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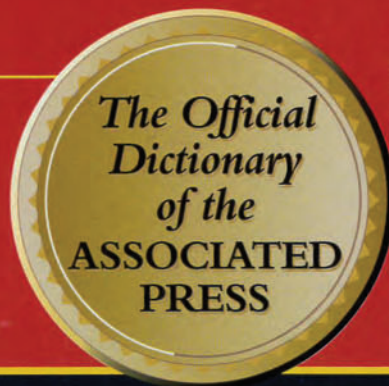
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Fourth Edition

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EDITOR IN CHIEF

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country club a social club, usually in the outskirts of a city, with a clubhouse, golf course, and other facilities

country cousin a rural person not used to city life and confused or excited by it

country-dance (-dāns') *n.* an English folk dance, esp. one in which partners form two facing lines

country-fied (kun'trē fid') *adj.* *alt. sp. of* COUNTRIFIED

country gentleman a man of some wealth who lives on a country estate

country-man (kun'trē mən) *n., pl. --men* (-mən) 1 a man who lives in the country 2 a person of one's own country; compatriot

country mile [Informal] a very long way or extent

country music a form of popular music which derives from the rural folk music of the southeastern and southwestern U.S., characterized by string-band instrumentation

country rock 1 rock surrounding a mineral deposit or containing intrusive igneous rock 2 a form of popular music combining the features of rock and country music

country-seat (kun'trē sēt') *n.* a rural mansion or estate

country-side (-sid') *n.* a rural region or its inhabitants

country western COUNTRY MUSIC

country-wide (kun'trē wid', -wid') *adj., adv.* by or throughout the whole land or nation

country-woman (-womən) *n., pl. --wom'en* (-wim'in) 1 a woman who lives in the country 2 a woman of one's own country; compatriot

county (kount'ē) *n., pl. --ties* [ME *counte* < OFr *conté* < ML *comitatus*, jurisdiction of a count or earl < L *comes*: see COUNTE²] 1 a small administrative district of a country; esp., *a*) the largest local administrative subdivision of most states of the U.S. *b*) any of the chief administrative districts into which England, Wales, Northern Ireland, and Ireland are divided *c*) an administrative district in certain Canadian provinces *d*) an electoral district in rural New Zealand 2 the people living in a county 3 [Obs.] the region governed by a count or earl —*adj.* of, in, for, or characteristic of a county

county agent a government-employed specialist assigned in rural, suburban, and urban areas to offer informal education and assistance in improved agricultural practices, natural resources management, home economics, etc.

county borough 1 a former unit of local government in England and Wales 2 any of four units of local government in Ireland

county commissioner a member of an elected governing board in the counties of certain states of the U.S.

county palatine the land held by a count palatine

county seat a town or city that is the seat or center of government of a county; also [Brit.] **county town**

coup (koo) *n., pl. coups* (kooz; Fr *koo*) [ME *coupe* & Fr *coup*, both < OFr *colp* < ML *colpus* < VL *colapus* < L *colaphus*, a cuff, box on the ear < Gr *kolaphos*] 1 literally, a blow 2 a sudden, successful move or action; brilliant stroke 3 COUP D'ÉTAT

coup de fou-dre (koot fōo'dr') [Fr, lit., bolt of thunder] 1 a thunderbolt 2 a sudden, intense feeling of love

coup de grâce (koo'də grās') [Fr, lit., stroke of mercy] 1 the blow, shot, etc. that brings death to a sufferer; death blow 2 a finishing stroke

coup de main (kood mān') [Fr, lit., stroke of hand] a surprise attack or movement, as in war

coup de maître (kood me'tr') [Fr, lit., stroke of a master] a masterstroke; stroke of genius

coup d'état (koo'dā tā') [Fr, lit., stroke of state] the sudden, forcible overthrow of a ruler, government, etc., sometimes with violence, by a small group of people already having some political or military authority

coup de théâtre (koot tā ā'tr') [Fr, lit., stroke of theater] 1 a surprising or startling turn in a drama 2 an action for sensational effect; theatrical action

coup d'œil (koo dē'y') [Fr, lit., stroke of eye] a rapid glance

coupe (koo; orig., now rarely, koo pā') *n.* [< fol.] a closed, two-door automobile with a body smaller than that of a sedan

coupé (koo pā') *n.* [Fr, orig. pp. of *couper*, to cut, strike < *coup*, COUP] 1 a closed carriage seating two passengers, with a seat outside for the driver 2 in British railway cars, a half-compartment at the end, with seats on only one side 3 COUPE

Cou-perin (koo pran'), *Fran-çois* (frān swā') 1668-1733; Fr. composer & organist

cou-ple (kup'əl) *n.* [ME < OFr *cople* < L *copula*, a band, link: see COPULA] 1 anything joining two things together; bond; link 2 two things or persons of the same sort that are somehow associated 3 two people, esp. a man and woman, who are engaged, married, or joined as partners, as in a dance or game 4 [Informal] an indefinite small number; a few [*a couple of ideas*]; now often used with adjectival force, omitting the *of* [*a couple cups of coffee*] 5 *Elec.* two dissimilar metals or alloys placed in electrical contact with each other to create a galvanic or thermoelectric current; voltaic couple 6 *Mech.* two equal forces producing rotation by moving in parallel but opposite directions —*vt.* --pled, --pling [ME *couplen* < OFr *copler* < L *copulare* < *copula*] 1 to join together by fastening or by association; link; connect 2 [Archaic] to join in marriage 3 *Elec.* to join (two or more circuits) by a common magnetic or electric field or by direct connection —*vi.* 1 to come together; unite 2 to unite in sexual intercourse; copulate —*SYN.* PAIR

cou-pler (kup'lər) *n.* a person or thing that couples; specif., *a*) a device for coupling two railroad cars *b*) a device on an organ con-

necting two keyboards or keys an octave apart so that they can be played together

cou-plet (kup'lit) *n.* [Fr, dim. of *couple*, COUPLE] 1 two successive lines of poetry, esp. two of the same length that rhyme 2 [Rare] a couple; pair

cou-pling (kup'lin) *n.* 1 the act of joining together, pairing, copulating, etc. 2 a flexible or rigid mechanical device or part for joining parts together, as two shafts 3 COUPLER (sense *a*) 4 the part of the body, as of a dog or horse, between the hipbones and the ribs; loin 5 a method or device for joining two electric circuits for the transference of energy from one to the other



cou-pon (koo'pān', kyoo'-) *n.*

[Fr, remnant, coupon < *couper*, to cut: see COUP] 1 a detachable printed statement on a bond, specifying the interest due at a given time: each coupon on a bond is presented for payment at the proper time 2 a certificate or ticket entitling the holder to a specified right, as redemption for cash or gifts, reduced purchase price, etc. 3 a part of a printed advertisement as for use in ordering goods, samples, or literature

RAILROAD COUPLING

cour-age (kūr'ij) *n.* [ME & OFr *corage*, heart, spirit < L *cor*, HEART] 1 the attitude of facing and dealing with anything recognized as dangerous, difficult, or painful, instead of withdrawing from it; quality of being fearless or brave; valor 2 [Obs.] mind; purpose; spirit —the courage of one's convictions the courage to do what one thinks is right

cou-ra-geous (kə rā'jəs) *adj.* having or showing courage; brave —*SYN.* BRAVE —*cou-ra'-geously adv.* —*cou-ra'-geous-ness n.*

cou-rante (koo rānt') *n.* [Fr < *courant*, prp. of *courir*, to run, glide < L *currere*, to run: see CURRENT] 1 an old, lively French dance with running steps, or the music for this 2 a stylized dance of this type used as a movement in a classical suite Also *cou-rant'* (-rānt')

Cour-bet (kūr be'), *Gus-tave* (güs tāv') 1819-77; Fr. painter

cou-reur de bois (koo rēr də bwā') *pl. cou-reurs de bois* (koo rēr)

[Fr, lit., runner of the woods] an unlicensed French or French-Indian fur trader or trapper roving the early frontiers of Canada

cour-gette (kūr zhet') *n.* [Chiefly Brit.] a zucchini

cou-rier (koo'rē ə, kūr'-) *n.* [ME *corour* (< OFr *coreor* < LL *currere*) & *courier* (< OFr *courrier* < It *corriere*), both ult. < L *currere*, to run: see CURRENT] 1 a messenger sent in haste or on a regular schedule with important or urgent messages; specif., *a*) a member of the diplomatic corps charged with carrying messages *b*) a spy carrying secret information 2 a person hired to take care of hotel accommodations and luggage and to act as guide for a traveler

cour-lan (koo'r'lən) *n.* [Fr < Galibi *kurliri*, echoic of the cry] LIMP-KIN

Cour-land (koo'r'lənd) *alt. sp. of* KURLAND

course (kōrs) *n.* [ME *cours* & Fr *course*, both < OFr *cours* < L *currere*, pp. of *currere*, to run: see CURRENT] 1 an onward movement; going on from one point to the next; progress 2 the progress or duration of time /in the course of a week/ 3 a way, path, or channel of movement; specif., *a*) the course to be followed by participants in a race *b*) GOLF COURSE 4 the direction taken, esp. that taken or to be taken by a ship or plane, expressed in degrees measured clockwise from north or by points of the compass 5 *a*) a regular manner of procedure /the law must take its course/ *b*) a way of behaving; mode of conduct /our wisest course/ 6 *a*) a series of like things in some regular order *b*) a particular succession of events or actions 7 regular or natural order or development /the course of true love/ 8 a part of a meal served at one time /the main course was roast beef/ 9 an encounter of knights contesting in a tournament 10 a horizontal row or layer, as of bricks in a wall or shingles on a roof 11 *Educ.* *a*) a complete series of studies leading to graduation or a degree *b*) any of the separate units of instruction in a subject, made up of recitations, lectures, etc. 12 *Naut.* a sail on any of the lowest yards of a square-rigged ship —*vt.* **coursed, cours'-ing** 1 to run or chase after; pursue 2 to cause (esp. hunting hounds) to chase 3 to run through or over; traverse —*vi.* to move swiftly; run or race —*in due course* in the usual or proper sequence (of events) —*in the course of* in the progress or process of; during —*of course* 1 as is or was to be expected; naturally 2 certainly; without doubt —*on* (or *off*) *course* moving (or not moving) in the intended direction

courser¹ (kōr'sər) *n.* [ME < OFr *corsier* < *cours*, COURSE] 1 a graceful, spirited, or swift horse 2 a war horse; charger

courser² (kōr'sər) *n.* [ModL *Cursorius*, name of the genus < LL, lit., pertaining to running: see CURSORY] any of various Asian and African swift-running shorebirds (family Glareolidae) that live in sandy, semidesert areas

courser³ (kōr'sər) *n.* 1 a person or thing that courses 2 a dog for coursing

course-ware (kōrs'wer') *n.* computer software designed to provide instruction or training

cours-ing (kōr'sin) *n.* 1 the action of a person or thing that courses 2 hunting with hounds trained to follow game by sight rather than scent

court (kōrt) *n.* [OFr < VL *curtis* < L *cohors* (gen. *cohortis*), enclosed place: see COHORT] 1 *a*) an uncovered space wholly or partly sur-

See the inside front cover for pronunciation information.

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