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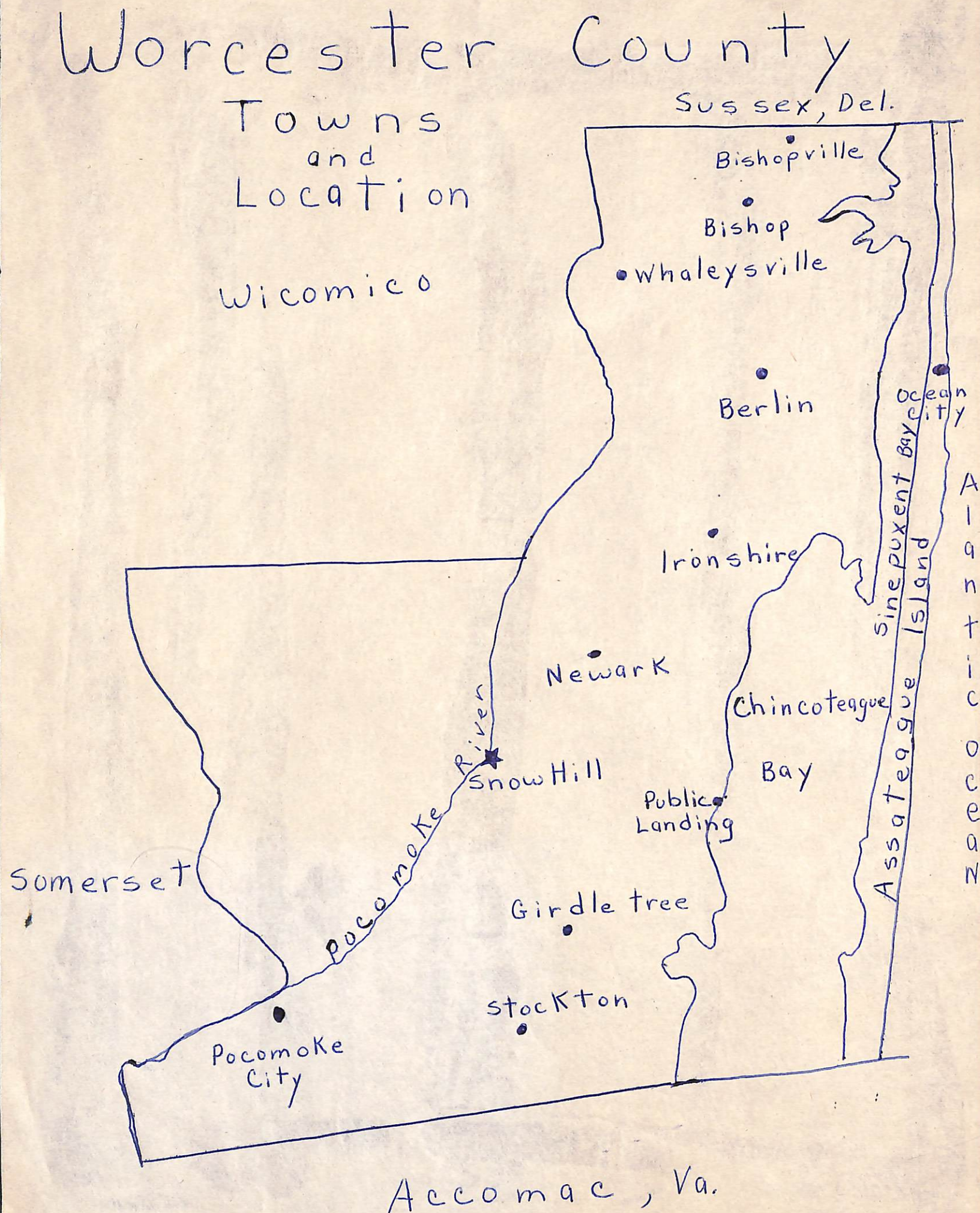
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Prepared by  
Marcia Carey  
and  
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Emanuele



# Worcester County





## Table of Contents

Worcester County Officials  
History of Worcester County  
Historic "Spots" in Worcester County  
Worcester County's Climate, Geography,  
and Ancestry  
Pocomoke River  
Industries  
Population  
Pocomoke City  
Snow Hill  
Berlin  
Ocean City  
Education  
Agriculture  
Famous Men  
Churches  
Early Organizations  
Miscellaneous



# Woman, 78, Is Traveling Adventurer

## *Grace Jones Loves Visiting Faraway Places*

By CINDY FAISON ROBINSON  
Of The Times Staff

**SALISBURY** — Grace Jones of Salisbury has explored ancient ruins in Pakistan and marveled at the lush green beauty of Siberia which many people never see.

"It's not always cold and snowing in Siberia," said Miss Jones, a 78-year-old adventurer who has visited many corners of the world, wherever her love of history and archaeology take her.

"I've always been fascinated with the idea of going to faraway places, to see different parts of the world," she said.

Born in Snow Hill, she studied at Western Maryland College and Pennsylvania State University, before returning to Snow High Hill School to teach for 10 years. She spent another 30 years at the school as librarian.

A six-week tour of Europe taken more than 20 years ago whetted her appetite to see more of the world. "All my life I've wanted to travel," she said.

In 1968, Miss Jones found an unique opportunity which allowed her to combine her love of travel and the desire to work in a public library. She spent three years as a librarian at the Tehran American School in Iran, which was attended mostly by children of military personnel, diplomats and businessmen.

Three years later she returned to Iran to serve as librarian at the Damavand College, a liberal arts school for Iranian girls.

"Those were among the happiest years of my life," Miss Jones said.

**IRAN IN THE** mid '70s was a different country. "I never felt afraid. Americans were well liked," she said.

Miss Jones shopped for produce from merchants running open-air markets on the streets and in modern supermarkets. She enjoyed lectures and plays through the Iranian-American Society, which interpreted Iranian culture for foreigners, and American culture for the Iranian people.

Each year while school was out for the summer, Miss Jones chose a new part of the world to explore. The list of places she has visited is seemingly endless: Spain, Africa, Scandinavia, South America, France, Vienna, the Soviet Union, Poland, India, Pakistan, Greece, the British Isles, Hong Kong, Tokyo, New Zealand, and Burma as well as the United States and Canada — just to name a few.

Her cozy Salisbury home is decorated with treasures from around the world — beautiful brass, tapestries and carvings.

Trips are planned far in advance. Her plans for this year include visiting Lithuania and the Baltic Republics of the USSR. In 1987 Miss Jones will visit Greenland and Iceland.

Among her preparations include reading about the places she'll visit. "I get so much more out of it that way," she said, in addition to learning what the different cultures dictate she should and should not do. In Iran, for example, she had to wear veils to cover her face when she visited some of the holy places.

Since her retirement in 1976, Miss Jones said she has tried to take one major trip a year plus a smaller one. She has lists of many other faraway lands she still hopes to visit someday, in addition to exploring more of her own "backyard," the United States.

Last year she ventured to Alaska and Pakistan.

A Moslem country, the Pakistan culture is strict; alcohol is forbidden and a woman must always be covered in veils and robes that expose only the hands and eyes.

She visited the ruins of a 4,000-year-old city where the two-story homes were made



**VIEWS SLIDE.** Grace Jones of Salisbury looks at one of the 12,000 slides she has taken during her travels throughout the world. She most recently visited Alaska and Pakistan. (Times Photo by Cindy Faison Robinson)

of brick and featured indoor bathrooms with drains running out into the street.

Camel trains were a common sight; the animals are used for transportation of people and goods. The streets were bustling with the activity of outdoor bazaars and storytellers. In the afternoons, the men settled down on cots, which are situated along the streets, to rest, she said.

"I'm interested in seeing as much of the world and other peoples as I can," she said.

Miss Jones enjoys reliving her adventures and sharing her experiences with others through the 12,000 slides she has taken during her travels.

For the last decade, Miss Jones has helped to bring the world to the Eastern Shore through the Armchair Travel Series at the Worcester County Library.

Ten years ago, Miss Jones was asked to talk about her experiences in Iran, and ended up giving several talks about her travels. The program, since expanded to include well-traveled speakers from throughout the Shore, continues to be a great success today, Miss Jones said.

Traveling "has opened the world up to me. When I see in the papers and on TV places I've been, I care so much more about the people," she said.

Her distant travels have also helped her to realize more than ever how she loves her own country.

"People don't realize how much freedom we have here. We are allowed to lead our lives freely," she said. "Our freedoms are truly a blessing."



By LEE MITGANG  
AP Education Writer

NEW BRUNSWICK, N.J. (AP) — Most cowboys were lousy shots. The streets of New York were meaner than the dusty paths of Dodge City. And "heroic" Wild Bill Hickok was fired for incompetence as marshal of Abilene.

Sorry, pard'ners, but Rutgers University history professor William Gillette is aiming to shoot down time-honored, Hollywood-bred myths of the Wild West.

His class, "Cowboys and Indians," has grown into the most popular history course on campus since Gillette first offered it six years ago, despite its unenticing hour of 7-9:30 p.m. Tuesdays.

On a recent rainy evening, hardly a seat was empty in the 300-seat auditorium as Gillette strode to the podium, dressed in a red checkered shirt, blue jeans with a thick leather belt, and what has become his trademark: a straw cowboy hat.

As an added touch of atmosphere, he hung up a 19th cen-

tury ad for Levi's Saddleman Boots and Jeans, and began his lecture on cattle towns and the decline of the open-range cattle industry during the 1880s.

Gillette, a graying 52-year-old Connecticut native and Civil War historian, says his love affair with the West dates back to the 1950s when he spent his summer breaks from graduate school picking peas in Washington.

His weekly lectures are deliberately witty and iconoclastic, followed always by a classic western film. But Gillette insists that "Cowboys and Indians" is "serious, revisionist history."

He assigns his students western novels with a ring of authenticity, like *The Ox-Bow Incident*, *The Big Sky*, and *Tsali*.

"It must be said in all candor that the history of the West has had its problems. It has been concerned more with stereotypes than with accuracy," Gillette said.

The Wild West, Gillette says, just wasn't that wild.

Other historians have tried to set students straight on western

myths and realities: in the late Ray Bill Northwestern Unive Howard Lamar at Y eastern campuses esp scholarship hasn't seriously enough, Gillette

"We have a conce West that Hollywood on us," he said.

Movies and televisi old cow towns that gi the Civil War as viol less. In fact, "the We peaceful. The extent was exaggerated. P lock their houses. Can that in 20th Century A

A recent lecture on and cattle towns exam of saloons and brothels

Western saloons, w ranged from the ir Church" to the mo "Road to Hell," "message centers," o Gillette told his stud cattlemen drank them got into lying contests contests, listened to pander and preachers

## LIFESTYLE TODAY

### Modern Inconvenience

Today's young women are in more of a trick box than they realize. They know that they have to prepare for a smashing career, marry and raise a family, and learn how to handle making more money than their husbands do.

That's the easy part.

What they don't know is that their advanced degrees in communications or business administration or interior design are going to be totally inadequate. They'll need at least three more degrees if they're going to function in today's world, even if they opt to stay home and let their husbands take care of the money angle. The degrees they'll need are in mechanical engineering, electronic engineering, and civil engineering.

Changing a light bulb used to be a simple matter. The hardest part was remembering to get replacement bulbs. Now changing a light bulb can consume days of frustration and failure.

I have a perfectly marvelous microwave oven over my stove. Part of that microwave complex is the ventilating fan and stove light. I am the old-fashioned kind of cook who needs to see what I'm cooking. As my kitchen has no window for light or ventilation, I need the microwave oven complex to do my cooking.

There are two bulbs in the thing. One of them is usually burned out. In order to change the bulb I need to find a Phillips head screwdriver, undo 17 screws, somehow keep track of them, then get an appliance bulb to replace the one that burned out. After that's done, which usually takes half a day, I have to put the whole thing back together again.

That's when I need a degree in mechanical engineering.

Personal computers have

Nancy  
Clark



become as much a necessity in most homes as butter churns used to be. I understand it won't be long before women never have to leave home to do their shopping. They'll just turn on their computers and punch in what they want to buy. That is, they'll punch it in if they can ever figure out how to make the thing cooperate.

"User friendly" manuals for home computers simply don't exist. At least, they're not at all friendly to someone who has a liberal arts degree. I can envision my whole family going around in ragged clothing and starving to death while I scratch my head, trying to figure out how to get my computer to order clothes and food.

That's where an electronic engineering degree would come in handy, or at least a concentrated course in computer programming.

Even such mundane household appliances as toasters come with manuals that are incomprehensible to the average educated person. It's no longer necessary to watch the toast to keep it from burning, but getting the toaster installed on the bottom of the kitchen cabinet is something only a factory representative can do.

Frankly, I need help in learning to handle all these modern conveniences. I think I'll suggest that my daughters start college all over again so they can show me how to live the easy life.



Hugh Mohler, left, p  
\$5,600 to Arthur G  
Eastern Shore for th



Almost 1 of eve  
ever American  
them, with muc  
You and its sp  
come with a  
mation about s  
You is the be  
people can in



This scrapbook is  
dedicated to

Mrs. Louise Littleton,  
our Core Teacher  
and

Miss Grace Jones,  
our librarian



## Worcester County's Officials

The highest group in Worcester County is the County Commissioners. But other officials are needed to help keep our county running smoothly.

Office County Commissioners	Term 4 years	Names of Officials Mr. Preston Jones Mr. Joseph Harrison Mr. Ray Redden
Circuit Court Judges	15 years	Mr. E. McMaster Dore Mr. Lared Henry Mr. Rex Taylor
Clerk of Court	4 years	Mr. Frank Hales
Juvenile Officer		Mr. G. E. Dryden
Trial Magistrates	2 years	Snow Hill - Handy Truitt Pocomoke - Solomon Small Ocean City - James Robbins Berlin - Granville Cropper At large - Paul Davis
Members of the Orphan's Court	4 years	Mr. William Thomas Mr. Charles Pilchard Mr. W. Harris
Register of Wills	4 years	Mrs. Kathryn Corddry
County Treasurer	4 years	Mr. John Stevens
State's Attorney	4 years	Mr. Daniel Prettyman



Worcester's Officials continued;

Office	Term	Names of Officials
Sheriff	4 years	Mr. Edwin Lynch
County Election Board	2 years	Mr. Carl Phillips Mr. Earl Timmons Mr. Joseph Murphy
Probation Officer		Mr. Ewell Dryden
Tax Assessor		Mr. Archie Hardesty
County Health Doctor		Dr. F. S. Waesche
County Coroner		Dr. Sartorius
County Highway Engineer	4 years	Mr. James Small
Board of Education	6 years	Mr. Elton W. Parsons Mr. Willard Evans Mrs. Elizabeth Brown
Mayors		Snow Hill - Herman Adkins Ocean City - Pocomoke - Berlin - Robert Phillips



## Boundary In Dispute For Years; Chincoteague Once

### Considered Part of Maryland Territory

**Debate resulted in land being awarded to Virginia in 1668 — Residents of two states today are friendly neighbors.**

By ELMER M. JACKSON, Jr., Publisher  
The Worcester Democrat

One of the most vexing questions of early Maryland history was the boundary line between our province and Virginia on the Eastern Shore — the southernmost part of the state. The area where Pocomoke City stands was claimed by both states.

Since the early settlers of this section of Maryland came into the state from Virginia in quest of greater religious freedom, it is easy to understand how Virginia resented the loss of some of its best people to Lord Baltimore's province.

The first settlers in the counties of that they still lived in Virginia and Worcester, Wicomico and Somerset, they would not renounce Lord Baltimore's province.

Those who left Virginia's Eastern Shore settled along the Annemessex and Manokin rivers. Princess Anne now is located at the head of the Manokin River.

Most of those settling at Annemessex were Quakers and their sympathizers. Manokin was settled by the Church of England men and women. Both settlements lived in peace around Indian tribes.

After these settlers had deserted Virginia and moved into Maryland, the government of Virginia's Eastern Shore sought to bring them back into Virginia by declaring that the Virginia boundary was 30 miles north of its actual location, or to the banks of the Wisconsin River. Lord Baltimore resisted this move but the boundary dispute was so severe that Virginians organized a company aimed at the submission of their ex-residents.

In October, 1663, a colony of Virginians on horseback, and horses were real luxuries in those days because most travel was by boat or by slow oxen pulling heavy carts with solid spoked wheels, invaded Maryland for the purpose of assaulting the people of Annemessex and Manokin.

Forty horsemen strong, the Virginians rode Annemessex, which was the first settlement in the area, and ordered the Quakers to submit to Virginia rule. They demanded that the Quakers agree to all of Virginia's claims and laws.

The Quakers quickly resisted and asked to be left alone. Despite dire threats the Quakers refused to agree

governor of Virginia, as the result of a personal call from Charles Calvert, governor of Maryland. Even so administering the government of the Eastern Shore of Virginia kept an eagle eye on the Pocomoke area and planned to grab it.

Governor Berkeley told Governor Calvert that the invasion of Maryland had been made without his approval. However, there is no indication that the invasion on horseback, ever was punished. In fact, the colonial continuing for four years after this raid into Maryland territory.

On June 23, 1668, Col. Scarborough for Virginia, and Phillip Calvert for Maryland, met and the boundary as we know it now was agreed upon. The agreement reached established the Chesapeake Bay side as Maryland always had claimed. But on the sea-side the boundary was moved north giving Virginia 23 square miles of Maryland territory.

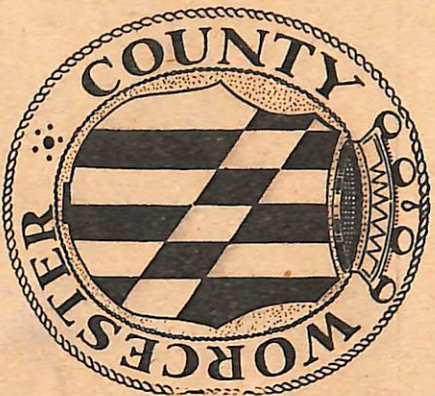
This big area, now part of Accomack County, Va., lies south of Pocomoke City toward Chincoteague. It is Virginia territory only because Col. Scarborough was so persistent in his demands.

Actually Calvert deliberately may have made a concession in order to bring peace to the people of the area. We all know that since the dispute was settled the good people of this section of Maryland and Virginia have lived together as friends and neighbors, and today, except for government, the border is only a mythical line.

As far as can be learned none of the Annemessex or Manokin men ever left Maryland and returned to Virginia. However, as time marched on the residents of the Eastern Shore, whether Marylanders or Virginians, became closer and closer in business and social relations, and today, the very fact they are Eastern Shoremen is sufficient to create a bond of understanding and affection between the people living on both sides of the boundary lines.

Delaware also grabbed a piece of Maryland land in a dispute. An extensive area in the southeastern part of Sussex County, Del., was once considered a part of Worcester Parish in Worcester County.

The lower part of Maryland's Eastern Shore was settled early mainly because the Virginia Assembly in 1660 termed Quakers "an unreasonable and turbulent sort of people," and a law against them was passed. This hastened their departure from



**COUNTY SEAL** — In the Colonial Days of Worcester County, shortly after the county was named in 1742, the above pictured county seal was used by the County Court, which acted then as the Commissioners and Circuit Court of today function. The seal was an impression made upon a piece of paper that covered wafers of sealing wax, and was used on all legal documents of that time. Just when use of this seal was discontinued is not clear. The above seal was copied from a document dated 1764, found in the files of the Hall of Records, Annapolis, Md.

Virginia and arrival in Maryland in an area that Lord Baltimore was anxious to have settled.

Actually it was on November 6, 1661, that Phillip Calvert gave his approval to their settlement in Maryland and use of land south of the Nanticoke River.

Col. Scarborough and the Virginians who attempted to subdue the Quakers by invading Maryland resented the fact that the Quakers had renounced their allegiance to Virginia, that they had escaped from Virginia law, and it is possible too, that there was some annoyance shown in Virginia over the unlimited freedom of religion and general activity that Lord Baltimore allowed his settlers.

Here was a privilege not to be taken lightly. Here was a policy that spread slowly to the other Colonies. Maryland undoubtedly was a sanctuary for the oppressed.

The men who settled in Somerset in 1661 had the right of the free exercise of conscience in religious matters even though they were religious rebels, or non-conformists, and the extreme of Protestantism.



## The History of Worcester County

Worcester County had its beginning in old Somerset. In 1742 it was carved out of the eastern part of Somerset County, at the house of David Murray in Snow Hill.

Worcester County was the last Eastern Shore county to be settled in large numbers, although Caroline and Wicomico Counties followed in date. The reason for this was because of the county's isolation and the unfriendly treatment of the Indians by the settlers.

The first court house stood between Dividing Creek and Pocomoke City at a place known as "Court House Hill." Later the court house was moved to Snow Hill, because of its more central location in the new county.

The boundaries of Worcester County are the same as in 1742, except for Accomac County, Virginia which was taken from southern Worcester and Wicomico County which was carved out of the western part of Worcester in 1867.



## Worcester County's Name Perpetuates Memory of English Who Hacked Homes Out Out of the Wilderness in Pioneer Days

### COUNTY NAMED IN JUNE 1672; AGAIN IN 1742

it boasts a magnificent grandstand view of breeze-sparked Chincoteague Bay, an enormous body of salt water stocked with seafood.

Tucked in the interior of the county overlooking the Pocomoke River, is pleasant Snow Hill, the headquarters of local government: its name only becomes the more incongruous when the surrounding landscape is observed as being

flat as a pancake.

To make a long story short, the name itself was inherited from a 500-acre tract of land acquired in the locality in 1678 by Henry Bishop for 15,000 pounds of tobacco and, in turn, taken from a section of old London.

When it comes to explaining how the Worcester name was adopted, some research is demanded of the

period during which boundaries were clouded by dubious claims and counter claims between rival proprietors.

One has to go back to the seventeenth century when Delaware, successively occupied by the Swedes, the Dutch and then by the Duke of York as an outright gift from his brother Charles II, following Peter Stuyvesant's reluctant surrender of New Amsterdam in 1665, was long regarded a part of Maryland by the Lords Proprietor. Perhaps wishing to add weight to his claims, Lord Baltimore order-

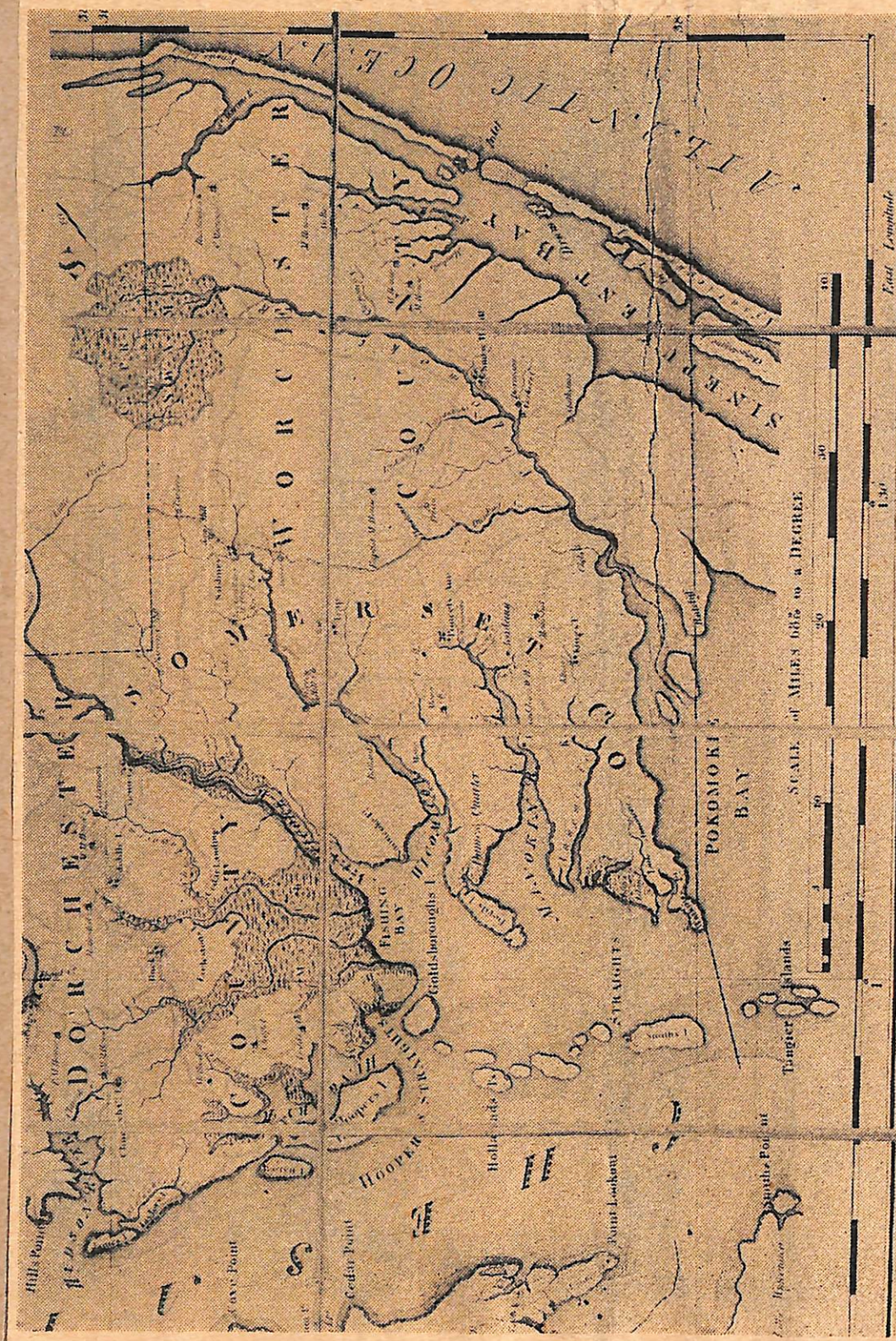
ed the Provincial Council, in a directive dated July, 1669, to erect two counties in what is now Delaware — the area under dispute between himself and the Duke, the same having not yet been leased under a grant to William Penn.

In pursuance to his wishes, Durham and Worcester Counties were set up in October, 1669 and June, 1672, respectively. Matters swiftly came to a head when Baltimore's hotly questioned claim to Delaware was thrown to the Privy Council in London for adjudication. Meanwhile the Duke of York had assumed the throne as James II, thus putting the judicial body in a most embarrassing position as it was by all circumstances, more or less, obligated to rule in favor of the King. Baltimore's worst fears were confirmed when the council handed down a ruling in 1685 to the effect that the disputed territory, now assigned to William Penn under a lease from the monarch, belonged to the crown, leaving Maryland less territory.

As if put under wraps for future uses, the Worcester name was dusted off in 1742 and given to a new county lifted out of Somerset in that year upon the petition of local inhabitants. Larger than now the reborn entity exercised jurisdiction over a considerable part of lower Sussex County, Delaware, until 1767 when the boundary line was adjusted in a friendly settlement between Maryland and Delaware.

The Worcester name, among the oldest in England, is prominently identified with the Calvert genealogy. One of the most outstanding bearers of the name was Edward Somerset (1553-1628), fourth earl of Worcester and a notable Catholic leader. He was friend of three sovereigns—Elizabeth, James I and Charles I, all of whom showered him with offices and appointments.

Far from being mere geographical fixtures, the names of the Eastern Shore counties perpetuate the memory of the English who hacked a homeland out of the wilderness and their friendly Indian allies, both of whom did much to contribute to the romantic lore of the peninsula of today—an ideal place to live and to enjoy life.



MAP OF 1794 — The above map is a portion of Griffith's Map of Maryland, published in 1794 showing the lower Chesapeake Bay and the southern Eastern Shore region. While Snow Hill is vividly recorded as a city of some size, Pocomoke City, then Newtown, is omitted. Several locations are marked as M. House, obviously meaning Meeting House, and probably the sites of some of the Rev. Francis Makemie's early churches. As indicated by the narrow lines, shown faintly, a sort of road system had been set up at this early date.

—Photo Courtesy Maryland Historical Society.



Worcester County's  
Counthouse in 1865



EDMUND WILLL

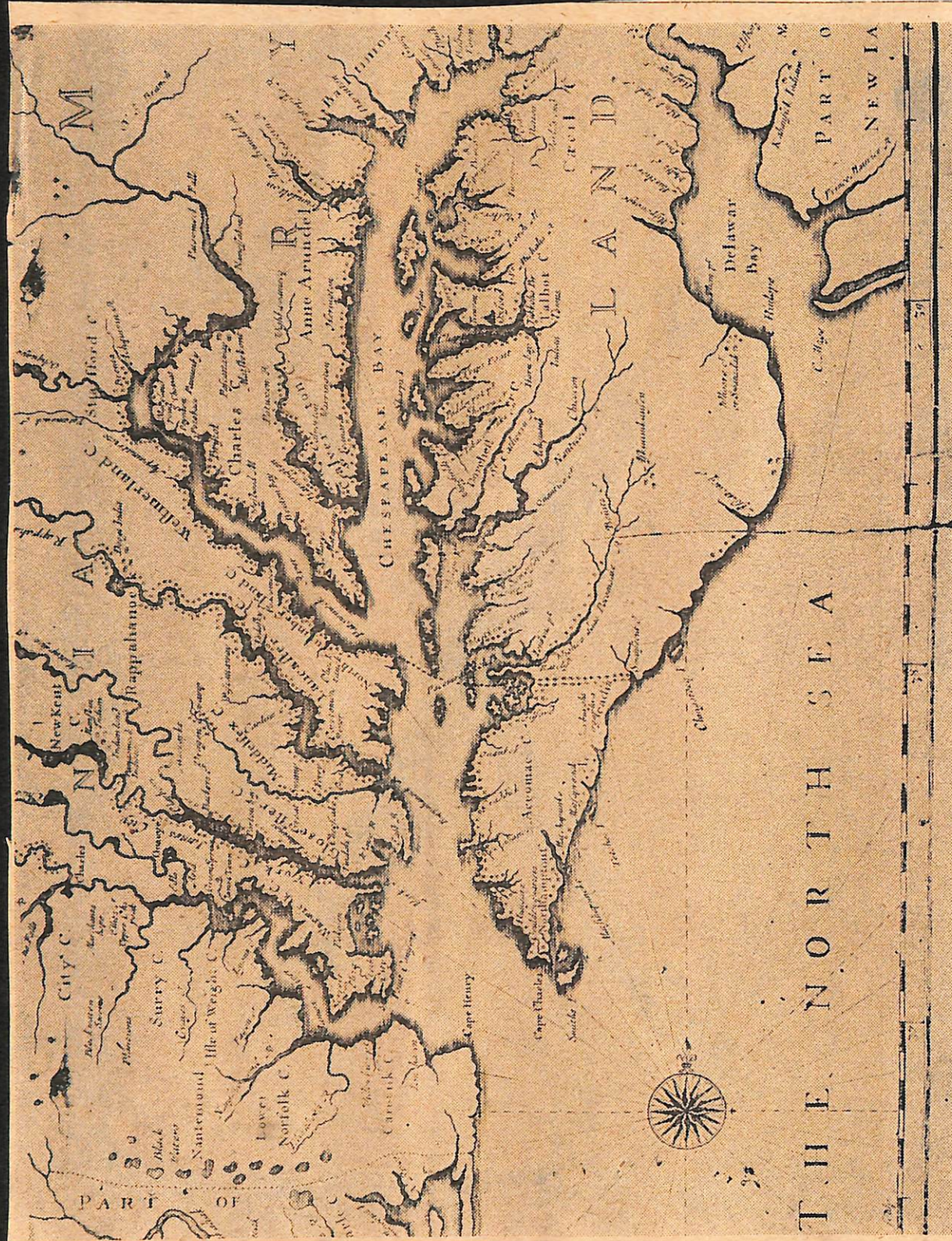
dedicated to the citizens of  
Worcester County, Mass. by the first Regiment U. S. Army, 1865.



COUNT HOUSE

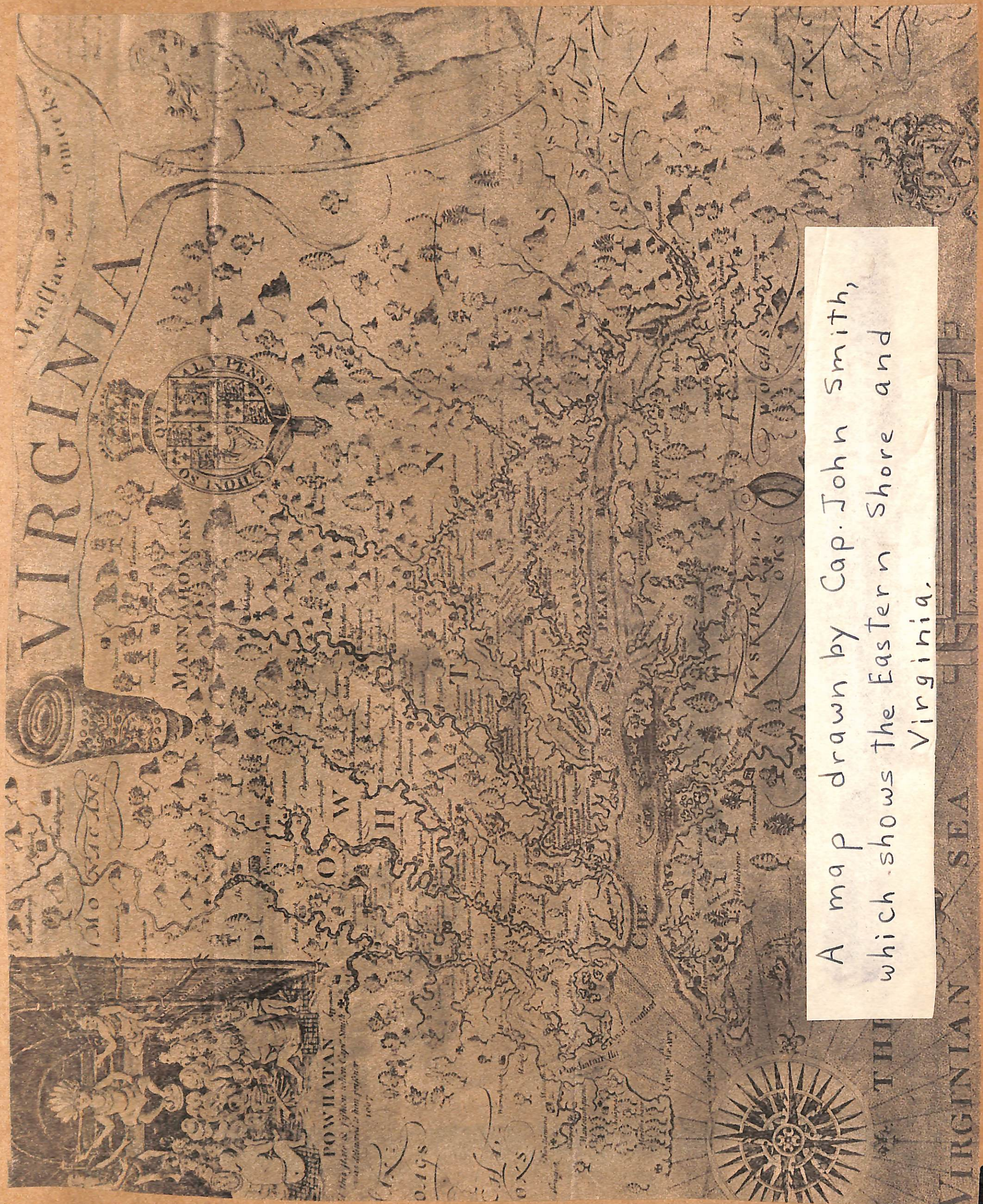
Worcester County, Mass. Office  
of the Sheriff, 1865.





MAP OF 1656 — This is how the Eastern Shore looked to an explorer during the pioneer days of the colony of Maryland. Pictured is a portion of a map of Virginia and Maryland published by Basset and Chiswell, London, about 1656. —Photo Courtesy Md. Hist. Society.





A map drawn by Cap. John Smith,  
which shows the Eastern Shore and  
Virginia.



## Historic "Spots" in Worcester County

### 1. All Hallows Episcopal Church

This church was founded in 1749. The Bible and bell for this church were given by Queen Anne. The bricks used to build this church also came from England. The ivy which almost covers the church was brought from Kenilworth Castle, Scotland, England. This church is located on the corner of Market Street and Church street in Snow Hill.

### 2. Makemie Presbyterian Church

This church was founded in 1683 by Rev. Francis Makemie. It is claimed to be the second oldest Presbyterian church in America. Lieutenant Handy an aide to George Washington is buried in the church's cemetery.

### 3. Monument to Stephen Decatur

This monument was erected south-east of Berlin in honor of a famous naval hero, Stephen Decatur, born near Berlin.

### 4. Iron Furnace

This furnace which is in ruins today was active once. It was founded in 1832 by Judge Thomas Spence. It didn't last very long because of the poor grade iron ore it was producing. In 1847 it went bankrupt and stopped. The story entitled "The Entailed Hat" written by is about this old furnace.

### 5. The Forest

This is a mansion which was built by Mr. Frank Warren. It is very spacious and unusual. The walls of this home are made to represent the bark of trees which gives it its name.



## Worcester County's

### Climate, Geography, and Population

Worcester County is located in the state of Maryland and is the only county in Maryland that borders the Atlantic Ocean. In area, Worcester County has a total of 589 square miles. Of this total, 483 square miles is land, while the remaining 106 square is water. It's bounded by Wicomico and Somerset Counties on the west; Accomac County, Virginia on the south; the Atlantic Ocean and the Chincoteague Bay on the east; and Sussex County, Delaware on the north.

Worcester County contains people of mainly English descent. People came here from Accomac, Virginia, because of the freedom of religion in Maryland. Because of its isolation, Worcester County has been little affected by immigration. The exact date of the first settlement is not known, but it has been figured back to about 1620.

People of different races, colors, and creeds have found their way here and established towns. The four main

Continued



## Worcester County's Climate-continued

Towns of Worcester County are the county seat and a very quiet, little town, Snow Hill; the fastest growing city in Maryland, Pocomoke; the famous summer resort, Ocean City, and a medium-sized town, Berlin.

The geography of Worcester County reveals it to be a rather low region. The highest elevation in the County is 45 feet at Berlin; the lowest elevation is at Ocean City at 5 feet.

The Pocomoke River is the only large river in Worcester County. Its source is in the Great Cypress Swamp near the Maryland and Delaware line. Other rivers and bays include the Chincoteague Bay, the Sinepuxent Bay, The St. Martin's River, and the Assawoman Bay. These bays are really one continuous body of water located between the mainland and the islands of Fenwick, Assateague, and Chincoteague.

Worcester County has a generally mild climate. The average rainfall is about 40 inches annually. The driest year this has had produced about 33 inches of rainfall.

Continued



## Worcester County's Climate - continued

Winds coming in over the Atlantic Ocean, bring most of our rain. While during the summer winds coming from the south bring us frequent hurricanes. Heavy fogs provide us with moisture during the fall and spring. The growing season is about 202 days.

Worcester County is a typical American county with its variety of people, industries, recreation, government, and with its share of problems.



# PEACEFUL INDIANS, HARDY SETTLERS LIVED ALONG BEAUTIFUL POCOMOKE BANKS

## Old News Clippings Describe Early Colonial Life, Customs of First Inhabitants of Area

(NOTE: In an early newspaper printed in Pocomoke City, the following article was printed. Both the name of the paper and the date are not in evidence on the clipping furnished to the Worcester Democrat in 1922 by the late Mrs. Annie E. Bevans. However, the date can be estimated about 75 years ago or during the 1800's)

The Pocomoke River has the distinction of being the only stream in Maryland whose waters are shaded by cypress trees and tinged with the color of their roots. The name is said to signify, in the Indian dialect, "dark waters." More than any other Maryland river it is a typical southern stream. At its mouth, broad, green marshes stretch away on either side — the feeding place of innumerable wild fowl and valuable for the crops of salt hay grown thereon.

Farther up, the river narrows by year until, large around as a cartwheel, it is visible far up and down the river, the more so that a tree dies after the hawks nest in it. Here and there on a sandy point a blue heron stands, patiently waiting for his prey, or startled, flies off, his long legs dangling behind him. All along farmhouses, with lawns sloping to the water, with a boat or two drawn up on the bank, look very much as they did a hundred years ago.

### Moss-Covered Cypress

The cypress trees love to wade out in the shallow water up to their knees, as the curiously buttressed roots are called, and water lilies, known as "spatterdocks" or "tuckahoes" to the country people, grow thickly around them, bowing and waving in the ripples. Very often the cypress boughs are covered with green pendant moss from 12 to 18 inches long.

The fishhawk builds his nest in a tall tree and adds to it year

### Indian Settlements

There were, at least, two permanent Indian settlements on the Pocomoke — one at Shelldown, not far from the mouth, where Smith

obtained his "puddle water" in 1608, the other above Snow Hill, still called Indiantown.

Its Indian name was Askimikons, and there was the royal residence of the Werowance, Wyanico. On Herman's map (1670) it appears a place of some size and built on both sides of the river.

The Indians of this region were of Algonquin stock and belonged to the tribe of the Lenni-Lenapes which signified "manly man." They were fishing Indians and much less cruel and warlike than the hunting tribes of the north and west.

The Eastern Shore Indians were not given to scalping and torturing their enemies. They had many permanent homes in the Peninsula, and from the Sassafras river to the Pocomoke still remain great deposits of oyster shells from 10 to 15 feet in thickness, marking the sites of their villages.

They had no intoxicating drink and were at first, much averse to the use of "fire water", though afterward drunkenness became a prevalent vice.

### Indians Lingered

Some of these Indians lingered long on the Eastern Shore. In 1756 reports came to Maryland that Lancaster, Pa., had been burned by the French and Indians. Robert

and John Henry went to Indiantown, where a remnant of the Nanticoke tribe still lived, to summon their chief men to Snow Hill for conference. The committee reported 120 souls, men, women and children.

Efforts were made to persuade them to leave the State, and supplies were offered for the journey to New York, where some of the tribe had previously joined the Shawnees at Binghamton, but they answered with one voice that they were born here and here they would die. Finally, however, they went thither.

### A Department Store

In 1691 county records have an account of the stock of Mr. John Dorman, merchant of Snow Hill town, mentioning "ironware, hoes, axes, stirrup leathers, linens, stuffs, silk, serges, hats, haberdashery wares and hoods" — quite a varied assortment, doubtless brought from London and up the Pocomoke in vessels of small tonnage.

The first place of worship built in Snow Hill was built of wood on the river bank and was, of course, an English church. There is no mention of a church building until 1694, but long before services were held in private houses by Revs. M. Teackle of Accomac and Mr. Hewitt, of Shipley, who bought land on the Wicomico and ministered in the county as early as 1686. Both of these clergymen have descendants living in the State.

### Parish Roads

In 1896 county records show payment made laborers for "mending

the causeway in the mesh opposite Snow Hill Landing." At this time order was given that all roads leading to parish churches should be marked with three notches cut in the trees on sides of the route. People were beginning to use roads instead of the river.

One year later the Sheriff of Somerset county reported in answer to demand of the Governor for statistics of the churches in the counties: "Here are neither papist priests nor lay brothers nor any chapels."

"As to the Quakers and other dissenters, to the first, none that I know of. The others have a house at Snow Hill, one at Manokin and one on the road to seaside, built 30 feet long, all plain country buildings."

The Quakers had probably gone northward to join Penn's colony at Philadelphia, as George Fox, in 1672, had preached to large crowds and in his journal speaks of many friends settled at Manokin and Anamesex and "glorious meetings on the Wicomico."

### A Rehebooth Church

The dissenting churches mentioned were Presbyterian. The one at Rehoboth is claimed to be the first built by that denomination in America. Many Scotch and Scotch-Irish families settled in this region between 1649 and 1745.

Taxes, salaries, etc., were all paid in tobacco, then the crop of the country; now none is cultivated in the whole section.

A polltax of 40 pounds of tobacco per annum was assessed for the support of the established

church. If there was no resident minister, the tax to be applied to church building or repairs.

This tax was much complained of by the Presbyterians in the county.

### No Large Cities

The Pocomoke through all these changes and chances keeps its course through its cypress-shaded banks. No large cities have grown up upon its shores, but flourishing towns and villages and comfortable farmhouses send each year many bright young men to swell the ranks of the business-men in the great cities.

The farms are fertile, the orchards teem with fruit and the waters of the river have still almost as many fish as when Capt. John Smith and his exploring party reported that they might be caught up with a frying pan.

Instead of tobacco, wheat, corn, white and sweet potatoes, fruits and vegetables of all kinds, repay the labor of the farmers and sent by sailing vessels or steamboats to the markets.

The dark waters of the Pocomoke bear many vessels of all kinds to and fro — steamboats with freight and passengers, lumber boats for the boat-building yards or the great planing mills, sloops and fishing smacks make a busy procession during the whole year.

—F.M.B.



# Pocomoke River

## Pocomoke River

There are nineteen navigable rivers on the Eastern Shore, but our own Pocomoke is the most unusual. The Pocomoke River is tropical-looking because of the thick growth along the shores and has hardly any banks at all. The color of the water is possibly due to the cypress trees along the shores. The Pocomoke River resembles Dismal Swamp, which starts in Delaware.

This river has two nicknames. According to the Indians, Pocomoke means "muddy waters," thus one nickname is "muddy" or "great waters." Because the first Presbyterian churches in America were built along its banks, it was also given the nickname "Gateway to Presbyterianism."

The Pocomoke River is a dividing line for northern and southern flora (plants) and fauna (animals) life. Another interesting fact is that this is not the deepest river in the United States for its width as many Eastern Shoremen commonly believe.

The source of the Pocomoke is in lower Delaware. The river is navigable from Snow Hill to Pocomoke Sound, a distance of about twenty-five miles. The width is from 300 to 350 feet in some places. The length is about 20 miles.

continued



Pocomoke River continued:

The Pocomoke River was first explored in 1608 by John Smith and his crew. In April, 1635, the first naval battle between white men in what is now the United States was fought over Kent Island by Lord Baltimore and William Claiborne. Lord Baltimore's ships St. Margaret and St. Helen won over Claiborne's Cockatrice.

In the early days of what is now Worcester County, this river was the chief means of transportation. Before the days of the steam boat, the now out-of-date schooner was used. In 1868, the Eastern Shore Steamboat Company was organized by Harlan and Hollingworth of Wilmington, Delaware. This company's first boat was Highland Light. The shipyard of Snow Hill turned out only one boat the Eureka.

Some of the other boats used in the next fifty years were the Sue, the Massachusetts, the Maggie, the Eastern Shore, the Eureka, and the Maryland.

The Pocomoke River has served and is still serving the towns along its banks through transportation and its beauty.



# Industries

## The Manufacturing Industry of Worcester County

Although noted primarily as a farming community, Worcester County has an interesting and highly diversified manufacturing industry. According to the latest information obtainable (September 1953), the county had 75 industrial establishments distributed among 19 separate industry classifications. The average number of manufacturing employees for the year ending September 30, 1953 was 2,416; the aggregate volume of industrial payrolls amounted to \$4,717,719; the gross value of the production was roughly estimated at more than \$20,000,000.

Based upon the average level employment for the year ending (September 30, 1953) the meat products industry, consisting primarily of

continued



# BIRDS EYE PLANT AT POCOMOKE CITY IS ONE OF WORLD'S BEST, LARGEST

## Poultry Plant In This Site For Many Years

One of Pocomoke City's largest industries is the Birds Eye poultry processing plant on Clarke Avenue Extended — a part of this community for many years.

It was in 1942 that the plant, formerly known as Southern Maryland Farms, was purchased by the Birds Eye unit of the General Foods Corporation.

### Once Dressing Plant

Thirteen years ago it was a dressing plant and did not freeze poultry. The largest part of the industry's production came during World War II, consigned to the armed forces, for which the plant was awarded the "A" Award of the Department of Agriculture.

General Foods received a priority from the War Production Board in 1945 to expand the Pocomoke City firm by constructing a modern poultry freezing plant. Designed by the company's engineers, including special forced ventilation, fluorescent lighting and rounded ceiling edges for cleanliness.

At that time the original plant was converted to a feeding station.

### Demand Increased

When the expansion was completed in 1946 the plant had a capacity of processing 20,000 chickens per day. Rapid growth in consumer acceptance of frozen poultry soon overtaxed that capacity and, in 1947, a second shift was added.

Further expansion projects were undertaken by the Birds Eye plant in 1949 and in 1953. Additional feeding station space, was added with these enlargements.

Today the plant's production capacity is more than 60,000 chickens, and is one of the two largest poultry freezing plants on the Delmarva Peninsula — one of the largest in the world.

The plant has four processing lines, 52,205 square feet of area in the feeding station, 4,3025 square feet of area in the main plant and accommodations for 122,000 chickens in the feeding station.

### Broiler Area

Since Pocomoke City is located geographically in the center of the largest commercial growing broiler area in the world, it was a natural place for such an industry to spring up.

In the early 1930's, all frying chickens sold were by-products

of the egg business. Chickens were raised for the main purpose of laying eggs, not for meat production.

The Southern Maryland Farms began as a dressing plant here in the early 1930's, about 1933. After Birds Eye took over the plant in 1942, the name was changed to Birds Eye - Snyder, Inc., Southern Farms Division. In 1946 the name became Birds Eye Division, General Foods Corporation.

Present manager of the plant is R. E. Breedlove, who came here in September, 1953.

### Silver Anniversary

Last year the Birds Eye plants all over the country observed the 25th anniversary of the industry which began with the experimenting of Clarence Birdseye, a New England scientist, in the freezing of food during a fur trapping expedition in Labrador.



A Stockton saw mill



### Industries-continued

poultry Killing and dressing was by far the largest division of manufacturing in Worcester County. It was followed in order by canning and preserving, saw-mills, men's and boys' apparel, millwork, lithographing (business forms), fertilizers, logging camps, and wooden containers. Other lines of manufacturing carried on in the county include ice cream, hoisery, newspaper and job printing and publishing. Winter wheat is rapidly decreasing in value as are peach and apple orchards.



Summary of Manufacturing Operation in Worcester County Year Ending September 30, 1953.

Industry	No. of Reporting Units	Average Employment	Total Payroll Disbursements
1. Farms	1,389		
2. Meat Products chiefly poultry	7	1,093	\$2,383,015
3. Canning + Preserving	14	383	569,661
4. Sawmills	18	339	577,471
5. Men's and Boys' Apparel	4	240	378,856
6. Logging Camps	8	54	70,265
7. Wooden Containers	3	42	88,751
8. Misc. Food Products	3	16	25,343
9. All other Products	14	235	574,906
Total Industries	75	2,416	4,717,719

Submitted by  
Mary Gordy







# Population of Main Worcester County Towns

Pocomoke								
Snow Hill								
Berlin								
Ocean City								
	1,000	1,500	2,000	2,500	3,000	3,500		



# Population

## Population

Most Worcester Countians are of English descent, who came around 1658. One-hundred years later the Acadians came to Worcester County. Quakers also came for religious rights, while settlers from nearby Virginia came for the same reason. Others settled in what is now Worcester County because of the desire for adventure.

Foreign immigration has had little influence on life in Worcester County. For this reason Worcester County has remained almost solidly English.

One rather outstanding trait of the people of this Eastern Shore County is tradition and their interest in the past. We have a rather amusing trait in this County which is our knowledge of our neighbors.

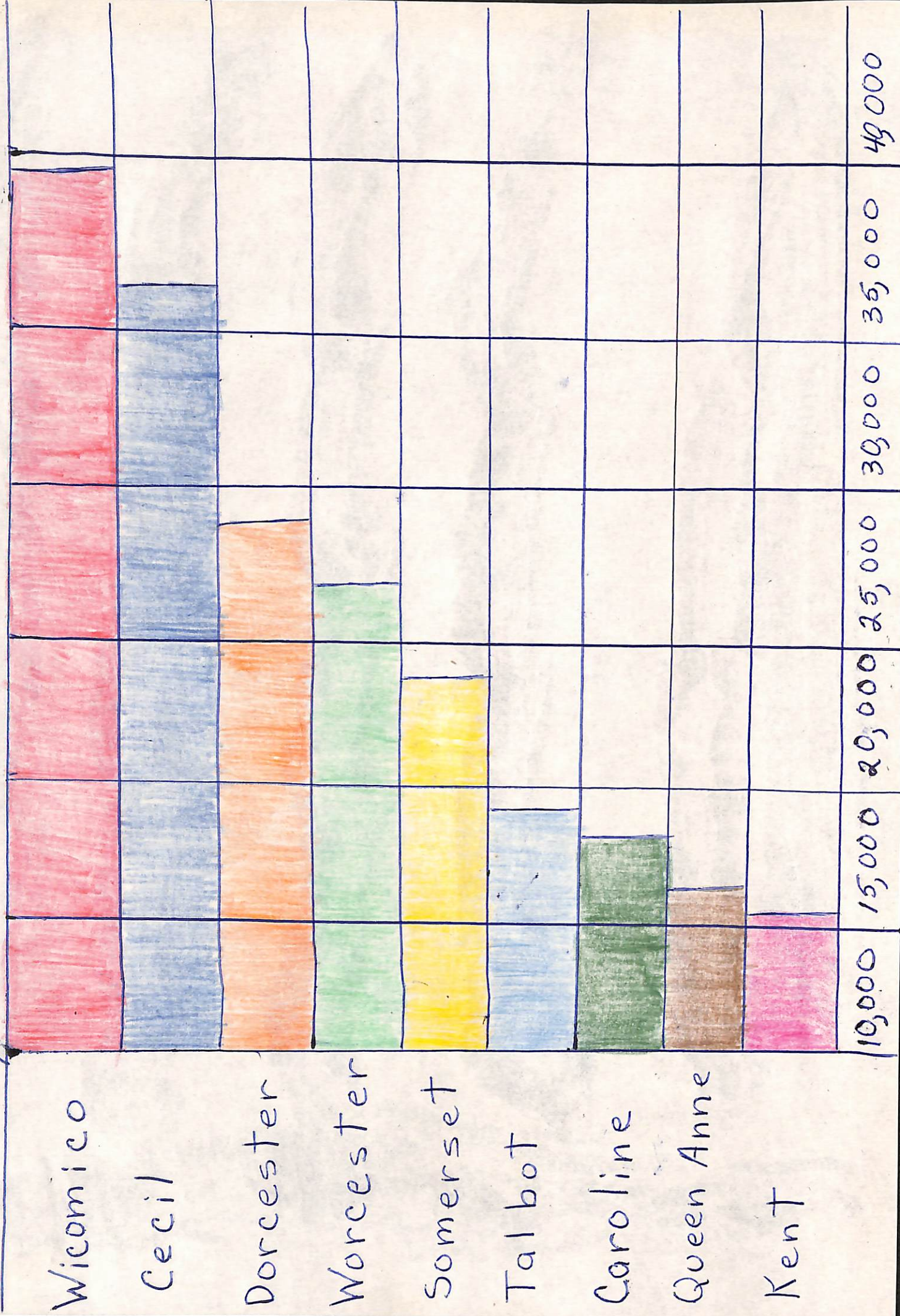
We should be proud of the fact that our County is noted for its friendliness and hospitality. More than anything else we are noted for our easy-going manner no matter how important the job is.

Our seclusion up until the time of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge is the reason for our quaintness in this County.

continued



# Comparison of the Population of Worcester County and the other Eastern Shore Counties





## Population-Continued

We had no reason for Trading with other places, since we had close contacts inside of the county.

In the 1940 census Worcester County had a population of 21,245. Then in the 1950 census we had a population of 23,148.

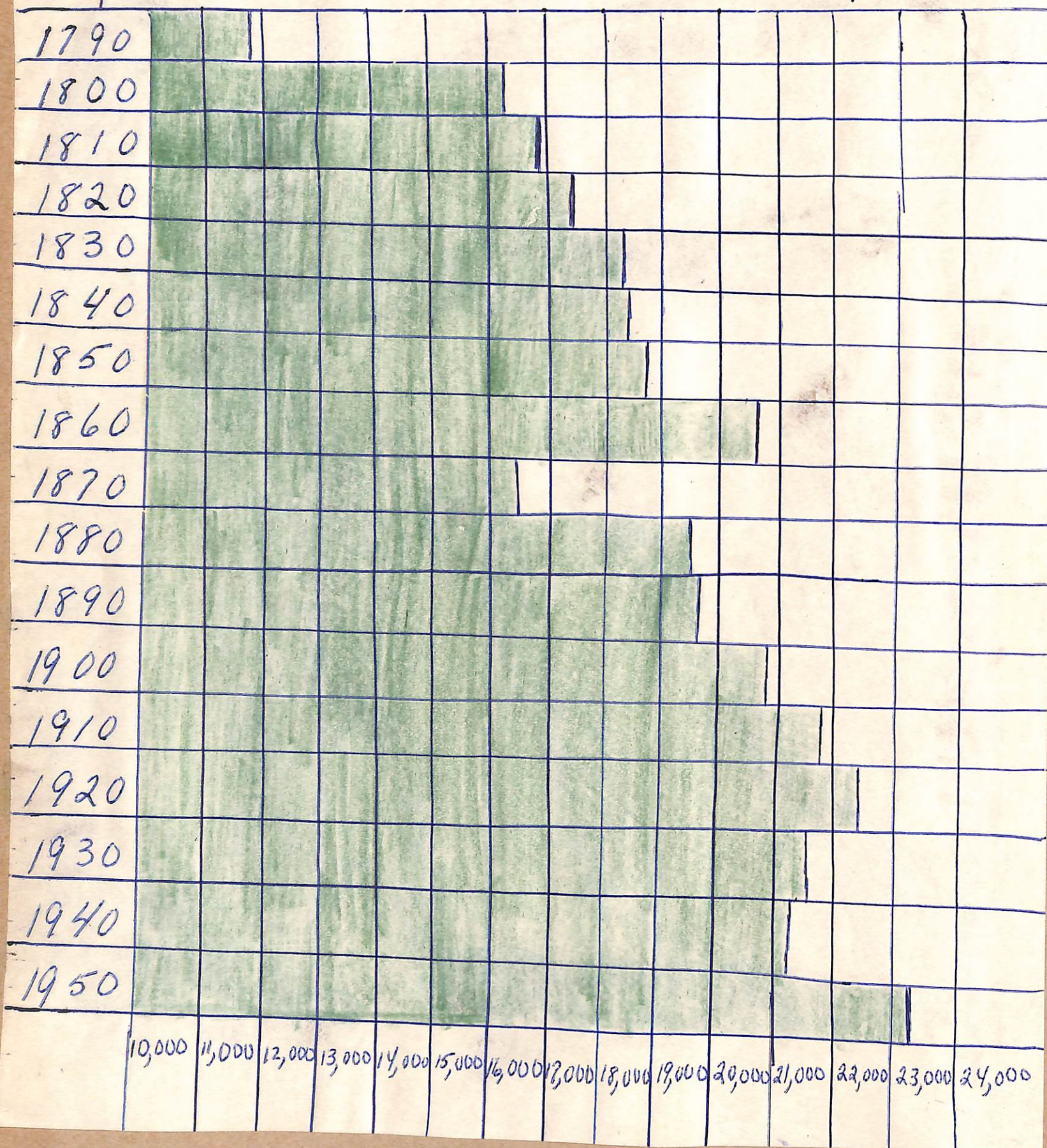
A United States Census is Taken every ten years. A census is The count of population among other things Taken for and by the government. This practice was started in 1790.

Many people Think there are more Negroes in our county then white people. this is hardly True according to the 1950 census. This showed that 30.7% of the population was Negro. However, as of now 40% is probably more accurate. In other words there are 9,259 Negroes in Worcester County.

I will now give you sort of a picture of the trend in Worcester County's growth from 1790 through 1950. Notice that The population rises and falls with different periods in history.



# Population of Worcester County 1790-1950





Population of Worcester  
County from 1790-1950

1790- 11,640

1800- 16,370

1810- 16,971

1820- 17,421

1830- 18,273

1840- 18,377

1850- 18,864

1860- 20,661

1870- 16,419

1880- 19,539

1890- 20,865

1900- 21,841

1910- 21,841

1920- 22,309

1930- 21,624

1940- 21,245

1950- 23,148



Non-Farm; Farm; and Urban Population

of Worcester County

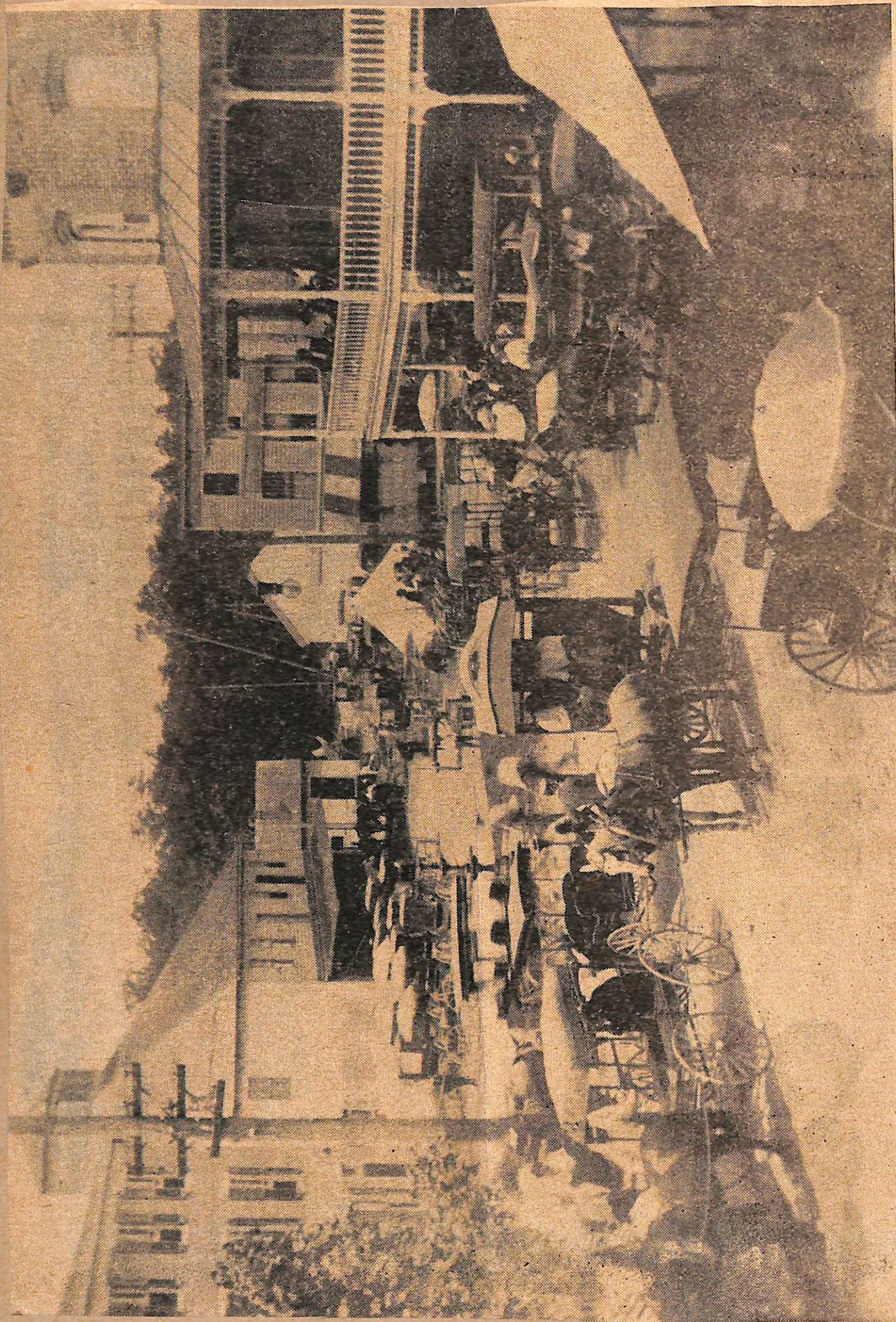
Non-Farm					
Urban					
Farm					
	3,000	6,000	9,000	12,000	



# Difference between Negro and White







VILLAGE SQUARE — Many years ago, around the turn of the century, the Pocomoke City "town square" looked like this on market day. Folks from the surrounding area would come to town on Saturdays to do their weekly trading, stocking their larders for the coming days. While the women shopped, the men often stood in groups to discuss business, the latest farm prices and life in general. Note the absence of horseless carriages in the above photo, and the masts of the ships docked in the background, approximately where the bridge now crosses the Pocomoke, looking north on Market Street.

—Photo Courtesy Roger Vincent.



# Pocomoke City

## Pocomoke City

With Maryland's two quietest old towns, Snow Hill and Princess Anne, about thirty minutes' ride from it and with Virginia about six miles to the south with all its old houses, traditions, and romantic legends of colonial days lies the fastest growing city on the Eastern Shore, Pocomoke City. Even though it is surrounded by settings which look as if they were taken from a history book, it still continues to be very modern. But underneath this busy and modern town is a very interesting history.

According to some historians, the town of Pocomoke received its first name when Captain John Smith sailed up the Pocomoke River in 1608. Because of a ten feet rise in the land, Captain John Smith gave it the name of "The Hill". Then in 1670 a man by the name of William Stevens built a ferry which crossed the river

continued







## Pocomoke -continued

where the city is now situated. As people began using the ferry and settling along the banks of the river, it took on the name "Steven's Ferry". As the settlement began growing, the name "Steven's Landing" was used. In 1680, the people began wanting a Presbyterian minister. A petition was drawn and sent to Ireland.

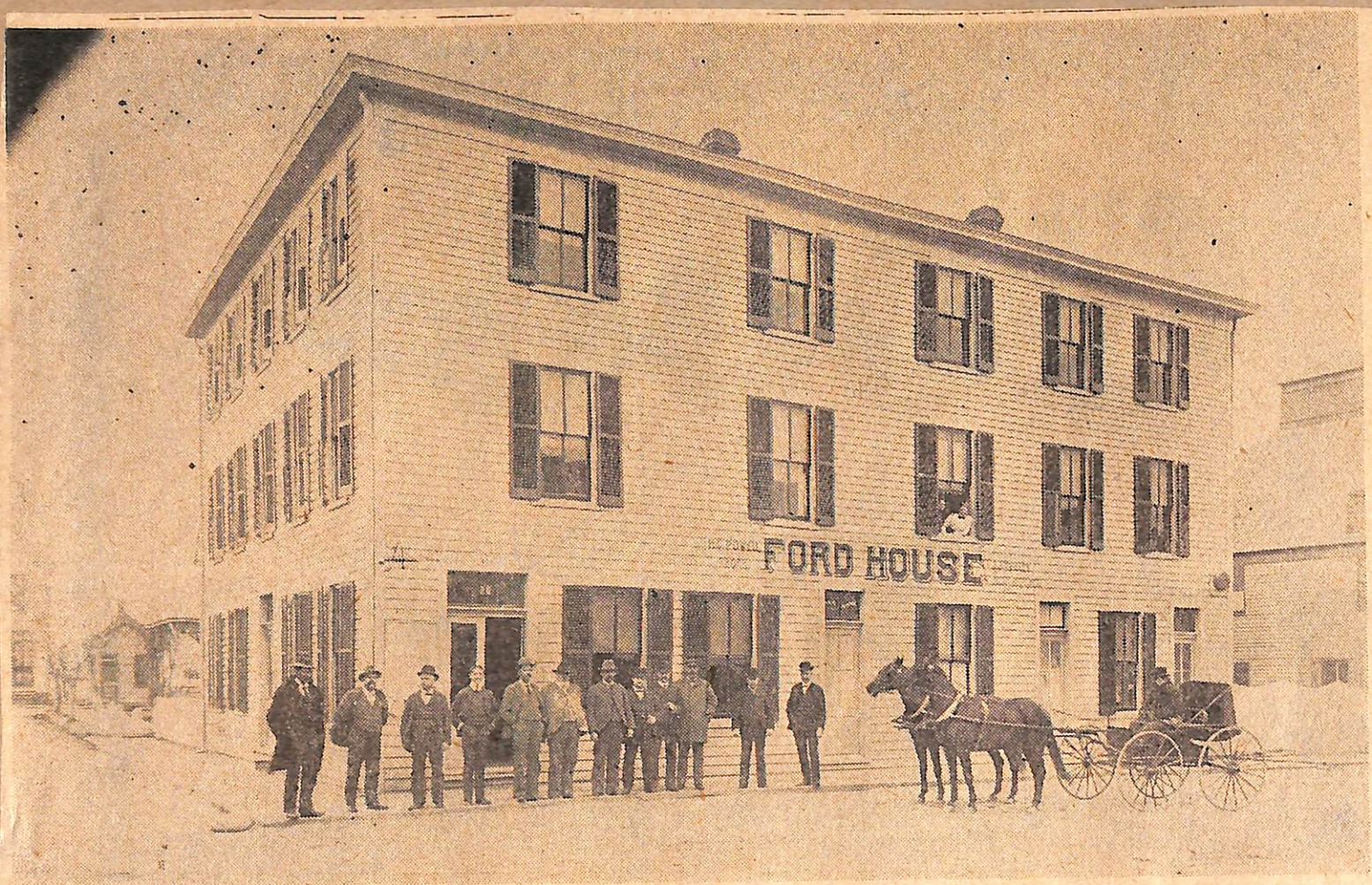
Then in 1683, the Reverend Francis Makemie arrived from Ireland.

In the years to follow, he established a meeting house which served as a church and a place to hold meetings. Because of this, the town again changed its name, this time to "Meeting House Landing".

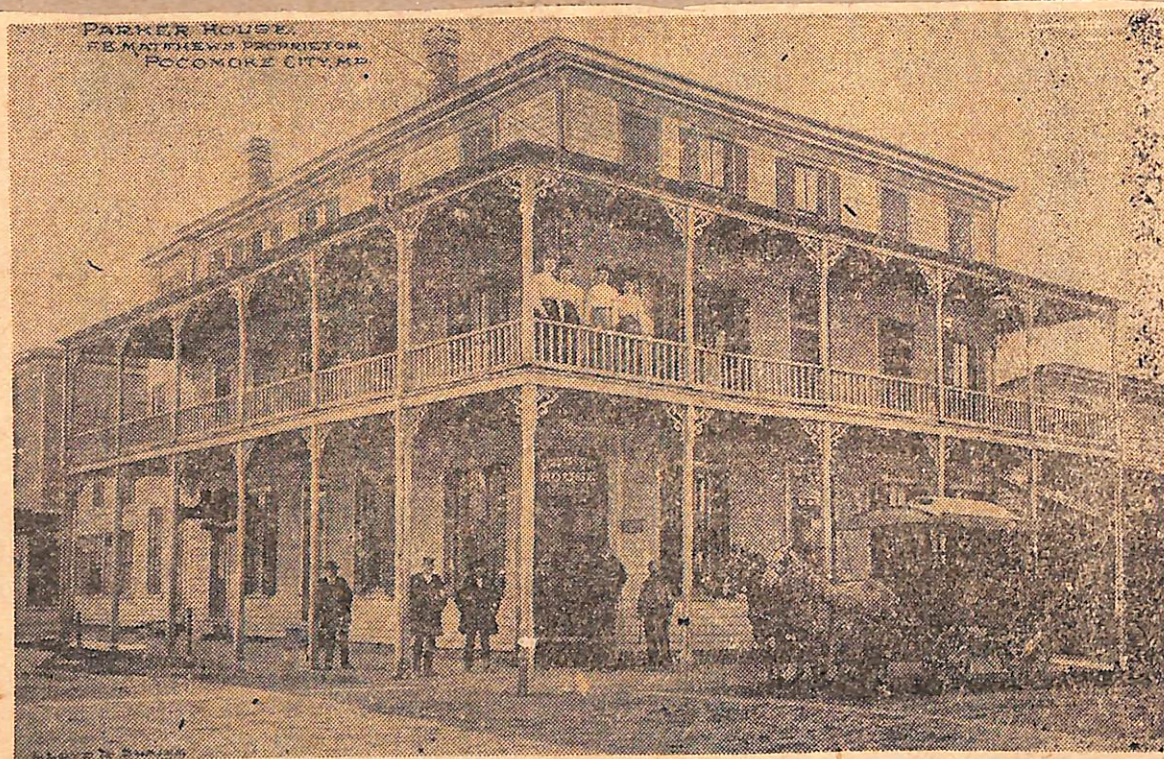
As the years went by and new farms and plantations began to spring up, tobacco became a common crop and was even used as money. A warehouse was built so as to store some of the tobacco. "Warehouse Landing" was then the next name given to this town.

continued





OLD FORD HOUSE — One of the early landmarks in Pocomoke City, about the time of its incorporation in 1865, was the Ford House, which was a combined hotel and bar room.



NOW THE PEACOCK HOTEL, this was Parker House in 1902, at the corner of Clarence Avenue and Willow Streets. Carriage in right foreground, one of Pocomoke City's first taxi's, was used to carry passengers to and from the railroad station.



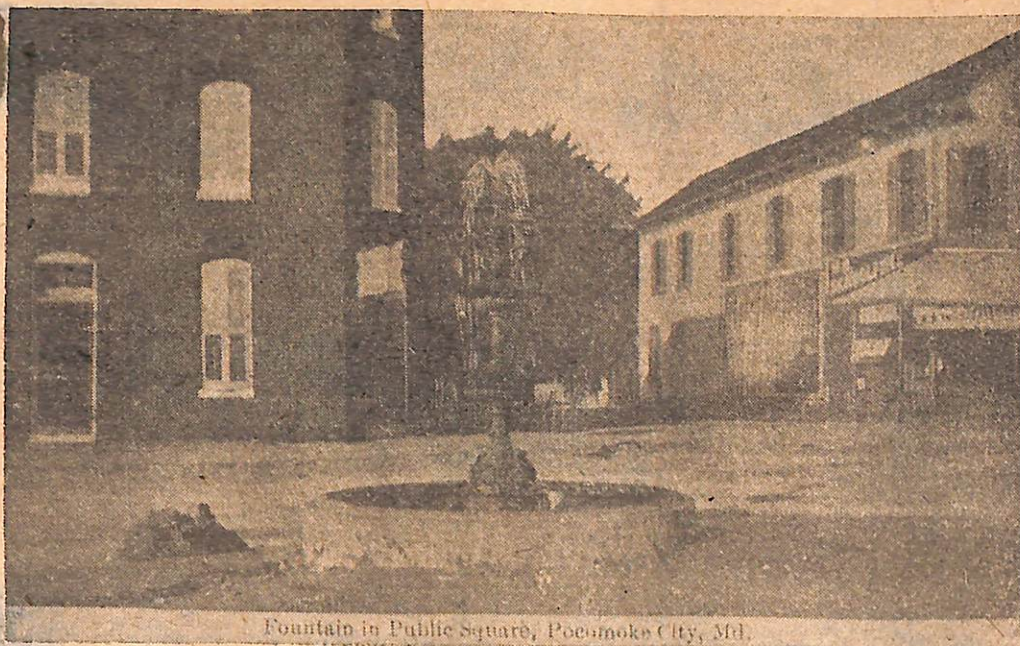
## Pocomoke - continued

From history we know that no other name was given the town until 1776, when the townspeople decided to change their name because they had grown and changed so much. Also because independence had been gained and a new life of freedom had started. The town of Warehouse Landing was changed to Newtown. As the town began developing and more trade began coming into the town, a bridge was built and replaced the rope ferry in 1865.

A look at the town in 1800 would include about 25 houses and a population of 150. A few stores ~~etc~~ would also be seen. In 1825 the town had grown in progress, because there were more and better stores. A few of the early industries included a carriage factory, a hatter's shop, and a blacksmith's shop. The population had grown to about 300, and more homes were built which were larger and more comfortable.

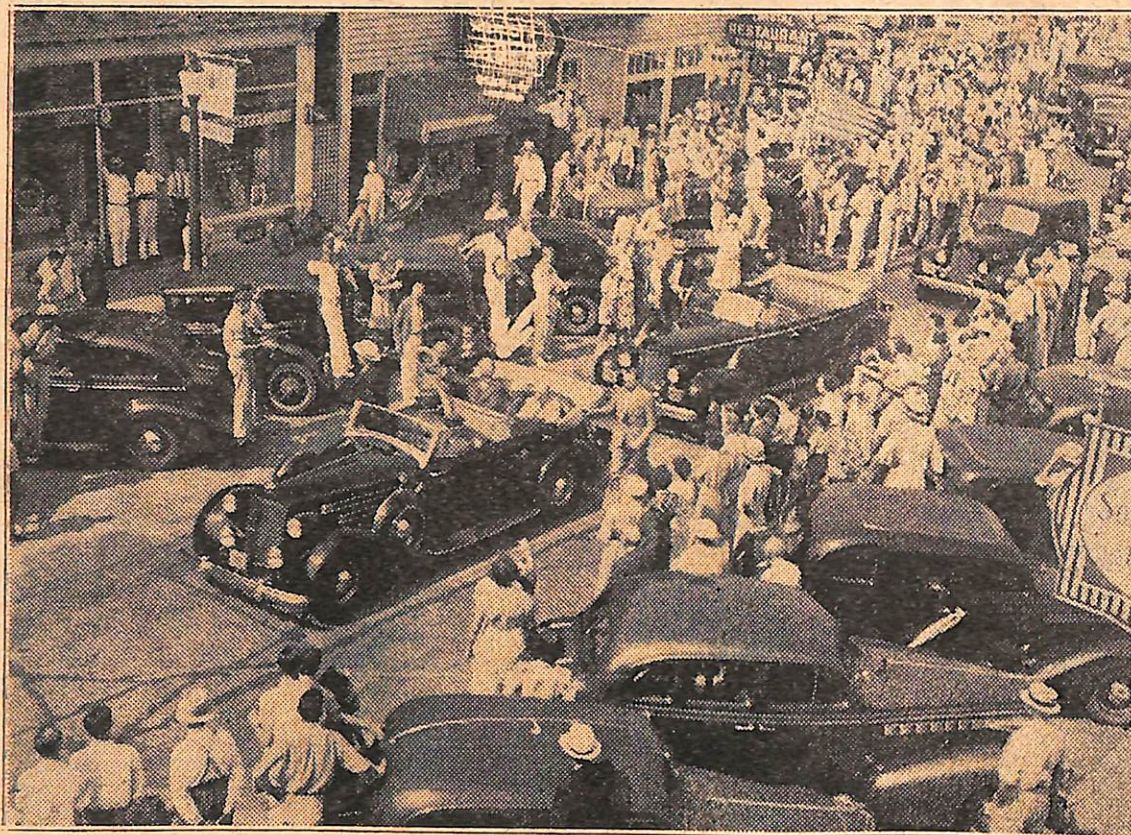
From 1825 to 1850, the town was still improving. But in the year  
continued





Fountain in Public Square, Pocomoke City, Md.

**PUBLIC SQUARE** — Not too many years ago the Public Square was a favorite site in Pocomoke City. The fountain was located at the intersection of Front and Market Streets. A cannon reportedly once stood at the spot, a relic of the Civil War days.



**PRESIDENTIAL TOUR** — A beaming Franklin D. Roosevelt made the first official Presidential visit of Pocomoke City in a triumphal tour of the Eastern Shore in the summer of 1938. As can be seen, Pocomokians turned out in full force to welcome the Chief Executive, Judge T. Allen Goldsboro and other political figures of the day.



## Pocomoke - continued

1850, the town began moving ahead rapidly. The building of steam saws and grist mills developed her lumber and ship building industries. Business had a new life ~~and~~, more people began entering Newtown and more people began wanting jobs. The river was filled with steam boats and sail boats. Now that Newtown was firmly on her feet, she made rapid progress. In 1865 an Act of Incorporation was given to the town. This meant that the people could elect town commissioners, fix their streets, and fix their town as they wanted.

At their first election the following people were chosen as town commissioners: C.C. Lloyd, W.S.C. Polk, Charles Marshall, Joseph Riley, and W.J. Long.

The first operation the Town Commissioners wanted to complete was to fix the streets of Newtown. A commission of three men made a survey to see what would be needed and which streets needed to be straightened or widened.

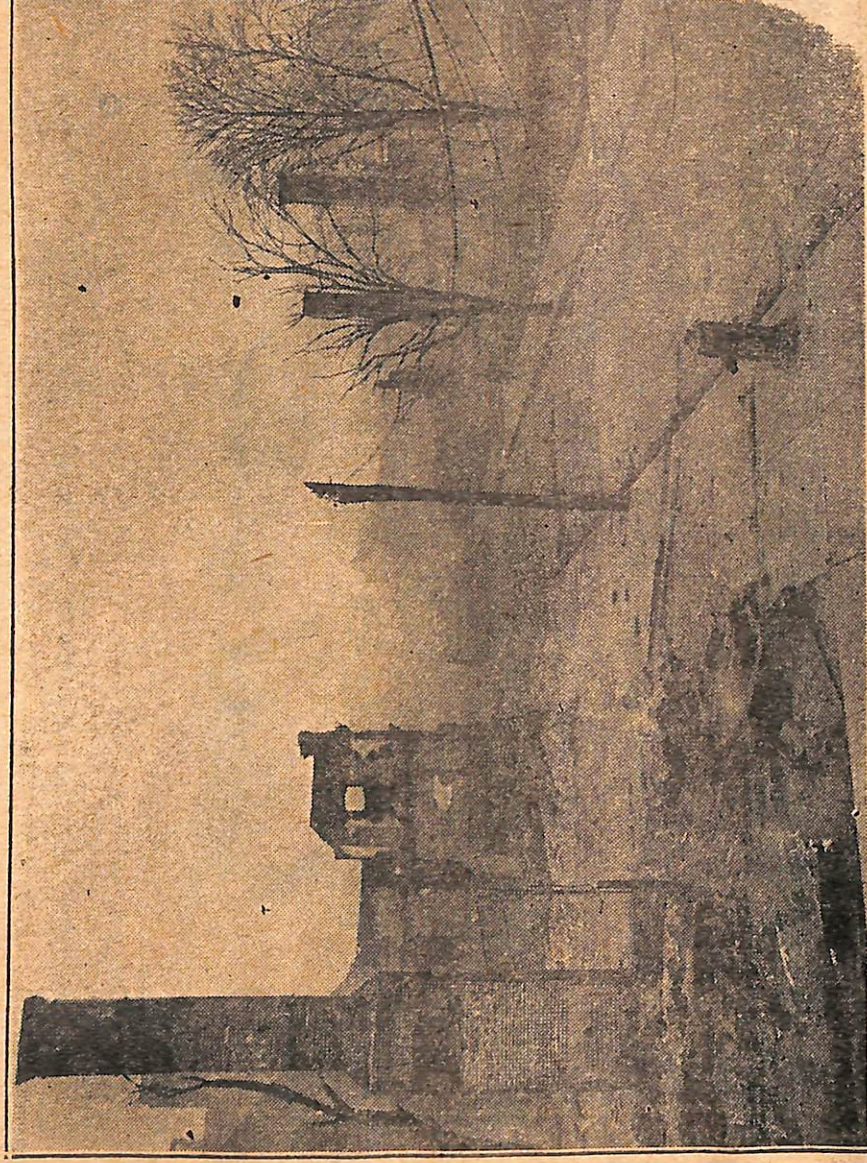
Continued



# HEART OF POCOMOKE CITY'S BUSINESS SECTION SWEEPED BY FLAMES; 250 PEOPLE HOMELESS; LOSS \$1,500,000

Two Banks And Postoffice Among Buildings Destroyed. Fire Fighters From Seven Towns Aid In Extinguishing Flames.---National Guardsmen Sent To Prevent Looting.

Plans Already Underway For Building A Bigger And Better City.



This is the headline which appeared in the  
Worcester Democrat telling about the disastrous  
fire of 1922.



## Pocomoke-continued

In 1866 Newtown had a disastrous fire. Other big fires were in 1888, 1892, and 1922, the largest of all. Even after the fires the town rebuilt itself soon.

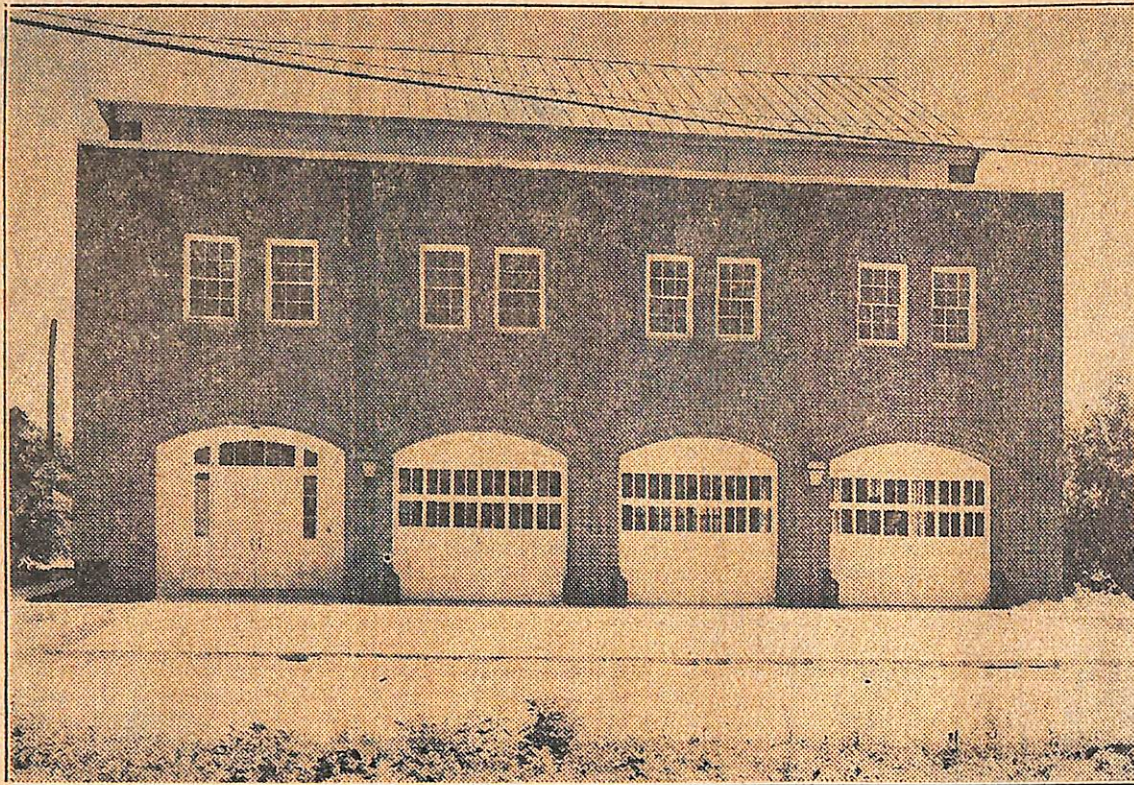
Then in 1878, the final name was given to the town - "Pocomoke".

Some people think this name means "plenty of corn" or "land of plenty," while others think it is an Indian name meaning "muddy waters," "dark waters," or "deep waters."

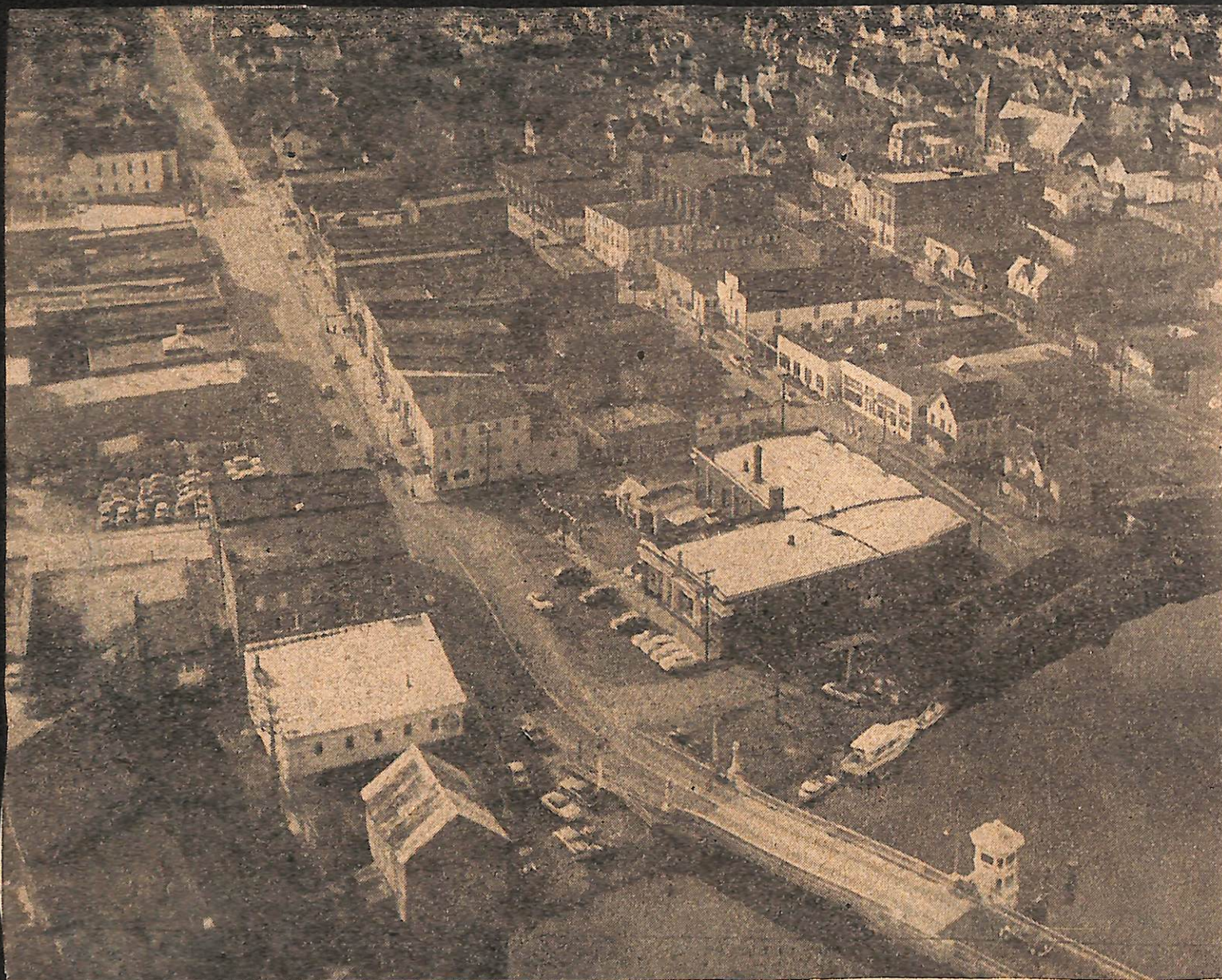
Since that time Pocomoke City has grown in size and population. Pocomoke has had many firsts on the lower Eastern Shore. It was the first town on the shore to have electricity. It has come a long way with railways, paved sidewalks, and streets, and sewage.

Pocomoke is a town that has always had the most modern things and has kept a pace with its advancing citizens.





**NEW FIRE HOUSE** — When the Pocomoke City Fire House was dedicated in 1939, the building looked like this. At the dedication speeches were made by U.S. Senator George L. Radcliffe, Congressman David J. Ward, Counsellor Godfrey Child and Mayor E. W. Ross. Chief of the department at that time was Fred U. Henderson, present chief.



**EARLY ONE SUNDAY MORNING** photographer Prestor Marshall snapped this checkerboard-like aerial photo of Pocomoke City's business section, looking southward on Market Street (U.S. Rt. 13) from the Pocomoke River bridge.



# Snow Hill

Snow Hill  
County Seat of Worcester County

On the winding Pocomoke River lies the county seat of Worcester County, a little town with the charm, quietness, and graciousness of one of America's oldest towns. Even though it has some busy neighbors such as Pocomoke and Ocean City, it still looks as though it were taken from the pictures in a history book.

In 1642 Snow Hill was founded by a group of English settlers. They named it "Snow Hill" after a city division in London. Snow Hill, which was originally located in Somerset County was surveyed in 1669 on 500 acres of land owned by Henry Bishop for 15,000 pounds of tobacco.

A law was passed in 1683 which stated that five towns had to be laid out in Somerset County. Snow Hill was one of these. In 1894 Snow Hill received its present charter, because the town was reorganized as a result of the disastrous fire of 1893.

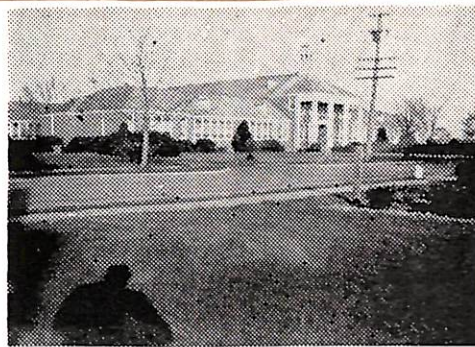
Snow Hill received its charter on October 26, 1686. In 1694 this town was made a Port of Entry, which meant that ships could come to trade at Snow Hill. Snow Hill was the second town in this area

continued

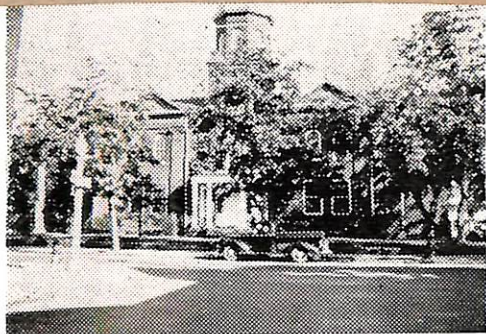




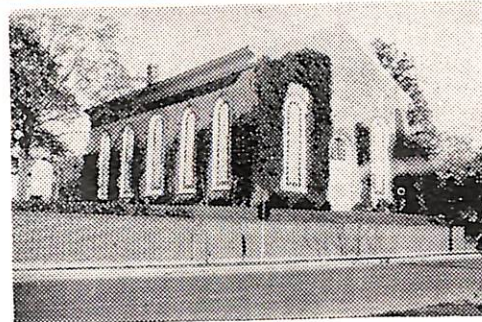
Snow Hill boasts the Julia A. Purnell Museum where thousands of articles and antiques, connected with the early history of Snow Hill and Worcester County, are on exhibit.



Snow Hill High School



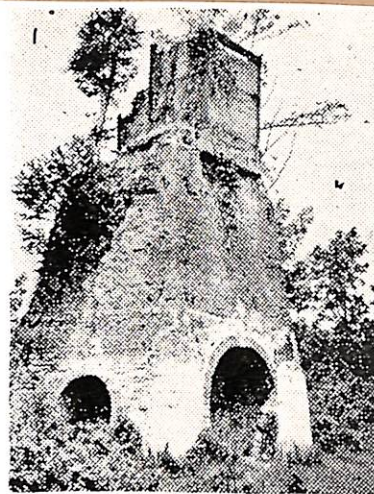
Worcester County Court House



All Hallows Episcopal Church



Victorian homes are numerous in Snow Hill, like the Whaley House, pictured above.



The Old Furnace ruins where from 1832 until 1847 bog ore from Nassawango creek was smelted into iron products. It is located six miles northwest of Snow Hill.



## Snow Hill continued:

to receive this, Rehobeth was the first. Most of the shipments came to Snow Hill from Baltimore. Some trading was even carried on with the West Indies. Smuggling was an operation actively carried on along the Pocomoke River.

A group of clerks and commissioners were elected in Snow Hill in 1706, when it received its first government. Some of the first laws stated:

1. Houses had to cover 400 square feet of ground and have one brick chimney.
2. No geese or swine could be kept within the town limits under the penalty of 10 shillings.
3. Each owner of land should pay "one penny sterling" per year to the proprietor and his heirs.

✻

In 1742, when Worcester County was founded, Snow Hill became its County seat, since it had been the main town while located in Somerset County and also because of its central location in the county.

A look at Snow Hill in 1852 would reveal that it was a rather busy town. For education, private schools and the Union  
continued



Snow Hill continued:

Academy, founded in 1834, were there. Churches included Episcopal, Presbyterian, Methodist-Episcopal, and a Negro church known as Ebenezer. The Makemie Presbyterian Church in Snow Hill is claimed to be the second oldest Presbyterian Church in America, founded in 1683 by Reverend Francis Makemie. The All Hallows Episcopal Church was founded in 1749. It was built from bricks which came from England. The Church has a bell and Bible given by Queen Anne of England. The ivy was brought over from Kenilworth Castle in Scotland.

Two hotels, the Washington and the American were operated at this time. Also in Snow Hill at this time were four active lawyers, five doctors, four merchants, a jeweler, an undertaker, three shoe-makers, a Millinery Store, confectioneries and a postmaster. An interesting fact, at about this time, was that there was only one divorce listed.

Snow Hill had two serious fires; one occurred in 1834 and the other in 1893.

Some of the early industries in Snow Hill included brickmaking, the manufacturing of textiles and whips, a fruit evaporating plant, the raising of silk worms by Mrs. James H. Selby, the making of hats, the manufacturing of pipe organs one of which was used by the All Hallows Church a

continued



Snow Hill continued:

long time ago, the making of baskets, a business carried on by Mr. Benjamin Wooly and later became known as the Snow Hill Butter Dish and Basket Company, the operation of livery stables, blacksmiths and wheelwright shops, and last but not least shipbuilding. The first and last ship that was built was called the Eureka. The newspaper business, started in Snow Hill in 1834, put out a newspaper called "The Border." Then in 1879 another newspaper called the "Democratic Messenger" came into existence and is still operated at the present time. This newspaper is claimed to be one of the oldest and leading newspapers in Maryland.

Many of the people outside of town occupied themselves with their farms. Sometimes there was a contest to see who could raise the heaviest porker before the Christmas holidays when the hog-killing was done. In those parts women made biscuits known as "Beaten Biscuits" to us, but to other states as "Maryland Biscuits."

In town the people sometimes entertained themselves at hotel bars where liquid refreshments were sold. Baseball was unheard of then, but a game called town-ball was popular among the men and boys.

The girls would learn to play the piano which was found in many homes. In those days, piano playing was a feminine accomplishment.

continued



Snow Hill continued:

The maxim, around this time was, "Children should be seen, not heard."

As can be gathered from the preceding information, Snow Hill was a beautiful and important town and still is. For this reason, and many others, we should be proud of our County seat, Snow Hill.

SNOW HILL HIGH SCHOOL, SNOW HILL, MARYLAND





# Snow Hill Is Neither Snowy Or Hilly

## — Worcester County Seat

It has lost none of its charm. Rather, its character is strong enough to pervade this downtown neighborhood with a subtle placidity.

The business section having been rebuilt in brick and stone, the modern town presents an attractive and substantial appearance.

### Plant New Trees

The residential section is graced with comfortable and, in many instances, spacious homes surrounded by ample and well kept grounds. The streets are well paved and there are many trees which add to the beauty of the town.

Every three years Snow Hill sets out about 100 trees along its streets in order to perpetuate its traditional leafy avenues.

The municipal building contains the offices of the mayor and council as well as a fine modern library. The Community Building has a room for public meetings and the entire first floor is devoted to the housing of the fire apparatus for the Snow Hill Volunteer Fire Department.

In the community the Protestant Episcopal, Methodist, Presbyterian, Old School Baptist and Christian churches are represented. Up-to-date schools offering a variety of courses to students also are found here.

The town of Snow Hill is the center of a large farming industry, which makes Worcester County one of the first in farming in Maryland and ranking among the highest in the United States in broiler raising.

### Many Industries

Centered in the large farming area, the town includes several large canning factories that can tomatoes, peas, lima beans, string beans and strawberries. Other industries located in Snow Hill include a large planing mill, box shock factory and one of the largest poultry dressing plants in the country.

There is also a large fertilizer plant which serves the entire Eastern Shore and has been operating and serving farmers in this area since 1913. Snow Hill has two shirt factories, a milk cooling plant, Grade A hatcheries, three bulk oil plants and two banks.

As a boon to industry and employment at Snow Hill a new \$500,000 plant is being established by Moore Business Forms, Inc., a nationally known printing concern.

The population of Snow Hill, numbering in 1950 about 2,100 inhabitants, is made up almost entirely of good old Eastern Shore stock, English in decent and noted for their hospitality.

Snow Hill, Worcester County's seat of government, was founded in 1642 by a body of English settlers from Snow Hill, a division of the city of London. It received its charter on October 26, 1686.

Situated on the Pocomoke River, a tributary of Chesapeake Bay, the town was made of Port of Entry in 1694.

### Shaded Streets

Dominating the scene is the courthouse, a proud red-brick Victorian building surrounded by tree-shaded streets and large white Colonial and Victorian homes with their spacious lawns and gardens so characteristic of the town.

The first plot of Snow Hill was made by virtue of an Act of Assembly of the State of Maryland, passed November 2, 1792, which plot was subsequently, on March 14, 1794, filed for record in the Clerk's office in Worcester County, as a part of the land records.

John Seymour, Royal Governor of Maryland, seems to have ratified the foregoing acts in behalf of Her Most Sacred Majesty Queen Anne, on April 19, 1706, and also the Acts in 1694, which erected Snow Hill, among other towns, into a port where all ships and vessels trading into the province might unload. Rehoboth was the only other town in this section sharing this honor at that time.

### Bible Of 1701

A Bible dated 1701, presented to All Hallows Parish by Queen Anne, may still be seen in the church, built in 1748. The parish was founded in 1692.

The brick for the construction of All Hallows Protestant Episcopal Church was brought from England especially for the purpose and paid for in tobacco which was the first export from this country to Europe.

The simple Georgian brick structure, with its long, attenuated arched windows giving it an etherialized character, is covered with ivy said to have come from Kenilworth Castle in Scotland. The church is downtown, a block from the court house and the business section.



# Berlin

## Berlin Claims First Europeans

### Entered At Site Of Present City

Residents of Berlin claim, and with sufficient historical proof to merit authenticity, that the country around Berlin was trodden by the first Europeans that ever entered what was to be the Colony and State of Maryland.

Giovannie de Verrazanno, an Italian navigator, is credited with discovering the Eastern Shore in about 1524, 97 years before the Mayflower made its famous voyage, landing at Ocean City and making his way inland to the neighborhood of the present city of Berlin.

#### Called Arcadia

In a journal kept by the explorer-navigator, Verrazanno called the country Arcadia because of the beautiful trees.

Not far from Berlin a thousand acres was set apart by early colonists for the Indian Queen Weocomiconus and her son Knussonum and their followers.

During the Revolutionary War, Berlin gained fame when a Captain Decatur sent his wife to the safety and quiet of the suburbs of Berlin, where she gave birth to a boy in 1779 who was to grow up a Naval War hero — Stephen Decatur.

Decatur gained the title of Commodore during the War of 1812 and the house where he was born was made a stopping point for tourists.

The name of Berlin had nothing to do with the capitol of Germany, even in pronunciation. The Eastern Shore boasts of the clearest British blood of any part of the Union.

#### Stage Route

The stage route leading from the Virginia counties through Maryland and what is now Delaware had their stables for change of horses on the Burleigh Plantation. There a blacksmith shop was built and the little town started. It took the Plantation name Burleigh, which in time was abbreviated to Berlin, retaining its accent on the first syllable.

#### Buckingham Presbyterian Church

church was named for his native Buckinghamshire in England. From that name also came the Buckingham Academy and its successors.

It is an item of interest to state that an occupant of the old Buckingham Manse, Rev. Alexander Campbell, pastor from 1827 to 1838 was the inventor of the first reaping machine in the world and first used on the grounds of the Manse. It was followed by McCormick's invention, who, it is said, paid Mr. Campbell's son \$50,000 for infringement of the original patent.

Other Berlin churches include St. Mary's Episcopal church, daughter church of Old St. Martin's, four miles to the north, and the Methodist Church, which dates from the time of the first

which stands on the main street of Berlin, dates back to the early days of American Presbyterianism, founded by Francis Makemie. The Berlin church was one of seven churches organized by Rev. Makemie in the late 1600's.

#### Patented In 1668

The first building was about one-half mile south of the town on the Buckingham Plantation, from which it derived its name. The land of 1300 acres was patented by Judge Stevens in 1668.

Judge Stevens was the first judge of the great county of Somerset, that now includes Worcester, Wicomico and Somerset, and the

American Methodist Episcopal Bishop Ashbury, who also lived on the Eastern Shore, a worthy successor to John Wesley.

#### Nursery Is Famous

Berlin is known throughout the country as the home of Harrisons' Nurseries, one of the largest growers of fruit and shade trees, since about 1873.

This enterprise, which has made Berlin famous and brought thousands to visit the town, was created by one family and was headed by the Hon. Orlando Harrison who held office in the Maryland General Assembly for several years.

Other Berlin industries include a large lumber yard and planing mill, an ice manufacturing plant and several other businesses that give employment to many people.

#### Man-O'-War

A few miles from Berlin is the site of the stock farm that became famous by the owner of the celebrated "Man-O'-War," Samuel Riddle. The breeding farm for this famous race horse is located on the road to Ocean City a few miles from Berlin.

Of further historical interest to the city of Berlin is the famous Atlantic Hotel which has stood for decades in the business section of the community.



# Ocean City

## Isaac C. Coffin Erected Inn At Resort In 1869; Building Boomed In 1920's

While the founding of Maryland's only Atlantic Ocean resort, Ocean City, is officially recorded among annals of Worcester County as occurring on July 4, 1875, the site of this resort city was occupied several years before that time, according to recently uncovered records.

The first recorded building to be erected in what is now Ocean City was a one-story barroom and inn combined, owned and managed by Isaac C. Coffin, grandfather of Capt. William B. S. Powell, one of the largest landowners in the resort in the late 1920's.

### *Inn Built 1869*

According to records uncovered, Coffin erected his inn and bar during the year 1869, following the close of the Civil War. Coffin had large farm interest in that section at the time and ran the inn and bar as a sideline.

His hostelry was named the "Rhode Island," a name derived from a bit of wreckage that washed upon the coast shortly before the inn and bar was opened in 1869.

Over the door of Coffin's new hostelry was nailed the bit of wood from the pilot house of the wrecked ship, which bore the inscription, "Rhode Island."

The opening of this inn by Coffin started people coming to the beach-land and a few years after the inn opened Baltimore interests formed the Synepuxent Beach Corporation to develop the present site of Ocean City. The company took its name from the Synepuxent Bay which parallels the Atlantic Ocean there.

The names of Purnell, Showell, Taylor, Henry and Toadvine appear on aged records in the Circuit Court of Worcester County, as men who conceived Ocean City.

### *First Land Grant*

They secured a grant of land from Stephen Tabor, wealthy landowner of Long Island, N. Y., whose ancestors took their original grant from Lord Baltimore and afterwards, in 1868

took out a patent for the land from the State of Maryland. The Tabor family tract was called "Ladies' Resort to the Sea."

Descendants of the above named founders of this resort are to be found in Worcester and Wicomico counties today. Many are still landowners in Ocean City.

The Fourth of July, 1875, was a great day for Ocean City for it marked the opening of the old Atlantic Hotel, the first outstanding achievement of the Synepuxent Beach Corporation in developing Ocean City.

So profitable was the new hotel that it was quickly followed by the Seaside Hotel. A little later Congress Hall greeted the visitors under the management of James Z. Powell.

### *Destroyed By Fire*

All of these hotels had been destroyed by fire before the 1920's while the old Atlantic Hotel and Seaside Hotel were razed by a fire in December, 1925. The Atlantic Hotel was re-built on the same site, but the Seaside was never reconstructed.

In 1879 a railroad was built from Salisbury to Ocean City and travel to the resort city increased. With frequent stops every five miles to load up with pine slabs as fuel, the old wood-burning locomotive and two cars would bring its passengers to the Atlantic coast.

The first coal-burning locomotive made its way to Ocean City in 1893, driven by Hon. Edward S. Furbush, of Berlin.

Preceding the advent of the locomotive, visitors to the peninsula resort were ferried across the bay from the mainland. Later the railroad company built a bridge over which both horses and trains could travel.

### *Resort City Grows*

Until 1914 Ocean City consisted of of a few fishermen's homes and about four hotel establishments. After that year the resort city began to grow. Although World War I halted building operations for awhile, new buildings began to spring up in 1920.

It was in 1914 that C. H. Ludlam built the first fish pounds out in the ocean. Since then many others have seen opportunities connected with the fishing industry until today Ocean City is rated highly among the industries of the locality.

Growth was gradual in Ocean City, but nonetheless it was steady. Hotels other than those already mentioned were built to take care of the ever-increasing number of visitors.

Before long houses and hotels were built north of the Catholic Home, which at one time was considered "way up the beach." By the early 1930's there were about 40 or 50 hotels to take care of summer guests.

### *Inlet Is Formed*

In 1933 when the storm damaged the shore to the north and south of Ocean City, the city benefit by a natural long-sought-for inlet formed by stormy waters.

Immediately legislators and interested citizens got busy and asked the government to make the inlet permanent. It had been felt for many years that an inlet was necessary for the future development of the area. Money was appropriated soon afterwards so that the inlet created by the storm was made permanent.

The government saw fit to give \$89,000 for additional improvements. A harbor for commercial boats was dredged, as well as a channel up the Synepuxent Bay to the Isle of Wight Bay to provide adequate salt water for the oystermen who have planted the bottoms around that area.

With the growth of this new community, the matters of health and safety to visitors became of importance to city leaders.

### *Fire Protection*

In 1928-29 the town saw to it that adequate fire fighting apparatus was secured to protect against any fire hazard. The town equipment is rated the best and can be put alongside any city equipment for any kind of work it is called upon to do.

Not only has the town modernized the fire department, but it has modernized the sanitation department as well, bringing Ocean City's sanitation system to a point where it can compete with any city in the country. State tests show the drinking water there is as pure as can be found anywhere.

Today Ocean City boasts a year-around population of close to 1,400, serviced by modern stores, up-to-date schools and many fine churches. Mayor Daniel Trimper, Jr., and his City Council are the leaders in the Ocean City governmental system.

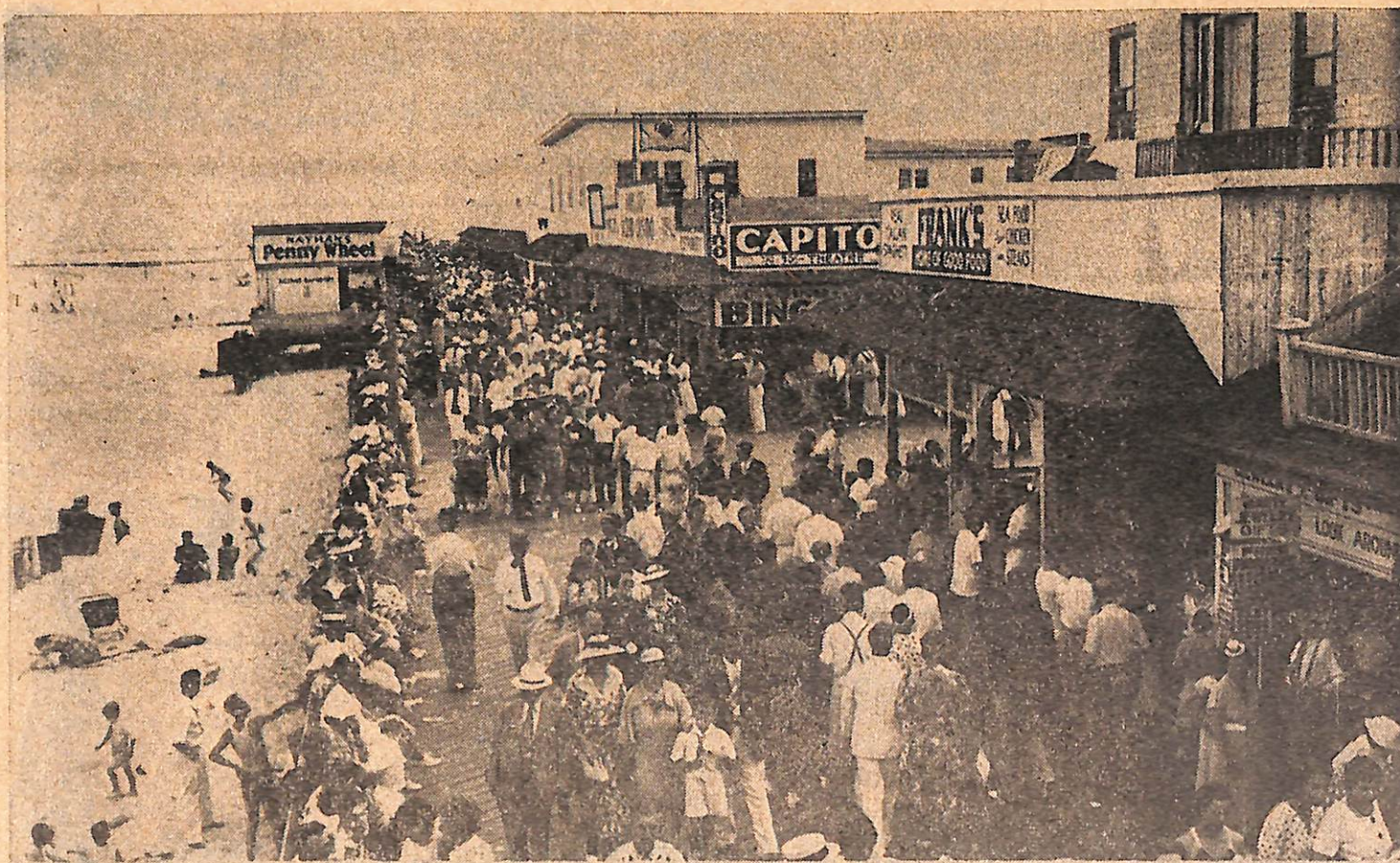




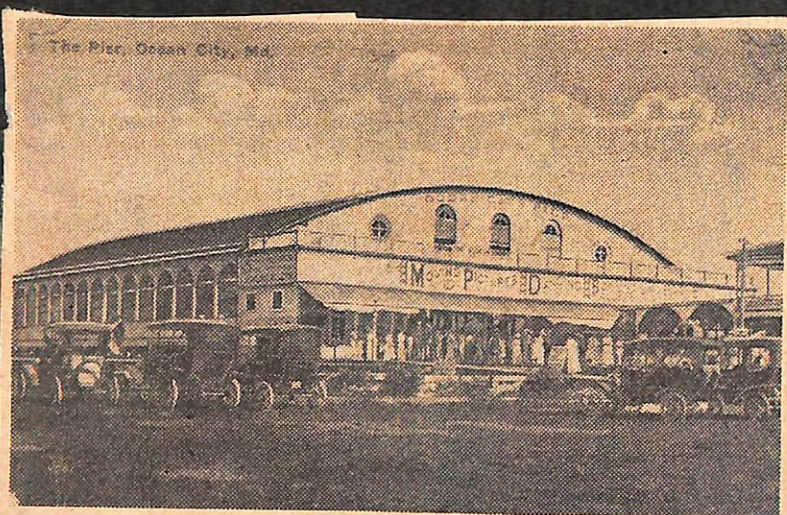
WHAT'S THE DATE? — We're guessing, but we presume the above picture was snapped at the Ocean City beach about 1928. Note the flapper dresses on the women in the foreground and oh! those bathing suits! The pilings shown in the background were removed by the storm of 1933. The dark line at the right of the picture is the pipeline that supplied water to one of the first Ocean City swimming pools. The tow line in the center of the picture, was placed there for the safety of swimmers and also is no longer there.

—Photo Courtesy Ocean City Information Center

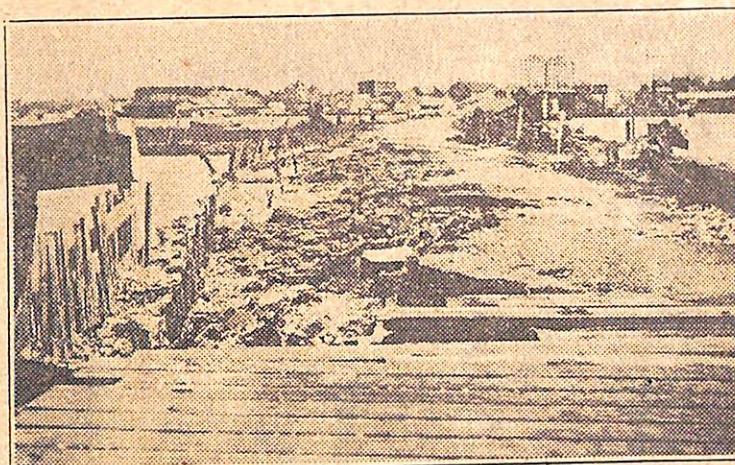




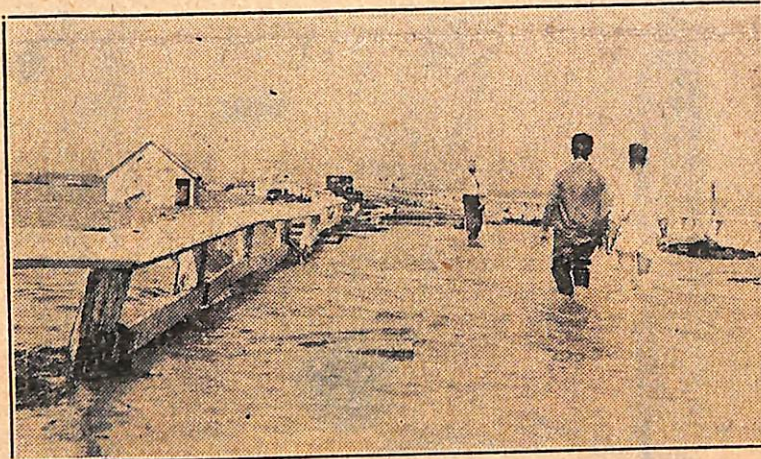
**THE BOARD WALK, THEN** — In the early 1930's Ocean City's famous boardwalk looked like this, before the storm of 1933. Notice how high the walk is above the sand! Numerous storms have since made the sand level with the walk — which has been rebuilt of concrete in recent months.  
—Photo Courtesy Ocean City Information Center



**THE PIER** — Do you remember the early 20's when the Ocean City Pier appeared like this? This recreation building was the hub of entertainment facilities in the early days of the resort city's history. The sign advertises moving pictures and dancing among other means of enjoyment.

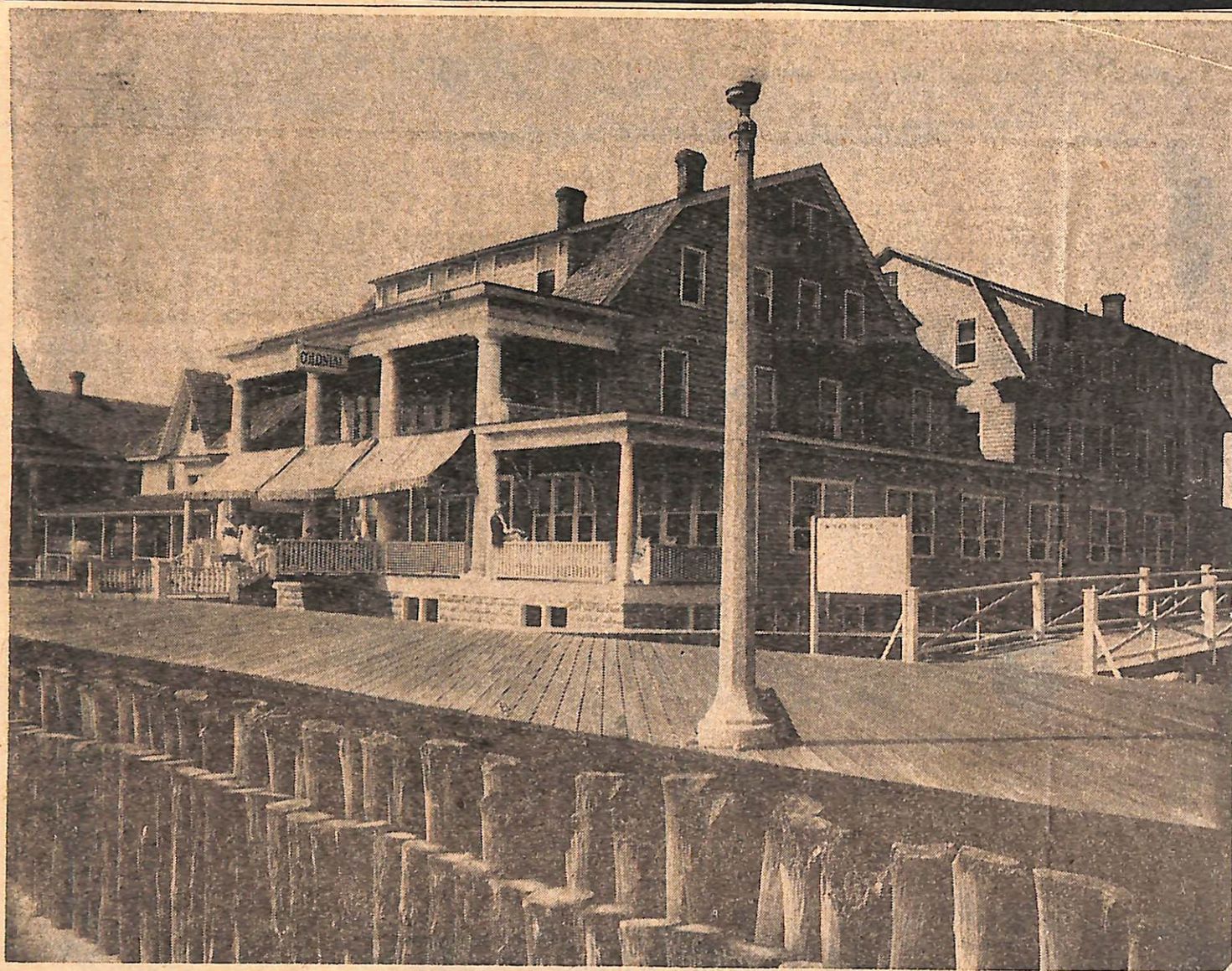


**BOARDWALK DEVASTATED** — Ruins of the Ocean City boardwalk are pictured in the wake of the 1933 storm that destroyed much of Ocean City's resort area. Water swept in from the ocean laying waste to the major portion of the noted boardwalk.



**STORM OF '33** — Scenes like the above were common around Ocean City in 1933 when a tropical storm hit the area swamping much of the sea side city with salt water.





THE OLD BOARDWALK — This photo shows the old boardwalk before storms leveled the sand with the walk. Note the sturdy pilings and the bridge on the other side of the walk. The sign next to the Colonial Hotel advertises morning dancing at 10:30 and evening dancing at 8:30 at the Plimhimmon Ball Room.

—Photo Courtesy Ocean City Information Center



# Education

## Early County Youngsters Were Educated By Tutors

Private Academies Provided Learning to Many Worcester

County Youngsters In Period of History From 1750-1850

No clear record of the development of educational facilities in Worcester County is available for the years prior to 1866. It would appear that, for the early period, education here followed the pattern typical of the early southern states.

### Children of Wealthy

Children of the wealthy received their early education at the hands of private tutors and were sent abroad for advanced training. Apprenticeship was commonly used to provide vocational training for children of proper families.

During the period from about 1750 to 1850, academies, sponsored privately or by churches, attempted to provide education for a greater number of children. Such academies are known to have been established in three Worcester County communities.

The first was started in Berlin in 1765 by the Rev. Charles Tennent, pastor of the Buckingham Presbyterian Church, and was called the Buckingham Academy. This building was destroyed by a wind storm in 1875.

### Academies Burned

Shortly thereafter a Boys' Academy was built and a Girls' Seminary was established. Both of these buildings were destroyed by fire in 1885. The two schools were then united in the first Buckingham High School.

The second academy to be established was in Newtown (now Pocumuck City) in 1838. This apparently was unsuccessful for the Rev. John Crosdale opened a private school here in 1848, financed by the Episcopal Church.

In 1852 the Newtown Female School was erected. However, it was destroyed by fire in 1852 and never was rebuilt.

The third academy of record was established in Snow Hill. The First Annual Report of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, for the year 1866, reports only one incorporated academy in Worcester County, that one is Snow Hill and known by the name Union Academy.

This is probably the same institution which was still in existence in 1881 and was known then as "Old Shingle House Academy."

### First Public School

The first public school in Snow Hill is supposed to have been built about 1885. Its teacher was Miss Sarah Bixby and the school had an enrollment of about 25 pupils.

Little information concerning the development of schools is available from 1866 to the end of the 19th century. Control of the schools continued in the hands of a Board of School Commissioners, set up sometime before that date. The executive officer was called the School Examiner.

In 1904 the office of school superintendent was created, replacing the school examiner. Edgar W. McMaster, who had served as president of the Board of Education at 10-year intervals from 1904 to 1954.

### Once 86 Schools

By 1904 there was a total of 86 school houses, (11 of which were rented. All were frame buildings and all had outbuildings. Thirty were reported to have sufficient blackboards and 36 had good furniture. The total of 129 teachers indicates that most of the buildings were still one-room schools.

Of the total of 129 teachers, 100 were white and 29 were colored. Only 24 were men as compared to the nearly 50 percent in 1866. The average annual salary of \$235.76 was less than that paid in 1866.

Little progress had been made toward extending high school education. The 1904 report lists only three high schools for the county with two teachers in each.

However, the report also states that four other schools had assistant teachers giving instruction at the eighth and ninth grade levels. A total of 333 students were enrolled in grades beyond the seventh. None were reported beyond the tenth grade.

There was little change in the program offered except that manual training had been instituted in one school, Snow Hill. The total number of pupils enrolled had increased to 5,252, compared with 2,934 in 1866.

### Four-Term Basis

However, there were only 2,712 in average attendance. Schools still were operating on the four-term basis and compulsory attendance had not yet been introduced.

By 1914 there were only 92 school houses with a total of 155 classrooms and 155 teachers. All schools were reported to have outbuildings; 85 percent had sufficient blackboards, and 85 percent had good furniture.

Enrollment for the four terms averaged 3,151. There were now 453 children in high school grades. Manual training was offered in two schools and commercial programs had been started in three high schools.

### Schools Classified

High schools by this time were classified by the state. Worcester County had two schools in the "First Group" indicating an enrollment of 80 or more students, and four or more teachers. Two schools were listed as "Second Group" high schools having enrollments of 35 or more and two or more teachers.

Average salaries of teachers had risen to \$321.11, and the total expenditure for all school purposes was \$90,302.08. However, nearly \$20,000 of this amount was expended for buildings and debt service.

The State Board of Education report for 1924 reveals much progress in education throughout the state had been made.

Considerable state legislation affecting education in the counties had been enacted. State aid had been increased; school attendance had been made compulsory; provision had been made for supervision of instruction; and certification requirements had been strengthened.

In 1924 Worcester County had a total of 78 schools. Fifty-two of these still were one-teacher buildings. However, when compared to the total of 92 schools 10 years earlier, it is apparent that consolidation had begun.

### Peak Enrollment, 1923

The total enrollment of 5,496 children was the highest in the history of the county except for the previous year when 5,711 children had been enrolled.

As a point of interest, school enrollments gradually decreased after that year until a low of 3,691 was reached in 1943. Enrollments now are increasing again and should reach the 1924 level by 1960.

While the schools had their largest enrollment, attendance still was not high. On the average, only 3,992 children attended school regularly.

High school enrollments had increased to 639. It is to be noted there still were no high schools for colored students.

### Five in First Group

Of the six county high schools, five were classified in the First Group and one was classified in the Third Group by the state. Vocational agriculture and music had been added to the secondary school program with 47 students enrolled in the former and 231 in the latter subjects.

By 1924 Worcester County had two supervisors to assist the superintendent in the supervision of instruction in the elementary schools. Of the white elementary teachers all but 5 percent held regular certificates of the first, second and third grades. However, only 54 percent had first grade certificates, which required two years of college training beyond high school.

Total expenditures for education in 1925 amounted to \$215,225.27. Worcester County now was spending \$44.16 per pupil for current expenses. Average teachers' salaries paid were as follows: Colored Elementary, \$402; White Elementary, \$892; High School (white) \$1,350.

A study of the 1934 report of the State Board of Education reveals continued progress in Worcester County in all of the areas mentioned earlier. Perhaps the most significant advance was in the area of improved facilities.

### 1930 Buildings

Beginning about 1930 the county carried out a vast school building program which virtually provided completely new facilities for the entire county.

Seven new schools were erected from the proceeds of a \$30,000 bond issue. Naturally this increased the rate of consolidation. By 1934, the number of schools had been reduced to 54.

While the total school enrollment for the county had decreased to 4,811 students as a result of the diminishing population of the county and the reduced birth rate, the high school enrollment had increased to 961 students, compared with 639 students 10 years earlier.

All county high schools for white children then were rated as First Group schools by the state, and there were three high schools for colored students, one in the First Group and two in the Second Group.

The total annual cost for the operation of schools amounted approximately \$200,000, or \$45 per pupil.

### Lowest Enrollment, 1944

By 1944 the total school enrollment had reached the lowest point since 1900. This fact, coupled with the construction of three new schools and three additions during the preceding 10 years, made further consolidation possible. The total number of schools had been reduced to 31 by 1944.

A total of 3,717 children attended the public schools in that year, compared to 4,811 in 1934. However, the high school enrollment still showed an increase to a high of 1,037.

The country then was spending about \$300,000 a year to operate its schools. This represented a cost of about \$8 per pupil.



## 1866 Report of Commissioners Reveals Condition of Schools

The following report of the president of the Worcester County School Commissioners, Samuel K. Stewart, to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Rev. L. Van Bokkelen, reveals somewhat the condition of the county schools in 1866 and some of the educational problems of that time.

"We have kept our schools open the entire year, so far as we could provide teachers. But some of the schools were kept open only a fraction of the term for which they were reported and this occasions the average cost to appear small.

### Scarcity of Teachers

"To provide competent teachers has been one of our great difficulties, while the condition of our school houses and the accommodation to be secured for teachers in many of our County district, have not been such as to invite teachers from abroad.

"Some attention has already been given to preparing for the position of teacher, and we hope ere long to have a supply of teachers from among our own people.

"We have some surplus funds from our income of the past year, which we intend appropriating to building and repairing school houses. Something

has been done towards the repairs of school houses, but we have not received the plans and specifications prepared by the State Board, in time to do anything as yet towards building new ones.

"Orders have been passed for building several; but from the cause here mentioned, no progress has been made in carrying out these orders. Where I have reported, in the balance statement, so few additional school houses needed, it is not that we need the additional number and not that we do not need many new ones to supply the place of the old, the ill adapted ones we now have.

### Plan High Schools

"Our attention was, at first, confined to the district schools, and to getting them in successful operation for we felt there was too much to do in that particular branch of our duty, to turn our attention so early to the establishment of High Schools. But as we advanced in our work, the question of High Schools came prominently before us.

"Knowledge of our county, and to the disposition of our people in this matter assured us, that no one High School established at any one place in the County would afford the desired

advantage to all sections of the County, and if parents were compelled to send their children from home to educate them, they would more likely send them out of the State or County, than send them to the High School of the County.

"In view of this, we concluded to establish, in the three centres of population (provided suitable buildings and furniture were furnished by the districts for that purpose) such schools as would afford all the advantages of a High School education to those several districts.

### Berlin Accepts

"With such a proffer, we advertised for proposals for High Schools. Berlin accepted the terms proposed and we have established a High School there.

"Under our arrangement, the High School is made to embrace the different departments of Primary, Grammar, and High School. The principal has the supervision of each of these departments, and in the most advanced studies taught therein.

"In my previous report, I suggested a change in the law, such as would require a larger bond to be given by the treasurer, when there was a large County school fund. This, now, appears the more important, as

our lawyers have pronounced, that under the existing law, any larger bond, than that specified by law, would be void.

"I would further suggest a provision requiring school commissioners to give bond for the faithful appropriation of all school funds entrusted to them. It often occurs that large sums of money are paid over to them for disbursement, and large amount of books are in their hands.

### Ask For Bonding

"It would be well that there should be some security for the faithful discharge of this trust. And it would be much better to make such provision now, when there are good and faithful men in those positions, than to wait for some future time, when losses may have occurred.

"One other amendment of the law I would propose. It has been suggested to me by a County Commissioner (and the suggestion meets with the approval of all I have heard speak on the subject) that it would be better to make the school tax such as will cover all expenses of the schools, and not to make one tax for the support of the schools, and another to pay the salaries of the School Commissioners."

## Education In 1866 Described In Old Cornerstone Documents

A fairly complete picture of the educational system in Worcester County for the year 1866 is available as the result of an interesting chain of events.

When the first Newtown High School (Pocomoke City) was erected in 1867 a number of interesting documents were enclosed in the cornerstone. This building was razed a few years after a new high school was constructed in 1930 and the cornerstone documents became available.

### Documents Found

Among them was a record of the individuals who subscribed the money for the building; a copy of a newspaper of that date, presumably the Newtown Record, giving an account of a public local law authorizing the sale of the new high school; and perhaps most revealing, a copy of the "First Annual Report of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction" for the school year ending June 30, 1866.

From this report it is learned that in 1866 Worcester County had an average of 45½ schools in operation. Since there was only an average of 46¼ teachers reported virtually all schools must have been one-room buildings.

An average of 1606 children attended all of the schools and there was a total attendance of 2,934 different students.

The schools operated on a four-term basis — fall, winter, spring

and summer. Consequently the number of schools, teachers and buildings varied throughout the year.

In 1866 the number of teachers was about equally divided with respect to sex; there were 22½ men and 24¼ women.

The total cost for teachers salaries that year was \$11,502.29, or less than \$250 per teacher. The total cost for education was \$12,758.50. This represented a cost of \$280.41 per school, or \$4.35 for each pupil attending school.

### One Academy

The report also indicated there was one academy with an enrollment of 30 students and three private schools with an enrollment of 106 students, in addition to the public schools.

The following table showing the number of pupils studying the various subjects not only reveals a picture of the curriculum but also indicates that very few students were taking work at the high school level.

Subject	No. of Pupils
Spelling	1,566
Reading	1,216
Writing	919
Arithmetic	806
Geography	467
Grammar	304
History	134
Bookkeeping	12
Algebra	28
Philosophy	43
Botany	12
Geometry	2
Latin	8
Greek	3
Chemistry	4

### 64 Schools Then

Worcester County had 64 school buildings valued at \$12,900 including equipment, in 1866. Of these, 63 were of frame construction and one was built of logs. All were one-room buildings with the exception of three.

The schools then were under the control of six School Commissioners: Samuel K. Stewart, president, Berlin; Shyles C. Sautbreeze, Salisbury (then part of Worcester County); Samuel S. McMaster, Newtown (Pocomoke City); Irving Spence, Snow Hill; Benjamin S. Sheppard, Sheppard's Cross-Roads; and G. W. Covington, secretary and treasurer, Snow Hill.

## Who's Who In Worcester Co. History of Education Progress

Members of the Board of Education in Worcester County since the turn of the century are listed below.

A. C. Riley and E. W. McMaster served until 1900, and Laban T. Quillin until 1904. Dates they began service are not available.

### Board Members

Lemuel W. Onley, 1900 to 1916; Zadok Powell, 1900 to 1924; James H. Vincent, 1904 to 1927; John W. Humphreys, 1916 to 1922; Franklin Upshur, 1922 to 1939; Dr. John L. Riley, 1924 to 1935; Milton L.

Veasey, 1927 to 1931; Dr. Norman E. Sartorius, 1931 to 1937 and 1943 to 1945; Frank B. Scarborough, 1935 to 1941; Mrs. Aimee Wilson Dixon, 1937 to 1943; John W. Burbage, Jr., 1939 to 1944; Harvey C. Pusey, 1941 to 1944; John B. Lynch, 1944 to 1951; Harris S. Corddry, 1944 to 1953; Edward W. Ham, 1945 to 1949; Raymond C. Dryden, 1949 to present; Elton W. Parsons 1951 to present; and Clayton J. Scarborough, 1953 to present.

### Superintendents

E. W. McMaster served as School Examiner from 1900 to 1904, when the name of the office was changed to County Superintendent of Schools. He served as "superintendent" until 1922.

Other county superintendents include Arthur C. Humphreys, 1922 to 1945; William S. Sartorius, 1945 to 1948; and Paul D. Cooper, 1949 to the present.

### Instruction Supervisors

Supervisors of Instruction include Mary B. Pusey, 1917 to 1925; Elizabeth A. Mundy, 1925 to 1944; Margaret L. Engle, 1944 to 1948; Mary A. Warren, 1948 to 1951; William L. Klingaman, 1949 to 1951; Robert H. Fraser, 1951 to 1952; Paul S. Hyde, 1951 to present; Alfred S. Hancock, 1952 to present and Myrtle L. Vick 1954 to present.

Colored supervisors of instruction have included Stephen Long, 1914 to 1921; Edward J. Henry, 1921 to 1932; William E. Henry, 1932 to 1942; and Annie B. Downing, 1947 to present.

### School Workers

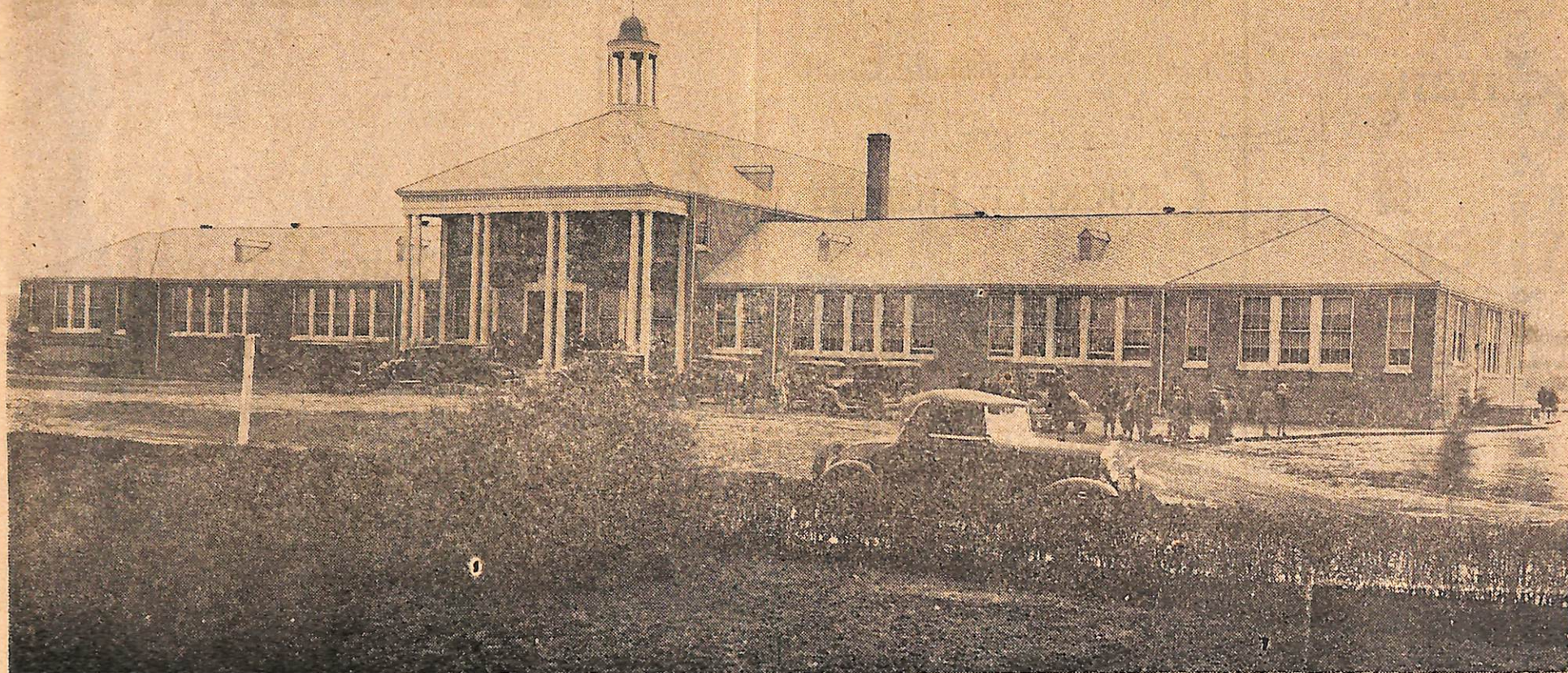
Supervisors of Pupil Personnel include Mary A. Townsend, 1916 to 1919; Lucy Stagg Pilchard, 1919 to 1954; Wilbur A. Jones, 1954 to present.

Benjamin W. Nelson has served as Supervisor of Maintenance and Transportation since 1952.

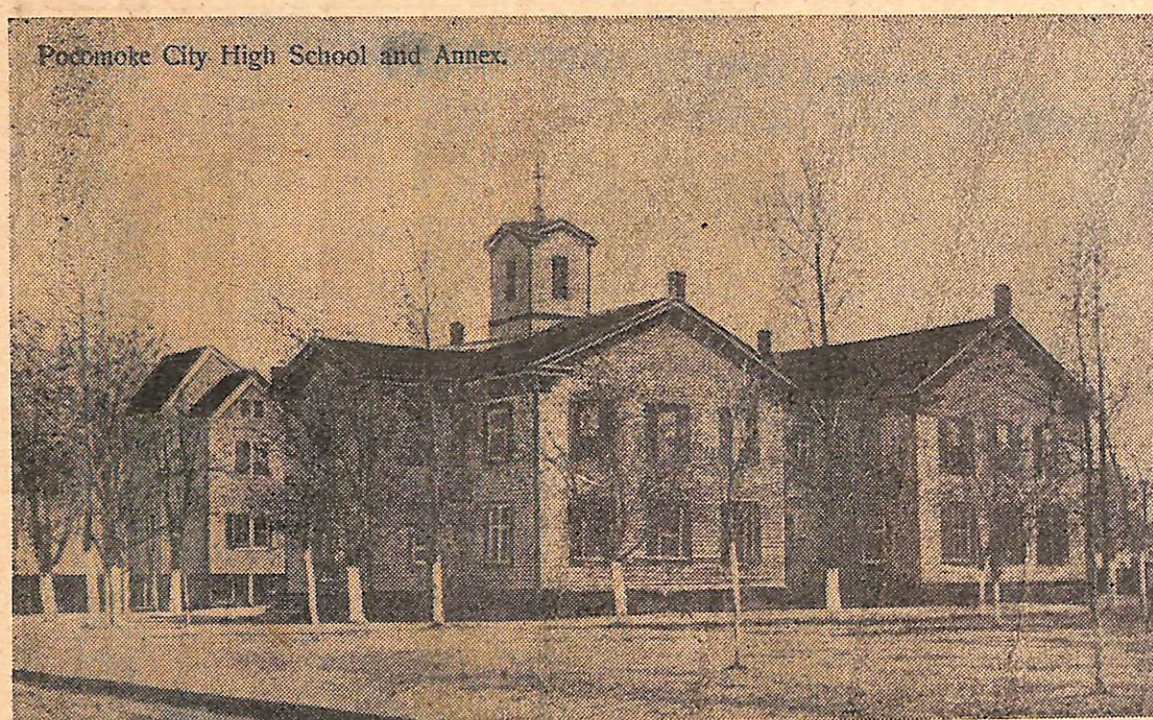
Clerks during the last 50 years include Annie M. Staton, 1903 to 1918; Mary P. Northam, 1918 to 1922 and Elsie M. Dryden, 1922 to the present.

Assistant clerks are Elizabeth Merritt Weichmann, 1928 to 1950, and Pauline Smullen Bowen, 1950 to present.





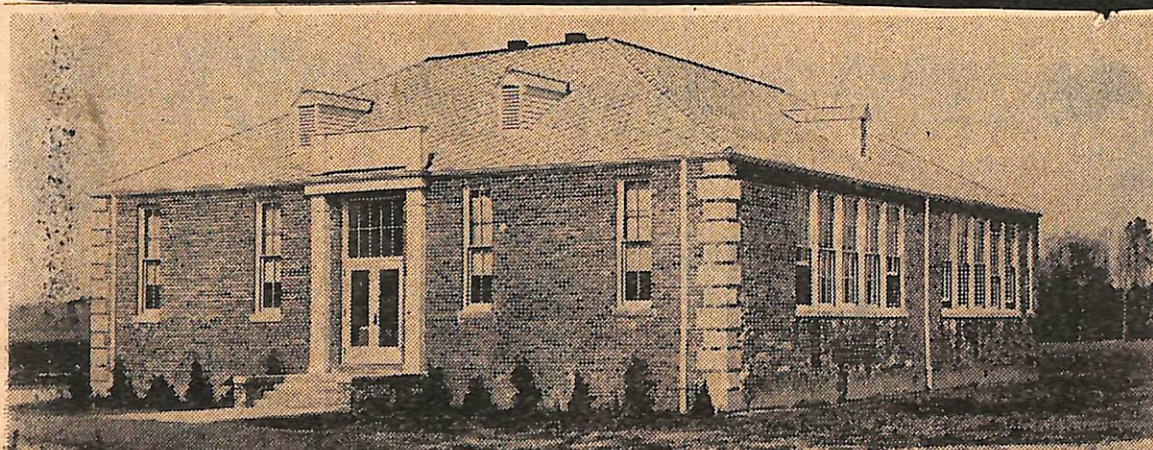
**NEW HIGH SCHOOLS** — Three high schools were built in Worcester County in 1930, similar to the Snow Hill school pictured here. The other two schools were built in Pocomoke City and Berlin. The schools, which combine elementary and high school students, were built under a \$300,000 contract which included the erection of about eight schools in the county.



Pocomoke City High School and Annex.

**OLD HIGH SCHOOL** — Students in Pocomoke City attended the above combination high school and elementary school until the early 1930's. The first Newtown High School (now Pocomoke City) was built in 1867. When it was razed in 1930 to make way for the new building several important documents were found in the cornerstone presenting a good picture of school life in the 1860's.

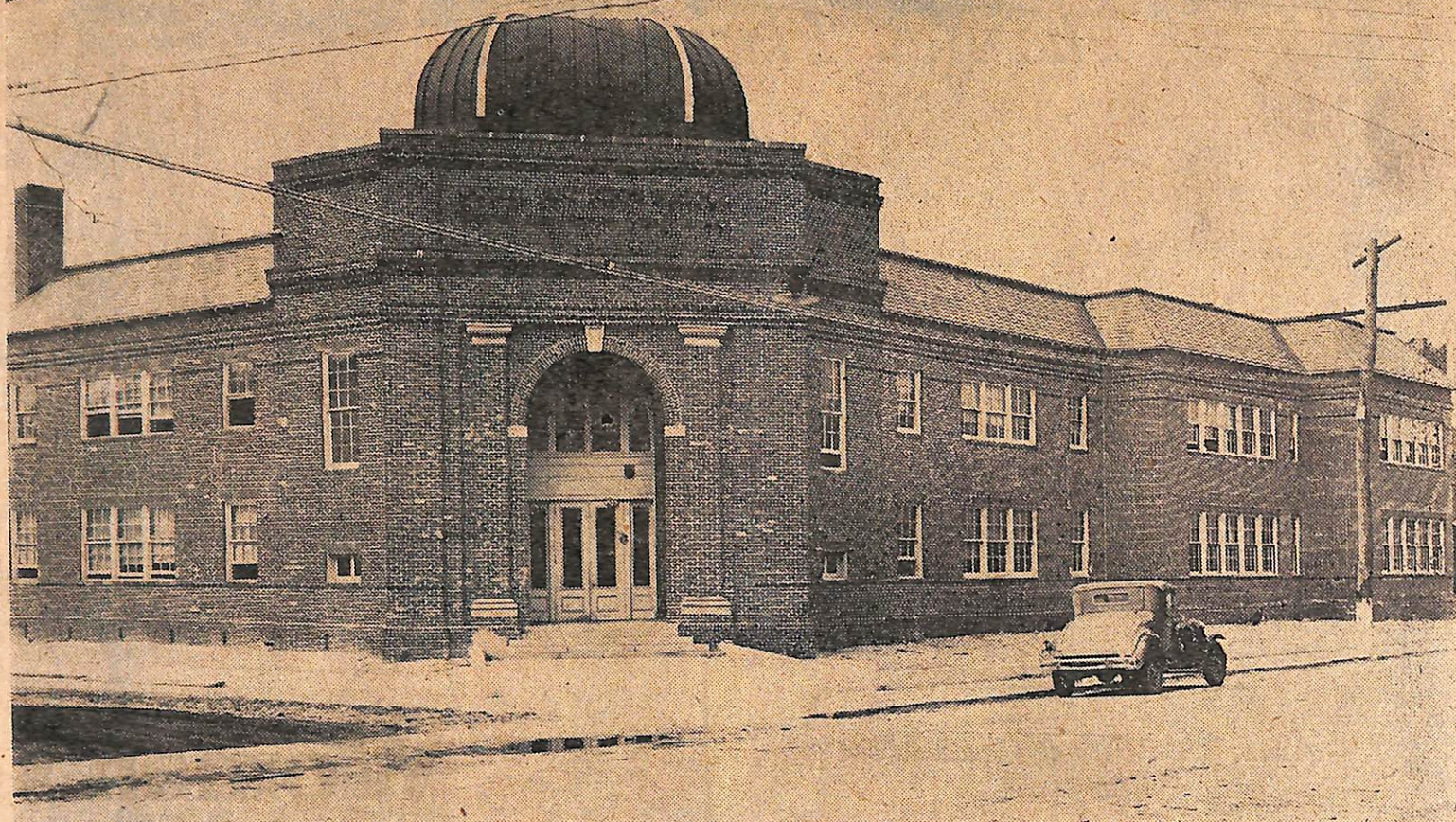
—Photo Courtesy Roger Vincent.



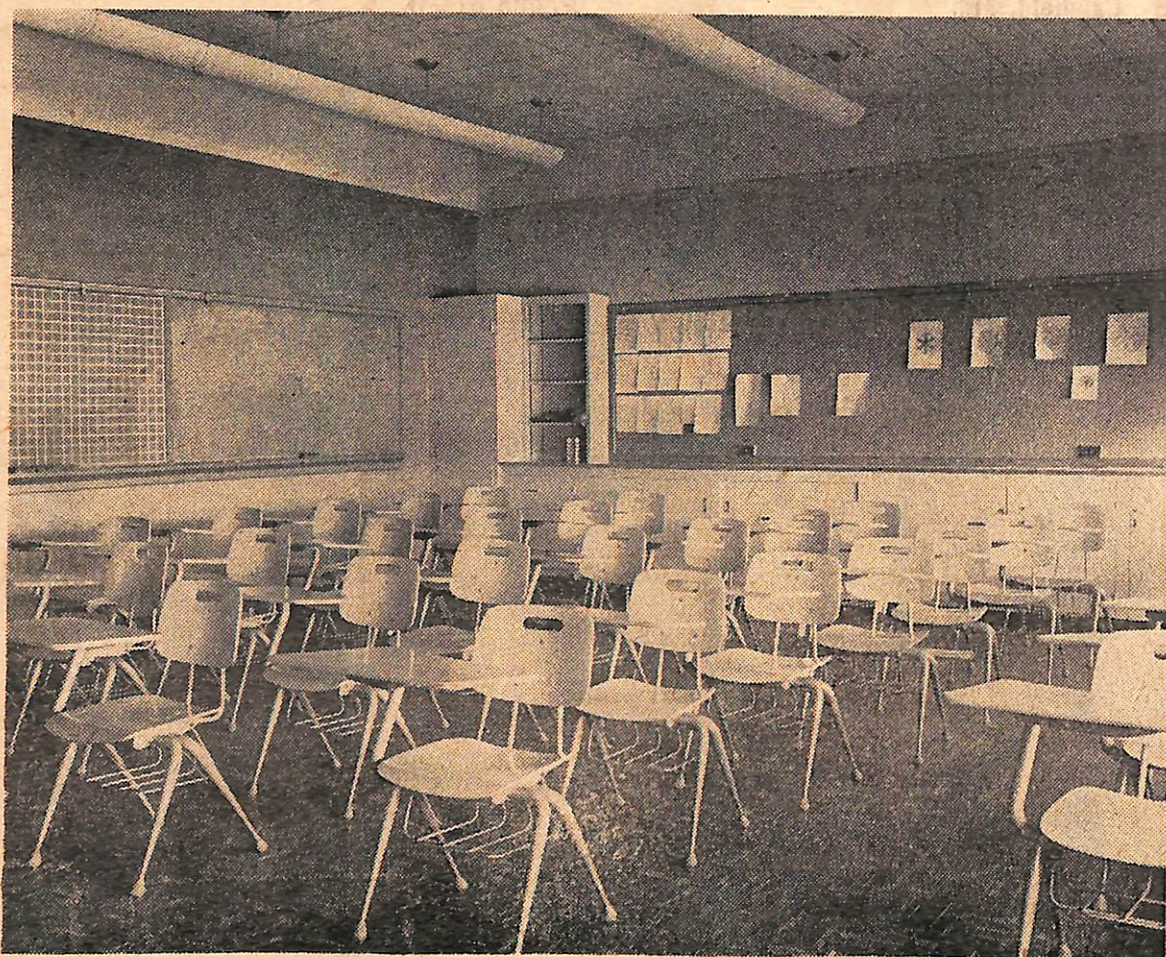
**BUILT IN 1930** — One of three schools built in 1930 in Worcester County, the above pictured Newark Elementary School has three rooms. Two teachers handle the classes in this school. The other two built in the same year include a three-room school at Whaleyville, and a five-room school at Bishopville.

—Photo Courtesy County Department of Education.





**STARTED AS STATE SCHOOL** — The Ocean-City School (above) was built in 1918 by the State as a summer institute. Later It was turned over to Worcester County for use as an elementary school. About a year ago the State gave the school to the county. The addition to the original building (right) was built prior to this photograph, in the 1930's. —Photo Courtesy County Department of Education.



**UP-TO-DATE CLASSROOM** — Above is a photo of a modern classroom found in the new Stephen Decatur High School which opened last September. Total cost of the school was about \$1,680,000. It is located between Berlin and Ocean City and serves the north portion of Worcester County.



# SCHOOLS TODAY HAVE MORE THAN 4,800 ENROLLED IN THE COUNTY

More than 4,800 children attend the public elementary and secondary schools of Worcester County today. There are no private or parochial schools.

These children receive a modern program of education in 17 different schools, ranging in size from two classrooms to 30 classrooms.

They receive their instruction from a staff of approximately 200 well-trained teachers, principals and supervisors. The students are transported to and from school by a fleet of 60 school busses.

## Administration

The county schools are under the control of a Board of Education consisting of three members. Appearances to the Board are made by the governor for six-year terms.

The present Board includes Raymond C. Dryden, of Pocomoke City, president, term expires 1955; Elton W. Parsons, of Berlin, vice-president, term expires 1957; and Clayton J. Scarborough, of Girdle- tree, term expires 1959.

The Board of Education formulates the policies under which the schools operate. The administration of the school system is delegated by the Board to a professional staff appointed by them.

The professional staff includes Dr. Paul D. Cooper, county superintendent of schools; Paul S. Hyde, director of instruction; Alfred S. Hancock, Myrtle Lee Vick and Mrs. Annie B. Downing, supervisors of instruction; Wilbur A. Jones, supervisor of pupil personnel; Ben-

jamin W. Nelson, supervisor of transportation and maintenance; Elsie M. Dryden and Mrs. Pauline S. Bowen, clerical staff.

Each of the 17 schools is administered by a principal. All schools, with the exception of two high schools, also have local boards of trustees who advise the principal and the Board of Education with respect to problems of individual schools.

## School Program

The Worcester County School system provides 12 years of instruction organized on the basis of a six-grade elementary school and a six-grade high school. While two kindergartens now are operated in the schools on a tuition basis, no free public education is provided below the first grade or beyond the 12th grade.

The program in the elementary school stresses mastery of the fundamental skills of language (reading, writing, spelling and speaking) and arithmetic.

However our schools also recognize and give attention to other fundamentals including self-control, how to live and work in a democracy, respect for the rights of others, and so on.

Children in the elementary grades are helped to understand the world around them through studies in the fields of history, geography and science. The elementary school also attempts to give each child an opportunity to develop to his full-

est capacity in the creative arts.

## Curriculum

The program in the high schools (grades 7-12) continues the development of the fundamental skills and understanding stressed in the elementary grades but goes beyond this in giving students an opportunity to specialize or concentrate upon studies which meet their particular needs.

Instruction is offered in the fields of language, arts, mathematics, social studies, science, music, arts, physical education and health, home economics, industrial arts, agriculture, foreign languages and business education.

These subjects are organized around the following curricula which students may elect during the last four years:

Academic program—in preparation for higher education; General program—emphasis placed upon fundamental skills and citizenship needs; Commercial program—vocational training for employment in business; Agricultural program—vocational training for farming; and Vocational Home Economics—specialization in homemaking.

## Teacher Requirements

Teachers in the elementary schools are required to have completed a four-year course in elementary education leading to a bachelor of science degree in a college approved for the preparation. (Continued on Page 7, Sect. D)

tion of elementary school teachers.

High school teachers likewise are required to complete a four-year course, but also are required to have from 18 to 30 semester hours credit in each of their special subject fields.

The instructional staff in high schools includes qualified librarians and guidance counselors.

## Finance

Funds for the support of the public school system are derived primarily from state and county sources, each providing approximately half of the total cost.

For the school year 1953-54 the total cost of operating Worcester County Schools (excluding capital outlay) amounted to approximately \$1,036,000. Of this amount the state provided about \$536,000 and the county provided about \$500,000.

County funds for school purposes are secured from taxes levied on real estate. For the current year, 1954-55, the county levy for all school purposes amounts to \$1.29 per \$100 on a total assessment of approximately \$60,000,000. County taxes for schools are levied by the Board of County Commissioners.

The cost per pupil for operating schools during the 1953-54 school year amounted to \$228.46.

## School Construction

The County has just completed the first phase of a school construction program, involving an expenditure of more than \$2,250,-

000. Two new high schools, each with a capacity of 700 children, have been completed in the last two years. A new primary school was completed six years ago.

All existing buildings have been renovated and much new equipment has been provided. At least four new buildings or additions must still be constructed at a cost of about \$2,000,000 to meet the needs expected in the next five years.

## Maintenance and Transportation

The maintenance of school buildings and the transportation of children are under the supervision of one member of the county staff. The buildings are maintained by a force of 27 custodians in the individual schools.

Of these 14 are on a full-time basis and 13 are on a part-time basis. In addition to the custodians there is a central repair crew of three men. All buildings are kept in a good state of repairs.

The 60 school busses are in excellent condition. All but four of them are less than 10 years old. All are given thorough inspections at least three times a year. All defects are required to be corrected immediately.

All school busses, except one, are owned and operated by private contractors. However, all contractors are under the continuous supervision of the Board of Education. Each is required to pass a physical examination annually.

## Other Services

In addition to the regular school program for children, evening classes are provided for adults in such fields as sewing, typing, art and music. Eleven such classes now are being offered with a total of 150 adults enrolled.

Most of the larger schools are provided with cafeterias which are operated by the schools themselves. Ten of these schools participate in the National School Lunch Program.

In cooperation with the County Health Department, various health services are provided for children. Vision and hearing are tested annually. All beginning children are required to secure check-ups before entering school.

On-the-farm training for veterans is provided under the supervision of the Board of Education.







# Agriculture

## PROGRESS OF AREA SPEARHEADED BY AGRICULTURE

Poultry, Truck Farming, Canning Among Principle

Industries of Worcester County; Fishing Is Good

No community can stand still — there must be progress.

In Pocomoke City that progress is recorded through the growth of a prosperous poultry and farming region surrounding it.

Hundreds of poultry raisers in this area—the center of the broiler raising country — supply many processing plants in this region where chickens are frozen, canned and otherwise offered edible to the public in pre-packaged forms.

### Birds Eye Plant

Spearheading the prosperity and industry of Pocomoke City is the great Birds Eye chicken processing plant which employs about 660 workers on two and sometimes three shifts.

Another leader in the industrial growth of Pocomoke City is the Mason Canning Company, regularly employing between 65 and 100 workers. The R. I. Lednum is another canning plant aiding in the growth of the city.

In total there are about 66 manufacturers in Worcester County. Broken down, this figure represents 26 food and kindred products, 24 lumber and products, excluding furniture, seven printing and publishing industries, four apparel and related products, two chemicals and allied products, and one stone, clay and glass manufacturer.

James C. Mullikin, in his survey of the postwar development on the East-

ern Shore, stated in May, 1949, that Worcester, Somerset and Wicomico counties are "more prosperous . . . than ever before in their history, and the foundation for that prosperity rests largely upon the gigantic broiler industry."

The Delmarva Peninsula is enriched by about \$108,000,000 a year by this industry. According to figures in May by the Department of Agriculture the area produced 187 million broilers last year.

### Broiler Belt

Sussex County in lower Delaware is recognized as one of the leading broiler-raising counties in the United States, with its neighbor, Worcester County, Md., ranking second (producing about 15,000,000 broilers in 1954) Wicomico County fifth, Somerset 14th and Caroline 16th. These counties were called the true "Broiler Belt," until the last few months when southern states began to increase broiler production.

The tremendous growth of the poultry industry began in the 1920's. It is estimated that in 1923 only about 1,000 broilers were produced for shipment a year, and that number reached its peak during World War II when broiler production hit a record of 110 million.

Since the war production in this area has stabilized at about 100 million, or about one-third of the total produced in the United States.

Agriculture is the basis for most manufacturing in the area, from raising and the processing of chickens and vegetables to the manufacture of fertilizer.

Worcester County led all counties in the value of farm products sold, according to the 1945 census report of the Department of Agriculture.

### Soy Beans Increase

Since that time, it is noted by Worcester County Agent R. T. Grant

(Continued from Page 1, Sect. B) the acreage of soy beans and field corn has increased, while potatoes decreased.

Reason for these changes in the agricultural picture of the area, Grant said, is the trend toward raising crops that incur less financial risk and less labor. Then too, changes are resulting from the great expansion of the production of broilers.

The 1945 census showed a total of 1,484 farms in this county had a gross income of \$14,598,965, which was \$9,986 per farm.

Worcester County continues to lead the State in the production of Irish potatoes. However, the acreage has continued to decrease, and in 1945 it was 28.6 per cent below the 1940 acreage.

To meet war-time needs the production of soybeans was increased by three times. The 5,008 acres of soybeans produced 64,982 bushels of soybeans for beans, most of which were used for oil, with some being used in livestock feed.

This crop continues to prove popular with area farmers. Field corn, another increasingly popular crop, also is being raised in larger quantities.

### Truck Crops

Truck crops were increased during the five-year period from 1940 to 1945 by 9 per cent, with increases reported for snap beans, cabbage and tomatoes, but decreases for sweet corn and peas.

Worcester County is rated highly by the U. S. Census Bureau's 1947

## Excellent Climate Means Two Potato Crops Each Year

Growing Season 210 Days Long — Furs Were Once Leading Product

Worcester is the second ranking poultry-producing county in the entire United States for the climate is just as healthy for chickens as it is for people!

Worcester County is good growing country. Crops do just as well as folks and chicks. Because of the tempering effect of the Atlantic Ocean and Chesapeake Bay, the growing season (average about 210 days is long enough with the help of fertilizer in the sandy soil to produce two crops of Irish potatoes on the same land in one season. That's why the Pocomoke area is both chicken and potato country.

### Many Truck Crops

Sweet potatoes, strawberries, cherries, raspberries, melons, corn, wheat, peas, beans and hay are other important crops. And, there are large peach and apple orchards which account for the canneries and freezing plants. There is always plenty to eat in our community. So much that we mill our feed and grain and ship it with our potatoes and chickens to other sections of the country.

Since early times Pocomoke City has been the center of Eastern Shore Maryland and Virginia trade. Pocomoke was commercially important as far back as the close of the 17th century, when the area was exporting 80 per cent of the furs sent from Maryland — the most valuable commodity of the day.

### Streams Attract Many

Our streams still offer us food, remuneration for our efforts and sport. Hunting, fishing, crabbing and trapping are carried on successfully around Pocomoke, in fact, natives are joined by many visitors who find excellent hotel and rooming house accommodations in the city. Our rivers, bays and creeks continue to abound with fish of many species. The oyster industry, too, is extensive and important giving employment to thousands. And Worcester County, ocean front oysters are considered superior to the less salty but still luscious Chesapeake Bay oyster. Along the waterways are many steam mills for sawing, dressing and manufacturing lumber. All this augments the agricultural wealth of the Pocomoke district.

### Old Industries Disappear

Today Pocomoke is a modern city and the old industries are

gone. New industries such as basket and crate making factories are established to fill a need. The cypress forests of the Pocomoke River, still make wood available for many things. Mainly, however, Worcester County has developed because it has capitalized upon its agricultural possibilities.

As mentioned, vegetables grow in abundance, and along the county's 40 miles on ocean front are fine pasture lands for stock as well as hay of every variety for winter feeding.

### Our Future Seen Secure

Produce is shipped away, raw, canned and frozen. This lucrative business has long since replaced the boat building, tanneries, shoe, harness, hat, and cabinet making industries, the blacksmith shops and carriage factories that once were the financial success of the area. Yes, Pocomoke has kept pace with time. It has helped itself and our great Nation. It has helped fight and pay for all our wars, and it is ready to do its share in all emergencies, although praying for peace.



# Average Farm Is 131 Acres; Tax Rate Is Low

**Employment in area is good and few people apply for relief — Gov't. is economically administered . . . other data . . .**

Worcester County topped the entire State in both per capita retail sales and in the value of farm products per farm, and stood well economically in many other categories according to statistics released by the University of Maryland in 1954.

The report compiled by the University's Bureau of Governmental Research revealed that retail sales in Worcester per capita were \$1,689. Somerset with a figure of \$1,111 stood sixth among Maryland's 23 counties and Baltimore City.

Retail sales in Worcester totalled \$39,088,000 for the year 1952 which are the latest figures available. Somerset sales amounted to \$23,045,000.

## Highest Farm Values

The value of farm products per farm in Worcester was \$10,296 which led all counties by a wide margin. In second place was Kent county with a \$7,779 figure per farm. Wicomico was third with a per farm value of \$7,230. Somerset stood eighth in the State with a value of \$6,663.

Despite its income record, farm land in Worcester, based on assessments, was worth just \$65 an acre, the lowest price in the State except for the \$46 per acre figure shown for Garrett County in far Western Maryland. Somerset assessments show land to be worth \$82 an acre compared to a figure of \$111 in Wicomico County.

The average Somerset farm is assessed for \$9,051 compared to a \$8,454 figure for Worcester.

## County Farms Are Large

The average Worcester farm consists of 131 acres, which places the average seventh among the counties of the State. Somerset farms average 20 acres smaller. Kent has the largest farms, 226 acres. Worcester has 182,000 of its 309,000 acres in farm land, or 58.9 percent of all land is used for agricultural purposes. In Somerset 102,000 of 212,000 acres is in farm land, or 48.1 percent of the total.

Breaking down the value of Worcester's farm products it is found that the county ranks number one in Maryland for the value of poultry which at the time of the report had a value of \$10,636,000. Livestock in the county was valued at \$454,000; dairy products at \$431,000 and crops at \$2,590,000. Wicomico stood second and Somerset fourth in value of poultry. In between was Caroline.

## 14 Persons Per Square Mile

Based on 1950 census figures Worcester stood 16th among the counties with a population of 23,148. There were 48 persons per square mile in Worcester. Of the total population 30.7 percent or 7,100 persons were non-white. Only three counties, Calvert in Southern Maryland, Somerset and Charles, on the other side of the Chesapeake Bay have a greater percentage of colored citizens. Somerset percentage is 35.3 percent based on the figure of 7,329 nonwhite. The farm population in Worcester in 1950 was 6,972. The Somerset figure was 4,135.

The average Worcester countian has had 7.7 years of formal education which is below the state average of 8.9 years. Somerset has the exact record. Montgomery county with an average of 12.6 years leads the State.

The survey was made of residents over 25 years of age.

The average family income in Worcester was \$1,916 which is far below the State average of \$3,266. These figures, however, are for the year 1949. Somerset median family income was \$1,719. Only 9.4 percent of the Worcester population reported incomes in excess of \$5,000 while 51.9 percent said they made less than \$2,000 per year. Somerset records reveal 5.1 percent having incomes greater than \$5,000, and 58.9 percent with annual incomes under \$2,000.00.

State income tax figures for 1953 reveal that Worcester countians paid \$108,547 in individual income taxes and \$40,531 corporation taxes. Somerset figures were \$59,166 in personal taxes and \$12,014 in corporation taxes.

## \$2,107 Average Salary

Average salaries paid by industries in Worcester was \$2,107 with an average of 4,995 persons being employed monthly. The 1953 payroll in this category amounted to \$10,525,000. The Somerset average salary paid industrial workers was \$1,762 and 3,144 persons were employed for a total payroll of \$5,541,000. For manufacturing employment Somerset had an average salary of \$1,989 compared to \$1,919 for Worcester but more people were employed in Worcester, namely 2,252 compared to 1,402 in Somerset. Total wages paid to workers classed as manufacturers: Worcester, \$4,322,000, Somerset, \$2,788,000.

Bank deposits in Worcester in 1952 totalled \$19,887,000 or \$859 per capita which placed the county sixth in the entire State per individual. Bank deposits in Somerset were 11,053,000 or \$533 per capita.

## Low Tax Rate

The total assessed value of real and personal property in Worcester for 1952 was \$46,365,000 which places the county 14th in the State, but eighth based on the per capita assessment of \$2,003. Assessments in Somerset amounted to \$20,185,000, or \$973 per capita. Total revenue from

taxes in Worcester amounted to \$965,000 on a tax rate of \$1.35 which is the lowest in the State except for Carroll which has the same rate. The Somerset income was \$720,000 from a tax rate of \$1.65 for each \$100 of assessment.

Government in Worcester cost \$31 per person or \$724,000. In Somerset the cost per citizen for government was \$22, and the total bill was \$463,000. Worcester has a public debt of \$1,330,000 which amounts to an obligation of \$57 for each citizen. Each Somerset resident owes \$40 toward the county debt of \$838,000, or did at the time the report was prepared.

Worcester had wholesale sales in 1948 amounting to \$7,466,000 but Somerset did better with sales of \$9,034,000.

## Little Unemployment

In 1950 the total civilian labor force figure was 10,138 of which all but 3.3 percent were employed. Somerset at the same time had available labor amounting to 6.9 percent of those available. Of the Worcester labor force 2,231 were employed in manufacturing plants, and 2,719 in agriculture, which means that 26.8 percent of the county's wage earners work on farms. Somerset has 1,658 persons working on farms and 1,612 in manufacturing plants.

Other classifications of employment show the following figures: Public administration, Worcester, 239, Som-

erset 157; construction, Worcester, 630, Somerset, 420; transportation, communication and public utilities, Worcester, 340, Somerset, 316; wholesale and retail, Worcester 1,666, Somerset 1,783; business and personal services, Worcester 618, Somerset, 295; forestry and fisheries, Worcester 220, Somerset 818; professional, Worcester 353, Somerset 371 and real estate and finance, Worcester 197, Somerset 92.

## Few People Ask Aid

For the fiscal year 1953 the average number of persons receiving one or more unemployment checks per month was 175 in Worcester showing there was little unemployment. Comparison, Somerset had 146 persons receiving checks. Only 3.5 percent of the 4,995 workers covered in Worcester received unemployment compensation. In Somerset the total amounted to 46.6 percent. Also in Somerset 16.3 percent of those aided exhausted all available benefits compared to only 2.5 percent in Worcester county.

In 1950 9,341 Worcester and 6,721 Somerset homes were found and checked. In Worcester 74.3 percent, and in Somerset 86.9 percent of all homes were one family units. Seventeen percent of the Worcester homes and 10.8 percent of the Somerset homes were found to have been built since 1940. Of these homes, 45.1 percent in Worcester and 22.4% in Somerset had hot running water, private toilet, bath and were in good condition. Owners occupy 53.5 percent of the Worcester homes. In Somerset the percentage was 56.

## Heating Units Needed

In Worcester 17.3 percent and in Somerset 11.4 percent of the homes had central heating which is a low figure. A majority, 62.7 of the Worcester county residents have mechanical refrigerators, and 88.8 percent have radios. In Somerset the totals are: refrigerators 55.1 percent and radios 90.5 percent.

There is one pleasure automobile registered for every 3.77 residents of Worcester, the total being 6,136. In addition 2,980 commercial vehicles are owned by Worcester countians. There were 4,072 pleasure cars and 1,775 commercial vehicles in Somerset in 1953.

## Assessments Very Low

A check of public assistance expenditures show the following: Old age assistance, Worcester \$91,764, Somerset \$89,476; aid to dependent children, Worcester \$24,629, Somerset \$41,321; assistance to needy blind, Worcester \$2,553, Somerset, \$3,491; aid to permanently and totally disabled, Worcester \$16,654, Somerset \$11,484, and general public assistance, Worcester \$4,256 and Somerset \$7,426.

The report states that based on estimates by the Maryland Association of Assessing Officers the assessments recorded in Worcester and Somerset counties show only 27 percent of the true value of the property.

Only Charles County in Southern Maryland has lower assessments the report said. In some areas assessments run up to 60 percent of the value of the property.



# Famous Men of Worcester County

## WILLIAM STEVENS WAS THE GREAT MAN OF EARLY POCOMOKE AS WELL AS HIGH RANKING OFFICIAL FOR LORD BALTO.

**Though a Church of England man he fought for all religions and freedom of worship. He held many offices and brought distinction to Shore.**

The name Stevens is almost the most important one to be found in early Eastern Shore, Maryland, history.

Af course, Pocomoke City was once known as Stevens' Ferry, but it was a different Stevens, and of no relation to the ferry boat operator, who first made a name for himself, and became the greatest benefactor, wisest administrator found in this area in its early history.

In August, 1665, existing records mention the name of William Stevens for the first time and there is bare reference to him then, just that he lived on the Pocomoke River. On September 6, 1666, he took oath as chief Commissioner of Peace in Somerset County, an area which now includes Worcester and Wicomico counties. At that time the County was divided into five "hundreds."

### Named First Delegate

In 1669 Stevens was the first man sent to St. Mary's City to represent the Pocomoke area in the General Assembly. From his appearance in Maryland until his death Stevens was a champion of religious freedom, and helped each faith to organize and worship as they saw fit. Stevens himself belonged to the Church of England, but he never forced his religious beliefs on others.

By 1672 Stevens was presiding magistrate of the County's six man court half of whom were Church of England men, and half Quakers. The Grand jury of that date included six Church of England men, a Presbyterian as foreman, and three Quakers with 10 other members unidentified.

### Home Was A Haven

Stevens, although listed as of Pocomoke, lived at "Rehoboth" on the Pocomoke River in Pocomoke "Hundred." The biblical significance for "Rehoboth" is "room for all" and Stevens kept that kind of a home. Ministers of all faiths lived with him upon arrival in the community, and until they had located permanently. His home was a mile northeast of the town of Rehoboth.

Stevens, although an Anglican, was the friend and trusted official of the Roman Catholic Proprietor of Maryland. Tolerant to all, he was known to fellow countians as the "Churchman." He aided all religious groups in the area without partiality and finally signed a petition supporting Lord Baltimore when local Protestant groups questioned his administration of the Province.

### Helped Area Grow

No Marylander appears to have been more deeply interested in and concerned about the development of the Pocomoke area than Stevens who rose to Colonel and commanded the militia of the area. He proved a genius at community building and although he became wealthy due to his business ability his chief aim seemed to be his desire to serve the public. He was called upon to occupy every position of trust and honor in the area. He was trusted by all classes in the population. He eventually became a member of the Lord Proprietor of the Province, an official family member of the Council, and a deputy Governor.

"A staunch Church of England man, Stevens was tolerant and sympathetic to all and it was his voice and influence that brought the first Presbyterian minister to the Eastern Shore. He sent a plea to England in 1680 for a "godly minister" for the Presbyterians. In less than two years a man who was to become the great spiritual leader, the Rev. Francis Makemie had arrived in answer to Stevens' call.

### Put Makemie Up

In telling Stevens that a minister was to be sent the church addressed him as "Colonel Stevens from Maryland beside Virginia." Upon arrival in the spring of 1683 Makemie, then a young man of 25 lived with Col. Stevens and his family along the Pocomoke River. Typical of a minister's work in those days Makemie went from door to door. He had no pulpit. Five years after his arrival Makemie settled in his residence at Matchatank (Temperanceville) in Accomack County, Va., where he remained until his death in 1708.

There is no limit to the achievements of the man Stevens. He also became Judge Stevens. Although he was not among the very earliest settlers he was for 22 years the first citizen of the Pocomoke River and Somerset county area. Unfortunately his family line died with him for he and his wife Elizabeth had no children. Elizabeth, however, remained an important figure long after her husband's death, particularly after

she married Colonel George Layfield in 1697. Layfield became his Majesty's Collector of Customs for the Pocomoke District. He also was a notary and a member of the first vestry of Coventry Parish upon the organization of the Established Church in the Province of Maryland.

### The Pocomoke Ferryman

Another Stevens — totally unrelated to Col. William Stevens — is first mentioned through reference to the Presbyterian Meeting houses which was on his tract of land. This Edward Stevens was one of three brothers, the other two being William and John. They were termed planters. Edward Stevens had a son bearing his name who in December, 1695, ten years after his father's death, was named by the court to be ferryman at Pocomoke River. In 1697 he was keeper of what then was called "Pocomoke Ferry." Stevens lived on his land until his death in 1759 and his son, John Stevens, inherited the plantation with the ferry thereon.

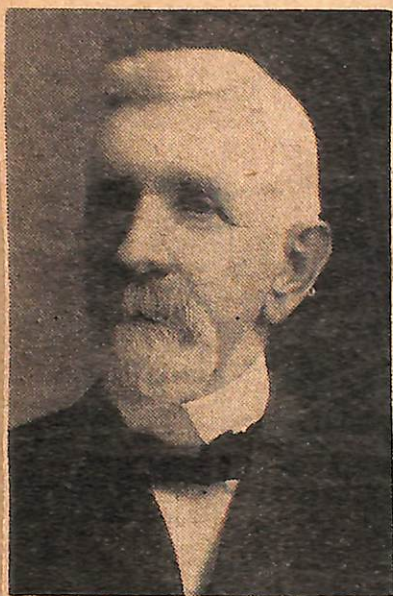


THE LATE J. FRANK VINCENT, one of the pioneer telegraph operators on the 'Shore, is shown here in the old postal telegraph office in Pocomoke City. Note the pot-bellied stove, seen in many homes and businesses until the past 25 years or so, the wire partition and the big, shaded light bulb.

—Photo courtesy Roger Vincent.



## Seventeen Men Have Served As Mayor To Pocomoke City; Dr. Costen, First



**FIRST MAYOR**—Dr. I. T. Costen, above, was the first elected mayor of Pocomoke City, chosen to take office in 1888. He served two terms being re-elected in 1890. Subsequently, in 1908 and 1910, Dr. Costen was re-elected to third and fourth terms as the city's leader. —Photo Courtesy the Misses Costen.

The first mayor of Pocomoke City was elected with a literal "bang" back in 1888, when Dr. I. T. Costen was chosen immediately following a provision by law for the office.

Records of the first election apparently were lost in the fire of 1894, but the memory of Dr. Costen's daughter, Miss Ollie Costen, serves well to reconstruct that election.

Miss Costen recalls that her father, a noted Democrat in this city, won the race against Charles O. Melvin, Republican, with the help of a community that was primarily Democratic in its political thought.

### Cannons Fired

When results of the election were announced, Miss Costen said, the town cannon, a Civil War relic, was fired. She remembers also that the cannon backfired once, shattering with buckshot the face of the boy who pulled the trigger.

Dr. Costen was re-elected to the city's highest office in 1890, according to records available. Later from 1908 to 1912, he again served in his third and fourth terms as mayor.

Although we've scoured all official records in Pocomoke City and in the Worcester County court house, no record of the mayor elected in 1892 can be found. Succeeding mayors, however, have been listed by Miss Mildred Schoolfield, City Clerk.

The list reads as follows: William Dale, May 6, 1895-May 1, 1896; William F. King, May 1, 1896-May 1, 1898; Riley M. Stevenson, May 1, 1898-September 2, 1901 (resigned).

### Tull In Nine Terms

E. James Tull, September 2, 1901 to May 1, 1908; Dr. Costen, May 1, 1908-May 1, 1912; Mr. Tull, May 1, 1912-May 1, 1916; Edward M. Ross, May 1, 1916-August 5, 1918 (resigned).

Mr. Tull, August 5, 1918-June 23, 1924 (died June 17, 1924); William E. Hall, June 23, 1924-May 1, 1932; R. V. Gladding, May 1, 1932-May 1, 1936; E. W. Ross, May 1, 1936-May 1, 1942.

Dr. James T. Nock, May 1, 1942-September 14, 1945 (resigned); Norris M. Young, September 14, 1945-May 1, 1946; Clayton F. Lambertson, May 1, 1946-May 1, 1948.

Fred U. Henderson, May 1, 1948-July 19, 1949 (resigned);

George S. Matthews, Jr., July 19, 1949-May 1, 1954.

Mayor Daniel W. Shaw, Jr., present mayor of Pocomoke City, was elected to office on May 1, 1954, and will be eligible for re-election in the spring of 1956. He is the 17th man to hold this office.

## E. James Tull Lived Full Life

### As A Shipbuilder and Mayor



**LONG-TIME MAYOR** — E. James Tull, distinguished citizen of Pocomoke City served as its mayor from 1901 until his death in 1924 with the exception of three terms. He also was superintendent of the Sunday School at Salem Methodist Episcopal Church for 40 years. —Photo Courtesy Mrs. Jane Hancock.

E. James Tull, who served Pocomoke City as mayor for a total of 17 years, was born January, 1851, and died in June 1924, at the age of 73.

He was a self-made man who won the respect and admiration of the townspeople he served for so many years. His death occurred following a siege of pneumonia.

### Born In Somerset

His birthplace was in Somerset County and his parents were John C. and Jane F. Tull. His meager formal education was received in public schools.

Mr. Tull moved to Pocomoke City when it still bore the name New Town, and entered the employ of William J. S. Clarke, a local shipbuilder.

He worked hard at his trade and at the time of his death he was owner and proprietor of the shipyard he had entered 45 years before as an apprentice.

The Tull shipyard turned out all sorts of craft from the batteau to the steamer, the pleasure yacht and the many-masted sailing vessel. Mr. Tull's work was noted for its staunchness, beauty and thoroughness, and the industry gained for Pocomoke City a creditable place in the shipbuilding world.

A life-long member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, Mr. Tull served for 42 years as superintendent to the Sunday School.

During his active life in Pocomoke City, the mayor saw his town pass through many changes. He watched the city improve its streets and water system, its lighting and railroads. He was mayor of the city in 1922 when the great fire occurred, and was a citizen here during the other three city fires.

He also was an early member of Pocomoke Lodge No. 96, Knights of Pythias and Crescent Lodge No. 178, A. F. & A. M.

Mayor Tull's death was mourned by the entire city with the flags brought to half-mast and the City Hall draped in black. Business was suspended for one hour during funeral services, and organizations attended the funeral in a body.

This remarkable man served as mayor from 1901 until his death in 1924, with the exception of three terms.



**OWNED NEWSPAPER** — C. O. Melvin (above) was one of the owners of the Ledger-Enterprise when the Peninsula Ledger and Enterprise, forerunners of the Worcester Democrat, were merged in the late 1890's. Melvin, with Alonzo Tull and Emerson Polk operated the combined paper until 1915. He formerly had interests in the Record and Gazette, an earlier newspaper of Pocomoke City. —Photo Courtesy I. R. Melvin.



## DR. CLARKE EDITOR 1922 TO 1953

Dr. Edward J. Clarke, an educator well-known throughout Maryland, was owner and publisher of the Worcester Democrat for 31 years, until death ended a brilliant career in 1953 at the age of 92.

Dr. Clarke really had two careers — prior to taking over the newspaper in 1922, he was a professor of English and history.

### Son of Pioneers

This Editor, famous in this area for his homey opinions stated in his weekly "Chirps" column, was born in Pocomoke City in 1860, the son of pioneer residents of the town.

He attended public schools in his native community while living with the Rev. John Wesley Pierson, pastor of the Methodist Church, with whom he made his home following his father's death in 1866.

The publisher was graduated from the high school in 1873 but, because of his age — just 13 — he attended another year of high school in Wilmington, Del., where his foster father had taken charge of another church.

### St. John's Student

Dr. Clarke entered St. John's College at Annapolis, and received his Bachelor of Arts degree in 1881. Later his Alma Mater conferred on him a Master's, and subsequently, a Doctor of Literature degree.

Following his graduation Dr. Clark taught school in Worcester County, Md., and Accomack County, Va. It was in 1887 that he went to Washington College, Chestertown, Md., as English instructor. He remained there 30 years and was head of the English department from 1889 to 1918. One of his students during those years was Federal Judge T. Alan Goldsborough, of whom Dr. Clarke was very fond.

At Washington College Dr. Clarke also taught history. He was at the college from 1887 to 1918, served as a member of the college's Visitors and Governor's Board from 1918 to 1920, and was superintendent of the Kent County public schools from 1918 to 1922.

### Takes Over Paper

Dr. Clarke returned to Pocomoke City in 1922 to take over the Worcester Democrat as publisher-editor. From that time until his death the newspaper grew and flourished under his expert guidance.

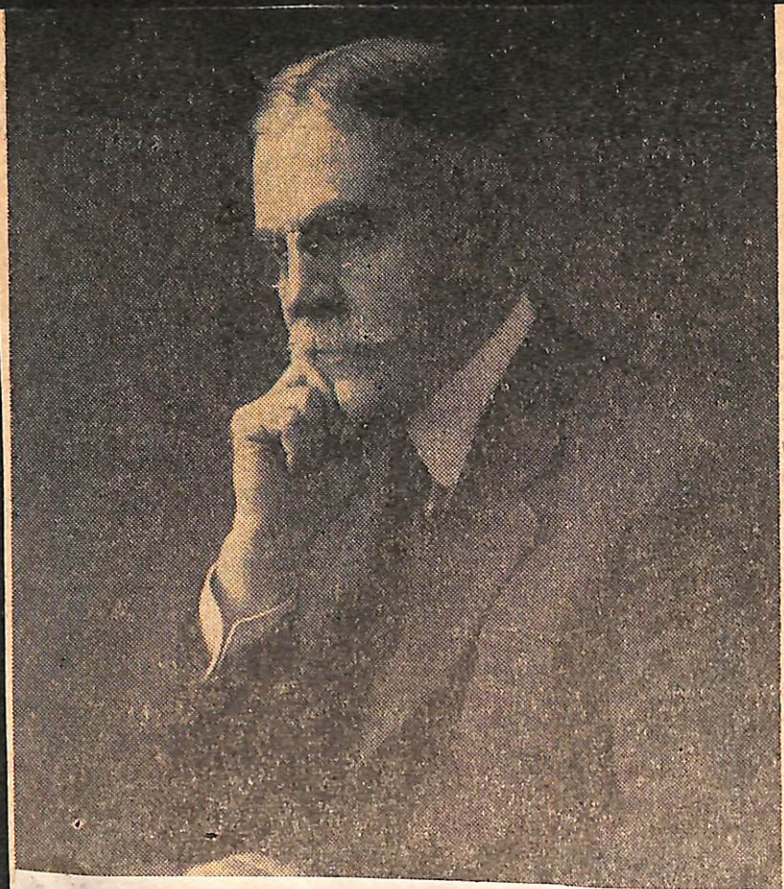
Evidence of the success of his life as an educator was developed in 1941 when a tablet in a hall of Washington College, was dedicated to Dr. Clarke, marking his "long, faithful and dvaluable service as an educator, executive, editor and publisher. The tablet was erected by his former students.

In addition to his two full-time careers, Dr. Clarke found time to serve in community and fraternal organizations. He was a member and senior warden of St. Mary the Virgin Episcopal Church; a past master of the Masonic Lodge, in which he had taken the Royal Arch degrees; and a past president of the Rotary Club.

Dr. Clarke died on February 18, 1953, after an illness of a few days, just 15 days after the death of his wife, Mrs. Bertha Lloyd Clarke. He was 92 when he died.

### Spring In His Heart

One tribute made shortly before his death in the book "The Free State of Maryland," says of Dr. Clarke, "Though the snows of winter are on his head, the flowers of spring are in his heart." And those who knew him, either personally or through his widely-read "Chirps" can't refute that thought.



Dr. Edward J. Clarke

## WORCESTER CLAIMS NOTABLE OFFICIALS

Worcester County and the immediate surrounding area has had many well-known sons who have been active in the governments of their country and their state. Others were pioneers in the development of their communities.

The Rev. Francis Makemie (1658-1708) was about the first of the famous men here, and is considered the first Presbyterian minister - missionary in America. He succeeded in establishing a permanent church, considered the oldest Presbyterian church in the country, at Rehoboth.

One of the leading families on the Eastern Shore, the Dennises of 'Beverly,' has contributed several members to the ranks of government posts. John Dennis was a Representative in the United States Congress from 1797 to 1805; Littleton Purnell Dennis was a Representative from 1833-1834; George Robertson Dennis, United States Senator, state legislator and president of the Delmar - Crisfield Railroad; and Judge Samuel K. Dennis, lawyer and circuit court judge.

### One Governor

Stephen Decatur (1779-1820), America's great naval hero, also is claimed by Worcester County. He was born near Berlin although he was not a resident after he achieved fame.

John Walter Smith (1845-1925) was perhaps one of the most active of Worcester County native sons in both state and national governments. He served in the state's highest post, that of Governor, for four years, from 1900 to 1904. Smith also was president of the State Senate in 1894, after which he served as a Representa-

tive to Congress from 1899 to 1900. After his term as governor he was elected to the United States Senate from 1908 to 1921.

Ephraim King Wilson (1821-1891) also was a Member of Congress and a United States Senator and also served as a judge. He was a native of Worcester County.

Worcester County has had three United States Senators, John Selby Spence 1836-1840; Ephraim King Wilson, 1885-1891; and John Walter Smith, 1908-1921.

### Nine Representatives

The county has had nine Representatives in Congress: John Dennis, 1797-1805; John Selby Spence, 1823 - 1825, 1831 - 1833; Ephraim King Wilson, 1827-1831; Littleton Purnell Dennis, 1833-1834; Thomas Ira Spence, 1843-1845; John Rankin Franklin, 1853-1855; Ephraim King Wilson, 1873-1875; George Washington Covington, 1881-1885; John Walter Smith, 1899-1900.

By way of comparison only one other Eastern Shore county has had more Representatives to Congress than Worcester. Talbot County has had 10 Representatives. Worcester and Dorchester 9. Queen Anne's and Somerset 8. Cecil 7. Wicomico and Kent 4. Caroline and Harford 3.

### 3 House Speakers

Men who achieved the post of Speaker of the Maryland House of Delegates from Worcester County were John R. Franklin, 1849; George M. Upshur, 1888; and Lloyd Wilkinson, 1900.

Worcester County also has had two judges of the Court of Appeals of Maryland, John Done, 1812-1814 and Ara Spence, 1835-1851.



#### County Established In 1742

The first Pocomoke Church situated at Pocomoke Town, was not located, however, in Pocomoke City but in Rehoboth. In those days there was no Worcester county. Our county was cut out of Somerset in 1742, and Snow Hill estab-

lished in 1686 is the only 17th century Somerset County town still in existence. Of course, our county seat hasn't been affiliated with Somerset for 213 years. Rehoboth, now a pleasant village, was a thriving trading center during the latter part of the 17th, and early part of the 18th, centuries. In those days, the town was better known as Pocomoke Town than as Rehoboth Town. In 1708 the town of Rehoboth was called "Pocomoke Town called Rehoboth," though in 1671 William Stevens' home was spoken of as being in "Pocomoke." The house was situated on the Pocomoke River, half a mile from Rehoboth.

#### Area Of Old Churches

Pocomoke Church belonged to the Church of England congregation (now Episcopal) and there being a record of it in 1692, it must have been the first church in the area. The first church of Coventry Parish (the second Church of England church in the district) was erected about 1695—a bare ten years before the Presbyterians erected their "New Meeting House." Some time before this, however, the Presbyterians had worshipped in private homes, and quite conceivably also used the Church of England's log Pocomoke Church as a place of worship.

Not long ago excavators found in the town of Rehoboth the foundation of the first Coventry Parish showing that the church was 50 feet long by 28 feet 2 inches wide. In the early history of the area the word Church was used only in connections with the Church of England. All other denominations (considered dissenters) met in meeting houses.

#### Tobacco Supported Churches

Somerset County, founded on August 22, 1666, as the 8th county of the province of Maryland, was, of course, the mother county of Worcester, and Coventry Parish lay in both counties.

In 1774 the General Assembly of Maryland passed an act empowering the justices of Somerset and Worcester counties to levy on the inhabitants of Coventry Parish, 32,000 pounds of tobacco, to be used by the rector and vestry to purchase two acres of land on the east side of Pocomoke River, at or near Stevens Ferry, to be used for erection of a chapel of ease for the Parish. Advent of the Revolutionary War probably kept the act from being carried out. Instead the tobacco was used to build Rehoboth Church.

Another act of 1774 ordered a levy of 45,000 pounds of tobacco which was used by Worcester County officials to erect a Chapel of Ease in All Hallow's Parish, the present church of the Holy Cross at Stockton.

While the Presbyterian Church's first disciple in Maryland was Ninian Beall of Southern Maryland, it was on the Eastern Shore that Presbyterianism in America was really organized, and the focal point from which it expanded. The Rev. Francis Makemie, the greatest divine of all early Presbyterians in the New World, made his first headquarters at Rehoboth. It was from there, with Makemie as the inspiration, that the church, and its gospel, spread far and wide for the good of humanity. Rehoboth Town on Pocomoke River had the first house of worship of the Presbyterian

## HISTORY OF FAITH AND MEETING PLACES

(Continued from Page 1—Sect. D)

#### Old Meeting House Here

The Presbyterians had a "meeting house" in Makemie's days on the site of our Pocomoke City of today. This church, as we would now call it, was located on the "south side of Pocomoke near the ferry." Services with John Clements, as minister were held there in 1718.

The Presbyterian "Meeting House Near Mrs. Edgar's" was situated on the north side of the Pocomoke River about a half mile above present day Pocomoke City, which of course, is on the south side of the river. Clements Church, the eminent historian, Clayton Torrence tells us, could have succeeded the one known as the "Meeting House Near Mrs. Edgar's." L. Paul Ewell, well known Pocomoke City barrister, and himself an authority on old Pocomoke, feels that "Old Meeting House" stood on land which in 1935 was occupied by the Parker House.

#### People Lived In Peace

Maryland became a religious sanctuary soon after its founding, but in no section of the State can greater tolerance be found than on the Eastern Shore. In the Pocomoke area a liberal spirit prevailed despite the exalted position of the Church of England group. Fortunately the Anglicans were not persecutors, though in 1692 after the Protestant Revolution in England, Maryland got its first Royal Governor (Lord Baltimore was ousted) and the Church of England became the Established Church by the first order of Governor Lionel Copley.

Parishes were set up and vestrymen elected. These men were duty bound to exercise every care in the protection of the Church's interests, and to prevent erection of meeting houses by dissenters near church buildings. However, on the Eastern Shore the order was not taken too seriously and all religions prospered and grew.

The Pocomoke area had been founded and settled by Church of England men, Quakers and Presbyterians. Yet they owed their right to worship to the Catholic Proprietor, Lord Baltimore. No where else in Colonial America could this have happened. In 1682, an appreciative Eastern Shore protestant citizenry, defended Lord Baltimore when Puritans in the Province sought to overthrow his government. Seven years later, in July 1689, Lord Baltimore was obliged to surrender his government, though he was allowed certain income from his estates. At this time all public officials "save those who were Papists were allowed to stay in office." On the Eastern Shore there were few Catholics so there was no great excitement

and few, if any residents suffered from the order. However, the people were obliged to pledge allegiance to the new Protestant Sovereigns in England, King William, and Queen Mary. At that time the only recorded Catholic in the Somerset area was William Ayleward who was county clerk. By 1708 there were 81 Catholics in the district.

#### The King's Court

The last court in Pocomoke area held for Charles III, Lord Baltimore, was in June 1689. Affairs were taken over soon thereafter by the Associators' Government. William Whittington, high sheriff of the Pocomoke District, like most other Shoremen, was sorry about Lord Baltimore's departure, and the sheriff defied the authority of the new government, until he got explicit orders from England. The fact that Whittington was a Protestant made his courageous stand all the more amazing. For his loyalty to Baltimore, the sheriff got a written reproof from John Coode, commander-in-chief of the new Maryland government. In addition to Coode, a committee of twenty-two men from each of the ten counties administered Maryland's affairs. This group ousted Whittington as sheriff.

Whether this order irked the people of the Pocomoke area is not known but at the next session of the General Assembly at St. Mary's City, the county's representatives, travelling across Chesapeake Bay by boat, arrived just as the meeting was breaking up.

#### Area Man Honored

In July 1690 the "Committee of Twenty" decided to send a message to King William, and Robert King, of Pocomoke district, was one of three selected to deliver it. The plea was that the King send a Royal Governor to replace the Associators' Government. This request was successful because Queen Mary ordered its approval. On April 9, 1692 the first Royal Governor arrived and dissolved the other government. A member of Governor Copley's first Council (comprised of 12 men) was Colonel David Brown of the Pocomoke community.

Copley ordered all Catholics disfranchised, and decreed that the Church of England would be the only established Church, though all denominations were taxed equally. About this time the Pocomoke area folk sent William Whittington, who had been ousted as high sheriff, to St. Mary's as one of the four Burgesses from the district.

The Eastern Shore refused to discriminate in religion to the extent desired. Of the Burgesses,

Whittington and one other were Church of England men, and two were Quakers. This upset the Assembly, not only because of the selection of Quakers but also because the second Church of England man was a minister, the Rev. John Huett, pastor of the Pocomoke area church.

#### Fuss In Legislature

The Legislature ruled that only Whittington could be seated. Huett was held not fit because he was "a man of sacred Orders," the two Quakers, Thomas Evernden and John Godden also announced that they would not take the required oath of allegiance because of religious scruples. Despite days of pleading Somerset County was obliged to hold a special election and replaced all but Whittington. Roger Woolford, John Bosman and a man named Lazarus were elected and sent to the Legislature where they were accepted.

Despite the trying times the churches of Somerset and the Pocomoke area expanded steadily except for the Society of Friends (Quakers) which in half a century faded away, even though the Quakers experienced an uplift in February, 1672, when their renowned leader, George Fox, spent several weeks on the Eastern Shore preaching the gospel.

This same year the county grand jury ordered that worship in the Pocomoke area was to be provided on Sundays at one of four widely scattered plantations which were considered preaching stations. One of these stations was the home of William Stevens at Pocomoke and services were held there on the first Sunday of each month.

#### Beautiful Ancient Church

The Pitts Creek Church, built about 1735, still belongs to this congregation, and the old "Meeting House" still stands. This ancient church is situated at the head of Pitts Creek on the west side of the State highway about 4 miles south of Pocomoke City. This restored church with its beautified grounds serves only as a memento of the past, because the present Presbyterians of the congregation worship in a modern church in Pocomoke City.

It was on the Eastern Shore, at Chestertown at the old Emmanuel Church, in 1780, that a convention of Church of England churchmen changed the name of their group to the Protestant Episcopal Church. Thus the Shore, can claim to be the cradle of the Episcopal faith in America.

#### Methodist Leader Cited

Lord Baltimore's liberal attitude toward all religions made the Eastern Shore a fertile field for all faiths. The Methodist Church's great apostle, Francis Asbury, preached through the area. Another noted Methodist preacher Joshua Thomas of the Deal Island area became known as the Parson of the Islands. His voice, legend has it, could be heard a mile away.





**DEDICATION RITES**—The edifice of the Holy Name of Jesus Catholic Church was dedicated January 13, 1952, as pictured above, by the Most Rev. Edmond J. Fitzmaurice, D.D., Bishop of the Diocese of Wilmington. The Rev. John Farrington was appointed pastor of the Pocomoke Parish shortly afterwards and took up his duties here on April 7, 1952. —Photo Courtesy Fr. Farrington.

## Two Catholic Churches In Worcester County; At Pocomoke and Ocean City

Two Catholic churches presently are established in Worcester County, St. Mary's Star of the Sea, at Ocean City, and The Holy Name of Jesus Church at Pocomoke City. Both churches are in the Diocese of Wilmington, Dela.

St. Mary's Star of the Sea Catholic Church was built about 1868 in what is now Ocean City, by Bishop Thomas A. Becker primarily to accommodate summer vacationists.

The church was the first church erected in Ocean City and was served for a long time by visiting pastors, along with the pastor of the Salisbury Church.

### Used in Summers

The church was used during the summers as a spiritual retreat by the priests and bishops from the Diocese of Wilmington.

In 1898 William McHugh, the first Catholic resident of Ocean City moved there from Shelltown, Md. It also was in 1898 that the Sisters of Charity of Washington, D. C., constructed the St. Rose's Summer Home for Orphans at Ocean City.

About the same time a few services were held during the winter, served by the pastor of the Catholic Church in Cape Charles, Va. The Ocean City church remained a mission of Dover, DeDla., until 1890.

With the building of railroads from Baltimore here came many vacationists to Ocean City about the turn of the century. This increase called for a larger church and in 1905 the church was enlarged. The rectory on Baltimore Avenue was erected that year.

### Salisbury Mission

In 1910 Ocean City became the mission of the Salisbury Parish, having 50 resident Catholics in Ocean City and the surrounding area. During the summer, however, there were between 200 and 300 families attending the church.

In 1911 St. Rose's Home was bought by the Dominican Father of the Catholic University of America to serve as a summer home for the students preparing for the priesthood in the Order of Saint Dominic. The house officially was called the "Alberto," but to the people of Ocean City it always was called the "Home." The "Home" was sold in 1946 and has since been converted into a hotel.

The church was redecorated and enlarged in 1938 by the Rev. Eugene T. Stout. Subsequently a pipe organ was installed, windows were replaced and new lights purchased.

### Sometimes 9 Masses

During the summer it has become necessary in recent years to have seven scheduled masses each Sunday, and sometimes nine masses when necessary. Many times in the summer months of 1949 it was necessary to use the High School hall for masses.

During that summer new land was purchased for the building of a new church in the northern end of Ocean City.

### Pocomoke Church

There also were Catholics settling in the southern part of Worcester County, near Pocomoke, during these years. As a result a mission was founded in 1943 under the name of The Holy Name of Jesus Catholic Church.

Catholics from this area had to go to Salisbury or Crisfield to attend services.

The new church at Pocomoke City was dedicated on January 13, 1952, and was declared a separate unit in April of that year.

### Father Farrington

The Rev. John Farrington was appointed pastor of the Pocomoke Parish by the Most Rev. Edmond J. Fitzmaurice, D.D., Bishop of the Diocese of Wilmington, and took over his duties here on April 7, 1952.

Father Farrington born in Milton, Mass., was ordained in 1945 for the Diocese of Wilmington. He served as assistant pastor for six years at St. Francis de Sales Church in Salisbury before coming to Pocomoke City.

His pastoral duties include St. Elizabeth's Church at Westover and the Crisfield Mission, founded in 1908 and 1949, respectively.

There were, in 1952, about 250 parishioners at Pocomoke City, who worshipped in the new church built at a cost of about \$50,000.

### Parish Boundaries

In September, 1952, the Pocomoke parish boundaries were outlined as follows: Including Wallops Island, Va., west to Wallops Island Landing to end of road No. 762; west along No. 762 to end near Whartons Gate, then west along No. 689 through Mappsville and Mears Station, across R.R. and west along No. 688 to Mearsville west of Mearsville along No. 685 until its end in Muddy Creek Landing, then west to Chesapeake Bay via Muddy Creek.

Concerning the Catholic churches in Worcester County, it also is noted that at one time the teen center in Snow Hill was a Catholic Chapel.

# Churches

## Pocomoke Jewish Synagogue Is First On Eastern Shore, Dedicated In '48

The history of the Jewish community of Pocomoke City goes back to the turn of the century. It is known as the Congregation of Israel.

The first permanent Jewish leader, Reverend Faivel Heilig, arrived in this community in 1903 and acted as its spiritual leader and provider for kosher meats until his death in June, 1920.

He found among the earliest settlers families like Fine, Finkelstein, Flax, Glass, Kleff, Miller and Rodbell. Some of them had been living in this community for more than 10 years.

### Center of Jewish Life

Pocomoke City at that time was the center of Jewish life and also was the center of community life according to its central location on the lower part of the Delmarva Peninsula.

Consequently families like Goodman, of Snow Hill; Hollins, of Berlin; Glick and Greenberg, of Onancock, Va.; Walman and Levin, of Keller, Va.; Brown of Cape Charles, Va.; and some Jews of Salisbury, used to join this community and observe holidays and special services here.

Regular Sabbath services were well taken care of by its own members who brought along their lessons from the old countries. A short time later the size of the Jewish community permitted the conducting of two separate services.

On December 9, 1922, a report in the Worcester Democrat tells of a very successful affair held by the Hebrew Association as a benefit for the building of a synagogue. More than 100 people attended, raising a sum of \$350.

### Philip Scher

About 20 years ago the late Philip Lee Scher moved into this community and proved to be an extraordinary asset to its development.

As in all the early Jewish settlements, services were held in a rented meeting room, which was changed for the High Holidays to accommodate a greater attendance.

Although the community had purchased its present lot for the synagogue, the building didn't get underway until Leonard Scher following in the footsteps of his father, succeeded in securing a charter for the congregation on April 2, 1947.

At this time the congregation claimed its first real deed for the ground.

### Charter Members

Charter members were Mr. Scher, president; Louis J. Rodbell, Benjamin Cohen, Jesse Goodman and William Kleger.

The purpose of this congregation, the charter stated, should be legally and judicially to receive and hold property and inheritance under the name of that body for religious worship, subjects to the discipline, usage and custom of the Jewish faith.

Having only a very small number of members, the Pocomoke congregation succeeded, as the first congregation on the entire Eastern Shore, to build a sanctuary which was dedicated December 18, 1948. This dedi-

cation was transmitted over a Salisbury radio station.

It must be noted, to the credit of the parties involved, that this building doesn't carry any mortgage.

All these years, with the exceptions of a few months services and Hebrew school were conducted by a week-end rabbi.

Since December, 1952, the present Rabbi, Dr. Josef Saffra, has been engaged in a full-time position. The rabbi served communities in New York and Atlanta, Ga., before settling in Pocomoke City.

### Use of Press

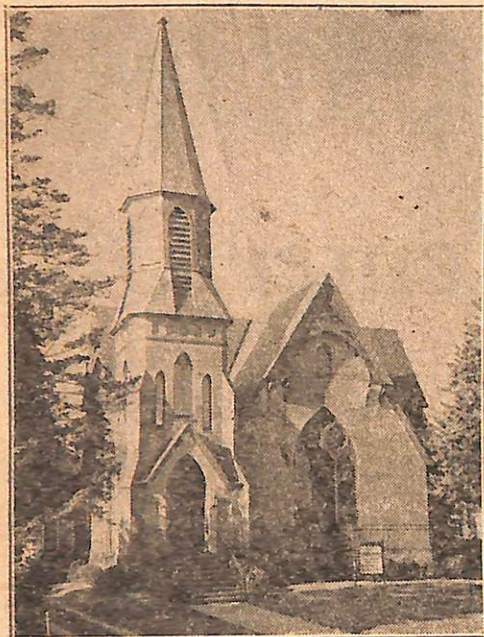
Besides caring for the specific needs of the Jewish community, Dr. Saffra tries to develop a harmonious understanding between the different denominations by making use of the local press and its special columns of church news.

Having their occupations in all fields of life, Dr. Saffra says, the Jewish members of the Pocomoke City community are doing their best to work harmoniously with their fellow citizens to promote the social and civic welfare of the community.



# Pitts Creek Presbyterian Church History

## Dates Back To Old Meeting House Landing



Pitts Creek Presbyterian Church

The first Presbyterian Church in what is now Pocomoke City, was a meeting house built on the banks of the Pocomoke River, at the foot of what later became Willow Street.

Stevens Ferry, as the site on the river was then known, was established by Col. William Stevens, in about 1670. This man has a prominent place in Presbyterian history, due to the fact that it was through his effort that the Reverend Francis Makemie came to this section, and established the first church at Rehoboth, Maryland.

### Established at Rehoboth

When the church was first established at Rehoboth, in 1683, there were many who worshipped there, living on the south side of the river, and due to the inconvenience of attending services there, the meeting house at Stevens Ferry was built, for their convenience.

After erection of this meeting house, which was built of logs, the name of the site was changed to Meeting House Landing, which name it bore until about 1700, when its name was changed to Ware House Landing. In 1875 the name was again changed to Newtown, and this name it bore until 1873, when the town was given its present name of Pocomoke City.

The location of the meeting house, on the river, was historically well established, and many of a preceding generation, could recall the wreck of its foundation as being still visible.

This meeting house continued in use until a church was built at the head of Pitts Creek, about 5 miles

south of the present town. This has been determined as being about the year 1735. The location of this church, but a short distance from the Virginia line, has been in continuous use as a place of worship since that time.

### Once A River

Locally the site is in the present day referred to as Beaver Dam, but it seems probable that when the church was first erected there, the stream of Pitts Creek, which is a tributary of the Pocomoke River, may have been navigable to this point. This is not true in the present day, and there is no historical proof that it ever was. There is an assumption that this may have been a fact, however, due to the fact that nearly all early churches were built on navigable streams.

A legend exists, that the church was built near the line of Virginia, for the convenience of Presbyterians and others desiring a place of worship other than the established Church of England.

The present building on the site at the head of Pitts Creek, is the third one built there. Records of the first two are incomplete but the present building was erected in 1854, at a cost of \$1700.00. Some additions have been made in recent years, but the original building still stands without change.

The first Presbyterian Church in Pocomoke City, was built in 1884. As the town population increased, many worshippers at Pitts Creek, had their homes in the town, and for their convenience a branch of the ori-

ginal church was established. This branch or mission of the original church, was a part of the same organization, as it still continues to be.

### Church Was Duplicate

The church erected in town, was at Pitts Creek, there was a balcony in the front part of the building, and a cupola with a bell. The choir sat in the balcony. In its early days singing was conducted without instrument, and in the late 1860's a reed or cabinet organ was installed.

In 1884 the old church in town was moved farther from the street and the present brick auditorium was erected. Lighted with electricity, it was said to be one of the first churches in the country to have this convenience.

In 1908 the present social hall was built, and in 1940 class rooms for the Sunday School were added. Additional rooms for the Junior Department were added in 1952.

A historical fact worthy of note is that Anne Makemie Holden, daughter of the Rev. Francis Makemie worshipped in the Beaver Dam Church, and regularly drove the 15 miles from her home on Holdens Creek, Va., to attend services there. At her death she willed her father's mahogany desk to the pastor of the church at that time. This desk fell into other hands, but was finally located and is now in a fireproof vault in the Union Theological Seminary, Richmond, Va. It is the only known relic of Makemie's in existence.

### Bequeathed \$333

Anne Holden in her will gave the church \$333.00 and a slave named Keziah, and her children. The communion goblets used in this church for many years, were given by her. They are now in the keeping of the Presbyterian Historical Society, in Philadelphia, Pa.

The first pastor on record is the Rev. Samuel McMaster, who came to this country from Scotland, this being his first church. He served this church from 1774 to 1811, a period of 37 years. A tablet to his memory has been erected in the church auditorium. He lived on a farm about five miles southeast of the town, in a brick house which was destroyed by fire about 1940. As was the custom in that period he combined farming with his ministerial work.

It seems likely that the church had no established ministry before that time. Neither did it seem important to keep church records.

Since the pastorate of the Rev. Mr. McMaster, the church has a direct line of ministers, 23 having served the church since that time. The

## Somerset County

### Is First Site

### Of Presbyterians

The first settlement or community of English Presbyterians recorded in America was that in the county of Somerset; the first church was established at Rehoboth on the banks of the Pocomoke.

The churches at Snow Hill and Pitts Creek (Pocomoke City) also date from this early period in American Presbyterian history. The denomination spread up the Eastern but not the Western) side of the Peninsula.

The leader of the movement on the Eastern Shore was the Rev. Francis Makemie who came to this country from England in response to an invitation in 1680 from the English Presbyterians who had settled on the lower part of the Peninsula. He is said to be the first regularly ordained minister in America.

The Presbyterians, in memory of Rev. Mr. Makemie, called the part of the Eastern Shore with which he associated himself "Makemieland." The Presbyterian followers at Rehoboth, Snow Hill and Pitts Creek constituted the first regularly organized Presbyterian congregations in America. Makemie became the leading spirit in the organization of the First Presbytery in America, constituted in Philadelphia in 1708, and he became its first Moderator.

(Note:—The above account was taken from the book "The Eastern Shore of Maryland and Virginia," by Charles B. Clark, published in 1950)

records are complete, covering the work of these pastors.

By an act of the Maryland Legislature, passed in 1804, a charter was granted to this church, under which it has operated with slight changes, since that time.

### 1818 Church Roll

The earliest church roll known to be in existence is dated in 1818. At that time the total membership of the church was 64.

In the church cemetery near Winter Quarters Drive, (a monument has been erected to the memory of Handy Mills and David Smith, who were ruling elders and active supporters of the church in their lifetime, and benefactors in death. They are a representative of the saintly men and women who lived many years ago, and who gave unsparingly of their time and talents, in support of the work of this church.

The Rev. Paul H. Walenta is the present pastor of the Pitts Creek Church.



# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH WAS DEDICATED IN 1854

## Had 21 Pastors In 100 Years

The New Town Baptist Meeting House, erected by the labor of the Rev. Solomon C. Boston, missionary of the Maryland Baptist Union Association, was dedicated on May 14, 1854.

With this dedicatory service the church opened its doors to all those of Baptist faith. There were 14 charter members, including S. C. Boston, Mary S. Boston, John B. White, Susan White, John W. Clark, Samuel Boston and Elizabeth Boston, of the Vienna Baptist Church; Elizabeth Adams, Urban White, Major Hall, Jerome Hall, Julia Hall, Zadok Hall and William James Merrill, of the Pitts Creek Baptist Church.

### A Friendly Church

During its earliest years the church was recognized as a friendly, church, with their worship and church program arranged so that people remarked, "See those Baptists. They stick together like hot cakes."

The cost of the first New Town Baptist Church including lot, furniture and railings, amounted to about \$2,700, and on the dedication day \$1,000 of this was obtained in cash and pledges.

In about the year 1859 the church constitution and covenant were drawn up. Rules and Discipline were drawn up also. One of these rules stated that "slaves and other colored members should not have rule in this church." This was about nine years before the slaves were freed.

Another rule expressed the wish that the governing of discipline and order should be done mainly by the males but that the females should have voice in receiving members and choosing pastors. The last rule was stated as follows:

"No member of the church will be permitted to frequent circuses or theaters, or other places of idle and vicious amusement."

### 21 Pastors

In the 101 years since the founding of the church there have been 21 pastors. Present pastor is the formerly served a church at Rev. Vander Warner who has served here since February, 1954. He Whitesville, N. C.

In 1932 the pastor, Mr. Ditto, helped draft a new constitution, the original having been lost. In 1937 a four year program of study was begun by a committee, resulting in the adoption of the present constitution.

Pastors have included Rev. Boston, A. G. Harley, C. F. Flippo, James G. Council, E. M. Byrn, Lemuel D. Pauling, H. J. Handy, James A. Wolfe, G. Bradford, Daniel Morgan Lenox, Edwin S. Tuttle, J. B. Pruitt, John Walker Hundley, J. D. Peebles, Daniel W. Lit-

tleton, Mr. Alderman, Mr. Gardner, John A. Ditto, Howard W. Payne, James McLeod and Mr. Warner.

It is interesting to note that since the Sunday School's organization in 1860 there have been only six superintendents: J. C. Riley (1860-1869); I. H. Merrill (1869-1906); E. M. Ross (1879-1906) as assistant to Mr. Merrill, and (1906-1932) as superintendent; James T. Nock (1932-1935); Harry Appleton (1935-1948). The present superintendent is Ray Boston who was elected in July, 1953.

### Two Organists

During this time, from 1875 to the present, there have been only two appointed church organists, Mrs. Thomas B. Walters who served 41 years, until 1916, and Mrs. church. At the present time Mrs. Grady Powell, who still serves the Powell has an appointed assistant.

On July 5, 1879 the church changed its name to First Baptist Church of Pocomoke City, following a change in the town's name. Soon afterwards, in 1891, the old church building was replaced by a new one — which is still in use.

Until about 1915 services were held in the afternoon. After that both morning and evening services were held.

During Mr. Pruitt's pastorate, 1899 through 1907, the church purchased a parsonage in partnership with the Pitts Creek Church. Later the Pitts Creek share was bought by the Pocomoke City church. The building is still in use, now utilized for Sunday School classes, suppers and for various meetings and activities.

A second parsonage, bought later, is the home of the pastor, at the corner of Second St. and Laurel. The church has been enlarged and improved through the years, with additional space purchased for building and for the cemetery.

### Electric Organ

Andrew Carnegie gave \$650 toward the first pipe organ in the church. In 1946 the organ was moved and has since been rebuilt and electrified. Another major improvement is the modern kitchen which is a part of the church house.

In order to help with the summer program for young people, the Sunday school purchased in 1952 a cabin at the new Maryland camp at Rocks, Md., at a cost of \$1,500.

Communion is held at the first service of each month and the offering at this service is set aside in a separate fund to be used only for the relief of the poor or for some other worthy cause.

In 1953 the Berlin Mission was sponsored by the Pocomoke City Church, resulting in a new organization with about 30 members. In the church's 100 years' history membership has grown from 14 to nearly 400.

## County Baptist Churches Dates Back to 1734

In Swans Gut in 1734-35 Luke Watson went before the court with a petition requesting the right of people to meet in the home of James Houston for worship, and permission to purchase a half acre of land for building a church.

He didn't succeed so he tried again in 1739 and the petition was granted. Mr. Paul Palmer served as pastor in this early beginning of Baptist church work on the Eastern Shore.

### Six Baptist Churches

There are presently six Baptist churches in Worcester County active at this time. They are the Pitts Creek, Goodwill, Spence, Girdletree, First Baptist Church of Pocomoke, in addition to the Berlin Mission of the Pocomoke Church.

The Pitts Creek Baptist Church was founded in 1817 and incorporated in 1842. The church was built on a lot purchased from Levin Henderson for \$5, which measured 149½ yards long and 149½ yards wide — a very unusual measurement. This church is said to be one of the oldest Baptist churches on the Eastern Shore and is called the Mother Church of Pocomoke.

Another Baptist Church, the Betheden Church, was active in Worcester County until the 1930's, when it was abandoned, the members going to Spence and Goodwill churches.

### Pocomoke Church

The First Baptist Church of Pocomoke was started on May 14, 1854, when the New Town Baptist Meeting House was erected and dedicated to the worship of God. In the 100 years since the founding of the church

(Continued on Page 4, Sect. D)

## County Baptist Churches Dates Back to 1734

(Continued from Page 2, Sect. D) there have been 21 pastors and six superintendents. The church name was changed to First Baptist Church of Pocomoke City in 1878 after citizens of the town changed its name to Pocomoke City.

The Spence Baptist Church was organized in 1860. The 20-year pastorate of Mr. Steward brought the church out of a period of inactivity. The church received its name from the location in the Spence community. Judge Samuel Spence, for whom the community was named, was not a Baptist, however, but an Episcopalian.

### Few Available Records

Few records are available concerning the Girdletree Baptist Church, except to mention the organization of the church in 1905.

Goodwill Baptist Church also was organized in 1905 and has sent out many ordained ministers from its membership. These churches, probably mothered by the Pocomoke City church, remain active today.



# POCOMOKE CITY'S FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH BUILT IN 1684; REBUILT 1844

## Mennonites Came From Pennsylvania

A mission of the Mennonite faith was founded at Snow Hill by several families who moved into the area from several parts of Pennsylvania.

The first to arrive were the Samuel and David Yoder families who attended church at the Holly Grove Mennonite Church near Westover.

In the summer of 1952 the Mennonites at Snow Hill obtained permission to hold summer Bible school for children in the Snow Hill voting house. Teachers for the school came from Pennsylvania and a few brought their families and remained.

Beginning on January 18, 1953, Sunday School and church services were held in homes, the services conducted by visiting ministers. Meeting in homes was not satisfactory, however, because more space was needed.

Work on a church building started in April, 1953. It was sufficiently finished in July to hold summer Bible school sessions, and has since been used for services.

## Church of God Began in 1933

As a result of tent meetings in 1933, weekly services were held in the home of W. C. Morton, minister of the Church of God, constituting the beginning of that denomination in Pocomoke City.

When the attendance became larger, a lot for a church was donated by A. G. Payne. The Glad Tidings Tabernacle was built on the corner of Seventh and Maple Streets, and was dedicated on April 15, 1934.

The local body officially was established as a church affiliated with the General Assemblies of God.

Because of an increase in church attendance a new parsonage was built on the By-Pass Road, and the old building was used for Sunday School rooms. It was also for need of room that a new building was planned.

In 1952 construction on the building started at Payne Avenue and Market Street in Pocomoke City. The first service to be held in the new church was on December 26, 1953.

One of the first Presbyterian Churches in America was built at the site that has grown to be the present Pocomoke City.

In the year 1680 a petition was sent by Col. William Stevens and others to the Presbytery of Laggan, Ireland, for a Presbyterian minister to settle in this community.

The Presbytery acted promptly and in the year 1682 sent out to this site the Rev. Francis Makemie, lawyer, merchant and a man of many talents but able and skillful in all. When he arrived in this colony, he found anything but a "bed of roses."

### No Green Pastures

If his vivid imagination had pictured out green fields and pastures, he was doomed to great disappointment. He found the population sparse and poor, scattered mainly along the rivers and water courses, engaged in fishing and agriculture. The country was an almost unbroken wilderness, and one might travel for days without seeing a church or school house.

But the Presbytery of Laggan knew full well what a dissenting minister would have to encounter who attempted to establish a church in the wilds of Maryland, and they were astute enough to send no second rate man for such a work, and the sequel shows that they performed their duty courageously and well.

There was then no established religion in Maryland. The course of government was one which tolerated all Christian churches and established none.

The Church of England had not then been established by law, but was organized and in full operation in this Coventry Parish. In June 1691 the Royal Government passed an act formally establishing the Church of England. Provision was made for dividing all the counties into parishes and the election of vestrymen for each of the conservation of the church interest and a poll tax of 40 pounds of tobacco imposed upon every taxable person of the Province to build churches and sustain their ministers.

### "Church Establishment"

Thus was introduced for the first time in Maryland, "a church establishment sustained by law, and fed by general taxation."

Rev. Makemie arrived in this province in the year 1682, and as he was sent to preach and organize and build churches, it is to be presumed that he commenced his work at once. We therefore fix the date of the erection of the church about 1684.

It was built of cypress logs and was covered with shingles of the same material. It stood near the river on the ground occupied by the late Edward H. Clarke.

The workmen did not complete the structure in one day, and not anticipating that any harm would be done to it, they left off work intending to finish it on the following day, but to the everlasting shame and disgrace of religious intolerance and persecution, the opponents of Presbyterianism tore down the structure during the night and threw the logs into the river.

What must have been the chagrin, not to say anger, of the dissenters when they found all their work destroyed and their material scattered by the tide? But the blood of the martyrs has always been and always will be the seed of the church; and the bold and earnest dissenters gathered up the scattered logs, redoubled their exertions, and put the building up and under roof in one day.

Thanksgiving and praise to God arose from the humble church in the wilderness that night from fervent and sincere worshipers who knew what it was to feel religious persecution in a colony whose great boast has ever been that it was the first to proclaim religious toleration and freedom to worship God.

### Old Log Church

The old log church was still standing in 1790-1800, or rather what remained of it. After having been used for a house of worship for many years, or until a more pretentious house had been erected at Rehoboth and the congregation had gravitated to that point, the old log church fell into neglect and decay.

But born as it was in labor and tears, it could not remain useless to the end. A poor wandering family by the name of Fisher, without home or home, penniless and in want, espied its forlorn and deserted condition and at once took possession.

They propped up its tottering roof, stripped the tough bark from the cypress trees and covered its bare and gaping sides. Thus rehabilitated, it protected and sheltered the family for many years and thus in its final decay, was to the last a refuge and a friend.

At that period around 1800 there was no church for regular worship. Meetings were held in private houses and under the broad canopy of Heaven.

A fine house for worship was erected by the Presbyterians in 1844, the first owned by that denomination in Newtown, since the old log church of previous memory constructed in 1684.



# Episcopal Churches of Worcester County Grew From Handful of Faithful Colonists

Coventry and Snow Hill were the mother parishes of the Episcopal Church in Worcester County.

There is no record of any Anglican clergy among the early colonists and it is believed that Anglican services were held by lay readers and by visiting clergy from Virginia.

The Church of England was officially established on the Eastern Shore when in 1692 the colony was divided into counties and the counties were divided into parishes. The Diocese of Maryland was placed under the jurisdiction of the Bishop of London.

## Mother Parish

Of the 13 parishes on the Eastern Shore, Snow Hill Parish, or All Hallows Parish, as it is known now, is

the Mother Parish of all the churches and chapels in the present Worcester County, with the exception of St. Marys the Virgin Church in Pocomoke City.

St. Mary's is a descendant of the original Coventry Parish, whose first parish church at Rehoboth is now in ruins.

Four chapels and churches were built before the Revolution in what is now Worcester County: Rehoboth (1692); St. Stephen's at Dividing Creek (1751); All Hallows at Snow Hill (1710); and St. Martin's (1703).

During the Revolutionary War it was impossible to obtain ordination for the clergy and scattered American parishes were separated from the mother Church of England.

## Loyalty To State

Loyalty to the State was manifested when in 1779 the vestry renounced their obedience to the King of Great Britain and then swore that they would be "true and faithful to the State of Maryland." In 1782 Thomas Bruff was appointed to "hire" some one to officiate in the parish, and on September 2, that year, the Vestry taking the case of George Twifort, not being in holy orders, under consideration adopted the following:

"We do agree unanimously, that no person be permitted to preach in the church or either of the chapels in this parish unless he be in Holy Orders, and that the Sexton, or any person having charge of the same, may expect to answer the consequence if they

admit any person in future to preach in said church or chapels without leave of a majority of the vestry of said parish."

On September 13, 1784, Major Thomas Bruff was chosen delegate to a convention to be held in Chestertown the following month. Major Bruff attended the meeting and upon his return asked the parish to contribute to a fund to be used in sending for a clergyman to Europe for consecration, was so ordered.

## Parish Divided

In 1819 the parish was divided into small districts for financial purposes. That part east of the Pocomoke River was the Seventh District. On July 13, 1828, Coventry and Somerset parishes combined and secured the services of Rev. Joseph S. Covell. In 1841 the union existing between the two parishes was dissolved and the joint rector, Rev. Henry Croasdale, elected Somerset parish as his charge.

The original building of St. Stephen's Chapel at Dividing Creek was constructed in 1751 and replaced in 1849 by a second building. Later, because of a shift in the center of population St. Stephen's was abandoned. In the late 1800's the church was sold to Coventry Parish.

Snow Hill Parish in 1692 consisted of the old part of Old Somerset east of the Pocomoke River and included the greater part of what is now Worcester County. The name of the parish was changed in 1710 to All Hallows.

## Stockton Centennial

The Chapel of the Holy Cross at Stockton, which observed its centennial on June 25, 1950, is a part of All Hallows parish. Its history goes back to 1774 when an Episcopal Church was erected at Stockton, then known as Sandy Hill, through the efforts of the Rev. John Rosse, then rector of All Hallows parish.

This building was destroyed by fire and its exact location has not been established. The present building was erected in 1850. The bell tower was added in 1887 and the walnut pews and chancel furnishings were installed in 1914.

Services were held regularly at Holy Cross until 1943 when it was abandoned for several years. The church was completely redecorated following the 1950 centennial, and in 1951 services were begun again, held every

two weeks. Now services are held monthly because of the absence of a rector.

In 1703 a chapel had been built near St. Martin's River, between the present locations of Showell and Friendship, but this was in ruins by 1744.

## Church Built 1756

In 1753 plans were made to build a church where the chapel stood. The building was erected in 1756 becoming parish church of Worcester County. There is no record that St. Martin's was ever consecrated until almost 100 years later when it was rescued from decay and restored in 1845 and consecrated.

The first confirmation at St. Martin's was held in 1795 when the Rev. John Claggett, First Bishop of Maryland and first bishop to be consecrated on American soil, visited the parish. In 1824 St. Martin's church was abandoned because of a shift in population and St. Paul's was built in Berlin, becoming the parish church.

St. Martin's fell into general disrepair and even was used as a barn for awhile. In 1844 it was partly repaired for use in the summer, and the next year it was consecrated for the first time, but all efforts to restore the church and hold regular services have since failed.

St. Paul's Church at Berlin, was consecrated in 1827, three years after work was begun on the building. In 1881, a chapel was built at Ocean City and named St. Paul's-by-the-Sea. In the 1890's St. Paul's became a mission of Worcester Parish and about 1900 a new building was erected in a better location.

## Destroyed By Fire

St. Paul's church in Berlin was destroyed by fire in 1904 and was replaced by a new and stately church built of brick. A massive tower was added and a deep-toned bell was installed.

About the same time the rectory was built at St. Paul's-by-the-Sea. In 1917 the vestry of Worcester Parish consented to the independence of St. Paul's-by-the-Sea, and the separation became complete in 1921.

Through more than 250 years the church has progressed from a handful of the faithful gathering to hold services to separate parishes in the four largest cities of Worcester County.

## St. Mary-The-Virgin Episcopal Church First Used For Services July 20, 1845

The Church of England officially was established on the Eastern Shore in 1692 after Somerset County, which included Worcester County, was divided into four parishes, one of which was Coventry containing Pocomoke and Annapessex "Hundreds."

The first Episcopal church to be built in the area, Pocomoke Church at Rehoboth, at that time was either going into decay or was too small to accommodate emigrants moving in from Virginia, and in 1696 it gave place to a larger building.

## Only Building Mentioned

The Rehoboth church is the only building mentioned when the churchmen of the county were called together to make the division into parishes. Meetings in other parishes presumably were held in residences of members.

At present ruins can be found at Rehoboth of a succeeding church built about the end of the 18th century, which was probably the largest church in the Diocese.

In 1774 an Act of Assembly provided for a levy to raise funds for a chapel "on the east side of the Pocomoke River at or near Stevens Ferry."

However the Revolution intervened and it wasn't until 1845 that the act was carried out and St. Mary's Church was built in what is now Pocomoke City.

William Jefferson Long pre-

sented a lot in Newtown on New Street, afterward re-named Church St., and now called Third Street, on which St. Mary's was erected. The church was first used on July 20, 1845, and was consecrated November 13, St. Mary the Virgin's Church.

## Open Church School

A piece of land having been leased and a small house built, a church school was opened on April 3, 1848, with Mrs. Sarah I. Love as teacher. In August, 1853, the school house was removed to a lot opposite the church yard which had been bequeathed by Mrs. Sal-lie Jones.

A description of St. Mary's in the early 1860's serves to fit the church amazingly well today. "... a beautiful regular type frame rectangular building of pleasing and churchly design, surmounted by a graceful and well-proportioned spire, in which hung a sweet-toned bell."

After the church was damaged by fire on Nov. 11, 1925 the interior was remodeled and a new bell was hung.

St. Mary's Church was the first church in Pocomoke City to have a pipe organ, according to the church's history.

## Young Workers

About 1911, through the work of the Young Workers Guild St. Mary's Church was beautifully

(Continued on Page 2—See F)

frescoed, electric lights were installed and a window, memorial to S. S. MacMaster and his wife, was installed.

On May 9, 1911 St. Mary's Church was the site of the meeting of the Southern Convocation, attended by notable clergy of the area. During the convocation the clergy made a trip to the Rehoboth ruins where they stood on the fallen timbers within the ruins where the chancel had once been located and held a "farewell" service.

John Crosdale was the first rector to lead St. Mary's church following the separation of Pocomoke Parish from Coventry Parish in 1855.

The present rector is the Rev. J. Powell Eaton, who came to the church September 1, 1953.

## Church Rectors

Church rectors and their dates of service, include Mr. Crosdale, February 5, 1855 to March 11, 1878; Francis W. Hilliard, September 15, 1878 to November 1, 1889; William D. Sarwelle, July 1, 1890 to October 1, 1890.

James Hutchins Handy Brown, December 23, 1890 to April 30, 1891; Charles H. Vandyne, October 1891 to 1897; George C. Sutton, August 1, 1897 to February 15, 1899; Clarence D. Frankel, May 18, 1899 to October 31, 1900.

George F. Kettell, June 27, 1901 to July 14, 1902; William B. Guion, November, 1903 to February 1, 1910; Louis Llewellyn Williams, May 1, 1910 to May 15, 1922; George Victor Bell, May 10, 1923 to May 1, 1928.

Hugh Valentine Clary, June 1, 1928 to June 15, 1934; Rupert B. Mathews, 1934 to June 30, 1941; Mr. Clary, December 1, 1941 to March 31, 1953; Mr. Eaton, September 1, 1953 to the present.

## Only Ruins Remain Of 1682 Log Church At Rehoboth Site

Only the ruins remain of the church reputed to be the first Episcopal Church in America.

In 1692, when Somerset County was divided into four parishes of the Church of England, a log church building at Rehoboth, built about 1682, already was going in to decay or was becoming too small for use.

Thus, in 1696 another church was built. It was named Pocomoke Church, Rehoboth, and is the only building mentioned when the churchmen of the county were called together to make the division into parishes.

The present building, in ruins, is thought to have been built about 1740, and was at one time the largest church in the Diocese. The earlier log building has been given the date of 1682 as the time of its erection.

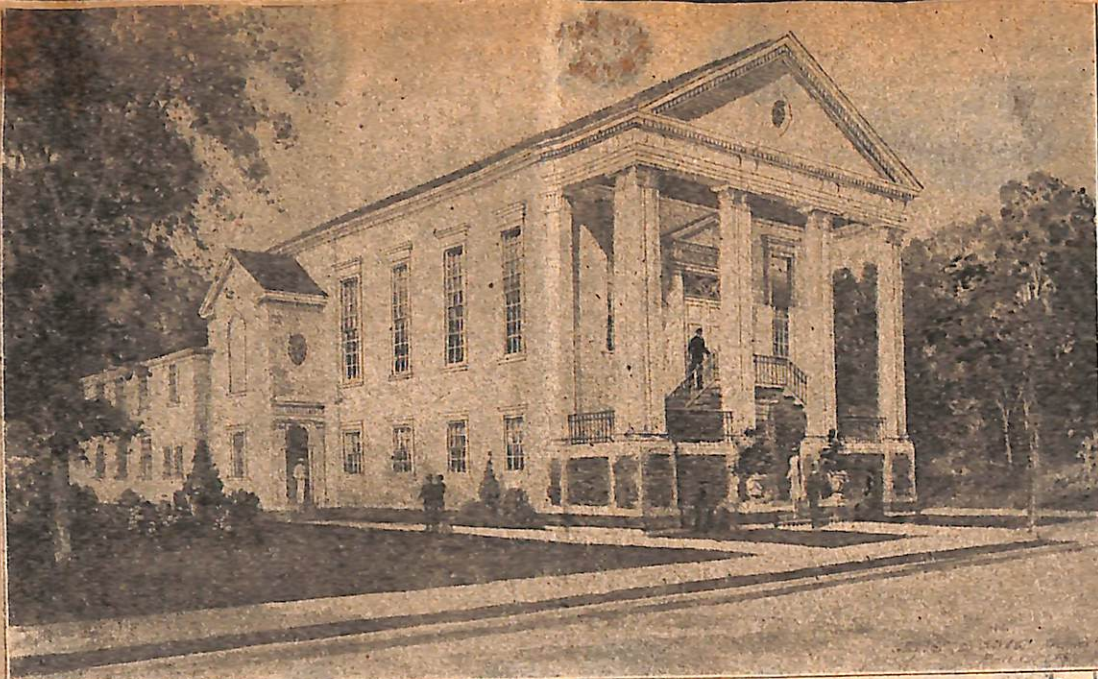
One pastor reported 1,200 adults in the parish and another reported a confirmation class of 100.

In 1841 Mr. John Crosdale, a candidate for Holy Orders, supplied the Church and Chapels of the local parish as lay reader. He was ordered Deacon in Rehoboth Church in 1842 and afterwards became rector of Coventry Parish.

Only three regular services were held from 1894 to 1931, with the exception of an impromptu farewell service held in 1911 by Bishop Kinsmann and other clergy.

In 1931 partial restoration was undertaken to preserve the ruins and mark the site of the church built about 1740, the successor of another built on or near the same site.





Organized in 1832

Present building erected in 1882

Bethany Methodist Protestant Church

## SALEM METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH HAS SUCCESSFUL HISTORY DATING FROM 1808

(Note: The following account was written, in part, by Eben Hearne, local historian, in 1933 on the 175th anniversary of Salem Methodist Church.)

The beginning of church life of the Methodist Episcopal faith in Pocomoke City began at the time when there was no church building town, during the latter part of the 18th century.

The small Methodist company of plain and unpretentious men and women held services in private homes in and near the town, then known as New Town.

### Rev. Rowe In Area

In December, 1780, the Rev. Francis Asbury, appointed by John Wesley, founder of Methodism, sent the Rev. Samuel Rowe from Sussex Circuit to the Eastern Shore of Virginia. It is highly probably that Rowe preached in New Town.

The first appointments were at Melvin's, where the Pocomoke Inn is now located (1933), out Market Street, and at Downing's in Accomack County, Va. The first services were held at the home of Littleton Long on a farm in Henderson's Neck, at William Melvin's, Market Street extended, and on Front Street, adjoining the residence of Frank Bratten.

The first Methodist Episcopal Church in New Town was built in 1808, on the same lot now occupied by the present brick church. The lot contained 75 square poles and was a part of a tract of land known as "Wooden Undrage" and was bought for \$30 from Levi George Houston and wife, Anne, Houston, of Somerset County, and of Worcester County, deeded on September 17, 1808.

### Seven Trustees

The seven trustees named in the deed were James Melvin, James Dickerson, Joshua Sturgis, John Hall, Levin Mills, William Wheeler, and James Tilghman.

The first church building was in use for a quarter of a century before the church was incorporated, March 17, 1834.

In the erection of the first church in 1808, on the corner of Second and Walnut Streets (neither of which had a name until about 1865) church members contributed lumber, money and work.

### A Frame Building

It was a frame building, 30 by 32 feet, standing near Second Street (then called Cedar Hall Road) and was neither lathed nor



Salem Methodist Church

plastered until 1840.

It was a plain, unpretending edifice, without steeple or bell, guiltless of lathe, plaster, or paint, without chandelier to light or stove to warm it; with plain wooden benches for seats and devoid of all pews or cushions.

It was so plain and uncomfortable that a new minister on preaching in it for the first time was so struck by its appearance that he remarked at the close of the sermon, "I have frequently preached in the house of the Lord, but never before in his barn."

Finally, through the exertions of a young lady, Mrs. Rosa B. Schoolfield Quinn, a stove was procured to keep the congregation warm during the winter.

A graphic description of the old-time pulpit describes that fixture as follows:

### "Oh, That Pulpit"

"Oh, that pulpit! I shiver now as I think of it. It was built up against the rear of the little building, like a large bird cage. Indeed, it was a plain, wooden box, nailed fast to the wall. A stairway went up to one side of it, and the preacher entered a little door. He was boxed in all around and when he rose to speak, he stood just about half-way between the floor and the ceiling, and thus was compelled to breathe a good portion of the oppressive air that floated up from the congregation below."

After the church building was

erected in 1808 religious services at private houses were abandoned. A long list of eloquent ministers then began to succeed each other in serving the church, a list much too long for publication here.

Mr. Hearne describes them in his statement: "The altar fires of the church owed their existence and continuation to the ministrations of just such quiet, faithful and unobtrusive laborers. They were all self-made men, true to the Bible, the doctrines of Methodism and the traditions of the church, and labored in many emergencies, without compensation, only influenced by the love of souls and the good of the Lord's cause."

### Methodism Flourished

During the life of the first building, from 1808 to 1855, Methodism flourished and grew until the condition of the work demanded a new church building, and in the latter year, during the pastorate of the Rev. John F. Chaplain, the old Gal-2 Salem Methodist Church building was sold to Purnell Redden and moved out Market Street and remodeled into a dwelling.

The new church was 30 by 46 feet and represented an outlay of about \$3,000. It had a gallery across the front of the church where colored people, who had no church of their own at that time, were allowed to occupy seats.

In the meantime the separation of the church from the Snow Hill Circuit had occurred in 1853 and the New Town Mission was es-

tablished.

### Dedicated In 1856

The new church was dedicated in 1856 and was occupied continuously until 1904.

Between 1885 and 1887 several improvements were made, including the installation of a basement for heating purposes, removal of the steeple, construction of a new roof and an addition to the length of the building, and the erection of a vestibule surmounted by a 90-foot tower in which was hung a new bell.

Electricity also was installed, giving the building credit for being one of the first churches in the country to be so lighted. The rededication of the altered building was held on a stormy Sunday in January, 1886.

After several years of hard work by an industrious building committee, the Salem congregation finally succeeded, in 1904, in building a new church, "an architectural gem, of Pompeian brick, surmounted by a tower, with cathedral glass windows, heated by steam, lighted by electricity, all for \$16,000," according to a report read at the conference session in Wilmington, Del., in March, 1905.

A pipe organ also was installed and the church was dedicated on January 29, 1905. Pastor at that time was the Rev. L. E. Poole.

### Parsonage Burned

In 1923 the church parsonage was burned to the ground, and shortly afterwards a new building, of modern design and equipment was erected, "an ornament to the town and a comfortable home for the pastor's family."

In 1933, when Mr. Hearne worked out his history of the church, the Rev. Lawrence E. Wimbrow was the pastor.

Another outstanding leader in the church is E. James Tull who held the longest tenure as superintendent of the Sunday School, having served a period of nearly 40 years.

### The Active Vincents

James H. Vincent, who moved to New Town about 1867, became leader of the church choir and held that position for about 50 years. The three generations of the Vincent family for a period of over 60 years have been a great help in the work of the choir.

Present minister to the Salem congregation is the Rev. Elmer R. Shield, who has served this church since May, 1953.

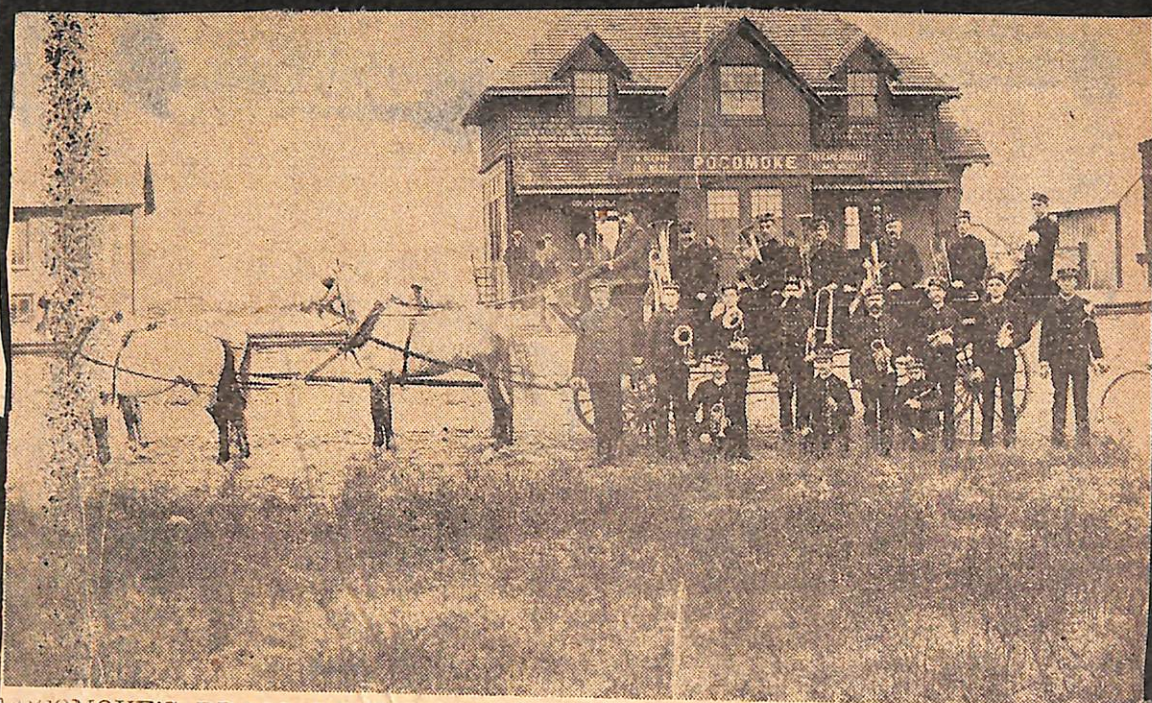


# Early Organizations



—Photo Courtesy Roger Vincent

**POCOMOKE QUARTET** — Do you remember when this quartet appeared at many of the town activities during the first quarter of the 20th century? Singers included (left to right) George Seville, J. Frank Vincent, Edward Ross and Samuel M. Crockett. The well-known quartet sang many times in the old town hall, over the I. H. Merrill Store, and for many years sang regularly at commencement exercises.



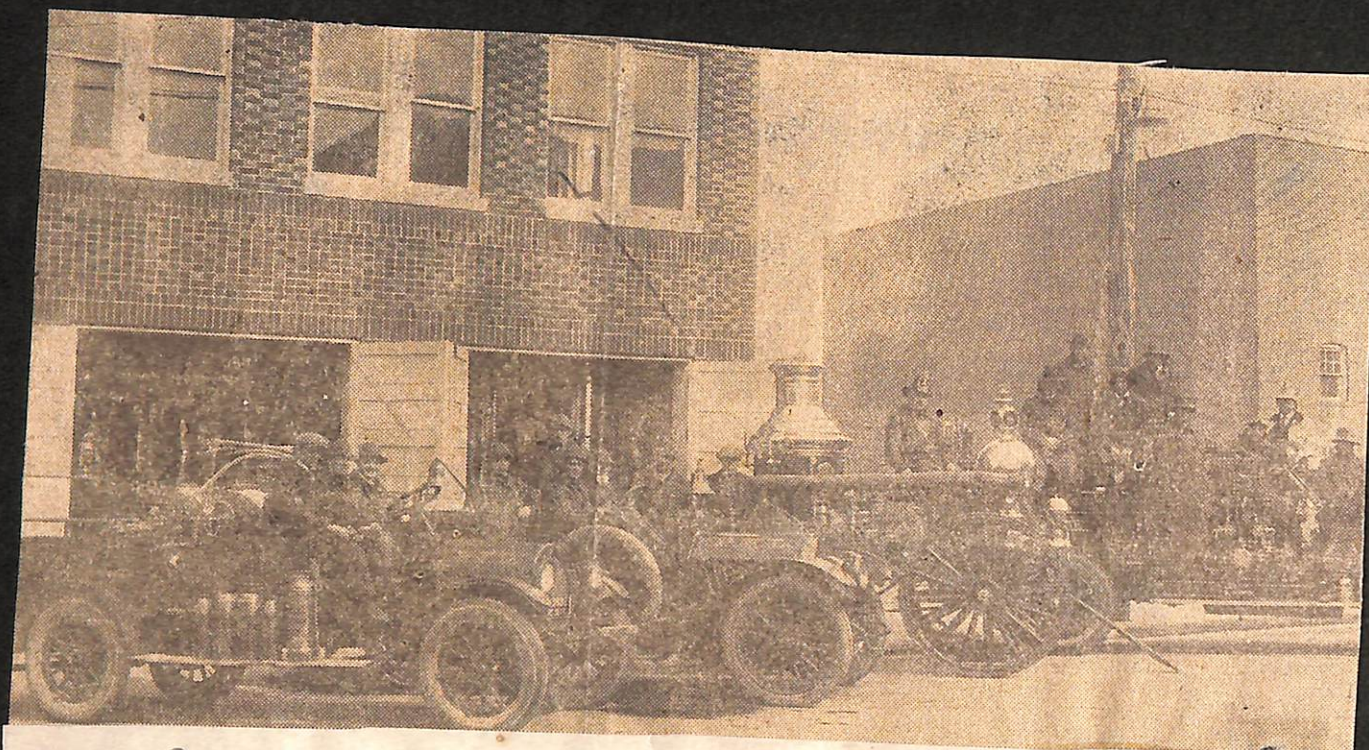
**POCOMOKE'S BRASS BAND** provided much of the entertainment of this section as well as the official Pocomoke City entry in parades and other festivities on the 'Shore. Here they are shown in a formal photograph in front of the old railroad station on some now-forgotten occasion — perhaps awaiting a special excursion train or the arrival of dignitaries.

—Photo courtesy Roger Vincent.



**SWEET MUSIC** — The Salem Sunday School orchestra, organized in 1904, carried out the musical activities of the Sunday School for about 10 years.





Pocomoke Volunteer Fire  
Department of 1926



STERLING'S HONEY BOYS — The outfit pictured above was a popular musical aggregation back in 1912. When the photo was snapped the band was playing for the dedication ceremonies of the McCready Memorial Hospital at Crisfield. Director of the outfit was Harold Sterling (front, with trombone). The name was derived from the fact the band first played together in a minstrel show under that name.  
—Photo Courtesy Roger Vincent.



## Pocomoke Had Own 'Coast Guard' As Far Back As 1692

While the United States Coast Guard, as we know it today wasn't founded until 1790, an early facsimile of that federal organization was active in this area in 1692.

It all came about because of wild horses and mares that were running at large in the Pocomoke area and residents felt the need to control their actions.

A plea was made to Royal Governor Lionel Copley and on October 18, 1692, Edward Greene was named Chief Ranger of the Pocomoke area.

Green was directed to take up all wild horses and mares running at large and to turn them loose on Assateague Island.

In addition to the coastal duties rendered by Greene, his activities probably account for the celebrated pony round-ups at Chincoteague, Va.

Actually Greene had duties other than the round-up of horses.

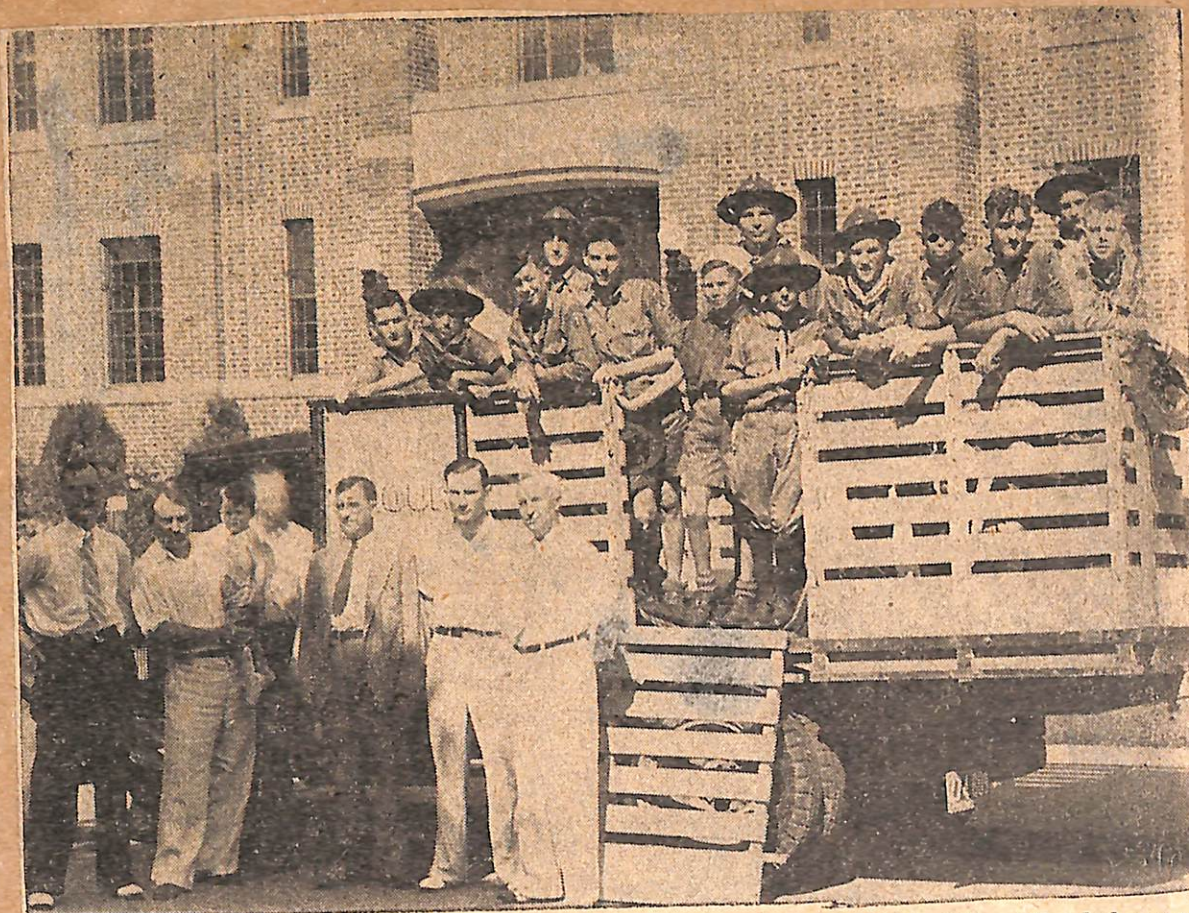
His chief obligation was to protect the governor against poachers, who, after severe storms, came to the Maryland shores and made off with the bodies of whales and other fish which had been washed ashore.

These poachers also seized valuable wreckage along the shores and provoked the wrath of colonists living along the coast when they trespassed upon their property, felled trees and made off with the timber.

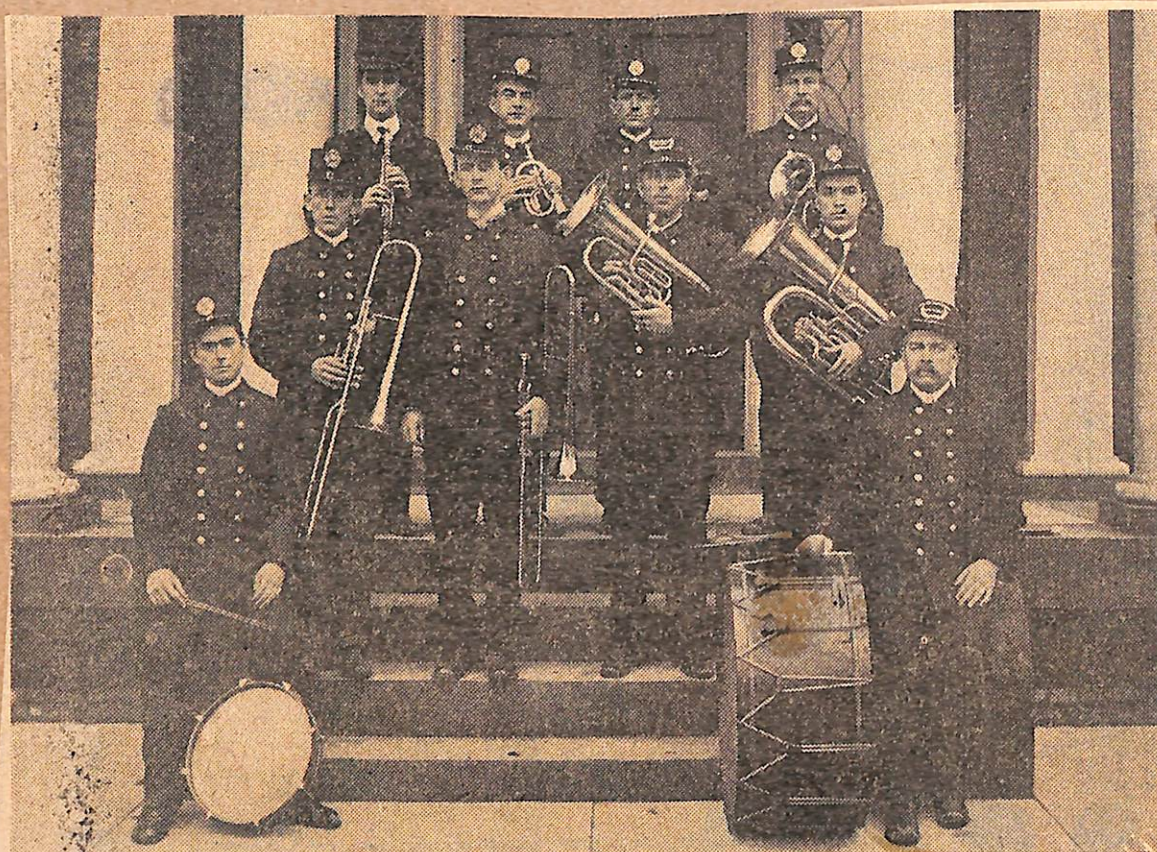
Greene alone was given the authority to get the blubber from whales, and to confiscate any valuables found aboard wrecked ships.

For his efforts Greene received one-third, and the governor two-thirds of the profits.

While the Coast Guard as we know it today as a federal institution wasn't founded until almost 100 years later, Green and his services rendered on behalf of the Maryland Governor, is considered to have been first coast guardsman.



**LEAVING FOR CAMP RODNEY** — In 1933 Boy Scouts of Pocomoke City attended a summer camp and are pictured above about to leave for Camp Rodney. Scouts pictured in the truck are (l. to r.) Wilson Hancock, Frederick Coffman, Norman Allen (partially obscured), Edward Bowen, Clayton Davis, Deur Mears, Warren Littleton, Edward DuBose, Vernon Davis, John Powell, Howard Stevenson, Frederick Hope, Arthur Lankford, Jr., and Raymond C. Dryden, Jr. Men pictured are (l. to r.) George Coffman, Fred Henderson holding a red, Jr., Clifford Dryden, Raymond D. Dryden, Sr., James Powell, H. Merrill Walters. —Photo by Fred Henderson

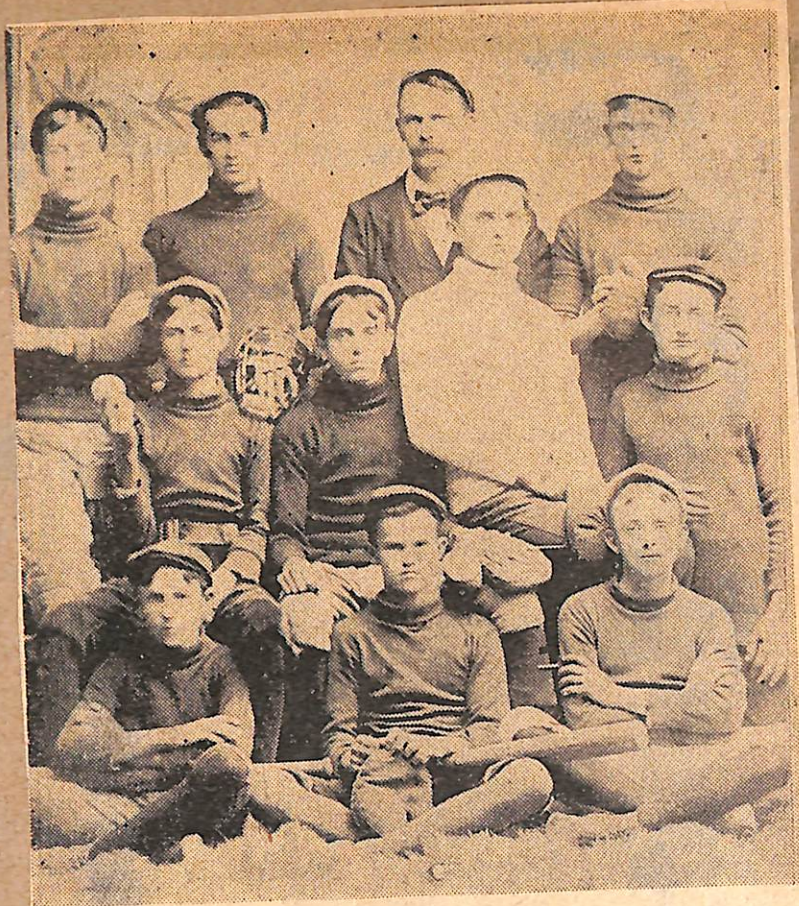


**LEADING BAND IN 1907** — Musicians from Pocomoke City formed a band around 1907 and looked like this (above) the day they borrowed uniforms from the fire department and went to play for a political rally in Snow Hill.





**CHAMPIONS OF WORCESTER COUNTY 1915.** that's what the sign says, and these five members of the Pocomoke High School girls' basketball team seem mighty pleased with their honor. Front row, left to right — Lillian Scott, Rhoda Walters, and Edna Callahan. Top row — Ruth Beauchamp, Florence Hayman and Ula Riggan.



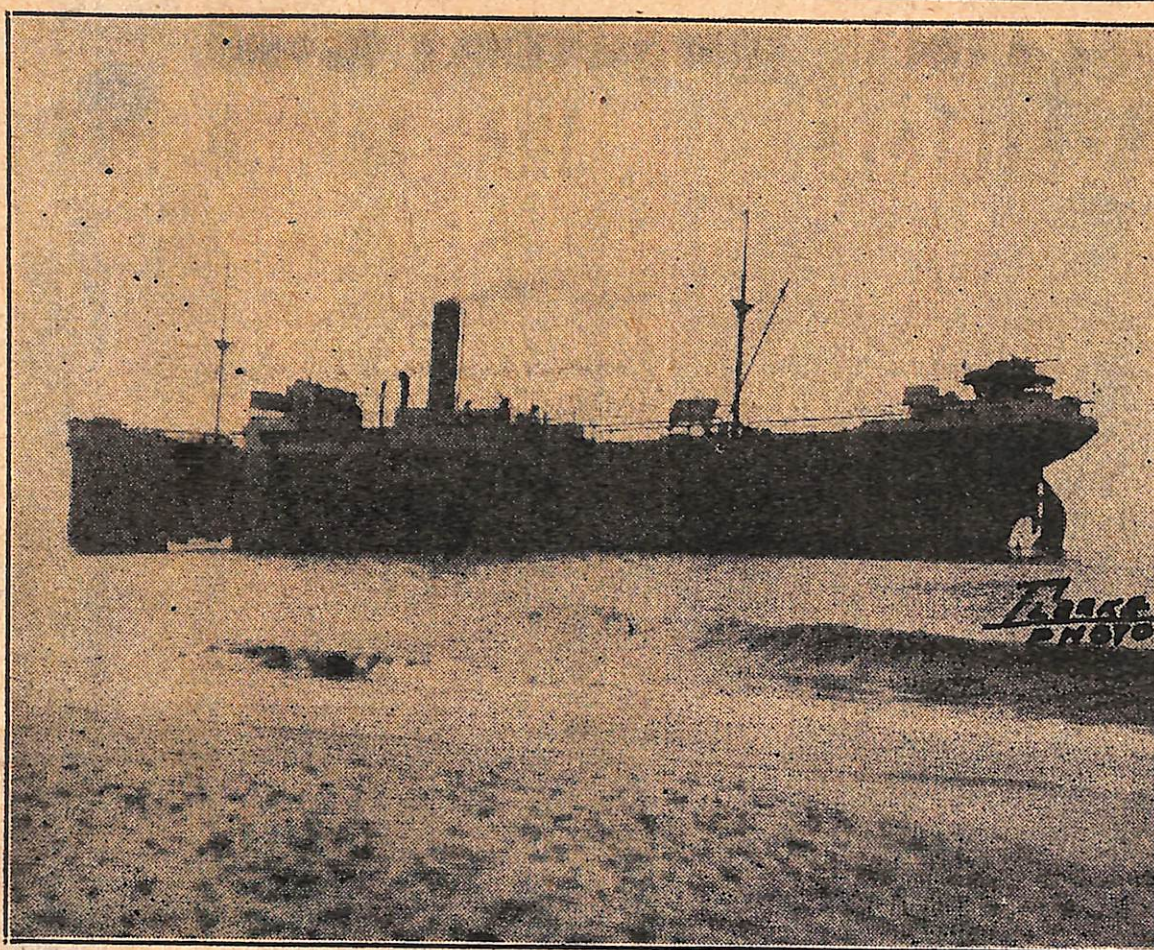
**EARLY BASEBALL TEAM** — The Pocomoke baseball team of 1892 looked like this. Who can report how many games they won that season? The players are identified as (left to right) front row: Harry Merrill, Clarke Fontaine, Will Sartorius. Second row: Edward L. (Skinny) Poole, Howard Clogg, Henry Hill and Fred C. Quinn. Back row: Herbert Hayman, Frank E. Stevenson, Dr. H. N. Willis (manager) and Dr. N. E. Sartorius. —Photo Courtesy Roger Vincent.



**EARLY BASEBALL TEAM** — Pictured in one of Pocomoke City's early baseball teams, about 1917, are (left to right) back row: Roland Custis, Willard Tull, Teacher Newell Corddry, George Henderson and Bill Parker. Center row: Hugh McMichael, Harry Custis, Clay Groton (Tobey), Eddie Custis and Edmund Evans. Front row: Darcy Evans and Watkins Lacey. — Photo Courtesy Roger Vincent.



# Miscellaneous



**MAROONED SHIP** — The Scandinavian vessel pictured above is one of very few which have run aground off Ocean City's coastline. This ship was marooned several days near the resort city during World War II. Another famous ship at Ocean City was the Spanish vessel in 1820 that was wrecked off the coast with a cargo of gold that was washed onto the shore.

## TOWNSPEOPLE HEARD THAT FATEFUL HORN

At the beginning of the nineteenth century there was a strong religious element in Pocomoke City, then known as Newtown. The enthusiastic townspeople had long been supporters of Methodism and as long ago as 1805, it is recorded that the famous traveling preacher, Lorenzo Dow, addressed 2,000 persons at Newtown.

It was there, it is said, that Dow, on his way to a church meeting, noticed a little colored boy carrying a tin horn. Dow employed the boy to climb an elm in the church yard and to remain absolutely still until that part of the sermon where Mr. Dow would exclaim, "Blow, Gabriel!"

At this juncture, the boy was to put full force on the horn. During a "fierce" sermon on the subject of the resurrection and the Day of Judgment, Mr. Dow finally reached his climax.

He described the Angel Gabriel as standing with one foot on the sea and one on the land, his long silver trumpet in his hand. "Blow, Gabriel," shouted Mr. Dow, and was instantly obeyed.

An indescribable scene followed; the congregation fell on the

ground, crying for mercy and shouting salvation; the horses added to the uproar by squealing and stamping.

Presently the boy was discovered in the tree and the shamed sinners looked at Mr. Dow threateningly. He was equal to the occasion.

"If a little boy can strike such terror into your hearts," he shouted, "what will you do when the great day really comes?"

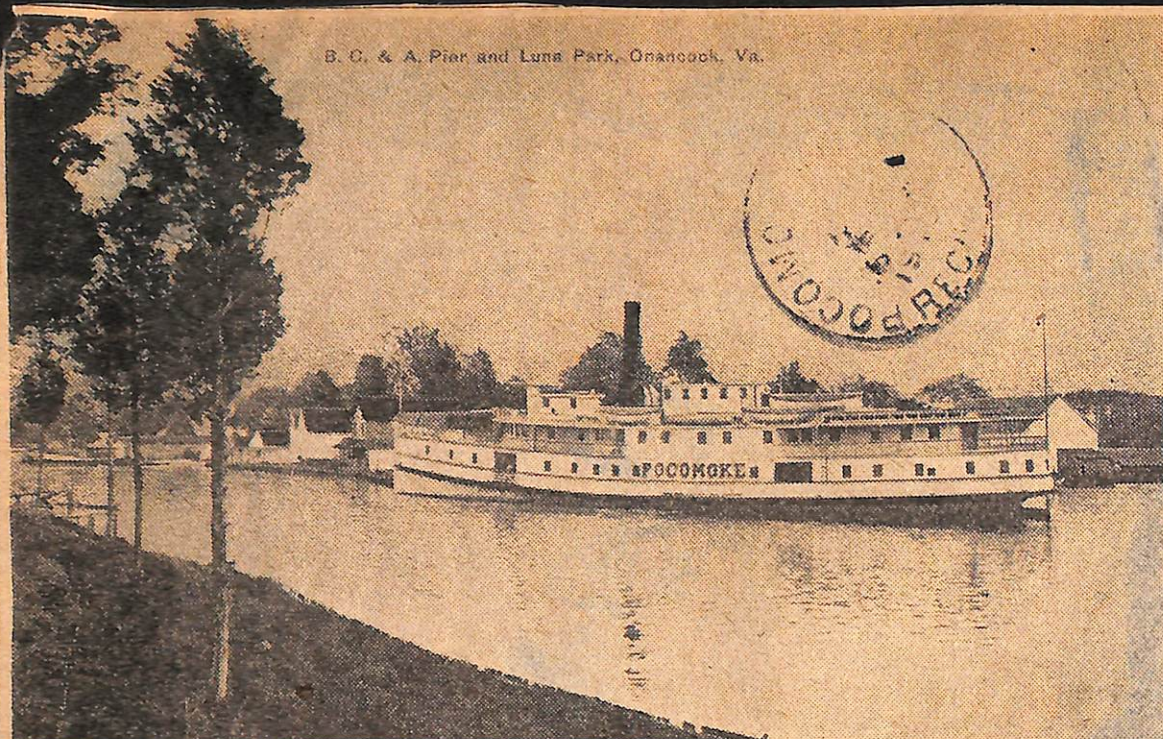
(Note: The above account was taken from the book, The Eastern Shore of Maryland and Virginia, by Charles B. Clark, published in 1950.)



**RIGHT-HAND DELIVERY TRUCK** — one of the first trucks appearing on the streets of Pocomoke city was this open-air runabout belonging to Eagle Mills. The firm name appears above the spread eagle, and below, "Flour, Feed, Etc. From Mill To Consumer."

—Picture from Worcester Democrat File.





B. C. & A. Pier and Luna Park, Onancock, Va.

THE STEAMER "POCOMOKE" plied for many years along the waterways of the Eastern Shore and Chesapeake Bay to Baltimore and Virginia. On this old post card she is shown at the B. C. & A. Pier and Luna Park, Onancock, Va. Until the advent of modern highway systems in the 1920's river boats were of great importance in the shipping of freight and for transportation.

—Photo courtesy Mrs. Maurice Henderson

## Postage Cost A Lot In Earlier Days Of Postal Service

Postage on a letter sent from Pocomoke City to New Orleans, La., costs 3 cents. Once such a letter cost 25 cents or 75 cents to mail.

A letter sent by regular mail from Pocomoke to New Orleans would cost 25 cents while the rate would jump to 75 cents if the letter was sent by a "flying post," express mail system.

As the late Rev. James Murray states in his "History of Pocomoke City," postage was regulated "by the distance a letter had to go."

### First Mail "Route"

In his book Mr. Murray describ-

es his early memories of Pocomoke City's postal system, telling of the first "route" known. In those very early 1800's there was no regular service, Mr. Murray says. "It (the mail) was transmitted by individual citizens when they would go to Snow Hill, on business, on public days."

Michael Murray, the pastor's father, served as the postmaster for Pocomoke City, then known as New Town, for seven years after he took over about 1820. He took care of his duties with the help of his sons, who often were sent by horseback or canoe to Snow Hill to fetch the mail.

Mail in those days was very small in quantity since few newspapers were distributed by mail and postage was expensive. A letter sent from Pocomoke City to Baltimore cost 10 cents, and double that amount if the letter was over a half ounce.

### List Postmasters

In the "History of Pocomoke City," Mr. Murray lists the postmasters from 1820 to 1882. Following Michael Murray were Thomas Brittingham, John Burnett, Dr. James B. Horsey, John S. Stevenson, Dr. Joseph L. Adreon, William J. S. Clarke, William H. T. Clavoe, C. C. Lloyd, James Murray, Dr. John T. B. McMaster, Wil-

liam H. S. Merrill and James H. Vincent.

In those days the mail in New Town was semi-weekly and the postmaster received about \$80 a year for his services. It was about 1863 that the postoffice became a salaried position.

The postmaster was required to keep a correct account of all mail going through the office during the last quarter of the year and return it to the U. S. Post Office Department in Washington. His salary was based upon the percentage allowed him on all mail matter going through the office that quarter for two years to come. Thus the salary was fixed every two years.

It wasn't until about 1850 that the mail came to Pocomoke City weekly. By 1880 it was arriving three times a day, and shortly afterwards increased to four. Also, by 1880 the postoffice job netted the postmaster a salary of \$700, adding to the political struggle to obtain the position.

## People Of Early Pocomoke Dressed In Simple Garb

The Quakers of the Pocomoke area and others settled in Maryland dressed very plainly and without ornaments. However, the women used lovely cloth for their dresses.

Puritans at the time of their arrival in Maryland dressed simply, too, but soon due to their power as head of the government at Annapolis they dressed in great splendor.

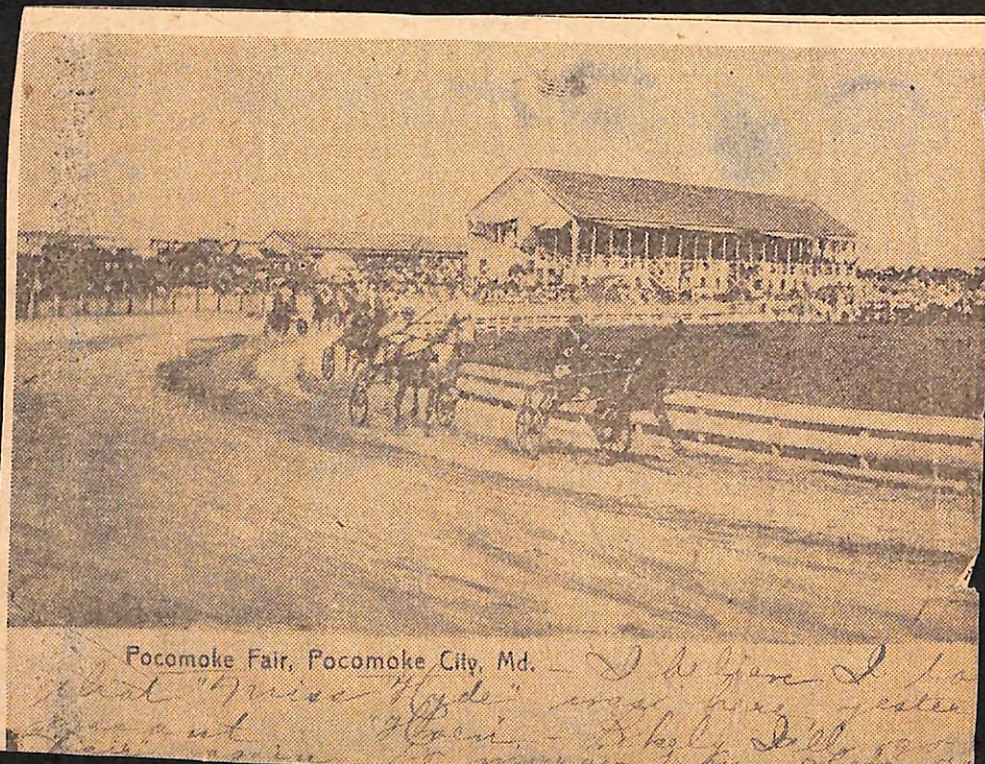
### Flashy Servants

The servants of the great families were dressed with great style and with many flashy ornaments and, of course, they wore wigs. Callimance jackets with long sleeves were popular as were quilted coats, sprigged linen gowns, shifts and dice-yarn stockings. Wigs, of course, were worn by all classes.

America's oldest newspaper, the famous Maryland Gazette of Annapolis, describes a lady's wardrobe of early Maryland as consisting of "a black silk petticoat, with a red and white calico border, cherry colored stays, trimmed with blue and silver; a red and dove-colored gown, flowered with large trees; a yellow satin apron, elegantly trimmed; a muslin head-dress with lace ruffles; and a spotted hood or 'capuchin'."

### Color In The Cheeks

The ladies never spoke of using makeup but many "rubbed their cheeks with mullen leaf to give it a bright color." Special attention was given to hairdo of the ladies and often French hairdressers were imported and were well paid.



Pocomoke Fair, Pocomoke City, Md.



**Valuable Real Estate for Sale.**

By virtue of a decree of the Orphans Court of Somerset County, the subscriber will expose at public sale, in NEWTOWN, on SATURDAY the 20th of July next, at the hour of two o'clock P. M., all of the real estate of Josiah S. May, deceased.

1st. All of that tract of land situated just below Newtown, on the bank of the Pocomoke, known as the "Wheaton lot," containing 4 acres, more or less.

2d. All of that tract of land known as the "Henderson lot," adjoining and below the above mentioned lot, and located directly on said river, containing thirty-three acres more or less.

Each of these tracts of land has a good house upon it, and is otherwise well improved.

Terms—\$200 cash, and the balance in two equal installments with interest, in one and two years secured by the bonds of the purchaser with security to be approved by the Trustee.

CLEMENT STIRLING, Trustee.  
June 22, 1867.

**Trustee's Sale of Land.**

By virtue of a Decree of the Circuit Court for Worcester county, in Equity, I will sell, as Trustee, at Allen's Hotel, in Newtown, on

SATURDAY, July 6th, 1867, at 2 P. M., all of the real estate of which Samuel P. Ellis died, seized and possessed, consisting of three several FARMS near Newtown, and two houses and lots situated within the corporate limits of the village of Newtown, to wit:

The first tract of parcel of land, known as the "Jesse Powell Farm," whereon Thomas Dawson now resides. 2d. The farm known as the "Camp Farm," formerly owned by Jesse Powell, containing about one hundred and twenty acres, more or less. 3d. The farm known as the "Whittington Farm," which adjoins the two first above named farms, whereon Levin Powell now resides, containing about 160 acres, more or less.

The buildings on the first farm are an old fashioned brick residence, and other suitable out-houses, in tolerable repair. On the second farm, the buildings are frame, and equal in structure and repair to ordinary farm houses. The buildings on the third farm are a frame residence, a portion of which is new, with other out-houses in fair repair. The fourth is a house and lot in Newtown, situated on the corner of Market and Fourth streets, and at present occupied by Levin J. M. P. Broadwater, Esq. The dwelling is spacious and commodious, and in good repair. The fifth is a house and lot on Fourth street, and now occupied by Mr. R. H. Pennewell. The dwelling is small but neat and comfortable, and convenient to the business part of the town.

Terms of Sale—Three Hundred and Twenty-five Dollars cash in hand, to be proportionally divided among the different purchasers, will be required, and the residue will be upon a credit of nine months and eight months in equal installments, to be secured by the Notes of the purchaser, bearing interest from the day of sale, with sureties to be approved of by the Trustee.

E. K. WILSON, Trustee.  
June 15, 1867.

**Trustee's Sale of Land.**

By virtue of a Decree of the Circuit Court for Worcester county, in Equity, I will sell, as Trustee, at Allen's Hotel, in Newtown, on

SATURDAY, July 6th, 1867, at 2 P. M., all that FARM which formerly belonged to Littleton T. Harris, deceased, and on which Gideon Mason now resides.

This Farm is situated about four miles from Newtown, contains two hundred and ten and a half acres of land, more or less, and is well adapted to the growth of Fruit, Vegetables and the Cereals. The buildings are in bad repair, but with a little outlay can be made very comfortable. Please view the premises before the day of sale.

Terms of Sale—One Hundred Dollars cash in hand will be required, and the residue will be upon a credit of one and two years in equal installments, to be secured by the Notes of the purchaser, bearing interest from the day of sale, with sureties to be approved of by the Trustee.

J. R. FRANKLIN, Trustee.  
June 15, 1867.

**WILSON, BAYNE & ADAMS, Commission Merchants,**  
No. 6, Barre Street,  
(Three Doors from Light street.)

BALTIMORE, MD.

L. D. Wilson, of Worcester county, Md.  
Geo. C. D. Bayne, formerly of Accomack county, Va.  
Wm. T. Adams, of Somerset county, Md.  
Baltimore, Sept. 19, 1866.

**SANDS & CO.,**  
Commission & Wholesale Dealers in

Tobacco, Snuff & Cigars,  
No. 70, EXCHANGE PLACE,  
BALTIMORE, MD.

(June 1, '67-ly)

N. BALLIET W. M. SCOTT

**BALLIET & SCOTT,**

[Successors to  
RODMAN CARTER & CO.]

Produce Commission Merchants,  
No. 38, South Water Street,  
(P. O. Box, 63.) Philadelphia.

Liberal CASH advances when required.  
Returns made on the day of sale.

May 25, 1867.

JAMES C. WHEELER,  
WITH

**GEO. P. THOMAS & CO.,**

BALTIMORE, MD.

WE HAVE CONSTANTLY IN STORE  
An Extensive stock of  
BUILDING MATERIALS,

Sash, Door, Blinds,  
BRANCH HOUSE  
SASH F  
NORTH-EAST COR  
PRA7

BALTIMORE, MD.

WE HAVE CONSTANTLY IN STORE  
An Extensive stock of  
BUILDING MATERIALS,

**WOOD, MARSH & HAYWARD,**  
WHOLESALE DEALERS IN  
**DRY GOODS,**  
No. 309, Market street,  
PHILADELPHIA.

ROBERT H. MITCHELL EDWARD P. ZANE.

**MITCHELL & ZANE**

**WHOLESALE GROCERS,**

—AND—  
GENERAL COMMISSION MERCHANTS,  
—AND DEALERS IN—

FOREIGN & DOMESTIC LIQUORS,  
55 South Calvert st.,  
BALTIMORE, MD.

December 15, 1866.

**GEORGE R. COFFROTH & CO.,**

Commission & Wholesale Dealers in

Tobacco, Snuff & Cigars,  
No. 330, Baltimore street,  
(Second Door West of Howard st.)  
Dec. 1, '66-ly

JOSEPH H. RINLEY ALFRED J. CREIGHTON.

**RISLEY & CREIGHTON,**

**Shippers and Commission**

**MERCHANTS,**

—AND—  
IMPORTERS OF WEST INDIA PRODUCE,  
110 East Bay,  
Corner of Accommodation Wharf,

CHARLESTON, S. C.

Consignments of Vessels and Cargoes solicited. Charters made and Freight procured. All orders for Cotton, Naval Stores, Pitch, Pine and Lumber promptly filled. [Oct. 29, '66-ly]

**LEONARD PASSANO & SONS,**

DEALERS IN

NOTIONS, FANCY GOODS,  
HOSIERY, GLOVES,  
TRIMMINGS and  
SMALL WARES.

268 West Baltimore st.,  
BALTIMORE, MD.

Respectfully invite the attention of dealers to their stock of the above Goods, which is maintained complete throughout the year.

October 20, 1866.

**S. BEVAN & CO.,**

**IMPORTERS & JOBBERS**

**IN DRY GOODS,**

"No. 279," Baltimore street,  
(Between Hanover and Sharp sts.)

KEEP a Large Stock always on hand, and offer great inducements to CASH and PROMPT buyers.

October 13, 1866.

**C. B. ROGERS,**

DEALER IN CLOVER, TIMOTHY, ORCHARD,  
HERD GRASS & GARDEN SEEDS.

133 Market st., Philadelphia.

Also Early Good  
Early Dykem and S  
California Spring See  
given to orders by m

S. W. NOLAND

Sash, Door, Blinds,  
BRANCH HOUSE  
SASH F  
NORTH-EAST COR  
PRA7

BALTIMORE, MD.

WE HAVE CONSTANTLY IN STORE  
An Extensive stock of  
BUILDING MATERIALS,

Sash, Door, Blinds,  
BRANCH HOUSE  
SASH F  
NORTH-EAST COR  
PRA7

BALTIMORE, MD.

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An Extensive stock of  
BUILDING MATERIALS,

Sash, Door, Blinds,  
BRANCH HOUSE  
SASH F  
NORTH-EAST COR  
PRA7

**Come Ladies, One and All!**

TO THE  
New Pattern, Millinery, Trimming  
and Stamping Depot,  
Where You Can Get Everything Nice in  
the Fancy Goods Line.

October 13, 1866.

**Mrs. U. B. Henderson**

INFORMS her nu-

merous patrons

and the public gen-

erally that she has re-

moved to the new store

house on Market st.

which she lately pur-

chased of Mr. W. S. C.

Polk, where, in addi-

tion to her heretofore

unsurpassed selection

of RICH and FANCY GOODS, she has opened a

branch of MRS. DEMOREST'S

French Pattern Store,

and will constantly keep a large selection of Ladies

and Children's latest Styles and Patterns.

She also has a first class DRESS MAKER, just

from the City, and is prepared to CUT, FIT and

MAKE Dresses, Cloaks, Wrappers, &c., &c., in

the highest style of the art, and at short notice.

She also offers a superior stock of Millinery and

Trimming Goods generally.—The Largest and Most

Perfect selection of Fancy Goods ever offered in

Newtown. All are invited to call and examine her

stock, and get the first in Fashion and Cheapest in

Price. Her terms are Cash or Country Produce.

and her motto, "Quick sales and small profits."

Newtown, October 13, 1866.

**BACON, COLLINS & CO.,**

**Produce and Commission**

**MERCHANTS**

408 South Wharves,  
PHILADELPHIA, PA.

REFERENCES

PURNELL & COLLINS, Seco-Hill, Md.

W. J. S. CLARKE & SON, Newtown, Md.

W. B. THOMAS, Philadelphia

FRANCIS A. GOWDIN, Philadelphia.

J. W. KNOWLES, Baltimore; Md.

THOS. D. QUINCY, Boston.

Ex-Governor WM. H. ROSS, Seaford, Del.

A. BARRETT, New York

Sept. 29, '66-ly

**REAL ESTATE AGENCY,**

W. S. DICKINSON,

NEWTOWN, ND.

GIVES particular attention to selling and buy-

ing Real Estate—whether Farms or Town

Property. Those wishing to sell or buy, will find

it to their advantage to confer with him. Com-

munications and conversation confidential.

Newtown, September 29, 1866.

**C. W. B. Marshall,**

**REAL ESTATE AGENT,**

NEWTOWN, MD.

HAVING associated himself with Charles T.

Marshall & Co., real estate Agents of Prin-

cess Anne, and with other Agencies throughout

the North, he is prepared to take orders for

sale. This firm has made numerous and heavy

sales in this county, and has now established

connections by which they secure a constant

supply of customers. Parties desiring to sell should

apply to me personally in Newtown, or write for

blank contract. Written contracts, in all cases,

indispensable. [May 4, 1867.]

**Union & Mansion Pottery Works.**

**CROXALL & CARTWRIGHT,**

MANUFACTURERS OF

Rockingham, Yellow & Variegated Queens

and Egyptian Black Ware,

EAST-LIVERPOOL, OHIO

Orders from merchants of Newtown, or from

any point on the Eastern Shore of Maryland and

Virginia, accompanied with satisfactory refer-

ences promptly attended to. W. J. S. CLARKE & SON,

of Newtown, are our authorized Agents, through

whom purchases can be made on as good terms as

at the counting-room of the manufactory. Pack-

ages of assorted ware constantly on hands and

ready for shipment. [Sep. 20, '67-ly]

**EUGENE D. TINGLE,**

**ATTORNEY AT LAW,**

SNOW HILL, MD.

All business entrusted to his care will re-

ceive prompt attention [Nov. 24, 1866.]

**HIGHLY IMPORTANT**

**ISRAEL & CO., PHOTOGRAPHERS,**

125 West Baltimore st.

**IMPORTUM OF FASHION!**

**Mrs. A. J. Clarke,**

DEALES IN

BONNETS,

BONNET TRIMMING,

AND PLAIN AND FANCY

DRESS TRIMMINGS.

Market Street, NEWTOWN, Md.

WILL SOON re-

ceive from Bal-

timore, and be open-

ing her Spring assort-

ment of goods at her

Establishment, in

Newtown.—The "Em-

porium of Fashion,"

the largest, most fash-

ionable and decidedly

the best selected stock

of Millinery GOODS and Dress Trimmings ever

opened in Newtown, and the cheapest and most

Costly ever brought to the country. Her stock will

be selected by herself in person, from the Richest

and gayest Establishments in Baltimore, and she is

now prepared, with her rich and varied assort-

ment of Goods, to furnish her numerous customers

and the Bonnet-wearing community generally,

with any article in her line, as Cheap as Fashion-

able, as Gaily Trimmed, and of as Good Material

as any Establishment on Market Street Philadel-

phia, or on Baltimore street in Baltimore. She also

has, in addition to her rich and gorgeous stock

of Millinery Goods, a full variety of the best and

most experienced Bonnet Maker, and Trimmers on

the Eastern Shore. In fact, for neatness, taste and

display, their ability in these particulars cannot be

excelled outside the Fashionable Millinery Estab-

lishment of New York or Paris.

Mrs. Clarke deems it unnecessary to attempt to

particularize her present assortment, as there is

not an article in the whole scope of Millinery

but what may be found in her establishment, from

the richest and finest SILKS and VELVETS to the

most ordinary fabrics; and from the most ordinary

trimming to the rich and gorgeous PLUMES; and

her DRESS TRIMMINGS are the finest and best

of any of the Eastern cities. To all of which she

most respectfully invites the attention of the LA-

DIES of Newtown and vicinity, and those of the

adjoining counties of Maryland and Virginia.

**CASH or Country Produce taken**

in payment of all unsettled claims.—

Those indebted will please give special

attention to this postscript.

March 30, '67.] A. J. CLARKE

**GARDEN TRUCK AND FRUIT.**

A. D. EGERTON & CO.,

No. 174, Pratt street,

(Adjoining the "Maltby House,")

BALTIMORE, MD.

</



of Foreign Wars, Post 8622, are (left  
el Mazzo, President Nelda Maddox,  
erence Mariner, Mildred Townsend,  
er, Post Commander E. L. Fleming.  
ne Coons, Marie B. Darby, Dorothy

## International 1952; Building Home For The Aged

ing secretary; and Mrs. Polk,  
treasurer.

In the first year of service, on  
June 17, 1952, the club unani-  
mously endorsed, as their project,  
a Home for the Aged in Pocomoke  
City.

In June, 1953, Miss Young (clas-  
sification, editor) was elected  
president, serving with Mrs. Hall,  
vice-president; Mrs. Coleburn, re-  
cording secretary; Mrs. Baylis,  
corresponding secretary; and Miss  
Medeline Ross, treasurer.

In June, 1954, Miss Annie Ross  
(classification, principal elemen-  
tary school) was named president,  
serving with Mrs. Baylis, vice-  
president; Mrs. Winfred Small,  
recording secretary; Mrs. Kirby,  
corresponding secretary; Miss  
Madeline Ross, treasurer; and Mrs.  
Hall, chaplain.

Several new members have been  
taken in recently, with a total  
membership of 31 in April, 1955.  
The club meets once a month.

During the three short years  
the club has been in existence,  
members have incorporated under  
the name Hartley Hall (Home for  
the Aged), and have purchased  
the Stevens home on Market St.

At the present members are in  
the midst of converting the house  
into a Home for the Aged to serve  
Worcester and Somerset Counties  
in Maryland, and Accomack and  
Northampton Counties in Virgin-

On April 15, 1955, the Soropti-  
mist International sponsored the  
organization of the Venture Club  
in Pocomoke City. This club received  
its charter with a membership  
of 11 young business women.

Establishing the Home for the  
Aged has become a tremendous  
project, but much headway has  
been made in the three years of  
the club. Work on remodeling the  
interior of the home is going for-  
ward at a rapid pace.

In order to finance the project  
many benefits have been held and  
substantial donations have been  
made by organizations and indi-  
viduals.

All efforts of the club will be  
directed toward financing the work

the 11 charter members to about 31.  
Several of the former members now  
belong to the newly-organized Junior  
Homemakers Club.

The Junior organization was form-  
ed in January, 1954, for homemakers  
who found it difficult to attend the  
afternoon meeting time of the original  
club. For the past year this group,  
including about 25 members, meets  
evenings and follows a program sim-  
ilar to the Senior Club.

The Senior Homemaker Club meets  
the second Monday of each month in  
the afternoon. Meetings are held at  
members' homes, where demon-  
strations offer women up-to-date methods  
of housekeeping.

Special demonstrations during the  
last few months have included alu-  
minum etching, basketry, and slip cov-  
er sewing.

Officers who served during the first  
year of the club's history include Mrs.  
Beauchamp, president; Mrs. Herbert  
Pilehard, vice president; Mrs. Ralph  
Jenkins, secretary; and Mrs. Harold  
Talley, treasurer.

Present officers of the Senior Club  
include Mrs. Willard Richardson, pres-  
ident; Mrs. Randall Mason, vice  
president; Mrs. Henry Lambertson,  
secretary; and Mrs. Henry Walters,  
treasurer.

Officers of the Junior Homemakers  
Club, at its beginning were Mrs. Mal-  
colm Cox, president; Mrs. Leonard  
Barnes, Jr., vice president; Mrs.  
Halph Jenkins, secretary, and Miss  
Mary Henderson, treasurer.

Present officers of the Junior Club  
are Mrs. Marvin Scott, president;  
Mrs. Barnes, vice president; Mrs. Leon  
Weidema, secretary, and Miss Hender-  
son, secretary.

The anti-cigarette bill was re-  
ported favorably in the Senate, but  
it will meet with strong opposi-  
tion in the House. — Ledger-  
Enterprise, February 10, 1906.

club's first president, serving with  
Mrs. C. W. Trader, vice-president;  
Mrs. Paul Llewelyn, corresponding  
secretary; Mrs. Edgar Allen Hall,  
recording secretary; and Mrs.  
Blanche David, treasurer.

In December, 1950, the club se-  
lected its first big project — the  
placing of shrubbery around the  
then - new elementary school.

Succeeding presidents of the

## First Library Was Considered In 1913

Ledger-Enterprise  
December 13, 1913

A mass meeting of the citizens of  
the town was held in the Opera House  
on Friday evening of last week to  
consider what could be done towards  
securing a lot for the old N. Y. P.  
& N Railroad station, which the rail-  
road Company has offered to donate  
to the town for a Library Building.

A Free Library Association was or-  
ganized and a constitution adopted.  
Nine directors were elected as follows:  
Mayor E. James Tull, Revs. N. O.  
Gibson and W. J. McCullough, Dr. R.  
Lee Hall, Mrs. L. F. Hall, Mrs. Edgar  
Fontaine, Mrs. J. Edward Powell,  
Misses Mary B. Pusey and Miriam  
Dickinson.

Special effort will be made to in-  
crease the membership at an annual  
fee of \$1 and to start a permanent  
building fund.

It may be recalled that in a letter  
to the late Col. Winchester Hall, who  
was instrumental in organizing the  
first Civic Society of Pocomoke, Mr.  
Andrew Carnegie promised to contri-  
bute the remaining half of any amount  
decided upon for a free Library Build-  
ing in Pocomoke City.

It is hoped that our townspeople  
will be united in an effort to secure  
such a building to our growing city.

Mrs. Edward Tarr, president; Mrs.  
Ames Byrd, vice-president; Mrs.  
Brantley Watkins, treasurer; Mrs.  
Ralph Ardis, corresponding secre-  
tary; and Mrs. Harley Stevens III,  
recording secretary.

### Yearly Events

Included in the club's annual  
events are the benefit card party  
held each October and the bene-  
fit fashion show held each March.  
The club also holds monthly birth-

Compli  
To T  
WORCESTER  
from  
Powell M  
Buick Sales

Phone 2-1106

Benjamins

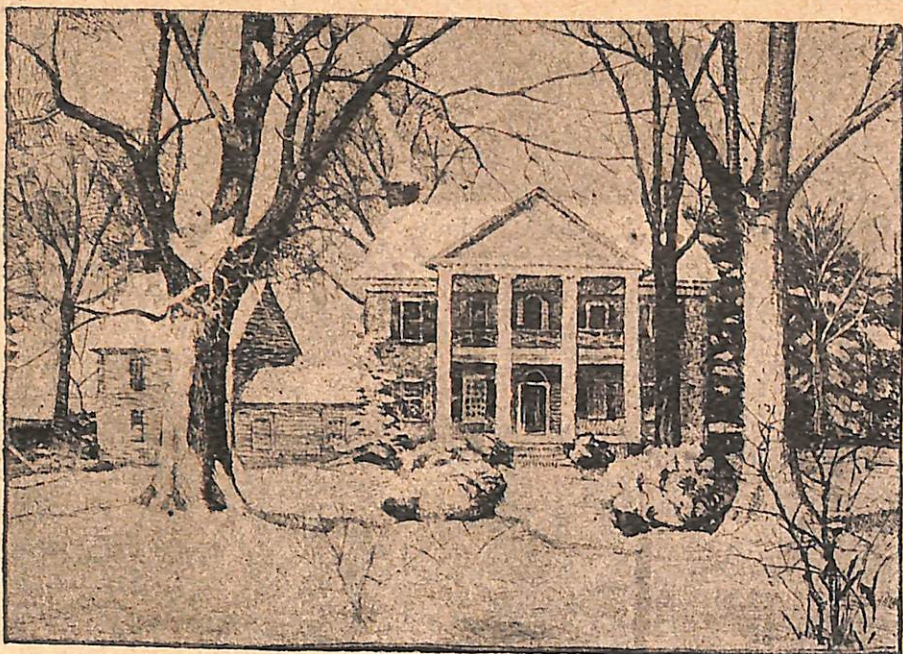


Ends

and

SPDO





## BEVERLEY IS AMONG AREA'S BEAUTIFUL HISTORIC HOMES

**Estate in Dennis Family For  
250 Years — Ivy Hill, Hay-  
ward's Lott, Noteworthy Too**

One of the beautiful estates of the Pocomoke area is Beverly, the Dennis home which was started around 1669 and completed soon after 1728.

Part of the estate extends across the Virginia border.

This large five-bay, painted brick Georgian Colonial home on the Pocomoke River, three miles above its mouth in Pocomoke Sound was in the Dennis family for more than 250 years.

The house, a magnificent two-story brick structure with lower service wings of frame construction has on the landward side a white-columned portico, while on the river side is an interesting iron grillwork arch carrying a lantern that for many years was lighted at night to guide vessels on the narrow, winding stream.

Inside, the original heart-pine paneling is as it was when completed by the local craftsmen who laboriously carved it with the aid of English patterns for the heirs of Dennoch Dennis, the Irish immigrant who started its construction. The river side drawing room is paneled to the ceiling.

The house has been carefully restored by the present owners, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Shettle.

Generations of Dennises lie in the family graveyard near the house. John Dennis, who went to Congress at 25, was one of the five Federalists who switched votes to Jefferson for President of the United States to break the deadlock with Aaron Burr.

John Upshur Dennis (1793-1851) whose ships carried Pocomoke cypress and West Indian molasses, had three wives and 21 children, winning his third wife in competition with his eldest son; legend is that the tombstone for his second wife came to Beverly on the same vessel with a carriage bought for his third.

Other famous old homes are Hayward's Lott and Ivy Hill, both of which combine brick and wood in their construction.

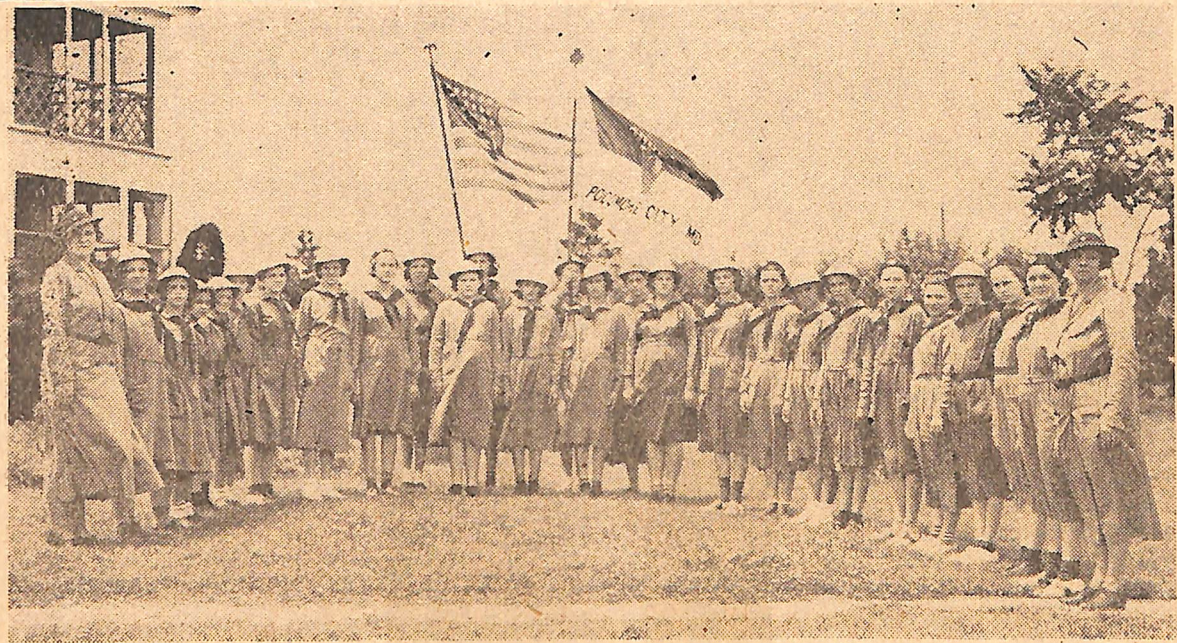




**SCHOOL DEDICATION** — In the early 1920's the above school was dedicated at Cedartown. The school accommodated students through the seventh grade at that time. Included on the photo are Mary Pusey and Lottie Holston. Miss Pusey, who was supervisor from 1917 to 1925, died several years ago. Miss Holston, who taught at the Cedartown school until about 1927, is now teaching sixth grade at the Snow Hill Elementary School.

—Photo Courtesy County Department of Education.





**GIRL SCOUTS AT CAMP** — The Pocomoke City Girl Scouts were organized in 1935 and were active here for many years. The above picture was taken in 1936 when the Scouts were attending their first camping trip at Public Landing. Scout leaders pictured are Mrs. Mary Barnes (left) and Mrs. L. Griffin Callahan (right), but the Scouts remain unidentified. Do you know any of them?

—Photo Courtesy Mrs. Callahan.





ONLY ONE MAN WAS CLEAN SHAVEN in this old photograph of Pocomoke's Volunteer Fire Department taken in 1900 or 1901. Most sported mustaches or goatees.



# Rotary Club In Pocomoke

Organized in 1923 with 15 charter members, the Rotary Club of Pocomoke City has grown to an active group of 44 men. The club meets each Monday at 6:15 p.m. in the Presbyterian Social Hall.

Charter members of the club include Quince Ashburn, Colmore E. Byrd, E. L. Bunce, Godfrey Child, J. Milton Clogg, E. Clarke Fontaine, Roger W. Lankford, R. I. Lednum, Albert A. Parker, Henry B. Pilchard, Norman E. Sartorius, Sr., W. Harry Schoolfield, Milton L. Veasey, H. Merrill Walters and William H. Walters. Child, Lankford and Sartorius are still active members.

Rotary International was founded in 1905 in Chicago and operates under the slogan "He profits most who serves best." The club motto is "Service above Self." Rotarians this year are observing their fiftieth anniversary.

There are four fields of Rotary activities: Club service, international service, community service and vocational service.

First president of the Pocomoke City Rotary Club was Dr. Albert A. Parker. Other presidents, in order of their service, include Dr. Parker, Norman E. Sartorius, H. Merrill Walters, Milton L. Veasey, Colmore E. Byrd, Quince Ashburn, Raymond C. Dryden, Sr., Clarence E. Robertson, Godfrey Child, Edgar E. Covington, Edward J.

Clarke, James F. Dryden, George W. Coffman, Ralph A. Ross, John T. Smullin, Jr., Verlin C. Krabill, Edward H. Ham, Walter Ent, R. Harlan Robertson, B. Fuller Walters, Raymond C. Dryden, Jr., H. Harvey Bradshaw, Joseph C. Stevenson, Donald J. Snyder, James R. Tilghman, Norman E. Polk, J. Dawson Clarke, Ted H. Ramsey, Roger W. Lankford, James Coffman, Grandval B. Carter, Harrison M. Walters and Malcolm G. Matthews.

Current officers, recently elected, include Allen T. Long, president; Robert Breedlove, vice-president; Julian Moore, secretary; Phil Creath, treasurer; Malcolm Matthews, G. D. Bull and James Coffman, directors.



# Lions Club In Pocomoke City Active For Twenty-One Years

The Pocomoke City Lions Club has been active here for 21 years, supporting community activities and offering members the congeniality of a fine men's organization.

The club was organized here in 1934 under the sponsorship of the Salisbury Lions Club. Members of the Salisbury club assisted in the planning and organization of the Pocomoke Club and on March 19, 1934, the local group was issued a charter by Lions International.

Charter members include H. H. Appleton, Nelson R. Bell, Milton H. Brimer, L. Griffin Callahan, Hugh V. Clary, C. W. Crockett, A. J. Duncan, L. Paul Ewell, Howard C. Gibson, R. Lee Hall, T. D. Hamillman, J. Miles Lankford, Eugene P. Matthews, James T. Nock, Norman E. Polk, H. A. Ryder, D. E. Riggan, Louis J. Rodbell, P. G. Scher, A. P. Schoolfield, Guy W. Snow, A. Hartley Stevens, Jr., T. Bryce Venable, Lieutenant Williams and Norris M. Young.

The first meeting place of the Pocomoke City Lions was at the home of Mrs. Belle Whyte, at the

site where the post office now stands.

From that location Mrs. Whyte moved to a brick home on Second Street where the Lions continued to meet for a period of time. Later they met on the boat "Gov. Emerson C. Harrington," at the Pocomoke River bridge.

Following that the group met at T. Bryce Venable Restaurant on Market Street in the building now occupied by L. C. Williams, jeweler. When Mr. Venable discontinued his restaurant the Lions moved to Bethany Church for meetings.

The club still meets every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. at the Bethany Church. There are 84 active members in the present organization, with one honorary and six members at large, totalling 91.

Newly elected Lions officers include Stanley Lankford, Sr., president; Howard Hudson, first vice-president; John Smullin III, second vice president; Clarence Duncan third vice president; Myron Smith, secretary; Prentice Porter, treasurer; Robert Scott, lion tamer; Russell White and Robert Westfall, directors.

For the past eight years the Lions Club has sponsored a community-wide minstrel show to raise funds for its work. Part of the club's money buys glasses for local people who need them but cannot afford them. This is part of the Lions International eye health project.

In recent years the Lions purchased uniforms for the Pocomoke High School band, furnished sports equipment for the high school and bought playground equipment for the Winter Quarters Country Club.

Presidents who have served the club, beginning in 1934, include Dr. James T. Nock, Eugene P. Matthews, Dr. Lee Hall (deceased), L. Paul Ewell, J. Miles Lankford, L. Griffin Callahan, William T. Bunting, Norris M. Young (deceased), Grady E. Powell, Daniel W. Shaw, Jr., Benjamin T. Dryden, Mervin L. Blades, Clifford M. Dryden, Willard J. Stevenson, Howard C. Gibson, John C. Yaggi, John H. Stevens, Francis P. Cluff, Norman C. Nock, George W. Reid, and Vaughn Wilkinson.



# 'Ocean Downs' 2 Million Dollar Track

## Started In Spring Of 1947

**Top-Rated Track Cost \$650,000**

**'Second To None'**

Ocean Downs ranked third among Maryland's three tracks' first year totals. The \$2,246,000 total wagering has been topped by only one other track in the country — Chicago's Sportsmen's Park, a mile track operating but a few miles from Chicago. Over 200,000 fans attended the 20-night meeting of the Worcester County track.

This attendance included a "melting pot" of business men, watermen, vacationers, farmers and cannery workers. The nightly betting handle averaged \$112,330.

### *Horseman's Dream*

The racing strip, a horseman's dream, did not turn out to be as fast as was predicted although a few of the hard going record smashers that performed at Laurel and Rosecroft took a crack at it.

Nora Abe and Emalou Hanover shared the mile pacing mark of 2:06-3/5 and American Lou and Follow Boy each stepped off a 2:07-2/5 mile on the trot. After a year of conditioning, horsemen expect Ocean Downs to come up with one of the fastest strips in the nation.

"Beauty Spot By the Sea" describes the new track which cost an estimated \$650,000. It is located 28 miles east of Salisbury, and about midway between Ocean City and Berlin. Many horsemen consider it "second to none in the East."

The elaborate setup includes a 4,000 seat grandstand and a large ramp which will accommodate another 10,000. Also included are 480 stables, and other structures including administration buildings, restaurant, paddock, club house, and employees' recreational center.

### *Began in 1947*

The plan for bringing Ocean Downs

into being had its inception back in the spring of 1947 when a group of Berlin business men — trotting fans, all of them — went into a huddle and agreed the lower Eastern Shore might support such an establishment.

Among the prime movers were O. Sheldon Chandler, head of the Berlin Milling Company; Frederick S. Hastings, Berlin Lumberman; Earl E. Conley, Ocean City hotel operator; Theodore E. Fletcher of Preston; Edgar T. Bennett of the Red Star Motor Coach Company, Salisbury, and Clarence W. Miles, member of a Baltimore law firm.

This group and several of their

business associates set up the initial kitty of \$15,000 to get the ball rolling. One of the first moves was to purchase a site. It's the 640-acre farm owned by Raymond Bounds which was acquired at the reported cost of \$14,000. Then arrangements were made to dispose of \$700,000 worth of securities to the public to underwrite the project, most of the stock having gone to investors in the states of Maryland, Virginia, Pennsylvania and New York.



# Many Groups Active Here Through Years

Part of the growth and progress of Pocomoke City has been the formation of various civic and social organizations that have become powerful forces in keeping the city up-to-date both in activities and thinking.

Numerous organizations have been established here, many of them dating back to the 19th century.

Perhaps the oldest still-active group is the Crescent Masonic Lodge, formed in 1892. The Volunteer Fire Department also dates back to the 1890's, formed about the year 1898.

Many other organizations have followed, forming to aid the community through conducting drives, sponsoring benefits and assisting in community-wide celebrations and projects.

Civic clubs now located in Pocomoke City include the Lions Club, Kiwanis Club, Rotary Club, Junior Chamber of Commerce, Chamber of Commerce, Soroptimist International, Venture Club, Senior and Junior Woman's Clubs, Senior and Junior Homemaker Clubs and Boy Scouts.

The Volunteer Fire Department, with its Auxiliary also might be classified as a "civic" club although its services are more of service to the community as an active part of the city government.

Many fraternal organizations also are found in the community, including the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Benevolent Protective Order of Elks, Crescent Masonic and Order of Eastern Star and the Legion, V. F. W. and Elks Auxiliaries.

The city also boasts a fine social club in the organization of the Winter Quarters Country Club, offering an excellent place of amusement — an asset to any community.

The organizations mentioned meet regularly in the city to conduct business meetings, plan projects and activities and enjoy a congenial atmosphere of neighborliness.

Projects of the several groups include promoting the community through public participation events, assisting the needy of the area and offering both entertainment and education about worthy causes to the public.

One club supports an eye health program, another is interested in mental health, and other clubs see that youth are guided in the right direction.

A few of the clubs are small, with less than 30 members; some of the clubs boast membership reaching toward 200. However, all of the organizations firmly support the idea that quality of membership is more important than numbers — and that is the goal of each group.

While the larger groups are able to take on larger projects, the smaller groups back many of the necessary projects that can be handled by a few people. With a nucleus of a small, active group, many projects have been successfully supported for the betterment of the community at large.

In this section of the Worcester Democrat's 75th Anniversary Edition will be found numerous stories and pictures giving the details of the work of the various organizations.

Membership and leading members throughout the years also are mentioned so that the reader may know who has been instrumental in the furthering of the club.

One of the organizations not mentioned separately is the Pocomoke Public Library, Inc., since it serves the community and is supported by the community.

The library was organized in 1930 through the efforts of the Pocomoke City Woman's Club. It is a separate organization managed by a board of directors and operated under its own by-laws.

Mrs. William H. Schoolfield, librarian here for 13 years, has been one of the prominent library supporters. She resigned her position last year and was replaced by Mrs. J. Powell Eaton, present librarian.

The purpose of the library, according to the constitution and by-laws, is to "advance education; to promote in Pocomoke City a library for the benefit of the people of the town and vicinity and to eventually establish a "Free Library."

Present library officers are Mrs. Mildred Brittingham, president; Mrs. William H. Schoolfield, vice-president; Mrs. W. Sidney Stevens, recording secretary; Clarence Fleming, corresponding secretary; Mrs. L. Paul Ewell, treasurer.

First president of the library board was Mrs. R. Lee Hall, who now resides in Baltimore.

One of the most progressive charitable organizations of the city was the Inasmuch Circle of King's Daughters. This group disbanded last year after more than a half-century of service to the community.

The group worked quietly in Pocomoke City since the turn of the century, avoiding publicity of their good works. The women sought out needy persons and rendered both spiritual and financial aid. Their only source of income was the Thanksgiving offerings of the area churches and volunteer donations.

Another organization that has disappeared from the community is the Girl Scouts. Organized in 1935, the girls were active here until about a year ago when the last Girl Scout troop broke up.

Scouting now is limited to Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts, supported by some of the city's youth leaders.

Separate church organizations are not included in this section since almost all churches carry on their own charitable projects through individual groups. Purpose of the groups — to aid one's fellowman — is undertaken by many of the active church laymen.

Each of the organizations named is an asset to the community and is demonstrated by the growth in membership and import in Pocomoke City. This community can be very proud of its active organizations.



# Home Demonstration Agent Had Hectic Times In

## Early Days of Work in Worcester County

### "Woman Who Teaches Canning" Began Here In 1918

Early days of the county home demonstration program here were hectic ones, with skepticism, bad roads and long working hours to overcome.

Demonstration work really had its beginning in the summer of 1917 when a person was hired during the summer months to give canning demonstrations.

#### First Home Agent

In March, 1918, Miss Lucy J. Walter came to Worcester County as the first full-time Home Demonstration Agent, and she immediately was labeled the "woman who teaches canning."

The one county woman's organization, known as the County Woman's Club had as its leader Miss Rozelle Handy who had been interested in developing civic work among rural folk. Through the members of the organization, representing all sections of the county, the club gave Miss Walter opportunities to carry demonstrations to different sections of the county.

Those were pioneer days. Roads seemed all sand or mud and were difficult to travel over.

The demonstration agent had no car and no knowledge of driving. Four towns could be reached by train, which usually meant a day for one meeting, spending the night to get a return train. And there were occasional busses.

County Superintendent of Schools E. W. McMaster and School Supervisor Miss Mary Pusey made it possible for Miss Walter to visit schools with them, as much of the 4-H work was carried on through schools.

#### Stuck In Sand

On one occasion several county schools had been visited. On the return trip the car was stuck in the sand and it was necessary to remain all night on a little-used road waiting for help to arrive.

In the fall of 1918 the first car was bought and those were hectic days learning to drive and avoiding spending more time in the sand and mud than doing extension programs, recalls Miss Walter.

Through the summer extensive canning and wartime cookery were demonstrated and from these contacts home visits developed. The acquaintance of the family was made and so 4-H work began.

In 1920 the first 4-H camp was held. Through the courtesy of Clerk of Court Oliver Collins 4-H girls were offered use of a cottage at Ocean City for one week. This work grew with demonstrations in projects of food, cloth-

ing, poultry, canning and gardens.

Through the next five year period, 1923 to 1927, work was carried on by 10 adult clubs. Members were taught millinery, making of dress forms, sewing, housing, furnishing, landscaping, nutrition and the care of poultry flocks.

#### Begin Club Leaders

Through this period was the beginning of the local club leader, and tours were held to show results of work carried on to improve the home and make it more convenient.

Interesting figures illustrate that home building in 1927 was very different from the present. An eight room house with two baths, including all material, labor and furnishings, could be had for about \$6,555. Today the figure would be more than double this amount. Club members were becoming conscious that convenience offered by water, lights and arrangements were good investments.

Poultry was an important home project and much time was given to creating better poultry practices. Beauty inside and outside the home was recognized as a necessity in home life, and furnishings and landscaping received special recognition.

Importance of nutrition was stressed and many were reached through clinics held in cooperation with the county Health Department. Schools began the hot lunch program, serving hot drinks and soup with the home-packed cold lunches.

This also was a period when community shows prevailed and large exhibits demonstrated results of farm and home demonstrators. County and home demonstration agents spent considerable time on creditable exhibits at Berlin and Snow Hill.

The first rural women's short course was held at College Park in 1923, with four delegates attending from Worcester County.

#### Win First Place

Another highlight was the celebration held at Annapolis in connection with the building of the Severn River bridge. Each county was represented by a float, with county and home demonstration agents chairmen of the Worcester County committee. This county received first recognition.

The critical financial crisis of the early 1930's created many home problems. Women were concerned about ways to help through the depression years. People became budget-minded and budget demonstrations were provided by the extension department.

To divert the thinking on revers-

es, programs in music and flowers were developed and a county chorus was organized.

Local meetings of the Farm Bureau decreased and new home groups were formed. The three lower Shore counties combined their fall meetings and held their Tri-County meeting, which was the event of the year.

#### In Relief Work

The mattress making project was conducted entirely with persons on relief. The agent found it necessary to do much of the hard work in order to teach others. However, Miss Walter considered it worthwhile and provided comfortable beds to many laborers.

In 1945 this active woman retired from the extension service. Her work was not always smooth running, but she met the many problems in her career with a calm, sympathetic manner.

Miss Cynthia Ann MacIntyre served the county from September, 1945, to July, 1947. There was little change in the method of carrying on the work. She returned to New Jersey for similar work in her own county.

No appointment was made until April 15, 1949, when Miss Anne A. Hilger took over. She served until August 11, 1949, when she took over duties of homemaking on a farm.

Until 1949 most of the work had been carried on with women possibly 35 to 65 years of age. Miss Hilger started some new clubs among young married groups who seemed anxious to learn more about foods, clothing, child care and home furnishings.

#### New Home Agents

Another year rolled around before a home demonstration agent was secured. In July, 1950, Miss Laura Belle Harter, Morrisville, N. Y., was appointed. She also left to be married.

Another full year passed without an agent. In July, 1952, Miss Helen I. Smith, then acting home agent, brought Miss Jane M. Cole to look over the county. She had been serving as assistant agent in Prince Georges County. Miss Cole liked it here and still serves as home demonstration agent.

Since this appointment two clubs have been organized with young homemakers, who seem enthusiastic with the program. Two 4-H clubs have been organized and they are doing excellent work.

#### Public Relations

In order to let the public know what extension work is being done and to create greater interest, a column containing club news and other extension information is being prepared by the agent for three weekly newspapers. Radio broadcasts are put on monthly by the 4-H clubs.

The extension department now is looking forward to expanding the 4-H and adult work program and expects to add several clubs within the next few months.



