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Baltimore 3, Maryland

'LUCKY WE'RE ALIVE,' DRIVER OF CAR CRUSHED BY TRUCK

THAD GORHAM

His car smashed to smithereens by 14-ton truck but he and four co-workers lived to tell about it

Baltimore Afro-American

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'Like A Nightmare'

SPECTACULAR CRASH early Tuesday morning at Lafayette Ave. and Monroe St., saw sedan occupied by five Bethlehem Steel workers bent like an accordion when it and a tractor trailer collided. Crowd of 300 watched two hours as police, firemen cleared the wreckage scene. (Photo by T. Henry Phillips.)

'C' is still out of 'Y'

"We've made some real progress . . . but I'm not so sure we would want to release a broadside report at this time."

This was the answer the AFRO received this week from W. Gordon MacGregor, board secretary of the YMCA of Baltimore, when it sought to determin what progress has been made on integration since the spring of 1955.

A survey this week indicated that the "C" in the name Young Men's Christian Association, is still not yet generally practiced although the announced YMCA policy calls for moving "as

(Editorial on Page 4)

rapidly as practicable to an all inclusive membership in keeping with the Christian purpose of the YMCA."

* * *

OF THE YMCA's 10 branches five now have no colored members and while some of these say it is because no colored have applied, the two most important branches, Central and Dundalk, still flatly refuse membership to colored.

The YMCA's total 14 units include 10 branches, one of which — the Metropolitan Community Extension Branch — is composed of three units, and Camps Conoy and Druid Hill. Both camps are open to all.

In 1955 this newspaper ran a series of articles showing how far behind the principles of its own constitution the Baltimore YMCA lagged in its actual practice.

They pointed out that while the YMCA's constitution granted to all members the full

(Continued on Page 2)

IN A NUTSHELL

Branch	1955	Now
Schools	open	open*
Druid Hill	for colored	open*
Johns Hopkins	open	open*
Camp Conoy	for white	open
Camp Druid	for colored	open
North Baltimore	for white	open
Towson	for white	open
Northeast	for white	open
Metropolitan		open
Western	for white	no decision
Eastern	monexistant	open
Cella	for white	decision
Turner Station	for colored	open*
Central	for white	for white
Dundalk	for white	for white

* These are branches which report they accept all members and now have colored. Most which report being open say they have had no applications. No decision cases don't recall having had an application. Towson says it had one colored member at one time.

In the case of the camps, Conoy last year had one colored professional worker on the staff. Neither had boys of the other race enrolled. It is expected that Disgration of the camps will be more in keeping with the policy this summer.

Many of the units which do not accept colored members do permit their house use of available facilities.

'Lucky,' says driver after he and 4 riders get out alive

"It was terrible . . . we are lucky to be alive . I have never seen anything worse.

"I can remember a flash of light and the boys screaming.

Then the truck was on me. That's all . . . Yes, we're lucky we're alive."

A badly bruised and battered 28-year-old steelworker, who rode to the brink of death with four co-workers, was speaking to the AFRO on Wednesday.

(See Photos on Page 16)

Thad Gorham, 36 N. Bentalou St., talked slowly as he studied an AFRO photograph of the spectacular accident in which his 1957 sedan was crushed nearly in half by a 14-ton cross - country trailer truck early Tuesday at Lafayette Ave. and Monroe St.

The morning after, Mr. Gorham talked to the AFRO from his bed. With great effort, he raised his six foot frame to look at the photo which showed both vehicles jammed together in the window of a hardware store.

For the first few seconds, he could only mutter: "We were lucky . . . awfully lucky."

* * *

MR. GORHAM escaped with a fractured rib, and back and knee injuries.

Others in the Gorham car were:

Sidney DeGrafenreid, 26, 332 Gwynn Ave., who was riding in the back seat. He was admitted to Provident Hospital with a chest, shoulder and back injury.

Isaiah Blake, 29, 2514 W. Lafayette Ave., who was admitted to Provident, but later transferred to Johns Hopkins Hospital. He suffered a severe eye injury.

Raymond Peele, 33, 3110 Sequoia Ave., who was taken to Provident with a head injury.

And, Leroy Nance, 31, of 2839 W. Lafayette Ave., who was admitted to Lutheran Hospital with a fractured right leg.

Mr. Gorham and Mr. Blake were thrown out of the car when the two vehicles hit. Police had to extricate the other riders from the wreckage.

The truck driver, Robert D.

(Continued on Page 16)

Mrs. Ernest Just dies in D.C.

WASHINGTON

Funeral services were held at Metaire Funeral Home Thursday for Mrs. Ethel H. Just, 412 T St. NW, former teacher, who died Monday at Freedmen's Hospital, after a long illness. Interment was at Lincoln Memorial Cemetery.

Mrs. Just, 73, was the widow of Dr. Ernest E. Just, former head of the Science Department at Howard University and an outstanding biologist. He is most remembered for research in fertilization, special sytology (cells) and embryology.

Mrs. Just was also the mother of Dr. Margaret Just Butcher, former member of the D.C. Board of Education, author, and professor of English at Howard University; Mrs. Marjorie J. Butler and Highwarden Just.

"I FORGOT

to buy the AFRO on my way home"

Call for regular carrier service

MUL. 5-6015

FOR HOME DELIVERY

1892 McDonogh grad says integration is 'long overdue'

"It is late, but I feel highly elated. Yes, it was about twenty years ago that I first wrote the AFRO about the McDonogh School.

"I was living in Washington then, but I was reading in the AFRO about conditions in the Baltimore schools, and I said to myself, 'why don't they apply to McDonogh . . . . It's for all boys . . .'"

Arthur J. Smith, 80, 1530 E. Monument St., was recalling this week how he first initiated interest in enrolling colored youths in the McDonogh School for Boys in Pikesville, Baltimore County.

Last week, the board of trustees of McDonogh, announced that beginning in Sept. 1959, the 85-year-old institution would admit all qualified boys regardless of color.

* * *

AFRO FILES show that in 1939, it was Mr. Smith who wrote this newspaper pointing out that under the will of John McDonogh, schools were to be established for all poor boys in New Orleans and Baltimore. (Mr. McDonogh, native Baltimorean, was a millionaire who freed slaves on his plantation, provided them education.)

At that time, he wrote: "It is a plain case of misfeasance and malfeasance by the administrator of the John McDonogh fund for the education of poor children . . .

"The administrators know that the fund should have been distributed among the colored citizens without their seeking it, . . the colored citizens have been systematically robbed for over half a century. . .

"I hope the citizens of Baltimore will get together and demand their pro-rate share of the great benefactor's will. Neither the letter nor the spirit of the will has been applied

(Continued on Page 2)

ARTHUR J. SMITH

He finished McDonogh School back in 1892

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Sam's out

SAMUEL T. DANIELS

Victim of a dual set of standards?

Samuel T. Daniels, executive secretary of the Governor's Commission on Interracial Problems and Relations, has submitted his resignation effective March 18.

The resignation was submitted to William C. Rogers, chairman, and other members of the commission on Thursday.

Mr. Daniels, who resigned a schoolteacher post in Dec. 1955, to work with the Commission, is expected to take a new job in private industry.

His resignation renders unnecessary a bill introduced in the Legislature by State Senator J. Alvin Jones (D-4th), which would have empowered the Governor to appoint the Commission's secretary instead of by the Commission itself.

* * *

IT WAS felt in many quarters that the bill was a direct result of the Nov. General Elections when Mr. Daniels was acting as campaign manager for Senator Harry A. Cole, whom Mr. Jones defeated.

In the pre - November election manuevers, the Commis.

(Continued on Page 5)

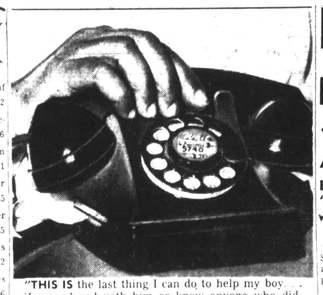
Front Royal pupils home

FRONT ROYAL, Va. — Warren County High School reopened its doors Wednesday, and for a brief less-than-two-hour period, its halls echoed hollowly to the footsteps of a meager 22 pupils.

All of these were colored. The county's 1,044 white high school pupils were attending public schools outside of the county, were out of school or enrolled in classes in makeshift private schools, set up after the courts ordered Warren High to admit colored pupils last September.

For the 10 boys and 12 girls who left the cars of friends and parents to walk up the long driveway to the massive

(Continued on Page 5)



"THIS IS the last thing I can do to help my boy . . . if you played with him or know anyone who did, please phone me . . ."

LAF. 3-5740 is waiting for word

Seated by the telephone in a modest home at 1415 W. Mosher St. is a desperate mother.

She is waiting for the phone to ring with what could probably be the most joyous message she has received in years.

Lafayette 3-5740 is her number. Mrs. Mildred Smith is her name.

For the past week in editions of the AFRO, she has asked readers of this newspaper to help her 17-year old son—Lemuel.

She hopes that someone who

(See Photo on Page 3)

saw, and remembers seeing, her son last July 30 on the outdoor basketball court at Douglass High School will see her ad.

She is praying this someone will respond to her frantic appeal.

* * *

SINCE THE AFRO ad first appeared, Mrs. Smith has had three responses.

One was a sympathetic call from another matron — a stranger.

Another was an encouraging visit by a youth of about her son's age, who said he remembered having seen Lemuel —but not on July 30 — and promised to question his own friends and acquaintances.

And the third call came from some crank, who appeared to be enjoying himself in stating vaguely that he had "some information."

So — the tenseness that has surrounded Mrs. Smith, Lemuel and the other members of her family increases as the days pass, leaving nothing but faith and hope.

"I am still waiting and praying that somebody will come forward with something to help me," Mrs. Smith told the AFRO yesterday.

MEANWHILE, Lemuel is in jail, facing a possible 20-year sentence, as a result of a conviction on a robbery with a deadly weapon charge.

AFRO readers will recall the trial as the "Pipe-beating case," which involved the brutal, almost sadistic attack on a young woman in a clothes cleaning shop, in what police termed a robbery.

Lemuel has strongly protested his innocence.

"My son is not a liar," says Mrs. Smith, who believes in him.

Milton B. Allen and Edwin A. Gehring, his attorneys, have argued that this is a sharp case of mistaken identity.

Bloodstains — too minute for grouping by a chemist — on Lemuel's clothing at the time

(Continued on Page 3)

Honor Roll deadline nears

Once again it's AFRO Honor Roll Time.

Each year readers of the AFRO submit the names of persons who have performed outstanding services to the community, above and beyond what might reasonably be expected of them.

From these names are selected the men and women who will make up the AFRO's 1959 Honor Roll.

If you know of a person in your community who has made an outstanding contribution during the past year, send his name in to the Baltimore AFRO, 628 N. Eutaw St., Balto. 1, Md.

Remember that you are the judges, so send those names in today. Everyone is eligible for nomination except those who have appeared on previous Honor Rolls.

Fair and colder

Temperature 2 to 5 degrees below normal Friday.

Warming Saturday and Sunday.

Little change in temperature Monuday and Tuesday with some precipitation.

Average temperature — high 46, low 31.

Lavern Baker marries comedian Slappy White

Comedian Slappy White and rock and roll singer Lavern Baker became husband and wife in simple ceremonies here Thursday afternoon.

The rites were performed by the Rev. G. M. Edwards, pastor of the Pennsylvania Avenue AME Zion Church, in his rectory at 1124 Pennsylvania Avenue.

It was a second marriage for both. Mr. White having previously been married to singer Pearl Bailey and Miss Baker having formerly taken the vows with Eugene Williams, a Chicago government worker. Both earlier marriages ended in divorce.

The bride, who was identified on the marriage license as Delores L. Williams, was attired in a tan tweed suit, mink coat with matching hat; tan shoes and accessories.

Mr. White disclosed that the couple became engaged during a joint appearance in Kansas City last Christmas. They set the time for their Royal Theatre engagement, selecting Baltimore because this is the home town of the bridegroom.

Witnessing the ceremony were Walter Wright, stage manager at the Royal, who acted as best man; James Gray, Miss Baker's chauffeur, and Aubrey Knox, a friend of the couple.

A quiet affair, the wedding was uneventful except for a minor snag which developed

(Continued on Page 5)

Innocent man held 20 hours!

Eastside man tells of 'harrowing' experience with county police

"It was like a nightmare. They held me from 9:45 p.m. Sunday until 6:30 p.m. Monday and wouldn't let me make a phone call.

"When their lie detector test showed that I hadn't done anything, they let me go.

"I felt bad then, I feel bad now. Everytime the door bell rings I figure someone is coming back to ask questions."

These were the comments of a man who was held almost 24 hours for questioning by Baltimore county police for a crime he knew nothing about.

* * *

IN A VOICE that wavered between anger and self pity, Luther M. Adams of 833 E. 21st St., described his confinement in cells at the Parkville and Towson police stations as "the most harrowing experience of his life."

This man, who is a quiet, handsome six-foot warehouse worker on Thursday as he described for an AFRO reporter, how a uniformed city officer and a county detective first took him in custody in the emergency room at St. Joseph's Hospital.

Mr. Adams explained that he had gone to the hospital for treatment of burns about his arms and face after a gas stove blew up in his home.

* * *

THIS IS the story he told:

"It all started last Sunday morning when I went to put a match to a gas stove. I had forgotten that I had cut the gas on.

"When I struck the match flames went up my arms and singed my eyebrows.

"After the accident my sister - in - law (Mrs. Bessie Hutchinson) called my wife (Mrs. Maggie Adams) on her job and told her what had happened.

"My wife told her to put some butter and medicine on the burns. My brother-in-law (Willie Hutchinson) and my son (Tommy) 8 years old went to get it.

"Later in the day I called my brother (Theodore Adams) and told him about the accident after blisters started to form all over my right arm.

When we went to a drugstore at 22nd St., and Greenmount Ave., to get something for my arms, the druggist told my brother that he had better take me to St. Joseph's Hospital so the blisters could be opened."

* * *

MR. ADAMS continued:

"While at St. Joseph's, they dressed my arm and gave me a shot. That's when I noticed that an officer in uniform was there.

"After looking around, he called a plainclothes detective

(Continued on Page 2)

LUTHER M. ADAMS

He did nothing, the police kept him over 20 hours