

TRIC ACROSS Chesapeake Bay To Be Improved

To further expedite movement of traffic and substantially increase the automobile and passenger-carrying capacity of its fleet of five speedy transports across Chesapeake Bay, Capt. L. H. Garrison, general manager of the Virginia Ferry Corporation has announced signing of a contract to modernize and lengthen by 90 feet the S.S. DelMarVa. This is the second ship this year to be given this unusual treatment.

The DelMarVa will go into dry-docks of the Maryland Dry Dock Company at Baltimore on Sunday, January 9, for the lengthening operation, which will cost nearly one million dollars. A relief ship will take her place on the ferry run, between Kiptopeke Beach and Little Creek, Virginia, so that the fast round the clock operating schedule can be maintained on this water link of the popular north-south Ocean Highway motor route.

The completely modernized and lengthened S.S. DelMarVa will be returned to regular service on Sunday, April 3, Captain Garrison's announcement said.

The capacity increasing operation calls for inserting a 90 foot section amidships, which will increase the length of the DelMarVa from her present 260 feet to 350 feet, and will increase the ship's vehicle carrying capacity from 62 to 104 automobiles.

A similar operation on the S.S. Princess Anne was made in February, and it was so successful and well received that Captain Garrison announced in April that plans were being formulated to alter the

S.S. DelMarVa in like manner before the year ended. Today's announcement confirms this.

In describing the unusual lengthening process, Captain Garrison stated that construction would be virtually completed on the new 90 foot three deck section addition before the S.S. DelMarVa enters the Maryland shipyard for the fitting. After the DelMarVa has been cut apart, forward of the engine room bulkhead, the new section will be riveted and welded into the center of the ship. When she is returned to service in April, the DelMarVa will be the latest thing, from stem to stern, in modern water transportation.

The Virginia Ferry Corporation fleet of ships transports a daily average of 1,800 automobiles and approximately 6,000 passengers across Chesapeake Bay. The crossing distance of 21 miles is made in 1 hour and 25 minutes. Ferry service is operated around the clock, with a minimum of 22 round trips daily and an average departure every 55 minutes. Nine additional round trips daily are added when needed during peak periods, to handle the traffic flow with efficiency and with minimum delays.

Census Information Extremely Useful

The North Carolina Department of Conservation and Development has found the information compiled from the annual State Farm Census to be extremely useful in a number of ways, says F. H. Claridge, state forester.

He says the Division of Commerce and Industry has found farm figures assembled from the census to be essential in its daily contacts with representatives of industry. In fact this knowledge may even determine the location of a factory or supply store or may affect the distribution of materials needed by

farmers. A concrete example of this was the location of a meat packing plant at Clinton after accurate figures showed the ready availability of hogs for use by the plant.

In addition, the Division of Forestry refers to the annual farm census for the latest figures concerning land use on farms. Such information helps this division to locate the areas which are most in need of assistance in farm forestry and to assign technically trained foresters to assist farmers with their woods problems.

Tar Heel farmers have been asked by agricultural leaders to cooperate with the 1955 State Farm Census which got underway earlier this month. This census provides annual county statistics on agriculture in greater geographic detail and at more frequent intervals than the Federal Census conducted every five years.

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January 31 Is Final Day For '54 Auto Tags

Sale of Tags Lagging According to Miss Goldie Layton

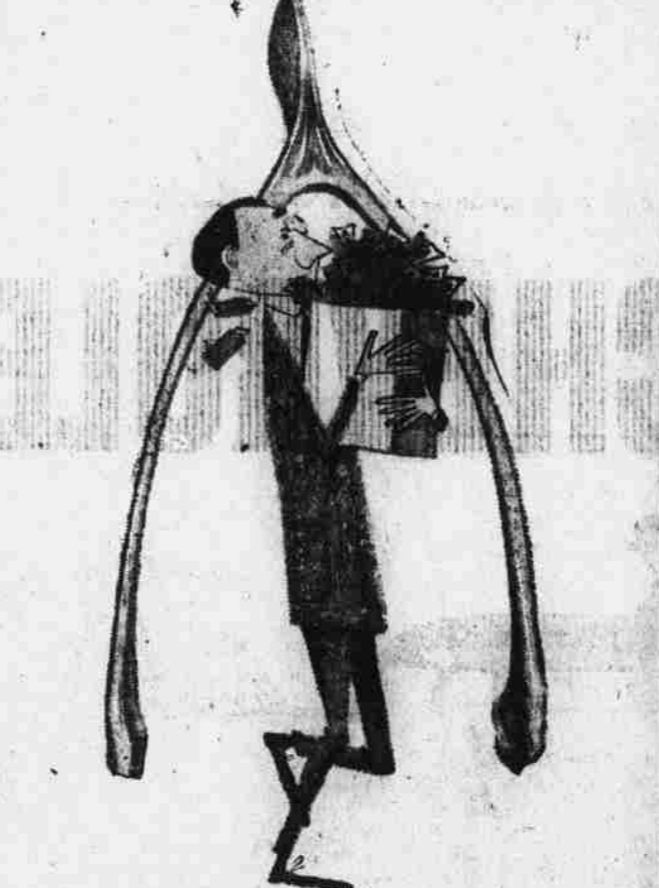
According to Miss Goldie Layton, branch manager of the Carolina Club, who issues North Carolina automobile license plates, reports that motorists are somewhat lagging in securing the 1955 plates.

Up to Monday of this week 418 more had purchased the 1955 license tags than last year at the same time, but Miss Layton points out that there are more automobiles in the Edenton area than last year, so that unless sales pick up considerably, quite a few will be

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caught in a long waiting line. Miss Layton also points out that Monday, January 31, will be the deadline to drive cars without the new 1955 tags and that her office will close at noon Saturday, January 29. Regular office hours are 9 A. M. to 4 P. M., except Saturday and she urges car owners to secure their license tags before the final days before the deadline.

KHAKI CHOSEN BY ARMY FOR CAMOUFLAGE VALUE
Washington — Khaki cloth, now used for U. S. Army summer uniforms, first was worn by British Army troops in India in 1848. In later years, it became the universal dress of British troops in India and Africa. The word "khaki" comes from the Persian "khak" meaning earth or dust.

This color was adopted for uniforms because it made the wearer inconspicuous on the sun-drenched plains. CIVILIAN FIREMEN GUARD ARMY POSTS IN GERMANY
Frankfurt, Germany — Germans employed by the U. S. Army are keeping the fire watch on the

Rhine, behind the Iron Curtain in Berlin and at other strategic spots where U. S. Army units are stationed in Germany. They are responsible for extinguishing fires on military property, but lend a hand at times beyond control of civil fire departments. Equipment manufactured in Europe, is up to high U. S. fire-fighting standards.

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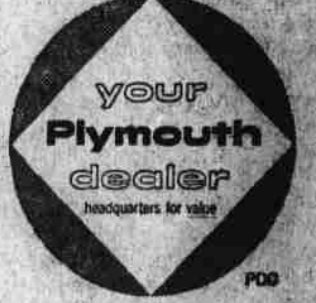


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