



THE MONTGOMERY INDEPENDENT

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ONE DOLLAR PER YEAR

SCHOOLS SPLIT TITLE HONORS IN SPORTS

An equal division of the four major titles among Montgomery County's largest institutions produced a well balanced sports year, recently completed when Gaithersburg won its second successive soccer crown.

Bethesda-Chevy Chase started by annexing the basketball title with its premier team. Rockville followed with a surprise victory in the track meet and Silver Spring High, now Montgomery-Blair, was too good on the diamond. Bethesda and Rockville divided the runner-up honors with two apiece, while Rockville can claim the individual star in Gene Ochseneiter, its brilliant quintuple competitor.

Bethesda's court team won the title without being extended and followed it up by gaining the finals of the Metropolitan tourney and the semi-finals of the Washington and Lee classic, compiling 18 victories against 6 defeats for the season.

Rockville, runner-up in the League, won its own Sportsmanship Tourney after a four-year lapse and Ochseneiter, forward, walked off with the individual scoring crown, although Reed, of Gaithersburg, who trailed him, set a mark by scoring 15 field goals in a single game. Montgomery-Blair, third among the county schools, was last in the Inter-Suburban League, but Sammy Wolfe was named on the all-suburban team at right forward.

Rockville Wins Meet.

Again paced by Ochseneiter, who broke the existing 880 record, Coach Allen Vogt's track and field team won the track meet before some 11,000 competitors and spectators at Rockville. Seven records fell and 2,484 successfully completed their badge tests.

Mike Godfrey, Silver Spring slugger, outfielder, who took the mound every third game, personally accounted for Silver Spring gaining the title-winning crown. In the decisive Bethesda encounter, Godfrey pitched seven-hit ball and doubled home the winning run in the ninth inning.

Coach Harry Bertsey's "iron man" soccer team completed its second undefeated season in a row, only one substitution being used in sweeping the six-game schedule. Other performers who had a share in acquiring championships for their respective teams include Eddie Johnson and Tom Lodge of the LeLand courtmen; Jack Ochseneiter, younger brother of Gene, who scored 13 points in the track meet; Moyer Fulks, of Bethesda, and Bill Patton and Wallie Robertson who could have made any all-high team, as Montgomery-Blair's battery.

Damascus, Sherwood and Poolesville, the up-county schools, where titles have been scarce since 1929, have been laboring under the difficulties of lack of funds and small student bodies.

Station WFMD Is Dedicated

Representative David J. Lewis and former Senator Clarence C. Dill were chief speakers New Year's day at ceremonies marking the opening of Radio Station WFMD at Frederick. Mayor Lloyd C. Culler dedicated the new station, which went on the air at 2 p. m. the same day. Former Secretary of State David C. Winebrenner, 3rd, a director of the Monocacy Broadcasting Co., was master of ceremonies.

Other speakers included Joseph D. Baker, James H. Gambrell, State Senator Harry W. Legore and Maj. Lawrence Leonard, of Washington, and president of the broadcasting company.

Four neighboring stations gave salutes, the program being broadcast with special programs. WJSV, Alexandria, gave the first salute, the program being broadcast from WFMD, WBAL, Baltimore, WTBO, Cumberland, and WSWA, Harrisonburg.

Two luncheons preceded the opening ceremonies. About 200 merchants and their wives attended a buffet luncheon, starting at noon. Officials and directors of the broadcasting company entertained a number of prominent guests at 12:30 p. m.

A 500-watt station, WFMD will broadcast daily at 900 kilocycles.

WILL FEED BIRDS DURING WINTER

The Rockville chapter of the Izaak Walton League of America, through its game committee, is arranging to feed quail and other birds while the ground is covered with snow and during extremely cold weather that might prevail in the county within the next three months.

Numerous feeding stations established by the chapter in various sections of the county during the last three years, will be kept well supplied with grain of various kinds, furnished by the State Conservation Commission.

Game Warden Urges Feeding Of the Birds

E. Lee LeCompte, State game warden, in an appeal to the public, urges feeding of birds and wild animal life throughout the winter and particularly when the ground is covered with snow and ice.

In the country, corn shocks with an opening at the bottom are suggested as practical feeding stations. Anything may be used, however, provided some sort of protection is afforded and an opening, preferably to the south, is left.

City dwellers are asked to place a piece of suet on window sills, in the crotch of a tree, or better still, to place a piece of suet in a mesh bag and hang from the limb of a tree. This latter method is suggested for the benefit of the smaller birds, so often driven from the food supply by larger birds.

Naomi Chapter, O.E.S., Bethesda, Elects Officers

At a recent meeting of Naomi Chapter, No. 23, Order of the Eastern Star, of Bethesda, the annual election of officers was held, with the following selections:

Mrs. Margaret Comstock, worthy matron; Clyde Hyson, worthy patron; Lillian Riley, associate matron; Charles Hartman, associate patron; Rose Coombs, secretary; Ann Thompson, treasurer; Carolyn Baldwin, conductress, and Sarah Scott, associate conductress.

These officers will be installed at a meeting of the chapter January 8, at the Masonic Hall in Bethesda.

OPERATION FATAL TO MRS. PRICE

Mrs. Rachel Virginia Price, widow Daniel Webster Price, of Damascus, died at the Montgomery County General Hospital last week, following an operation two weeks before, aged 66 years.

She is survived by a sister, Mrs. Almeda Nicholson, Mt. Airy, and three brothers, Samuel Miles, Hyattstown; Charles Miles, Clarksburg, and Moses Miles, Gaithersburg.

Funeral services were held Sunday afternoon in the M. P. Church, Clagetsville, conducted by Rev. Gilbert Turner, of Keptompton, assisted by Rev. R. H. Brown, of Damascus. Pallbearers were Genoa King, Ernest Purdum, Clifford Wright, Richard Haney, Curtis Brown, Elzie Cordell. Interment was in the adjoining cemetery.

FARM MARKET ACQUIRES LAND

Through the board of directors, the Montgomery County Farm Women's Co-operative Market has purchased the market property in Bethesda. The purchase also by this co-operative market of 5,886 additional square feet at the corner of Willow Lane and Wisconsin avenue in Bethesda, makes a total of 30,000 square feet, giving more room and parking space, badly needed by this rapidly growing organization for its expanding business.

The Montgomery County Farm Women's Co-operative Market was started four years ago by a small group of farm women to find an outlet for their products direct from the farm to the consumer. The idea was successful from the beginning, and the number of women occupying space and selling their products has increased to approximately ninety.

DOUB SEEKS HOUSE SEAT

Former Associate Judge Albert A. Doub, of the Fourth Judicial Circuit of Maryland, has announced his candidacy for the Republican nomination for Congress in the Sixth Maryland district. Since his retirement from the bench, because of age limit, several months ago, Judge Doub has been practicing law with his son, Albert A. Doub, Jr.

Judge Doub was admitted to the Allegheny County bar in 1894 and was elected to the bench in 1921 over William C. Walsh, Democrat, who had been appointed judge by Gov. Albert C. Ritchie.

Judge Doub, a native of Beaver Creek, Washington County, graduated from Johns Hopkins University in 1886. He later served as principal of the high schools at Williamsport and Frostburg. In 1893 he was elected treasurer of Allegheny County on the Republican ticket. He served as city attorney of Cumberland, attorney to the board of Allegheny County commissioners and as referee in bankruptcy.

Judge Doub is chairman of the vestry of Emmanuel Episcopal Church. His elder brother, Daniel A. Doub, is an active practitioner at the Washington County bar, Hagerstown. Judge Doub was at one time his party's nominee for attorney general of Maryland.

His entry into the fight complicates the situation somewhat in Allegheny County, where A. Charles Stewart, president of the board of county commissioners; County Treasurer Perry A. Nicklin and State Senator Robert B. Kimble are expected to enter race.

Judge Doub, in a statement announcing his candidacy, said in part:

"No liberty-loving American could observe the amazing course of the present Administration in Washington for the last two or more years, in which the lessons of Daniel W. Price, of Damascus, those in high office to their public trust have been disregarded, without fear for the safety of the Republic and for our rights as free men.

"With the merging of the legislative branch of the Government with the executive, the disregard of the rights guaranteed to the states and people, violation of contracts by the United States, legislation by bureaucrats, press bureaus for political propaganda at the expense of the taxpayers, mounting taxation and plundering of the Treasury without lawful appropriations, mortgaging the energy and income of the next generation, clipping the coin of the realm, arraying class against class, frightening industry so that laborers cannot resume their jobs, repudiation of express mandates of the electorate, and displacing the bill of rights with what is called a "new order," no thoughtful citizen can consider this catalogue of wrongs and delinquencies without grave apprehension. . . . I have determined that, as a Republican candidate for nomination for the next Congress from the Sixth Congressional District, I can best be of service. . . ."

A.F. and A.M. Past Masters in Annual Meet This Week

The annual banquet of the Montgomery County Past Masters' Association was held at Silver Spring December 28, with President Kingsinger master of ceremonies. Short talks were given by Hanson Cashell, Henry E. Wood, Garland W. Wolfe, Rowan F. Erb and Jacob Price. The banquet was served by members of the Silver Spring Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star.

At the election of officers following the banquet, Martin W. Kingsinger, of Silver Spring, was selected president; Thomas R. Peddicord, of Silver Spring, was re-elected secretary and treasurer. Rowan F. Erb, of Rockville, was re-elected secretary and treasurer. Comprising the organization are the former and present masters of the various Masonic lodges of the county.

The past master's degree was conferred upon the following recently elected worshipful masters of the various lodges of the county: Montgomery, Rockville, J. Cullum Barnsley, Rockville, Thomas R. Peddicord; Silver Spring, Charles E. Jones; Kensington, William L. Maddox; Bethesda, Dennis C. Simmons.

NEW OFFICIALS OF SOROPTIMIST CLUB

The Soroptimist Club of Montgomery County has elected the following officers for the new year: Mrs. Lucille Miller; Silver Spring, president; Mrs. Winona Reid, of Chevy Chase, first vice president; Mrs. Irene Pumphrey, of Rockville, second vice president; Miss Elizabeth Wanner, of Kensington, recording secretary; Mrs. Grace L. Ryan, Kensington, corresponding secretary; Miss Edna Hauck, Rockville, treasurer; Mrs. Gertrude Corwin, Rockville, Mrs. Kathryn Darby, Boyds, and Miss Kathryn Reidy, Washington, directors.

Rotarians Hosts At Father-Son Banquet

The Rockville Rotary Club gave a father-and-son banquet here last week instead of the usual weekly luncheon meeting.

The guests of honor were sons of members and boys invited by the members without sons. J. Wheeler Bird, a student at Yale University, and son of Dr. Jacob W. Bird, head of the Montgomery County General Hospital, Sandy Spring, was toastmaster, and Roger Karr, son of Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Karr, of Gaithersburg, introduced the young guests.

UNUSED SCHOOLS SOLD AT AUCTION

As advertised, and under direction of Preston L. Snyder, superintendent of public school property for the county, the abandoned Woodfield, Snouffers, Burdette, Kingsley and King's Valley, and approximately an acre of land in each case, were sold at public auction for a total of \$2,539, subject to ratification by the county board of education.

The purchasers and prices offered were: Lewisdale, to Deets Day, of Lewisville, \$985; Woodfield, to Joseph Duvall, of Woodfield, \$850; Snouffers, to Mrs. Mary J. Peter, of Rockville, \$250; Burdette, to Paul Reed, of Burdette, \$265; Kingsley, to Cooley, near Clarksburg, \$300; King's Valley, to Leslie King, of King's Valley, \$136.

MARRIED 67 YEARS

Mr. and Mrs. W. J. H. Robinson, the oldest inmates of the Methodist Home for the Aged at Gaithersburg, recently celebrated the sixty-seventh anniversary of their wedding. Aged respectively ninety-one and eighty-nine years, both are active and remarkably well preserved. Many well-wishers were present and felicitated them on the happy occasion.

JANUARY FIXTURES OF REDLAND HUNT

The Redland Hunt, of Rockville, announces the following meets during January:

Wednesday, 1 Avery School
Saturday, 4 Rockville C. H.
(Joint meet with riding and hunt hounds)

Tuesday, 7 Mt. Zion
Saturday, 11 Redland Crossroads
Tuesday, 14 Laytonsville
Saturday, 18 Derwood Mill
Tuesday, 20 Olney Crossroads
Saturday, 25 Muncaster Mill
Tuesday, 28 Emery Church

All Saturday and holiday meets at 1 p. m. Tuesday meets at 11 a. m. weather permitting.

36,000 AUTO FATALITIES DURING 1935

Deaths from automobile accidents in the United States have numbered 36,000 this year—about the same as last year—the Travelers Insurance Company announced this week, but the rate of death per accident has increased nearly seven per cent.

Sixteen thousand pedestrians were killed in automobile accidents, a preliminary survey of the year's experience discloses, with 9,000 persons losing their lives in collisions between cars.

828,000 Accidents Reported.

Driving errors were involved in two-thirds of the 828,000 automobile accidents reported, indicating greater carelessness among drivers. Almost 24,000 of the total deaths resulted from accidents in which there was careless operation.

Only 23 per cent of the accidents assigned to driving errors were due to "exceeding the speed limit," but deaths from this cause amounted to 31 per cent of all fatalities resulting from improper motoring practices.

More than 7,300 persons were killed because operators exceeded the speed limit, and 7,400 others met death when drivers drove on the wrong side of the road, falling to grant the right of way.

More than 560,000 of the 864,000 persons injured non-fatally were victims of accidents involving dangerous driving practices.

250,000 Hit by Autos.

Approximately 130,000 persons were injured in accidents where drivers exceeded the speed limit, and 240,000 more were hurt because of driving on the wrong side of the road.

Automobiles struck more than 250,000 pedestrians. Nearly 3,500, or one-fifth, of the 16,000 pedestrian deaths occurred because of accidents at street and highway intersections.

The toll included 40,000 child pedestrians, of which more than 1,600 were killed.

John C. Letts, Merchant, Farmer, Philanthropist, 74, Dies At Washington

John Cowen Letts, one of the largest land owners, agriculturists and stock raisers of the county, and a prominent merchant and philanthropist, died at his home in Washington Wednesday, aged seventy-four years.

He was a native of Winona, Ill.; was educated in the public schools of Afton, Ill., and in his youth was taken sick and physicians gave him six months to live. He felt his only chance was to leave home and live out of doors. He went to Texas, where he lived the life of a cowboy. He improved in health and after some time became completely well.

Subsequently, after returning to work, for some years he was connected with the grocery business, first in St. Joseph, Mo., and later in Iowa.

In 1908 he went to Washington and founded a grocery store. Out of this store gradually grew up the chain known as the Sanitary Grocery Stores. In June, 1927, he retired from the presidency of the chain stores. After retiring from active business, he became more interested in philanthropic work, the Y. M. C. A., of which he was a member of the board of trustees, and the advisory board of the Washington branch. To further this society's work in developing the youth, he donated a large tract of land on Rhodes River, near Annapolis. This was converted into a summer camp and named "Camp Letts." In this camp many of the poorer children of Washington were able to rest and play, enjoying the outdoor life which had helped Mr. Letts years before. Two years ago he contributed a large sum of money for constructing a new dining room for the Rhodes River camp.

He acquired many acres of farm land in Montgomery, notably in Laytonsville and Bethesda districts. Ayrilawn Farms at Bethesda was developed into a nationally known stock-raising business.

Mr. Letts was a member of many Washington clubs and organizations, including the Washington Board of Trade, Chevy Chase Club, Columbia Country Club, University Club, Racquet Club and the Elks and Masons. He was a member and former director of the Rotary Club.

Among other offices held, Mr. Letts was president of the board of American University, a director of the Washington Loan and Trust Co. and a member of the board of the Dickson home, and a member of the board of Swartzell Methodist Home and an officer of Foundry Church.

Mr. Letts also donated funds to aid in purchase of a building next to Foundry Church to serve as a meeting place and social center for young people. The hall is named the John Letts Building.

Mr. Letts is survived by his wife, Mrs. Ida Lewis Letts; two daughters, Mrs. W. M. Guthrie, of Washington, and Mrs. F. Henry Jones, of San Francisco; a sister, Mrs. Henry Beam, of Yates Center, Kans.; two granddaughters, Emille Letts Jones and Catherine Ann Guthrie.

Funeral services were conducted at his home today by the Rev. Frederick Brown Harris, pastor of Foundry Methodist Episcopal Church, and burial was in Rock Creek Cemetery.

The Town Charter Of Takoma Park To be Amended

Millward C. Talt, chairman of the ordinance and judiciary committee of the Takoma Park town council, has announced that consideration is being given to proposed amendments to the Takoma Park town charter which will be submitted to the State Legislature when it meets in special session in February.

A number of amendments were suggested by local civic organizations and individual citizens at an open meeting before the town council last month. These amendments were taken under advisement by the town authorities and will be submitted with additional proposals of the council to a meeting of representative bodies within the next two weeks, Talt said.

What amendments, if any, the town council may propose, Talt said, have not yet been determined. However, he said, that the entire matter would be settled well in advance of the convening of the General Assembly.

This procedure is being followed to avoid a repetition of the situation that arose during the 1935 session of the Legislature, when several controversial items in the act authorizing the amendments precipitated a partisan fight between Republican and Democratic factions in the town and finally caused the veto of the measure by Gov. Nice.

Last year's fight centered largely on differences of opinion on the part of the Republican controlled town council and the local Young Men's Democratic Club over the manner of conducting town elections. This year the plan is to settle the differences before a bill is submitted to the State Legislature.

Differences of opinion already have been expressed over a proposal of the Democratic Club to limit the number of councilmen in any one election district.

Rev. W. C. Smith Dies in Florida

Word of the death of Rev. Wm. C. Smith, of the ministry of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, for thirty-five years, has been received here. He was ill but a few days with a heart ailment at Penney Farms, Fla., where he had lived the past two years. In the upper section of the county he was widely known and beloved, having served several churches as pastor of Montgomery County Circuit. He is survived by his widow, his second wife, and three sons, W. W., of Frederick; Archie and Paul, both of Annapolis, and was in his sixty-eighth year.

After a pastorate at Trinity Church, at Frederick, he had not been in the best of health and took a superannuate relation at the Baltimore Conference of 1933. His body was brought to Maryland for funeral services and interred at Church Hill, Queen Anne County, Rev. J. Paul Tyler, D. D., a former president, officiated.

1,800 Children Are Guests of Gov. Nice

Governor Harry W. Nice, following the custom inaugurated by former Governor Albert C. Ritchie 17 years ago, was host to 1,800 Anne Arundel County school children at Christmas parties in two Annapolis theaters last Thursday night.

The chief executive, who drove from Baltimore with Mrs. Nice and their son, Harry, Jr., greeted the throng of youngsters with the promise, "as long as I am Governor, you will have an annual Christmas party just like this one."

Gov. Nice, departing from the custom of addressing his youthful guests from the stage, gave impromptu talks in the midst of the excited children.

Approximately 1,200 school children, sitting two in a seat in a motion picture theater, heard the Governor say, "any time you are near the mansion, come to see me."

At another Christmas party in a college theater, 800 children gave him an ovation as he addressed them from the aisle.

President Willard's New Year Greeting

Following his custom of 26 years as president of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, Daniel Willard sent New Year greetings to every employee of the 7,500-mile system, to be received January 1. The message follows:

"To All Officers and Employees of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Co.:

"The industrial depression which began in 1929 seems to have reached the low point in 1932. Since then each year has shown a slow but gradual improvement in business and in traffic handled by the railroads, and there is good reason to believe that the improvement will continue in 1936. This should mean increased earnings for the company, and increased employment as well.

"No single thing can do more to help Baltimore and Ohio employees, together with the owners of the property, than an increase in the volume of our business. Our co-operative traffic program, with which you are familiar, has already shown what voluntary collective efforts can accomplish in this connection. I hope that your personal interest in this program will continue, and that even better results may be obtained during the New Year. I know of no way in which officers and employees alike can contribute so much to promote our common interest.

"May the New Year bring good health, happiness and prosperity to all members of the Baltimore and Ohio family.

"DANIEL WILLARD, Pres."

LIQUOR SALES GAIN IN MONTGOMERY

The three liquor dispensaries in this county, at Rockville, Bethesda and Silver Spring, are reported to have sold \$12,500 worth of liquor in the week before Christmas, \$3,200 more than in the same week in 1934.

GAS CONSUMERS GIVEN DISCOUNT

The Public Service Commission at Baltimore Tuesday construed the gas and electric discount to consumers in Montgomery County, and received requests for extension of electric service in Carroll County and continuance of bus service in Calvert and Anne Arundel counties.

The discount of eight and one-half per cent to Montgomery County consumers affected the Washington Gas Light Co. and the Georgetown Gas Light Co. It applies on all bills based on meter readings except as to authorized minimum amounts.

The extension was until March 31. The discount, first applied in 1932, would have expired this week.