

LIGHT SHOWER SPRINKLES CITY

Rain Materialized After Earlier Dark Clouds Passed Over

Light rains fell early this morning and offered brief respite from August's oppressive heat. The shower began a few minutes before midnight and a noticeable drop in temperature was felt almost immediately.

The rainfall was welcomed after storm clouds that gathered over Frederick and vicinity on Monday offered only transient hopes for rain and then passed on to the north without shedding a drop of precipitation for the drouth-harried farmers of the county. With conditions as serious as they are, this year's dry spell will not approach the intensity of the "drouth year" of 1930, the local weather observer said Monday after consulting comparative records that extend back over fifty years.

The current year is unusually dry and could easily go down on the records as among the five driest since 1889, depending upon what happens during the latter part. At this point, 1941 is more than seven inches below normal in precipitation, with a chance of reaching the nine or ten-inch deficiency point by the end of August, which is giving every indication of being another extremely dry month.

During the first seven months of the current year, 17.49 inches of rain has been recorded in Frederick, as against 25.97 for the same period in 1940, 25.65 for the initial seven months of 1939 and a normal figure of 24.79. This deficiency has been spread over the whole year to date, so it is no wonder that water supplies are beginning to show the effect.

Dwarfed By 1930

On the other hand rainfall deficiency is dwarfed by 1930, which at the beginning of August had only 12.91 inches. Things were a whole lot worse then. July ended with an all-time precipitation minimum total for any month of the year—2.2 of an inch, little more than a half-hour's drizzle. August brought but 1.26, September .58 of an inch, October .44 of an inch, November 1.08 inches. Maybe 1941 isn't so bad after all.

The current year's total up to August is only two and a half inches short of the total for the entire year of 1930, which was 19.82 inches, less than half the normal.

It's strange how the cycle has swung back to the dry side and it is fortunate for city and county residents that the change came after an exceedingly wet year. In 1940, total precipitation was 48.08 inches, as compared with the normal of 40.82 inches, just about as long on rainfall as the current year is short. Should 1941 attain its normal during the next five months, it would figure to wind up with precipitation that would be out-ranked in the last fifty years only by 1930, the dry "champ"; 1910 with 29.18; 1900 with 32.94; 1896 with 31.86 and 1893 with 31.79. It can be seen that three of these "dry" years are jammed in a period of seven years and that there was then only one real dry year in the next thirty.

Very Dry Ten Days

From the looks of things, August isn't going to exactly run wild in the matter of rainfall. The first ten days produced just .11 of an inch, as compared to a normal of over four inches. The month is often either very wet or very dry. Twice more than ten inches of rain has fallen—and almost as often the precipitation has failed to appear. The year 1910 holds the record for the least precipitation in August—.34 of an inch and four times in the last ten years less than three inches has been recorded during the month.

The weather holds out hope that rain may be forthcoming today in the form of showers which will bring at least some relief to parched crops, lawns, gardens and water supplies.

SUGAR LOAF MOUNTAIN HAS SEEN HISTORY PASS BELOW IT

This is the first of a series of three articles describing Stronghold and Sugar Loaf Mountain.

By FOLGER MCKINSEY
The Benitztown Bard

Hyattstown, Aug. 11—Twenty-nine years ago Col. Gordon Strong, of Chicago, came to Maryland to spy out for himself a suitable site for a home to which he could retire. The result was his purchase of Sugar Loaf Mountain, a few miles from this town and on the western edge of Montgomery county.

So, this shall be the story of a man and a mountain. Many men have taken over mountains to master them but in turn have been mastered by the mountains.

Has Mastered Mountain

But in this case, the man has mastered the mountain. He has done it by having in the beginning an uncanny realization of the mountain. He approached it with sympathy and understanding, not with the idea of improving it so much as helping the mountain to disclose to man its inherent qualities of mass and power and enduring beauty. He has not tried to change nature, but to aid nature in shuffling off her age-old husks to disclose the possibilities that lay beneath them.

Named In 1710

Sugar Loaf has known a number of masters before it came into possession of its present owner. A State Roads Commission marker on the road from Dickerson into the mountain says:

Named In 1710

Sugar Loaf—so called in 1710 by a Swiss nobleman—Baron Graffenried—who ascended it in search of silver mines with Martin Chartier, a remarkable Frenchman, married to a Shawnee Indian wife, who lived near the mouth of the Monocacy river.

The Baron mentioned in this table; was Christoph von Graffenried, who came from distant Switzerland in 1712, and in referring to Sugar Loaf in his diary says:

"We ascended a high mountain standing alone in the midst of a vast flat stretch of country, called because of its form Sugar Loaf, which means in French pain de sucre, taking with us a surveyor, the above named Chartier, and some savages. From this mountain we saw a great extent of country, a part of Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania and Carolina. We discovered from this height three chains of mountains, the last higher than the one before, somewhat distant, and a very fine valley between the first ranges."

"Very Fine Valley"

This was the valley now known as Frederick valley, and it will be noticed that von Graffenried especially called attention to how the mountain stood alone.

"A very fine valley, indeed," must have thought the Pennsylvania Dutch, adventurous but hard-working German families from the Rhine country, as they migrated down from similar farm lands in Pennsylvania.

Thirty years or so after Graffenried, in 1755, when Braddock's men on their westward march passed the northern end of Sugar Loaf Mountain and reached Frederick, their journal records:

Marched at 6 on our way to Frederick's Town. This town has not been settled above seven years, and there are about 200 houses and two churches, one English, one Dutch; the inhabitants, chiefly Dutch, are industrious but imposing people.

Owned By U. S. Bank

By "Dutch" they of course meant "Deutsch"—and Deutsch, we are gradually coming to know, means German.

Eighty years or so later, in the early 1830's, the whole Sugar Loaf Mountain area came into the possession of the Bank of the United States. The bank employed Willey James to survey and subdivide the three thousand acres or more into fifty odd "wood lots" of forty or fifty up to eighty or ninety acres each. These lots were, for the most part, sold to charcoal burners, whose level circular niches dot the mountain slopes; and to adjoining farmers for lumber and firewood.

However, one "wood lot" went to quite a different type of citizen,



Fashions flashed on the public at National Wash Apparel Show in Chicago were defense industry uniforms designed by NYA for Illinois. They're for, left to right, aviation ground worker, worn by Ann Sheehan; machine operator, welder, woodshop worker and woodshop employee; might have been borrowed from one of the better beaches. For the models—no silk stockings problem.

Girls Model Defense Duds

From Washington he must have driven out at times past Sugar Loaf Mountain. He noted its dominant summit. And the wood lot that includes the summit went to William W. Corcoran, a distinguished American from many viewpoints, including the now world-famous Corcoran Gallery in Washington.

Set Men Dreaming

What Mr. Corcoran's dream was for the summit of Sugar Loaf Mountain, is not known. But that summit has doubtless set many a man dreaming.

Thirty years later, in the early 1860's, men were not dreaming about the summit of Sugar Loaf Mountain. They were dreaming of it—under their white canvas tents. They had built a high log tower. From its top, from dawn to dusk men looked out through their glasses over that beautiful Virginia country, across the river—enemy country. The Federal army had found Sugar Loaf Mountain its most important observation point anywhere near the Federal capital. The Signal Service lived there, winter and summer. They looked, and what they saw they wigwagged to other stations miles away; and so to Washington.

Splashing Across Potomac

In September, 1862, Lieutenant Miner, in command of the station, suddenly wigwagged to an anxious Federal army, to a waiting North. The reappearance of Lee's army. They were splashing across at White's Ford, down where the Potomac shows from the Sugar Loaf tower. They were on their great adventure, an invasion of the North. The gray cavalry was headed for Sugar Loaf and its well-known signal station. Lieutenant Miner, his duty done, hurried down an old wood road to the base of the mountain—to run into a welcoming body of Confederate horsemen.

The lookout lost, McClellan halted his advance down Rockville way, till it could be recaptured, till he could be sure where Lee was heading. Then both armies moved on to the great tragedy we know as Antietam.

"Stronghold" Developed

Colonel Strong happened to discover Sugar Loaf while on a visit to his classmate at Harvard, the late Arthur Trail, of Frederick, and set his heart upon having it.

Bicycling from Frederick, whence he had explored the near-by Catoctin and Blue Ridge, both in Maryland and Virginia, he came to Sugar Loaf. Bit by bit, year after year, the land was acquired and slowly a home was developed, now called "Stronghold," starting down near the crossroads with the century-old log cabin and Rocky Foundation.

COMPANY ASKS NAVY TO TAKE SHIPYARD

At the same time, it set forth its position in a statement which asserted that the issue was "whether the American worker shall be permitted to retain his traditional freedom of action and be allowed to determine for himself whether he shall belong to a labor union."

The company declared furthermore that the strike was called in defiance of a no-strike agreement.

Union Wants Protection

In Kearny, Peter Flynn, vice-president of the union local, said the union desired government operation of the yards but wanted "guarantees that our collective bargaining rights will not be impaired by the transition."

In Washington, a spokesman for Sidney Hillman, associate director of the Office of Production Management, said that an executive order presumably would have to be issued by President Roosevelt before the Navy could take over the Kearny plant.

Defense labor officials indicated that if the government took over the plant the workers would be switched from the company payroll to the Navy's payroll and that Federal operation would continue for the duration of the emergency.

Other Defense Strikes

Two other labor disputes also were matters of particular concern to defense officials.

The CIO United Automobile Workers began a strike at the Mack Manufacturing Company, Allentown, Pa., because, union officials said, the management refused to agree to August 4 as the retroactive date for a demanded 15 cents an hour increase in wages. The current scale ranges from 64 to 95 cents an hour.

Mack employs 4,700 and has orders for several million dollars worth of gun carriages, tank parts and trucks for the Army.

AFM machinists continued on strike at the Caldwell, N. J., plant of Curtiss-Wright Corporation propeller division which has \$100,000,000 of defense orders. The management reported the plant was open and operating, but a union spokesman said only 50 of the 800 day shift production workers had gone through picket lines.

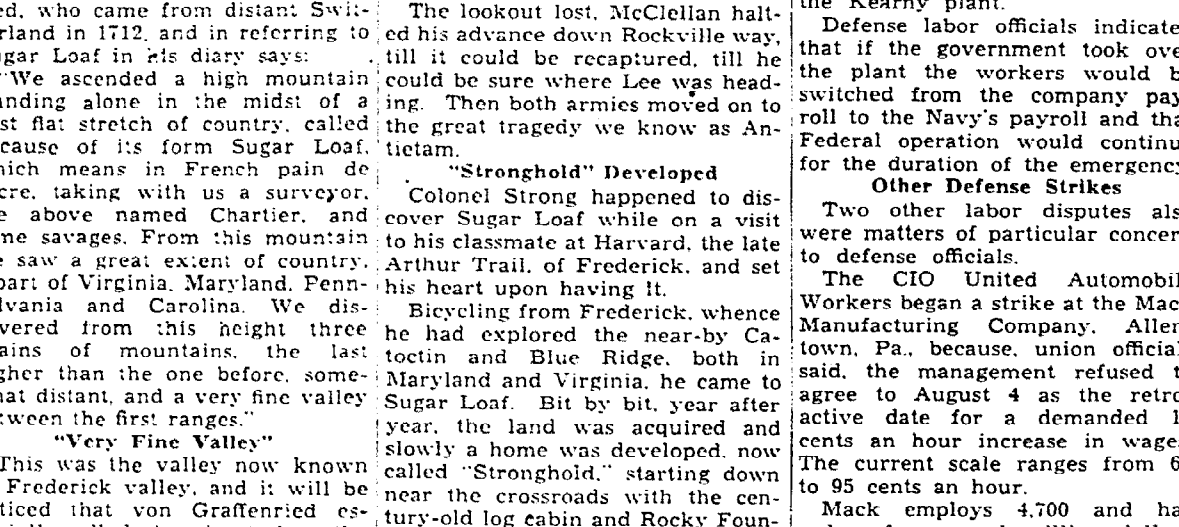
The machinists walked out Friday and later demanded 20 cents an hour wage increase. The management replied that it was unable to bargain with any union other than propeller craft which won a collective bargaining election last week. It also said that average earnings of its employees were \$50.07 a week.

Block That Run!

When the water stopped flowing from the spigots at Barracks B of the State Police Monday, Chief Claude Bell conscripted a 20-gallon milk can from his father's farm on the Seventh street pike and replenished the supply.

Residents in the Linden Hills section and in other places west of Frederick were unable to get any water on Monday.

According to automotive engineers, many accidents are caused by exhausted drivers. As a result, they recommend that drivers take a restful position while driving, and grasp the wheel lightly to avoid tenseness.



Army Drafts Falcons

Thunderbolt, first falcon drafted by U. S. Army, perches majestically on hand of Lieut. Thomas MacClure at Fort Monmouth, N. J. Thunderbolt and falcons to follow will be trained to intercept carrier pigeons.

Thunderbolt has a wingspread of 27 inches. His main armament consists of a mighty mean looking pair of claws.



Block That Run!

Silk stocking repair business booms in New York as women facing silk shortage take hosiery to fix-it girls such as this one to stop snags, runs and tears.

DRUNKEN DRIVER GIVEN 40 DAYS

Second Time Within A Week R. W. Blackburn Has Been So Accused

Robert W. Blackburn, 28, Elliott City, was sentenced to 40 days in jail Monday night in Police Court on charges of drunken driving. It was the second time within a week Blackburn faced charges of operating a car while under the influence of alcohol.

The case highlighted a three-and-a-half hour session at which Sherman P. Bowers presided as a substitute magistrate for Alton Y. Bennett who was stricken Monday with an infected jaw.

The man, formerly of Central City, Pa., was arrested Saturday night by Trooper Martin Puncke after his machine was reported to have run into a ditch near Frederick. Early last week, he was tried at Westminster on charges of drunken and reckless driving growing out of an accident near Ridgeville and was acquitted for lack of evidence on the operating while drunk charge, being fined \$25 for reckless driving.

Forfeits Collateral

Howard Commons, colored, Baltimore, forfeited \$11.45 on charges of reckless driving which resulted from a collision Sunday evening on South Mountain about one-fourth of a mile east of the Washington county line.

Commons, who was driving east on Route 40 in his Hudson sedan, lost control of the car as he rounded a sharp curve and, veering over to the left side of the road, ran headlong into the automobile driven by T. L. Rawlings of Altoona, Pa., who was proceeding in the opposite direction. Both escaped without injury, and Commons was charged with failure to keep to the right. Trooper Puncke investigated.

William Ferguson, Rockville, was fined \$5 on charges of drunkenness. Ferguson and a companion, Hubert Marion, West Friendship, were arrested Saturday when they failed to produce drivers' licenses or an owner's card for a car which they had in their possession. Marion, the driver, was committed to jail on failure to pay a \$15 fine on the two charges. The owner of the car had not yet been found by police.

Sent To Crownsville

Clifford Roberts, colored, was fined \$5 and Walston Ingram, colored, was released on charges of disturbing the peace which resulted from a dispute Friday night in Liberty. A third participant, John Dorsey, colored, was committed to Crownsville Sanatorium following his arrest after he was judged mentally deficient by police.

Louis Miller, Frederick, was fined \$5 and Wilbur Summers, Myersville, was acquitted both on charges of disturbing the peace in incidents which occurred Saturday night. George Stonieser was sentenced to five days in jail on charges of drunkenness, while Vernon Roderick, Harvey Weeden, Joseph Shrear and Clyde James each forfeited \$2.50 on the same charges. Walter Gorman, colored, and John Doe, colored, both forfeited \$2.50 on drunkenness charges.

Nannie Shaefer Fritz, forfeited

INSTALLMENT CURB IS AUTHORIZED

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JAPAN ENVOY WARNS NATION

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interviewed by telephone from Tokyo, mentioned Germany once, saying that the United States was suspicious of anything Japan might do in the Far East in collaboration with Germany.

At London, Reuters, the big British news agency, received a cryptic dispatch from Tokyo saying that "important developments"—nature unspecified—were expected there shortly. The expectation was linked to return to the city of the United States and British ambassadors, Joseph C. Crew and Sir Robert Leslie Craige, presumably from a week-end out of town.

Observers at Peiping, North China, expressed conviction that Japan might move any day against Siberia rather than Thailand where she is reported to have been demanding bases and other concessions while consolidating positions in neighboring French Indo-China.

Foreign military sources at Shanghai agreed that Japan was mobilizing a great striking force in Manchukuo but persons at Shanghai usually well informed expressed belief that Japan would act only if European Russia seemed near collapse.

The best available estimates at Peiping were that Russia still held a normal force of 500,000 effectives in Siberia while Japan, it was said, probably had doubled, if not tripled, the normal 250,000-man Kwangtung army with which Japan garrisons Manchukuo.

State gasoline taxes brought in revenue totaling \$868,000,000 during 1940.

SAVE GAS FOR DEFENSE

Here is a sticker Massachusetts cars may carry in attempt to get motorists to cut down gasoline consumption.

\$5 and Mary Jackson, colored, forfeited \$2.50, both on charges of disturbing the peace. George Crawford was sentenced to three days for vagrancy. Archie Pretzman, colored, was found not guilty and Joe Nelson, colored, forfeited \$10 on charges of fighting on the street.

Lewis Shankle, Frederick, was fined \$2.50 on a traffic charge, while John McCann, Pittsburgh, Pa., and John Rudy, Frederick, each forfeited \$6.45 on similar charges.

Block That Run!

Silk stocking repair business booms in New York as women facing silk shortage take hosiery to fix-it girls such as this one to stop snags, runs and tears.

FARM BUREAU PICNIC
The annual picnic of the Montgomery County Farm Bureau will be held Thursday afternoon at Monocacy Park, at Furnace Ford bridge, near Dickerson. Luncheon will be served at noon and games will be played in the afternoon. Miss Montgomery County will be selected in a beauty contest.

IF THE JUNKMAN who bought moustache cup and Confederate uniform belonging to my grandfather will return, I would like to buy them back. Grandfather furious, threatens new Civil War. Will add to full refund a case of more than a 100 light, tangy result of more than a 100 years' brewing experience—Rheingold Lager Beer. Please come. Beer ready and deliciously cool in icebox. Don't fail me.

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