—Bubblegum case

(Continued from Page 1)

the first door to the little porch out front.

"As a rule I stop and say my prayers on the porch when no one is around. I am a member of Southern Baptist Church, New Jersey and L St., NW.

"After I said my prayers, I put my key in the other door to the store. A piece of glass fell. Well, I guessed that it was a stone that some of the kids had thrown through the door.

* * *

"BUT, I BEGAN to put on a little speed, because I wanted to see what had happened. I went back through the store to the entrance to our room.

"I saw someone had turned on the lights to the store. When I pulled back the curtain to our bedroom I saw what had happened.

"It appeared to me as if she must have heard them when they broke the glass in the front door. She was sleeping in her gown like she always does.

"She must have reached up, put on her little housedress which she keeps beside the bed.

* * *

"THE MEN must have come on through the store and turned on the light. They met her at the door to the bedroom. One of them must have snatched her housecoat, because all the buttons were ripped off.

Then he reached up and grabbed the hammer we had upon the little shelf and beat her in the head. They must have taken the knife and began stabbing her. Then they took our flashlight and searched the place.

"They had to step over her to do it. She was lying with her head in the door and feet toward the bed. I could see she was dead."

* * *

MR. OLIVER said he went next door to the neighbors to tell her what happened. The neighbor, Mrs. William T. Smith, reported that the husband shook with sobs as he came for aid.

"Just about everyone in the neighborhood had grown up with the store there," Mrs. Smith said.

Other neighbors and friends of the Oliver family were still dropping by the frame establishment at week's end offering consoling words to Mr. Oliver. The grocer said he did not know if he would reopen the store.

* * *

MRS. HELEN P. GROSS, another next door neighbor, who reported seeing two men with caps running from the vicinity of the store, said "This thing has so upset all of us out here."

Mrs. Gross said everyone in the neighborhood always kept their doors unlocked before the tragedy. "But we will lock them now," she added.

Funeral services for Mrs. Oliver, a former teacher at Havre de Grace, Md., were held Thursday from the Myrtle T. Rollins Funeral Home, 4339 Hunt Pl., NE.

The victim was an active member of the Jehovah's Witness Temple at 44th and Hunt St., NE.

* * *

BURIAL WAS in Arlington National Cemetery. In addition to her husband, Mrs. Oliver is survived by four brothers and four sisters. The couple had no children.

A total of 25 detectives were still assigned to the case Thursday. Precinct 14 police and Prince Georges County detectives are also working on the case, under direction of Capt. Richard R. Felber of the D.C. homicide squad.

* * *

POLICE SAID no definite leads had been turned up yet, although over 100 persons had been questioned as possible suspects.

Captain Felber said his men were also interrogating all possible known housebreaking suspects in the Northeast area, since at least three other housebreakings were reported the same night of the Grant St. murder.

When asked if he had any suspicions on who might be responsible for his wife's death, Mr. Oliver said Wednesday:

"I think some men must have done it, instead of juveniles. But, I can't explain why they took some candy and bubble gum."

* * *

350 at funeral of 'Bubble Gum' slaying victim

WASHINGTON

Isaiah Oliver, husband of the slain Mrs. Pearl Beatrice Oliver, was too overcome with grief to go near the remains of his slain wife at funeral services Thursday.

Mr. Oliver sat in the anti-room of the small chapel, away from the rest of the mourners throughout the brief solemn ceremony.

He did not come forward to view the body and had to be literally carried from the chapel to a waiting limousine at the conclusion of the services.

* * *

HIS BODY shook with anguish as he was taken from the

He covered his face in his hands repeatedly and cried: "Oh! baby, Oh! baby, my baby is gone!"

A crowd of 200 persons pushed into the red and white colonial front of Rollins Funeral Chapel, 4339 Hunt Pl., NE, to attend the rites. Another 150 persons stood outside, some of them sobbing quietly as the grey steel bier was placed in the hearse.

* * *

MANY OF the spectators were members of the nearby NE Kingdom Hall of the Jehovah Witness, where Mrs. Oliver attended. The victim was slain less than five hours after she came home from church services at the Temple, last Friday.

The Rev. Carl Miner, school instructor for the Central division of Kingdom Hall, preached the funeral sermon. The Rev. Mr. Hall lectured on the philosophy of Jehovah Witnesses. The congregation listened intently without display of emotions.

* * *

"YOU HERE can be among those who will see her again, if you take part in the private study of the Bible, according to the words of Jehovah," the minister said.

The Rev. George Turner, minister of the NE Temple presided.

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NORTHEAST GROCER—Isaiah Oliver, 56, northeast grocer, shows candy case from which slayers took "Bliony" bubble gum after brutally murdering his wife and ransacking his store last Saturday morning.

FLASH —Southern High

(Continued from Page 1)

stayed outside of the school.

The students, according to school officials, gave no reasons for the demonstration or for staying out of school.

Officials discouraged reports that the demonstration was the aftermath of a reported bus incident between white and colored girl students.

* * *

SHORTLY AFTER the start of the demonstration, Captain John Mahrer of the Southern District assigned squads of policemen to the scene who told the pupils to "go to school or go home."

At 11 a.m. the office of Principal Sidney Schernak said that Dr. John Fischer was at the school, that the majority of the pupils had returned to classes.

One school official told the AFRO that the demonstration had no tieup with integration of the school which has had a mixed student body for the past three years.

"Some people will be inclined to tie it up with a fight against integration because when the schools were first integrated there was a short demonstration at the school, he said.

"Actually, I think the kids just wanted to get out of school because the sun was shining, and the weather was good," he concluded.

* * *

THE FOLLOWING statement was issued by Dr. Fischer and Mr. Schernak following the incident:

"A number of students remained away from classes at Southern High School without legal reason today.

"Every student involved in this escapade has been suspended from school. None will be permitted to return to the school until there has been a satisfactory conference with the pupil and his parents.

"Defiance of the law and the established policies of the School System will not be tolerated.

"All pupils and their parents are reminded that absence from school will inevitably jeopardize the chances of promotion or graduations."

* * *

AT THE entrance to the principal's office at 11:20 a.m. an AFRO reporter noted several parents stood waiting for some information as to whether their children were in school or not.

Charles Webster, 5A3, was supposed to be in physical education, according to his aunt who had come when she heard about the disturbance.

She said: "I have been here since 10 o'clock. I asked them to find Charles. I wanted to see if he is in class."

A notice came from a school official about 12 noon that Charles could not be found.

JUANITA BRENEMAN's mother said: "My daughter came home about 10 o'clock. The breakfast wasn't off the table. She said she just came home. I sent her back.

"It's enough to worry you to death. I want here here, inside. It's safe here. Can't nothing happen here. It's all going on outside. I really don't know what the trouble really is."

Another unidentified parent told the vice-principal at the desk in the school office: "I want to know if my daughter is here. She is in the 12B.

"My husband called up from the Texaco Company where he works. He said he has got to know what's going on here."

Except for parents like this inquiring about the safety of their children, school went on as usual.

The hallways were quiet. At the passing bell, both students and teachers seemed unmindful of any demonstration outside.

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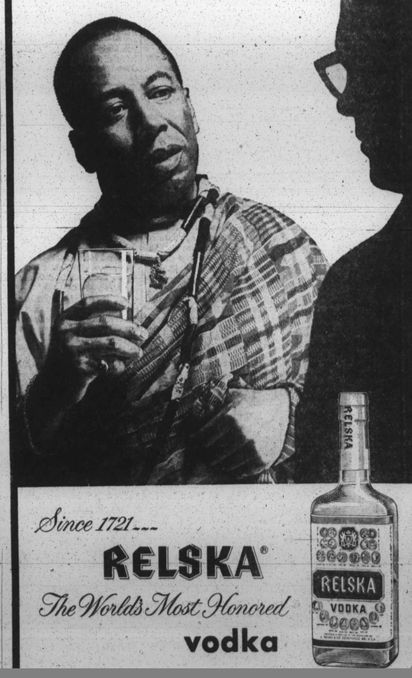

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