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Just in - Montgomery

A meeting of trustees of Montgomery County libraries will be made in the library of the Jessus Blair Community House at Silver Spring, February 26. Possible establishment of a central county library with various branches will be among the matters discussed.

* * * *

Reduction of the Board of County Commissioners from five to three full-time commissioners, one of whom shall represent the seventh election district, one the thirteenth election district and the third the rural sections of the county, was urged in a resolution introduced at a meeting Tuesday of the Silver Spring Citizens' Association.

* * * *

The Rockville Chapter of the Izaak Walton League is again reminding the farmers, Boy Scouts, 4-H Club members and others that hundreds of quail and other birds will perish while the ground is covered with snow unless feed is provided. Grain and other food may be obtained free at the police stations at Bethesda and Silver Spring, the homes of James W. Berrier, Travilah, and W. Carroll Waters, chief deputy game warden for the county, Germantown, and the office of the Montgomery County Sentinel.

* * * *

The Woman's Club of Bethesda will hold a valentine card party today in the club house on Georgetown Road. Arrangements for the affair, which will begin at 2 o'clock, are in charge of Mrs. Richard E. Titlow, who will be assisted by Mrs. F. P. Di Blasi, Mrs. Edgar Hoyer, Mrs. Hugh Johnston, Mrs. Edward Garlock and Mrs. F. R. Reid.

* * * *

Dr. Edwin W. Broome, superintendent of Montgomery County schools, spoke before the Parent-Teacher Association of the Bethesda Elementary School Wednesday night in the school. Dr. Broome talked on "The Modern Trend in Education," and an open forum led by Mrs. Lea Wilson followed. Mrs. Stella E. Bradley and Mrs. T. L. Stevenson were hostesses for the meeting.

* * * *

The three Fusion party members of the Board of Montgomery County Commissioners will be honor guests at a dinner to be given by the women members of the Fusion party at Congressional Country Club on Febuary 25. They are Frank H. Karn, president of the board; Paul M. Coughlan and Charles E. King. Mrs. Jesse W. Nicholson, who is in charge of arrangements, said that there will be no lengthy speeches, but a dozen five-minute talks are to be delivered by prominent party leaders.

* * * *

Mr. Donaldson C. Glassie has been appointed chairman of the local Young Democratic Club, to arrange for the banquet to be held in Baltimore, March 5, in connection with the state-wide convention of Young Democrats.

COUNTY HEADS FIGHT ERECTION OF LABORATORY

Establishment of a U. S. Public Health Service laboratory on the Rockville pike was opposed strenuously in a resolution adopted by the Montgomery County Commissioners.

Pointing out that the Rockville pike section is one of the most beautiful residential sections in the country, the resolution states: "It would be an outrage to violate the zoning regulations in this very desirable and exclusive community."

The commissioners declare that the Maryland National Park and Planning Commission has repeatedly asked the commissioners to preserve the residential character of the pike and that the properties on the pike are assessed at more than $1,200,000. They declared that it took 20 years to get rid of the animal husbandry experimental station in Bethesda and that should this project prove objectionable it likewise would take years to have it removed.

Funds are available for establishment of a laboratory to house white rats, guinea pigs and goats for the experiments. The laboratory would be established on property donated by Luke I. Wilson, financier and philanthropist.

The Federal Government can erect the laboratory even against the wishes of the community, the county government and the State of Maryland provided it has title to the land, under a law enacted a score of years ago by the Maryland General Assembly.

The county commissioners opposed adoption by the State Legislature of any form of consumers' sales tax, alleged that it is a vicious form of taxation and particularly oppressive to border-line communities.

The commissioners will go to Annapolis tomorrow for the joint meeting of the county commissioners of the Western and Eastern Shores of Maryland.

District Engineer E. G. Duncan of the Maryland State Roads Commission was authorized to proceed with removal of snow from county roads.

Birth of Rubber Industry

The year 1839 marks the birth of the rubber industry.

KENSINGTON

The Jack and Jill School will run a morning and afternoon play group for small children. All play is supervised and the development of the individual child is stressed.

Mr. and Mrs. Don Tierny who have been visiting Mrs. Tierny's mother, Mrs. J. M. S. Bowie, will leave Saturday for Savannah, Georgia.

The Woman's Club will meet this afternoon with Mrs. Robert L. Lewis. Mrs. William L. Slattery will give a talk on Oriental Rugs.

THE WOMAN'S COMMUNITY CLUB OF KENSINGTON

The February meeting of the Woman's Community Club of Kensington was held Monday, with Mrs. Morris K. Barroll, presiding. The dramatic section, Mrs. J. H. Taylor, chairman, had charge of the program. Mrs. Leo T. Tooley, soloist, sang "Dawn" and "The Puzzled Little Grandson," accompanied by Mrs. Thomas Tremearne. A paper on "Choral Speaking" was read by Mrs. Karl Karsten. She also gave readings from "Trojan Women," by Euripides; "The Golden Image," taken from the Scriptures, by Clarissa Graves, and several others.

Mrs. Lewis T. Boynton requested individuals as well as the club to write their Congressmen urging their support of the pending Social Security Bill. The literature section, Mrs. J. R. Baker, chairman, will meet at the home of Mrs. A. B. Hastings on February 24. Mrs. H. M. Milburn, director, announced the music section will meet February 19 at the home of Mrs. Barroll. Mrs. George H. Snyder, chairman of civics, was requested to communicate with the State Roads Commission, concerning the guard rail at Chevy Chase Lake which needs repairing.

Motion was made to appropriate ten dollars to the Kensington school library; fifteen to the Parent-Teacher Association for undernourished children; ten dollars to the Montgomery County General Hospital, and fifteen dollars to the Noyes Library. Six P. W. A. workers have been placed in the Noyes Library to help catalogue and repair books.

Thirty-five attended the luncheon preceding the meeting. The co-chairmen were Mrs. Harry W. Wanner and Mrs. Thomas Tremearne, assisted by Mrs. M. W. Maguire, Mrs. Roy R. Graves, Mrs. W. W. Skinner, Mrs. E. S. Noyes, Mrs Harry C Armstrong, Mrs. James E. Malcolm, Mrs. William Slattery and Miss Elizabeth Roberts.

TELEPHONE COMPANY DIRECTORS RE-ELECTED

At the annual meeting of the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company of Baltimore City, held in Baltimore, February 11, the following directors were re-elected: William G. Baker, R. Howard Bland, Albert D. Hutzler and Henry M. Warfield, Baltimore; Thomas B. Finan, Cumberland; T. Hughlett Henry, Easton; Alexander Armstrong, Hagerstown and Baltimore; Charles E. Bryan, Havre de Grace; and Philip O. Coffin, Marshal D. Sedam and Lloyd B. Wilson, Washington, D. C.

VALENTINE DANCE

A Valentine Dance for the benefit of Silver Spring Chapter, No. 66, Order of the Eastern Star, will be held on Saturday, February 15, 1936, from 9 to 12, at the Masonic Temple. The committee in charge of arrangements is the finance committee, of which Mrs. Mildred O. Hehring is chairman. Music will be furnished by Farrell's orchestra. Tickets are fifty cents each and the public is cordially invited.

Flag Over White House

A flag is flown over the White House every day from sunrise to sunset when the President is in Washington. It is not flown when the President is absent from the Capital.

SOCIAL SERVICE LEAGUE ELECTS OFFICERS

The organization meeting of the Board of Directors of the Social Service League of Montgomery County was held in the Old Court House at Rockville on February 11 at 8:15 p. m. At this meeting officers were elected to serve for the year 1936.

The following were elected: President, Dr. J. W. Bird, Sandy Spring, Md.; First Vice-President, Miss Estelle T. Moore, Sandy Spring, Md.; Second Vice-President, Mrs. Frank M. Hoadley, 28 W. Kirke St., Chevy Chase, Md.; Secretary, Mrs. George W. Young, Washington Grove, Md.; Treasurer, Mr. George W. Davis, Silver Spring, Md.

Major Howard W. Cutler of Silver Spring was elected a member of the Board of Directors to serve the unexpired term of Reverend Guy Crook of Poolesville who resigned in January.

Five-King Feast of 1363 Honored John of France

There is much obscurity about the origin of the famous five-king dinner of 1363 in the Vintners' hall, according to a writer in the London Observer.

Apropos of the Swan dinner recently tendered in London by the Worshipful Company of Vintners, honoring four princes of England (Prince Arthur of Connaught was unable to be present), he describes the original company as Edward III (England), David (Scotland), John (France), Waldemar III (Denmark) and Amadeus VI (Cyprus).

"John," he continues, "was at the time a prisoner in England. He had been made captive at Poitiers (1356) and was released on ransom four years later, but, on arriving in Paris, found himself unable to raise the money. His son had been left at Calais as hostage, and when he escaped in the summer of 1363, John returned to England to give himself up.

"It seems quite probable that the Vintners' banquet was given in compliment to him, for we read that he was received in England 'with great honor,' was lodged, as before, in the Savoy and was a frequent guest of Edward at Westminster. He died in the following spring, and his body was sent to France with royal honors."

The First Battery

About 1700, Luigi Galvani found that if the legs of a dead frog were supported by a brass wire, with its feet resting on an iron plate, the legs suddenly kicked. In 1799 Alessandro Volta repeated Galvani's experiment and concluded that the movement of the legs was due to a flow of electricity caused by the connection of the two different metals, brass and iron, through the moist body of the frog. On this theory, he constructed a pile of a large number of discs of copper, zinc and moist paper and found that, upon connecting the top and bottom of the pile, he obtained a shock similar to that from the Leyden jar. He also discovered that his pile was a means of producing a steady flow of electricity. The voltaic pile was the forerunner of all modern wet and dry batteries.

Trousers in Scotland

After the battle of Culloden in 1746 the English attempted to make the Scots wear trousers, and forbade the tartan. Averse to the new garments, some ingenious Highlanders discovered that the law did not specify how the trousers were to be worn. Accordingly, when men went on journeys, they often hung a pair over their shoulders on a stick, to keep within the decree. Such infractions were punished just the same, but a few years later the law was voided and the tartan once more became the national dress.

Beginning of Volley Ball

Volley ball was invented in 1895 by William G. Morgan, then physical director of Holyoke (Mass.) Y. M. C. A. He created the game to supply the need for a gymnasium sport that was competitive, yet not combative. A tennis net and a rubber bladder, taken from a basketball, were the crude implements originally used. The game was intended for middle-aged men who could not indulge in a strenuous sport like basketball. It is now an "all-ages" sport, the boys having speeded it up so much that the action is little short of cyclonic. Women also play the game.

Giant Plants in New Zealand

New Zealand is the home of many remarkable plants, some of which are distinguished mainly because of their size, says Pathfinder Magazine. There is a buttercup measuring 3 inches in diameter. Notwithstanding, it appears as a dwarf beside the great rafflesia—the largest single flower in the plant kingdom. Some of them measure several feet across, may weigh up to 15 pounds and have no leaves. Naturalists have reported finding great orchids in the Florida Everglades with stems 15 feet in height and bearing several hundred blossoms of proportional size.

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BOULDER DAM OPENS UP NEW INDUSTRY

Big Scale Production of Metals Is Foreseen.

New York.—A new electrochemical industry utilizing desert ores is in the making at Boulder dam, according to chemists, who foresee large scale production of aluminum, magnesium, and other metals in the Southwest.

The completion of the enormous power houses, promised within a few months, has raised the question of electrochemical products made from ores of the nearby Nevada-Arizona desert wilderness. Never before has there been a large supply of cheap electric energy anywhere near the group of unique mineral deposits adjacent to the Colorado river, it is pointed out.

Several products now considered indigenous to Niagara falls are proposed by C. K. Leith and N. H. Eavenson of the bureau of reclamation as reasonable for the Southwest. These include aluminum and magnesium, metals practically obtainable only by electrolysis with the expenditure of vast current loads. Aluminum alone already consumes over 2,500,000,000 kilowatt hours annually in the United States under normal business conditions.

"Large deposits of alumite at Marysvale, Utah, within striking distance, offer a promising source of both aluminum and potash in one enterprise," Prof. G. Ross Robertson of the University of California, Los Angeles, says in a report made public by the American Chemical society. "Furthermore, the increasing demand for extremely light alloys is boosting prospects for magnesium, a metal in ample supply in the desert region.

"Ferrotungsten, ferromanganese, calcium, silicon and boron carbides, and electrolytic zinc complete the list of reasonable prospects enumerated by the federal investigators. On the other hand, such items as electrolytic copper, at first glance a plausible entry in the list, are discounted, since the red metal requires only a very small quantity of electric energy for its refinement. Electric power for the numerous mines of the Boulder zone is probably a matter of greater significance, and will assist to some extent in taking care of the new energy supply.

"The Boulder dam plant is rated at 663,000 horse power figured on low-water conditions, and over 1,800,000 horse power maximum capacity. A generating cost in the vicinity of two mills per kilowatt hour is estimated."

Ray Finds Vessels or Planes 50 Miles at Sea

Highlands, N. J.—A new "mystery ray," which is said to be able accurately to detect the presence of enemy ships more than 50 miles off the coast even though the ships are drifting without their engines running, has been perfected by the United States signal corps laboratory at Fort Monmouth, N. J.

The new ray, which can also be applied to the detecting of high flying aircraft, is expected, if successful, to revolutionize modern naval and aircraft warfare tactics. By use of the ray, enemy craft can be located and gunfire accurately directed to their position.

Whether or not this new ray bears any relations to the present electrically impelled sonic altimeters or depth finders and submarine detectors could not be learned, as the entire device has been enveloped in great secrecy. The ordnance department at Aberdeen, Md., also has recently developed sonic devices for locating airplanes to use in connection with anti-aircraft guns.

The first practical test of the new ray is expected to be held shortly at the lighthouse station on the Navesink hills.

Potato Dry and Sound After 83 Years in House

Melbourne, Victoria.—A potato which had been cured by smoke and heat and kept dry for 83 years has just been discovered at Myrtleford.

It is the treasured property of Walker Mummery. One day his mother, a pioneer in the district who lived in a slab and bark hut, peeled a few too many potatoes for dinner. One of them, cut in half, was placed on a shelf over the primitive fireplace. It remained there for 20 years. The smoke and heat hardened it until it became, in substance and appearance, a reddish brown stone. Then it was given as a curiosity to Mummery, who went on preserving it.

Tougher than any "iron ration," it could now be boiled for months and still not be "done."

Explorer Declares Peak Unclimbable

Vancouver, B. C.—Mount Vancouver, most impregnable of Canada's mounain peaks, never will be scaled on foot, Bradford Washburn, noted mountain climber, believes.

Washburn is the leader of the Washburn expedition which has found many hitherto unknown peaks in the Yukon territory.

Mount Vancouver lies in southwestern Yukon. Washburn flew over the peak in an airplane and said it was "utterly impregnable."

"It is one of the most amazing mountain masses I have ever seen. It rises to an altitude of nearly 16,000 feet from the flat snowfields of the Hubbard glacier in one gigantic cliff of ice and rock, without a single climbable angle."

Degrees for Presidents

Forty-nine American universities and colleges have conferred degrees on Presidents. Collegiate honoring of Presidents began with George Washington and has continued almost uninterruptedly.

Step on Your Troubles

Jud Tunkins says troubles are like colds. It's unfair to scatter 'em around among innocent bystanders.

ARCHITECTS SEARCH FOR BUILDING STONE

Marble Highly Valued From Earliest Times.

Washington.—One of the most strikingly beautiful buildings in Washington is the new United States Supreme court building. Its exterior is fabricated from white marble, while its interior is enhanced with columns and panels of the same stone but richly colored.

"Among the most ornamental of all building stones, marble has been valued by architects from earliest times," says the National Geographic society.

"White drums of marble from Mt. Pentelicus reared toward the clear blue sky of Athens, the graceful temples on the Acropolis. Domed Byzantine structures and Roman buildings were floored with mosaics of vari-colored marbles, veined and mottled. Visitors to the Pantheon may tread on a marble floor polished by the pacings of august Romans over 1,800 years ago.

Favored by Sculptors.

"Not only has marble been a popular building stone, but it is the favorite among sculptors. From it Phidias, Praxiteles, Canova, and many other artists carved their masterpieces. Carrara, in northwestern Italy, which supplied Michelangelo with marble for his famous statue of David, still supplies modern sculptors with some of their finest working material. In Carrara, a city of quarrymen and marble cutting factories, even the humblest homes have white marble lintels and steps.

"The most beautiful foreign marbles come from Italy, the French Pyrenees, and Belgium. In the United States, marbles underlie most of the eastern mountains from Vermont to Georgia, and part of the Rocky mountains. Vermont supplies 60 per cent of the amount quarried in this country.

"Marble is merely an altered form of limestone, transformed by heat and strong pressure. Limestone is much softer than marble.

"Limestone is found in many colors ranging from pink and red, through yellow to green and blue. From quarries in Indiana and Kentucky comes the variety best known in the United States.

"Although limestone is durable, it deteriorates under acids in the air and rain, especially under the sulphuric acid contaminating the air of cities. How waters containing chemicals affect the stone is dramatically shown in Mammoth Cave, Kentucky, where subterranean streams have eaten away the beds of limestone, hollowing out vast underground caverns.

Granite Is Valuable.

"Granite, igneous rock that has cooled, is a building stone valued for its hardness, strength, and durability. Unlike limestone, it is little affected by chemicals in the air and rain, but abrupt changes in temperature frequently cause it to crack. In regions where the temperature drops 80 degrees in a day, granite has been known to shatter into boulders, gravel, and sand.

"Because it is so hard, the cost of cutting and polishing granite once prohibited its use except in a roughly dressed state. But now that less expensive methods have been discovered, it is one of the most popular building stones.

"Porphyry, another igneous rock, usually a beautiful red in color, was prized by the Romans, but is little employed by modern architects, because of the difficulty and expense in cutting and polishing it.

"New York city's famous 'brownstone fronts' are made of sandstone, a popular building stone composed of grains of sand held together by a cementing material.

"The new air-conditioned home of the National Geographic society contains stones from many states and foreign countries. Its front steps are of pink and gray North Carolina granite. Limestone blocks and columns of the facade came from Bedford, Ind., and green marble spandrels from the French Alps.

"In the foyer gleam reddish-brown pillars and pilasters of polished Rojo Alicante marble from Spain. Walls are of lustrous Italian Botticino marble, a rich cream color, above a base of Belgian black marble. Brown Sienna and gray Roman travertine form a large eight-pointed star in the floor."

Potatoes and Tomatoes Growing on Same Vine

Lufkin, Texas.—J. C. Burt, farmer, living near Alto, believes he is well on his way toward raising potato-tomato vines.

In 1933 Burt planted a field of tomatoes. Last year he planted the same field of potatoes. This year he planted tomatoes again, and was surprised to find that some of the vines bore a strange fruit. The vines had potatoes on the roots and tomatoes on the stems.

Colorful Wildflower Is Found in Nevada Hills

Fallon, Nev.—A new species of poppy, gorgeous, larger than the California poppy and yellow in color, appeared this year in the hills around the old mining camp of Wonder. Prospectors say they have never before seen this plant. Varieties have also appeared along the Lincoln highway, not only in masses of single color, but in kaleidoscopic blues, yellows, pinks and whites intermingled.

Largest Herd of Moose

The largest herd of moose on this continent is probably the one on Isle Royal in Lake Superior. The National park service estimates that there are more than 2,000 moose in this herd. The number is constantly increasing.

Alcohol on the Brain

Up to a drop of alcohol may be found in the brain of a person who has never touched liquor, says a New York university professor.

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The Drink to Happiness

The drinking of a liquid from a single cup by the bride and groom is an important part of the wedding ceremony among two-thirds of the human race, or all those living in non-Christian countries. The majority use a distilled liquor, beer or wine while the others prefer either animal or cocoanut milk.—Collier's Weekly

Washington Had No Salary

A salary as such was not accepted by Washington when he was President. As a matter of expediency and to establish a precedent, congress voted $25,000 for expenses. As a matter of fact, the President's expenses exceeded this sum.

The "Torch" Song

Webster's International dictionary recognizes the word by defining a torch song as "a popular, sentimental song of unrequitted love; hence, a torch singer." One explanation is that the phrase is based on an old saying that when a jilted lover is pining for the loved one he is "carrying a torch" for her. Songs designated as torch songs are "blues."

White House Begun in 1792

The White House was begun in 1792 and completed in 1799. John Adams was the first President to occupy it in 1800. There were still finishing touches to be added, and it was some time before the grounds were in order.

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