FARMERS' MEETING AT CHESTERTOWN

By County Agent Derrick

The Court House at Chestertown on Wednesday, February, 18th, was the scene of a most beneficial meeting of the agricultural interests of Kent county. Farmers and canners were present and together with the officers of the Peninsula Tomato Growers' Association discussed fully, fairly and squarely the interests of the farmer, canner and consumer. The meeting was called to order by Arthur L. Harris, Vice-President of the Kent County Association at 1.45 p. m. The County Agent acted as secretary. The minutes of the meeting last winter were read. Mr. Harris first called upon County Agent Derrick, who had arranged for the meeting, to open the meeting by stating why the meeting was called and the purpose for which it was called. Mr. Derrick stated why the meeting was called and that the purpose of the meeting was to have the Kent County farmers, brokers, canners, and all others directly interested in agriculture, hear from the officers of the Peninsular Tomato Growers' Association as to the accomplishments of the association and their plans for 1920. It was further stated that the purpose of the meeting was also to discuss cost of production, the tomato situation and to familiarize those present with the organization of County Farmer' Exchanges.

J. B. Wright, one of the directors, began the discussion by relating the conditions in Dorchester county as they were. How an organization was formed and the advantages of this organization to both the Tomato Growers and Canners. Mr. Wright spoke of the great value of the organization and said that it was not to beat the canner, but to help the farmer. Mr. Wright said that in Dorchester county the farmers had received much larger prices by growing for the open market.

T. W. Webster, President of the East New Market Farmers' produce Exchange, spoke on the value of their organization to the farmers in selling tomatoes especially.

Isaac O. Taylor, Organizer for the Peninsular Tomato Growers' Association was the next speaker. Mr. Taylor said that in the farmers business, as it is today, we must have co-operation and organization such as the business houses, schools, churches, etc., have. Farmers are the last class to take up organization. Mr. Taylor stated that at the local meetings of the Peninsular Tomato Growers Association and the local county associations connected with it, that not only are farmers wanted, but canners, brokers and all interested in Agriculture as well. The association should benefit all classes. The organizations are principally for the protection of farmers.

Mr. Taylor in showing the need of such an organization stated that last summer and fall the farmers in Dorchester county sold cantelopes at 60 cents per crate of 45 to the crate and on the Western Shore cantelopes had to be bought at 20 cents each, which would make a crate of 45 retail for $9.00. Mr. Taylor further stated that last summer while tomato growers of Kent county, who contracted received very little for tomatoes and those who had sold on the market got from 60 cents to 85 cents per basket, the members of the association down the Shore received from 85 cents to $1.05 per basket for their tomatoes. Mr. Taylor said that the association has almost the full co-operation of all the canners down the Shore and that the association did not set the price of $1.00 per basket, but this price was set by the canners. This, he explained was due to the proper grading of tomatoes by members of the association. The point was that when the canners received grade A tomatoes they could afford and were willing to pay the price.

Mr. Taylor presented a chart showing the cost of production of tomatoes per acre for general conditions in the lower counties of the Eastern Shore. This calculation showed that it cost $118.50 per acre to grow tomatoes. Mr. Taylor said the figuring was put as low as possible and in going over the chart before the meeting it was considered by practically all present that the cost of production per acre would be considerable more than $118.50 for Kent county.

The next speaker was J. E. Patten, President of the Peninsular Tomato Growers' Association, who read correspondence from several states regarding the production of tomatoes, practically all of which urged a National Organization. Mr. Patten said there are 50 local organizations on the Eastern Shore and in Delaware that make up the Peninsular Tomato Growers' Association and urged the producers of Kent county to organize so that the association can be of greater benefit to Kent county and that Kent county can be of greater help to the organization.

The next speaker was a Kent county canner, Mrs. A. L. Harris, who spoke on the canners side of the tomato question. Mrs. Harris stated that the real object she thought of the organization and the tomato canning question is to get the consumers money and not the canners money. By this, Mrs. Harris meant that it should be the purpose of the organization to give to the final consumers a first class product so that they would be willing to pay a good price for a can of tomatoes. The average consumption of canned tomatoes per family in the United States is only four quarts a year, continued Mrs. Harris, and that the organization should work to increase the family consumption of tomatoes.

Mrs. Harris stated that this could be accomplished by following the principals of the Peninsular Tomato Growers' Association, which called for the proper grading of tomatoes. Mrs. Harris said that a canner could pay $1.00 per basket for tomatoes and make money, sometimes, and yet lose money on tomatoes at 25 cents per basket, depending upon the grading or condition of the tomatoes. Mrs Harris advocated advertising farm crops. Maximum production with minimum cost is what the canners as well as farmers want. Mrs. Harris spoke of the probability of their being an inspector in nearly every canning factory this year and all tomatoes which pass the inspection will bear the inspector's stamp on every can, thus enabling the consumer to know that the can contains tomatoes which have passed inspection. Mrs. Harris made the plea for farmers to plant better seed and also to plant early and late varieties so as not to glut the market during any one time.

John N. Bennett, a member of the Kent County Tomato Growers' Executive Committee, was the final speaker. Mr. Bennett stated that the purposes for which the meeting had been called had been fully accomplished and that with the consent of E. A. Corey, President of the Kent County Association, there would be another meeting in the near future for the sole purpose of effecting a strong Farmers' Produce Association to co-operate fully with the Peninsular Tomato Growers' Association.

President E. A. Corey and the Executive Committee of the Kent County Association together with County Agent Derrick are planning for a much larger meeting during the first week in March. Every tomato grower, canner, broker and farmer in Kent county is urged to attend this meeting. To join this organization does not take away any privilege to either contract or sell on the open market, it means that before doing so you will consult the local organization and they will tell you whether or not they can secure a better price for you than you are expecting to sell for.

Walls—Moffett.

Asbury M. E. Church, Millington, was the scene of a pretty wedding on Wednesday evening when Miss Catherine Moffett, the attractive and accomplished neice of Harry Moffett, of South Millington, became the bride of Hiram T. Walls, of near town. They were accompanied by Harvey E. Poore as best man and Miss Pauline Stevens as bridesmaid. The bride and bridesmaid wore tailored traveling suites and carried shower bouquets of carnations and sweet peas; the groom and the best man wore the conventional black. The ceremony in which the beautiful and impressive ring service was used, was performed byR ev. D. J. Moore. They will live on the Barne's farm near Millington.

MILLINGTON

Miss Alice Emory, of Sudlersville, is the guest of Miss Rose Comegys.

Mrs. Annie S. Price spent the week-end with relatives at Kennedyville.

Mrs. Eva C. Sykes has returned from a trip to New York and Baltimore, and left on Wednesday for Berkley, W. Va., where she will spend some time.

Services tomorrow, February 22nd, at Asbury M. E. Church, will be as follows: 10 a. m., Sunday school, subject "Peter Delivered from Prison;" 11 a. m.,Preaching by the pastor, Rev. D. J. Moore; 7.30 p. m., song service, followed by preaching by the pastor. Friday, 7.30 p. m., prayer meeting, followed by Young People's meeting. The public is cordially invited to attend all these services.

Mrs. Frank Corkran, of Lutherville, is visiting her mother, Mrs. Kate Benson.

Alex. Comegys, of Middletown, spent last Saturday with his brother, Dr. N. Comegys.

Mrs. Mary B. Aydelotte returned home Friday of last week, after spending two weeks with relatives and friends in Gloucester, N. J., and Philadelphia.

Services tomorrow, February 22nd, at Trinity M. E. Church, South, will be as follows: 2 p. m., Sunday school, subject "Peter Delivered from Prison;" 3 p. m., and 7.30 p. m., preaching by the pastor, Rev. F. C. Waggoner. Wednesday, 7.30 p. m., prayer meeting. All are welcome at these services.

Our school is closed for two weeks on account of the basement being overflowed.

Mrs. Liston Pennington and daughter, Miss Martha, are quite sick at their home with the flu.

John G. Moore, Mr. and Mrs. Lambert Bowers and James D. Moore spent last Saturday in Chestertown.

Mrs. Carrie Comegys, widow of the late Clarence Comegys, died at her home on W. Cypress street, on Wednesday at 2.30 p. m., of double pneumonia. Arrangements for funeral unknown at time of writing.

Resigned.—T. E. Joiner has resigned as a member of the Board of Commissioners of Rock Hall. He has made a faithful official and it is with regret the town parts with his services.

FAIRLEE NOTES

Mrs. Henry Anderson returned home from Oxford, Md., where she has been visiting her daughter, Mrs. Wayman Delahay.

Mrs. Miller and daughter, of Rock Hall, is visiting Mr. and Mrs. Howard Reese.

Mrs. Charles Skirven has been suffering with rheumatism but is able to be out again.

Mrs. Lizzie Brice is visiting her daughter, Mrs. John Deputy, this winter.

The waffle supper held by the ladies of St. Paul's was a grand success, about $110 cleared. Adv. in the Kent News. It pays.

Mrs. Sophia Beck Walker is visiting friends in Baltimore.

Dr. and Mrs. Frank W. Smith's new son is getting along fine, while Mrs. Smith has a cold.

Mr. and Mrs. Morris Bramble, of Fairlee, entertained a few friends on Tuesday evening, February 17th. Among those present were:

Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Corey, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Skirven, Mr. and Mrs. Lewin U. Skirven, Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Usilton, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Barnes, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Barnes, Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Watson, Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Noland, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. G. Smyth, Mr. and Mrs. John Deputy, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Kirkbride, Mr. and Mrs. J. Page Gale, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Reese, Mr. and Mrs. Henry W. Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. Mahlon P. Lee, Mr. and Mrs. Harry T. Richardson and son, Conlyn Noland, Mrs. Miller and daughter, of Rock Hall; Morris Bramble.

GRANGE NOTES

Several members of Still Pond Grange were unable to attend Tuesday eve owing to the condition of the roads. A very pleasant evening was passed by those fortunate enough to be present. After several discussions upon different topics the Master requested each member present to name the "Most Wonderful Thing They Ever Did." One brother's answer was "To Make My Ford Run."

A public meeting will be held in Firemen's Hall next Tuesday evening at 7.30 o'clock for the purpose of hearing a representative of the Chestertown Gas Company speak on the necessity of increasing the rate from $2 to $2.50.

Read Bordley & Son's adv. in this issue from $5.00 to $12.00 on every suit you buy in spite of high prices of everything.

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The up-to-date, money-making farmer is the man who realizes how much time and money is saved by the use of a motor truck. Each truck listed below is a big bargain.

One 1½ ton Reo, Express body	$800
One 1½ ton Reo, stake body	$850
One 1½ ton Auto Car, dump body	$850
One 1½ ton Wilcox, chassis only	$550
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One 1½ ton Federal, flat body	$775
One 2 ton U. S. Truck, flat body	$1500
One 3½ ton U. S. Truck, flat body	$1500
One 3½ ton U. S. Truck, flat body	950
One 3½ ton Service Special, express body	$2500
One 3½ ton Packard, flat body	$2600
One 1½ ton Service, flat body	$2100

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Estimates will be furnished promptly

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Genuine Oliver Plows, both Walking and Sulky,, and Castings for same.

New Idea Manure Spreader, New Way and Black Hawk Corn Planters.

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Prices lowest consistent with quality of mdse. furnished.

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Don't miss the Big Shoe Sale at Jefferson's next week. Have several hundred pairs to go on the tables at those prices.

All colors—$3.98—many sizes and widths.

Shoes for Women, Growing Girls and Children.

Sold for cash; no shoes returnable.

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This is the sale some have been waiting for. Come in and we will see that you are not disappointed.

You can use these coats three months yet and have them for next season.

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