The Queenstown News

A DEMOCRATIC PAPER

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Griener Asked for a Report on Bay Bridge

DO YOU KNOW

OFF THE CUFF

That Ocean Downs, near Ocean City, will open the season of 1952 in August 5, if the Maryland Racing Commission know their stuff.

That the color Film "America's Eden," about the Delmarva Peninsula, has been purchased by the Department of Information of Maryland and Delaware.

That price Director, Mike DiSalle says that OPS is going to low er the price of soap yet. This only shows what us Democrats can do when it comes to cleaning up.

That a dance will be held at Porter's Hideaway near Queenstown, every Wednesday and Saturday night. Music by Blackie Mullins and his Rocky Mountain Ramblers. Admission 60 cents, including tax.

That Capt. Willie Schelberg and first mate, "Mutt" Rice are having much success with their nets "Slashing" in Reed's, Winchester, Jackson's and Blunt's creek, catching white and yellow perch which they find ready sale in home market.

That politicians claim when the General Assembly meets at Annapolis, next Wednesday, February 6, only emergency bills will be considered. This looks as if the beer parlors will have to wait to sellSunday beer.

That Booker Clark, a 35-year old Norfolk negro, bumped a parked truck near the Narrows, early Sunday morning, killing himself and badly injuring two women on the back seat. One died on the way to Easton hospital and the other is in a critical condition.

That Senator Herbert R. O'Conor, refusing to heave his hat in the ring for another term, so he would be free to express his thoughts without being called. It develops this week that his name will be submitted for U. S. Ambassador to the Vatican. While he has never been defeated for office, he is a staunch Catholic (Proud of his Faith) He is a gentleman, scholar, but not a judge of good likker.

That ex-Governor Preston Lane is wondering if he will be invited to join the procession when the Bay Bridge is taken over? The brdge is one of his cherished ideas before and after he was elected Governor and July 1952 will bring hearty desire if he is invited. While there is some that don't approve of the bridge, 1,000 offer thanks to ex-Governor Lane for his good work and true to his political promise.

That Coursey Gernert and Roy Dadds broke up the crop of muskrats in the Dorchester marshes near Vienna, last week, with only 300 traps they succeeded in catching 10 rats for which they received $1.45 cents or net $5 as the landowner got the rest. What helped them with their grub bill was that they slipped their nets out in Fishing Bay at night and landed about 400 lbs. of jike fish. The largest weighed 4 lbs. They sold them at 35 cents per pound.

That a good minister of Princess Anne is taking in too much territory when he stated "minors could buy beer in any tavern on the Eastern Shore." If the beer dispensers of Queen Anne's county have any doubt about the age he must produce his drivers license. The good minister is summoned to appear before the county commissioners of Cambridge and produce the evidence. It is very soldom that a minister of the cloth frequents beer parlors. How then can they get information?

FOR SALE

1 young Yorkshire Boar, pure bred, registered, weighs about 700 pounds. Also 1 Hampshire boar, 18 months old. Very reasonable. Phone Mr. Ramsey, Kentfort Manor, Stevensville 3807.

PERSONALS

FOLKS YOU KNOW

Mr. Johnnie Jones, who is a patient at the Mercy Hospital, Baltimore, was operated on for gall stones last Thursday, which was a success and Johnnie is resting easy and may be able to leave the hospital by next week.

Mr. Burley Thompkins of Hopewell, Va., who last winter when the bulb was bobbin around 10 above stood on the corner in his shirt sleeves and entertained friends with heavy wraps and overcoats, is the guest of Mr .and Mrs. Albert McGuire of Wye Mills.

Cpl. Milton Anthony, sone of Mr. and Mrs. "Chalk" Anthony of Charity avenue has been promoted to the rank of Sergeant at the Burton wood Airport, in England. Sgt. Anthony enlisted in the Air Force in September, 1950 and took basic training at Lackland Air Base, San Antonio, Texas. He completed a 13-week course at Lowry Field, Col., and has been overseas for one year.

McKeldin Sees Renewed Of State Tax Cut

Governor McKeldin believes a proposed cut in State income taxes may be carried beyond this year, State House sources sai dtoday.

Perhaps not as a permanent statute, but by a one-year act similar to that recommended with bipartisan approval by the legislative Council.

The Governor remarked not long ago that a fifteen per cent slice in taxes on 1951 income was the type that could be renewed in future years.

He said he had opposed a year's lapse in the real estate tax because it would probably mean an increase the following year.

The property levy, now 6.25 cents on the $100 brings in a special fund Receipts are set aside for retirement of bonds issues.

Money fro mthe income tax goes into general funds. Revenue forecasters find Maryland will have more tha nenough in its general treasury to operate the State during the fiscal year beginning July 1. That's hy the income tax cut was recommended by Governor McKeldin, J. Millard Tawes, State comptroller, budget officials and the Legislative Council.

The Governor was described as feeling revenue estimates usually are extrmely conservative. Thus he thinks there are grounds for anticipating ample funds from all sources to renew the income tax relief.

McKeldin has not commented directly on the theory behind a proposal to drop the sales tax from gas and electric bills. Richard W. Case, Baltimore attorney and tax expert who headed a commission that surveyed Maryland revenues in 1950, made the suggestion this week It would cost the State about $1,500,000 a year.

Asked abou it Governor McKeldin said merely the method for easing the load on taxpayers already had been "determined" for this year.

The income tax cut, if adopted as expectd by the General Assembly next month, would save taxpayers about $5,000,000.

Pvt. William E .Wooters Training at Camp Chaffee

Pvt. William E. Wooters, 22 son of Mr. and Mrs. Finley Wooters of near town, has completed processing at the 2053d Reception Center at Fort Meade, Md., and is assigned to the 5th Armored Division, Camp Chaffee, Ark., for Army basic training.

He will receive 16 weeks of basic military training necessary for all soldiers. Fundamental military subjects such as close order drill, care of clothing and equipment, first aid, scouting and patrolling, and map reading will be taught.

Individual firing of the M-1 rifle, carbine and light machine gun will be included in the battle indoctrination phase of the training.

Seed Tag Is Is Protection for Buyers

How many weeds are you planning to sow this spring? If you're like most farmers, the answer is "none."

You don't intend to plant any, but you may if you don't take a look at your seed tag. You may be buying eeds along with your crop seed.

J. L. Newcomer, assistant Extension agronomist at the University of Maryland, points out that all seed sold in the State is required by law to be tagged. But that tag won't protect you if you don't read it befor you buy.

For your protection, all lots of seed sold in the state are supposed or some other identification, variety to be tagged, giving the lot number name, the percentage of pure seed, other crop seed, weed seed, inert mateer, germination, date of germination, and the number of noxious seeds per pound.

"The tag alone means nothing, It's what the tag says that counts," Mr. Newcomer says.

Here are some guides from Mr. Newcomer:

"Seed with less than 97 per cent pure seeds is to be cautious about—especially if there are noxious seeds present, or if germination is low.

"Germination should be above the following standards: corn and barley, 90 per cent; wheat and legumes, 80 per cent; rye and grasses 70 per cent.

"In the case of legumes, if there is more than 20 per cent hard seed, look for a lot with less hard seed. Another solution is to have the seed scarified—this will increase the germination. Ten or 15 per cent hard seed is O. K.

"It is risky to buy seed that ha[illegible] not been tested for germinati[illegible] within nine months from the dat[illegible] of sale. As a matter of fact, it is i[illegible] legal for the dealer to sell such se[illegible]

"The seed tag is placed on th[illegible] seed for your protection. Insist on seeing it and read it carefully."

Schools Given Help B yUncle Sam

of a Federal school aid bill, the Government continues to give financial aid to school districts crowded by an influx of military personnel or defense workers.

School districts in virtually all states are so alded.

The bill which Mr. Truman vetoed would merely have made change in existing laws. His action leaves the laws as they have been, and under them the United States Office of Education has about $90,000,000 to divide among abnormally crowded school districts in the year ending next June 30.

Present law provwides two types of aid. One type grants crowded districts funds for maintenance and operation. The other provides money for building new schools or enlarging existing ones.

Such help was provided originally during World War II under a law known as the Lanham Act. The law was designed to assist school districts where facilities were jammed with families of service men or defense workers.

Districts so affected were and are in the vicinity of big training bases, air fields, ship yards, or other defense plants.

Such aid as provided after the war for a few distressed areas where the school load continued heavy as a result of population shifts.

After the present emergency began in 1950 Congress set up a new aid program and provided $31,000,000 of maintenance and operation money, $96,000,000 of construction money.

Dr. Erick L. Lindmann, director of the school assistance program. says 1951 appropriations by Congress provided about $40,000,000 for maintenance and operation contributions and $50,000,000 for construction contributions.

FOR SALE—7-inch Emerson Television set with outside aerial. Good playing condition. Apply to Benny Allen, Wye Mills, Maryland.

Third Part of State Income Tax

In the two previous articles we have dealt with the requirements for filing returns, the ability of residents and non-residents, allowable personal exemptions and definitions of dependents and head of family. In this article, Mr. Tawes continues, the rates of tax and the methods of computation.

Maryland has what is commonly referred to as a "classified income tax," according to Comptroller Tawes. Under the law ,income is segregated into categories of "ordinary income" and "investment income." Ordinary income consists of salaries wages and compensation for personal services, rents (not including ground rents), royalties, and income from trade, business or profession. Briefly stated it includes income from sources when in a certain amount of personal services are spent in its acquisition or production. The rate of tax on ordinary income is two (2) per cent.

Investment income consists of dividends, interest, ground rents and annuities. The rate of tax on investment income is five (5) per cent.

Two methods of computation are available in the law to the ma[illegible] of resident individual taxpayers. The Optional Method of Computation sometimes referred to as the "short form," is available to those wliose income is from salary and wage sources and whe[illegible] income does not ex[illegible] which no more [illegible] dividends, inte[illegible] A tax table is [illegible] and in[illegible] ha[illegible] $10,0[illegible] ment in[illegible] by those eng[illegible] ness, occup[illegible] where expens[illegible] connection t[illegible] so, be used [illegible] submitted [illegible] a year of w[illegible] ed for tax[illegible] state.

Under the reg[illegible] putation it has be[illegible] tofore to itemize all de[illegible] the 1951 Session of the [illegible] Legislature the law was amended to provide an optional standard deduction, Mr. Tawes stated. As a result of this change an objectional feature of this change an objectional feature of the law was removed and taxpayers who are required to use the regular method of computation can now use the optional standard deduction which has been available heretofore to those who were eligible to use the optional method of computation.

The taxpayer can now claim an optional standard deduction of 10 per cent of his gross income but not in excess of $500, or he can itemize his deductions.

Big Hog Show At Wye Mills March 29

Farm boys and girls, both 4-H Club and F. F. A. members, should keep plenty of feed, water, protein and sufficient mineral supplement in front of their pigs in preparation fc rthe Spring Eastern Shore Fat Hog Show on March 29.

This advice comes from County Agent J. W. Eby, who states that to bring to pmarket prices, a barrow should weigh from 190 to 200 pounds.

Each exhibitor in the show and sale, which will be held at the Esskay Buying Station at Wye Mills, may enter as many as six animals. The hogs must arrive at 10 a.m. and will be graded according to the Danish system of awarding prizes on merit rather than placing.

Youngsters planning to enter their animals in the show should notify the county agent's office by March 15.

Comptroller Tawes Defends His Tax Position

J. Millard Tawes, State comptroller, yesterday defended his new position on the question of taking the sales tax off gas and electric bills and said its removal could complicate sales tar administration.

Mr. Tawes was a member of the Tax Survey Commission and signed its report of December, 1950, recommending lifting the tax from sales of gas and electricity—a recommendation revived Monday by Richard W. Case, who had been chairman of the Commisssion .

Yesterday he expressed disapproval of Mr. Case's proposal to use the State surplus to put the recommendation into effect at a cost of about $1,500,000 annually.

He stood by the plan, approved by the Legislative Council, for a fifteen per cent income tax cut instead, effective this year only.

And he said Mr. Case's objection to a "tax on a tax"—the gross repanies are passed on to their conceipts taxes of gas an delectric com sumers—could better be met by eliminating the gross receipts tax on these companies.

(This too, is contrary to the recommendation of the Tax Survey Commission, which proposed higher gross receipts tax rates on all out the smallest of these utilities.)

Mr. Tawes accounted for his removal of thought on these taxes by [illegible] his lack of experience in sales [illegible]nistration at the time the [illegible]n made its recommenda[illegible] [illegible]hanged fiscal conditions. [illegible] the subcommittee that [illegible] articular taxes," he [illegible] I was part of the [illegible] along with its [illegible] not comptroller [illegible]iliar with adminis[illegible]ax law.

[illegible]inistrator of the sales [illegible] don't see how I can go [illegible]th Mr. Case's proposal . . . [illegible]d open up complications and [illegible]for bad administration .

[illegible] we take the tax off gas and [illegible]tric companies, we would be [illegible]criminating against those using [illegible] coal and fuel for heating purposes.

"If we are to overcome the tax [illegible]on a tax, we might consider elimi[illegible]ation of the gross receipts tax on [illegible] and electric cvompanies."

[illegible]minded he had been comptrol[illegible] several months prior to issu[illegible] the commission's report, he [illegible]d:

[illegible]s not familiar with sales-[illegible]ministration at that time . . .

Birth Registration in Maryland near Completion

"More than 99 per cent of the babies born in Maryland now receive a birth certificate according to the findings of a nation-wide survey of birth registration," Dr. R. H. Riley, Director of the State Department of Health, has just announced. "This birth registration test, recently completed by the United States Public Health Service, revealed that Maryland had a rgistration completeness of 99.1 per cent in 1950 as compared with 97.1 per cent in 1940. Many of the unregistered births come to the attention of this Department at the time of school enrollment.

"Much of the increase in the percentage of births registered may be attributed to the hospitals and to physician-attended births.Over a 10 year period—from 1940 to 1950—about 95 per cent of all births in this State are estimated to have been medically attended. Of the medically attended births, approximately 99 per cent were reported .This Department's greatest difficulty lies in obtaining records of births not hospitalized and not attended by a physician or midwfe.

HELP WANTED—FEMALE

NOTICE: Avon Cosmetics has an excellent earning opportunity for women. We have an opening in Queenstown and in Grasonville. Write Mrs. Anita Brayton Avon District Manager, 551 Lebaum St., S. E., Washington, D. C.

Greiner Asked for a Report on Bay Bridge

As a "first step" of its investigation of the adequacy of the design of the Chesapeake Bridge, the State Roads Commission and its advisory council asked the J. E. Greiner Company yesterday for a detailed review of its construction.

The firm has acted as consultants on the project since its inception.

Earlier in the month, Governor McKeldin asked that the inquiry be made by engineers "whose independence as well as competence is beyond question.

Commission and council members conferred with the Governor for about an hour yesterday before announcing that it has asked the Greiner Company for a report.

Dr. Abel Wolman, chairman of the advisory council, explained that it is the usual policy in the engineering professon to call upon [illegible] planner of a project under cr[illegible] or attack to present its report [illegible] other steps are taken.

He said tha tafter the Gre[illegible] port is studied by the comp[illegible] an dits council, it will be de[illegible] ed whether further investiga[illegible] necessary.

If so, he explained, outside [illegible] eers will be called in to hand[illegible]

Dr. Wolman said the comp[illegible] report should be available in [illegible] three or four weeks.

The engineering firm ha[illegible] asked for an overall statem[illegible] detailed report on a numbe[illegible] sign and construction [illegible] which have come under questi[illegible]

The Governor's letter-direct[illegible] Russell M. McCain, chairman of the State Roads Commission, said a "real emergency' 'had been created by recent accidents that had damag[illegible] d the incompleted structure and by rumors that the bridge is too light for safety.

"Within the past week," the J[illegible] ary 2 letter said, "a section of the Chesapeake Bay bridge superstructure as rammed and damaged by a 480-foot section of the bridge which supported by barges was being tow ed into position . . .

"Th eaccident . . . has served to raise anew in the minds of many . . . doubts as to the adequacy of this structure to withstand the elements and the impact from vessels which might be lost in the fog or suffer loss of control.

"These doubts are deepened by the fact that this not the first untoward happening in the course [illegible] the construction which points [illegible] sible insufficiency of the [illegible] plans . . ."

Romancoke and [illegible] Ferry to be Continued

Ferry service across Eastern Bay, between Romancoke and Claiborne, will be continued for a test period of at least three months after the main Chesapeake Bay ferry line between Sandy Point and Matajeake is supplanted by the new Bay Bridge, the State Roads Commission has decided.

Arguments both for and against continuance of the Romancoke-Claiborne ferry have been presented to the Commission. Those who think it should be discontinued point to an estimated operating cost for the next fiscal year of $147,000 against estimated revenues of $20,000.Those who want it continue claim revenue will be appreciably higher and argue further that even if there is a deficit the operation is justified by the convenience to those who usethe ferry.

In submitting its budget for fiscal 1953 the Commission provided a net operating cost of $127,000 for the Romancoke-Claiborne ferry service as a precaution in case it was subsequently decided to keep the service going through the full 12-month period.

Operating records of the ferry system show that cost of operating the Romancoke-Claiborne run has always considerably exceeded its revenue. Profits of the Sandy Point-Matapeake operation, however, have always been sufficient to absorb this subsidiary deficit.