The Board of Managers
OF THE
Chestertown Public Library
ANNOUNCE A SERIES OF
Current Event Talks
BY
A. HUNT VAUTIER

OF PHILADELPHIA
AUDITORIUM CHESTERTOWN
HIGH SCHOOL
Monday, January 7th.
Monday, February 4th.
Monday, March 3rd.
Monday, April 7th.
AT 8 O'CLOCK

Season tickets $2.50; single admission 50 cents. Tickets may be purchased at Jefferson's Store.

The Test of Success for 1924

Everywhere people are asking where they can get the best service and values for their money. For a merchant to be successful he must search the markets close and get the best values obtainable, he can then meet competition and give his customers satisfactory service and best values obtainable.

We want to merit your trade and confidence by giving 100 cents for every dollar left with us.

We want you to try our service and quality of merchandise.

Merco Coffee in 1 lb box at 35c, is one of the finest you can buy.

Royal Breakfast Coffee at 29c lb has no equal at this price.

Our coffee business during the past year exceeds all previous records for coffee sales in twelve months. WHY? We have quality and price.

Tailor Made Clothing a specialty with us this year.

We have had many suits made during the past year and our satisfied customers are our best advertisers.

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Good Shoes at Popular Prices can always be found here.

Selz Shoes 6.00 to 8.00: Hamilton Brown Shoes 5.00 to 10.00

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Chestertown, Maryland

Trappers In Kent Busy, Hides Bring Good Prices

The muskrat season opened in this county and State January 1st and owners of marsh will start in to gather one of the most profitable crops of the county.

It is hard to get absolutely correct figures on the number of marsh rabbits caught each year in Kent, owing to the fact that practically no records are kept that can be depended upon. Asking one of the best posted men of this section, when asked if the number would reach 60,000, replied that it would and more than reach 70,000. This would mean that the marsh rabbit fur trapped here would be worth at least $100,000 as a fair average per hide is at least $1.50.

One of the best marshes in lower Kent is Nichols' marsh. One year this marsh yielded over $2,400.

While the law may seem severe, it is necessary for the preservation of this game.

That part of the State statutes relating to the killing and catching of muskrats provides that no person or persons shall shoot or in any manner kill or catch, except by gigging or trapping, any muskrat or otter, and it shall be unlawful for any person in Maryland to dig into or in any manner molest or destroy the roof or any part of a muskrat house or den. And it shall further be unlawful for any person or corporation to have within his or its possession any muskrat hide or skin that has been shot at or killed in any manner except by trapping or gigging, and any muskrat perforated with small holes having the appearance of shot or bullet holes shall be prima facie evidence that it was shot.

These little animals subsist on the roots of grass they find in the marshes and are noted for their cleanliness, as they wash the roots before eating them. After the hide has been removed the "meat" is not unpalatable for food and usually sells at a profitable price. For many years under the enticing name of "marsh rabbit" it has been served as a luxury in hotels, restaurants, and on the tables of private homes.

One of the most usual methods of capture is the steel trap, which is placed at the bottom of the "lead" that he traverses in going from the creek to his home in the bank or on the marsh. This industry requires some captial for traps and the open season occurs at a time when farmers and others living in the country have leisure time, and as a result many engage in this business.

The value of this animal to the county has steadily increased year by year owing to the increased demand for the fur. Land that used to be regarded as of no value and was not assessed at anything at all per acre—or at best but something like 50 cents has increased very materially and now bears a nassessment often of $5.00 or better and sells in the market for as high as $50.00 per acre. The difference in assessments and selling price is explained by the fact that marsh rabbits does not always frequent the same land. Thus what this year may produce a valuable number, next year may be almost worthless. Some of the earning of the trappers run well into the thousands in a good year. The furs are usually marketed through local dealers and then shipped to New York. The price however is regulated by the St. Louis market.

The most valuable furs are those of the black rat and are used in the manufacture of Hudson seals. The State of Maryland has recognized the value of this industry to the tide water counties of the State and has passed laws protecting the marsh rabbits from extinction and the owners of the marsh in their private rights.

Speaking of the life and habits of this little animal, M. C. F. writing in the Sun says:

"They are the most fastitidious of all animal life and it is said that never a piece of food is eaten by them untl it has been thoroughly washed. Over all the swamp land there are still round huts, three or four feet high. They are built of reeds and grass and mud. These are the homes of the rats, and in the construction, almost human intelligence is used.

The entrance is beneath the water the interior is divided into two floors, each of which is separated into rooms.

Some of the houses have three or four families, and as each family is increased to the extent of nine little rats, three times a year, it is not thought that there is danger of immediate extermination.

The trappers themselves have more vision that the average taker of the products of the bay or tributaries.

As soon as it becomes apparent that the rats are becoming thinned out in a swamp, it is given a rest.

About 1,000 men are engaged in the trapping industry and each outfit consists of 35 traps.

A peculiar thing about the business is the wonderful instinct of the little animal that percludes the possibility of baiting the traps with anything that has been touched by the human hand.

For this reason run-ways are dug through the swamp and the traps are set just beneath the surface of the water so that the ebb and flow of tide, all trace of any touch is washed away."

St. Mary's Seminary Destroyed by Fire.

On last Saturday St. Mary's Female Seminary, near Leonardtown, was swept by fire. Miss M. Adele France, of Chestertown, is the principal of this school. Miss Sarah Emory, of Kent, is a student at the school, but had not returned to it.

Every building except Commencement Hall was totally destroyed. The damage estimated at more than $60,000 was done to other buildings.

The Rev. W. C. Whitmore was badly hurt when he fell from the rectory roof in an attempt to prevent it catching fire from flying embers. His injuries were treated by a physician. The rectory escaped damage.

Will Use Hotel.

The seminary probably will be located temporarily in Scotland Beach Hotel at Scotland, Md., according to present plans. Trustees of the institution are to meet and complete arrangements for opening the school.

Belief that Governor Ritchie, other State authorities and trustees of the seminary would meet in conference to decide the steps to be taken toward rebuilding the institution was expressed by A. S. Goldsborough, of Baltimore, a member of the college ways and means committee.

Mr. Goldsborough based his opinion that the State would aid in the rebuilding program on the fact that the seminary was considered a State memorial, commemorating the landing of the first Maryland colonists.

A yearly appropriation had been made by the State toward maintaining the seminary, in return for which the State was accorded a certain number of scholarships. Mr. Goldsborough said.

An old-fashioned furnace, overheating of which is thought to have caused the fire, was soon to have been replaced by a modern heating plant, according to Mr. Goldsborough.

Danger Realized.

It had long been realized by those interested in St. Mary's affairs that there was inadequate fire protection and great care was exercised to prevent damage to the school. Leonardtown was too far away to render timely assistance and St. Mary's City contained no apparatus to fight the flames.

The seminary and grounds have long been considered one of the beauty spots of the State. Handsome trees and foliage adorned the front grounds, which sloped down to the river, and the students were surrounded by wonderful natural environment.

For more than 20 years the school was under the principalship of Mrs. Laura Virginia Maddox, who only gave up her work last year after a regime marked by steady progress and a thorough training for the girls who left the seminary portals.

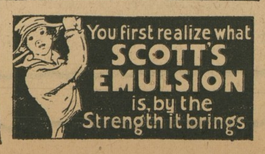
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302.22 MILES OF NEW ROADS

The State Roads Commission built 302.22 miles of improved highway last year at an average cost of $16,694 a mile, according to John N. Mackall, Director of Public Works.

The State spent a total of $5,041,925 on construction of new highway. The cost of gravel roads built in Southern Maryland helped pull the average cost of all the road-building down to what was once a fair price for concrete roads. The mileages of the various classes of roads built were: Concrete, 186.35 miles; macadam, 24.72 miles; gravel, 81.17 miles, and asphalt, 9.98 miles.

KENT NEWS $1.50 PER YEAR

KILLED GUNNING FOR DUCKS

While gunning for ducks Friday afternoon Geo. W. Alexander, aged 17 years, son of Mr. and Mrs. Geo. T. Alexander, of Elkton Neck, met with a fatal accident. The young man was alone in a sink-box a short distance from shore on Elk river, waiting for a covy of ducks to flock around some decoys, when his gun was accidentally discharged. The entire load of shot lodged in his abdomen. A carpenter, named Brown, who is building a bungalow along the shore, heard the boy calling for help and rushed to his assistance in a rowboat and brought him to shore. Dr. Vernon McKnight, of North East, was summoned and had the boy brought to Union Hospital, where he died while on the operating table. Coroner Magraw has the case under investigation. Three weeks ago a similar accident occured to Robert Thorn, aged 18, of Woodlawn, while gunning for ducks on Principo creek, a short dstance from the scene of today's fatal accident.

LODGES ELECT OFFICERS

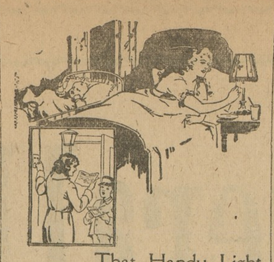
Chester Camp No. 8745 Modern Woodmen of America officers are as follows: Consul, M. E. Newsome; Clerk, John W. Barnes; Banker, W. U. Lusby; Advisor, R. V. Moffett; Escort, F. D. Leary; Watchman, M. W. Thomas; Sentry, C. L. Dodd; Managers, T. D. Bowers, C. C. Jones, T. G. Wroth; Physician, H. B. Simmons; Special Auditor, F. G. Usilton.

Washington Camp No. 34 P. O. S. of A. elcted the following officers last night: Past President, Robert Moffett; President, Rufus Collins; Vice-Pres., James E. Allen; Master of Forms Joseph Duyer; Recording Secty., Chas. F. Wheatley; Financial Secty., Virgil W. Kendall; Treas., John C. Davis; Conductor, R. Clarke Davis; Inspector, Wm. E. Slagle; Guard, J. F. Wheatley; Chaplin, J. W. Barnes; Trustees, J. W. Barnes Robt. Moffett, W. F. Malin, Harry Fowler, Rufus Collins, Sentinels, Earle A. Barnes, Harry Fowler.

Chestertown Council No. 177 Jr. O. U. A. M. elected the following officers on last Wednesday evening for the ensuing year:

Junior Past Councilor, G. Thomas Dewberry; Councilor J. E. Pennington; Vice Councilor, W. C. Benjamin; Recdy. Secty., S. J. Coleman; Asst. Rec. Secy., R. F. Elburn; Financial Secty., George H. Burk; Treasurer, John W. Hirons; Conductor, James E. Allen; Warden T. Ellsworth Newcomb; Inside Sentinel, H. C. Blyman; Outside Sentinel, J. A. Kennard; Chaplain, John W. Barnes; Trustees, J. E. Pennington, W. T. Bennett, J. W. Barnes, W. F. Malin, J. E. Allen; Representative to State Council for 2 years, Walter T. Bennett; Alternate, T. Ellsworth Newcomb.

At a meeting of the directors of the Salisbury Building and Loan Association and of the Directors of the Central Bank, C. M. Freeman was elected as Secretary of the Loan Association and Cashier of the Bank. This place has been unfilled since the death of Mr. Henry W. Ruark, several months ago. Mr. Freeman, who has been selected for these responsible positions has acted as Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce for the past three and one-half years, coming at that time from Meadville, Pa.



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is only one of the many comforts of a completely electrified home. Beautiful lamps, fans and the many helpful appliances such as vacuum cleaners, washing machines, etc. may be used when and where you want them.

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CROMAR Oak Flooring is filled, varnished and waxed at the factory and can be laid and used the same day.

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(Effective after Saturday, December 22nd, 1923.)

Thursdays, leave Baltimore at 7.30 a. m., for Tolchester, Betterton and Fredericktown, returning to Baltimore same day. Leaving Fredericktown at 12.30 p. m., Betterton at 1.30 p. m., Worton Manor at 2.15 p. m., Tolchester at 3.30 p. m., arrive Baltimore at 5.30 p. m.

Saturdays, leave Baltimore for Tolchester at 7.00 a. m., and 2.45 p. m, leave Tolchester for Baltimore at 9.00 a. m. and 4.45 p. m.

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All kinds of second-hand shoes at unusual low price.
Army Pants, Shirts, Etc
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is the institution which pays its Policy-Holders a dividend each year. This dividend is credited to the policy and forms a nice saving fund As an example::

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APPLICATION FOR INSURANCE MAY BE MADE TO
F. E. Thomas, Stevensville; E. Bowers, Lynch, Md.; Joseph Downey, Rock Hall; R. Wesley Moffett, Millington; Charles H. Jefferson, Chestertown; Frank H. Ruth, Galena; G. W. Owens, Betterton; Allan S. Walls, Sudlersville; Howard Turner, Betterton; T. B. Kilbourne, Chestertown.

FRED. G. USILTON, President.
EBEN F. PERKINS, Sec. and Treas.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned has obtained from the Orphans' Court for Kent County letters of Administration on the personal estate of

ISAAC R. LEAVERTON,
late of said county.

All persons having claims against said deceased's estate are hereby warned to exhibit the same, with the proper vouchers thereof, to the undersigned on or before the 22nd day of June, 1924, otherwise they may by law be excluded from all benefit of said deceased's personal estate.

All persons indebted to his estate must settle at once.

Given under my hand this 18th day of December, 1923.

RICHARD C. LEAVERTON,
d22-4t Administrator.

AUDITOR'S NOTICE

William R. Crow, Walter C. Crow, Administrators of Annie M. Crow, Mortgagee.
versus
Frederick W. Bruce.

In the Circuit Court for Kent County
In Equity. No. 2156.

All creditors of Frederick W. Bruce and all persons claiming an interest in the proceeds of sale of the property sold under the proceedings in the above entitled cause, are hereby notified to file their claims with the vouchers thereof duly authenicated with the Clerk of the Circuit Court for Kent County, on or before the 17th day of February, 1924, provided a copy of this notice be inserted in some newspaper printed and published in Kent County, Maryland, once a week for four successive weeks before the 17th day of January, 1924, otherwise, they will, by law, be excluded from participation in the funds to be audited in said cause.

By Order of Court,
S. SCOTT BECK,
d22 Auditor.

WARNING

All persons are warned against trespassing on land and marshes with dogs, gun or traps. OLIVER P. JERVIS. o27-2mos*

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