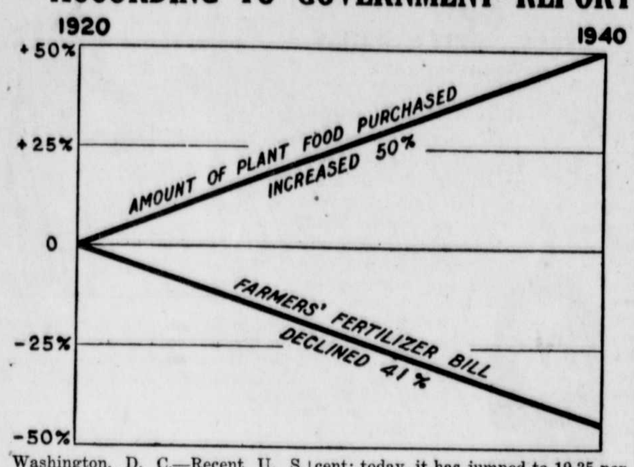
MARYLAND FARMERS GET 17% MORE PLANT-FOOD IN FERTILIZER, ACCORDING TO GOVERNMENT REPORT

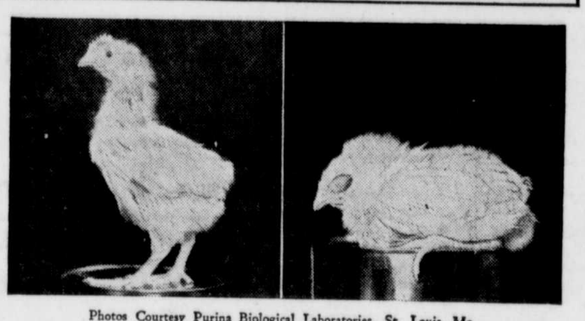


Washington, D. C.—Recent U. S. Department of Agriculture figures show that Maryland farmers received 17 per cent more plantfood per ton of fertilizer last year than in 1934 when the last survey on the subject was made.

This was 4 per cent above the national average which has shown a sharp upward trend since 1920. At that time the plantfood content in fertilizer was only 13.9; in 1929, it was up to 17.5 per cent; by 1935, 18.2 per cent; today, it has jumped to 19.35 per cent. This means an increase of 39 per cent in plantfood content since 1920 and at the same time the farmer's fertilizer bills have declined 41 per cent.

All this is due to improvement of mechanical conditions, manufacture of fertilizers better suited to different crops and soils, reduction of the number of grades of fertilizer, and other economies instituted by the industry since that time.

CHICKS NEED LOTS OF VITAMIN A



Photos Courtesy Purina Biological Laboratories, St. Louis, Mo.

Baby chicks require a ration that is high in vitamin A. The chick at the right indicates what happens when a starting ration low in vitamin A is fed. He is light in weight, very weak and has sore eyes. The other chick was fed a ration rich in Pur-a-tene, a special vitamin A ingredient used in Ralston-Purina feeds.

FISH FRY RELEASED

Approximately 250,000,000 yellow perch are being released for the Conservation Department in the public waters of Maryland this week by the authorities of the Chesapeake Biological Laboratory. Every river and major branch thereof will receive hundreds of thousands of these immature fish produced from more than 300,000,000 eggs collected and hatched by the Laboratory.

Yellow perch constitute an increasingly important commerical and sports fishery of Maryland. The species, known to scientists as Perca flavescens, thrives and is escepially abundant in many of the areas in the upper slightly brackish waters of the State. The Conservation Department is now planting fry in all areas, whether productive or not, that prove chemically, physically, and biologically fit, in the expectation that the producing areas may be extended. Surveys are being made to determine the fitness of all areas before plantings are carried out.

Perch hatching operations are carried on at two points in the State, at Severn Run and on the Chester River. A spawn-taking and hatchery operation crew of ten men is employed under the direction of Dr. R. V. Truitt, Director, Chesapeake Biological Laboratory.

Spawn is taken after natural deposition and placed in special screened boxes which are anchored in currnts to effect agitation, oxidation, and development. This method of hatching has been highly efficient this year due to the abundance of yellow perch brood stock and the absence of damaging storms.

Young perch are hauled in ten gallon cans of water from the central hatcheries to the points of release, whether in Worchester, St. Mary's, or Cecil County, and arrive in good condition. Before the fry are released the temperatures of the stream and the water in the cans are made the same, thus avoiding a high mortality. Fish planted this year grow sufficiently in two years to meet legal requirements, though their life span is much longer.

Upwards of 2,812,500 perch fry were released in Cecil County during the week as follows: North East River 625,000, Elk River 625,000, Bohemia River 625,000, Sassafras River 937,500.

Do all nations favor evil, for goodness sake? No, it's only that buzzards eagerly join the party where meat is free.

Under average Maryland conditions it costs from $75 to $100 to raise a calf to freshening age, according to M. H. Berry, of the University of Maryland Dairy Department.

Actual damages are supposed to pay for damage done; punitive damages punish the defendant for having a lot of dough.

PROGRAM SEEKS INCREASE IN VEGETABLES FOR CANNING

A program to expand production of tomatoes for canning 50 per cent has been announced by Secretary of Agriculture, Claude R. Wickard, according to word received by Herman A. Hunter, specialist in canning crops for the University of Maryland extension service.

This increase is being sought, Secretary Wickard states, to meet probable demands for canned tomatoes under the Lend-Lease Act for distribution by the American Red Cross, as well as for school lunches, relief and other purposes.

The need for immediate action to secure the necessary acreage to produce an extra 15,000,000 cases canned tomatoes is emphasized, as planning must be made during the next few weeks in order to insure the required supply. Much smaller quantities of peas, corn and snap beans may also be purchased from time to time, it is stated by the Secretary, but no advanced purchases at this time are contemplated.

To make it possible for canners to take immediate steps to secure the increase in tomato acreage, the Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation proposes to ask canners to submit offers at once to deliver canned tomatoes after the new pack has been completed. In order to insure the greater supply of tomatoes necessary, the FSCC, in considering bids, will make allowance for increases of from $2.75 to $3.00 per ton over 1940 contract prices to growers.

It is expected that the price increase will be applicable to entire contracted production of all growers who cooperate in furnishing the increased quantities desired and who, if requested, increase acreage or fertilization so far as reasonable and practical.

Growers who participate in this program will not incur any deductions from their AAA payments because of increases in acreage of these vegetables for canning.

The grades of canned vegetables contemplated to be bought are Grades B and C, so as not to absorb too large a proportion of any single grade. Federal inspection as to grade will be required.

America has the largest output in the world of dry drug preparations . . . (pills, tablets, powders, salts, etc.) amounting to . . . $200 every minute, all the year around.

The old Romans must have had after-dinner speakers. They ate lying down, so they were fixed to sneak a nap.

Think how much lower taxes would be if not a single officeholder handed out gifts to his friends at public expense.

Even now you can find old communities where a "dun" insults people who hate to part with money.

COMPANY E NEWS FROM CAMP MEADE

This week could be called appropriately Improvement Week for Company E. The heretofore plain wooden barracks have undergone a series of transformations due to the efforts of many carpenters and painters. The change is remarkable. The barracks now are attractive cream colored buildings, all windows have been covered with copper screens and screen doors have been placed in the doors.

The boys of the company have been doing their share of the work in the improvement program. Stumps have been removed, the ground leveled and a system of board-walks has been laid throughout the company area. Outstanding among their work is a rustic fence which has been put up along the road bordering the company grounds.

Saturday and Sunday, May 17 and 18, have been designated by Division Headquarters as "Stay at Home Week-end". It is the wish of Division to have as many friends and relatives as possible visit the post during the above mentioned period. Most of the members of Company E have been journeying home on week-ends and for that reason there has been a limited number of visitors in camp. It is felt that the many friends and relatives of the members of the unit are anxious, or at least curious, to know just how army life compares with that at home. So plan to visit Fort Meade and inspect the post, particularly that of Company E, on the above dates.

The following promotions have been made in the company, effective April 12; Corps. James E. Heague, George A. Karl, Robert Lawrence, Donald S. Preston, George H. Purcell, Ralph C. Simmons, and Ralph K. Rothwell to sergeants; Pvts. First Class Joseph H. Frazer, James L. Hudson, Irving Singman, and George A. Siti to corporals.

Lieut. James V. McCool

POLL OF OPINION FAVORS ALL-AROUND GIRLS' 4-H PROGRAM

A poll of opinion among the nation's 1,500,000 leaders and members would clearly favor, authorities assert, the projects and activities for girls which best prepare them for home and community life. It is reflected in the acceptance by this state and 39 others of the national girls' record contest.

In the 19 years it has been conducted by the extension service its influence has been felt by some 4,000,000 girls enrolled in that time. It has also honored great numbers with awards of merit and thousands of dollars in scholarships.

What girls may achieve in an all-around program is shown by the records of 1940 state winners in Massachusetts, Minnesota, Mississippi, Montant, Oklahoma and Oregon. During the years of their enrollment they collectively canned 16,346 pints and 5,954 pounds of food, sewed 494 garments, prepared 1,226 meals and 5,448 dishes, and made 5,711 bakings. They also made 197 home articles, planted 483 trees and plants are handled 832 fowls. Other activities were 51 dress revues, 841 exhibits, 227 demonstrations and 127 judging contests. A value of $10,049, inclusive of over $1000 in cash awards, was assigned the work.

This year's awards comprise special medals for county winners again given by Montgomery Ward, also trips to the National 4-H Club Congress in Chicago for state winners, and six $200 college scholarships.

CANNING CROP ACREAGE

County Agent Miller has received word that, due to the Lease-Lend Program, efforts are being made to increase the acreage of certain canning crops. Under this provision the following will be applicable for 1941:

1. No changes in the 1941 vegetable allotment for individual farms or counties will be made at this time

2. Any acreage of tomatoes or snap beans grown for canning will not be counted against the vegetable allotment or against the total depleting allotment established for the farm.

3. Any acreage of sweet corn for canning and peas for canning will not be counted against the total depleting allotment for the farm.

Producers should guard against expanding their acreage of these vegtables without having definite contracts with canners for any increased acreage they may wish to grow.

. At a meeting a number of Guernsey cattle breeders held at the home of Harold T. Brown, near Calvert, plans were outlined for holding a Cecil-Kent County Cattle Show at Galena, next fall. The group organized by electing the following officers: President, R. E. Bowers, of near Chesapeake City; vice-president, Lloyd Balderston, of Colora; secretary-treasurer, John S. Reisler, Calvert.

Greater 4-H work among boys and girls in the county in raising Guernsey cattle was planned.

Germany's eye on the Balkans may be for their excess production of bread and fodder grains. The Balkan countries have a surplus of these important commodities that can be spared at the rate of six tons per minute.

SOUTHERN WILDLIFE

LIKE A LOVELORN FLAPPER

The electric stargazer is a small fish which inhabits shallow, sandy bays along the south Atlantic, spending most of its time partly buried in the sand. The mouth is almost vertical and the eyes (located on top of their flat heads) seem always to be looking upward, which accounts for their common name. If touched on the head, this species is capable of inflicting a vigorous electric shock.

DEEP SEA HITCH HIKERS

Huge marine monsters sometimes become pedestrian hazards in deep sea traffic. Fourteen authentic instances are on record, for example, in which whale or tiger shark of the warm water species, or cold water basking sharks (all slow moving and sluggish, unable or unwilling to get out of the way of an oncoming ship) have become impaled on the prows of ocean vessels.

The most recent instance, reported from London, recounts that an 11,000-ton liner, "finding her speed reduced, had to stop off Perim, a coaling station in the mouth of the Red Sea, to remove a 37-foot tiger shark".

SMALL STATEMENT

Opossums are not very well developed when born. Some idea of their size at this stage indicated by the fact that an ordinary teaspoon will accommodate a litter of 18 newborn babies with a little room to spare. Those who may doubt the authenticity of this statement, and it has been questioned in the past, are referred to the August, 1930, issue of Nature Magazine wherein there appears just such a picture—a teaspoon containing 18 tiny 'possums.

BACKYARD DEER

They tell some good ones about hunting down in the old Lone Star State. Some of the best of them are true, too. Some people find the following hard to believe even though ranchers of the Texas Hill Country thing it not only credible, but know dang well it's so! Mrs. W. J. Hardin got her limit of deer (2 bucks) from her own back yard this year. The first she shot was in her chicken yard and two weeks later she brought down a buck standing by a woodpile near the barn!

FISHERMAN'S WEEK

Beginning April 26th, the following seven days are designated as National Fishermen's Week.

With more than twelve million anglers in the United States, fishing has become one of the outstanding sports. It is the unchallenged "world's best relaxer".

The Fishing Fair Association is saying to anglers everywhere "Let's go fishing—more this year."

THE NEW WBAL TRANSMITTER NEARING COMPLETION

This week engineers will begin the final step in the construction program of the new WBAL 50,000-watt transmitter, that of testing the WBAL frequency signal.

The new transmitter is situated on an eighty-nine acre plot of land just outside of Pikesville, Maryland, eleven and one half miles north west of downtown Baltimore. Dominating the scene are three 495 foot steel antenna towers that are the latest development in tower construction. Beneath the towers a vast interconnected copper network of fifty miles of copper wire and ribbon extend over thirty acres of ground to provide the ground system for the new transmitter.

The new 50,000-watt transmitter which incorporates all the latest developments of radio engineering is housed in a building which has been especially designed and constructed for the purpose.

In a few weeks the new WBAL will begin full time operation. WBAL then moves up in the top bracket of 50,000 watts, the maximum power allowed United States broadcasting stations by the Federal Communications Commission.

This maximum power, translated into human terms, means an entirely new and glorious strength of signal and quality of tone. It further means that a strong dependable signal will be heard in the homes of people living in all of Maryland, Delaware, southern Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and parts of Virginia and West Virginia. In this area are located six million people.

The strengthening of WBAL's voice and the expansion of its sphere of influence places a great responsibility on the management of the station to provide programs and activities of interest to the listeners in this new coverage area. To this end, WBAL unselfishly pledges itself in the introduction of new innovations cued to the needs of this section of the country.

The Government Printing Office turns out blank forms, cards, notices, schedules. . . ten thousand a minute.

It takes a lot of vanity to be a politician. You never hear one say, "we common people".

TWENTY-THREE FREIGHT CARS WRECKED

Twenty-three frieght cars were derailed early Thursday evening on the Columbia and Port Deposit railroad, at Fishing Creek. Two electric power poles were broken off and a box car standing on a siding smashed.

Four employees of the Pennsylvania railroad, enroute to the scene of the wreck, in an automobile, received painful injuries when their car struck a tree.

The injured were Alfred Baugh, of Havre de Grace, who has abrasions of the right arm; J. P. Dawson, Perryville, contusions and bruises on the right side of the face; Vencenzo Sallare, Perryville, lacerations about the face, and Gaetano Narcola, Perryville, lacerations about the scalp. They were treated at the Harford Memorial Hospital and returned to their homes.

ELKTON WOMEN'S CLUB

Twenty-five members of the Woman's Club of Elkton attended the Eastern Shore District Convention of Woman's Clubs, held at Salisbury, April 17. The local club has elected the following officers; Directors, Mrs. Victor R. Taylor, Mrs. Thomas Garrett, Mrs. Phillip Rambo Mrs. E. D. E. Rollins, who, with the following hold-over members, Mrs. J. Willard Robertson, Mr. Dewey Patterson, Mrs. Sterling Dunbar and Mrs. James F. Evans will comprise the board; president, Mrs. Theodore Ott; vice-pres., Mrs. Jesse Pierson and Mrs. F. M. Leffler; recording secretary, Mrs. Rodney Frazer; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Leslie Pippin; treasurer, Mrs. John E. Gonce.

PLANNING FOR ANNUAL REGATTA

The twelfth annual regatta of the Havre de Grace Yacht Club will be held Friday and Saturday, July 18 and 19.

New and novel events are being arranged, with the possibility of some added exhibitions relating to national defense. A water carnival, inboard and outboard races; juvenile events, sailing races, an impressive fireworks display the final evening.

HEADS FIRE COMPANY AUXILIARY

The Women's Auxiliary of the Water Witch Fire Company, Port Deposit, has elected Mrs. Miriam Baker, president; Mrs. Marie Burlin, 1st and 2nd vice-president; Miss Mildred McNeilly, secretary; Mrs. Margaret Love, treasurer; Mrs. Ruth Logan, chaplain; and Mrs. Naomi Hasson, historian.

POCKET BOOK FOUND BUT NOT THE MONEY

Mr. Clarence Kelly, a milk truck driver for the Sheffield plant at Rising Sun who resides near West Nottingham, had the misfortune to loose his pocketbook some days ago, containing his chauffers license, check for $4, and $49 in cash. The pocket book was found in the east end of town, but contained nothing but the check.

GUERNSEY BREEDERS MEET

Everett Smith, of Cecilton, reported to Sheriff David Randolph that his residence was entered and robbed one night last week by a burglar who gained entrance by prying open a diningroom window. Some money which was in a pitcher in the dining room was stolen. Footprints were found outside the window, by officers who made an investigation.

PRE-BLOSSOM APPLE SCAB SPRAY SHOULD BE APPLIED AT ONCE

Apple growers of Maryland are advised to apply the pre-blossom apple scab spray during the week of April 28, as the ascospores of the scab fungus will develop rapidly with continuous warm weather and discharge spores following the next prolonged rain, according to Dr. E. A. Walker, Associate Plant Pathologist for the University of Maryland Extension Service.

The pre-blossom apple scab spray is made by mixing 2 gallons of concentrated lime sulphur solution (Baume 32 degrees' to 100 gallons of water. If bud moth and curculio have been a problem, add 3 pounds of arsenate of lead and 3 pounds of high-grade lime to the spray.

MEET "JUST KIDS" NEW COMIC BOOK FEATURE

You'll get a thrill from the mischievous doings of the youngsters in "Just Kids", one of the many enjoyable features in the

COMIC BOOK

new 8-page supplement every week with the

BALTIMORE SUNDAY AMERICAN

A couple of colored men tried the short-change game on an Elkton druggist last week and came off five dollars short themselves. Rodney Frazer, the druggist, instead of getting mixed up pulled a revolver on the colored men and called the Sheriff's office. The negroes made a hasty get away, leaving a five dollar bill on the counter, and Mr. Frazer is ahead of the game.

HONEYMOONERS RECOVER LOST MONEY

The Havre de Grace Ledger tells the following story of a cloud with silver lining:

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Moffett, of Brooklyn, New York, who were on their honeymoon on Monday will always remember their visit to the Conowingo dam, where they inspected the plant while motoring to Washington, D. C. With a number of other visitors, Mr. and Mrs. Moffet, who were married earlier in the day, had been shown through a section of the power plant, and left to continue their trip south.

Just after they had departred in their automobile, a stranger walked into the office of Mr. Paul M. Lefever, superintendent, and handed him a purse which had been picked up near the entrance to the plant. Mr. Lefever investigated and found the pocketbook contained $90 in cash, a check for $5 and the name of the bride, who was employed by the telephone company in New York City. Mr. Lefever immediately notified the Conowingo sub-station of the Maryland State Police, and a radio message was sent out to stop the car bearing the license number shown on the registration card.

As the machine approached Bel Air, the young honeymooners were halted and told of their loss and the subsequent find.

They hurried back to the power plant where Mr. Lefever was waiting for them to hand over their money.

Mr. and Mrs. Moffet thanked Mr. Lefever for his kindness and inquired the name of the finder, that they might write him a letter of appreciation. Mr. Lefever said the man refused to give his name or address, stating it mattered not to him except he was happy to have the money returned to the owner.

SENIOR ORDER UNITED AMERICAN MECHANICS

The Senior Order of the United American Mechanics of Maryland, held its 93rd annual session at Red Men's Hall, Cherry Hill, April 12. The following officers were elected: State Councilor, Charles Lewis, Salisbury; State Vice-Councilor, F. W. Asher, Chase; State Councilor Secretary, Edgar S. Adkins, Salisbury; State Council Treasurer, James H. Faulk, Frederick; State Inductor, George Lynch, Bay View; State Examiner, John Harris, Principio; State Inside Protector, J. Lawson Crothers, Bay View; State Outside Protector, Charles Davis, Salisbury; State Chaplain, Leroy Spence, Cherry Hill; Ex-state Councilor, George H. Campbell, Cherry Hill; National Representative, James Dubel, Frederick, Maryland.

The meeting next year will be held in Frederick.

TRINITY CHURCH VESTRYMEN

The following vestrymen of Trinity Protestant Episcopal Church, Elkton, have been elected for the ensuing two years: Henry L. Constable, Dr. Vernon H. McKnight, Peyton Harrison and Albert Ringgold. The holdover members are: H. E. McBride, Horace Lilley, F. du Pont Thomson and Layton Boulden. The board elected Mr. Thomson senior warden and Peyton Harrison junior warden, and William R. Baldwin and John Stephenson delegates to the Diocesan Convention.

The election at St. Mark's Church near Perryville, resulted in the selection of the following vestrymen: Samuel Aiken, Sr., Samuel Aiken, Jr., Henry Founds, and Wilson Whitelock; holdover members, Melvin Greell, Marion L. Patterson, Robert H. Kirk, and Richard Williamsam. The board elected Samuel Aiken, Sr., senior warden and Marion L. Patterson junior warden. Robert Kirk and Paul Dallinger were elected delegates to the Diocesan Convention.

ELK RIVER YACHT CLUB

At the annual mid-year dinner dance, which was held at Howard Johnson's Dutch Village, on April 12, the Elk River Yacht Club discussed plans for regattas on Memorial Day, July 4, and Labor Day.

Commodore William H. Kiler announced appointment of a racing committee consisting of Lewis W. Stradley, Jr., chairman; Robert J. Peoples, Winthrop W. Malin, and Emmett S. Hickman.

Governor O'Conor is expected to sign the bill passed by the recent State Legislature whereby 1½ cent lateral road gas tax fund will be allocated to Cecil county permitting the building of more lateral and farm to market roads in the county.

Control of Diseases of Canning Crops in Maryland is the title of a new mimeographed publication that has been issued by the University of Maryland Extension Service. The publication was prepared by Dr. A. Robert Jehle, State Plant Pathologist; Herman A. Hunter, Specialist in Canning Crops; and Carroll E. Cox, Intsructor in Plant Pathology.

The publication describes the diseases and their control for such canning crops as tomatoes, peas, snap beans, lima beans and sweet corn. Copies may be had by writing any one of the three authors in care of the Extension Service at College Park.

History repeats, and if miners and operators can't insure a supply of coal, somebody will invent a substitute to save trouble.