THE AMERICAN UNION

VOL. LXVI—NUMBER 36 DENTON, MARYLAND, THURSDAY AFTERNOON, MARCH 18, 1926 $1.00 Year in County; $1.50 Out of County—In Advance

RALPH COURSEY SENTENCED TO 18 YEARS IN THE PEN

Found Guilty by Towson Court of Second Degree Murder in Death of Boy

WIFE TO TRY FOR DIVORCE

Ralph T. Coursey was found guilty of second degree murder in the Circuit Court at Towson Tuesday and sentenced to eighteen years' imprisonment in the Penitentiary. He was tried on charges of beating to death his wife's five-year-old son, Eldridge. His wife, Mrs. Edna May Coursey, was convicted of manslaughter Saturday on a similar charge.

Mrs. Coursey, it was learned soon after the sentence was passed on her husband, will institute proceedings to obtain a divorce. The bill is expected to be filed in Caroline County.

She probably will be sentenced on the manslaughter charge before the end of the week. A motion for a new trial in her case was filed in the court at Towson Monday.

The judges retired from the court room at 3:25 p. m. They returned at 4:30 p. m. Coursey was taken from his cell to hear the verdict.

At no time did he betray any emotion as his conviction and sentence were announced, although his face blanched as the sentence was read.

"Have you anything to say for yourself, Coursey" asked Chief Judge T. Scott Offutt, who presided, before sentence was passed.

"I would like to say this, judge," replied Coursey, slowly and deliberately, "If my wife has a new trial I want to testify against her."

"Coursey," continued Judge Offutt, "it would serve no useful purpose to lecture or censure you here. As far as this court can see, there are no extenuating circumstances to warrant us in reducing the maximum sentence for this offence. Therefore the judgment of this court is that you be imprisoned in the prison house of Maryland for the full term of eighteen years."

When Judge Offutt and his colleagues, Judge Frank I. Duncan and Judge Walter W. Preston, returned with their decision at 4:30 p. m. the courtroom was crowded to capacity. The spaces about the doors on either side of the judges' bench were crowdtd and every available seat was taken.

The judges filed through the door and took their seats on the bench. A delay of several minutes followed while defense counsel was called and then Judge Offutt began with the decision.

"Gentlemen," he said, "the court has given the most careful and earnest consideration to this case. It is unnecesarry, in our judgment, to rehearse the ghastly and harrowing details brought out in the testimony. It is sufficient to say that, after careful consideration of all the evidence, the court has been brought inevitably to the conclusion that the defendant is responsible for the death of this child, Eldridge, and that death was brought about in the performance of an unlawful act.

"That is to say, that in correcting this child, which may have been a lawful act, a weapon was used, which, even the age, size and condition of the boy are considered, was likely to have the effect which ensued. Under the circumstances the law presumes malice and if that assumption were not present there is enough in the admissions of the traverser to show malice in fact. We are compelled to reach the decision, not guilty of murder in the first degree, guilty of murder in the second degree."

Miss Trice Wins $25 Award

Word has been received that Viola Trice of Federalsburg Maryland has received second price in the Hazel Atlas Glass Co., contest. The Hazel Glass Co. offered $25.00 to [illegible] girls for the best canning work. The money is to be used for a trip to the boys and girls short course at College Park in August. Viola is 12 years old and canned about 60 guarts of fruit and vegetables.

The meetings held by the home demonstration agent last week in interests of nutrition proved succeseful. Miss Campbell demonstrated the use of green vegetables and milk for deserts. She is planning to come back again to groups that wish her.

Dorothy Emerson, of the University of Maryland, is expected in the county next week. She is expecting to call upon each local leader and help them with their work. She also will attend club meetings.

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MEDITATIONS OF THE CRACKER

Oh, I surely love a chicken when she stands the acid test, when she cackles like the dickens, and dis lookin' for the nest; when her cheeks are bright an' rosy an' her comb an' wattles red, to me she is a posy in a gorgeous flower bed. When she's shellin' out the quarters an' the dollars an' the dimes to provide for bread an' butter for this hungry face of mine, an' I fill a basket daily with the precious oblong fruit, I will sing a ballad gaily to this profit earnin' beaut. But when the bloomin' geezer takes the measles an' the mumps, has a tape worm in her gizzard an' lumbago an' the dumps, the sorosis of the liver, the asthma an' the croup, an' sits around an' shivers with the colic an' the roup; when her respiration's gaspin' an' her gills begin to fade, an' I tote no more a basket, but a shovel an' a spade; when I view her final kickin' an' the buzzards sailin' by, I'll sing sonaets to no chicken beneath the deep blue sky.

NEAR EAST SPEAKER AT M. P. CHURCH SUNDAY

Next Sunday, March 21st, will be an interesting day at Denton M. P. church. In the morning at eleven o'clock the service will be in the interest of the Near East. The whole world is concerned with this work and you will be glad to hear about it.

In the evening at seven thirty there will be a special service of song by the ladies of the Willing Workers and Friendship classes. Be sure and hear these ladies sing for they can do it. The pastor will make a short address at this service.

Next Sunday will be known as "Every Member Canvass Day" at this church. A personal letter is being sent to every family and friend of the church aking them to remain at home from 1 p. m. to 3 p. m. so that the canvassers may see them about their subscriptions for the new conference year. Think this over and be ready to make your pledge so that the new year may start on April 4th. The canvassers will go out by two's. Receive them kindly and prayerfully. It is the Lord's cause.

MR. LEO L. DRIVER TO ADDRESS COUNTY P. T. ASSO.

An important meeting of the County Parent-Teacher Association has been called by the president, Mr. William I. Norris, for Thursday evening, March 25th. It will be the first meeting of this organization to ge held in the auditorium of the new school building.

The main feature of the evening will be an address by Mr. Leo L. Driver, of Harrisburg.. The address will be illustrated by lantern slides, and will concern a topic of very vital interest to our county. It was possible to secure this speaker only by combining with Cambridge and Easton.

Mrs. J. Kemp Stevens will have charge of the music at this meeting, which is always a most important and attractive feature of these gatherings.

Every school is urged to send a large delegation to this meeting. At the previous seasions, there have been many schools not represented at all by patrons, and it is the hope of the officers that at this meeting, with such an unusual program in view, each school will show its interest by sending representatives.

Notes From Office of Home Demonstration Agent

Miss Dorothy Emerson, Girl's Club agent, of University of Maryland is in the county this week visiting some of the girls' clubs and their leaders. Miss Emerson tells us that the clothing exhibit made by Ann Green is helping to raise the standards of work in the state. This exhibit has already been shown in girls and womens clubs of eight counties and it is scheduled out until July 1st.

Caroline County has provided more model garments for the State Kits than any other county in Maryland. About thirty-five articles in all.

Word has been received from the University of Maryland that Miss Viola Trice, American Corner School has received the 2nd. prize awarded by the Hazel Atlas Glass Company to the Maryland girls for the best canning work during the year of 1925.

Viola was twelve years old and last summer was her first year in canning work. The prize is a trip to the boys and girls Short course in August.

The first prize went to Gladys Werrell of Harford county Maryland.

Do it now—Advertise

Lenten Thoughts

Rev. MELVIN G. MORRIS

America's greatest need is not more education, recreation, legislation or reformation. The paramount need of the present hour is more religion. Our greatest need is a genuine deep-seated, nation-wide spiritual awakening.

The general condition of human affairs is sufficient proof of this statement. Anarchy lifts its red flag and there is unrest and chaos everywhere. Industrial strife, race prejudice, political jealousy, evolution, modernism, greed, lust, murder, theft, divorce, lawlessness and indifference to religion are matters of every day news in the press of the country. "The world is sitting on the edgeof a volcano" and Satan is leading on, seeking whom he may devour.

Ex-President Taft said "If civilization is to be saved, it is up to the spiritual forces of the world; otherwise everything we cherish will be lost to us."

The proprietor of the Pittsburgh Leader in an editorial wrote "Human management of the world has failed. Without divine intervention the world and its people must plunge into chaos. The people of America must go down on their knees and ask for divine aid. There has been too little spirituality in our activities."

Lloyd George recently said "If civilization is to be saved, if this world is to be redeemed materially, it must be redeemed spiritually."

Rodger W. Babson, that great financier, said "The only thing that will stave off the crash will be a religious revival. The need in this hour is that both wage earner and employer give their hearts to God."

President Harding in his last message to the church said "The church must not fail us in this hour in her divinely appointed task."

Our greatest need, from the halls of Congress to the factories, fields and forests, is an old-fashioned revival of the religion of the Lord Jesus Christ which will clarify the moral atmosphere; make the world just; the nation righteous; the church evangelistic; the family pure; the individual holy; making the whole man clean, clear through, and clear, clean through.

For our needs, the world's needs, for Thy glory, for Christ's sake, O God, send it! Holy Spirit, act for us, begin in us, work through us! "Wilt Thou not evive us again; that Thy people may rejoice in Thee?"

CAROLINE AGAIN LEADS STATE

Caroline County again leads the state in Elementary School attendance for the month of January, ranking 92.3 per cent. Allegany follows a close second with a percent of 91.5. Our high schools crept up to sixth place while Wicomico and Dorchester occupy third and fourth place respectively. A personal note sent to the county from the office of the state board reads, "The white schools of Caroline are continuing their wonderful record in attendance. The improvement over last year is marked. January last year was our poorest month all over the state."

Owing to the severe storm of February 19, our county schools suffered with poor attendance for several days but in spite of this fact nineteen of our schools reached the honor mark, 90 per cent.

High Schools—
- Caroline
- Preston
- Federalsburg

Town schools—
- Denton grammar
- Denton primary
- Federalsburg elementary
- Greensboro elementary
- Ridgely primary
- Ridgely grammar
- Preston elementary

Rural schools—
- Howards
- Central
- American Corner
- Hickman
- Hickory Hill
- Barcus
- Chestnut Grove
- Cedar Grove
- Lidens

Colored schools—
- Jonestown
- Castle Hall
- Harmony
- Union

Schools receiving attendance banners and library books are: Caroline High, Denton grammar, Harmony (two-room) Howard's (one-room) and Jonestown, colored.

CAROLINE CO. MINISTERS ASSOCIATION MET MON.

Last Monday the Ministers of Caroline County met for their regular metting with Rev. Kirwan, at Christ's church in Denton. But to say that the ministers of the county met is putting it mildly. A visitor might have supposed Caroline county to be needy field for missionary activities, for only eight were present. There are many counties in the western states that can not boast of half a dozen ministers, but that it not Maryland. It really seems that the preachers need to be stired up a bit. Those who were absent missed a real treat in the form of a speendidly prepared message on the subject "Christ in You," by Rev. Fitz of Ridgely.

WOMEN ENTER LIQUOR FIGHT TO AID DRYS

Washington, March 9.—National women's organizations with a total membership of more than 12,000,000 today entered the wet and dry battle now seething in the capitol. They have allied themselves with the prohibition forces. They will throw down the gauntlet to those who charge enforcement is a failure in a feminine "face the facts" conference to be held in Washington April 11-13, it was announced.

The gathering will be under the auspices of the Woman's National Committee for Law Enforcement, of which Mrs. Harry W. Peabody, of Boston, is chairman. She has already established headquarters here. Mrs. Peabody said:

"The voice of American womanhood will be heard in this convention, as it will be expressed in votes at the Spring primaries."

She tossed an opening bombsheli into the wets' camp by announcing that these 12,000,000 women have been conducting a fact finding probe of their own for three years, independent of the regulation temperance societies.

Seven commissions were organized to make surveys and gather facts. They will make their report at the April convention, named to take place as Congress gets down to "hard-pan" on the wet and dry controversy.

Mrs. Peabody said delegates of nine great national organizations of women are on the committee and that leaders from a number of others will participate in the sessions.

Unlike the closely organized temperance groups, the committee is a loosely knit union, in its national and state committee, representing women of widely varied interests throughout the nation, she said.

Mrs. Peabody said:

"The organization is not political. Its main object is to counteract dangerous propaganda—and to offer solutions for the problems of law enforcement."

The seven commissions making the prohibition survey are composed of 20 members each, according to Mrs. Peabody. Their chairmen are: Mrs. John Dickinson Sherman, president of the General Federation of Women's Clubs; Mrs. Fred Smith Bennett, of New York city, former president of National Council of Women for Home Missions; Mrs. Herbert J. Gurney of Boston, former chairman New England Federation of Women's Clubs; Mrs. William Tilton of Boston, legislative chairman of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers; Mrs. Ella A. Boole of Brooklyn, president National Woman's Christian Temperance Union and Mrs. Samuel Bens, of New York city, chairman New York state Committee of the Woman's National [illegible] for Law Enforcement.

KAUFFMAN-CLARK

Mr. Lester S. Kauffman and Miss Mary Mildred Clark of Massey were united in marriage Wednesday, March 17, by Rev. O. C. Conley of Townsend. The wedding took place at the home of the bride's aunt, Miss Marie VanSant. Miss Sue Jones, a cousin of the bride, rendered the wedding march. Only the near relatives were present. The bride was attired in a blonde embroidered georgette dress with gold lace trimmings, and carried lilies of tne valley and orchids.

After the ceremony a luncheon was served at the home of the bride's aunt, Miss VanSant.

The young couple left for Wilmington where they took the train for Washington.

VIRGINIA COUNTIES FALLING IN LINE

Sixteen representative business men and bankers of Accomac and Northampton Counties, Virginia met with Eastern Shore Association at the Wicomico hotel last Wednesday afternoon and unanimously pledged their cooperation and financial support to the Peninsula advertising movement.

The visitors were met at the hotel by an equally influential group representing eight of the twelve Maryland and Delaware Counties which are participating with the Virginians in the movement. Mesrs. Benjamin T. Gunter and G. Walter Mapp of Accomac were the leaders of the group which represented the Virginia Eastern Shore Chamber of Commerce in the meeting and Messrs. D. W. Peters and Porter Allen of Cape Charles led the Northampton delegates representing the Cape Charles Chamber of Commerce.

The other members of the Accomac—Northampton delegation who were present in the conference were: Thomas W. Blackstone, Herbert Barnes, William Stevenson of Accomac; George H. Powell, John T. Borum, John West of Onancock; S. W. Ames of Pungoteague; George F. Nock of Wachapreague; R. A. Parsons, J. R. Parsons, Jr., of Cape Charles, Capeville and Townsend.

The Comittee comprising the Del-Mar- Va Eastern Shore Association in the conference was as follows: Sussex county, Del., Dr. G. Layton Grier and Landrith L. Layton; Kent county, Md., Senator W. B. Copper; Queen Anne's county Md., Senator Dudley G. Roe; Somerset county, Md., Charles C. Gelder and E. Benson Dennis; Dorchester county, Md., Milford Nathan; Worcester county, Md., W. D. Corddry, D. Frank Fooks, G. Hale Harrison; Wicomico county, Md., Fred P. Adkins, L. W. Gunby, Graham Gunby, W. B. Tilghman, Wm. F. Allen, H. W. Carty, Ralph H. Grier and C. M. Freeman.

Following a presentation of the plans and methods of the Del-Mar-Va Association by Chairman Fred P. Adkins and other members of the Del-Mar-Va delegation the representatives of Accomac and Northampton counties withdrew for private consultation and adopted a resolution pledging a minimum of $5,000 from the treasury of the Virginia Eastern Shore Chamber of Commerce to the treasury of the Del-Mar-Va Eastern Shore Association.

The delegation representing the Del-Mar-Va Association then unanimously adopted the following resolution of acceptance and appreciation:

"Resolved that we deeply appreciate the cordial attitude of our Virginia delegates and that we recommend to the executive board of the Del-Mar-Va Eastern Shore Association when it is formed, full recognition of the Virginia Eastern Shore Chamber of Commerce as an institutional member and as an affiliated organization operating in sympathy and in co-operation with the Del-Mar-Va Eastern Shore Association; and further.

Resolved, that we extend to the Virginia Eastern Shore Chamber of Commerce immediately evry available organization resource at our disposal for assisting them in forming a strong Chamber of Commerce for Accomac and Northampton counties."

The entire conference then adjourned to a complimentary dinner served by the Delaware and Maryland delegates in honor of the Virginia delegates.

ELIJAH GRIFFITH

The funeral of Elijah Griffith tok place Monday afternoon. Services were held in the Holiness church and interment was made in Denton cemetery. Mr. Griffith is survived by his widow, one daughter, Mrs. Fred Slagle and two sons, John and Roland.

DR. COOK TO HOLD UNION REVIVAL HERE

Will Have His Singer, Mr. Harold Vignuelle, to Be Here to Lead Singing

MEETINGS TO BE IN TENT

Arrangements have practically been made to have Rev. George W. Cook, D. D., of the Genesse Conference of New York to come to Denton to hold a union revival for the M. E. Church, M. P. Church, Episcopal Church and the Church of the Brethren.

Two weeks ago Dr. Cook came to Denton and saw the four ministers representing the above churches, with reference to this union revival and after conferrnig with their church organizations it was decided to have Dr. Cook come to Denton, the dates being May 16 to June 6, he being here four Sundays, and three weeks. Traveling with Dr. Cook is Mr. Harold Vignuelle.

Dr. Cook has been having wonderful success with union revivals on the Shore, having held two revivals at Cambridge within 6 months with splen did results. Union, Harrison street, Mt. Salem and Asbury churches in Wilmington, and Delmar, Seaford, Laurel Middletown, Del. Berlin, Pocomoke City, St. Michaels, Perryville, Md., and Pheobus, Va. He has just closed a revival at St. Michaels which brought splendid results.

It is planned to have a tent in which to hold the meetings. Dr. Cook is not one of these acrobatic performers who tries to jump through the roof of the tent or smash chairs on the platform, but is a conscientious worker.

MRS. MARY B. WILSON TO ADDRESS COM. CLUB

The members of the Community Club wil have the pleasure of hearing Mrs. Mary B. Wilson at their next meeting, Friday afternoon. Mrs. Wilson will give a talk on "Highways and Byways" that she has encountered in her travels at home and abroad.

LARGE CAROLINE FARM SOLD

Reliance, Md., March 16.—Miss May Wright has sold her farm, near here, to her nephew, Victor Wright, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Wright, of near Federalsburg. This is one of the largest and most productive farms in Caroline county, having between 400 and 500 acres.

It is the farm of the late John N. Wright, one of Caroline county's most progressive farmers, who left an estate valued at about $150,000 at his death a few years ago. Since his death his daughter, Miss May Wright, has managed the farm, but ill health has caused her to retire.

Cambridge Auto Show Opens

Cambridge, Md., March 16.—The sixth annual automobile show under the auspices of Rescue Fire Company began at Cambridge armory tonight. The show is under the general direction of Virgil Seward, secretary. C. H. McKinney is chairman of the entertainment committee. The decorations, the best ever seen in the building, were the work of Raymond Wright. Music is furnished by Gaul's Orchestra of Baltimore.

Near East Representative To Speak

A representative of the Near East Relief is expected to speak at the Church of the Brethren next Sunday evening at 7:45. Opportunity will be given for free will offering or private pledge for the work.

TOAD HOLLOW BREVITIES



Hank Alderbush says that he was readin' in the history 'tother day that the Ides of March got old Caesar's goat, an' allowed as March had been gettin' everybody else's goat ever since.

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Parson Savemall allowed that from the size of the contributions lately, the folks must be tryin' to keep step with the March temperature.

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Judge Applewyne says that he's been short of spendin' money all the month because the cops can't get away from the stove long enough to pull anybody for speedin'.

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