

### THRIVING TOWN OF NITRO, W. VA.

The thriving town of Nitro, situated in the foot-hills of Kanawha county, West Virginia, is one of those towns that remain a living reminder of our recent war, and though the ammunition plant from which it derived its name is long since dead—Nitro still remains.

It now has a population of about four thousand people, though at one time during the war there was 82,000 names on the pay-roll, and while some came in from the outlying sections, some commuting from Charleston, sixteen miles away, yet the greater number lived right in Nitro.

Formerly this was only a siding for the New York Central Railroad. Now there is a spacious station, and trains, both freight and passenger running every few hours apart. There is also the Blue and Grey Bus line, which makes three round trips daily from Gallipolis, Ohio, to Charleston and return; that puts the residents of Nitro in close touch with the city of Charleston, a forty-five minute run.

The houses here, like all government sites, are practically all alike, five and six room bungalow, hall and bath, what yesterday was a lot, would today be a street, the houses were built at the rate of one for every three hours and fifty minutes.

Those persons who bought, have improved on their property making some lovely ideal homes.

In spite of the fact that so much coal is mined right here in West Virginia, yet one and all use gas, throughout their homes. This comes from the United Fuel Gas Company. The Appalachian Electric Power Co. is a separate company aside from the gas company.

Too much cannot be said of the drinking water—it is the Kanawha Valley Water Corporation for which the residents pay at the rate of \$2.25 each month; this water comes from the Kanawha river through what is called the intake on through eight grades of sand, including the sedimentation cistern and the clear well where one can see the clear bottom on up the mountain side where the tanks are situated and from where we get our flow of water.

The High School is comprised of twenty-three teachers and eight hundred scholars; it ranks as first in Kanawha County, and third in the whole of West Virginia.

The Civic Center is made up of business houses, bank, postoffice, theatre, town hall and churches of four denominations, and the fire department of nine men, six of which remain on constant duty. As regards the industrial activity, there is the Rubber Service, which makes all kinds of rubber surgical and toilet articles, etc., this works three eight-hour shifts.

The Viscose cotton plant, running

two twelve-hour shifts. This cotton is shipped in from the South in bales and placed in a shed; this shed is the longest in West Virginia, and almost a mile in length. This cotton is made into a white pulp and rolled in sheet form which is used in the manufacture of silk. Fifteen carloads of this pulp is shipped each week to England alone.

There is a pencil factory, giving employment to both men and women, and a factory where automobile tags are made, and one other chemical factory. These industries are sufficient to give employment to the residents here. There is one police on duty at night only, the State police is in charge always.

In 1920 a company with offices in New York, Washington, D. C. and Charleston, W. Va., and known as the Charleston Industrial Corporation, bought the town of Nitro from the government for a sum that run well into millions, since that time all business of civic interest is transacted through the C. I. C.

The shipping facilities by rail and water make this an ideal sight for a manufacturing business of any kind.

The town is busy and up to date, as any small town, two swimming pools, tennis courts, baseball, football and bowling.

The war is over, what eleven years ago, was only a siding, where trains laid over, in the lovely foothills along the Kanawha river—today is a thriving, busy town.

Here's to Nitro, Explosive Plant "C." Built for the winning of victory. Old Glory proudly floats in the breeze. High before the office of Hercules. Our pictures and history on a paste board card. That was the requisite to get by the guard. A glance and a nod, were you old and thin. A smile for a smile, had you a dimple in your chin. When we arrived and before we's unpacked. Our bags were searched and trunks ransacked. And the cruel guards, when it wasn't too risky, Stole our guns and drank our whisky. Powder girls, office girls, chemists, too. And Red Cross nurses to cure the "Fit." Ballistic girls to shoot the guns. And tell us daily how the powder runs. Every tribe on earth from Adam to Ham was there to work for Uncle Sam. Rich Moguls and soldier chaps. On their toes from reverie to taps. Dancing allowed from the very start. But no cheek to cheek—six inches apart. Guards at the fire escapes night and day. All by the order of the Y. M. C. A. The rain was fierce and the mud was deep. And the fighting spirit was hard to keep. Longing for home, and the comfort of slacks. We thought our lot was hard to bear. Now 'tis done, the war is over. But when we're blue and our spirits slack. We'll be thinking of Nitro, and wish we were back. MRS. C. H. OLDENBURG, Nitro, W. Va.

### DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS STATE OF MARYLAND STATE ROADS COMMISSION

#### NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

Sealed proposals for building one section of State Highway as follows: Kent County, Contr. No. K-44. One section of State highway from Lambson Station to Crumpton, a distance of 5.5 miles (Concrete), will be received by the State Roads Commission at the office Federal Reserve Bank Building, Calvert and Lexington Sts., Baltimore, Maryland, until 12 M. on the 10th day of September, 1925, at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read.

Bids must be made upon the blank proposal form which, with specifications and plans will be furnished by the Commission upon application and cash payment of \$1.00, as hereafter no charges will be permitted.

No bids will be received unless accompanied by a certified check for the sum of Five Hundred (500) Dollars, payable to the State Roads Commission.

The successful bidder will be required to give bond, and comply with the Acts of the General Assembly of Maryland, respecting contracts. The Commission reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

By Order of the State Roads Commission this 27th day of August, 1925.

G. CLINTON UHL, Chairman. L. H. STEUART, Secretary.

KENT NEWS \$1.50 PER YEAR

**Stevens Bros.**  
Grain, Fruit and Produce Commission Merchants  
226 S. Charles St. Corner Camden St. BALTIMORE, MD.  
Under the personal supervision of R. Nelson Stevens, over thirty-five years successful experience.  
References — Merchants and Mechanics First National Bank and A. N. C., Box 925. j14-4

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We are selling quality oil in gal. cans, and in bulk at a price that will save you money. Get our prices  
Stop in and get an Ice Cold Drink. Cigars, Cigaretts, Candy & Cakes. Take home a box of ice cream, 6 flavors

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All sizes, types, high pressure balloons and truck tires & tubes let us repair your flat tire, we have the equipment for a quick satisfactory job.  
More people ride on Goodyears than any other kind  
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**NATIONAL BATTERIES** All types for all cars and Radios. We have sold the National Batteries for five years and found them satisfactory in every way. Trade in your old battery and get a new National. Prices & satisfaction guaranteed

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Chas. H. Brice, Betterton, Md.

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ALASKA REFRIGERATORS  
Strong, Well-Made, Cork Insulated Foodexed  
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Porch Shades  
Porch Swings  
Bar Harbor Chairs and Rockers  
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The new Chevrolet Six is shattering every previous record of Chevrolet success—not only because it provides the greatest value in Chevrolet history, but because it gives you more for the dollar than any other car in the world at or near its price! Facts tell the story! Modern features afford the proof! Read the adjoining column and you will know why over a MILLION careful buyers have chosen the Chevrolet Six in less than eight months. Then come in and get a ride in this sensational six-cylinder automobile—which actually sells in the price range of the four!  
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The Sport... \$645 The 1 1/2 Ton... \$545  
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**Due to the Prevailing High Money Market**  
It was necessary that the last issue of Federal Land Bank bonds should bear a higher rate of interest than issues immediately preceding.  
Therefore the FEDERAL LAND BANK hereby gives notice that on and after May 1, and until further notice, all loans made by the Kent and Queen Anne's National Farm Loan Association shall bear interest at the rate of 5 1/2 per cent per annum instead of 5 per cent as heretofore.  
Come in and let me explain the provisions of a FEDERAL FARM LOAN TO YOU.  
**THOS. D. BOWERS, Sec.-Treas.**  
CHESTERTOWN, MARYLAND  
Residence Phone 125; Office Phones 683.