Court Clears Tavern Owner, Bartender

Pair Charged With Having Gun, Hitting Patron With It

A Pennsylvania ave. tavern owner and his bartender were cleared Friday of charges of illegally having a 32-caliber colt revolver and of using it to strike William Trotman, 1300 block Pennsylvania ave., on Jan. 31.

Lt. Joseph Byrnes of the vice squad said in Northwestern police court that he and Officers Lewis Gregory and Rudolph Wilkins, along with members of the Liquor Board, were making a routine check of taverns on Jan. 31 when he noted that James Smith, 2200 block Lyshrook ave., 34-year-old bartender, was carrying a gun under his apron.

When questioned about the weapon, Lieutenant Byrnes testified, Smith explained that the gun was kept on a counter behind the bar by the cash register, and that he had got it when he went to put off two men who were arguing in the place, one holding a knife.

The owner, Sam Shaffer, 53, white, 2317 Calverton Heights ave., was also questioned about the gun, and denied ownership, according to the police officer.

Second Charge Placed

Lieutenant Byrnes said that both men were taken to Northwestern police station, and booked for possession of the revolver, and while there, Trotman came in a placed charges against the pair for striking him.

Trotman told Magistrate E. Everett Lane that he and a soldier went into Shaffer's package store, next to the bar in the 1300 block of Pennsylvania ave., and ordered some whisky. When asked to produce an identification card, Trotman said, he reached for it but was suddenly attacked by Shaffer, wielding what Trotman described as "a nightstick."

Bartender Denies Attack

During the scuffle that followed Trotman said, Smith came over from the bar side of the place and struck him over the head with the pistol.

Explaining why he had the gun Smith said:

"I got the gun from behind the bar by the cash register. The reason I had it was because two men were standing by the door arguing. One had a knife."

Smith denied having struck Trotman with the gun earlier.

"I don't know that man," Smith said, looking at Trotman. "I didn't hit him."

Gun 'Part Of Fixtures'

Shaffer testified that the gun was "part of the fixtures" that came with the building when he bought it, and denied that he had disclaimed ownership when questioned by police.

The men's attorney, William Greenfield, cited a section of the Baltimore Code which permits the keeping of a gun in a place of business.

Magistrate Lane agreed, pointing out that in this case it kept within plain view and not concealed.

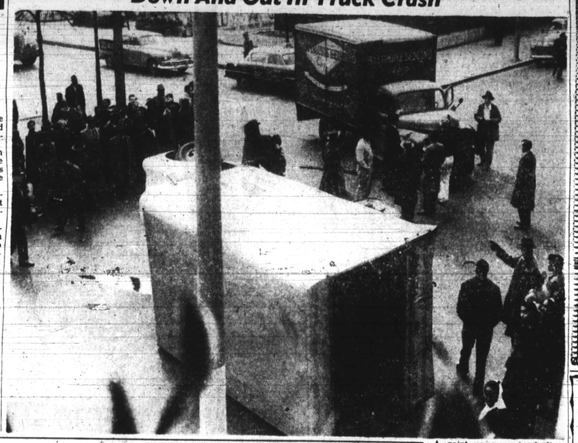
Shaffer, along with several witnesses, declared that Trotman became angered when asked to give proof of his age before being sold package goods and called the tavern owner vile names. A large walking cane was exhibited, and Shaffer said:

"I might have struck him half a dozen times. I was afraid he might pull a knife, gun or anything else."

The witnesses pointed out that Trotman had made a move toward his hack pocket. They also said Smith was not present at the time.

Magistrate Lane, in dismissing the charges, said he could not believe Trotman's story about being attacked for no reason at all by a man with whom he was trying to spend money. He described Trotman as "evidently the aggressor."

Down And Out In Truck Crash



A paint company truck lies over on its side after colliding with that big bedding firm job at Dolphin and McCulloh sts. Monday morning. The driver of the second truck, James Bainey of the 1000 block Warner st., escaped without injury, as did the driver of the second truck, Jacob S. Peterson of the 4100 block Forest Park ave. Bainey was eastbound on Dolphin st. and Peterson was driving north on McCulloh st. Reckless driving charges were placed against both.

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Templeton Receives VFW Citation

In connection with the observance of VFW Week, Furman L. Templeton, executive director of the Urban League; and Carl Murphy, AFRO-AMERICAN Newspapers president were awarded community service certificates by the Thompson-Miller VFW Post No. 9527 Wednesday. Mr. Templeton received his award on the "Fourth Man" television program over station WAAM. Among those on hand for the presentation were from left to right Richard E. Davis, Mr. Templeton, Danier W. Pealo, Post Commander Julius Bowley, and Frank George.

State Fugitive Nabbed By FBI

After two years of freedom as a fugitive from Maryland justice, Roosevelt Lipscomb, 46, wanted in connection with the murder of a 32-year-old man, was captured Friday in Detroit, Mich.

Lipscomb was wanted for the 1951 slaying of Roland Pinkney who he allegedly murdered following an argument over the payoff of a numbers bet near Baltimore.

The FBI said that Lipscomb had been working in a Detroit auto plant under the name of Otis Simpson. The announcement of his arrest was made by Anne Arundel County authorities.

To pay for his education, Mr. Wingate (center) worked as a barber. Later, seeing the need for a better hair dressing, he developed one of his own. Today Wingate tonics, creams, pomades and packs are nationally known. Here, with associates, he explains a new product.

Two Given Life Sentences In Bassford Murder Case

Buster N. Day, 34, of Jones Station, and George F. Tolson, 27, of St. Margarets were sentenced to life imprisonment Thursday in Anne Arundel Circuit Court for the fatal beating of a 77-year-old white Severna Park tenant farmer on Dec. 7.

An accomplice, Willie Washington, 29, of Selma, Ala., was given a five-year sentence. The court claimed that he did not take part in the killing.

The victim of the attack was James Bassford whose beaten and exposed body was found a day later in an open field near his one-room shack.

Tried Separately

Testimony at the three trials which were held separately brought out the fact that Day, Tolson, and Washington went to Bassford's shack to buy a chicken.

Circuit Judge Benjamin Michaelson tagged Day as the ring leader of the plan to rob Bassford. The jury made no recommendation in Tolson's case but suggested that Day not be sentenced to hang.

Judge Michaelson declared that if it hadn't been for the recommendation he would have sentenced Day to the gallows. He added that Day was more to blame for the crime than Tolson.

State's Witness

Washington was given the lighter sentence after testifying against Day and Tolson. He was found guilty of being an accessory after the fact.

The three convicted mn wr employed on a construction job near the Severna Park farm at the time of the attack.

Washington was returned to Maryland under police escort after fleeing to his home in Alabama.

Search Warrant Held Ineffective In Lottery Case

Five persons taken in a lottery raid at 1149 N. Fulton ave. went free Monday when Judge Joseph L. Carter ruled that the warrant which permitted search of the house was defective.

The warrant was issued on report of Officer William Burke that on three successive days, he had watched the house, noticing an unusual number of visitors to the house behave in a "suspicious and watchful manner."

He said that on Jan. 16, during his watch, two men and two women entered the house and left after a very short stay. There was also one man visitor with a car.

Warrant Granted

On Jan. 17, he reported seeing five women and ten men, and two automobiles; and on Jan. 19, seven women, eight men, and two automobiles. With a search warrant, the raid was carried out on Jan. 22.

Taken in the raid were Abraham L. Powell, Mrs. Gertrude Ruffin, Sidney T. Scott, Otis Williams and Mrs. Sarah Williams.

Arguing that the traffic which the officer observed was insufficient cause for the granting of a search warrant, Maurice T. Siegel, defense attorney, requested that the warrant be quashed.

Nothing Unlawful

It was pointed out that despite the fact that an unusual number of visitors to the house was noted, the officer saw no lottery transaction nor positive indication that anything unlawful was going on.

Conceding that the situation was "highly suspicious," Judge Carter granted the motion for dismissal, saying that he would have asked the officer to get 'something more" before signing the warrant.

"It is a basic law," he commented, "that the citizens be protected in their homes from unwarranted search and seizure."

Youth Group On '4th Man'

The Youth Group of the Baltimore Music Guild will be guests of Tom Hawkins on "The Fourth Man," TV show over WAAM, Wednesday (tomorrow) at 8:45 p.m.

Mrs. Margaret Rusk Franklin, president of the guild, will be interviewed on some of the compositions by colored composers.

Members of the guild were presented in a program at Memorial church on Sunday at 4:00 p.m.

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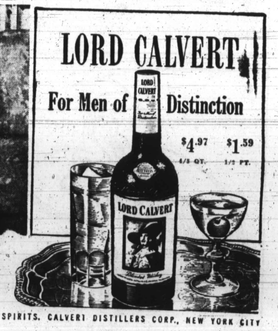

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INSIDE: The Case Of The Frozen Corpses [Page 10]

AFRO MAGAZINE SECTION

Afro-American, February 10, 1953

Baha'i-World's Newest Faith

This religion founded by a Persian prince 100 years ago is based on equality of all Men before God...

By KEITH DE FOLO

Mrs. Hearst, or Phoebe Hearst, the mother of William Randolph Hearst, went on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land.

She had heard of a great spiritual teacher there, Baha'u'llah, who had died 15 years before. Mrs. Hearst was a great spiritual teacher herself, and she had heard that Baha'u'llah, a prisoner of the Turks, was a great teacher.

Before he died, Baha'u'llah wrote over 100 books which were filled with guidance and inspiration for humanity in this day. Abdu'l-Baha was in his 20 years, to carry on his father's work and teachings, which comprise the Baha'i World Faith.

Mrs. Hearst and the 18 friends who accompanied her to Akka were Abdu'l-Baha's first visitors from the West. Many Persians were ushered into the presence of Abdu'l-Baha at Akka.

Arriving at the prison city, they were ushered into the presence of a man who was more royal than royal, whose strong face was illuminated by a holy light, whose name was known throughout the world, whose name, means, "the Servant of God."

Butler Took A Chair

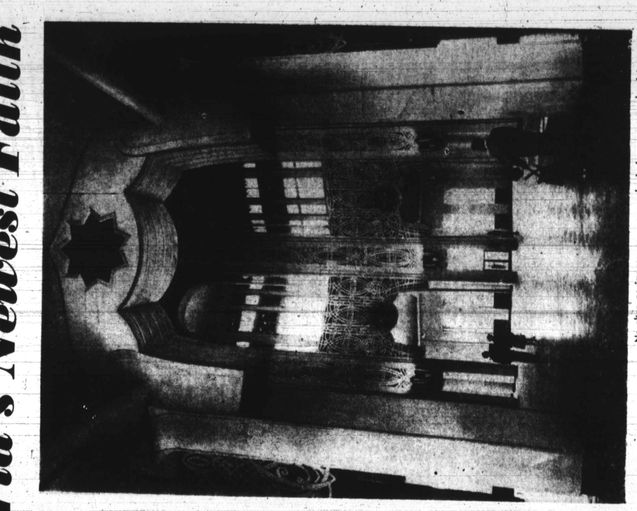
That Abdu'l-Baha lived the teachings of humility and equality he had taught was proved to the party of pilgrims when they dined with him. In the middle of the meal, a wealthy table had been set for the whole party, and Abdu'l-Baha was not there.

When he sauntered into the room, overwhelmed with humility, Abdu'l-Baha showed everyone—the high and the low, the rich and the poor.

"In the kingdoms below man," Abdu'l-Baha often said, "you find no prejudice."

Blue doves associate with white doves, he said, "you find no prejudice among birds."

(Continued On Page 11)



A photo of Abdu'l-Baha, son of the founder of the Baha'i Faith Baha'u'llah, at the age of 70. Abdu'l-Baha's life was a life of service to humanity, and he made it a point to be made so that worshippers would pay homage to him instead of God.

bet his son Abdu'l-Baha still lived in the spirit of his father.

Baha'u'llah and Abdu'l-Baha were Persians the Greek and Roman gods of a great dynasty that had been thrown in prison, because it threatened the foundation of all religions in Persia. The Greek and Roman gods were descendants