

5 ★★★★★
EDITION

Baltimore Afro-American

3rd Year, No. 35

Copyright 1954 by AFRO-AMERICAN CO. for all material previously printed in the current National Edition

BALTIMORE, MD., NOVEMBER 30, 1954

3 New Members Of Legislature

Didn't Harm

Recheck

Melnicove
as expert

n writing

- Harry Cole in Annapolis for instruction
- 3 new solons at State House for first time

Maryland's first colored solons are among state legislators meeting at State House in Annapolis today (Tuesday) for instruction on legislative procedure.

They were State Senator-elect Harry A. Cole and Delegates-elect Emory H. Cole and Truly Hatcher, all representing the Fourth District.

But as they met the rechecking in the Fourth District in the close race between Harry A. Cole and Bernard Melnicove continuing in the offices of the Supervisors of Elections.

THE MELNICOVE forces on Monday morning were utilizing a handwriting expert in their effort to arrest the election of Mr. Cole in the State Senate.

Mr. Melnicove lost the state senate election to Mr. Cole in the Fourth District by 37 votes.

The Cole forces are completing their investigation of voters at hourly cards with registration cards in the Adams-Premont-Isith Ward.

They have come upon several signatures which are believed to be doubtful but whether or not a handwriting expert will be employed by their side is not known.

Conducting the investigation.

(Continued on Page 2)

ACCUSED

- Y secretary had affair, says wife
- Mutual friend is named as other woman

RICHMOND — A socially-prominent Richmond school teacher was granted a divorce in Law and Equity Court Nov. 11, after she charged her husband, the executive secretary of the Barton YMCA of Lynchburg, Va., with carrying on a long-term love affair with a mutual friend.

The teacher, Mrs. Laura Breeding Brandon, of 2112 West Ave., won a "bad and hurtful" divorce from W. H. Brandon, a former employee of McGuire Veterans Hospital here. The divorce, granted on the grounds of "cruelty and desertion" will become absolute a year from the date of decree.

In her complaint, filed Oct. 5, Mrs. Brandon accused her husband of having an affair with one "Gladys Carter," formerly of Richmond and now of New York City.

She also charged him with striking her (Mrs. Brandon) with his fist and knocking her down three times on Oct. 2, and with striking Miss Jean Lightner Brandon, her 21-year-old daughter by a former marriage.

Mrs. Brandon said that her husband became violent when they discussed a long-distance telephone conversation he had with Miss Carter on September 1.

In a deposition filed with the court, Mrs. Brandon gave this:

(Continued on Page 2)

Flash Hemingway dies

WASHINGTON — Bishop L. Hemingway, head of the second Episcopal district of the AME Church, died Tuesday morning at Freedmen's Hospital. He was 59 years old, according to a hospital spokesman.

The bishop had been confined to the hospital since Nov. 1. His home is at 1620 15th St. N.W.



VICTIM AND SUSPECT—Miss Helen Mae Smith, resident of Whitehall Hotel, whose body, the skull crushed, was found in her room at the hotel by a roamer, is pictured seated on park bench with Lester Seegers, National Geographic Society guard, who is being sought by police as a suspect in the murder.

Seek D.C. guard in hotel slaying

Nurse's skull was crushed;
find blood-stained hammer

WASHINGTON — Homeless squad detectives had a three-day lookout for a guard at the National Geographic Society Monday as a suspect in the slaying of a resident of the White Hall Hotel.

A warrant has been issued for Lester Seegers, 45, described as the "boy friend" of Miss Helen Mae Smith, whose body was found on a bedroom floor of an apartment.

Capt. Richard Fisher of the homicide squad said that the skull of the slain woman was crushed by a series of blows apparently inflicted by a hammer.

The homicide squad chief reported that a bloodstained hammer was found in a bureau drawer.

CAPTAIN FISHER said that Seegers has been the prime suspect after a hotel employee told police that Seegers was seen accompanying Miss Smith in her apartment Friday night.

The body was discovered after

Mrs. Catherine Hembray, of the 3600 block of Warder St., N.W., sister of the slain woman, asked him to check Miss Smith's room because she had not heard from her in several days.

Mrs. Hembray told the AFRO.

(Continued on Page 2)

Cop Killing

Ed Gaskins slain;
brother also killed

An unemployed Maryland youth who ignored his wife's advice to leave a gun at home, died early Saturday morning when police sent two bullets crashing into his body after he reportedly fired one shot at them.

Edward Paul Gaskins, 20, of the 200 block N. Bruce St., fell mortally wounded to the pavement in the 800 block of Fulton Ave., with the gun still clamped

St. Marys Co.

- NAACP urges integration of schools
- Additions to colored school not enough

LEONARDTOWN, Md. — Two hundred persons attended a town-hall meeting here Sunday afternoon and republished statements attributed to J. Claude Johnson, president of the St. Mary's County School Board that colored parents do not want integrated schools.

The meeting was held at the St. Mary's County Public Hall under auspices of the local NAACP, with R. L. Henderson of Larcher Heights, president, presiding.

It was called after the AFRO published in its November 16th issue an exclusive interview with Mr. Johnson, stating that the county's integration problem had been solved with plans for additions to existing colored schools.

Following the release of the story—and the dissatisfaction it produced in some quarters in the county, Mr. Johnson issued another statement in which he denied making the one attributed to him in the Nov. 16 story.

Despite his denial, however, the AFRO's county correspondent reported that the information obtained in the first story was based on an exclusive interview with Mr. Johnson, held as he was leaving an all-day meeting of the school board.

THE CORRESPONDENT said that Mr. Johnson said that the integration problem had been solved since colored parents are satisfied with their present schools, and with the construction of a new elementary school and improvements on the high school, that it is his belief that there would be no need for colored public schools.

(Continued on Page 2)

Governor to visit Crownsville soon

McKeldin and Dr. Perkins



Laverne Tesson murder, and graphic at the

I was
my h
64-year
charges

ANNAPOLIS — among. The prison on at say he I we stop sign. This was the first on the Ocean Train grant this was re but, it has been in charge, giving a brief traffic study high.

-Recheck

(Continued from Page 1)

for Mr. Cole on Monday was Milton Talkin, attorney. There were 10 Melrose watchers at the Cor table.

Observing the handwriting expert for Mr. Cole was Creston J. Warguest who has been present every day since the recheck began.