Poolroom Slaying Termed Justifiable, Youth Freed

Because he turned the tables when a gun-wielding assailant attacked him in a poolroom, a 21-year-old laborer won an acquittal on grounds of "justifiable homicide," for slaying his attacker, at a State's Attorney's hearing, Tuesday.

He was Charles McKnight, 800 block N. Stricker St., who killed Robert Henderson, 27, during a tussle that ensued after the latter had approached him with a gun in the poolhall on Feb. 2.

According to testimony offered, the shooting occurred after the two men had become involved in an argument and Mr. Henderson had gone out and returned armed.

Witesses' Version

Witnesses told the court that Mr. McKnight was shooting pool when Henderson returned and resumed the argument. Mr. McKnight continued playing pool, they said.

Mr. Henderson refused to move when Mr. McKnight attempted to walk around the table to make a shot that would end the game. Then Henderson tripped him and cussed, at the same time thrusting his hand in his pocket.

Mr. McKnight then picked up two pool balls, shouting, "I'm not gonna let you cut me," according to testimony given.

His hand came out of his pocket and he reached down into his belt and pulled a pistol. "Drop those balls, drop those balls," Henderson is quoted as having said.

Fired During Tussle

Menacingly approaching Mr. McKnight, the gun pointed at him, Henderson snatched him in the collar. With a deft movement McKnight grabbed the gun hand and the two men tussled, a shot was fired, but they continued fighting.

A few moments later Henderson stopped scuffling, he staggered and fell, dead from a bullet wound that pierced his heart. The gun was now in Mr. McKnight's hand, witnesses said.

Mr. Henderson was pronounced dead on arrival at Franklin Square Hospital.

"It looks like a case of justifiable homicide," William J. O'Donnell, assistant State's Attorney said. Magistrate Thomas L. Fitzpatrick agreed as he dismissed charges against Mr. McKnight.

Chides Witnesses

Joseph Rosenthal, attorney for the accusd, apparently, confident that his client would be acquitted, said nothing at all in his behalf, his remarks were confined to wise cracks concerning the pool game Mr. McKnight was playing.

After each witness testified and Mr. Rosenthal was given a chance for cross examination, he would ask the same question, "Did he (Mr. McKnight) ever get that black ball in the side pocket?" To which one witness answered, "I don't know. I was so scared, I didn't see anything." The courtroom went in an uproar.

Mystery Woman Shoots 2 Men

Police are seeking a young woman who strolled into a Pennsylvania Ave. cafe at 11:30 p.m. Thursday night and shot two men ran into the street and disappeared.

The victims, Kelly Johnson, 23, of the 1600 block W. Mulberry St.; and James Askins, 27, bartender, of the 900 block Argyle Ave., said the woman was unknown to them.

They were released after treatment at Provident Hospital. Both men were shot in the foot, while in the tavern in the 1600 block Pennsylvania Ave. The woman fired the gun through a pocket of the gray coat she was wearing.

Bandit Robs Theatre Cashier of $60, Flees

A bandit wearing a garbardine coat, a slouch hat and with his hands thrust threateningly in his pocket, robbed the cashier at the Harlem Theatre of $60, Tuesday night.

The cashier, Mrs. Agnes Johnson of the 2500 block Woodbrook Ave., told police that the man came to the cashier's cage about 9:40 p. m., took the $60 and then fled South on Gilmor St. Police are still seeking the thief.

Nail-Driving Champion

William Taylor, the world's champion nail driver, who will demonstrate at the Pythian Castle on Thursday night, March 9, in a tribut to the legendary John Henry.

Two Sworn In As Firemen

Jersey City Mayor for Integration

JERSEY CITY—Described as another step in the program of Mayor John V. Kenny to completely integrate all departments of the City Administration, Wilbur Neal and Thomas J. Taylor, of 96 and 557 Branhall Ave., respectively, were among 93 firemen sworn in Monday during ceremonies at City Hall.

Both men qualified for the appointments by taking a fire department examination two years ago.

Present at the ceremonies were Assistant Corporation Counsel Louis E. Saunders and Dr. Marcus Carpenter, both of whom hailed the appointments as being consistent with the Mayor's promise that he would see that all appointments would be based upon qualification and ability to serve.

First in History

Additionally, they stated the appointments " mark the first time in the history of Jersey City that any colored person has been granted the privilege to serve the city's fire department."

It was further pointed out that previously colored persons who passed Civil Service examinations were not appointed because appointing authorities, who have the privilege of picking either of the first three names at the top of the list, bypassed those of colored persons.

As an example of this kind of discrimination, the Ira J. Collins case was recalled. Collins, a real estate broker for a number of years, passed both the written and physical examinations, but was denied appointment, because the Motor Vehicle Department did not feel he had the "business ability " to be an inspector.

Mayor Firm

"This type of appointing conduct will not be tolerated in my administration," Mayor Kenny promised.

Mr. Neal, one of the appointees, is married and the father of two children. He attended Lincoln High School in Jersey City, where he distinguished himself in basketball and track teams, and is presently with the Navy Department.

Mr. Taylor, the other appointee, graduated from Henry Snyder High School in Jersey City in 1944, and served in the United States Army from March, 1944, to May, 1946. He lives with his parents at the above address, and is employed by Swift and Company.

All-Star Show Bows at Gamby's

An all-star Broadway and Chicago talented revue opens tonight (Friday) at Gamby's for a two-week engagement.

The show bids to be the top attraction to hit the Avenue this or any other season, according to Manager Walter Rouse.

Featured in the cast are Hattie Green, jump singer; George Bias, Baltimore's own great tenor singer; Bertie Pilgrim, dancer; Underwood and Ray, zany comic team, and the Beige Beauts, a dancing chorus, who just closed a long Chicago run.

Music will be furnished by Reuben Wood's Ambassadors of Rhythm.

Civilian Fined, GI Freed After Fight

Appearing in Northwestern police court on charges of disorderly conduct, a civilian was fined $25, while his soldier companion was dismissed.

Pleading guilty to the charge were William Tubman, 27, 1300 block Stockton St., and T/Sgt. Henry F. James, 32, of Fort Meade.

Police testified that when they arrested the men, Mr. Tubman had a broken bottle in his hand and Sergeant James was bleeding from the head. The sergeant told the court he did not wish to prefer charges, adding that they were friends.

According to Northwestern police, the sergeant posted $25 for the release of his "friend."

VICTIM STILL IN HOSPITAL HARDIMAN CASE DELAYED

Due to have been heard Tuesday, the case of John Hardiman, 63, of the 600 block Sewell St., accused of shooting William Robinson of the same block Sewell St., on Jan. 28, was postponed until March 30, by Magistrate Thomas L. Fitzpatrick. The postponement was granted because the injured man is stil lconfined to the hospital. Bail for Hardiman is set at $500.

Atlantic City Slights NMA

Medics May Change Convention Plans

ATLANTIC CITY — The National Medical Association's trustee board, in an interim meeting here, passed a resolution pointed at withdrawal fo its 1950 convention from Atlantic City because of last-minute denial of full privilege of the facilities of the city.

The resolution stated that NMA had accepted the city as a convention site in good faith based on the belief that the hotel, hospital and municipal facilities would be available without restriction to the association.

This belief was based on letters to the board of trustees by Mayor Joseph Altman and William S. Cuthbert, director of public safety.

Advised of Changes

The NMA was advised on Feb. 25 that previously scheduled conventions were to be entertained on the dates given to NMA, and that no accommodations in beachfront hotels would be available. The hospital facilities and Convention Hall would not be available for exhibits and exhibitors.

The board threatened complete withdrawal unless the NMA is advised of satisfactory arrangements by Mar. 8. The resolution termed the action, "serious and pervasive implications of this slamming of the door in the NMA's face."

Notice of the resolution will be given the Mayor, city commissioner, hotel association, Governor and the press.

Course for Frontiers to Be Held March 25

An orientation and refresher course for Frontiers Clubs sponsored by the local unit will be held here on March 25.

There will be clinics on the constitution of the national business men's service club and on chapter administration. A luncheon meeting and smoker will be held at the York Hotel Blue Room.

FIRE DAMAGES DRUID LUNCHROOM

Fire in the basement of a lunchrom at 710 Druid Hill Avenue, about noon Friday, attracted hundreds of spectators and ten fire trucks but did little damage. Sterling Jones is proprietor. There were no injuries.

Mrs. Ruth Colby to Talk at Morgan on Sunday

Speaker at the worship services Sunday at the Morgan Christian Center, will be Mrs. Ruth Gage Colby, a member of the National Board of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom.

Mrs. Colby is a delegate to the recent International Conference on Child Welfare in Stockholm. The program is sponsored by the World Student Service Fund Committee.

Guest soloist will be Daniel Ridout.

Final Rites Held for J. H. Linberry

James H. Linberry Jr., 37, of 631 Cumberland St., who died of a heart attack on Tuesday, was buried in Baltimore National Cemetery on Friday, March 3, following funeral services at his home.

Officiating at the services were the Revs. Wilbur H. Waters and John T. Colbert.

Mr. Linberry, a veteran, served in the Army and was stationed at Camp Gordon, Ga. He attended the local schols and at the time of his death was enrolled in a GI tailoring school.

Survivors include his parents, Mr. and Mrs. James H. Linberry Sr., a brother, William I. Mitchell, and two sisters, Mesdames Mildred Wilkins and Lenora Rigby, and a brother-in-law, Randolph Rigby.

WILLIAM MITCHELL SR.

MARTINSVILLE, Va.—Last rites for William Mitchell Sr., son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Moses Mitchell of Henry County, were held at the High Street Baptist Church on Feb. 23.

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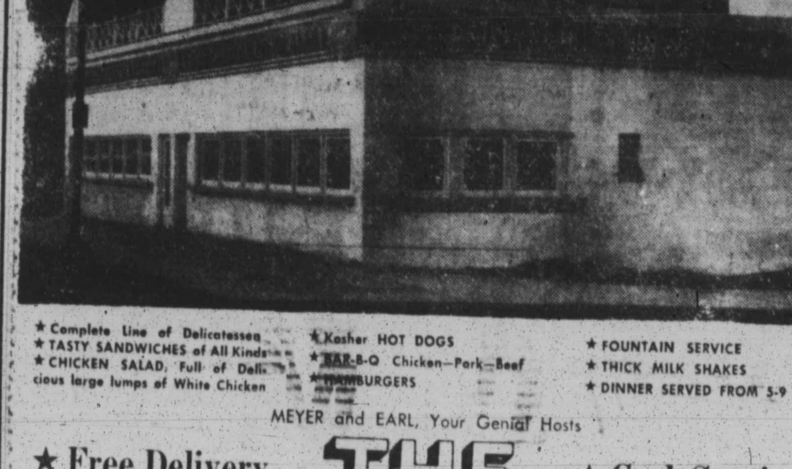

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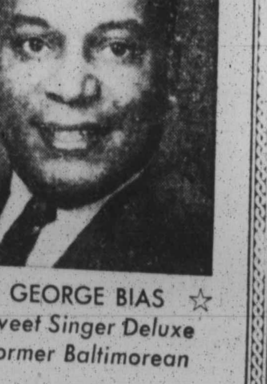

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Gateway to Gayway

By GEORGE D. TYLER

The BRIDGE, located at Washington and E. Biddle Sts., is drawing visiting props to the Eastside who are intrigued by the deluxe, intimate horseshoe bar . . . CLUB 13 has latched onto the sensational Comedaires for a debut Friday at 5 p.m. . . SOUTHSIDE Lounge, still undergoing renovations, to re-open soon.

The COZY CORNER, featuring doubles at singles' prices, will boost barmaid Nannette Jackson, third place winner last year, in this year's popularity contest. Manager is offering a cash prize for the winner's bounty . . . That lovely Granger gal at the COMEDY being pointed out as the most courteous and diplomatic character in the biz. . . . Decorations are just about finished at the SPHINX and on the 6th, the 3rd annual Mardi Gras will get underway.

New Talent Series

The OLDE MILL's talent scouts will launch a new series Thursday night. Previous winners are taboo. As usual, the first five winners will meet in an elimination contest on April 6. . . The Four Links furnish music nightly . . . Give a looksee into Roy JONES' cozy cafe anytime and you'll spot many a guy and gal who appreciate fine service . . . Things are quite on the naborly side each visit we make to ED's . . . A bouquet to barman Monroe, and waitress Bernice at ye FROLIC, who are nice at all times.

Jimmy Greene has an entertaining group sitting in at JONES' each weekend. Jay Evans is bassist, with Melvin Spears on piano . . . The 3 Kings and a Queen, Pee Wee Wooden's combo, featuring Rose, canary, making things lively at MORRIS'S . . . Johnny Sparrow and his combo continues at the ORLEANS . . . Louisa Lara and Jimmy Blair at the PRESTON . . . Zertita Steptеau doing her piano skit at LITTLE WILLIE'S.

What Goes at KP?

What gives at the KNOTTY PINE? Plenty of toe-tickling music by Johnny Tucker's ork and the latest in juke box hits from that 100-record machine. Unlimited space for dancing . . . The best in drinks and foods with a special breakfast daily at the CASINO . . . Bert Brown shopping around for a couple of waitresses to do weekend duties at HILLTOP.

Sparkplugs Behind Old Mill Contests

Some of the amateur night contestants and sponsors of the event at the Olde Mill. Left to right Julius Adams, Spot Mundy, Billy Franklin, Mary Richardson, Rufus Nance, Prop. Joe Mazer, George D. Tyler night club editor and sponsor. Earl O'Mara, not shown, serves as emcee. Mundy won this week's final contest. Miss Richardson was absent because of illness.

Schillinger System Saves Time, Energy, Says Composer Blake, Who's Studied It

By DOLORES CALVIN

BROOKLYN (CNS) — Eubie Blake, who at 67 has written a lifetime of melodies, most famous perhaps being for the show "Shuffle Along," is convinced that a new era in music has approached. The era of music built on mathematical formulas. In other words the Schillinger System.

"Schillinger was a great man," Eubie said. "He was so great that before he died, about four years ago, authorities had his theories taken down in shorthand at the oxygen tent bedside.

"This material made up two volumes which today sell together for $30. Each student who takes the course must first have the books, yet without a capable instructor, he cannot grasp their true meaning."

He Took the Course

Blake himself took the tedious four-year course at New York University in a record 3½ years in a class with many youngsters. He admits feeling ashamed when George Gershwin and Gordon a 14-year-old German girl, schooled thoroughly in the 'old country' in the many intricacies of arranging, harmony and counterpoint, took to the Schillinger System like a flower takes to water. Blake graduated in 1949 with honors.

When we doubted whether the composer, concentrating on mathematics, could write a free, lively melody without it sounding mechanical, Blake confessed this thought was the main drawback to the system. Many music lovers, knowing beforehand that the system was used, immediately formed a distaste for the music.

Gershwin Used It

Blake tells us that all of Glenn Miller's later numbers were written under this code, that Paul La Valle (The Band of America) uses it and likewise for Lynn Murray, the chorusters. Also that both Jenkins paid $50 a lesson for Schillinger to give them personal instructions.

duction.

And to prove to us that the System is merely a theory to save time and effort on the part of the composer and not a radical form of change, Blake played a composition he had written by the System using numbers 5-6-1-9 to make a melody. And it was very beautiful.

Blake has never written lyrics. He says it's his own fault. As a boy he was a "wise guy" in English and never learned to rhyme. So all through the years he has written in longhand, the story he wants to tell for his music, then conferred with his lyric writer.

Since May 15, 1915, his lyric writer has been none other than Noble Sissle with whom he made the world-famous "Shuffle Along." After 35 years of close association, they are today anticipating a revival of that show to hit Broadway this season. With Irving Gaumont as producer, there have already been many auditions for "angels" to back the $200,000 production.

Philly Tenor in Baltimore Debut

John Nelson Guest With Boys' Chorus

John W. Nelson, tenor, of Philadelphia, was enthusiastically approved by a capacity crowd at the First Baptist Church Sunday, when the Baltimore Boys' Choir, directed by William Meredith H. Birche Jr., was presented in a program of choral music.

The affair, one of three sectional concerts presented annually by the young group, was sponsored by the Boosters Club of the church.

The "Boys" repeated their earlier success when presented in North Baltimore last Sunday and the vast audience was well pleased with the work of these gifted youngsters.

Sharing honors as guest soloist, Mr. Nelson revealed a voice of warmth and beauty. In the aria "O del mio dolce ardor" (O Thou Beloved) by Gluck, he sang with conviction and a keen interpretative sense. A feeling for the melodic line was evidenced in "Great Peace Have They" by Rogers. A lovely rhythmic interpretation of "Honor Honor!" by Hall Johnson followed with two numbers with the "Boys:" Lord's Prayer," Malotte, and "Ave Maria" by Schubert.

This appearance marked the Baltimore debut of Mr. Nelson, who is currently a pupil of Margaret Kaiser of the Philadelphia Musical Academy and who made his operatic debut with the Dra-Mu Opera Co. of Philadelphia in Offenbach's "Tales of Hoffman," this season, singing three major roles for tenor. He also appeared with the choir in Washington earlier in the season.

Orioles Take Fling Over Air

RICHMOND

The Orioles, erstwhile Baltimoreans, invaded the capital of the old Dominion, Thursday.

The singing group appeared at the Magie Walker High School in the evening, and also dropped in on Curran's Corner to be greeted by the proprietor, disc jockey Harry Curran and his WXGI microphone.

Curran gave the male contingent a fling chatting about their background, their latest waxings, and their future plans. He eked out the information that the group were Baltimoreans by origin, named after the Baltimore Orioles, had waxed some 16 tunes since their first recording date back in the latter part of '48.

And who has been responsible for the Orioles success?

This, Curran found out. The answer lay in the Orioles manager and composer, lovely Deborah Chessler, who is not only an able manager for the group, but composed such Orioles hits as "It's Too Soon To Know," "Tell Me So," and their latest Jubilee waxing of "Forgive and Forget."

Curran's Corner is a daily Monday through Friday, 2-4 p.m. record spinning program.

Lois Towles Due Home for Tour

Lois Towles, brilliant pianist and professor of music on leave of absence from Fisk University, whose recitals in Paris during the past year have earned the healthy respect of French music critics, will arrive in New York on March 7 for a thirty-day concert tour, which will take her to leading cities and colleges in the United States.

Little Theatre Sets Rehearsals

The Little Folks Theatre which begins rehearsals Thursday for its "Spring Varieties," is also planning a 10-week course in writing and drama for adults.

Miss Anne Mercer, director, said the rehearsals will be held at 10:30 a.m. in the workshop, 1318 W. North Ave. Tentative plans call for the production to be on April 15 at the Regent Theatre.

In response to numerous requests from adults, Miss Mercer is beginning at 7:30 p.m. on March 28, a course in play-writing and drama.

Ligos Engri System

The course will be taught according to the principles of Ligos Engri, Hungarian writer and dramatist, under whom Miss Mercer studied in New York.

It is said that Mr. Engri was among the first persons to put writing on a scientific basis.

Additional information may be obtained by calling Miss Mercer at LA. 2350 or contacting her at the workshop.

New England Group to Present Soliloquy

The New England Life Member Group of Maryland will present Mrs. Nellie Jeter Windford, dramatic reader of Newport, R.I., in recital at 9:15 p.m., Thursday at the YWCA.

Her presentation is called "Soliloquy of the Cross." Mesdames Diletta Pinn and Hannah L. Crockett are, respectively, local and national chairmen.

FM-TV Guild Cites Only Tan Member

NEW YORK—The Radio-Television Directors Guild last week cited Ed Bouey, one of its youngest members, for outstanding work as writer-director of the documentary radio series, "Now to live Again," and the television dramatic production, "City at Midnight."

Bouey, first, and as yet, is the only colored member of the Directors and Writers Guild aiding in the writing and directing of known programs.

Authentic Case Histories

"Now to Live Again," twice-weekly American Broadcasting Company dramatic production on convalescent rehabilitation, originated from Stamford, Conn., and Radio City.

These programs were built around authentic case histories of polio and cerebral palsy and attracted wide attention and praise among critics.

Busy at Writing

In television, Bouey was cited for work with the NBC program "City at Midnight." This was television's first remote dramatic production, a live telecast originating from several points from the Brooklyn waterfront to the Palisades.

Currently Bouey is engaged in writing originals and adaptations for "Chevrolet Telecast Theater" (NBC-TV), a 30-minute dramatic program. Some of his latest works have been "Out of the Night," "At Last the Dawn," and "One for the Road." He is also doing a psychiatic drama entitled "Suspended Sentence."

Two new programs, written and produced by Bouey, have been optioned by networks but not yet released. One is a children's simulcast featuring Bud Collyer. The other is a radio Americana in music and drama.

The son of American missionary parents, Bouey was born in Liberia and is a graduate of Southern University, Baton Rouge, La.

His parents are the Rev. Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Bouey of Richmond, Va.

Matthews Scores on Southern Tour

SAVANNAH, Ga. — Edward Matthews, baritone and internationally famous concert star, scored a resounding success in recitals at South Carolina State College at Orangeburg and Savannah State College last week.

Mr. Matthews, whose leading roles in Gershwin's "Porgy and Bess" and the Virgil Thompson's "Four Saints in Three Acts," thrilled Broadway theatre goers a few seasons ago, is now a professor of voice and artist-in-residence at Howard University.

PLAN BUSINESS PROGRAM

INSTITUTE, W.Va.—The local chapter of the Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity will present a program on "Bigger and Better Business" in the college auditorium at West Virginia State College, 7 p.m. on March 5.

Von Blaine Appointed to Local Eesqui Staff

WASHINGTON

Lloyd G. Von Blaine, prominent local night club owner, has been appointed to the District Sesquicentennial Commission's staff as special assistant to Robert E. Fowler, director of public relations for the commission.

Mr. Van Blaine, who formerly owned the Bengazi and Cimmaron Clubs, began his duties Monday at the Commission's headquarters, 1400 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.

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