The Shrine That A Whole Nation Forgets

By Staff Correspondent

WASHINGTON

One of America's most priceless shrines of liberty — "Cedar Hill," the home of the late, great Frederick Douglass—is "going to pot" through neglect, atop the oak-crested knoll on which it sits.

Situated at 1411 W St., SE., in the Anacostia section of Washington, D.C., the 20-room Southern style mansion is being maintained by the Frederick Douglass Memorial and Historical Association.

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THIS BODY is an adjunct of the National Association of Colored Women, which has its headquarters at 1601 R St., NW, in Washington.

However, the memorial and historical association is a "separate and autonomous body with its own charter and board of directors.

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THIS BOARD is headed by Mrs. Emma Dickerson of St. Louis, Mo., who is president. Mrs. Luacco Gladden, East St. Louis, Ill., is secretary of the board.

Other board members are Miss Naimie Jo Burroughs, Washington, D.C.; Mrs. Mamie Josenberger, Fort Smith, Ark.; Mrs. Lillian Bondurant, Denver, Colo.; Mrs. Jane Morrow Spaulding, Washington, D.C.; and Mrs. Ella P. Stewart, Toledo, O.

There is an advisory board to this board, and this is headed by Mrs. Irene McCoy Gaines of Chicago, who is also president of the NACW.

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AS ONE approaches the Frederick Douglass home from a distance he is immediately impressed by the noble lines of the mansion, the lofty oak trees which rise majestically around the house, the terraced landscaped and the four white columns of the broad front porch.

But as one draws close and enters the grounds behind the tall fence which surrounds the 14-acre plot, the evidence of neglect become more easily visible.

The roadway by which automobiles are expected to reach the parking area behind the house, is rut-infested dirt road which apparently has never been improved. Any effort to traverse this road after a heavy rain will be fatal to the motorist.

The concrete steps leading up the terraced hills to the mansion at the top are cracking and Gibbs, Mrs. Mary Talbert, the crumbling. They are in serious need of repair.

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THE HOUSE itself is one of those colonial types which always give the impression of comfortable and peaceful living.

There are six bedrooms upstairs, and six rooms downstairs, with two living rooms. Back in the days of Frederick Douglass these were called "parlors."

The house is filled with priceless antiques by present - day standards. Old-fashioned hand coffee-grinders are in the kitchen on which their circular grinding well and drawers beneath for fine ground coffee. An 1896 wood burning cooking stove is in the the kitchen.

The "parlors" are furnished in keeping with the mode of the late part of the 19th Century. Old-fashioned oil-burning table lamps, stuffed settees and ordinary rockers fill both of them.

On the walls are paintings of the Great Abolitionist's best friends, the late Rev. Henry W. Ilart Mrs. Douglass and of John Brown. In each of the "parlors" is an old piano. One bore the label "Kimball" — —

The dining room with its tall china closet in the corner also bears the stamp of the Douglass spirit of quality; fine chinaware, fine linen and lace table-cloths, a copper and glass table service for salt, pepper, vinegar, cream, American flag which John Brown etc., is in the center of the table.

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THERE IS an undeniable positiveness of the close friendship between John Brown and Frederick Douglass emphasized in almost every nook and cranny of the house.

The link between these two men, both foes of slavery to the death, was such as to indicate that here at Cedar Hill, must have taken place many conferences between them, each of which played its part in the final abolition of slavery in the United States.

There is tremendous significance in a towering glass case at the rear of the hall on the second floor.

Here behind glass is the actual flag which Douglass carried when he staged his famous raid on Harper's Ferry, West Va.

Here, too, behind the same glass, is the long musket which John Brown used on that raid. They were mementoes which the late Mr. Douglass treasured, probably more than any other he possessed.

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THE TRUE significance of the Douglass-John Brown friendship is reflected in the advancements which colored Americans hold today.

The tireless fighting of these two men against slavery everywhere in the United States was the foundation stone upon which all of the advancements of colored Americans has rested and grown.

THAT ATMOSPHERE is immediately and forcefully driven home when one enters Frederick-Douglass' home. Everywhere are items which tell of their friendship and devotion to the same causes.

On the grounds at the front of the house is a sun dial presented Aug. 12, 1922 by the Married Women's Culture Club of Pittsburgh, Pa.

Beside the house is the Frederick Douglass Memorial Fountain, presented and dedicated by the District of Columbia Public Schools, Division 10-13 on May 26, 1939.

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ON THE mantle above the fireplace in the dining room is an well-preserved clipping from the New York Sun of Feb. 18, 1893, in which Mr. Douglass is compared with Abraham Lincoln as an orator.

There is a copy of William Cullen Bryant's "Thanatopsis" with an autograph of the poet and a wood drawing of Mr. Bryant.

On the walls in the hall is a painting of John Brown and his family, also a painting of Brown and a slave family.

There is also a copy of John Brown's address made just before he was sentenced to die after his futile Harper's Ferry raid.



THE FREDERICK DOUGLASS HOME

THERE IS also a large placard announcing a $100,000 maintenance fund drive by the memorial and historical association.

Mrs. Gladys Parham is caretaker of the Douglass home, and said that members of the board of directors of the home put in perhaps one appearance a year.

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VISITORS TO the shrine are many in the summer months when excursions are run into the nation's capital; and few at other times.

The last two visitors registered on Oct. 24, 1954, were William E. Farrell and Carl Moffitt, 1207 T St., SE., Washington, D.C. The AFRO visited the home on Nov. 5, 1954.

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FILLED AS it is with inspirational pieces which tell eloquently the story of the abolition of slavery and the efforts of the two men most directly responsible for it—other than Abraham Lincoln—the Frederick Douglass home is a real shrine to liberty.

Says Miss Nannie Burroughs: "It is the most valuable thing we have as a race."

But one visit to this shrine is all that is needed to show that it is being sadly neglected by those charged with responsibility for its upkeep.

The house needs painting, the walls need repairing, so do the road and the cement walks. The grass is growing wild and unchecked on the left side of the house, where landscaping could convert the site into a thing of beauty.

WHAT IS the NACW attitude toward this state of neglect at the Frederick Douglass Home? Mrs. La Ursa Herdrick, secretary of the organization, referred all questions to Mrs. Irene McCoy Gaines, NACW president.

Miss Burroughs, one of the two local board members, flatly blames the board of directors of the Frederick Douglass Historical and Memorial Association for the situation today.

"They have been irresponsible and have neglected the home," Miss Burroughs charges. "They have not shouldered the responsibility which they have accepted."

Her parting shot was: "I think they should be made to shoulder their responsibility."

Health association hears Henderson

WASHINGTON

Dr. E. B. Henderson was speaker and one of two guests of honor at the first dinner meeting of the D. C. Chapter of the American Association for Health, Physical Education and Recreation at American University.

In introducing Dr. Henderson, who talked on his observations of health, physical education and recreation of 50 years, Dr. Caswell, of the D. C. Health Department referred to his years of battling for desegregation, his honors by his alma mater, Howard University and his being made a Fellow of the American Association for Health, Physical Education and Recreation at the Statler Hotel in New York, last spring.

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DR. HENDERSON reviewed the development of these fields from the beginnings in this country down to the present time.

He pointed out how the changing crowded urban centers had deprived the youth of an environment conducive to normal growth and development of the optimum growth of body and mind.

He showed that where the emphasis was once on individual strength of body and character it has changed to the group concept where the individual is trained to serve as a cog in a wheel, and urged that more activite be provided to bring about individual incentive for health, strength and living.

Dr Oppenheimer of the D. C. Health Department in charge of child and maternal health outlined the present program of her department.

The D. C. Chapter of AAHPER was the first of the local departments of the National Education Association to remove the racial barrier to integrated membership.

306th armor group hears Col. Mullenix

WASHINGTON

Col. John C. Mullenix, United States Army, retired, was the speaker at a meeting of the 306th Armor Group, local Army Reserve Unit, Wednesday, at the Armory, 2131 C St., NW.

Colonel Mullenix stressed the importance and value of reconnaissance for armored units.

The 306th Armor Group is the successor of the 306th Horse Cavalry Regiment, the World War II reserve unit for this area. Colonel Mullenix was chief instructor of the Cavalry outfit from 1934 until 1938.

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Mechanic wins divorce from 'rather cold' wife

"Testifying that his wife became "rather cold," Bronzie Gresham, a mechanic of 2105 Rupp St., won a divorce recently from Mrs. Doretha Gresham.

The couple was married in July 1946 and separated on May, 1951. They have two children.

The husband said "I was going to G.I School. We quarrelled often and she told me that she just didn't want to be bothered with me anymore. She lost her love for me and she was rather cold."

Mrs. Gresham's address was given as the 2400 block Druid Hill Ave. U. Theodore Hayes was her attorney.

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JOSEPH Nettlos, 32, well-known singer, musician and clerk-typist in the Maryland Military District, divorced Mrs. Geraldine Nettles of Washington.

Mr. Nettles who lives at the Druid Hill YMCA said that he and his wife were married in Monterey, Mexico in September 1947.

They separated while living in Washington in January, 1950. Their six-year-old son, Joel, is staying with Mr. Nettle's mother in San Antonio.

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A CHAUFFEUR, Robert Payne, 28, of 2422 Woodbrook Ave., divorced Mrs. Vestilia Payne 36, whom he charged with desertion.

They lived together from June 1947 to January 1953. The husband said "My wife had said she wanted a divorce and when I came home, she was gone."

Their three-month marriage broke up in July 1952 because his bride didn't like the neighborhood, testified Harry Mays of 429 N. Brice St.

He was awarded a divorce from Mrs. Blanche Mays of the 700 block W. Saratoga St.

He said: "I thought the neighborhood was nice, but she kept nagging and nagging and making things disagreeable, so nobody could get along with her, myself, the landlady or nobody."

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HE CONTINUED "It got to the point where she wanted to leave, and I wouldn't agree, so she left." William I. Gosnell was his attorney.

He deserted by his wife 26 years ago, Thomas Jackson, 58, of 1316 Lanvale St. was granted a decree from Mrs. Ruth Jackson.

The husband complained that the wife "used to run around to beer gardens. Then she just packed up and walked out."

Also maintaining that his wife liked life out late at night," Walter Porter of 314 N. Ann St. divorced Mrs. Willie Mae Porter.

Police haul away aged auto

When Riley James Simpson, a Morgan student from Daytona Beach, Fla., finished his summer school session he left his Buick of ancient vintage behind him as he departed for home.

For some time the car rested on the dump as school officials pondered over what to do with the jalopy—pardon us—the car. They finally had it towed out into Cold Spring Lane, near the Herring Run bridge where it sat for a week.

Then last Wednesday police apprehended on the scene and hailed the car away because it created a traffic hazard, what with one flaat tire, no battery, mutilated seat covers, and an engine hood that was attached to the chassis by ropes.

The Mortor Vehicle Commissioner says the owner admitted that the car was the property of Mr. Simpson.

Man in jacket theft given 30-day term

Stopped by the manager of a department store as he was about to leave the premises with a suede jacket under his arms, Weaver Edwards of the 900 block Shields Pl., was sentenced to 30 days in jail last Thursday.

At a hearing before Northeastern District Magistrate Samuel Ginsberg, Edwards said he had never seen the jacket before.

The store manager, John Freidinger said he was sitting in an upstairs office when he glanced down and saw Edwards start out with the jacket.

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MR. FREDINGER said he followed the man outside and asked him "do you want to buy that jacket." He said Edwards, "I don't have any money."

Asked if he had ever seen the jacket before, Edwards told Magistrate Gaboff: "I don't know anything about it. I went into the store to buy some underwear."

The jacket, which was taken from the G. C. Murphy Store in the 500 block of N. Gay St., was valued at $5.95. Police found $1.30 in Edwards' pockets.

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Rights violation decision upheld

WASHINGTON (NNPA) —The United States Supreme Court Monday denied the Justice Department a review of the judgment of the Fifth United States Circuit Court of Appeals upholding the dismissal of an indictment against a Florida prosecuting attorney for violating the civil rights of a colored man.

Jesse W. Hunter, a state's attorney, was indicted in the Federal District Court for the southern district of Florida. The indictment charged him with depriving David McK. Reese of his liberty without due process of law.

Reese was tried and acquitted by a state court on a charge of murder July 20, 1950. Mr. Hunter asked the judge to hold Mr. Reese for further prosecution. Reese was kept in jail, until Fri. 26, 1952, although no charge was filed against him.

--'He made me do it'

(Continued from Page 1)

Virginia Electric and Power Co., said them to an AFRO reporter on the steps of the Fairfax County courthouse.

Two hours later Fairfax County Trial Justice Robert C. Fitzgerald had ordered him held for grand-jury action in the shotgun slaying of his son, Coleman Nathaniel Hill, 34.

Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney Barnard F. Jennings then told the AFRO that he would ask the January grand jury to indict Mr. Hill for first degree murder.

At the preliminary hearing Wednesday morning the father did not testify. His attorney, Philip Brophy of Falls Church, Va., represented him and entered a plea of not guilty for the father.

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AFTER LISTENING to the testimony of Sgt. Cecil E. Brown of the Virginia State Police, who rushed to the Hill home last Saturday evening minutes after the shooting, Justice Fitzgerald said:

"As far as self-defense is concerned, there is nothing concise or clear here to indicate that, so I order him held for the grand jury. It is obvious that a homicide has been committed."

During most of the hearing the father sat at the counsel table with his head bowed on the table and cupped in his right arm.

Sobs shook his six-foot frame continuously as the police sergeant told the story of the shooting which rocked the little community in which the Hills lived just around dusk last Saturday.

In the courtroom as the hearing went on were Mr. Hill's two remaining sons and one of his six daughters.

BACK IN THEIR home community — two miles south of Alexandria, Va., on King's Highway — another lay sympathized in the home of her sister.

Sgt. Brown said he received a phone call at 4:53 p.m. Saturday from a Mrs. Virginia Stevenson, who asked him to come to Hill's at once, because Mr. Hill had shot his son.

"When I got there I found Hill standing in the yard. A few feet away was the body of a young male, who Hill identified as his son 'Ned.' (Nathaniel's nickname.)

"I advised Hill of his constitutional rights and that he did not have to say anything without first consulting his lawyer, but he told me he was perfectly willing to talk," Sgt. Brown testified.

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THE SERGEANT said the elder Hill told him he had been hunting all day and returned around 2:30 p.m. and found his automobile gone.

He said he asked his wife about it and Mrs. Hill told him that John (another son who lives in Washington, D.C.) had taken it to be repaired.

MR. HILL gave his wife $1 so the sons could buy some ice and then went back to his hunting, Sgt. Brown said, and returned home about 4:30 p.m.

When John took the car to Alexandria to be repaired, he (John) stayed in Alexandria in order to return directly to Washington; Nathaniel drove the car back home.

When Nathaniel got back home, Sgt. Brown said, he and his father got into a discussion as to why Nathaniel had taken the car.

The father took the ice from the car and put it in the icebox, then went out to the car to lock it up, Sgt. Brown said. He found a coat in the back of the car and took it out, the sergeant said the father told him.

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AT THAT point, Sgt. Brown said, Mr. Hill told him Nathaniel came out and began arguing with him and cursing him, according the father of "always picking on me every time I do anything."

Then the father said Nathaniel threatened to kill him, according to Sgt. Brown, and grabbed a mop handle and started toward his father.

"Then Mr. Hill said he went in the house and got his shotgun and put one shell into the chamber," Sgt. Brown said, and came back out "intending to scare" the son.

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THE SON continued to approach the father, the sergeant said, and the father held the shotgun waist high and pulled the trigger as the son came toward him.

The son fell mortally wounded, with what Sgt. Brown described as "a round hole" about an inch in diameter in the front of his chest directly over his heart. The mop handle was nearby, Sgt. Brown said that on questioning the father, the elder Hill wasn't sure whether the son had the mop handle in his hand when he fired the fatal shot.

The mop handle was about 5 feet long and about an inch thick.

The death weapon, a long single-barreled 12-gauge shotgun was introduced in evidence with the mop handle.

Pictures showing the father's re-enactment of the crime with the body of young Hill on the ground were also put in evidence over objections of defense counsel.

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QUESTIONED BY Mr. Brophy, Sgt. Brown said the father told him the son was about 7 feet away from him when he pulled the trigger.

After the shooting, the father went back into the house and got the gun behind the kitchen door.

Then he told his paralyzed wife what had happened and also told John Steverson, neighbor.

At that time Mrs. Steverson was talking on the phone upstairs when her husband picked up the extension phone downstairs.

He told her to hang up and call the police because "Henry at the Hills has shot Ned'." Mrs. Stevenson then phoned the Groveton substation of the Virginia State Police. The father's arrest followed.

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MEANWHILE, THE wife and mother of the family, Mrs. Sarah Hill, was prostrated by the whole affair and was staying at the next-door residence of her sister, Mrs. Irene Crockett.

The little community in which the Hills live is about 600 yards off the King's Highway, in a colored section, but with only three houses grouped together.

In one house lived the Hill family, in the center house lives Mrs. Crockett, and in the third house lives Geneva, daughter with four children.

Nathaniel, the slain son, lived with his father and mother. He formerly attended Manassas High School at Manassas, Va., and was employed by the maintenance division of the Alexandria public schools when he was killed.

Funeral services for the slain son will be held Friday afternoon at the Gum Springs (Va.) Baptist Church, on U.S. Highway One.

SGT. BROWN said the father had a good reputation and was a hard-working man.

Asked if Mr. Hill was "a church-going man," one of the father's neighbors just looked at the AFRO reporter and smiled and shrugged his shoulders.

Back in the little community everyone seemed dazed by what had happened.

When the AFRO asked Mrs. Hill about her slain son, she said: "He was always a good boy to me."

The youngest son, Charles, 22, a sailor in the U.S. Navy stationed at Norfolk, Va., commented at the hearing: "This is a mixed-up affair."

Sgt. Brown said the father had not been drinking when he questioned him, but said the father told him he thought "Ned" had been drinking.

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THE HILLS have lived in their little community for 40 years, as a tightly-knit compact family, until the children started moving away.

John Hill, the oldest son, lives at 1325 Fla. Ave., NW., in Washington, D.C; two sisters, Mary and Louise, live in Alexandria, Va., and the others live at the family home site.

Commonwealth's Atty. Jennings said the Fairfax County grand jury will meet the second week in January.

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IN ORDER to make the case a possible first degree case, Mr. Jennings amended the original warrant at the hearing Wednesday to include the words "with malice aforethought."

The charge as approved by Trial Justice Fitzgerald says that "on Nov. 20, 1954, Henry Hill did unlawfully and feloniously with malice aforethought murder Coleman Nathaniel Hill with a shotgun."

At the hearing the father was dressed in a brown raglan sweater, tan corduroy trousers tucked into knee-high laced boots and wore a leather cap.

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A SOMBRE TOUCH was added to the affair on Wednesday afternoon. The father, accompanied by several of his children and grandchildren, came to Alexandria, Va., en route home from the hearing, and all stopped at the Lewis Funeral Home at Wolfe and Columbus Sts.

They all went into the funeral home together to view the body of the slain son and brother, which lay inside. The body was taken home on Thursday for the Friday funeral.

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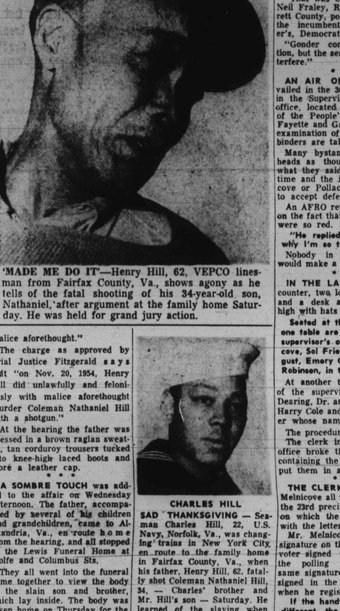
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'MADE ME DO IT'—Henry Hill, 62, VEPCO lineman from Fairfax County, Va., shows agony as he tells of the fatal shooting of his 34-year-old son, Nathaniel,'after argument at the family home Saturday. He was held for grand jury action.



SCENE OF SLAYING—It was just a few feet from the steps leading to the kitchen door (near white spot) that Coleman Nathaniel (Ned) Hill, 34, Saturday, fell fatally wounded by a 12-gauge shotgun blast. His father, Henry Hill, 62, is held for grand jury action in the shooting. The house is about two miles south of Alexandria, Va., in Fairfax County.

Vital Statistics

MARRIAGES

Among the 27 couples who obtained marriage license here, this week, were the following three non-resident couples:

James Alexsen's clerk, 45, widower, and Miss Ethel Edwards, 40, both of Washington; George Anderson, 45, widower, and Mrs. Alberta Simmons, 39, widow, both of Newark, N.J.; Robert Purnell, 19, Bayonne, N.J., and Miss Mamie McKinney, 18, Philadelphia.

Baltimoreans who obtained licenses were:

LEWIS-HUDSON — Hayward, 24, 1825 Riggs; Berntece, 20.

WILLIAMS-JEFFERSON — Tommie J., 28 604 W. Saratoga; Dorothy, 27.

CHASE-GREENE — Charles, 27, of 412 Mott St.; Phyllis, 21, same.

LAWSON-MATTHEWS — Oliver, 52, 1104 N. Patterson Park Ave.; divorced.

ROSS-CURRY — John, 35, 2553 Edmondson; Floretta, 48, divorced.

EWELL-THOMAS — Arvin, 22, Shirley, 19, 627 N. Mount St.

BURGESS-HERBY — Philip, 21, 623 N. Arlington; Vivian, 21.

DEANS-LEWIS — Maurice, 21, Lorraine, 20.

ANDERSON-JOHNSON — Willie, 30, divorced; Geraldine, 20, 840 Orchard St.

BAKER-HOPKINS — Charles, 21, divorced; Mary, 21, divorced, 1220 Bloom St.

WILLIAMS-KENDALL — Henry, 32, Pauline, 31, divorced, 2411 Holmes.

WILLIAMS-GRAVES — Johnes, 23, 2338 Arcadia; Bernice, 24.

PANKIN-MILLER — Theodore, 26, 3316 Tate; Ida, 24, divorced.

KING-BURRELL — Franklin, 20, Marian, 20, 324 Sanford Place.

BENNETT-VAUGHAN — Lee, 35, 1827 Baker; Pearline, 28.

THOMAS-WALTERS — Henry, 27, Clara, 23 1712 Presbury.

LUTHER-ISAAC — Joseph, 23 1114 N. 22nd St.; Margaret, 20.

PATE-BARKER — Leroy, 35; Sadie, 29 Cloverdale Ellridge, Md.

SCOTT-CAMPBELL — Norman, 32, divorced, 1316 Harlem; Clementine, 40, cook.

DORSEY-PERRY — James, 22 1413 Madison Ave.; Mary, 21.

FARMER-HUDSON — Robert, 23; Virginia, 21, 1847 Richland St.

CARTER-BURTON — Joseph, 18, 840 Mulberry; Perdie, 20.

DAVIS-PITTMAN — Lorenzo, 21, 1231 E. Madison St.; Ruth, 18.

DEATHS

Twenty-six deaths were reported to the local health department this week. The list of deaths follows:

Richard Knight, 66, 1 Para. St.; George Cole, 253 N Exeter St.; Emma Griffin, Balto. City Hosp.; Mabel B Williams, 2100 Rupp St.; Ulysses S. Calls, 2613 McCulloh St.; Mona Louise Carpenter, 519 Baker St.

Dorothy McKethan, 1341 E. Monument St.

Vickie Wise, 104 N. Fremont Ave.; Nannie T. Rutherford, Charlestown, Md.

Edward H. Coles, 945 S. Sharp St.; Mary Jones, 1217 Druid Hill Ave.; Nathaniel Knox, 835 Aisquith St.; Rachel Williams 2109 W. Old Spring La.

Luther Brown, 627 Woodyear St.; Tucker A. Smith, 806 N. Carey St.; Irene Keys, 616 N. Calhoun St.; Mathilda Thomas, 908 N. Monroe St.; Maurice H. Mickey, 943 Oxford Ave.; John Fowler, 519 S. Greene St.; Georgiana Palmer, 127 N. Pine St.; Lena Reynolds, 602 W Saratoga St.; Diana Brown, 751 W. Lexington St.; Charles Nixon, 1121 Harford Ave.; John Gregory, 823 McCulloh St.; Freeman Woods, 2003 E. Hoffman St.; Irene Jeffress (Jeffress), 1324 Baker St.

—Melnicove fishes

(Continued from Page 1)

consider a contest won by only one vote.

"That was back in 1950 when Neil Fraley, Republican of Garrett County, polled 3,080 votes to the incumbent Bernard Gonder's, Democrat, 3,078.

"Gonder contested the election, but the senate refused to interfere."

• • •

AN AIR OF boredom prevailed in the Democratic offices in the Supervisors of Elections office, located in the basement of the People's Court Building, Fayette and Gay Sts., where the examination of voting cards and binders are taking place.

Many bystanders shook their heads as though provoked by what they said was a waste of time and the inability of Melnicove or Pollack, after 16 years to accept defeat gracefully.

An AFRO reporter commented on the fact that Melnicove's eyes were so red.

"He replied, "I don't know why I'm so tired."

Nobody in the Cole group would make a statement.

• • •

IN THE LARGE room is a counter, two long narrow tables and a desk at one end, piled high with hats and coats.

Seated at the end corner of one table are the clerk of the supervisor's office, Mr. Melnicove, Sol Friedman, Mr. Weinguf, Emory Cole, and Jerome Robinson, in the order named.

At another table are a clerk of the supervisor's office, Mr. Dearing, Dr. and Mrs. Woodland, Harry Cole and a Pollack watcher whose name was not given.

The procedure was as follows: The clerk in the supervisor's office broke the seal on a box containing the voters cards and put them in alphabetical order.

• • •

THE CLERK then handed Mr. Melnicove all the voters cards in the 23rd precinct of the 15 Ward on which the last name began with the letter "A."

Mr. Melnicove compared the signature on the card, which the voter signed when he entered the polling place, with the same signature which the voter signed in the supervisor office when he registered.

If the handwriting appeared different, the co-workers of Cole and Melnicove made a note of it.

Working from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 2 p.m. to 4 p. m., Wednesday, Mr. Melnicove examined only the voters cards where names began with "A" and "B".

• • •

AT THE OTHER table where a supervisor's clerk, Mr. Dearing, Dr. and Mrs. Woodland, Harry Cole and a Pollack watcher were seated, the same procedure was followed.

Dr. Woodland examined cards from the 35th precinct of the 15th Ward. The group also finished the voters cards with names beginning with "A" and "B," Wednesday.

Both groups, working together Monday and Tuesday, canvassed the sixth precinct of the 14th Ward.

• • •

IT WAS IN this precinct that Harry Cole and Emory Cole picked up 100 votes each in the official canvass.

In 1953, 748 persons registered to vote in the precinct; 703 of which were colored, 45 white. There were 363 Democrats, 370 Republicans, 15 Independents.

When the voters books closed Sept. 17, 1954, 658 persons had registered in the area. Cole polled 359 votes to Melnicove's 58.

In the 22rd precinct 15th Ward, the 1953 registration showed 734 voters, 520 colored, 214 white. There were 490 Democrats, 117 Republicans, 18 Independents.

The Sept. 17, 1954 registration showed 624 voters here Cole here polled 310 votes to Melnicove's, 128.

• • •

MINOR ERRORS discovered in the four - day examination, none of which appeared revelant were:

1. Voters who registered for example, Lorraine E. Brooks, but omitted that initial when she voted in the booth at the polling place.

2. Voters who signed their last name first on the cards at the polling booth.

3. Voters who signed their cards at the polling booth with pencil or crayon instead of using ink.

4. Judges in polling places who failed to check off persons on the supervisors record card as they voted.

• • •

IN THE 23rd precinct of the 15th Ward, checkers found a card signed Harry Butler in the polling booth, and were unable to find the same name on a registration card."

Mr. Melnicove told the AFRO Wednesday:

"I'm contesting this election and my examinations of voters cards will take another day or two. Jerome Robinson is doing most of the work. I sat in today.

"I thought we covered more than the 'A's' and 'B's' but I did not note too closely how far we got."

CHARLES HILL

SAD THANKSGIVING — Seaman Charles Hill, 22, U.S. Navy, Norfolk, Va., was changing trains in New York City en route to the family home in Fairfax County, Va., when his father, Henry Hill, 62, fatally shot Coleman Nathaniel Hill, 34, — Charles' brother and Mr. Hill's son — Saturday. He learned of the slaying when he reached home.

Dr Buzzard says The hardest thing on a woman's clothes is another woman.

DR BUZZARD

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(Signed) EDNA SMITH

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