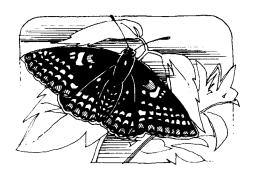
MARYLAND SPORT. By Chapter 134, Acts of 1962, the age-old equestrian sport of jousting is the official sport of the State of Maryland (Code 1957, Art. 41, sec. 79A).

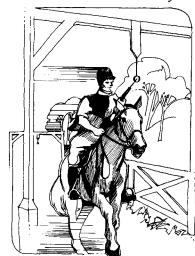


STATE FOSSIL SHELL. The shell of the Ecphora quadricostata (Say), an extinct snail, was designated the State fossil shell by Chapter 313, Acts of 1984 (Code State Government Article, sec. 13–311). The Ecphora inhabited the Bay and other East Coast tidal waters 5 to 12 million years ago. It is believed an Ecphora shell found in St. Mary's County, c. 1685, was the first North American fossil to be illustrated in European scientific works.

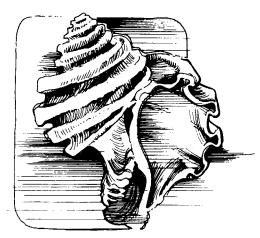
MARYLAND'S NICKNAMES. Maryland is known as both the Old Line State and the Free State.

According to some historians, Gen. George Washington bestowed the appellation "Old Line State" because Maryland's regular line troops served admirably in many Revolutionary War engagements.

The nickname "Free State" was created by Hamilton Owens, editor of the Baltimore Sun. In



STATE INSECT. The Baltimore Checkerspot Butterfly (*Euphydryas phaeton*) was declared to be the official arthropodic emblem of the State by Chapter 253, Acts of 1973 (Code 1957, Art. 41, sec. 77C).



1923, Georgia Congressman William D. Upshaw, a firm supporter of Prohibition, denounced Maryland as a traitor to the Union for refusing to pass a State enforcement act. Mr. Owens thereupon wrote a mock-serious editorial entitled "The Maryland Free State," arguing that Maryland should secede from the Union. The irony in the editorial was subtle, and Mr. Owens decided not to print it. However, he popularized the nickname in later editorials.