OYSTER CULTIVATION

PLAN TO ENLARGE PLANTING.

Some Suggestions of Interest and Value to Maryland—Seed Oysters, Shell Scattering, Natural Beds.

The report of the commission for the investigation of the oyster industry of New Jersey, which was recently made to the Governor of New Jersey, is an interesting paper. This commission, consisting of five members, was appointed by the Governor in accordance with an act of the New Jersey Legislature of 1902. The commission visited all the oyster-producing waters of the State, carefully investigating the conditions existing in every part of the State; visited Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York and Virginia, and presented its conclusions in a pamphlet of 50 printed pages.

LEASING AND PLANTING.

New Jersey has already a system of leasing for oyster-planting purposes in a comparatively limited area. The Legislature of 1902 wished to have this area extended and the oyster laws improved, hence the appointment of the commission. The annual value of the present oyster crop of New Jersey is, according to the commission's report, in round figures $3,750,000. That is greater than the aggregate wheat, oats and rye harvest of that State as given by the United States census report for 1890 The commission estimates the output of Maurice river cove alone, where only 15,000 acres are under lease, to be $2,000,000. The report says that that amount of oyster land under cultivation "furnished almost the sole livelihood of the working population of half a score of thriving villages in Cumberland county."

Capt. William E. Wooley, one of the shippers of Keyport, stated to the commission that there are about 350 men employed in planting, gathering, opening and marketing oysters at Keyport, the annual output being $250,000 and the capital invested $50,000.

The possibilities of the New Jersey waters for oyster-planting purposes are also presented in this report. The commission took the testimony of many practical oystermen, and came to the conclusion that more than 100,000 acres of land under water, now yielding nothing, could be made to produce abundant harvests.

The testimony taken by the commission shows that hundreds of thousands of dollars spent by the State in scattering shells had been thrown away without benefit to anyone.

THE SHELLING PROCESS.

The question of improving the natural beds by scattering shells upon them is taken up and discussed in the report. This system has been in vogue for some time in New Jersey. The commission says regarding the shelling process:

"A crude conception of the State's duty in such matters and a still cruder knowledge of the laws governing the propagation of oysters are no doubt responsible for the creation of the Shell Commission and the unwise expenditure of hundreds of thousands of dollars without any really beneficial result to the State.

"It has undoubtedly produced a few thousand bushels of oysters, which have been presented as a free gift to the oystermen of the immediate vicinity of the planting of the shells, though why the oystermen of the neighborhood should be singled out from those engaged in other occupations as the recipient of the State's charity is difficult to understand.

"We are thoroughly satisfied that this whole policy of making appropriations by the State for shelling bottoms should cease at once. It would be very much cheaper to pension the beneficiaries of this policy if it is deemed absolutely necessary to 'do something' for them."

The "rough-cull law" is indorsed, but planting under a just leasing system is advocated as the only way by which to extend the oyster industry of the natural beds.

NO IDLE DREAM.

Under the head of "conclusions" the commission recommends that all bottoms suitable for the cultivation of oysters shall be subject to lease or purchase, excepting natural oyster beds, and in this connection the report states as follows:

"If our recommendations are enacted into laws it is easy to see that the State will within a very few years be receiving a large and substantial income from its oyster grounds above all possible expense. Our own experience and that of Connecticut, Rhode Island and Virginia prove that this is no idle dream, but a hard, cold fact. We have embodied in the bill transmitted herewith the minor details, to which reference need not be made in this report, but which will fully appear on inspection of the bill itself.

"This has been the universal history of all such legislation, but it is equally a matter of history that wherever such legislation has once been enacted the most wonderful increase in the prosperity of all classes engaged in the oyster business has at once followed."

The report mentions the interesting historical fact that New Jersey planters are now buying seed oysters at high prices from Connecticut oystermen, and also that Connecticut oyster farms were first stocked from the Chesapeake bay. It is well known that years ago a large fleet of schooners was occupied in taking oysters from the Chesapeake bay and shipping them to Connecticut for planting purposes. It will, therefore, be seen that the Chesapeake is at the present time stocking New Jersey waters and aiding that State in building up its oyster industry.

NATURAL-BED QUESTION.

The report also deals with the vexed question of natural beds and what constitutes a natural bed. An amusing incident is told of a contest now going on in the courts over an alleged natural bed. Some years ago, the report states, an experiment was made by the firm of Mallory & Co., of Baltimore, who planted several thousand bushels of Chesapeake bay shells in the waters of the Delaware bay on the Jersey coast, along what is known as the Cape Shore. For some reason the experiment seemed a failure and the ground was abandoned. A year ago some persons, finding that a very good growth of oysters existed in this locality, applied for leases on several hundred acres of the bottom which had been sown by Mallory. Applications for leases were protested against on the ground that these were natural beds. The testimony was, as is usual in such cases, quite conflicting. Some old men claimed that their fathers had caught oysters from these beds in their boyhood days. The other side protested as loudly that there never were any oysters there until the Mallory planting. To settle this dispute the commission went to the grounds and tried them thoroughly by dredging and examining the shells brought up. The result was that all the old shells brought up were found invariably to be the Chesapeake shells.

James T. Mullin & Sons.

Spring { Overcoats, Hats, Neckwear, Clothing.

FIRST SIGNS OF SPRING.

Top Coats, $5 to $15; Medium lengths, Black and Oxford Coats for Dress. $10, $12, $15 and $20; special styles in $10, $12 and $15 Coats in Blacks, Oxford and Coverts. Latest shapes in new Stiff and Soft Hats, $2.50 to $5; the latter for Dunlaps. Have you ever tried our 25 and 50 cent Neckwear? Compare styles and qualities with any you see. This will be a great season for Prince Albert Coats and Vests. We have them ready-made, $12 to $20; Suits, $15 to $25; White Vests, $1 to $4. Latest cuts and make-up. Come in and try them on.

JAS. T. MULLIN & SONS,
Wilmington.

SAVE YOUR EYES.

If your eyesight is good, take care of it. Look away off yonder every time you get to the bottom of a page in reading If it is defective, let no foolish pride prevent you from wearing the proper glasses.

There is no sense in handicapping yourself in life when a piece of glass before each eye will make your vision as good as it possible can be. The oculist will not advise you to wear glasses if you do not need them any more than he will prescribe a drug you do not need.

Plenty of people, though, do not know that they have defective sight because they have never really seen at all. They have headaches, inflamed eyes, sties, even much graver troubles, from the strain of trying to see with eyes that were put up wrong. There are cases where homicidal insanity has been completely cured when impaired vision has been corrected.—Harvey Sutherland in Ainslee's Magazine.

EVERY CHURCH or institution supported by voluntary contribution will be given a liberal quanity of the Longman & Martinez Pure Paints whenever they paint.

NOTE: Have done so for twenty-seven years. Sales: Tens of millions of gallons; painted nearly two million houses under guarantee to repaint if not satisfactory: The paint wears for periods up to eighteen years. Linseed Oil must be added to the paint. (done in two minutes). Actual cost then about $1.25 a gallon. Samples free. Sold by our Agents.

F. H. HARPER & SON, Still Pond.
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JOHN W. STARTT,
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CAN RELY ON RESULT.

Nurseries Whose Stock is Just as Represented and Whose Methods are Prompt and Honorable.

The Western Trade Journal, Chicago says: Those of our readers who may have been disapointed in their expectations regarding stock ordered of irresponsible nurseries, and who realize that the best only is good enough in this line, will thank us for calling attention to this trustworthy establishment, whose goods we have found to be identically as represented. It is worthy the patronage of all those who value truthful methods and honest representations and who would avoid doubtful results.

There is more than the mere money expended to be considered in making choice and purchasing of nursery stock, for it is always too late for correction after imposition is discovered, and unless a responsible house such as this is selected there is no certainly that another year's time has not been lost as well as the money expended thrown away. Hence the necessity of being right before going ahead.

We write only after thorough investigation when we say that the reader is perfectly safe in dealing with these nurseries. for during twenty one years of journalism we have never come upon more pronounced worth. The stock is first-class in every particular, prices are reasonable and fair dealing characterized all transactions. An immense stock and extensive variety to select from is offered, and as the goods are carefully packed and delivered in excellent condition, those who order once become permanent customers.

The R. G. Chase Co. make a special study of varieties adapted to the various sections in which they do business. This point is worthy of closest attention, for a variety that is valuable in New England may be worthless in the South and one especially suited to the southern latitudes may be unfit for the North. This strong point added to the many desirable features enumerated render it desirable to order goods of this sterling high grade nursery company.

Mr. John W. Startt represents the above firm and will be glad to correspond or call upon any who may need trees or nursery stock of any kind. He has had a long experience of more than twenty years and can render you valuable assistance in making selections. This firm took medals at Paris Exposition, Philadelphia and a number of other places. j24 2mos.*

Pure Borax.

Albatross Brand.

Has no equal for preserving meat and preventing skippers.

—For Sale Exclusively by—

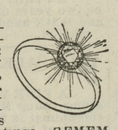
THE STAM DRUG CO.,
CHESTERTOWN, MD.

Goods That Please
The Hard-To-Please

Our stock of Jewelry, Silverware, Clocks and Watches can't be beaten. Call and see our goods.

We do good REPAIR WORK at low prices.

We have just received a large consignment of the newest ideas in RINGS: —Plain and Fancy gold rings, diamond, pearl, turquoise, opal, amethyst, ruby, emerald, topaz and garnet rings, and rings with combination Settings. REMEMBER THE STORE IS



A. LEVINE,
Jeweler, Optician
CHESTERTOWN, MD.

NOTICE.

ALL PERSONS indebted to R. Bergen will please settle their accounts before March 1st, or same will be collected according to law.

R. BERGEN,
f7-4t. Chestertown, Md.

WOOD FOR SALE.

I have for sale TEN CORDS OF OAK WOOD, sawed in stove lengths; am cutting and sawing more. Price $4.00 per Cord in my yard, near Meginnes' Corner, Queen Anne's county, Md. Will contract for large quantities. Come and see me.

P. O. Address: ROBERT OREM,
f7 3t, Millington. Md., R. R. No. 2.

WANTED.

BRIGHT, HONEST BOY, of good appearance, 15 or 16 years old, to learn Periodical and Newspaper business. A rare opportunity for energetic boy and permanent. Further apply to KENT NEWS Office, or address J. HARRY USILTON,
f7-3t. 227 S. 22d St., Philadelphia, Pa.

FINE BEEF for 12½ cents at ROLAND'S SHOP, on High street.

NOTICE THIS!

Every year at this time we clear up stock. Left-over goods are cut in price to make room for new goods coming in

It is better for us to take a substantial loss on some goods rather than carry them over to another season. OUR LOSS IS YOUR GAIN

Many Desirable, Good Shoes,
** Here at a Big Reduction **

Our New Styles of SPRING AND SUMMER SHOES will soon be here. More about them later.

Remember that we give away free every one hundredth pair. The following are some of the customers who have been given Shoes under this plan since December 2d, 1902:

Miss Hope Wallis, Worton	$2.00 pair	W. E. Hudson, Town Officer	$3.00 pair
Etta Freeman, col'd, Melitota	1.00 pair	Robt. Gaynor, col'd, Big Woods	.50 pair
M. deK. Smith, town	1.00 pair	Mrs. Dr. Hessey, Hanesville	.40 pair
Mrs. Hartley, Crumpton	3.00 pair	Walter T. Pippin, Town	1.25 pair
H. C. Robinson, Rich Neck, Q. A.	1.38 pair	Mrs. Thos. Vandyke, Kennedyville	.75 pair
Mrs W. E. Brown, Quaker Neck	.90 pair	And others.	

T. G. WROTH,
Under Stam's Hall. The Shoe Man
CHESTERTOWN, MD.

Carfare To Philadelphia

We bring Philadelphia and its best Clothing Store to your very doors.

This is How:

You pay excursion, railroad or trolley fare. Come to our stores buy your Clothes, your boy's, your girl's, your wife's. Same price to everybody. Show your railroad ticket for fare paid. We pay you exactly its cost if you buy a certain amount. How much? Can't tell—depends upon your carfare.

Wanamaker & Brown,
Outfitters to Men, Women, Boys and Girls.
Oak Hall, Sixth and Market Sts. Philadelphia.

We are very busy taking in New Spring Goods and did not have time to put in a new adv., but look out for one next week.
Yours for business,

A. COHEN,
SANDY BOTTOM.

Highest Market Price paid for Butter, Poultry and Eggs, in cash or trade.

A Clothing Sale!
—OF THE GREATEST AT THE—
Chestertown Bargain House.

Men's, Boys' and Children's CLOTHING AND OVERCOATS at a saving of 20 to 40 cents on the Dollar. That means to clear the store of all our Clothing and Overcoats, Men's Pants and Underwear.

MEN'S SHIRTS, Heavy Fleeced, at	39c.	Up
MEN'S SUITS, from	$2.00	Up
MEN'S OVERCOATS	2.79	Up
BOYS' SUITS	2.39	Up
CHILDREN'S SUITS	.89c.	Up

SPECIAL SALES in Ladies Coats and Skirts and Millinery at 60 cents on the Dollar. Now is the time to buy Bargains. Come and see for yourself the Bargains. The object is to clear the room of all Winter Suits and Overcoats, to make room for our large Spring Stock.

SHOES AND BOOTS at 25 cents on the Dollar. A Good Pair Boots for $1.25. Come at once for the Bargains at the CHESTERTOWN BARGAIN HOUSE.

A. BLUM.
Next door to J. S. Bradley's Grocery, CHESTERTOWN, MD.

R. F. PARKS & SON.

1903. 1903.

February Clearing Sale

Facts worth knowing:

Prices down
Values up

This declaration is simple but true. February 16 we start the Ball rolling.

NOTE THE OFFERINGS:

6¾c buys 7, 8 and 9c 4-4 Blch'd Muslin Remnants.

10c buys 12½c Light or Dark Percales, in Remnants.

4⅞c buys 6c Apron Gingham, in Remnants.

5c buys Child's Merino Pants and Vests, 16 to 20.

12½c buys Misses Double Heel and Toe Hose, 5 to 9½; value 15 and 18c.

Horse Blankets,
Carriage Robes,
Special Discount off for CASH.

Bed Spreads,
Bed Blankets,
White and Colored, to go at a Discount.

27½c. per yard. Remnants of English LINOLEUM, 1 and 2 yards, worth 40 and 50c per yard.

10c buys Choice of Patterns. 500 to 1000 yards HAMBURG EDGINGS, ranging in value from 10 to 30c yd.

Only 6¼c. 300 yards TORCHON LACE, value 8 and 10c per yard; 6¼c per yd. buys your choice of Patterns.

Choice Selections in New Percale, Madras, Gingham, White Goods, etc., 50c.

Bargains in Shoes for the month.

Only 50c. 120 pairs WOMEN'S SHOES, any pair of the lot worth $2.00 to $3.00, per pair 50c.

Only $1.00. 10 dozen pairs MEN'S SHOES—some worth twice the money—any pair of the lot goes for only $1.

Only 25c. pair. 60 pairs of RUBBERS, Men's and Women's, some with pointed toes, of best makes, Boston goods.

Only $1.25. Best PLOW BRIDLE on the Shore. Examine it and be convinced.

Wagon Harness,
Carriage Harness,
Dearborn Harness,
ALL SPECIAL BARGAINS.

$10 { Our CARRIAGE HARNESS is special good value and can't be beaten. } $10

CLOVER, TIMOTHY AND ORCHARD SEEDS

No Discount Stamps with Clover, Timothy and Orchard Grass Seed, but with all other cash purchases of merchandise.

Yours very respectfully,

R. F. PARKS & SON

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