Trial for Fired Policeman Slated

(Continued from Page 1)

Wallace, Capt. William C. Feehley, Lt. Frank A. Deems and Sgt. Leslie Kummer, all of whom had given testimony.

Victim Tells Story

The chief witness was Mr. Anderson, victim of the brutality, who testified that while in his truck, Saturday evening, at Edmondson Ave. near Fremont, Officer Copsey called to him, "Hey, boy, come here."

Anderson said that as he approached the officer a small boy walked by and the officer struck him and threw him into the cab of the vehicle then ordered Anderson to climb in and follow his orders.

They drove to a point near Saratoga St. and Myrtle Ave. where the driver was ordered to halt, the charge continued.

"There," Mr. Anderson related, "the officer, who appeared to be intoxicated, smashed the windshield with the butt of his revolver and "threatened to kill me if I moved.

"Cursing and using abusive language, he pointed the revolver at my face and fired a shot. The bullet zipped through my cheek, and in the excitement, I jumped out of the cab and began running around the truck followed by him," the victim added.

Runs to Police Station

The pair circled the truck several times, he continued, before he managed to gain enough lead to slip away and run to the Western police station, a few blocks distant, where he reported the incident.

Police of that district took a report, shifted their information to Northwestern District station and then took Anderson to University Hospital, where he was treated.

The incident occurred shortly after 6 p.m. Some three hours later, Captain Feehley saw the officer, stripped him of his equipment and temporarily relieved him from duty pending an investigation.

Intoxication Charge Hurled

At the hearing, Captain Feehley said "Copsey's face was flushed and his eyes were bloodshot, but he could give a good account of himself."

The captain admitted, under questioning by the commissioner, that Copsey "appeared to be under the influence of liquor, but that he was an exceptionally good officer."

Lieutenant Deems testified that "the officer had been drinking." Sergeant Kummer gave similar testimony, adding that the officer was intoxicated.

Police Department physician Dr. N. C. Nitsch, who examined Copsey approximately three and a half hours after the incident, said "he had been drinking but was not intoxicated."

Refutation Fantastic

Copsey's version of the incident was that he first saw the truck at Fremont and Edmondson Aves. and when the driver failed to halt he commandeered another vehicle and gave chase.

He said he overtook the vehicle at Saratoga St. and Myrtle Ave. where the driver got out and started running. "When he didn't stop, I drew my revolver," he said, adding, "in stumbling, it went off. I had no intentions of shooting the man," the officer stated.

Under direct questioning by the commissioner, Copsey admitted he did not have sufficient cause even to draw his revolver, much less fire it. He repeated: "I'm sorry, I didn't mean to hit him."

Harshly Reprimanded

Copsey admitted under questioning that he had had two beers but emphatically denied having any strong liquors.

Before passing judgement, the commissioner observed, "You are very lucky you didn't kill that man. I cannot tolerate that sort of conduct from any man on the police force of the City of Baltimore.

Previously Slew Soldier

Copsey is the same officer who pumped several bullets into the body of Pvt. Sidney Jordan Jr., 18, of Ft. Meade on July 3, on lower Pennsylvania Ave.

The soldier, who had had some trouble in a disorderly house in the neighborhood was pronounced dead when taken to University Hospital.

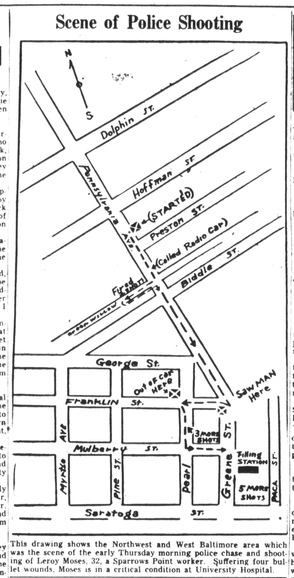
There were five bullet holes in his body. In the fracas with the soldier, Copsey's entire bottom lip was torn off. Two weeks later he was exonerated following a hearing before Magistrate Perston A. Pairo.

Atkinson Congratulated

Thursday in a letter to Commissioner Atkinson, Wilton Brown, executive secretary of the Baltimore NAACP congratulated him on his prompt action.

"You have indicated to the community that disciplinary action will be taken against officers who do not conduct themselves with discretion," Mr. Brown stated.

Scene of Police Shooting



Man Shot 3 Times in Back

(Continued from Page 1)

This drawing shows the Northwest and West Baltimore area which was the scene of the early Thursday morning police chase and shooting of Leroy Moses, 32, a Sparrows Point worker. Suffering four bullet wounds, Moses is in a critical condition at University Hospital.

leaning; while Officer Sempeck started to drive the injured policeman to the hospital.

Police Department physician Dr. N. C. Nitsch, who examined Copsey approximately three and a half hours after the incident, said "he had been drinking but was not intoxicated."

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En route, he spied Moses at Franklin St. and Pennsylvania Ave., Officer Glass reported. Circling the block, he got out of the police car at Pearl and Franklin Sts. and called to him, but he ran down Pearl to Mulberry St., the officer said.

Scout Car Takes Up Chase

Resuming the chase, he fired three more shots the officer said. Joined then by Officer Sempeck in the radio car, he drove to Mulberry and Green Sts., where he questioned a woman standing on the corner as to which direction the fleeing man went.

When the woman indicated that the fugitive had entered an alley in the rear of Mulberry St., he went through the alley but reportedly saw no one in the various backyards.

Returning to the corner, he again questioned the woman, who, this time, pointed he said, to the grease pit of the filling station.

Woman Gives Fugitive Away

The officer said that when he flashed his light into the pit he saw the man crouched in a corner.

Shot at Man in Pit

"I ordered him out," the report continues. "Instead, he pointed his revolver at me. Standing at the edge of the pit, I fired five shots. He cried out as though he was hurt.

"I then jumped into the pit and wrestled the revolver from him and handed it to Officer Sembeck, who was standing on the edge of the pit."

The revolver, a 44-calibre Colt, with five cartridges in it, was turned over to Captain Feehley.

Victim Family Man

With his wife, Mrs. Mattie B. Moses and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Philip Moses, the victim moved into the house at 1826 N. Caroline St., near North Ave., last December.

The parents said Moses owns a car, but they did not know what he was doing with it on Pennsylvania Ave., Wednesday night. They said he has never before been involved in any trouble.

His wife said he left the house shortly after midnight saying he was going to bring her something to eat. She could not explain what he was doing with the gun, but she said he had not been drinking at the time he left home. Mrs. Moses is a factory worker.

Officer Glass, not yet charged in the case remains on duty. Date for a preliminary hearing will depend on the outcome of Moses's injuries.

Police Admit, 'We Touched Him Up a Bit'

"We couldn't control him, so we had to touch him up a bit," admitted Officer Roger Stocksdale in Northwestern police court, Tuesday, as he explained the bandages which swathed the bruised and battered head of Chris Cagle, suspected bookmaker of 1411 Division Street.

Cagle was arrested Monday afternoon, when he attempted to dispose of a slip of paper on which some horse race bets were believed to have been written.

Sgt. Wade Poole, recently assigned to Northwestern district, testified that he saw Cagle and an unidentified man exchange a slip of paper after which the former entered a photo shop in the 1500 block of Pennsylvania Ave.

"We Had to Club Him"

"When he refused to give me the slip of paper I reached for his hand. It was then that he shoved me through a glass show case and put the paper in his mouth," the sergeant charged.

The officer continued, "We had to club him and then he ran into the back room of the shop and spit the piece of paper out of his mouth."

Sgt. Poole said the slip indicated $13 worth of bets and that Cagle had $27 on him when searched.

Writing Poetry Not to Be Contest Winner's Vocation

By LOUISE K. HINES

(See Pictures and Poems in Magazine Section.)

They "love" poetry, they will continue to write it, but they will teach for a living, say the three winners of the second annual poetry writing contest for Maryland pupils.

Twice first prize winner, 18-year-old Charles Kemp has been turning out verse since he was 10. He's encouraged by his moderate success, but thinks a practical choice of a life's work would be teaching.

He walked off with top honors in the NAACP essay contest in 1947, and garnered a welcome $25 last year, when he penned the letter which named Jackie Robinson as his favorite athlete in a competition sponsored by a movie house.

Gives Teacher Credit

Now a ninth-grade Douglass High School pupil Kemp gives credit for his success to Miss Osceola Savage, teacher at the Booker T. Washington Junior High School, where he wrote "Faith and Fortitude," a poem honoring Mrs. Mary Bethune, educator.

The son of Mrs. Mary Kemp of 659 Pierce St., Charles is one of six children.

Miss Frances Cheeks, Coppin Teachers College freshman, won the $25 first prize in the college division of the contest for her poem, "God's Little Workman," honoring the late Dr. George W. Carver.

Finds Poetry Writing Difficult

"Writing poetry is hard work. I see the need for working even harder to get poems to suit me," said this young 19-year-old student, who has already seen two of her works published in collections of high school verse.

Her ambitions are a successful teaching career and the publication of a book of her own poems. Residing at 1008 Brantley Ave., she is one of the five children of Mrs. Lucy Cheeks.

Poems in Anthology

Twenty-year-old Miss Nancy Levi, second prize winner in the college division with her verse on Harriett Tubman, has turned out poems for three years.

The National Anthology of College Poetry for 1946 and '48 contained her poems.

She's a senior, majoring in English at Morgan State College, and cherishes the fond hope of becoming a recognized poet, a hope shared by her mother, Mrs. Ida Rusk Washington of 2117 McCulloh Street.

Guiding spirits in her brief poetic career have been a high school teacher, Miss Ethel Weir, and a close friend, Miss Ruth Johnson, who garnered top honors in the poetry contest last year.

The suspect was treated at Provident Hospital then docketed on charges of acting disorderly, assaulting Sgt. Poole and bookmaking.

Woman Denies "Provocation"

As a defense witness, Ernest L. Perkins, attorney, summoned Mrs. Aida White, 1500 block Argyle Ave., who was in the photo shop at the time. She said the officers entered the place and immediately began beating Cagle and their clubs without any provocation.

The chief argument of Mr. Perkins was that, since the officers were not certain they had witnessed a bet, their arrest was illegal. That would automatically rule out any subsequent charges, Perkins contended.

The magistrate, however, felt that a case had been established and ordered the suspect held under $1000 bail on the assault and bookmaking charges and released him in his own recognizance on the disorderly count.

Violence Fatal to 3 in January

Only three violent deaths were reported by police officials during Jan.

These occurred during the last week of the month.

Mrs. Hilda Johnson, 37, of 5.53 Lafayette Ave., died Jan. 24 of injuries received when she either fell or was thrown from a funeral car at Druid Hill Ave., and Biddle St., several days before.

Not satisfied with the details as uncovered through their investigation, police charged John Queen of 818 N. McKean Ave., driver of the car with manslaughter, and stated him for a hearing to be held on a date set by the State's Attorney's office.

Tragic Fight

On Jan. 27, William Cannady, 25, of 511 S. Green St., was pronounced dead in South Baltimore General Hospital of wounds received in a fight. A suspect has been arrested.

The following day, Michael Scott, 47, 752 George St., died of injuries when he was struck by a hit-run motorist near his home. The driver has not been apprehended.

LUCKY-GARNER

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Announcement has been made of the marriage of Miss Elsie M. Garner to Rodney Lucky in Lancaster, S.C., on Jan. 23. Miss Garner is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John A. Garner, and Mr. Lucky is the son of Mr. and Mrs. William M. Lucky.

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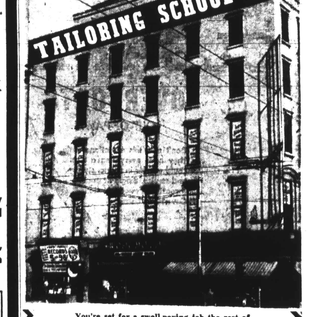

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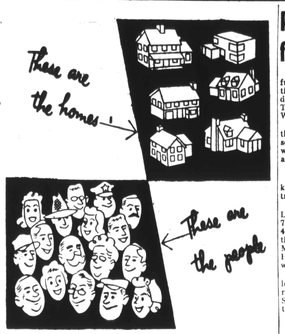

HERE are a few of the people who own this company.
You may not recognize the faces, but when we tell you who they are you will see they are your neighbors, your friends and associates. They are businesses, doctors, teachers—industrial workers, craftsmen, farmers. People in all walks of life have invested their savings in this and other electric companies. They are direct owners.
And besides these, there are thousands — millions — of indirect owners. If you have a savings account or a life insurance policy, it's almost certain that you are an indirect even if you are not a direct owner. Because banks and insurance companies invest some of the money you entrust to them in progressive, business-managed gas and electric companies.
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Pair Takes Onus for Lottery Ring

Mr. and Mrs. Sime Powell took full responsibility for the operation of a small-time lottery ring during a hearing in police court, Tuesday. The couple lives at 1318 W. Lanvale St.

At the conclusion of the hearing, the Powells and four other persons taken in a mid-afternoon raid were released under $6,000 bail to await grand jury action.

Couple's Maid Dismissed

The arrested persons were docketed in Northwestern police district as:

Miss Frances Crawford, 24, 917 Leadenhall St.; James Alston, 34, 751 Dover St.; Cornelius Dorsey, 48, 1108 Leadenhall St., and Arthur Beard, 25, 656 Franklin St. Miss Virginia Taylor, 26, 117 W. Henrietta St. The Powells' case was dismissed.

Sgt. Thomas Joyce chief of the lottery squad, testified that the raid was staged after the Lanvale St. house had been under observation for some days.

Legal Raid Pulled

Equipped with a search and seizure warrant, Sergeant Joyce approached the dwelling and when entry was refused, he forced the door.

"Inside," the sergeant testified, "we found the eight occupants in two rear rooms seated around tables on which rested numbers' paraphernalia."

The officers confiscated an adding machine and a trash basket full of lottery books and slips. They stated they also found evidence which had been tossed into a side yard when they entered the premises.

Though not represented by counsel, Powell, 45, admitted that he and his wife, Mrs. Mildred Powell, 32, operated the ring.

Tries to Clear Others

"The other persons found in the house may have been players, but they had nothing else to do with the business," Powell stated.

He added that Miss Taylor was employed to care for their child and to attend to other household duties and knew nothing of the operation. Bail was set at $1000 each for the six.

The same afternoon, Officer Leroy Moody, member of the lottery squad, arrested William Braxton, 26, 523 Hoffman St. as he attempted to dispose of some number books in a poolroom in the 1000 block of Pennsylvania Ave. In Braxton's case, bail was set at $1000 also.

Prisoners Aid Society to Meet

The annual dinner of the Prisoners Aid Association will be held at the Belvedere Hotel at 6:30 p.m. on Feb. 16.

Dr. Vernon P. Scheidt, president, announced that the meeting will be devoted to a discussion of proposed changes and pending legislation relating to crime control.

A report of the activities of the association will be given by the executive director, C. Boyd McIlvitt, and the chairmen of the three commissions appointed by Gov. W. Preston Lane will make their recommendations.

Officers to Be Elected

Dr. Scheidt will conduct a brief business meeting for the election of officers and trustees.

Those to be nominated for offices are Dr. Ivan E. McDougle, president; John W. Donaldson, vice-president; and Philemon B. Coulter, treasurer.

Dr. D. O. W. Holmes, president emeritus of Morgan State College, is one of the 23 nominees for the trustee board.

Their Eviction From White School to Be Grounds for Suit

These school children of East St. Louis, Ill., are shown seated in one of the unused classrooms of a "white" school in East St. Louis, where they were refused admission last Tuesday. Police later escorted them out of the classroom. The pupils tried to enroll in the white school because it has classrooms which are not being used, and because it is nearer their homes than the jim-crow schools. Their action was protested by white pupils who staged a walkout and marched to the city hall.

Better Lights in Areas Where Night Crimes Occur Promised

Assurance of better street lighting in neighborhoods noted for night-time crimes was given this week to Edgar W. Douglass, president of the West Baltimore Civic League, by the city's electrical engineer.

Citing a number of robberies, hold-ups and other offenses which occur in gaslit West Baltimore areas, Mr. Douglass had complained to Mayor D'Alesandro that the darkened streets contributed to these crimes.

His letter was referred to W. Rayner Strauss, city mechanical electrical engineer, who said that a program authorized by Mayor D'Alesandro in 1948 to convert all of the city's 16,500 gas lamps to electricity is now under way.

Mr. Strauss maintained that preference is being given to the sections which have the highest crime and accident rates, and that inasmuch as the 1949 program has not been completed, he is unable to state what sections will undergo conversion this year.

He added, "I assure you, however, that all efforts will be made to take care of the locations mentioned as quickly as possible, with funds permitting."

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Have You Seen Him?

The AFRO was asked this week to help find Arthur C. Wood, who has been missing from his home for several months. He is a World War veteran, and is believed to have met with foul play. Anybody knowing Mr. Wood's whereabouts is urged to notify William J. King, 1223 Maryland Ave., N.E., or R. L. Gillum, Box 218, Emporia, Va. His brothers can also be reached by calling DU. 4027 or AT. 4243.

5 Loungers Fined $5 Each in Drive

Corner loungers have been added to the list of persons Magistrate Fitzpatrick will penalize heavily in Northwestern police court in his campaign against various types of lawbreakers.

Five, arrested at Pennsylvania Ave. and Pitcher St., Tuesday night, long a sore spot, were fined $5 and costs, each.

Threatened Limit in Fines

On imposing the penalties the magistrate declared, "I can impose fines up to $50 and costs on this charge. This is my final warning to those young men who insist on lounging on certain street corners known to the police as "trouble spots."

The five fined on Wednesday were identified as:

Sydnor Hubert, 25, 100 block N. Stricker St.; Talford Lee, 30, 2100 block Walbrook Ave.; John Black, well, 27, 500 block N. Arlington Ave.; Rajeigh Tolley, 28, 1100 block Laurens St. and Sherman Johnson, 26, 600 block N. Mount.

School News

Eleven Carver Vocational High School pupils made honor roll averages fo rthe term which ended Jan. 31.

With scholastic rates of 90 per cent above, were Nellie Lineberger, Geneva Vanderall, Oscar Lawrence and Ernest Cunion.

Helen Jenson, James Parsons, Frances Carter, Thadieus Thornton and Nina M. Smith made averages of 85 and above; while Andrew Pinkney and George Collins were listed on a special honor roll for ratings of 80 per cent.

School Gets Lockers, Phonograph

Through funds appropriated from the school loan, steel lockers were purchased for each classroom in Washington Junior High School Annex No. 130-A, along with an electric phonograph for use by music classes.

Garbed in white caps and gowns, the kindergarten class of School No. 138 held commencement exercises recently. Joyce Campbell, a "graduate," composed the words and music for the class song.

Melody Club in Program

The Melody Club of Ellicott No. 104 was presented in a flute recital on Friday, dedicated to History Week. The program included spirituals, patriotic, folk songs and secular numbers.

With 17 members, the club has organized for two years, under the sponsorship of Miss Louise Smith, teacher.

Solo parts were played by Gloria Bailey, Stewart Smith, Edward Boone, Margaret Gibson, Marlene Barnes, Gloria Bailey and Hasten Roberts.

Delores Smith is director and treasurer; Emily Lee is secretary, and Evelyn Newman is president. Other members are: Bernard Morton, Marguerite Gibson, Anita Duvall, Joan Smith, Christer Franie, Fay Flannagan and Elizabeth Carey.

Parents present were Mesdames Sarah Smith, Eleanor Willoughby and Eleanor Thomas. Mrs. Thelma Jackson is vice-principal and Mrs. Vivian Bundy, principal. Two representatives from each class attended.

Mrs Bundy took photographs of the group and invited the club to give a retoal performance at the next faculty meeting.

Child Development Discussed

A theme, "The Responsibility of the Home in Child Development," in the second meeting of a series of meetings on child development, attracted nearly 200 parents and teachers to John H. Murphy School recently.

William Rawlings, adult educa-

REGRETFUL ERROR
DR. BERNARD HATCHER was a member of WIDOWS SON LODGE No. 9, A. F. & A. M. Most Worshipful Hiram Grand Lodge, 1622 Madison Ave. He was not affiliated with Prince Hall Lodge as was reported in the AFRO.

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15 Complete Police Training Course Held at Turner Station

The final session of the Turner Station Police Training School was held Wednesday night, at Sollers Point High School. Fifteen men completed the course, which was run under the direction of Edward N. Wilson, Morgan State College registrar.

The class will hold its baccalaureate sermon at 8 p.m. Feb. 27, at New Shiloh Baptist Church in Turner Station. Formal closing exercises will be at the Turner Station Community Center, late this month.

The classes were formed shortly after Baltimore County Commissioners authorized the appointment of colored policemen to the county force.

Trainees Job Applicants

In addition to Mr. Wilson, who was instrumental in organizing Baltimore City's Police Training School in 1937, instructors have been George Ford and Joseph H. Pitts.

All of the trainees have made application for jobs on the county police force.

It is believed an examination will be held early in the Spring. Meanwhile, the classes will meet each Wednesday night at the high school to conduct reviews of their work and take advanced training.

Officers of the class are George A. Harris, president; Accedia Knowles, secretary, and George A. Williams, treasurer. A dance will follow the closing exercises at the community center building.

Ellison Leadership Praised by Alumni

RICHMOND

Dr. John M. Ellison, president of Union University which is celebrating its golden jubilee this year, was lauded for his eight years of "excellent leadership" of the institution during a testimonial service in his honor Jan. 26 at the university.

The celebration, attended by more than 100 alumni, friends and members of the faculty, was sponsored by the John W. Barco chapter of the college's alumni association. Carrying off the honors for testimonial speakers was the smallest man in the group, Joseph R. Rangame, who said he spoke for "the little man."

Others on the program included Drs. Joseph T. Hill, John W. Barco, E. S. Smith and A. G. Richardson; J. Rupert Picott, Misses Tierenia Braxton and Emma D. Bradley, Antoinette B. Davis, the Rev. and Mrs. A. B. James, David Graves and Wiley A. Hall.

Mrs. Jessie Shorter Given Final Rites

WASHINGTON

Funeral rites for Mrs. Jessie Addison Shorter, mother of John F. Shorter and Mesdames Evelyn Johnson, Jessie Thomas and Geneva Howard were held last Monday at her residence, 151 U St. N.W.

A native Washingtonian, Mrs. Shorter was the daughter of the late Nathaniel and Mary Addison.

The Rev. Jerry A. Moore, pastor of the Nineteenth St. Baptist Church, officiated at the funeral and Mrs. Elizabeth O. Dickerson sang a solo.

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