WHEN YOU FINISH READING YOUR AFRO PASS IT ALONG TO A FRIEND

# KOGER DIVORCE CASE TO COURT OF APPEALS

## Will Police Boys' Club continue jim crow?

Will the Police Boys' Club continue their pattern of segregation when their new camp site opens at Friendship Airport?

**The Baltimore Police Department recently acquired the site but departmental officials decline to give any statement concerning its use.**

In the past, colored boys, members of the Northwestern District Boys' Club have gone to Camp Frahm. Wood, a welfare camp, while members of other clubs have been sent to Camp Ritchie, a site in the area of the Army reserve camp.

Northwestern is the only one in the city with colored members. There are no colored in the other district boys' clubs.

**CAPT. WILLIAM L. HARTUNG**, of Pine St. District, is in charge of all Police Boys' Club activities.

His answer to the question, Will colored boys attend the new camp along with the other Boys' Club members, was:

**"(The situation) for the last ten years has been public knowledge. Unless there is some definite reason for changing, it will remain the same.**

"Why didn't you complain about this eight years ago? Nobody ever complained before."

The captain said no definite schedule had been planned concerning when each district boys' club shall go to camp.

He explained: "I would imagine we may have to schedule them according to districts. We have had that system for 12 years and it worked very well."

**HE ALSO SAID** "The only reason why Northwestern boys went to another camp was because of the financial arrangement."

The "financial arrangement" he explained was that few members of Northwestern Police Boys' Club can pay the camp fee, so they are sent to Camp Wood where the facility is cheaper, and all "non-paying" members are sent to camp first.

**He also said the new camp site will accommodate from 96-98 boys at once and "we hope we can still use both camps."**

**in order to take care of more at one time.**

The captain's superior, Inspector Horace Gribbin, said the matter is completely in the hands of Captain Hartung.

Commissioner James Hepburn said his only information concerning the matter would come from the captain in charge.

He also said the new camp would not be open this year.

Preparations for the opening of the camp are now in the hands of a citizens committee, he said.

## Matron faints when jailed for numbers

"The sentence is three months in the State Reformatory for Women, and fine of $500 and costs."

**A 52-year-old matron, Mrs. Mamie E. Tomes, 1500 block W. Mulberry St., fainted in Criminal Court Wednesday morning, as Judge Anselm Sodaro gave her this sentence on a numbers charge.**

Judge Sodaro made no comment, nor changed the sentence, as court attaches revived her.

Mrs. Tomes, a plump matron dressed in a blue coat, red flowered scarf and green dress, wept silently as a deputy sheriff took her in custody.

She had pleaded guilty to the numbers charge.

**DEPUTY** State's Attorney James Pyrce told Judge Sodaro that Mrs. Tomes and her husband, William Tomes, 49, were arrested in their home on December 28.

Mr. Price said Lt. Harry Walsh and other policemen found approximately $35 in play on several lottery slips there, including 18 slips on Mrs. Tomes.

Mr. Tomes was acquitted.

**SERVICE DELUXE** — For the first time in its history Baltimore is conducting a mobile vote registration program. Eight teams of registrars are being stationed at a series of schools so that prospective voters may register before the May primary. Chances are that one of these teams will be visiting in your neighborhood so if you haven't registered, now is the time. This team was located on Monday at the Joseph Lockerman School No. 100, Mount and Saratoga Sts. Left to right Mrs. Standola Jones, Mrs. Thelma B. Bailey, Fletcher C. Kirk, 1425 Mulberry St.; Mrs. Dorothy Engram and Garnett E. Carter, 704 George St.

## Support, custody questions aired

The Md. Appeals Court sitting in Annapolis will hear the marital troubles of John Franklin Koger Jr. postal worker of 341 Robert St., and his schoolteacher - ex - wife, Mrs. Myrtle Thompson Koger.

**Notice of his appeal from a Baltimore Circuit Court ruling which granted him a divorce but awarded custody of their three children to Mrs. Koger, was filed with the High Court on February 27.**

Archie D. Williams, attorney for Mr. Koger has until April 8 to file his brief with the court, Mrs. Lena K. Lee, attorney for Mrs. Koger has until April 28 to file an answering brief.

**THE CASE** has been assigned number 292, so it is possible that the appeals court will not hear arguments in the case until sometime this spring.

The Court recesses June 2 (March 28) and will not resume until April 15. At that time, it will have reached case no. 227 on its docket. The Koger case with no. 292 assigned to it is 65 other cases in front of it.

**Mr. Koger is appealing from an order signed in Circuit Court on Oct. 30, 1957 by Judge James K. Cullen who granted him a divorce on grounds of desertion but required him to pay counsel fees plus a weekly sum of $30 for the support of the children, all girls ages 3 to 7 years.**

This was an absolute divorce which followed a partial divorce granted him on June 18, 1956.

Although Mrs. Koger did not file a cross bill, in her answer to the complaint she denied that she and Mr. Koger had separated date of Nov. 20, 1955 as he said and she asked that the bill be dismissed.

The entry of the divorce proceedings into the Court of Appeals marks a continuation of the three-year marital battle.

**A LIST** of court proceedings shows this chronology:

(a) April 20, 1956 — Mr. Koger filed for a partial divorce on grounds of desertion and asked for custody of the children.

June 18, 1956 — Mr. Koger was granted a partial divorce.

July 9, 1957 — Mr. Koger filed for an absolute divorce on grounds of desertion. He asked for custody of the children.

August 5, 1957 — Mrs. Koger filed answer to the July 9, 1957 petition requesting that the bill be dismissed. She denied the separation date of Nov. 20, 1955 as alleged by Mr. Koger.

August 5, 1957 — Mrs. Koger filed for temporary alimony, support and counsel fees. Her petition was denied.

Oct. 30, 1957 — Mr. Koger was granted the absolute divorce. He was also required to pay counsels' fees plus a sum of $30 for support of his three children. Custody was awarded Mrs. Koger.

Nov. 29, 1957 — Mr. Koger was granted a rehearing to reduce the amount of support money. The court denied the reduction, required Mr. Koger to pay additional attorneys' fees plus the weekly support sum.

Dec. 27, 1957 — Mr. Koger appeared before Judge Cullen on charges of contempt of court for failure to pay the required $30 weekly support money.

Judge Cullen handed down an order for immediate payment of the arrears support money and insisted on prompt future payments.

Feb. 27 — Mr. Koger filed in the Court of Appeals for a hearing on the Circuit Court ruling which granted Mrs. Koger custody of the children and required him to pay support and attorneys' fees.

## 10 Police killings in Baltimore area

**APRIL 19, 1956**—Robert McLain, 14-year-old Dunbar High School student of 404 E. Chase St., shot while running away from a stolen car at Madison and Fallsway by Officer Donald E. Mitchell of the Central District. Magistrate Meyer Cardin exonerated the policeman.

**JUNE 25, 1956**—Harry Boyd Jr., 27, 1417 N. Broadway, shot in the back by Northeastern Patrolman Charles Fennell, who arrived on scene after a street fight. Magistrate Meyer Cardin ruled the officer acted in line of duty and the killing was justified.

**JULY 7, 1956**—Robert O. Harper, 34, 1614 Barclay St., shot in leg and bled to death following shooting by Southwestern Patrolman Walter Mina Jr., who told superiors he was breaking up a disorderly crowd. Officer Mina was exonerated of the killing by Magistrate Meyer Cardin, who ruled he acted in the line of duty.

**AUGUST 15, 1956** — Frank J. Williams, 24, was shot and killed by Sgt. Albert Heck as a suspect in two holdups and the non-fatal shooting of a tailor shop proprietor. Sgt. Heck was exonerated of the killing in Central Police Court by Magistrate Meyer Cardin.

**SEPTEMBER 19, 1956**—Donald Jackson, 23, 971 Ellicott Dr., shot in the arm and chest by Southeastern Patrolman Benjamin Ledden. Ledden said he shot the man "in defense of my life," in the unit block Gittor St. Patrolman Ledden was exonerated of the slaying by Magistrate Cardin.

**OCTOBER 15, 1956** — Benjamin Brown, 14-year-old patient at Rosewood Training School shot and killed by Northwest Patrolman Marshall V. Brewer with rifle he "didn't know was loaded." Magistrate Meyer Cardin dismissed the shooting charge after State's Attorney John Weiss said the State could not make out a homicide case against the officer who said the shooting was an accident.

**NOVEMBER 7, 1956**—James H. Duggan Jr., 38, white city sanitary department worker, killed by a policeman answering cries for help. Central District Patrolman Joseph Besse was exonerated by Magistrate Meyer Cardin.

**NOVEMBER 24, 1956** —Clarence Wilkerson, 39, 1304 Harlem Ave., shot and killed by a Baltimore County Policeman while getting out of a car as ordered. Officer Louis DeManns was charged with homicide by State's Attorney Frank Hewell. On Monday, Dec. 10 a Baltimore County jury failed to indict officer DeManns. He was returned to the force with no official punishment.

**JANUARY 21, 1957** — James Kenneth Robbins, 17, 1800 block Jackson St., was shot and killed after a robbery assault. Southern District Patrolman Melvin Kearns said as he fired a warning shot, he slipped on the ice. A bullet struck the youth in the back of the head. Patrolman Kearns was exonerated by Magistrate Meyer Cardin who declared that the shooting had occurred in the line of duty and was accidental.

**AUGUST 4, 1957** — Benjamin Ward, 19, 281 N. Exeter, when he reportedly lunged at Officer Isaiah Pressey when the policeman attempted to question him about a stolen battery. Patrolman Pressey was exonerated by Chief Magistrate Stanley Richardson who declared the officer was acting in the performance of his duty.

## Elliott sent to Patuxent Institute

John Wesley Elliott, was granted a stay of execution by the Governor. He is now in the Patuxent Institute for Defective Delinquents.

There are 289 other males there under the superintendency of Dr. Harold M. Boslow with Col. Paul Watson as assistant superintendent.

**Elliott arrived at the institution on March 21 from death row at the Maryland Pen where he was scheduled to die in the gas chamber on Friday, March 21 for the slaying of an alleged love rival.**

According to Col. Watson, Elliott is not being treated any differently from any other of men in the institution.

"He is lodged in a single cell in the receiving section just as we do all other persons newly admitted," Colonel Watson said.

He also said that Elliott is undergoing diagnostic tests given by the professional staff and the results will be turned over to the superintendent of prisons, James W. Curran.

The tests require about eight to ten weeks, he said.

**ONE YEAR** ago this month, Elliott was convicted of the first degree murder of Lindsay Calhoun the bridegroom - to-be of a former girl friend of Elliott's.

The shotgun death occurred on Sept. 12, 1956 in the 700 block of Bradley St.

Elliott was arrested in North Carolina on a fugitive warrant nearly two months after the shooting.

**An autopsy report disclosed that Mr. Calhoun was shot in the left side of the face.**

Although the prosecution contended that the murder was a lying-in-wait type of killing, Elliott said that he knew nothing of Miss Maude Bell Beckwith, his former girlfriend - relationship with Calhoun.

He testified that the dead man arrived at his home that morning and said: "I come to kill you."

Elliott also testified that he then began "working fast" inside his house to prepare his gun to shoot Calhoun.

He revealed that he kept the shotgun beside the bed as well as the shells in a can beside the bed.

He stated that he fired from a doorway.

## Taxi driver wins dismissal

Explaining that she didn't ride in the cabs of a particular company, Mrs. Alice Maultsby, 2300 block Madison Ave., testified in Northwestern Police Court Tuesday that she and her daughter had been subjected to verbal abuse when they refused to ride in a cab.

**The driver, Charles Serkin, 3300 block Sumpter Ave., appeared before Magistrate Linwood G. Koger charged with disorderly conduct.**

Mrs. Maultsby testified, "We were just standing there after we came out of church in the 1500 block of Fulton Ave.

"We didn't call him. He just stopped in front of us and looked like he expected us to get in," she said.

**IN THE** meantime, another cab drove up on the other side of the street, she said, and she got into that cab with her daughter, Miss Helen Maultsby.

When they got into the second cab, Mrs. Maultsby said the first driver drove up beside them and "called us some awful names."

**However, Mr. Serkin declared in court that he had not worked on Sunday for 15 years and his counsel called the company to verify the statement. Mr. Serkin was dismissed.**

In addition, Mrs. Maultsby and her daughter declined to positively identify Mr. Serkin as the driver of the cab, explaining they "only noticed he was an elderly man."

## Family awaits body of Capt. Merton C. Harris

Relatives of Capt. Merton C. Harris are still awaiting the return of the body of the 31-year-old soldier who died as the result of an airplane crash March 21 in Seoul, Korea.

Captain Harris, a native of Baltimore, went to Seoul on Jan. 29 for a 90-day training problem, preparatory to a promotion to major.

The officer was assigned to a rocket battalion. He was killed along with three others in the Korean crash.

Prior to his training in Seoul, he was stationed in Tokyo for over one year and a half with his wife, Mrs. Valena Harris, the former Valena Wynn of Raleigh, N.C.

Capt. Harris

**Captain Harris entered the Army in October, 1948.**

He was graduated from Carver Vocational Technical High School and attended Hampton Institute where he majored in electrical engineering.

**AFTER FINISHING** Hampton he taught for a year before entering the Army.

**In addition to his wife and parents, Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Harris Jr., the officer is survived by a daughter, Cynthia Harris, 4; a sister Miss Jean Anita Harris; two brothers, D. E. Harris 3rd of Baltimore, and Lowell Harris of Washington.**

Also two grandmothers, Mrs. Stella Proul and Mrs. Mary E. Harris; a grandfather, Walter Proul; a niece, two nephews, three aunts and four uncles.

The captain's father is a veteran postal worker.

## Bentley marriage annulled in '55

In a court action which annulled the marriage of Mrs. Dorothy P. Bentley and Joseph O. Bentley, carried in this paper, the story indicated the decree as having been of current date.

This was an error.

The marriage was annulled on Dec. 6, 1955, and restored Mrs. Bentley's maiden name, of Price. At the time, she testified, Mr. Bentley was married to Mrs. Louise Bentley, a nurse.

**The latter served as witness, stating that he was her husband at the time the second marriage took place.**

Mrs. Dorothy Bentley was given custody of a child born to her and Mr. Bentley, and he was ordered to pay $8.50 per week for support of the infant and to provide $125 fees for her attorney.

## Not at 3212

A story appearing in Tuesday's AFRO incorrectly listed the address of a home involved in a divorce action between Mrs. Hilda McClure and Thomas McClure as 3212 Pressiman St.

The address as listed in court records is 3213 Pressiman St.

## Pair accused in Cherry Hill death deny guilt

**"I don't want a State lawyer . . . I will get one of my own."**

Lester Rory, 31, 2100 block N. Pulaski St., one of two men arraigned in Criminal Court Monday for the Cherry Hill murder of a young church deacon, gave Judge Reuben Oppenheimer this statement along with a not guilty plea.

John Robert Banks, 24, 1300 block N. Fulton Ave., the other accused, entered a not guilty plea through Joseph Rosenthal, his attorney.

**The men are charged with the shotgun murder of Joe N. McElveen, 600 block W. Franklin St., on Feb. 6.**

Mr. McElveen, father of six children and a deacon at New Hope Baptist Church, was reportedly kidnapped, while he sat waiting for his wife in his auto in the 2100 block Druid Hill Ave.

His body was found the next day in a gravel pit in the 1600 block Cherry Hill Rd.

**POLICE SAID** Rory was wearing the dead man's topcoat when arrested, and Banks was alleged to have had Mr. McElveen's identification papers.

**The two men are also charged with two cases of robbery with a deadly weapon, one attempted robbery and one assault to murder.**

Banks appeared in court wearing a brown sweater, white shirt and gray slacks. Rory wore a purple shirt and brown slacks.

Both men smiled and conversed steadily with each other prior to the arraignment.

Court Thursday as he entered a **not guilty plea on arraignment for the shotgun slaying of Mrs. Hester B. Moffet of the same address on Feb. 12.**

This exchange then took place between Judge Sodaro and Mr. Dorsey.

Q. You have a lawyer and you don't know who he is?

A. No sir, I don't know him.

Q. My. My. Who employed him for you?

A. My father.

**"MR. DORSEY,"** Judge Sodaro then said, "I suggest you get hold of him immediately. Write your father a letter and have your lawyer file his appearance right away."

**Mr. Dorsey appeared in court wearing a brown shirt and brown pants.**

The victim, Mrs. Moffet, was found in her room several days after she had been missing from her place of employment where she worked as a waitress.

## 'I have a lawyer but I don't know who he is . . .'

"I have a lawyer, but I don't know who he is."

**Edgar P. Dorsey, 33, 700 block Reservoir St., told this to Judge Anselm Sodaro in Criminal**

## Sign up now

If you have not registered to vote—yet, here are where the mobile registration units will be from 10 a.m. until 9 p.m. over the weekend and Monday and Tuesday:

**Wards 26 and 29**

SCHOOL NO. 2 — Stiles Street and Central Avenue.

SCHOOL NO. 42 — Greenmount Ave. and Gittings Street.

SCHOOL NO. 53 — Twenty-sixth and St. Paul Streets.

SCHOOL NO. 46 — Woodbourne Ave. and Vera Street.

SCHOOL NO. 64 — Preston and Hoffman Streets.

SCHOOL NO. 19 — Gilmor and Mosher Streets.

SCHOOL NO. 202, Park Heights Ave. and Reisterstown Road.

SCHOOL NO. 21—Sharp Street, near West Street.

**Wards 31 And Area 1**

SCHOOL NO. 30 — Fayette and Greene Streets.

SCHOOL NO. 45 — 135 Biddle Street.

SCHOOL NO. 341 — Erdman Avenue and Eager Street.

SCHOOL NO. 345 — Sherwood Avenue and 30th Walk.

SCHOOL NO. 181 — Calhoun and Baltimore Streets.

SCHOOL NO. 145 — Poplar Grove Street near Lafayette Avenue.

SCHOOL NO. 123 — Pulaski Road and Gilsey Avenue.

SCHOOL NO. 180 — Cherry Hill Road and Seamon Avenue.

## Auto tags must be on by Monday

New license plates for privately owned passenger cars must be displayed by midnight, Monday, March 31.

**That was the word from the Department of Motor Vehicles Thursday afternoon as the deadline drew near for expiration of 1957-58 tags.**

Commercial dealers have until midnight of April 30 to attach the new tags to their vehicles.

According to DMV, there will not be an extension date.

## Smoking-pipe holdup brings 3-year term

"This is a stick-up. Do you have $500?"

**This report of an attempted robbery brought a three-year sentence in Criminal Court Thursday to Harry Sumpter, 22, of the unit block of N. Carolina St.**

Judge Anselm Sodaro was told by Assistant State's Attorney John G. Koutz that Sumpter entered a tavern in the 1500 block of Ashland Ave. on Feb. 20 and made the demand for money in a waitress.

He had a smoking pipe with a metal stem which he used to fake a revolver.

Sumpter, Mr. Koutz said, ran out of the tavern when a male employee entered.

**He was arrested a few blocks away.**

Mr. Sumpter told Judge Sodaro that he had no intention of robbing the tavern when he entered.

However, he said, he started drinking and then decided he needed some money to return to his family in South Carolina.

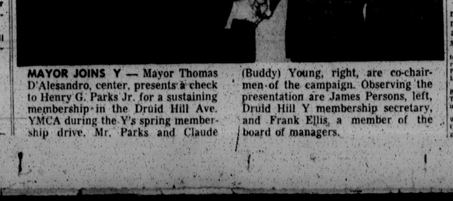
## Safety meeting

A total of 26 schools will be represented at the second annual Teen Age Safety Saturday at the Johns Hopkins University.

Carver—Arthur Diggs, Robert Clayton, Stewart South, Blondell Burroughs, Brenda McAlee and alternates Patricia Kimbrough and Willie Mae Jones.

Dunbar—Jean Smyrle, James Rice, Brenda Roberts, James Hall, Mary Thompson and alternates Beverly Brown and Thelma Powell.

Douglass — Matthew Henry, Phillip Woodland, David Holmes, Sara Howell, Carolyn Marshall and alternates Regina Williams and Joyce Pettiford.



**MAYOR JOINS Y** — Mayor Thomas D'Alesandro, center, presents a check to Henry G. Parks Jr. for a sustaining membership in the Druid Hill Ave. YMCA during the Y's spring membership drive. Mr. Parks and Claude (Buddy) Young, right, are co-chairmen of the campaign. Observing the presentation are James Persons, left, Druid Hill Y membership secretary, and Frank Ellis, a member of the board of managers.

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT THE EEOC

Q. Does the law benefit only minority groups?

A. The whole community stands to gain when good use is made of all available manpower. Not only is production increased, but the concurrent increase in purchasing power serves to raise the standard of living of the entire community.

Q. Is the law fair to employers?

A. The law does not require an employer to select any given person. It requires only that the selection be made primarily on the basis of merit and that the job standards and specifications be fairly applied to all applicants regardless of their race, color or religion.

Q. Can we legislate against prejudice?

A. The law does not prohibit—nor does it sanction—the attitude of any person respecting the race, color or religion of another. Its primary purpose is to prevent acts of discrimination which deprive other human beings of their civil rights. Experience does indicate, however, that once people of different racial, religious or nationality groups get to know one another on the job, whatever prejudice there may have been, usually diminishes.

(WATCH FOR FURTHER QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ON THE EEOC)

YOU REGISTER Now So You Can Vote

Here are the facts in Baltimore:

| | |
|---|---|
| Colored persons over 21 | 144,216 |
| REGISTERED | 87,496 |
| Not Registered | 56,720 |
| Registered from April 1, 1957 to Feb. 1, 1958 | 10,123 |

You MUST register before April 19, 1958 in order to vote in the next election.

For further information call Register and Vote Committee.

The Rev. John L. Tilley, chairman.

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LA. 3-8503

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96 FILE SUIT TO HALT SALE OF HARLEM PARK

(See Story in Column 1)

Baltimore Afro-American

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# Babysitter Is Guilty

## Ask court halt sale of Harlem Pk. area

Harlem Square was deeded to the City March 30, 1860 by the late Dr. Thomas Edmondson upon the condition that it would be used as "a public square forever."

**Relying on this condition of the Edmondson gift and the acceptance by the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore in 1868, the Harlem Park Home Owners Association and 96 residents of the area filed suit in Circuit Court Thursday asking:**

(a) That the Park Board be restrained from selling the eastern half of Harlem Square to the School Board.

(b) That it be enjoined from excluding the public from the eastern half of the square.

(c) That the transfer of any part of the square by the Park Board individually to the school board be declared illegal.

**DEFENDANTS** in the suit are the Board of Recreation and Parks individually, and its superintendent, R. Brooke Maxwell;

**Also, the Board of School Commissioners and Dr. John H. Fischer, superintendent; and the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore.**

Attorneys representing the Improvement Association and the 96 citizens are Juanita Jackson Mitchell, James L. Bundy, James W. McAllister and Tucker Dearing.

**THE COMPLAINT** alleges that:

(1) The Park Board on March 1, 1957 voted to sell a portion of Harlem Square to the Department of Education for a junior high school and use the funds received for park purposes.

(2) The Mayor and City Council have authorized the School Board to place schools on this site.

**(3) The sale of this public square would violate the conditions of the Edmondson gift and destroy a substantial part of the trust established under it.**

(4) The sale violates the City Council ordinance accepting the Edmondson gift and the City Charter.

(5) The sale of park property deprives the plaintiffs and other citizens of the right to enjoy a public park, is unlawful and against public policy and infringes on their constitutional rights.

**AN INTIMATION** that the Park Board may have recognized possible error in the sale of a portion of Harlem Square was noted in its recent meeting.

There, it is said, the board made aware that unless the courts revoked conditions

(Continued on Page 2)

## 'Jail Good Place To Die' If it's in the cause of NAACP'

PHILADELPHIA

America's indifferent attitude toward the darker peoples of the world is capable of writing "finis" to her world leadership.

This opinion was expressed by Dr. Mordecai W. Johnson, president of Howard University, Saturday night, at the South Philadelphia High School.

**DR. JOHNSON** issued this warning at the closing meeting which climaxed the day-long workshop conducted by the Philadelphia NAACP attended by some 300 delegates representing community organizations.

Theme of the conference was "Blueprinting the Future."

Problems which were explored included housing, voting and registration, educational problems and economic pressure affecting the race.

**Dr. Johnson told the audience that the first item on the agenda of both colored and white people should be to make it clear to our allies that America will not support the continued "political domination and economic exploitation of the peoples of Africa."**

He pleaded for all-out efforts in behalf of the NAACP and urged the delegates to continue to fight discrimination and segregation wherever it rears its unjust head.

Referring to the persecution of NAACP members in certain areas he said:

"When a person is put in jail for working with the NAACP in the U.S., a distinction is put in jail. Abraham Lincoln is put in jail and Thomas Jefferson is put in jail."

And if a person is put in jail for upholding the principles of the NAACP, then jail is a good place to be and is a good place to die."

**THE MORNING** session of the conference was opened with a keynote address by the NAACP executive secretary, Roy Wilkins.

"We are emerging now into a

(Continued on Page 2)

## 150,000 mourn Father of Blues

By SAMUEL HOSKINS

NEW YORK CITY — The mood was indigo, the expressions sad; for Harlem had the blues.

Over 150,000 muted mourners lined the sidewalks, Wednesday, as a funeral cortege — three blocks long — paraded through the streets in final tribute to the "Father of the Blues."

At Seventh Ave. and 155th St. the immortal "Saint Louis Blues" became its author's dirge as a Prince Hall Masonic band struck up the now time-honored tune.

• • • •

**EARLIER** A capacity crowd jammed historic Abyssinian Baptist Church, 132 W. 138th St., where an hour-and-20-minute funeral service was held for Handy.

Eighty-four, he died early last Friday morning at Sydenham Hospital of pneumonia.

The eulogy was delivered by Congressman Adam Clayton Powell Jr., pastor, who had this to say about an "Evening Sun" going down;

"No sun ever sets which doesn't bring a dawn."

• • • •

**AMONG OTHERS** who paid tribute to Handy and his contributions were Paul Cunningham, president of ASCAP; Mayor Robert F. Wagner, Ed Sullivan, columnist and television personality; and Channing Tobias, chairman of the national board of the NAACP.

(Continued on Page 30)

CHARLES COUNTY:

## Sues to use school bus

IN A NUTSHELL

- Pupil in integrated school denied use of school bus.
- Charles County offers child use of segregated bus only.
- Suit brought after State Board of Education disclaimed jurisdiction.

The NAACP on Thursday asked the U.S. District Court to restrain the Charles County Board of Education from enforcing segregation of school buses.

**Plaintiff in the suit is Gilbert G. Hart Jr., a pupil in an integrated elementary school in Indian Head, Md. who is not permitted to use the school bus on which his classmates ride to school.**

Though he is able to sit

(Continued on Page 2)

## HURRY!! Only 13 more days left to register so you can vote

*April 19, 1958 is the last day you can register to vote in the May primary election.*

**A GOOD CITIZEN IS REGISTERED SO HE CAN VOTE. ARE YOU?**

**Who must register: Any new resident who plans to make Baltimore his home and has not registered to vote before.**

**Any resident who has turned 21 since the last election.**

**Any person already registered as an independent who desires to affiliate with a political party in order to vote in the May 20th primary.**

**Where to register: Basement People's Court Building, southeast corner of Fayette and Gay Sts.**

NOTE: You can also register at the mobile registration booth in your neighborhood. See schedule on Page 22.

**When you can register: Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Saturday, 9 to 12.**

**If I have already registered, do I have to register again? — Ans. — No, not unless you have changed your address or failed to vote in the past five years.**

**When is the last date I can register in order to vote in the next election?—Ans. April 19, 1958 and don't wait until the last minute! Show your voting card in church on Sunday.**

## Withhold sentence pending report

IN A NUTSHELL

- Edward J. Bragg, 18-year-old babysitter, was found not guilty of murder in the death of his two-year-old niece.
- He was found guilty of manslaughter, a lesser charge, and faces a maximum of ten years imprisonment.
- Imposition of sentence was withheld pending a probation report.

"Your Honor, this is a case of an unfortunate accident."

This plea was made in Youth Court Thursday by attorneys for Edward J. Bragg, 18, who was found not guilty of murder in the death of his two-year-old niece.

However, young Bragg was convicted on the lesser charge of manslaughter by Judge Michael J. Manley.

The plea of accidental death, coupled with the youth's previous good record, won him a stay of sentence, pending a recommendation by the Probation Department.

A manslaughter conviction carries a maximum sentence of ten years.

• • • •

**YOUNG BRAGG** faced the murder charge, involving the death of Patricia Ann Mullen, 1900 block Warwick Ave., with whom he was baby-sitting last December 12.

**The child's death occurred, Judge Michael J. Manley was told, while the youth was keeping her and two young sisters in their home.**

Judge Manley granted James T. Wright and William C. Darden, of Washington, and Harold Buchman, attorneys for young Bragg, a requested directed verdict of not guilty of murder in the first or second degree, at conclusion of the State's case.

• • •

**DR. RUSSELL S. FISCHER,** chief medical examiner of Maryland, said the child died of a ruptured liver.

**He said she was pronounced dead on arrival at Lutheran Hospital, and that an autopsy had also disclosed four injuries to her head, sufficient to cause hemorrhage but not death.**

Young Bragg testified that he had spanked the child because she had awakened the baby, and later dropped her while carrying her up the cellar steps.

**First witness called by Norman Hochberg and Frank J. Marcellino, assistant State's attorneys, was Mrs. Odell Mullen, 1900 block Warwick Ave., mother of the dead child.**

**Mrs. Mullen said she had left Patricia and her two other children at the recommendation of our deacons and finance committee."**

Making this statement to the AFRO on Wednesday was the Rev. Eugene T. Grove as he told of the final severance of his relationship with Grace Memorial Baptist Church.

The Rev. Mr. Grove had served as pastor of the church at Chase and Eden Sts. for 13 years.

• • • •

**ON MARCH 5** of this year he stood before the members and confessed an indiscretion. **Fourteen days later on March 19 the members, by what the minister described as a two-thirds majority,** voted

(Continued on Page 2)

## Rev. Grove to tell why he confessed

"After pouring out my heart in a letter sent to the entire church body as to preaching for a final three months in strict accord with Grace's constitution, I was suddenly turned down flatly by a group of deacons on this past Saturday night.

**"I was given a thousand dollars in cash at the recommendation of our deacons and finance committee."**

Making this statement to the AFRO on Wednesday was the Rev. Eugene T. Grove as he told of the final severance of his relationship with Grace Memorial Baptist Church.

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(Continued on Page 2)

## Love wins out; Branch divorce suit dismissed

What threatened to be a long court battle ended suddenly and amicably in a pre-trial conference Monday when Allen H. Branch and his wife, Mrs. Rosa L. Branch, were reconciled.

**Comely Mrs. Branch, owner of the Club Paree tossed a bombshell in the conference, called to set date for their divorce trial, by disclosing that she and her husband had lived as man and wife while the litigation was pending.**

Lawyers for both sides were taken by surprise when the smartly-clad club owner told of their reconciliation.

Mrs. Branch told the AFRO that she and her daughter were "happy" at the outcome.

• • • •

**THE LITIGATION** began in January when Mr. Branch filed suit for divorce charging his wife had made off with a new love, their furniture and, he suspected, much of their cash.

**He also asked that Mrs.**

(Continued on Page 2)

## • THE WEATHER •

Friday, cloudy and cool with rain likely in the afternoon.
Saturday, mostly sunny and mild.
Sunday, fair and warmer.
Monday, showers.

| | Sun Rise | Sun Sets |
|---|---|---|
| Friday, April 4 | 5:41 a.m. | 6:26 p.m. |
| Saturday, April 5 | 5:39 a.m. | 6:27 p.m. |
| Sunday, April 6 | 5:38 a.m. | 6:28 p.m. |
| Monday, April 7 | 5:36 a.m. | 6:29 p.m. |

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• COMING—Special section on Turner Station and Sparrows Point. Watch for it!
• DON'T MISS—Teenager shot to death ..... Page 32
REV. GARRETT to ask new trial ..... Page 32
CHERRY HILL man is over 100 ..... Page 17
I REMEMBER Old Baltimore ..... Page 17
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UNION MEMORIAL Hospital shuns patient ..... Page 16
THOUANDS OF scholarships for bright students ..... Page 9
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BATHTUB SURVEY shows only one tub ..... Page 8
CHEMISE HERE to stay ..... Page 11

## • $50 FOR NEWS TIPS, PHOTOS •

There is a total of $50 available each week for news tips and news photos. If you have a tip or a newsworthy photo, call AFRO City Desk, MU. 5-6015, and say 'I've got a news tip.' Bring your photos to City Desk.

## • $5 CASH FOR LUCKY PIC WINNER •

If your head is circled in the lucky picture which appears in this and every edition, you can collect $5 cash simply by calling at the AFRO City Desk before the next edition is out. Look for the lucky picture, you may be a winner!

HOME DELIVERY
Assures You Of Regular Service Every Tuesday and Friday.
CALL THE AFRO
MU. 5-6016

**SPRING STROLL** across the Morgan State College campus is taken by Miss Priscilla Carter, left, of 1721 Aisquith St., and Miss Helen Hall, of Brooklyn, N.Y. Miss Carter is an accountant major while Miss Hall is in biology: Both are 18.

Don't Chase Rainbows

Rent that EXTRA ROOM or Vacant APARTMENT. Through AFRO CLASSIFIED ADS and Collect Gold Each Week. Just Call . . .

CALL MU. 5-6015

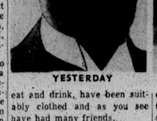
## Dr. DuBois writes a letter 'to my great-grandson . . .'

*EDITOR'S NOTE: Speaking at his 90th birthday celebration at the Hotel Roosevelt in York, Dr. W. E. B. DuBois, author, historian and sociologist, coached his remarks in the form of advice to his grandson. The wisdom contained therein is so universal that we are printing it below for other great-grandsons to read because they are custodians of the future.*

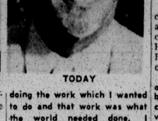
The most distinguished guest on this festive occasion is none other than my great-grandson, Arthur Edward McFarlane II, who was born this last Christmas Day.

He has kindly consented to permit me to read to you a bit of advice which, as he remarked with a sigh of resignation, great-grandparents are supposed usually to inflict on the helpless young. This then is my word of advice.

As men go, I have had a reasonably happy and successful life. I have had enough to eat and drink, have been suitably clothed and as you see have had many friends.



YESTERDAY



TODAY

**But the thing which has been the secret of whatever I have done is the fact that I have been able to earn a living by doing the work which I wanted to do and that work was what the world needed done. I want to stress this.**

You will soon learn, my dear

(Continued on Page 14)

## TOP ROUND GROUND FOR $10,000 DOGGIE HEIR

PHILADELPHIA

Animal lovers or not, nine out of 10 visitors to the South Philadelphia home of Mrs. Esther Evans would take to Penny, plain dog.

The nine who would look down their noses at Penny's companion, in the household, Fei Fo Yu, a Pekingese with papers, would find the aristocratic canine turning up his nostrils at them.

Anyway, the expression on his battered-in like face, pardon profile, gives this suggestion.