CHESTERTOWNIAN IN GUATEMALA

The News is glad to be able to present to its readers a series of interesting articles from Harry R. Graham, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. R. Graham, of Chestertown, who is in the engineering department of the United Fruit Co., in Guatemala, Central America. Mr. Graham graduated from Lafayette College, and his experiences in the Southern clime is interesting. His first letter appears in this issue as follows:

Being very much interested in the wild life here I imagine you would be, too. So I will tell you something about the things I noticed.

This country certainly deserves its nick name of Manana Land (Land of Tommorow). Everything is backwards from the States. Rivers run uphill, bull frogs talk Spanish, the red ant is a more dangerous enemy than the puma, and many morethings. These things are no joke but actually true, including rivers running uphill.

Several places in the country rivers take very sharp bends and the water is coming with such a great velocity that a portion will run right up the bank and over, as much as three or more feet above the level of the rest of the water.

Bull frogs, instead of a deep-throated croak, seem to bleat like a goat.

The night monkey or Honey bear is typical of the animals here. He looks like a little bear with a long tail, acts like a monkey and actually belongs to the weasel family.

Another interesting animal here is the pesota. It belongs to the coon family has a coons' fur and the head of an ant-eater. Belonging to the same family is the tipper—squinty, which is white with a big brown spot on either side. Both pesotas and tipper-squinties are very excellent eating.

I saw, at about thirty feet, a full grown donto tapir, or mountain cow. It stood about four and a half feet off the ground and weighed about 800 pounds. It was quite an old sensation for me, instead of hunting I was being hunted. The Donto was with her young and heard us coming thru the whiskey-ole (quisquiole) swamp and came out to find out what was the trouble. Now the donto is considered the most dangerous animal on the American continent. It has a thick hide about one and a half inches thick, which no knife can penetrate. It takes an elephant gun to stop them. They use the same tactics as a bull, rolling and pawing their victim. They are not meat eaters but are very peevish. Nature however provided by making them also blind. they cannot see more than 15 to 20 feet, altho they have a wonderful sense of hearing and a fair sense of smell. We stood still and made no noise, the thing came crashing thru the brush, paying no more attention to three inch trees than it would to a blade of grass. It failed to locate us and passed on. Fortunately they are scarce and mostly in the hills where we don't often go.

I have seen a couple of black tigers, comparatively harmless, but none of the more dangerous white ones, which are more common up-country.

We have thousands of snakes but most of them are harmless, whip snakes or boa constrictors. Boa constrictors under 12 feet long are protected here, ten dollars fine if caught killing one. The reason for this is, because under this length they are harmless and their diet is almost entirely snakes. They consider the Barba Maria (yellow beard), sometimes called banana snake, the most dangerous snake here, to be a very choice morsel. The engineering department hasn't lost a man by snake bite in Guatemala. The farms average about two mozas a year.

We also have a lot of arm dillos, cute little things, but my men like them to eat. We average killing one about every other day.

An arc Maria snake looks very pretty and harmless. It looks like a gartner snake with an eel's head. However, looks are deceiving and altho they never grow over 18 inches long they are said to be the most poisionous snake in the world. They fortunately are weak and would probably be unable to strike thru a pair of heavy socks even. Naturally I gave the one I saw a clean birth altho it was right on the main street of the town.

I saw an interesting but unpleasant sight today. The migration of the giant grass-hoppers. The sky was just black with them; honestly it darkened the sun. They are just like our grass-hoppers but their body is from four to six inches long.

Few insects sting here but almost all bite. About the only harmless one is the honey-bee. We are bitten all over every day but take a bath in Lysol and feel no ill effects. The worst of all is the red ant and when they bite they literally take a piece out of you and th epain is intense for about ten minutes. He is no bigger and looks the same as the American one but oh, how he can bite!

Unusual in Size

The tallest monument of stone is the Washington monument, 555 feet high, but the largest monolith is in Karnak, Egypt, being 106 feet high. The highest chimney in the Old world, measuring 474 feet, is in Glasgow. The larg- aqueduct in use is the Croton of New York, which is 38 miles long; but the longest ever built is in Peru, 360 miles in length.

NEW CHEVROLET IS A BEAUTY

Wildfire enthusiasm kindled thruout the countty last week when the new Chevrolet line for 1928 went on display took particular account of the many mechanical innovations embodied in the new car. The N. B. R. Motor Co., in Chestertown, and Newsome's Garage at Betterton are the Chevrolet agents in Kent.

Thousands who viewed the new models noted that the wheelbase was increased and bodies made roomier and more beautiful, also that the mechanical features had been developed to a measure heretofore unknown in the low price class.

Outstanding developments in the engine and chassis that received wide spread endorsement were the increased speed and power of the new car, easier steering, four wheel brakes of new design, shock absorber springs marking an advanced trend toward riding comfort, and smother engine performance.

The last mentioned feature was achieved by the use of constant clear ance alloy "invar strut" pistons which make for smoother, more efficient motor performance. Further contributions toward this end were gained by raising the compression ratio and by stepping up the valve lifts. Through these changes maximum power is developed.

Other changes in the engine are the addition of a breathing system to eliminate the annoyance of engine fumes; a new two-port exhaust, and a silencing engine enclosure.

The four-wheel brakes are of non-locking design—the product of Chevrolet laboratories plus the facilities of General Motors laboratories and proving grounds. Front brakes are two-hoe unenergized intervals, while the rear brakes are the energized external, self wrapping type. Front and rear brakes have been proportioned to prevent side drag or pull.

The effect of this, according to Chevrolet engineers is to get uniform wear on the brake lining.

The springs also are of extraordinary interest. Realizing that all uncomfortable spring action is the result of rebound after striking a bump. Chevrolet engineers set about to increase the friction of the springs and thus check the rebound.

This end was achieved by equipping the springs with special rebound checks. Two checks are on each spring located half way between the center spring shackle and the spring end. These rebound checks are inverted bow shaped steel leaves assembled under high pressure against the top of the spring leaf, the ends pressing against the top of the leaf increasing the resistence.

Spotless Windows

Windows should be dusted daily just like furniture and washed often to allow the beneficial sun's rays to penetrate properly.

Be Careful

Don't dodge responsibility. When a bee comes under the windshield stop the car yourself instead of trusting to a telephone pole.—Publishers' Syndicate.

HOMELAND!

Rock Hall's New, Desirable Development.

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J. WATERS RUSSELL
CHESTERTOWN - MARYLAND.

The Books, Accounts and Investments

of The Kent County Savings Bank are regularly examined by State Bank Examiners, as required by law, the desire of the management being to build up and maintain a Safe, Strong and Conservative, Financial Institution.

In relation to investments and income, it is an established fact that 4% on Savings, with the privilege of drawing on the account, is now regarded as quite a favorable investment, as it involves no worry and draws interest twelve months in the year, with no time wasted.

This Bank hereby expresses its appreciation of the confidence and support of its many depositors and patrons, and in future, as in the past, will do its very best to accommodate them and serve their best interest. We extend to all best wishes for a Prosperous New Year.

The Kent County Savings Bank

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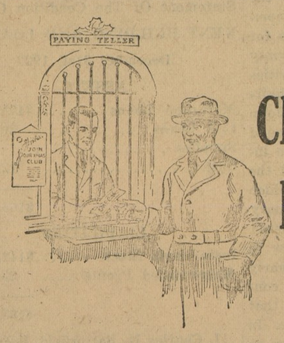

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LESSON No. 19

Question: Why is *emulsified cod-liver oil so wonderful a food-tonic* for young girls and women?

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