Funerals held for two boys in Monday's traffic mishaps

"I had just got off from work. He was dead when I got home. I'm just getting myself together."

Mrs. Mary Smith, 2202 W. North Ave. was recalling the tragic death of her eight-year-old grandson, Louis Gilbert Smith, Monday afternoon.

The child was killed at the intersection of W. North Ave. and Smallwood St. as he ran across the street from a corner drugstore, where he had taken two bottles of soda to Mrs. Isabel O'Connor, the proprietor.

The boy was reared by his grandmother at the North Ave. address, but was the son of Louis and Delores Smith, 2019 E. North Ave.

"He belonged the Boys Police Club and was getting ready to join the Cub Scouts," Mrs. Cecelia Plater, one of the boy's aunts, commented Wednesday afternoon.

"All this fuss is being made over my poor little eight-year-old grandson and he doesn't know it," the child's grandmother said thoughtfully, after she read a card of condolence.

* * *

MRS. MAE Medders, little Louis' 3rd grade teacher at School No. 142 told the AFRO: "It was a shock to everybody. He was a popular youngster and an intelligent boy. He was all boy, very active." She smiled sadly and said:

"Every morning he was bringing something to school that either crawled or flew. One morning he brought a black widow spider. Of course it was wrapped up so it couldn't bother anyone. Everyone liked him."

At the suggestion of Mrs. Edna Johnson, principal of School 142, the more than 1,200 pupils donated pennies that were still coming in almost up to funeral time to buy Louis a spray.

Mrs. Johnson recalled that Louis was 'a fine little chap," he said that not only was School 142 sending him a floral design but that the school crossing guards are also honoring him with one.

* * *

state at the home of his aunt, Mrs. Jean Robinson, 2721 Rosedale St. until the funeral on Thursday at Fulton Baptist Church. The Rev. Benjamin Jackson officiated.

Interment was in Arbutus Memorial Park. The Samuel W. Sullivan Jr. Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

In addition to his grandmother, Mrs. Mary Smith and parents, the boy is survived by a brother, Samuel, and four sisters, Michelle, Audrey, Rinae, and Mary as well as aunts, uncles and other relatives.

In connection with the youth's death, the driver of the car, Mrs. Blanche H. Jones, 42, of 2326 N. Payson St., has been charged with manslaughter by automobile.

In Pine Street Police Court Tuesday morning, bail for Mrs. Jones was set at $1,000.

The automobile involved in the accident is owned by Walter Paxton also of the 2000 block N. Payson St.

* *

LESS THAN two hours before Louis Smith was killed, Joseph A. Butcher, 15, 1111 Brentwood Ave. was pronounced dead on arrival at St. Agnes' Hospital after he was found in the street, following a traffic mishap.

Bernard Palmer 3148 Leeds St., the youth's uncle, said Wednesday: "It happened in front of my door. The kids were playing in the street. The truck driver was a very good friend of the boy's. I don't think he knew what happened.

"The druck definitely must have dragged over his body. I saw the body. There wasn't a bone in the upper part of his body that wasn't crushed."

Still upset by the tragedy, Mr. Palmer continued: "He always would come out here until it was time for him to go home or his mother came after him.

"Immediately after I saw him I called an ambulance and I went with the boy to the hospital."

John M. Wood, vice principal of School No. 131, from which the Butcher youth graduated in June said:

"He came from a nice family. He was small for his age. He liked sports. His brother, Sterling, still attends here. All the teachers liked him."

The youth was in his first year at the Samuel Coleridge Taylor Jr. High School and was a member of the Evergreen AME Church, where he sang in the choir.

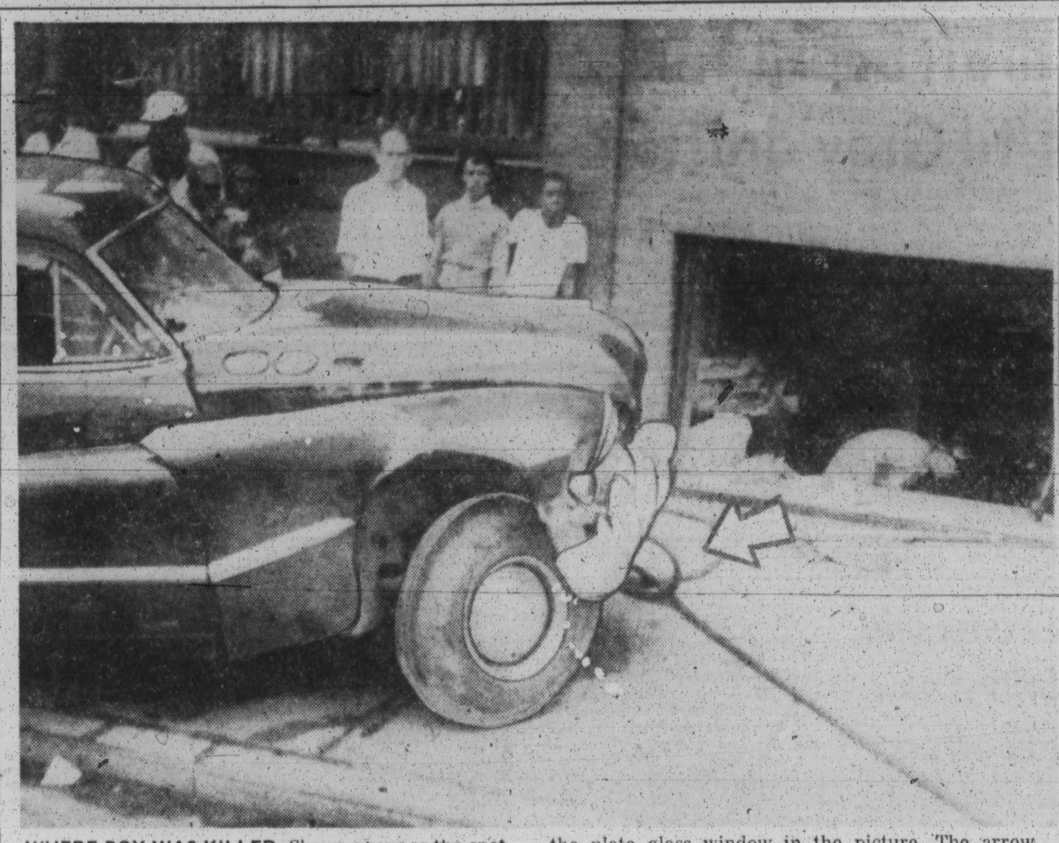
The body lay in state at the home of his aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Palmer, 3148 Leeds St., until the funeral at 2:39 p.m. today Friday.

* * *

THE FUNERAL will be at the Evergreen AME Church, on Old Frederick Rd. The Rev. Charles Mack will officiate. Interment will be in Western Star Cemetery, the Katie R. Williams Funeral Home in charge.

Survivors of Joseph Butcher are his parents Mary and Nathaniel Butcher, three sisters, Gwendolyn, Mary and Alberta; five brothers, Leonard, who is in the Navy; Herbert, Edward, Louis and Sterling, as well as other relatives.

According to the police, Albert L. Hicks, 24, 206 N. Mount St., driver of the truck, has been technically charged with reckless driving. A Traffic Court hearing has been set at 7 p.m. December 17.



WHERE BOY WAS KILLED: Shown above is the spot where 8-year-old Lewis Smith was killed Monday at the intersection of North Ave. and Smallwood St. The car, driven by Mrs. Blanche Jones, crashed into the plate glass window in the picture. The arrow points to the spot where the boy lay under the car before it was moved back from the window.

AFTERMATH—Mrs. Mary Smith, 2202 W. North Ave., is being escorted to Lutheran Hospital by her cousin, Roger Stewart. At the hospital, Mrs. Smith identified her 8-year-old grandson, Louis Smith, who was struck and killed by an automobile on Monday afternoon. "I had just got off from work. Nobody knew him at that time," Mrs. Smith sadly recalled.

College of Surgeons to induct Moore

Dr. Marcus W. Moore, Sr., of Baltimore will be initiated as a fellow of the American College of Surgeons in October at the Clinical Congress in San Francisco.

He was given the distinguished honor of becoming a fellow for his outstanding record in surgery and was not required to submit cases for examination by the American College of Surgeons.

He is one of the youngest colored surgeons ever to be accepted as Fellow by the American College.

Dr. Moore, who became a diplomate of the American Board of Surgery in 1955 at the age of 34 years, was the first colored physician in the state of Maryland to become a certified specialist in surgery.

He was formerly a member of the surgical staffs of Provident Hospital, Sinai Hospital and Lutheran Hospital of Baltimore prior to entering the Air Force in 1955.

* * *

DR. MOORE is now chief of the General Surgery Section of Travis Air Force Base Hospital in California.

Dr. Moore, an honor graduate from Lincoln University, Pennsylvania, in 1943, received his M.D. degree from Howard University Medical School in 1946, and was a research fellow in experimental thoracic surgery at the University of Maryland Medical School in 1954. He is the author of twelve surgical publications and has done extensive work in chest surgery.

DR. T. MARCUS MOORE

Manslaughter verdict in death of woman

"The fact that he did not testify should not have one iota of bearing on your verdict."

John Bair, defense attorney, made this statement in his final argument before a jury of four women and six men about to decide the fate of George Watkins, 40, 1148 E. Lombard St.

Mr. Watkins was on trial for the murder of Mrs. Rena Hawkins, his 37-year-old common-law wife, whose lifeless body was found in a rear yard at 1144 E. Lombard on July 9.

Jurors deliberated less than one hour before finding the defendant guilty of manslaughter. Judge Joseph L. Carter withheld sentencing pending a motion for a new trial.

Dr. Russell Fisher, medical examiner, testified that Mrs. Hawkins died between the hours of 6 a.m. and noon on July 7. He said an autopsy disclosed that the victim, whose body contained a small percentage of alcohol, was severely beaten.

* * *

MR. WATKINS told police after the body was discovered that he and Mrs. Hawkins had had a fight on July 7. He said when he returned to the house the woman was lifeless.

"I said, 'Hey, Rena,' and I didn't get an answer," the defendant said in a statement. "That's when I found out she was cold."

He said he became panic stricken and "I put her on my shoulder and carried her down the steps."

'We are all Americans,' North Carolinian is told

"If I hadn't been drinking, I never would have said that to the sergeant."

"But you had it on your mind. Your second self came out." This was the exchange Wednesday in Northwestern District Court between Magistrate Linwood G. Koger and Jay C. McCreary, blond 35, 2000 block Eutaw Pl.

The blond man was charged with slapping Mrs. Lillian Ramey, also of the Eutaw Pl. address, and with disorderly conduct in the 1900 block of Linden Ave.

* * *

OFFICER JOHN BROWN testified that when booked the previous night by Sgt. Harry Scott, the defendant had told him: "I don't have to answer any of your questions because I'm whiter than you are," and had given the desk sergeant a 'hard time.'

"We are all Americans," Magistrate Koger told the defendant, who said he was from North Carolina, and added, paraphrasing Abraham Lincoln: "God must have loved the colored people or he wouldn't have made so many of them."

Mr. McCreary was sentenced to 30 days in jail on the slapping charge and fined $25, to be consecutive, for disorderly conduct.

'You have a child you must live honorably for'

"About 8 o'clock last night, I left my house. He ran after me and started pulling on me. I started to his aunt's house and walked about a block.

"I got a cab. He wouldn't even let me get a cab by myself. When I got out of the cab, he knocked me to the ground and beat me."

Mrs. Wynasta Peters, 1300 block N. Carey St., a slender young wife, attractively dressed in a pink dress and blue top coat, was testifying Tuesday in Northwestern District Court against her estranged husband, Edward Peters, 23, 1500 block Presstman St.

The wife further stated that she and her husband have a child and that they have been separated "a little over a year."

When asked where her husband had hit her, Mrs. Peters replied: "Every place."

* * *

"I JUST happened to see her. I did not hit 'Jean' whatsoever," Mr. Peters declared.

To the magistrate's query: "Did you ever hit her before?" Mr. Peters answered: "Once. We were playing." He was given a suspended 60 days in jail suspended sentence and placed on probation for 18 months.

You have a child you must live honorably for," the magistrate told the young husband in sentencing him.

Local agency gets insurance contract

The Chase and Peters Insurance Agency at 1942 W. North Ave., has been appointed by the Travelers Insurance Companies of Hartford, Conn. to handle insurance underwriting. This marks the first time that the Travelers have employed a colored-owned agency.

Chase and Peters Insurance agency was organized in July, 1955 and has expanded rapidly since then. A. Eugene Chase completed the first leg of courses at Johns Hopkins leading toward the degree of Chartered Life Underwriter.

Dr. W. O. Bryson, head of the Economics Department at Morgan State College, is the only colored person in Maryland holding this degree.

The other half of the firm name is R. Delacy Peters who has completed courses leading to the degree of Chartered Property and Casualty Underwriting at the University of Baltimore.

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Police killings in Baltimore in three-month period

JUNE 25, 1956—Harry Boyd Jr., 1417 N. Broadway, shot in back by Northeastern Patrolman Charles Fennell, who arrived on scene after a street fight. Magistrate Meyer Cardin ruled the officer acted in line of duty and the killing was justified.

JULY 7, 1956 — Robert Harper, 1614 Barclay St., shot in leg and bled to death following shooting by Southwestern Patrolman Walter Mina Jr., who told superiors he was breaking up a disorderly crowd. Officer Mina was exonerated of the killing by Magistrate Meyer Cardin, who ruled he acted in line of duty.

AUGUST 15, 1956—Frank J. Williams, 24, was shot and killed by Sgt. Albert Heck as a suspect in two hold-ups and the non-fatal shooting of a tailor shop proprietor. Sgt. Heck was exonerated of the killing in Central Police Court by Magistrate Cardin.

SEPTEMBER 19, 1956—Donald Jackson, 23, 971 Ellicott Dr., shot in the arm and chest by Southeastern Patrolman Benjamin Ledden. Ledden said he shot the man "in defense of his life" in the unit block Gilmor St. Patrolman Ledden has been suspended pending a hearing into the case.

Vice-principal left him, says postal worker hubby

Nelson Grooms, postal worker, denied the charges of his wife, Mrs. Ruby Grooms, that he has deserted her, and said that it was she who left their home.

The denial came in an answer filed Thursday, to Mrs. Grooms' suit for a permanent divorce. The husband says that the Baltimore School system vice-principal was the one who left their home.

He added that she has not, as she says, "been a true, kind and loving wife."

He filed a cross-bill asking that he be given a divorce from her, on grounds of desertion.

The couple separated July 24, 1953, both say.

Is there a check in your mailbox?

Newstippers kept the wires humming last week so there will be checks in several local mailboxes in the next few dsya. Calls came in at all hours every day giving first-hand, on-the-spot information on various news incidents.

The "tiptop tipster" last week was not a Baltimorean—he was the New Yorker who called and gave information about the tragic deaths of Mr. and Mrs. J. Logan Jenkins 3rd, well-known Baltimoreans. This tip was worth $5.

A three-way tie for second place netted $3.50 each for the tipsters who gave information on two fatal traffic mishaps and the death of Mrs. Erovelle Brinkley.

Winning $2 each were calls on: an automobile mishap at Lanvale and Appleton in which two women were injured; the accident in which S. T. Daniels was injured; the boys who found the dead infant and buried it, thinking it was an an animal, and the bomb found in the cupboard in a North Ave. home.

A check for $1 went to the caller who told of the boy hit by an automobile in the 1600 block of Cliftview St.

Is your tip listed here? If not, it can be. All you have to do whenever you see something happening or hear of something is to call the AFRO and say: "I've got a Newstip."

Do you have a camera. Then you are in luck because, in addition to $25 a week available for Newstips, the City Desk also has $25 for Newspix—photos taken of any event or occurrence of interest.

If you take a picture that you think is newsworthy, just bring it in to the City Desk—you may qualify for a Newspix award.

For your Newstips, these are the numbers to call: MU 5-6015, 1812 or 1813; if no answer, call LA 3-2811 or RI 4-0508.

Unidentified body found in harbor

The body of a middle age man found floating face up in the harbor at the end of the 500 block Light St., Tuesday remains unidentified at the City Morgue.

According to Southern District police, the victim who wore a green work shirt and green trousers had been dead approximately two days when found by harbor police.

His height is 5 feet 8 inches, and weight, 140 pounds. The dead man is believed to be between the ages of 35 and 40.

Notice posted says Liquor Board; not so say citizens

"The sign was posted and inspected more than once by our inspectors."

That's what the Liquor Board said Thursday in connection with protests over the granting of a seven day amusement permit to Blank's Tavern at 910 Druid Hill Ave.

The statement was given in answer to a protest made by the Citizens of McCulloh Homes Project, a civic group, who claimed that no sign was ever displayed informing the public that the tavern had asked for a permit.

The group pointed out that within a radius of four blocks of the housing project, there are two similiar licenses.

* * *

THEY ADDED that in the past, the bar had been the scene of annoying disturbances to the neighborhood.

The residents indicated they would file an appeal.

Residents in the Gwynns Falls, Reisterstown Rd., and Liberty Heights Ave. area are awaiting a Board decision on the request of a store in the new Mondawmin Shopping Center to obtain a permit.

The Commissioners withheld a decision in that case a week ago when told that a notice had not been properly displayed.

'Neigabors' warned on W. 24th St.

"Warning to the neigabors. If you don't stop your children from destroying my property I will rent my house to colored people.

"Now it's up to the neighbors.

A small piece of cardboard bearing this dire warning is in a widow at 421 W. 24th St.—a vacant house in an area almost surrounded by industry.

If the sign is to be believed then it was written by a Mrs. Naomi Baker, 2606 Hampden Ave., who has issued the words for the benefit of her neighbors even though she has spelled the word "negabors."

HER "NEIGABORS" in the block are white but just two blocks up the street on the other side of a railroad trestle, the neighbors are colored families who go blissfully about their business, seemingly unaware of the threat that perhaps the owner will rent the house to one of them.

The house in question is vacant and one of the front windows is broken out. Anyone passing has a chance to look inside the building at its desolation.

The house is beginning to show its age and appears rather untidy.

Whenever anyone stops to loo at the sign, several of the "neigabors" appear on the street to watch the looker.

Mrs. Baker was not available for comment on why she fixed upon this particular manner to warn her "neigabors" or whether it had stopped the children from destroying her property.

Gold Coast finance minister in city

The first African minister of a British colony seeking independence to attend a meeting of the World Bank will be the guest today of the AFRO-AMERICAN Newspapers and Morgan State College.

He is the Hon. K. A. Gbedemah (pronounced BED-em-a, the "g" is silent), Minister of Finance for the Gold Coast, West Africa. Mr. Gbedemah is in the country attending the World Bank meeting in Washington.

Applicants must wait for driving permits

Effective Monday, October 1, there will be a waiting period of several days for all applicants for permits to operate motor vehicles in the state of Maryland.

The purpose of the ruling is to give the Department of Motor Vehicles adequate time to thoroughly check the driving record, if any, of the applicant.

It is suggested that applicants mail their applications for all driving licenses to the deparment, in order to avoid congestion and loss of time.

If there is no record against the applicant, instruction licenses will be mailed out, and those eligible to take a test will be notified when to appear.

Teenage mother on trial in death of newborn infant

A 16-year-old girl accused of causing the death of her newborn baby last Mother's Day is scheduled to go on trial for murder in Youth Court today (Friday).

She is Miss Barbara Ann Lee, 1200 block E. Chase St., charged with stuffing toilet paper down the throat of the infant at her home on May 13. The baby, a girl, was pronounced dead at St. Joseph's Hospital.

"I didn't know she had given birth to the baby," the suspect's distraught mother, Mrs. Mary Louise Lee, told the AFRO.

L. S. Cohen heads convention bureau

LeRoy S. Cohen, president of Gunther Brewing Company is the new president of the Baltimore Convention Bureau for the 1956-57 term.

Included among the 10 new directors are Leon Abramson, president of City Council; Mayor Thomas D'Alesandro; Robert Freedman, president Yellow Cab Company; Walter N. Nash, Baltimore Transit and N. Page Worthington, C and P Telephone Company.

Mr. Cohen was hopeful that the Civic Center Project would be approved by the voters since new facilities would make it easier to attract conventions to our city.

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Judge upholds liquor protest

"In this court's opinion the the majority of the Board gave too much consideration to the applicant, and not enough to the children, who will attend the school, and the young people who will use the recreation center.

"The applicant, whose property was condemned, is entitled to consideration and, to a certain extent, sympathy over this displacement; not, however, to the extent evidenced by the Board's action in this case."

This opinion was handed down Thursday by Judge Joseph Byrnes in reversing a controversial decision of the Liquor Board permitting a tavern to locate across the street from a proposed elementary school and recreation center in the 100 block McMechen St.

* * *

OPPONENTS of the Board's action included the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the Mount Royal Improvement Association, the Board of School Commissioners, the Strawbridge Methodist Church, and some property owners in the neighborhood.

The licensee of the Royal Tavern whose property had been condemned sought Board approval to relocate across the street from the former site at 115 McMechen St.

In his opinion Judge Byrnes said the tavern would have a "potentially unwholesome effect" on the school children and those using the recreation center.

Police cleared in alleged beating

Two traffic division officers accused of beating a steel plant worker were cleared Monday when a physician attributed the complainant's illness to an old injury.

Jacob McDonald of 610 Burgundy St., had complained of a kidney injury to a nurse in the infirmary at city jail.

Taken to City Hospitals for an examination, he told two doctors that following his arrest by Traffic Patrolmen Oliver Beck and Joseph Sands, he was beaten while being taken from docketing desk in the Central District assembly room to the cell block.

McDonald was charged with improper speeding, displaying a license not his own and driving after his license had been revoked.

He was fined $25 and costs for speeding and sentenced to six months in jail.

His family learned of the arrest a week later when they heard about it over the radio.

'His wife was going to have a baby'

"He said he was desperate for want of money and that his wife was going to have a baby."

Sgt. L. Spicer was speaking Tuesday, in Northwestern District Court. Charged with breaking into a tavern in the 1800 block of Baker St. and stealing $672 was Napoleon R. White, 25, 1600 block W. North Ave.

The defendant did not testify but was held for the grand jury on $2,500 bail after the proprietor of the tavern said that he recognized him, as having been in the tavern.

I told her I didn't need her man . . .'

"Annie walked up to me and said she wanted me to stay away from this big, fat, light man. And I said I don't know anything about no big, fat, light man.

"I told her I didn't need her man because I had a husband of my own."

Mrs. Beatrice Gray, 36, 1000 block E. Central Ave., appealing a six-month jail sentence, was explaining in Criminal Court Tuesday the events which precipitated an altercation between her and Mrs. Annie Young, 44, 900 block N. Caroline St.

The defendant was given the jail term by Magistrate Vernon Weisand in Pine St. Police Court on August 18 when she was found guilty of assault by pointing a loaded revolver at Mrs. Young.

Magistrate Weisand dismissed an assault charge against Mrs. Gray growing out of the altercation.

* * *

"I SEE NO reason why I should change the magistrate's sentence," said E. Paul Mason, who upheld the magistrate's decision and committed Mrs. Gray to the Women's Reformatory instead of City Jail.

Mrs. Gray testified that she was accosted by Mrs. Young on August 17 and a fight ensued after the prosecuting witness warned her to stay away from the unnamed man.

Two witnesses, Vernon Chappelle, of 1508 Ashland Ave., and Linwood Goodman, of 1425 E. Eager St., told of seeing the two women involved in a fight at Dallas and Gay Sts. Both said Mrs. Young chased the defendant down the street.

Mrs. Gray said the other woman threatened her. She related that she decided to take out a warrant for her arrest but first obtained the weapon from her home as protection.

Officer William Benson, Northeastern District, said while in the process of arresting Mrs. Gray the defendant "tried to drop the gun (on the ground) and she dropped it on my foot."

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