THE AMERICAN UNION

VOL. LXVI—NUMBER 37 DENTON, MARYLAND, THURSDAY AFTERNOON, MARCH 25, 1926 $1.00 Year in County; $1.50 Out of County—In Advance

MRS. COURSEY IS FINED $200 IN SON'S DEATH

Sentence For Manslaughter Also Includes One Year's Parole

HUSBAND BEGAN TERM

Mrs. Edna May Coursey was fined $200 and costs. This was her sentence for manslaughter in connection with the death of her son, Eldridge Coursey, 5 years old.

In addition to the fine, Mrs. Coursey was paroled for one year in the custody of her father, Edward Wright, of Denton, Md.

The sentence was passed by Judge Frank I. Duncan in the Circuit Court at Towson.

Drops New-Trial Plea.

Passing of the sentence was unexpected. It had been believed that arguments for a new trial, a motion for which had been filed, would be heard before Mrs. Coursey would be sentenced.

When Mrs. Coursey was brought from the jail to court her attorney, William P. Cole, Jr., and H. C. Jenifer, State's Attorney for Baltimore county, were present.

Mr. Cole withdrew his motion for a new trial, and announced that his client was ready to be sentenced.

Service To Prosecution Cited.

Then Mr. Cole launched into a plea for Mrs. Coursey. He stated that she had been of great service to the prosecution because she had waived her legal rights and took the witness stand against her husband voluntarily.

The husband, Ralph Coursey, was convicted of second-degree murder in connection with the child's death. He started to serve an eighteen-year sentence in the Maryland Penitentiary Wednesday.

When told that his wife is now free Coursey remarked:

"That's a hell of a note. She ought to have got time like I did. Now I guess she will be wanting a divorce."

Mr. Cole stated that it would have been difficult for the prosecution to convict Coursey had it not been for the testimony of his wife.

Jenifer "Will Not Object."

He pleaded that his client be allowed to go back to Denton with her father. Her two other small children need a mother's care, said the attorney.

Mr. Jenifer took the floor.

"I have nothing to retract," he told Judge Duncan. "I still believe that Mrs. Coursey beat the child on the day of his death. I believe the evidence showed that. But if this court can find some way to return this woman to her children, then I will not object.

"In due justice to Mr. O'Conor (Herbert R. O'Conor, State's Attorney of Baltimore City), I must say that he did not hold the same views that I did regarding Mrs. Coursey. He does not believe that she beat the boy on the day of his death."

Judge Duncan said that he believed the verdict of the jury in the case of Mrs. Coursey was just. He stated that if he had sat as a jury in the case he would have rendered the same verdict.

He stated that he believed that Mrs. Coursey was guilty of manslaughter because she did not interfere when her husband beat the child with a broomstick and a strap on several occasions.

Believe She'll Seek Divorce.

Following this statement, Judge Duncan passed sentence. Mrs. Coursey's father, Edward Wright, was in court when the mother was fined. He paid the fine and left for Denton with her at once.

It is believed that Mrs. Coursey will seek a divorce from Coursey. She made this statement after the husband was convicted.

SCHOOL NOTES

Grading of the school playground began this week, in preparation for the spring field and track meet. The low spot facing Third street has been filled in, and the whole field is being made ready for the athletic events of the spring season.

The new curtain for the auditorium is now being put in place at the school building. It is of old blue velvet, and especially beautiful, adding greatly to the already attractive room.

On Friday and Saturday nights the class play will be presented by the Seniors. They will give "The Charm School." This is a delightful play, and is always enjoyed by the audience. Under the direction of Miss Eleanor Willis the Seniors have worked hard to put on a good production, and it is hoped that the auditorium will be well filled each night.

MEDITATIONS OF THE CRACKER

If you want a favor don't ask the man who's loafin' along the street, he hasn't the time at his command your earnest request to meet. His time's employed in tryin' to dodge his place in the game of life, an' always has an excuse to lodge, and your quest for aid denies. When you're prone in the mire or badly stressed an' needin' a fulcrum bad, don't look for the man who hasn't a mess, who isn't a busy lad. Go seek the chap with a plenty of work; he'll grin and he'll say, "You bet!" He's ready to help an' he never will shirk tho' the job be dirty and wet. So help when you can an' don't ask til you must, but when you are all out of line; don't look for a man who is covered with rust, but the busiest man you can find.

DELMARVA BODY AIDS ONANCOCK IN ORGANIZING

Virginia Town Definitely Links Itself With Peninsula Organization.

FORM NEW TRADE BOARD

Citizens of Onancock, Va., at a meeting held there recently, presided over by Stewart K. Powell as temporary chairman, definitely linked up their town with the Del-Mar-Va Eastern Shore Association by establishing a local Board of Trade and subscribing in the single evening $1,260 as a beginning of a first year budget, which will call for the expenditure of between $2,000 and $2,500.

The new Board of Trade will have a membership of approximately one hundred. Last night's subscriptions of $1,260 came from 40 persons or firms, four of these subscribing $100 per year and eight subscribing $50 per year. The unit of membership is placed at $10 and subscriptions in excess of that provide for multiple memberships.

The central headquarters staff of the Del-Mar-Va Eastern Shore Association at Salisbury, has been assisting the enterprising group of Onancock business men for the past week in preparing for this step. Last night Director Harvey J. Hill drove down to Onancock and addressed a meeting of 125 people in the Auditorium. He painted an interesting picture of the benefits to be derived by direct affiliation by local Boards of Trade or Chambers of Commerce with the Del-Mar-Va Eastern Shore Association. He urged on the Onancock business men a vigorous local program toward objectives that can be reached rather than impossible attempts to do too much the first year. At his suggestion Chairman Powell urged a start be made before the meeting closed toward underwriting the larger subscriptions.

President Ben T. Gunter of the Eastern Shore of Virginia Chamber of Commerce came into the meeting with Senator Warner Ames, of Onancock, who has been a strong backer of the Onancock Board of Trade project. Mr. Gunter was called on and in a cordial speech urged the business men of Onancock to set up a vigorous Chamber and a vigorous program. "We of the Eastern Shore of Virginia Chamber of Commerce," said Mr. Gunter, "wish you God-speed in your movement."

The temporary officers of the organization as nominated by a special committee are: President, Hon. Stewart K. Powell; First Vice-President, Capt. Spencer F. Rogers; 2nd Vice-President, J. S. Mills; 3rd Vice-President, W. F. Hopkins; Secretary, A. A. Richards; Treasurer, Edward D. Hartman, of the First National Bank of Onancock.

The Chair appointed, on motion, as Chairmen of Organization and By-Laws Committee Senator Warner Ames and John W. West, George H. Powell was made Chairman of the Membership Committee. He will select his committee today in order to meet this evening to arrange for the completion of the campaign of membership to Onancock with a minimum goal of 100 members.

"Don't you like your twin brother?"

"No, because I get licked for what he does."

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Sam—There ought to be only one head to every family.

Smith—That's true. I've just paid for hats for seven daughters.

CHRIS BERGEY HAD NARROW ESCAPE SAT.

On Saturday afternoon Chris Bergey, the congenial manager of the Denton Candy Kitchen & Restaurant, narrowly escaped being seriously burned while attending his peanut roaster. The fire under the peanut roaster had gone out, but the burner was still hot and was forming gas when Mr. Bergey struck a match. This gas flared up and burned his face and singed his hair but luckily did not burn enough to seriously hurt him although the burns were very painful and caused him considerable pain for several days.

CENTREVILLE LAYS STONE FOR ARMORY

Governor Ritchie and General Reckord Chief Speakers At Exercises

IN CHARGE OF MASONS

Centreville, Md., March 23.—More than 2,000 persons witnessed the laying of the cornerstone of the new $50,000 National Guard armory in Centreville this afternoon by the Centreville Lodge of Masons, No. 180, A. F. and M. Speeches were delivered by Governor Ritchie and Adjt.-Gen. Milton A. Reckord, Senator Dudley G. Roe and Col. D. John Markey.

Promptly at 1:30 o'clock members of Centreville Lodge, led by students of Centreville Grammar and Centreville High School, wended their way to the foot of Cemmerce street, where the armory is being erected. The Centreville Lodge was assisted in laying the stone by Grand Lecturer Geo. W. Livingstone, past deputy grand master of the Grand Lodge of Maryland.

Ritchie Praises Officers.

Following the ceremonies, S. Chester Coursey, of the armory board, introduced Senator Roe, of Queen Anne's county, who introduced Governor Ritchie. Governor Ritchie in his address emphasized the efficiency of the local military company and highly complimented the local officers, Capt. F. Bennett Carter and Lieuts. William T. Roe and William R. McKnight, and also Major Harry C. Butler, who was first captain of Company K and was also instrumental in building up the company to present standard, but who has more recently been promoted to major of a Western Shore unit.

Mr. Coursey expressed for the community the regret that De Courcey W. Thom, of Baltimore, who had made it possible for a liberal donation of $5,000, could not attend the laying of the cornerstone. He introduced General Reckord, who told of the generosity of Mr. Thom, owner of Blakeford, a fine country estate in Queen Anne's county, who on learning that the $50,000 available for the armory from the last session of the Legislature was insufficient to complete the stage, promptly wrote a check of $5,000, the amount needed to complete the building.

Luncheon Given Visitors.

He further impressed on the people of the town and county the necessity of showing their appreciation for the armory by supporting the company and assisting in any way possible.

Governor Ritchie and his party reached Centreville about 11:30 this morning, coming by way of the Claiborne Ferry, and General Reckford with a party of military officials reached here about the same time, coming by way of the Tolchester Ferry.

A luncheon was served at the Hotel Alexander for officials of the armory board and members of the Governor's and Adjutant-General's parties.

Military Officials Attend.

The visiting military officials were General Reckord, Col. Howard C. Price, United States Army; Col. Frederick H. Vinup, Maryland Medical Corps; Col. J. Craig McLanahan, Filed Artillery; Lieut.-Col. Herbert L. Grymes, Signal Corps; Major J. Harry Wagner, Adjutant-General's department; Major Harry C. Ruhl, Inspector-General's department; Major T. G. McNicholas, headquarters Fifty-eighth Infantry Brigade; Major William B. Tipton, Air Service, and Capt. William E. Wothgott, Quartermaster Corps .

Non-commissioned officers of Company K acted as guards during the exercises and Boy Scouts directed traffic. The students of the local schools sang patriotic songs.

FRED P. ROE

As we go to press news was received of the death of Mr. Fred P. Roe, of Greensboro, at the Church Home hospital, Baltimore. Mr. Roe is a brother of Mr. Harry Roe, Denton.

NEWSPAPER POLLS SELDOM ACCURATE

Ohio Poll Against Prohibition But Election Showed Big Majority For It. Other States Show Like Results

Perhaps the drys ought to be participating in the newspapers polls on the questions of the repeal of prohibition, its retention, or its nullification by the sale of wine and beer. The simple fact is that they are not doing it. As a rule, prohibitionists are responsible people, people of large or small property interests, and they can not be induced to do anything which will not have such practical results as to warrant their use of time and efforts.

In a church in Pennsylvania, with 205 persons present, the question was asked, "How many of you have cast a ballot in the newspaper poll on prohibition? One person had done so. In a men's Bible class in Washington, D. C., the same question was asked and one man out of the 25 had voted. In 1922 the Literary Digest undertook a straw vote on prohibition which covered the nation. In this poll, Ohio was shown to be 25,511 against prohibition to 20,285 for it. Two months later the state voted against wine and beer by a majority of 189,472. In California the straw vote showed 28,897 against prohibition to 15,565 for it. Two months later California voted for prohibition by 34,000. From Michigan, the straw votes were 14,374 against prohibition to 11,207 for it. But Michigan rejected the proposal to legalize the sale of beer and wine by a majority of 207,520.

The worth of such polls as indicating public sentiment is shown by the fact that the votes recorded represent a very small fraction of the adult population of the territory covered.

There have been thousands of referenda on prohibition. Every Congressional election for many years has been such a referendum. Every legislative election for a decade prior to the ratification of the prohibition amendment was such a referendum. The Congressional elections of next year afford the people an opportunity to send to Washington a wet or dry House of Representatives. Everybody knows what the result of these referenda have been. The drys have won them with monotonous regularity and by overwhelming majorities.

Governor John W. Martin, of Florida is to be commended for interfering in the proposed prizefight at Miami. Scores of thousands of people have gone to Florida to establish homes. They want an orderly civilization, free from vices, with every evil discouraged and every legitimate sport and amusement encouraged. Florida can not cater to gamblers, boozers, and prizefighters and build its new prosperity upon stable foundations.

Why should General Butler be criticised for believing that every man who takes an oath to uphold the constitution of the United States should abide by it? And when did loyalty to "etiquette" forge ahead of loyalty to country?

—The Cambridge Record.

BALTIMORE CONFERENCE M. E. CHURCH SO. OPENS

Bishop Candler, Atlanta, Who Will Preside, Reaches Winchester, Va., for Sessions.

Winchester, Va., March 23.—An old-time gospel sermon, ringing with a vigorous defense of the fundamentals of Christianity, by the Rev. D. A. Berry, Lewisburg, W. Va., featured the opening meeting of the one hundred and forty-second session of the Baltimore Annual Conference, Methodist Episcopal Church South in Shaddock street church tonight. He appealed to the church to embrace her opportunities and to go forward as a militant branch of Christianity. The Rev. Boyd V. Switzer, pastor of the local church, presided. Bishop Warren A. Candler, Atlanta, Ga., senior bishop of the church, who will preside over the conference, arrived tonight from Washington, accompanied by Mrs. Candler, the latter a special conference guest. The bishop will deliver his annual address at the first business session tomorrow morning.

Most of a core of standing committees held meetings this afternoon and made preliminary arrangements for the final draft of annual reports. Approximately 400 clergymen and laymen had arrived by tonight from Northern and Western Virginia, Eastern West Virginia, Maryland and the District of Columbia for the conference. Nearly 100 more are expected by noon tomorrow.

WILMINGTON M. E. SESSION OPENS

Conference At Dover Hears Of Charges Involving A Minister.

NATURE NOT ANNOUNCED

Dover, Del., March 24.—The Wilmington Methodist Episcopal Annual Conference opened here this morning with Bishop W. F. McDowell presiding.

The reports of all four of the district superintendents were presented. They showed membership gains in each district, as well as increased finances, both as to benevolences and ministers' salaries.

Many Revivals Held.

Revivals throughout the bounds of the conference were reported in nearly every church. The character of each district superintendent and minister of the conference was called and passed.

After the reading of the report of District Superintendent E. H. Dashiell and the question being asked by Bishop McDowell whether there were any complaints against any of the ministers in his district, he stated that he would present informal charges in the case of the Rev. H. P. Truitt, of Ocean City, Md., it being ascertained that Mr. Truitt desires that such action should be taken for his own satisfaction.

No nature of the charges was given out by the district superintendent. The case was referred to a select committee of seven, including the Revs. Wise, B. F. Beuchamp, E. J. Sard, T. R. Vandyke, J. A. Leach, J. J. Bunting and V. Scolling The committee will likely take the matter up at an early date.

Bishop Gratified.

Bishop McDowell, after opening, expressed his great appreciation at being back as the presiding officer of the conference, he having been assigned elsewhere last year.

Memorial services for deceased ministers and their wives closed the business session of the conference .

"THE CHARM SCHOOL"

Don't fail to see the "Charm School" presented by the Senior class of Caroline High School in the High School auditorium, Friday and Saturday, March 26 and 27. The play is produced by special arrangement with Samuel French Co. Come and laugh with us at a young automobile salesman, just out of his 'teens, who inherits a girl's school and insists on running it himself, according to his own ideas, chief of which is that the dominant feature in the education of the young girl today should be **Charm.** Come see how he develops his clever and original dieas.

The cast is:

Austin Bevans—Mervin Pentz; an automobile salesman with IDEAS, which

David MacKenzie—"Pat" Yeoman, a law student, considers impractical, though

George Boyd—Billy Norris, an expert accountant, is willing to co-operate, and so is

Jim Simpkins—Edgar DeFrank, who toils not and has never seriously considered spinning.

Homer Jones—Dan Crouse, is the guardian of

Elise Benedotti—Bernice Wooters, the president of the senior class at a school presided over by

Miss Hays—Dorothy Hynson, who is loved and feared by all who know her, including the secretary,

Miss Curtis—Irma Hake, who is always trying to think well of the Senior class, consisting of

Sally Boyd—Mary T. Nuttle, who is George Boyd's sister, and

Charlotte Gray—Anne T. Wilson, Muriel Doughty—Mary Emily Walls, Ethel Spelvin—Evelyn Wyatt, Alix Mercier—Katherine E. Wright, Lillian Stafford—Edwina G. Nichols, Madge Kent—Kathryn W. Thawley.

This is a welcome, amusing entertainment. ALL seats are reserved at Walls' Hdw. Store. The curtain rises promptly at 8:00 P. M. Don't forget the dates, March 26 and 27.

Take an Umbrella

Bride-to-Be—Do you know the girls are giving me a breakfast shower?

What are they serving, grapefruit?

COUNTY P. T. A. MEETING TONIGHT IN HIGH SCHOOL

Dr. Leo Driver, of Harrisburg, Will Give Illustrated Lecture at Annual Meeting

GLEE CLUB TO SING

The annual meeting of the Caroline County Parent County Parent Teacher Association will be held in the auditorium of Caroline High School this evening. Following the regular business meeting Dr. Leo Driver, of Harrisburg, will give an illustrated lecture which will be of great interest to the parents and patrons of the county. Several numbers by the glee club, under the direction of Mrs. J. Kemp Stevens, will be presented; also solo and duet numbers by the Misses Adeline and Louise Fisher.

PAUL HOLSINGER ESCAPES DEATH

On Monday evening as train No. 110, of the Maryland & Delaware Coast Railway Company was backing from Denton to Denton Branch Junction, it was struck at the crossing at Downes station at 6:10 p. m. by the Buick touring car driven by Mr. Paul Holsinger, who was the only occupant.

The conductor was standing on the rear platform and the train had whistled for the crossing, and at the time it was struck, the whistle was blowing for the station, so that the train was giving proper warning at the crossing.

Mr. Holsinger was driving in the direction of Ridgely and states that he did not see the train approaching the crossing, but except directly at the crossing, the railroad is in plain view for over one-quarter of a mile from the crossing.

Mr. Holsinger did not see the train until it was about 10 feet from the crossing and immediately swerved the car to the left, going in the same direction as the train, but could not make a sharp enough turn and the touring car side-swiped the train, smashing the rear steps and damaging the side of the train. The entire right side of the touring car was completely wrecked, fender and wheel being smashed and the hood was badly bent, windshield broken, top smashed, yet Mr. Holsinger received only a few minor scratches.

It is stated that the Buick was traveling about 25 miles per hour while the train was traveling from 8 to 10 miles per hour, having slowed up for the crossing and to see whether it was to stop at the station at Downes.

This is the second accident within a year at this crossing and in both cases the automobile was traveling toward Ridgely and struck the train.

TO PLANT CHRISTMAS TREES

The first Norway spruce trees for the Eastern Shore of Maryland will be planted today on the estate of Mrs. Evelyn Harris, in Kent county. Karl E. Pfeiffer, Assistant State Forester, will supervise the planting. The object of the enterprise is to raise Christmas trees, it was said.

Mr. Pfeiffer will give further demonstrations of loblolly pine-tree planting in Caroline county today and in Dorchester county Friday.

TOAD HOLLOW BREVITIES



The sheriff was out lookin' for grafters yesterday an' arrested Dave Gooslum, who was workin' in his orchard.

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Parson Savemall allows that the congregation has either got to quit runnin' their automobiles, to raise his salary, or else he's got to quit runnin' his to reduce his expenses.

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There was considerable excitement at the corner grocery the other day when Pete Doolittle came in with a new one dollar bill.

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