

## OLDEST ARMY AIRMAN FACES COURT MARTIAL

Major Ocker, 58, Accused of Insulting Superior at Kelly Field.

By United Press  
FT. SAM HOUSTON, Tex., Feb. 28.—Erect in his air corps uniform, Major William C. Ocker, 58, the army's oldest flier in point of service, faced a general court martial here today on charges that he spoke disparagingly and profanely of a superior officer.

The trial promised to become a cause celebre in army annals. The charges were preferred against Major Ocker by Lieutenant-Colonel Henry A. Clagett, commanding officer of Kelly field. Major Ocker, inventor of the instruments which made blind flying possible, was ordered by his superior to submit to a physical examination. His sight declared poor, he was ordered grounded. Later, he passed another examination, and was permitted to become an observer.

Then, according to Lieutenant-Colonel Clagett's charges, he unboasted his feelings to Major C. C. Johnston, flight surgeon. He is alleged to have said:

"If other pilots on this field, namely such as Colonel Clagett, were given more than a cursory examination, they, too, would be off flying status. There was collusion between the commanding officer of this station and you relative to my examination."

In addition, Colonel Clagett charges, Major Ocker applied to his superior officer an unprintable epithet, prefixed by the adjective "dumb."

### MARTHA GIBSON TO BE SPEAKER AT AFFAIR

Missionary Society to Hold Family Night at Ripple Church.

Miss Martha Gibson, Akita, Japan, will be the guest speaker tomorrow night at the family night celebration of the Women's Christian Missionary Society of the Broad Ripple Christian church.

A covered dish supper will be served at 6:30, followed at 7:15 by the program, directed by Mrs. Carl Gaskett. The program will include a review of the opera, Madame Butterfly, with selections sung by Mrs. C. F. Dillenbeck, in costume. Mrs. Lloyd Herrin is the society president.

### \$1,627,661.36 IS TOTAL LOW ON HIGHWAY BIDS

Proposals Embrace 31 Projects in 25 Counties.

Bids on thirty-one state highway construction projects in twenty-five counties, totaling a low of \$1,627,661.36, have been opened by the state highway commission.

Projects in Marion county included paving 1,455 miles on Road 52, West Sixteenth street, with William D. Vogel, Indianapolis, low bidder at \$103,606.06, and structure widening on 4.5 miles on Road 13, Indianapolis to the Hamilton county line, with R. H. Ellis, Alexandria, low bidder at \$21,821.

Another project was in Marion and Hamilton counties, widening structures on 6.55 miles on new Road 31, Eighty-sixth street to Carmel. Low bidder was Edward F. Smith, Indianapolis, \$7,529.60.

### MAYOR SULLIVAN IS NOW A GREAT-UNCLE

City Executive's Nephew Becomes Father of Son.

As he attended to official duties today, Mayor Reginald H. Sullivan was wearing a broader smile because of his newly acquired status.

The birth of Thomas Sullivan Hollett yesterday made Mayor Sullivan a great-uncle.

The baby, born in the Methodist Hospital, is a son of Mr. and Mrs. John E. Hollett Jr., 3965 Central avenue. Mr. Hollett is a nephew of Mayor Sullivan.

## Dickens, at Great Sacrifice, Spared His 9 Children the Injustices and Misery of His Own Boyhood



Here are some statuettes from Dickens' books made by the Royal Doulton pottery of England. In the back row, left to right, are: Mr. Pickwick, Micawber, Pecksniff, Uriah Heep. In the front row, left to right, are: Fagin, Sally Gamp, Sam Weller, Little Nell, Jingle.

### TAXICAB BANDIT SUSPECT HELD

Flying Brooms and Pokers Greet Police Search Party, They Say.

A broom and several pokers were brandished at police yesterday as they entered a house at 1604 North Sheldon street in search of an alleged bandit, they claim.

Police say they were greeted by River Whitney, 17, Negro, who began striking them with a broom as they sought Vernon Austin, 23, Negro, who is alleged to have held up Alfonso Wright, 22, Negro, 2258 Sheldon avenue, taxicab driver, Friday.

As the policemen scattered throughout the house a battle royal began. The Whitney girl, William Austin, 19, Negro; Burlace Merrill, 14, Negro, and Sam Austin, 14, Negro, each armed with a poker or broom struck at the officers. Austin was found hiding in a closet.

Vernon Austin was charged with robbery, resisting arrest and vagrancy, and William Austin was charged with vagrancy and interference. The three minors were sent to the Marion county juvenile detention home.

### THREE-ACT COMEDY TO FEATURE PURIM DINNER

Affair to Be Held Tonight at Beth-El Temple.

A three-act comedy, "Purim Hinx," will be presented as a feature of entertainment at the annual Purim dinner to be held at Beth-El-Zedeck Temple at 8 tonight in the vestry rooms.

Morris Strauss is director, assisted by Constance Berman. Others having leading roles include Sol Blumenthal, Adrian Reiter, Diane Kline and Irene Smulany. The supporting cast includes Dave Herman, Lester Strauss, Joe Rosenberg and Dan Posnosky. Mrs. Daniel Stauber has charge of costumes and Mr. Stauber has charge of stage decorations and dinner reservations.

### NATIONAL DEFENSE RALLY IS DISCUSSED

Marion County Women's Democratic Club Meets in Claypool.

Report of the national defense rally featured the meeting of the Marion County Woman's Democratic Club last night in the Claypool. Mrs. John Bingham, president, announced that Appellate Judge Ralph N. Smith will speak at the next meeting, March 27.

CHARLES DICKENS had pronounced ideas about the bringing up of children. He once said: "The greater part of my observation of parents and children has shown selfishness in the first, almost invariably." He himself was never selfish. His own early struggle had never been erased from memory, and he was determined that his own children should never encounter the misery and hardship and injustice and misunderstanding that had tortured his own childhood.

Justice was what he hoped to give his children. He said: "In the little world in which children have their existence, whosoever brings them up, there is nothing so finely perceived and so finely felt as injustice. It may be only a small injustice that the child can be exposed to; but the child is small, and its rocking-horse stands as many hands high, according to scale, as a big-boned Irish hunter."

Therefore he was invariably willing to act as arbiter. His daughter, Kate Macready Perugini, wrote of him: "He would leave his work in the middle of a sentence, and without protest, if a slight domestic difficulty of any kind hurried him into acting as judge or advisor."

In his own way, Dickens maintained strict discipline among his children. Himself extremely tidy, and given to neat and dapper but somewhat brilliantly colored clothes, he insisted upon tidiness in the little crowd of his offspring. His son Henry recounts that their father's methods of impressing neatness upon the boys did not meet with their complete approval.

In 1856, when Dickens moved his family to the country estate, Gadshill, Kent (the old Gad's Hill, famed as the scene of Falstaff's adventures), where he spent the rest of his life, the family had been increased to nine-seven boys and two girls. The girls were already of marriageable age, and Charles was a young man of 19, but the other six youngsters were a miniature gang of English small boys whose vociferousness must have sometimes tried their father's patience.

Dickens was always inventing games and entertainments for his family, and he made use of a game to maintain their tidy habits. It was called "Pegs, Parade and Gustos." Each of the six boys was assigned a peg for his hat and coat, and every week they would hold a parade for the purpose of overhauling their clothes to remove the stains of a week's wear. Each boy in turn would be assigned the office of custodian for the implements used in this parade of cleanliness, and they didn't like it—but they obeyed.

Henry said of this game: "Our resentment took the form of whispered mutterings among ourselves on the subjects of 'slavery,' 'degradation' and so forth, which served to make her in later years the 'Miss Dickens' upon whom her father leaned most heavily. She never did marry, and remained with her father, at home and sometimes abroad on his reading tours, until his death in 1870."

Mr. Dickens was, to his initiates a "good fellow." He had an infectious laugh, and would romp gaily with his youngsters in sheer high spirits. The house was always full of company, at which gatherings the author's absorbing conversation and joyous, although

He studied assiduously but the night before the party he awoke in the middle of the night almost overcome by the fear that he would cut a poor figure in the dance next day, and to make sure he had not forgotten his steps he ran downstairs and practiced them over and over again, all by himself.

Dickens had a fondness for giving humorous nicknames to his children, dryly humorous like the names he gave his fictional characters. Charley, the eldest, was called Flaster Floby, a childish way of twisting about Dickens' original "Master Toby." Demure, motherly Mamie was Mild Gyroster, while the fiery tempered Kate was affectionately referred to as "Lucifer Box."

Walter, the second son, was "Young Skell" for his high cheekbones, and little Sydney, the 2-year-old and the smallest of all the Dickens' children, was immediately nicknamed "Ocean Spectre" because of the somewhat weird look in his large, wondering eyes.

And for the rest of his life the other children called him "Hoshen Peck." Edward Bulwer Lytton Dickens, who was born in 1852, was "Plorn." His letters Dickens sometimes confessed comically that he could not recall all his children by name, and in later years that he was not always sure of their whereabouts. Mamie tells us that "he had a peculiar tone of voice and a way of speaking for each of his children who could tell, without being called by name, which was the one addressed."

MEMBER DRIVE OPENED BY 101 MEN'S CLASS

City-Wide Easter Campaign Launched by Group.

The 101 men's class of the Broadway Baptist church has launched a city-wide Easter drive for membership, it was announced today by Ray Powell, drive manager. The Rev. R. M. Dodrill is teacher and leader of the class and Ray Higdon is president.

Listen to the new radio series "Down the Hoosier Trails," featuring Indiana's State Parks and Historical Spots...

STATION WFBM  
Tonight at 8:15 P.M.  
"Down Hoosier Trails," on  
"The National Old Trails."  
WFBM and WWO  
Sunday at 9 P.M.—  
"Down Hoosier Trails," to Fort  
Wayne and Pokagon State Park

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