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A County Paper For County People

THE MONTGOMERY PRESS.

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Just in - Montgomery

The County W. C. T. U. Institute will be held at Ashton M. E. Church on March 19th. The afternoon session at 2 o'clock will be featured by talks by Mrs. P. G. Whalen on "Christian Citizenship," and Miss Margaret Jones on "International Relations." The evening session will be in charge of the Young Peoples Department. "Pot Luck Dinner" will be served between sessions.

* * * *

A Young Republican Club for the thirteenth election district was organized at a meeting in the new county office building in Silver Spring last Tuesday.

* * * *

More than 100 men, women and older boys and girls from various sections of the county are expected to attend the recreational school to be held in Rockville five successive days beginning March 30, it was announced at the office of the county home demonstration agent today. So far 36 have enrolled. The school which is under the auspices of the University of Maryland Extension Service will be free and will be open to representatives of parent-teacher associations, homemakers' clubs, Boy and Girl Scout troops, 4-H clubs, granges and other organizations.

* * * *

Because of the opposition of civic groups the Montgomery County Liquor Control Board has decided ti abandon its effort to have beer closing hours in the county changed to conform to the hours in Washington.

* * * *

As part of the wild life conservation program of the Rockville Chapter of the Izaak Walton League of America, various members of the group have agreed to plant Korean lespedeza just as soon as the weather and ground conditions permit, it was stated at the monthly meeting of the chapter. The growth, which is clover-like, will be allowed to remain in the patches for cover and the seed for food for quail and other birds during the winter. The chapter has obtained 13 bushels of the seed, which will be sufficient to plant 25 acres, and will soon be distributed among the members who have indicated their willingness to sow small patches.

* * * *

Montgomery County may soon enjoy a central library, augmented by a bookmobile for the benefit of residents of the outlying sections of the county, if plans of a group of local citizens materialize. The proposals to establish a central library, probably located in Rockville, with branches in other towns throughout the county was made at a meeting of the trustees of the various existing libraries of the county.

* * * *

A building permit for a bus terminal to be erected by the Capital Transit Company at Wisconsin and Western Avenues was approved by the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission yesterday.

* * * *

Donald Richberg, former N. R. A. administrator, will speak on "Constitutional Remedies and Pink Pills" at a town hall meeting sponsored by the Woman's Democratic Club of Montgomery County in the Leland Junior High School, March 16. The panel will be composed of former Assistant Attorney General William Stanley, Dr. James Hart, head of the political science department of Johns Hopkins University; Franklyn Waltman and John L. Lambert. Mrs. Charles Y. Latimer, president of the club, will open the meeting.

* * * *

The proposed Montgomery County small parks bill has been sent to State Senator Stedman Prescott by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission. The areas involved in the proposed bill as now drafted are: Kensington Parkway, a 20-acre tract which would afford a park entrance from Rock Creek Park into the town of Kensington. Northwest Branch Parkway, from Burnt Mills to the Prince Georges line near Avenel. Little Falls Branch Parkway, between River and Conduit roads. Long Branch Parkway, from Blair road to the Prince Georges line.

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."

SPEND $1,000 MONTH ON DIONNE BABIES

Famous Quintuplets Financially Independent.

Callander, Ont.—Through their physician, Dr. Allan Roy Dafoe, the Dionne quintuplets recently gave a message to the world. They said:

"Thanks for all your help, and we want you to know we are now self-supporting. We say this because so many persons and organizations helped us when we were not able to take care of ourselves. Now we are making enough money to meet all our needs and allow us to save some. We thought you would like to know."

Doctor Dafoe sat back in a deck chair on his front lawn and elaborated on the statement.

The girl babies of Oliva and Elzire Dionne are not nearly as wealthy as many persons believe. They have $45,000 in bonds and cash, and contracts now in force probably will bring them another $50,000. In their 14 months of life the youngsters have spent a lot of their own money. How much, the doctor declined to say.

The Canadian Red Cross paid for the nurses for a year and, with the Ontario government, helped out in various ways. In the last four months the children have paid all their own expenses—and expenses of quintuplets are large.

No figures have ever been given out, but salaries of the doctor and nurses probably total $450 a month. Other salaries, for an orderly, two maids and two guards, take perhaps $250 more. That total of $700 does not include upkeep of the hospital, which must be large, as all the staff, but the doctor, have their meals there. Everything the babies eat and drink is of the best and their food bill is large.

In addition there are many extras, which all go to make $1,000 a conservative estimate of the babies' monthly expenditure.

One of their chief assets is their home, valued at $20,000. The small Dafoe hospital that was opened a year ago has been enlarged to a 13-room building with three baths.

The babies' $45,000 in bonds and cash has come from endorsements of products they use—milk, tomato juice and the like—and motion-picture and newspaper photograph contracts.

RADIUM, JEKYLL AND HYDE AMONG METALS

Capable of Curing Disease and of Causing It.

Washington.—Radium, most precious of metals, an ounce of which is worth nearly as much as a ton of gold, recently has been brought to the fore again through new advances in its use in the treatment of disease.

"This silvery-white substance, which few people ever have seen, is a sort of Doctor Jekyll and Mr. Hyde among the metals," says the National Geographic society. "While its principal use is in the treatment of dreaded cancer, in many cases of which it is a saver of life, radium also is capable of causing cancers and a fatal form of anemia when not properly handled.

"Recently the largest 'radium pack' for treating cancer ever used in the United States was put to work at Bellevue hospital, New York city," continues the bulletin. "It contains five grams of radium and is expected to be particularly useful in treating deep-seated cancers.

"It is estimated that there are about 250 grams of radium in the United States at present, nearly half of the total of 600 grams or approximately one and one-quarter pounds that has been produced in the world.

Worth Million an Ounce.

"Radium first was produced from pitchblende ores of Bohemia after its discovery in 1898. Since then prospectors have found radium-bearing deposits in many parts of the world. The most recent important 'radium strike' was in the Great Bear lake district in the wilderness of northern Canada, farther north than the Yukon gold fields.

"So valuable is the ore that it is profitable to fly out loads of it by airplane to civilization for refining. Today the world's principal sources of radium are the Great Bear lake deposits and mines in the Belgian Congo, Africa. There also are radium deposits in the United States, in Colorado and Utah. They are not rich enough to be worth working at present prices, but form a sort of radium reserve available in case other supplies are cut off.

"The value of radium is fabulous. It is worth about $1,000,000 per ounce at present prices. Gold is now valued at $35 per ounce in the United States, and platinum approximately the same. In small amounts radium may at times command a price of as much as $75 per milligram, the thousandth part of a gram. In past years its price has been much higher than now, reaching $125,000 per gram during the World war.

Used in Luminous Paint.

"Aside from the treatment of cancer, the chief use of radium is in luminous paint, used on watch and clock dials, for electric switches and keyholes, and in wartime, for gun sights and compass cards for use where lights would betray presence of troops.

"The radiations which make radium both useful in treating disease and dangerous when handled without protection, are caused by the explosion of atoms in the radium. Slowly radium is dissipating itself away by these explosions, though it takes from 1,600 to 2,500 years for half of a piece of radium to dissipate itself.

"The exploding atoms send out three different kinds of radiations or rays—alpha particles, positively charged, traveling up to 12,000 miles per second; beta rays, negatively charged electrons traveling with almost the speed of light; and gamma rays, electro-magnetic waves which also travel nearly as fast as light.

'In treating diseases, an emanation or by-product of radium usually is used instead of the radium itself, because it is far more radioactive than radium. One of the most frequently used is radon, a gas which can be released from radium by heating or dissolving it. A very small quantity of radon is as radioactive as a large amount of radium. Radon can be produced without the original radium being scattered or lost."

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KENSINGTON

The Woman's Community Club of Kensington

The March meeting of the Woman's Community Club was held Monday, with Mrs. M. K. Barroll presiding. About 60 attended the luncheon preceding the meeting. Mrs. Russell Mizell and Mrs. W. P. Lynch, chairman. Assisting were Mrs. Norman Meese, Mrs. G. J. Covalt, Mrs. K .L. Hungerford, Mrs. Alfred Ray, Mrs. Felix Spurney, Mrs. F. W. Utrecht, Mrs. Riddlemoser, and Mrs. B. L. Vipond. The tables were attractive with St. Patrick's decorations and green lighted tapers.

Mrs. Joshua Evans, of Washington, was the guest speaker. She spoke on "Famous Amercans, Andrew Carnegie, George Peabody and Elihu Root."

The program was in charge of the book section, Mrs. Joseph Richardson Baker, chairman. The book section will meet March 23 instead of the second Monday.

Officers were elected. President, Mrs. Richard Wiebe; first vice president, Mrs. Barroll; second vice president, Mrs. George H. Snyder; recording secretary, Mrs. Fred B. Kitterman; corresponding secretary, Mrs. George Davis; treasurer, Mrs. Roberts Cogswell; auditor, Mrs. E. A. Noyes; parliamentarian, Mrs. Baker, and historian, Mrs. William Slattery.

Mrs. Walter G. Dunlop, of Washington, will speak before the Woman's Guild and Auxiliary at the meeting to be held March 18 in the parish hall of Christ Episcopal Church. Her subject will be "United Thank Offering." The luncheon committee: Mrs. A. B. Hastings, Mrs. E. H. Harrison, Mrs. Robert L. Lewis, Mrs. Norman Meese, Miss Jennie Dawson and Miss Martha Zimmerman.

FIVE MONTGOMERY BILLS INTRODUCED

The five Montgomery bills introduced during the first legislative week are in keeping with the spirit of the plan to handle only relief, Executive Mansion, remedial or emergency local legislation during the extraordinary session.

A state-wide measure, bearing the name of Miss Ruth E. Shoemaker, would make it unlawful for a member of the General Assembly to hold a job under the State government.

The county delegation has sponsored bills to repeal both the Montgomery anti-trapping law that is allowing predatory animals to prey on game and the law permitting the county commissioners to levy 2 cents on the $100 in Bethesda district for maintenance of the Newcomb-Bethesda Public Library.

State Senator Prescott introduced a bill to reduce the cost of county hucksters' licenses from $100 to $50. He put in a bill designed to raise $3,000 a year for modernization of the County Law Library at Rockvlle.

The latter would be accomplished by dedicating one-half the proceeds of court fines and forfeitures up to the sum of $3,000 to the purchase of new volumes for the library.

OLDEST CONVENT TO BE RESTORED

Southern Marylanders and Washingtonians, banding themselves into an organization known as "The Restorers of Mount Carmel in Maryland" plan to rebuild and restore the oldest convent in the United States at Port Tobacco, Md. This was the first Catholic cloistered convent in the original 13 Colonies. It was a Carmelite house.

Philip Hubert Frohman, architect, has volunteered to superintend the work of restoring Mount Carmel, an architectural and landscaping project that will require several years. First payment on the property, some six acres with only one original building standing, was made a short time ago, after negotiations started two years previously.

Founded in 1790 by three native Americans from the Carmelite convent in Hoogstraeten, Belgium, the Carmelite convent had as the first chaplain Father Charles Neale, who served under Archibishop Carroll, brother of Charles Carroll of Carrollton. Joseph Neale, an attorney, whose grandfather was a brother of Father Neale, is taking an active part in the new organization.

The Blue Earth

Deposits left behind by lost primeval forests and the petrified resin now form what is called the "blue earth" in the Samland district in East Prussia, not far from the Baltic coast. This is the only place where amber is found, for there are no similar deposits elsewhere in the world.

Severest Test for Airplane

The severest test that an airplane can be given is the power dive. The machine is put into a vertical dive from a great height, with power full on. When the greatest possible speed is attained the pilot pulls the plane into level flight. It is a highly hazardous test for both pilot and plane.

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.

First Railroad in Ohio

The first railroad in Ohio, which ran from Adrian, Mich., to Toledo, was fostered by our northern neighbor, the Wolverine state. At the outset there was little confidence in the success of the enterprise. It was described in the Michigan legislature, which granted the charter, as merely "a fanciful scheme that could do no harm and would greatly please certain citizens of Toledo."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Scotland's Gretna Green Still "Marrying" Town

Gretna Green, Scotland.—Hundreds of couples still come to Gretna Green to be married, for even today an air of romance clings to it and its old reputation for runaway weddings.

Until the marriage act was passed in 1856, making it compulsory for one of the contracting parties to reside in Scotland at least 21 days before the ceremony, Gretna Green was the destination of elopers from all over England. Their carringes came dashing into the village at all hours of the day and night, for once they were through the toll gate and into Scotland, they could be married, and no questions were asked.

Likely as not, the irate father or guardian came galloping up a few minutes later, only to meet the happy couple leaving the Blacksmith's Forge. This building, where hundreds of marriages were performed, is now a curio shop, with books, postcards and "Romances of Gretna Green" for sale. Many Americans traveling in Scotland make it a point to visit the village, as it is off the beaten track and therefore all the more delightful.

The blacksmith, who once did a thriving business in marriages, has become a legendary figure. It is said that he performed three marriage ceremonies on his deathbed, and that he died with the fees tightly clutched in his hand.

Radio in Arctic Circle Aids in Birth of a Boy

Dixon Island, U. S. S. R.—Communication by radio enabled a surgeon here to conduct a difficult case of childbirth many miles away.

Doctor Firsov of Cape Desire, on the Novaya in the Arctic ocean, was attending the case there, but because it presented unusual difficulties he sought the advice of Doctor Nikitin of Dixon island. Radio connection was established and the doctors discussed the case for three hours. After hearing the details, Doctor Nikitin gave his instructions.

Three hours later he received another message—this time from the proud father of a son thanking him and the radio operators for their aid.

Archer Kills Snake With Bow and Arrow

Fresno, Calif.—Spinners of fanciful rattlesnake yarns often wander further from the truth than fishermen, but Arthur H. Shipley, deputy county superintendent of schools, vouches for this one:

Shipley spied a 3-foot snake along the roadside one day. Anxious to get a set of rattles, he searched for something with which to kill the reptile. Clods of dirt served only to enrage the snake.

Finally he thought of the bow and arrow in the back of his car.

With only three shots Shipley pinned the rattler to the ground in three different places. A fourth arrow pierced the head and killed the snake.

Shipley has a set of rattles as evidence.

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.

Inscribed Terra Cotta Cones Back Up Testament

Washington.—New proof of the accuracy of the Old Testament as a historical record has been obtained by the Smithsonian institution.

The findings—three inscribed terra cotta cones found in a temple wall at Ur of the Chaldees—were memorial tablets buried to perpetuate the name of the king, Libit-Ishtar, fifth ruler of the Isin dynasty who reigned about 2075 B. C.

Included in the cuneiform inscriptions were references to several early cities, mentioned before in the Book of Genesis. The Smithsonian said their existence based on the Biblical reference was never considered conclusive, however.

The fourteenth chapter of Genesis gives Ur as the birthplace of Abraham, presumably in the reign of Rim-Sin or of Hammurabi, 2000 to 1900 B. C.

Jersey Tailor Makes 2,500th Suit and Quits

Collingswood, N. J.—Thomas Nebelitsky, who made by hand more than 2,500 suits of clothes, has retired. Although only fifty-eight, Nebelitsky has been in the tailoring business for 24 years.

"There is only one way to make a suit of clothes," Nebelitsky commented as he closed his shop. "And that is to build it like a house for the man who orders it."

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.

"Mountain of Hellfire" Emits Ammoniacal Gases

Over a great area on the frontier between Baluchistan and Persia everything is dead. Not a bird, beast, or reptile, not even an insect, survives. They have been gassed by the "Mountain of Hellfire"—as the Persians call the volcano of Koh-i-Tafatan. The crater pours out dense clouds of ammoniacal gas which destroy every living thing and even burn up all plant life, says Tit-Bits Magazine.

This is the only mountain which produces this particular gas, but not the only one which exudes poison gas. In 1912 the volcano of Katmai in Alaska exploded, producing the biggest crater in the world, which is now known as the Valley of Ten Thousand Smokes. Here sulphurous gas streams out from rifts, and it is death to approach one of these deadly vents.

The Sakura Shima volcano in Japan blew up in 1914 and overwhelmed the city of Kagoshima. The loss of life was over 70,000, and a great number of these people were suffocated by pestilent gases which rushed up from earthquake fissures a long way from the mountain itself.

Before the great Chilean earthquake of 1857 poison gas rose in the floor of the Bay of Payta and killed enormous quantities of fish and crabs. They floated on the surface and were washed up on the beach, forming a wall-like line three to four feet high and twelve miles long.

The most ghastly disaster of recent times was the destruction of the beautiful city of St. Pierre by a cloud of gas and dust flung out by Mont Pelee. Within a matter of moments 40,000 people were blotted out.

"Old Copper Nose"

Henry VIII was known as "Old Copper Nose," for the reason that he debased his coins to such an extent that the silver wore off quickly and the sovereign's nose in copper shone right through. Peter the Great, of Russia, put a tax on beards, and, soon, there was a special coin to pay the tax, which came to be known as beard-money.—Literary Digest.

Leukemia Similar to Cancer

Luekemia is characterized by an excessive number of immature white cells in the blood. In leukemia, as in cancer, the cells that multiply with such disastrous effect are malignant cells with characteristics of their own that form a new and abnormal growth. The disease further resembles cancer in that it can arise from a variety of causes, the form it takes depending on various factors.

Initials on Lincoln Pennies

The initials V. D. B. on some Lincoln head pennies minted in 1909 are those of Victor D. Brenner, the medalist and sculptor who designed the coin. But this part of the design was soon withdrawn by the Treasury department and consequently the artist's initials appear on only part of the Lincoln pennies bearing the date 1909. Many thousands of the initialed cents were circulated, however.

Many Still Use Bead Counters

About 60 per cent of the world still does its calculating on the ages-old abacus, the instrument with a frame crossed by stiff wires on which balls or beads are strung, writes Robert Frenchick, Los Angeles, Calif., in Collier's Weekly. Not only is it used throughout all Asiatic countries, Russia and in other parts of Europe, but even by some American statisticians.

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."

The "Aristocrat of Fruits"

The "aristocrat of fruits," the avocado called "calavo," is grown in California, Florida and Texas and is considered a native" fruit in those sections. For generations West Indians regarded the avocado as a staple food, using its pulp on bread like butter.

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