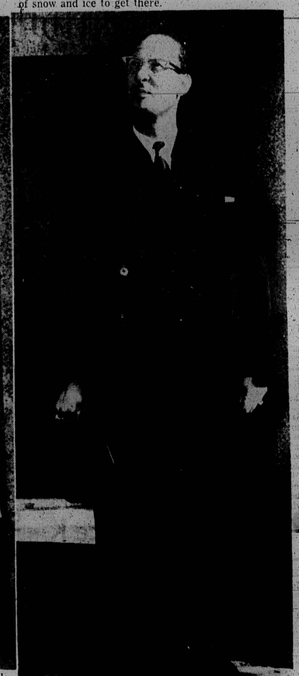
SMARTLY UNIFORMED Grace Soldiers of the Cross carry his body from the New Bedford House of Prayer for All People after funeral services there. Those not actively engaged in bearing the casket stand at attention and salute. Meanwhile, a New Bedford police captain (lower left) directs a detachment keeping the huge throngs in order.

BETWEEN A DOUBLE row of House of Prayer mourners, big, black funeral cars carry relatives of Bishop Grace and elders of the House of Prayer to the cemetery for the leader's interment. Those not in the formal line of march tramped through two inches of snow and ice to get there.

Cult Leader Entombed

CROWD AT MAUSOLEUM jostles and pushes trying to get a last look before Bishop Grace's body is sealed in the mausoleum. The few policemen on hand were not enough to maintain order and at one point, a fight broke out among spectators vying for the best viewing position.

FROM COAST TO COAST to the end. Elder William Regis was with Bishop C. M. Grace when he died in Los Angeles. He accompanied the body from California to Charlotte, N.C.; Newport News, Va.; Washington, Philadelphia, Newark, N.J., and, finally, to New Bedford. Here he closes the iron gate to the mausoleum where the Bishop's body lies.



ELDER WALTER McCULLOUGH looks toward the future. The popular Washington leader is heading a provisional council of House of Prayer elders which will select Daddy Grace's successor.

LEADER'S SISTER — Mrs. Sylvia Gomes, sister of Bishop C. M. Grace, is being assisted from the New Bedford House of Prayer after final funeral services for the spiritual leader. Mrs. Gomes accompanied Sweet Daddy's body from Los Angeles after his death there on Jan. 12.

IN FREEZING temperatures, the stately funeral procession bore the remains of Bishop C. M. Grace from the New Bedford House of Prayer for All People to a mausoleum at the Oak Grove Cemetery. Hundreds covered the distance between the church and the cemetery on foot. Ranging beside the road were thousands of the curious who watched Daddy Grace's last march.

THESE UNIDENTIFIED mourners are seen leaving the New Bedford, Mass., House of Prayer following funeral services Tuesday for Bishop C. M. Grace, founder of the religious sect.

NEVER BEFORE in the history of Oak Grove Cemetery had there been such a crowd of people on its grounds. They are tramping through the snow to the mausoleum where Bishop C. M. race was entombed in a $20,000 casket.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY — An incongruous note was struck in New Bedford, Mass. at funeral services for Bishop C. M. Grace by this huge birthday cake above the casket saying "Happy Birthday." Bishop Grace would ave been 78 years old on Jan. 23.

—Nothing like it

(Continued from page 1)

York, both of whom have been mentioned as likely candidates to assume leadership of the religious group.

An Honor Guard, composed of "Grace Soldiers of the Cross" from Newport News, Va., marched in front of the hearse. Surrounding the hearse were the Grace soldiers from the Washington House of Prayer.

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CARS BEARING MEMBERS of the family were lined up behind the hearse. Riding in the second car in this group were Mrs. Jennie Lombard Grace who was married to Daddy Grace in 1909, her daughter, Miss Irene Noreiga, and the bishop's grandchildren.

Immediately behind the hearse were elders of the House of Prayer who marched solemnly in black bobes.

Absent from the procession were the bands which performed at many of the services of the House of Prayer.

Elder McCullough performed the committal services at the public receiving tomb, a crypt which can accommodate 30 bodies.

The tomb is empty except for the body of Bishop Grace.

Because of the mass of people who pressed close to the public receiving tomb, there was confusion as Grace soldiers attempted to make way for the body to be placed in the vault.

NEW BEDFORD since Saturday noon has had the air of a carnival, and it hasn't. If this sounds confusing, it was doubly so for reporters seeking an explanation.

One young lady who said she had viewed the body 20 times was asked to explain why, if she could.

"It's out of a sort of respect," she replied.

The body of Bishop Grace was on view here around the clock for 72 hours. Well over half of the viewers were white Many of the others had ties in Daddy Grace's native Cape Verde Island.

Active members of the House of Prayer here, plus those who journeyed here for the rites accounted for only a small percentage of the persons who, night after night, came to the Kempton St. House of Worship during the services.

Yet, the solemn expressions on the faces of the persons who viewed the body and filed out of the church contained more than mere curiosity.

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ABSENT IN NEW Bedford were the Gospel Choirs and the Brass Bands. Taped organ music played constantly. At intervals elders from the various Houses of Prayer were permitted to speak.

Members of the Bishop's immediate family besides Mrs. Jennie Grace, her daughter and three grandchildren, include: two sisters, Mrs. Sylvia Gomes and Miss Louise Grace; a brother, Benjamin Grace of Brava, Cape Verde Island; 16 nieces, including Mesdames Marie J. Miller, Mildred Lopes, Anna Vieira, Jennie Cosmos, Olive Gomes, Beatrice Hero and Augusta De Silva;

Also, 16 nephews, including Manuel Grace, James Grace, Dafiel D. Amado and Andrew Cosmos.

Daddy Grace's parents, Manuel Da Grace and his wife Gertrude, are buried in the Pine Grove Cemetery here.

The Santos and Burgo Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements for possibly the most widely-publicized funeral in this area.

—$62,000 to Grace Kin

(Continued from page 1)

also of New Bedford, who claims she is the bishop's widow.

Mrs. Grace was not listed among the beneficiaries.

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MR. TEIXEIRA was first named administrator of the estate by Probate Court Judge Walter L. Considine, until the 11-year-old will was discovered on file here.

Named as executors of the document by the Bishop were Dr. Ernesto A. Bella and Mrs. Marie Miller, both of New Bedford.

Mrs. Miller, a niece of the bishop, was willed $10,000.

Bishop Grace, in making out his November, 1948, will, stated that he was "unmarried."

Plymouth County Court records disclosed a Charles M. Grace of Brockton. He was given custody of two children, Irene and Norman. Date of the marriage was listed as 1909 in Harwich on Cape Cod.

Attorney Teixeira maintains his client claims she is the legal widow of the Bishop, that she never received any notice of a divorce hearing and was never served papers by a deputy sheriff.

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COUNSEL FOR the two executors, Dr. Bella and Mrs. Miller, is Attorney Edmund Dinis of New Bedford.

Dinis is also district attorney for the Southern District of Massachusetts.

In his appointment as special administrator, Attorney Teixeira posted a bond of $25,000.

The will will be allowed at a Feb. 10 sitting of Probate Court and, because of the objection, a date will then be set for trial.

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ATTORNEY TEIXEIRA said a nationwide search may be needed to determine Bishop Grace is listed as owner of any of the vast holdings of the House of Prayer for All People, Inc.

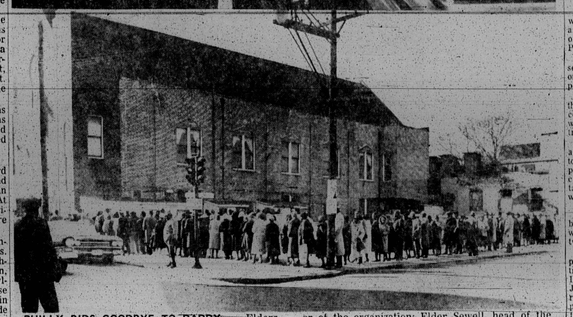
Cash bequests are those to a son, Marcellino, $2,000; three grandchildren, Norman, Leonard, and Miriam Noriega, $2,000 each; a brother, Benjamin, $2,000.

Also, three sisters, Mrs. Jennie Vieira, Mrs. Sylvia Monteiro and Louise Grace, $10,000 each; two nieces, Mrs. Miller and Mildred G. Lopes, $10,000 each, and another niece, Olivia Gomes, $2,000.

In addition there is the $500 bequest to his daughter, Mrs. Noriega.

Bishop Grace directed his executors to return promissory notes to any holders of mortgages on his New Bedford property as "gifts in addition to any cash already given."

The remainder of the estate is left to the House of Prayer "for the propagation of the faith as I have preached it all my life."



PHILLY BIDS GOODBYE TO DADDY — Elders of the House of Prayer for All People gather around the coffin of the late Bishop Charles Sweet Daddy Grace as his body lies in state in Philadelphia as the trans-continental funeral of the evangelist nears the end of the 4,000 mile journey form coast to coast. Looking on are Elder Crow, a national checker of the organization; Elder Sewell, head of the Pennsylvania District; Elder Allen, House of Prayer No. 1 and Elder Long of House of Prayer No. II and an unidentified guard. Below shows some of the devout who braved the wintery blasts all day long to view the body in a steady stream which began at 10 a.m. and lasted until midnight.

ENTERING CHAPEL of the Kelson Funeral Home for rites for Martha E. Saunders, 71, 1526 N. Carey St., on Wednesday, were relatives led by Miss Sadie E. Saunders, a daughter, of Baltimore, and Charles Randolph Saunders, a son, of Elmsford, N.Y. In second row are Atty. and Mrs. Louis E. Saunders of Jersey City, N.J. Mrs. Louis E. Saunders is the former wife of ex-heavyweight champion Joe Louis.

Services for Mrs. Lokeman Saturday

Funeral services will be held Saturday at the Evergreen AME Church, Old Frederick Rd. and Hilton St., at 1 p.m. for Mrs. Sadie Lokeman, 88, 3140 Leeds St., who died at her home on Monday.

Burial will be in Western Star cemetery.

Mrs. Lokeman was the widow of Joseph W. Lokeman who died in 1949.

She was a member of the Evergreen Church for 35 years and belonged to the Willing Workers Circle.

Surviving Mrs. Lokeman are her son Joseph M. Lokeman, a daughter-in-law, Mrs. Beulah Lokeman; three granddaughter two grandsons, two great grand daughters, six nieces and one nephew.

Her body may be seen at her home today (Friday).

Mrs. Russell dies here, was from Royal Oak

Funeral services were held on Wednesday at a North Schroeder St. funeral home for Mrs. Gertrude Russell, 72, 558 W. Mother St., who died Sunday at Provident Hospital after a weeks illness.

Burial was in the Baltimore National Cemetery.

Mrs. Russell was the wife of Talbott Russell, a local Canton Railroad Employee and veteran of Word War II.

She was born at Royal Oak, Md., on the Eastern Shore, Jan. 7, 1890, and became a member of the Baltimore Shiloh Baptist Church over 40 years ago.

In addition to her husband, Mrs. Russell is survived by her daughter, Mrs. Alverta Jones, a grandaughter, MMrs. Myrtle Merrill, a sister, Mrs. Julia Pleasant; an aunt, the Rev. Mrs. Rachel Hall; two uncles, Harris and Frank Larry.

Mt. Lebanon deacon chairman dies at 73

Funeral services were held Thursday at the Mt. Lebanon Baptist Church on Milton Bazemore, 73, 625 N. Rentalou St., who died Sunday at University Hospital.

Burial was in the Mt. Calvary Cemetery.

Mr. Bazemore was for 16 years the owner and operator of the Bazemore Fuel Co. located at 2100 Lanvale St., and a members of the Mt. Lebanon Church for 25 years.

He was chairman of the church deacon's board and a member of the National Deacon's Union.

Mr. Bazemore was born April 10, 1887, Bertie Co., N.C., the son of Amos and Martha Bazemore.

HE AND HIS wife, Mrs. Etta Bazemore, were married April 4, 1920, and were to have celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary this year.

In addition to his wife, survivors include a son, Garnett Bazemore; three daughters, Mrs. Thelma Sharp, Mrs. Alpurnia Sanders, Baltimore, and Mrs. Marian Brown, A New York City; six grandchildren and one great grandson.

Services held for Mrs. M. E. Saunders

Funeral services were held Wednesday at the George H. Kelson Funeral Chapel, 1300 block N. Calhoun St., for Mrs. Martha E. Saunders, 71, 1526 N. Carey St., who died Saturday at her home.

The Rev. Frank J. Frye, pastor of Ames Methodist Church, where Mrs. Saunders had been a member seven years, presided at the 70 minute services.

Final rites were held by members of the Mt. Olive Lodge and the Order of John's Court and concluded the services at the funeral chapel.

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MRS. SAUNDERS was a Past Daughter Ruler of the Great Southern Temple Elks, a grand worthy counselor of the Knights of Pythias Link No. 45, a member of John Court and the Mt. Olive Beneficial Lodge.

Members of the Knights of Pythias served as honor guard.

More than 120 persons were present for the services.

Among them were Mr. and MRSM LUQUIS E. Saunders, Jersey City, N.J.

Mr. Saunders, a son, is an attorney. His wife is Mrs. Rose Morgan, formerly the wife of boxing champion Joe Louis.

The other Saunders children are Charles Randolph Saunders Elmsford, N.Y., and Miss Sadie E. Saunders, a beautician, Baltimore.

Mrs. Saunders was born April 1, 1890 in Gloster, Va.

Her husband Alfred I. Saunders, a Baltimore contractor, died in 1937.

She was at one time a member of the Emmanuel Christian Community Church.

In the 15 cars forming the procession to the cemetery for burial were other relatives and friends:

Mrs. Laura Coleman and Mrs. Sadie Holmes, nieces; Emory Saunders, nephew, all of Philadelphia; Mrs. Geneva Hughes, niece, Wayne, Pa.; Mrs. Cortye Johnson, Chappaqua, N.Y., a cousin; Mrs. Georgia London, Harrisburg, Pa.; Albert and Randolph Saunders, grandsons, Zetharay Saunders, great-granddaughter, all of Baltimore; Mrs. Florence Kelson, Mrs. Ruby Walker.

Other survivors include four great grandsons.

Mrs. Mamie Rainey

Funeral services were held Thursday at an Orleans St. funeral home for Mrs. Mamie Rainey, 49, 2604 Belmont Ave., who died Monday at Johns Hopkins Hospital after a weeks illness. Burial was in the Mt. Auburn Cemetery.

Mrs. Rainey was the wife of Gus Rainey, who survives her.

Also surviving are a son, Clarence Rainey, Baltimore; a brother, Ben Rainey and two sisters, Sudie and Maggie, of Johnstown, Pa.

Oldest Grace honor guard still serves

NEW BEDFORD, Mass. — A dozen Grace soldiers of the cross from the Newport News, Va. unit traveled with the coffin bearing the body of Bishop C. M. (Sweet Daddy) Grace from Charlotte, N.C., to this New England community of 12,000 where final rites were held Tuesday.

Elder Robert Lee Washington, a general in the Grace soldier forces, is in charge of the group, the oldest honor guard unit in the sect.

Elder Washington, pastor of the House of Prayer for All People No. 2 in Newport News, is also chairman of the national organization of the Grace Soldiers of the Cross.

He is assisted by Lewis Thompson, the first president of the Virginia unit and advisor to the national organization formed recently to coordinate the forces around the country.

• • •

THE NEWPORT NEWS unit was formed in Jan., 1925 to act as an honor guard for the colorful leader of the House of Prayer for All People.

Each House of Prayer in the sect is entitled to form a unit of soldiers and to select a color pattern of the uniforms.

The Newport News unit has three standard uniforms. The colors are gray and maroon, white trimmed in red and blue trimmed in gold.

Other duties of the soldiers, according to Mr. Thompson, are to protect House of Prayer property, see that parades are carried out properly and maintain proper decorum during worship services.

• • •

DURING THE four days the body was on view here soldiers were on 24-hour duty, working two hours and off eight hours.

Other members of the Newport News unit who made the trip from Charlotte here were Lawrence M. Daniel, president; James White Jr., financial secretary; John Prelow, vice president; Charlie Graham, treasurer; Sam Thomas, chaplain; and Mathew Pickney, recording secretary.

Also, Leroy Boyd, Charlie Brown, James Fitchett and Thomas Sinclair.

Elder Washington said a meeting of the newly formed national organization will be held this summer, tentatively in Washington.

At this meeting soldiers are expected to discuss standardization of uniforms and draw up regulations applicable to all the units.

Other national officers beside Elder Washington and Mr. Thompson are Edward White of Washington, vice president, and James White Jr., of Newport News, secretary.

She and her husband quarreled over his attention to another woman. She stated: "He took his clothes and he left. I stayed at home with my babies."

Although she received aid from her family, Mrs. Grace stated that she was forced to go to work to support her children, Irene and Norman, killed in an accident in 1947.

Six months after he deserted her, the matron contended, she had him in court on a non-support charge. The court informed Daddy Grace, according to Mrs. Grace, that he would have to support his family or go to jail.

"I said to the judge that if you arrest him it is not going to do me any good," Mrs. Grace stated.

Mrs. Grace said there followed years of struggling and working to bring up her two children properly. Even though his church movement spread around the country the Bishop never offered to aid his children, she continued.

"It shouldn't have been like this," observed Mrs. Grace.

Mrs. Grace said she first learned of Sweet Daddy Grace's death during a newscast on Jan. 12. "I was shocked."

She told the AFRO:

That she had heard Bishop Grace was ailing and three weeks before his death "I had planned to write him a good letter. But I waited too long."

Mrs. Grace maintains that she is challenging the estate as a matter of principle.

"Money doesn't mean anything when death comes."

Who will take over? is big issue

By STEVE W. DUNCAN

NEW BEDFORD, Mass. — The big question of who is to succeed Bishop C. M. Grace as spiritual leader of the House of Prayer for All People had not been answered, at least as far as the public is concerned. As funeral services were held Tuesday at the Oak Grove Cemetery.

Several other important questions were still pending as "Sweet Daddy's" body was temporarily placed in a public receiving tomb.

On the eve of the funeral services, influential elders of the House of Prayer spent most of the day and night in private meetings.

These members of the sect's Supreme Council convened all afternoon at the Grace Mansion, 709 County St., behind closed doors and pulled curtains.

On Monday night the policy makers met at the home of a member, Mrs. Marie J. Miller, 324 Pleasant St.

• • •

WHAT HAPPENED at these sessions? Reporters piecing together bits of information elicited from cautious comments of various elders indicated that much of the time was spent ironing out plans for a meeting to be held in Washington, D.C., within a few weeks.

THE AFRO learned that Elder McCullough of Washington had been authorized to call this meeting.

Elder McCullough and Elder Henry Price of New York City have been frequently mentioned as front runners in the selection of a new spiritual leader.

Some of the unanswered questions: Is there a will? Did the sect leader leave everything to the House of Prayer? Will the House of Prayer attempt to patch the rift between some members of the family?

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ELDER JOSHUA RAYNOR, official chauffeur to the spiritual leader, told reporters that "Daddy Grace" left everything to the church.

"I don't think members of the family will suffer," Elder Raynor said. "We love them." Elder Raynor also indicated that the House of Prayer for All People is incorporated in Massachusetts, Washington, and several other places.

198 register in 7 days

A total of 365 citizens registered as eligible voters at the People's Court Building offices of the Board of Supervisors of Elections during the seven-day period of January 22 through the 27th, raising the city's registration to 428,921 citizens.

Of the 365 new eligible voters 198 are colored; A total of 167 registered as Democrats, and 31 as Republicans.

Meanwhile, Elections officials have revealed that the results of the city - wide, house - to - house canvass of the week of January 18 will not be available until early March.

Where a citizen was marked as moved or dead, a letter will be sent to his registered address for verification.

The card to be returned requires no postage, and must be returned within 14 days of date - February 17 date it will cost.

Day by day registrations at the Supervisors of Elections offices January 22 through 27 were:

Date	Dem. Col.	Rep. Col.	Ind. W Col.	Dem. W	Rep. W	Ind. W
1-22	15	23	5	0	0	0
1-23	14	16	3	3	1	40
1-25	15	15	5	3	3	1
1-26	8	14	1	4	1	4
1-25	43	21	6	5	1	0
1-26	30	14	6	5	1	0
1-27	38	24	5	8	1	1
Totals	167	136	31	28	0	3

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