## Report of Secretary Chestertown Fire Company

Mr. President and members of the Company:

It now becomes my duty as secretary of the C. V. F. Co., for the past twelve months to make my annual report.

I deem it only necessary to give you a brief out-line of the happenings as recorded in the minutes.

During the year just passed by, there were held 45 meetings of the company, at which the attendance averaged about 28, an average that could be improved upon and yet is something that we can feel proud of. I feel satisfied that if the members knew what a pleasant time we have at these meetings our attendance record would take quite a jump.

The year of 1926, I can truthfully and gladly say, has been the best year the company has experienced, since it's organization.

Through the remodeling of the fire house, the members both active and inactive have grown closer to each other, and have spent many enjoyable evenings here together in the recreation room.

On the first floor are other improvements, which plainly shows the efficiency of the company in the fire fighting line. I will not say anything in regards to this, not wishing my report to conflict with that of our chief.

In February 1926 a committee was appointed to make arrangements for a yearly appropriation from the County Commissioners, which proved a great help to us, as it will in the future we hope.

On March 29th, our brother firemen of Denton, Md., gave a minstrel show which netted us a clear profit of $55.14.

During this same month the boys all became hungry and a banquet was held in the Armory and I can assure you that a very pleasant time was had by all. Chief Lutz, of Wilmington, Del., was present and gave us a very interesting talk on fire-fighting.

We also had several guests from local companies.

On May 17, 18, 19, our second annual show was given which was a greater success than the one held the previous year, although we were handicapped by the illness of Mrs. Wheeler, and an epidemic of measles which a number of children in the cast contracted. Total net profit from this show amounted to $530.03.

A few days later the Company experienced a great sorrow, when by death we lost one of our most valuable and active men Leslie H. Needles, who died May 22, 1926, being the first death that has occured on the active list for a number of years, due to this, resolutions were drawn-up and a copy of which is spread upon the minutes.

On June 9, 10, 11, The Md. State Firemen's Association held its convention in Westminister, Md. The C. V. F. Co., having present a delegation of men and truck No. 2, although we brought home no prizes. The C. V. F. Co., was recognized as an A-1 fire company.

Shortly before this time dress-uniforms were purchased for the active members, which improved the looks of our company considerable at the convention, and Firemen's Carnival parades, which 13, I believe is the number we attended the past year.

In the latter part of June and the early part of July the Company took another great step forward when Firemen's Band was organized. Although the members have created an unusual amount of noise around the town and county, they are I believe progressing very rapidly and in the future I think this band will prove a great credit to the fire company and Chestertown. It being, I am told the largest and best equiped band on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, composed of about 40 members, with the prospect of several more in the future.

From Sept. 10-18 inclusive, the C. V. F. Co., held it's second annual carnival which in every way except financially was a much larger success than the one held in 1925. By being a greater success I mean it was more elaborately arranged as well as more systematically carried on. The parade, I can truthfully say was the very best ever held on the streets of Chestertown. In attending other carnivals, I have seen none that could compare with it. The success of this parade was due largely to the efforts of Mr. W. H. Elliott, who we are very glad to have as a member of our company, and who was in complete charge of this part of our carnival.

The total gross receipts from this carnival amounted to $10.568.79, total expenses $5.191.84, leaving us a net profit of $5,376.95 which amount is just about $250 less than last years profits, but quite a nice little sum to be made in just eight nights. $4000 of this amount was used to purchase securities which makes the company have $5000 in securities having already a $-000 bond which was purchased earlier in the year, and which places the company in a better financial condition than it has ever been before, for these securities pay us quite a little interest.

At the close of the past year we find that our fire-fighting equipment is in excellent condition, and our fire-alarm as noisy as ever, with progress being shown for having it connected with the telephone office, which will be quite a saving of time on a fire call.

Another item that proves the efficiency of our company, is that Firemen's Accident Insurance has been purchased for each and every member on the active list, and which would be a great benefit to anyone of these men who might be injured while fighting fire, and this I hope will not happen.

This Mr. President, and fellow firemen, about concludes my report, and in my last paragraph, I would like to say, that I have considered it an honor to be secretary for the company, and hope that I have proven efficient. If I have not, I am sorry, for I have served as secretary to the best of my knowledge and ability. And I wish my successor a better year, and better luck for himself and The Chestertown Volunteer Fire Company.

Respectfully submitted for your approval and acceptance.

WM. M. BLAKENEY, Secty.

## National Guard Camp Dates Set

Dates and places for summer camps for the Maryland National Guard units have been announced by the War Department.

The First and Fifth Regiments and the State Staff Corps with the First Separate Company, will encamp on the new State military reservation at Cascade, Md., July 10 to 24.

The local Medical Detachment is a unit of the First Infantry. Captain Joseph P. Franklin, commanding officer of the local detachment, visited the new camp site last week. According to Capt. Franklin the new camp grounds at Cascade, Md., are for superior to the former site at Virginia Beach, Va.

The new camp will be known as Camp Ritchie. It is situated in the mountains where the healthy and invigorating atmosphere make training conditions ideal.

## MUHLENBURG EASY FOR WASHINGTON

Led by the sharpshooting ability of Giraitis, the Washington College basketball squad staged an eacy victory over the Muhlenberg cagers here Saturday night, winning by a score of 35 to 22.

The locals got the jump on the visitors in the opening minutes of play and were never headed. Giraitis played a splendid game, dropping the ball into the basket six times from the field and coming through with one foul point out of three tries.

Lawson played well for the losers and accounted for nine of the team's points.


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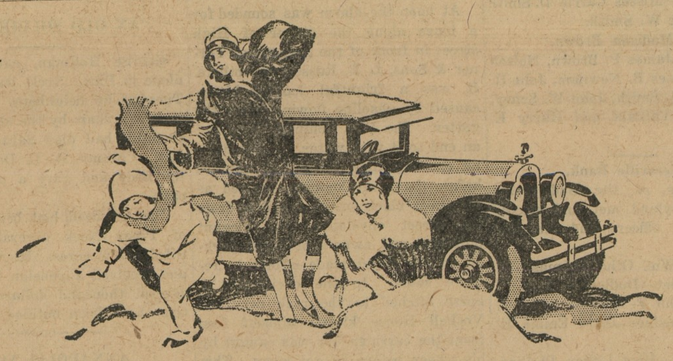
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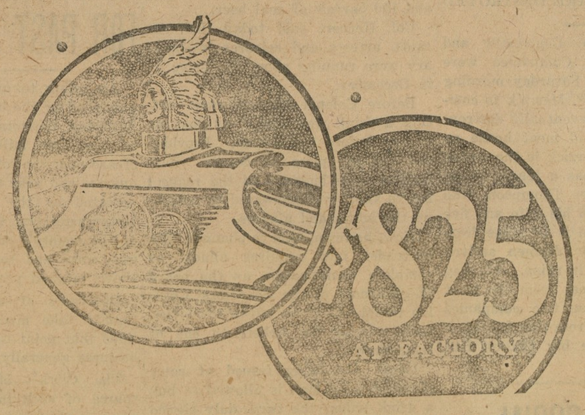
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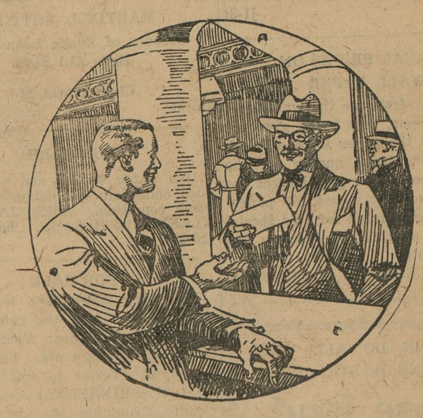
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