APOLIS DINGS

By ELOISE RICHARDSON

The Northwest Street YMCA held its kickoff meeting for the beginning of its Enrollment Campaign on Tuesday night.

"We regard the YMCA in its essential genius, a part of a world-wide fellowship of persons united by common loyalty to Jesus Christ for the purpose of building Christian personality and a Christian society," stated George Phelps Jr., overall chairman of the campaign. **"As our workers approach the people of our community for their membership, we hope they will consider it a real privilege to join the Y as their support is needed to keep this purpose fresh in activity in the community," he said.**

The general theme of the campaign is centered around the outlay of the drive, "Citizens' Army to Build a Better Community for Our Youth."

Generals for the drive are Mrs. Rosie Tyler, Misses Adele Phelps and Alice Holt and Messrs. Hanson Brooks, Walter S. Mills, George Bell, and Elijah Arthur.

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TWO MEMBERS of the younger set are the victims of Cupid to the extent that they are betrothed and ready to step out on the wings of love and matrimony. So, their parents are announcing their engagement.

Mrs. Lovie Blackstone of Admiral Drive announces the engagement of her daughter, Deflores Marita, to Isaac W. Cole, the son of Mrs. Ella Cole of Hayre De Grace.

Also the daughter of the late Lawrence E. Blackstone, Deflores is a member of the 1957 graduating class of Morgan State College, and at present is acting librarian at Bates High School.

Her fiancee received a bachelor of science degree from Morgan in 1955.

He served as an army lieutenant for two years, and is now employed at the Brookhaven National Laboratory at Upton, L.I., new York.

The wedding will take place on June 7 at Asbury Methodist Church.

Mr. and Mrs. Raleigh Covert of West Gate announced the engagement of their daughter, Evangeline Juanita to Melvin Purnell Pindell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob J. Pindell in Parole.

Evangeline, a graduate of Bates High School, who was honored in business education, is secretary to Francis F. Noel, principal of Stanton Elementary School.

The wedding will take place this summer.

MRS. LULU HARDESTY, prominent school marm, (she's president of the Anne Arundel County Branch of the NAACP.) was a most gracious hostess in her lovely home to her bridge group, the Entre Nous Club, on Saturday evening.

(Of course it is no news to say Lulu is gracious in her home, for everyone knows how pleasant it is to be invited there.)

Before retiring to the dining table, where was centered with a pretty arrangement of yellow and white mums, wine was served in the living room.

The delicious menu consisted of fried chicken, macaroni and cheese, green beans, celery, olives, pickles, hot rolls and coffee.

Beautiful prizes were won as follows:

Mrs. Vandola King, first; Mrs. Mary Baden, second, and Mrs. Alma Hilliard, third. Mrs. Elsie Richardson, who was a guest, also received a prize.

JERRY WALKER, a senior at Maryland State College at Princess Anne, was one of three students selected to be included among those in Who's Who Among American University and College Students at recent ceremonies on Honors Day at the college.

Jerry is a major in sociology and at present is in Annapolis doing practice teaching at Bates High School.

Since being here, he has made a fine impression and many friends. An all-round student, scholastically and in all other activities, it looks like he has a secure future.

He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank A. Walker of Bluefield, W. Va.

Dr. Vernon W. Stone, head of the department of business education of Maryland State College, while in Annapolis, not only proved himself as a dynamic speaker, but also as a fine musician.

Dropping in at the William H. Richardsons after the annual dinner of the Northwest Street YMCA, he perched himself on the piano stool and practically sounded off as an all chairman of the campaign. **"As our workers approach the people of our community for their membership, we hope they will consider it a real privilege to join the Y as their support is needed to keep this purpose fresh in activity in the community," he said.**

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Bladder 'Weakness'

If worried by Bladder Weakness, Waking Up Nights or Bed Wetting, too frequent, burning or painful urination, Urinary Discomfort, Cloudy Urine, due to common Kidney and Bladder Irritants, try CYSTEX for quick help. 50 years use gives Cystex the proof and the 48 hour guarantee. Use under money-back guarantee. See how fast you improve.

WHY SUFFER ITCHING STINGING SKIN MISERY?

In genuine BLACK AND WHITE OINTMENT SOLD ALL OVER THE WORLD

Famous Skin Ointment Has Brought Help To Thousands!

Follow the example of thousands, get Black and White Ointment. Trial size 35c. Regular size only 53c and you get 4½ times as much in large 75c size. Even more reason to buy Black and White Ointment today! Cleanse skin with Black and White Skin Soap.

Relieves Itching, Stinging Of:

- UGLY BUMPS (Blackheads)
- ACNE PIMPLES
- Simple RINGWORM
- TETTER • ECZEMA
- Burning, IRRITATED FEET
- Red, IRRITATED HANDS

BLACK AND WHITE OINTMENT

TOURIN' TURNER

By E. S. McDANIEL

The Turner Station Health Committee which had to postpone its Feb. 22rd musical concert by the churches of the community because of the snow, has scheduled it again for Sunday, 3 p.m.

You may use the same tickets for admission. The concert is for the benefit of the building fund of the Health Center.

* * *

PERSONALITY of the week: Mrs. Estelle C. Hull Gibson Flournoy of 210 Sellers Point Road, is one of this area's star residents because she gives freely of her time and talent whenever needed.

Born on Sparrows Point, she attended elementary school there. There were no secondary schools in Baltimore County at the time so she had to wait and graduated from Douglass High Evening School at the age of 37.

She was the salutatorian of a class of 150. The Rev. William Tapscott was the valedictorian.

Mrs. Flournoy did summer and extension studying at Virginia State College. She started teaching evening school in Virginia and after one term, was made a regular day school teacher.

IN SPARROWS Point, Turner Station and vicinity, Mrs. Flournoy is affectionately known as "Miss Estelle." She was married to the late Thomas Gibson in 1916 and was widowed on Christmas day, 1939.

After the death of her husband, she supported herself, her mother, and a young baby by teaching and operating a filling station.

Miss Estelle was married to the late William H. Flournoy of Turner Station in 1945 and she was widowed for a second time on December 19, 1950.

Following her marriage to Mr. Flournoy, Miss Estelle joined the New Shiloh Baptist Church where her husband was chairman of the trustee board, and director of the senior choir.

She became active in the church and has remained so. Mrs. Flournoy has been president of the senior choir No. 1 since 1952.

She has been superintendent of the Sunday School since 1948; she is a member of the senior missionary society; and has been active on the steering committee for the annual women's day for several years. If the musicians for the church are not available, she fills in at the piano or at the organ.

* * *

MRS. FLOURNOY is associate matron of the Lily of the Valley Chapter 8 of the Eastern Star, which was organized in her home and she is secretary of the Sellers Point High School PTA, as well as treasurer of the Turner Elementary School PTA.

Mrs. Flournoy is clerk in her son's grocery store while he watches at the Sellers Point High School.

She uses her time between waiting on the customers to crocheting such beautiful articles such as bed spreads and table cloths.

Late in life, Mrs. Flournoy undertook a responsibility that few people would have the courage to do. With a teen-age daughter to educate, she built a beautiful semi bungalow 6 room home with a large basement.

She told me that she talked the matter over with God and she has faith.

* * *

RECENTLY, Mrs. Flournoy and her daughter, Miriam Lee, moved into their new home across the street from Mrs. Margaret Abbott, who conceived the idea that it would be a fine gesture as a house warming surprise.

With the aid of Mrs. Susie Parsons, Mrs. Rosetta Hill and Mrs. Carrie Delk, Mrs. Abbott made a white tree and formed the leaves of 1, 5, and 10 dollar bills—a total of $85—as a gift from her neighbors.

Because of her job as superintendent of the New Shiloh Sunday School, Mrs. Flournoy has been a regular participant in the National Sunday School and Baptist Training Union Congress since 1948, and has attended conventions in all sections of the country.

It is quite an asset to have such people in Turner Station as the charming, cheerful, active, talented Mrs. Flournoy. We salute her.

Her birth date is Sept. 18th.

* * *

THERE is much missionary work to be done at home and abroad. Often we are so overcome by the suffering abroad, that we overlook the work that needs to be done right at home.

While attending the meeting of the senior missionary society of New Shiloh Baptist Church, the writer mentioned the case of a 10-year-old Randallstown boy, who has a serious illness. Prayer and religious aid were requested.

One daughter, Mrs. Pearl McLaughlin, asked co-workers on her job for help and collected money with which to wallpaper bed and mattress were purchased.

Some of the missionary ladies collected clothing while the minister's wife, Mrs. Bertha Everett, purchased food for the child.

On a cold windy Saturday, the Rev. James A. Everett, Mrs. Everett, Mrs. Josephine Venable, who is president of the missionaries, and Mrs. Pearl McLaughlin drove to the home of the stricken child to carry the gifts and pray with the family.

THE REV. Mr. Everett leave a plain talk to the family about God and the welfare of their souls, after singing and praying with them. The father was the first to say he wanted to get into the church.

The mother followed the father, and the children asked to be accented in the church until 11 of the household of 17 represented to be admitted to the church. There was rejoicing in the front room of that small 4 room home that houses 17 persons.

The Rev. and Mrs. Everett returned to the home about a week ago to carry clothes that Mrs. Everett had collected from members of her church but finding the family short of food, they returned to the home the next day with food.

Although this family is nearly 25 miles away from the Everett's home in spiritual advice, requested that the Rev. Mr. Everett and Mrs. Venable of the child are also under the supervision of Rev. Everett, while the children attended to join Union Methodist Church of Randallstown.

The "YMCA Men's Checker Club also donated a bushel basket of food to this family.

"There is much missionary work right around you; don't shun it, but give a helping hand to the less fortunate.

This is what the Savior would like for you to do, for when you help His little children, you are helping Him.

Remember your neighbor here at home.

Mrs. Welcome to seek seat in Assembly?

Mrs. Verda Welcome, civic leader and wife of Dr. Harry Welcome, was presented Tuesday as a Fourth District representative to the House of Delegates next year.

Dr. Thomas A. Pitts included the remarks as he presented Mrs. Welcome at the Frontiers Club luncheon where she introducted the guest speaker.

Mrs. Welcome, a Republican, laughingly replied:

"I admit I'm interested in getting someone to run but I'm not that someone."

The AFRO has learned that Mrs. Welcome is being encouraged to make the race.

So far she has not accepted but has not made a final refusal the AFRO was told.

Deadline for filing for the May primary is March 10.

Alumni wanted

Miss Sallie Ponzo, alumni secretary, has issued the call for Morgan State College alumni to "organize several chapters in the Baltimore area."

Organization of the local chapters will be discussed at a meeting Sunday, March 9, at 3 p.m., at the Sharp-Street Methodist Church Community House, 1204 Etting St.

Miss Ponzo has asked that every alumnus in the Baltimore area join in the effort to "make the alumni grow."

Parole PTA hears Mrs. E. Richardson

ANNAPOLIS — Mrs. Eloise Richardson, children's librarian of the Annapolis and Anne Arundel County Public Library, was the speaker at the Parole Elementary PTA on Monday evening.

Surrounded by a display of children's books on parade for all grade levels, Mrs. Richardsons talked on the subject "Your Children and Books." **In her talk she discussed at length, the stages children go through in their reactions to books as they are exposed to levels and their reactions to them.**

Mrs. Richardson particularly stressed reading to pre-school children and why books are so important to them.

"The small child is intensely curious about his world. Although his horizons are narrow, his mind reaches out from his limited largely to his home and immediate neighborhood, with those horizons lies a wealth of material for him to explore," Mrs. Richardson said.

She further stated that reads around three years old, and should begin when they are ready to new pre-school age children especially recommended family read-along story hours at home.

Dr. Anna A. Hedgeman, assistant to the Mayor of New York was the guest speaker Sunday for the tea held in the auditorium of Dunbar High School.

Approximately 1,550 persons were present.

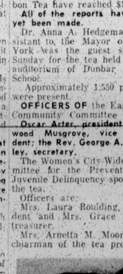
OFFICERS of the East Side Community Committee are: **Oscar Acter, president; Haywood Musgrove, vice president; the Rev. George A. Crawley, secretary.**

The Women's City-Wide Committee for the Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency sponsored the tea.

Officers are:

Mrs. Ethel Boulding, president and Mrs. Grace Booth, treasurer.

Mrs. Arnetta M. Moore was chairman of the tea program.



MRS. ANNA HEDGEMAN
Tea guest speaker

Eastside tea nets $1,865

The East Side Community Committee announced Wednesday that to date, the proceeds from the 14th annual Ribbon Tea have reached $1,865.

All of the reports have not yet been made.

Post Office plans new truck terminal

The Post Office Department is reviewing proposals for a new truck terminal in Baltimore.

Specifications call for a one-story, cinder - block, brick-faced building with 6,000 square feet of space under roof; 15,000 square feet of outside maneuvering area; and two large loading platforms.

The location of the new postal facility will be a one-acre plot at the intersection of Old Georgetown and Dorsia Rds. The Department holds an assignable land option on this property.

DINNER SPEAKER — Dr. Vernon W. Stone, head of the department of business education at Maryland State College, was the main speaker at Annapolis for the North West St. YMCA at its annual dinner.

YMCA described as 'fountain of youth'

By ELOISE RICHARDSON

ANNAPOLIS — "The YMCA can be described as a fountain of youth inasmuch as its waters, symbolized by unique services, forever spring forth as a beacon to all youth everywhere," stated Dr. Vernon W. Stone.

Dr. Stone, who is head of the department of business education of Maryland State College, was speaking on the subject "The YMCA, the Fountain of Youth," at the annual dinner of the Northwest Street YMCA.

He pointed out that adults who play a dual role in the YMCA program, undoubtedly stay younger physically, mentally and spiritually because of their active participation, including services to youth.

DR. STONE further stated that YMCA activities aid in effecting desirable adulthood, giving a balance to life, establishing character, thwarting Communistic efforts, and establishing a desirable code of behavior.

"The YMCA also provides a cultural understanding of various peoples and nations, affording youth an opportunity to participate in the expression and solution of current controversial issues, providing a suitable atmosphere for the promotion of good citizenship," the dynamic speaker said.

In his discussion of the YMCA training program, Dr. Stone said the organization aids in the locating and cultivating of leadership ability.

He recalled the Fourteenth Amendment of 1867, having to do with equal rights of the races, which he stated, furnishes a forceful reminder that all kinds of leaders are required to accomplish a given objective.

A world-wide traveler, writer and professor of economics, Dr. Stone has been affiliated with the Florida A. and M. University at Tallahassee as professor in the department of business.

HE WAS an associate professor of business at Savannah State College at Savannah, Georgia, and chairman of the department of business and economics at Bicker College, Bicker, Maine.

From 1947 to 1949, he was the official court reporter of the Nuremberg War Crimes trials at Nuremberg, Germany.

He served as verbatim reporter at the United Nations for the Mission to Palestine under Dr. Ralestine and Dr. Ralph J. Bunche, Haifa, Israel, in 1948 and 1949.

Dr. Stone received his bachelor of arts degree at Roosevelt University in Chicago, his master's degree from the University of Chicago, and his doctor's degree from the University of California at Berkeley.

He was introduced at the dinner by Frank B. Butler, a member of the Committee of Management of the Northwest Street YMCA.

Music was furnished by a mixed ensemble from Bates High School, under the director of Mrs. Bernice Gibbs of the music department.

The dinner preceded the kickoff meeting for the Enrollment Campaign, which was held on Tuesday night.

A panel centered around the theme, "Making Better American Citizens," was featured.

These participating were Mrs. Flora Andrews, a visiting teacher; Mrs. William H. Richardson, children's librarian;

Also the Rev. William H. Davis from the church; Leroy Buston, a social worker and J. Alexander Wiseman, professor of education and chairman of the Committee of Management.

Miss Adele Phelps served as moderator. George Phelps Jr. is chairman of the drive, and Paul Haughton is executive secretary.

Miss Cooper secretly wed

PHILADELPHIA

Mr. and Mrs. Owen Cooper of 3 Kenyon Ave., Swarthmore, Pa. have announced the marriage of their daughter, Reba Louise to Lonnie James Staton.

The couple was married on June 1, 1957 in Baltimore.

THE BRIDE is a senior at Morgan State College, an honor student majoring in sociology. She's a member of Delta Sigma Theta sorority.

Mr. Staton, son of the Rev. Mr. and Mrs. S. Theodore Cooper of 7636 Brewster Ave., Philadelphia, is a senior at Temple University. The Rev. Mr. Cooper is pastor of Wesley AME Church in Swarthmore.

Mr. Staton is a major in physical education and variety athlete in football and track. He is a member of Omega Psi Phi, Kappa Phi Kappa and Phi Epsilon Kappa fraternities.

GLEN BURNIE ECHOES

By FELICIA ADAMS

Clarence Foster of Quarterfield Rd. is recovering from a recent operation at Johns Hopkins Hospital.

Mrs. Adelaide Manly is improving from a recent illness in her home on the Severn.

The Grace Methodist Church is ending a week of evangelistic activities. They have had a house to house visitation program.

The newly organized Pastor's Aide Circle of Metropolitan Methodist Church, Glen Burnie, held its first program Sunday.

They presented the Golden Light Quartet. Solos were sung by Mrs. Florence Hayes and Mrs. Irene Johnson.

The organization was dedicated at the program and the officers are:

Mrs. Cynthia Smith, president; Mrs. Justine Gaither, vice-president; Mrs. Horton, secretary and Mrs. Oscar Gaither, treasurer. The Rev. James E. Adams is pastor.

LUTHER ROBINSON of Quarterfield Rd., is new custodian of Metropolitan Church.

Thanks go to James Johnson of Quarterfield Rd., and to Harvey Edwards of Donaldson Ave.

These two gentlemen make special trips to get members without transportation to Metropolitan Methodist Church. Let's hear more of others in the area who are giving their services to help neighbors.

The Women's Society of Christian Service of the South Baltimore District held their Cultivation Rally Friday at the Mt. Zion Church in Eastport.

Mrs. Augustine Wells, the district president, offered remarks to the new secretary of cultivation, Mrs. Henrietta Johnson.

This office was recently held by the late Mrs. Rachael C. Smith.

* * *

MRS. PRESTON VAULS, president of the WSCS presided. Music was furnished by the female choir of the church where the rally was held. Mrs. Alice Brown of Chews Methodist read "The Creation."

A social hour was held after the program.

The fellowship group met recently at the home of the Rev. and Mrs. James E. Henson, Annapolis Blvd.

They plan to visit the Plays Manor Convalescent Home with a program on March 16.

They also plan to give a spiritual program on March 30, at the John Wesley Methodist Church in Glen Burnie.

Edward Matthews, president of the fellowship group, presided at the meeting.

Among those present at the meeting were Mr. and Mrs. Pinkney Simms, Mr. and Mrs. James A. Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Broderon Sr., and Mr. and Mrs. Broderon Jr.;

Mrs. Mildred Montgomery, Mrs. Virginia Baker, Mrs. Mary Yancy, Mrs. Hattie Stevens and George Day.

* * *

THE GOLDEN CROSS Society of the John Wesley Church in Glen Burnie met recently in the home of Mrs. Howard Hall, Cherry Lane.

Mrs. Lavania Hall, presided and plans were made to purchase tile for the dinn hall and the basement of their church.

The men of the church will do the work.

Those who attended the meeting were Mrs. Mary Burley, Mrs. Anna Matthews, Mrs. Henrietta Johnson, Mrs. Dollors Averton, The Rev. S. J. Mack and James A. Johnson Sr.

They had a social hour after the meeting.

The Follow Along Chorus of John Wesley was featured in a musical program for Men's Day Sunday night at their church.

Robert Booker was the sponsor; Leonard Burley was the Men's Day chairman. Douglas Roberts is president of the Methodist Men.

The Rev. S. J. Mack is president.

* * *

THE YOUNG Adult Choir Ladies gave a surprise shower in honor of Mrs. Sylvia Boyer of the home of Sherman Boyer, Sr.

The Evangelistic Committee and WSCS are presenting Miss Moriel Yvonne Fisher in a recital, 7 p.m. at Hall Methodist Miss Fisher's accompanist will be Earl Wallace. The program is sponsored by the Rev. Laura J. Edwards. The Rev. S. B. Bennett is pastor.

Other activities for Hall Methodist include the Annual Men's Day, March 9. The Rev. Samuel Anderson will be guest speaker for the 11 a.m. service and the Rev. J. D. Brown will be the 3 p.m. speaker.

The Rev. Mr. Brown is ex-pastor of Hall Methodist.

Clubs

THE SIGMA ALPHA CHAPTER of the Phalanx Fraternity annual contest is underway, a group of young women vieing for first place honors, sponsored by the Sigma Chi.

Contestants are Miss Doris Boyd, Denise Smith, Adrena Bowman, Gwendolyn Bowman, Carleen McPherson, Phyllis Dawson, Gloria House, Christine Bodley, Charlotte Green, Sandra Reynolds, Hattie Shelton, and Ernestine Brown.

Funds from the sale of tags will go into the fund from which The Phalanx Fraternity will award a scholarship to some outstanding high school student. The young woman who sells the greatest number of tags will be crowned "Miss Phalanx" at the organization's annual Coronation Ball in May.

Urban League dinner scheduled this Sunday

The annual dinner meeting of the Baltimore Urban League will be held at 5 p.m. on Sunday, March 9 at the Emerson Ballroom, 1717 N. Charles St.

The featured speaker will be Dr. John Hope Franklin, chairman of the History Department of Brooklyn College, who will speak on "Integration and National Responsibility."

Dr. Franklin, a Ph. D. graduate of Harvard University, is well known for his social study "From Slavery to Freedom: A History of American Negroes."

Following the dinner, election of new executive board members will take place.

The Baltimore Urban League is an interracial organization designed to foster understanding among the people of Baltimore.

Last year it received 90 per cent of its operating budget from funds derived through the Joint Appeal.

FAIRFIELD NOTES

By BEATRICE NICHOLSON

The Annual Day of Mt. Winans Methodist Church was celebrated Sunday, with a day of prayer.

At the 3 p.m. speaker was the Rev. Samuel Moore of the Jessup, Md., ME Church.

A men's day choir of various churches provided the music.

The Rev. A. J. Jones of Corner Stone Christian Church, Laurel, Md., and its glee club were visitors at the 3 p.m. service. The Rev. Mr. Jones delivered a sermon.

Members of the Sarah Collins Guild were hostesses at a dinner served in the afternoon.

* * *

A "SERMON IN SONG" was presented at 8 p.m. Mrs. Dorothy Kraft, director of the Guilford Chorus. The Rev. Albert Hammond Jr. is pastor of this church.

* * *

THE REV. G.H. FLEMING, pastor of Russell Chapel AME Church in Washington, will be the 3 p.m. speaker at New Market Baptist Church Sunday.

The Rev. William Rivers is pastor of the church at 3100 Laurens St.

New Mt. Carmel Baptist Church, 1907-09 Poplar Grove St., will feature the "Search Land Gospel Singers." Sunday at their 3 p.m. service. The Rev. Hezekiah Williamson is pastor.

Bishop A. J. Jackson of Philadelphia is expected to join the second week of revival services.

Send cards to Deacon David Lane, formerly of Fountain Baptist Church in Fairfield.

He suffered a stroke recently and is a patient at University Hospital. Mr. Lane's wife and son are also ill. They live at 407 Gwynn Ave. in Baltimore.

* * *

THE REV. MRS. Emma S. Swann was guest speaker Sunday at Trinity AME Church.

The Rev. I. A. Miller is pastor of the church at Hoffman St. and Collington Ave. Mrs. Gladys Gunther was chairman of the program.

Members of Mrs. Swann is pastor of the Baziil AME Church in Cockeysville, Md.

Recently she attended the Founder's Day celebration of the second Episcopal district at Kittrell College, Kittrell, N.C.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Smith, Dolly Gibbs and Leroy Hunter of Glen Burnie went to Florence, N.C. recently.

They helped Eddie Gibbs, father of Mrs. Smith, celebrate his 85th birthday. He is a native of Florence County.

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FLAG DRAPED coffin of the last survivor of the Constellation, is shown above at the Sunday funeral services in Asbury Methodist Church, Annapolis.

Tributes paid to William Fletcher, last crew member of Constellation

By ELOISE RICHARDSON

ANNAPOLIS — Annapolis has lost one of its most outstanding citizens, a staunch churchman, a great fraternal leader, and a loyal and reputable retired member of U.S. Navy personnel.

Such thoughts must have run through the minds of the hundreds of friends and spectators who, on Sunday, went to the Asbury Methodist Church to pay their respect, for the last time, at funeral rites, for William E. Fletcher.

At the impressive rites, tributes were extended by several of his associates, while others sat in silence and bowed their heads in approval of the remarks made by them.

"During his lifetime he sought friendship, love and truth, and he rose above common things in order to see the light of men and the light which cometh from the Son of God, Jesus Christ."

These were the words that came from the Rev. Kelly Jackson, area director of the Washington Annual Conference.

* * *

THURMAN B. DOTSON, conference lay leader, said there is an empty place against the sky because a tall cedar of Lebanon has fallen.

The Rev. I. R. Berry, pastor of Asbury Church said Mr. Fletcher was a loyal member, loved his church and helped to make it one of the biggest in the Washington Conference.

For 60 years, Mr. Fletcher had served Asbury Church.

He also served as lay leader for the church in the Washington Conference for about 12 years.

An honorary 33rd degree Mason, he was a past grand master of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Maryland, Free and Accepted Masons.

Mr. Fletcher was a member of Hiram Consistory No. 2, and was a past grand master of the United Order of Odd Fellows of Maryland.

* * *

AT THE time of his death, he was 94 years old. Seventy of those years were associated with the U.S. Naval Academy and the Naval service.

He was believed to have been the oldest former member of the crew of the frigate Constellation.

Born at Mitchellville in Prince Georges County on June 3, 1866, Mr. Fletcher first came to the Naval Academy at the age of 14 as a mess boy earning $5 per month.

After several years of service as a mess boy with the midshipmen, Mr. Fletcher enlisted in the Navy on the old Constellation and served during the Spanish-American War.

At the end of this war he returned to the Naval Academy, where he was appointed head waiter in the mess hall.

When the United States entered the first World War, Mr. Fletcher was 51, beyond the age of enlistment.

However, he was so valuable, that by special order of the Navy Department, he was enlisted as a wardroom steward to train mess boys for the fleet.

* * *

AFTER THE war he, once again, returned to the midshipmen's mess where he served until 1930, when he transferred to the athletic department.

During his years at the Naval Academy Mr. Fletcher made 29 **midshipmen's training cruises.**

In his lifetime he was always proud of the fact that he could name in order, every superintendent of the Naval Academy as far back as 1880.

He knew most all of the admirals and captains and quite a few of the commanders in the Navy. Whenever he made trips to Washington and visited any of them, he was always well received.

In the 1955 issue of Shipmate, U.S. Naval Academy Alumni mouthpiece, was the following:

"WILLIAM EDWARD FLETCHER . . . Naturally this name will bring back pleasant memories to anyone associated with the Naval Academy during the past 70 years.

"That name should set many old timers and youngsters, alike, thinking.

"The aged retired admiral possibly will sit back, reminisce and then say to himself, 'Sure I remember him. He was my mess boy back in '02 when I was a radet at the Academy'.

"Then another admiral, who was on duty at the Academy during World War I would say, 'I think he was the old gent back in the first World War, who was too old for active duty; yet so valuable that the Navy Department issued special orders to enlist him'.

"A radio announcer who covered the 100th anniversary of the Naval Academy would recall 'Yes, Fletcher was the youngster that referred to Admiral Dewey's mess boy and remembered serving with Halsey's father when he was a lieutenant aboard the Constellation . . . .

"The newly commissioned ensign would say 'Our hops and June Week wouldn't have been a success if it wasn't for Fletcher's help and seeing his smiling face'.

"And then the plebe of the 1954 class would remark, 'Sure, I know him. He came to the Academy the same time as John Paul Jones' . . . .

"All these remarks, if said, would have been true, except that of the plebe. However, the plebe would not be too far off, as it was in 1880 when William Edward Fletcher first came to the Naval Academy."

* * *

AMONG THOSE present at the funeral, who might have had such thoughts running through their minds were Capt. John G. M. Stone (retired), Capt. Elmer D. Langworthy (retired), Com. B. F. Tilley (retired) and Mrs. Isaac Foster Burtch, a hostess of many years at the Naval Academy, who worked with Mr. Fletcher.

Com. Marcy Dupre was also present, representing the superintendent of the Academy.

Mr. Fletcher is survived by a son, Charles W. Fletcher, principal of Sollers Point High School at Dundalk; a daughter, Mrs. Pauline F. Weeden, assistant principal of the Dunbar High School in Lynchburg, Va.; Also two grandchildren, Charles F. Fletcher Jr. of Baltimore, and Mrs. Pauline Weeden of Lynchburg, and two great-grandchildren.

LEAVING HIS CHURCH for the last time is William E. Fletcher, last surviving crew member of the Constellation, whose flag draped coffin is being born from Asbury Methodist Church after services in Annapolis Sunday. Mr. Fletcher, 94, was a member of the church trustee board for 60 years and active in the Washington Conference for half a century.

Mrs. Mary Carpenter, 90, minister's widow, dies

Mrs. Mary Carpenter, 90, 3108 Barclay St., died on Wednesday evening at her residence.

Death was due to complications of old age.

**At her bedside when she died were her granddaughter, Mi