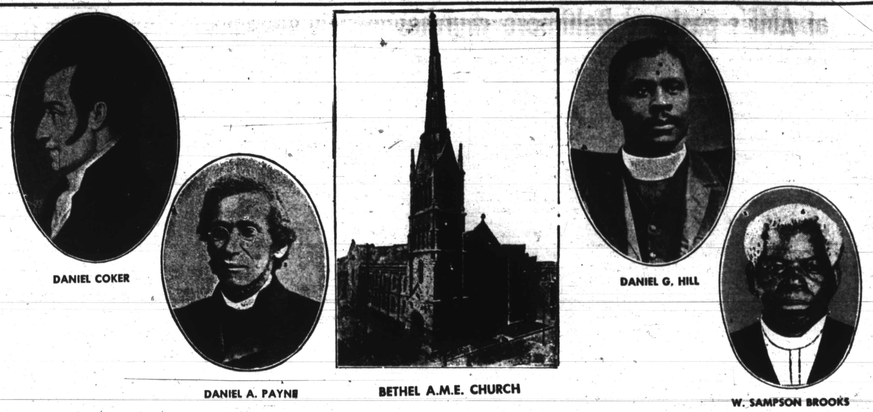
MAY



DANIEL COKER

DANIEL A. PAYNE

BETHEL A.M.E. CHURCH

DANIEL G. HILL

W. SAMPSON BROOKS

A PROUD HERITAGE

The first Bethel Church was organized in 1786 when a group of free Negroes, under the leadership of Daniel Coker, formed the Free African Church. Coker was selected pastor; the second Bethel Church, an underground railroad station on Fish St., was built by Daniel Alexander Payne and the third Bethel Church was purchased by Daniel G. Hill who brought the congregation from Fish St. (Saratoga St.) to its present site at Lanvale St., and Druid Hill Ave.

MANY memorable and important events happened during this period. The first annual conference was held in 1817 and it was called the Baltimore Annual Conference.

The first denominational hymnal of the A.M.E. Church was produced at Bethel.

The first private school in Baltimore for colored people was established in Bethel by the Rev. George T. Watkins and John L. Watkins, principal.

The beginning of the AFRO - American Newspaper was started in Bethel by the late John H. Murphy, Sr.

When Sampson Brooks came in 1917, Bethel was struggling under the weight of an indebtedness of $33,000.00 and this magnificent building on Druid Hill Ave. and Lanvale St., was about to be lost to the congregation, the Baltimore Conference, and the African Methodist Episcopal Church. In three short years, Sampson Brooks rallied the people of Baltimore and paid Bethel out of debt.

There were many who pastored Bethel Church and were elevated to the highest honor in the church, the Bishopric — Daniel Coker, Edward Waters, H. C. Turner, Daniel A. Payne, Alexander Wayman, John M. Brown, Benjamin T. Tanner, James A. Handey, Levi J. Coppin, Richard Disney, C. T. Shaffer, John Hurst, A. L. Gaines, W. Sampson Brooks, and Harrison J. Bryant.

Bethel, in addition to her religious work in the early days, become a forum where all things which concerned the advancement of race were discussed. This church did much to advance the cultural interests of the colored people and to develop the other churches.

The present ministerial leadership is keenly aware that history can be a terrible and tyrannical weight or a launching pad to meet the needs of today's and tomorrow's community, using history as a springboard of hope he envisions a cathedral - like sanctuary, air - conditioning, a child care center, a senior citizen's home, group counseling therapy and off - street parking.

Mother Bethel still walks the lengthy but proud road of progress with her head held high, looking toward tomorrow and not resting on her laurel wreath of yesterday.

SYMPHONY CRITICIZED ON JOPPATOWNE CONCE

MR. AND MRS. JAMES R. JONES
Parting Kiss For Husband She Shot 6 Times (AFRO Photo By Phillips)

Kiss For Bullet-Riddle

By ELIZABETH M. OLIVER

A 25-year-old wife has been found guilty of firing 6 bullets into the body of her husband after her mother had already downed him with 5 shots.

The Criminal Court verdict climaxes a tragic story for Mr. and Mrs. James Roosevelt Jones, a young couple who once resided in the 3000 block Park Heights Ave. and are parents of three children.

The first part of the trial Thursday took place in the hospital where the husband is confined.

The kind of a couple "in love but unable to get along," they had experienced almost nine years of strife when the final blow came last summer.

On Aug. 14, they went through another of their frequent and violent quarrels that resulted in the handsome, 31-year-old husband becoming paralyzed for life.

Eight of 11 bullets shot into him as the result of the dispute remain in his body.

He can never use his arms or legs again, and is confined to Montebello State Hospital "beyond recovery."

On Thursday, the pretty wife, Mrs. Savannah Anita Jones, was found guilty of firing six of the bullets from a 22 caliber revolver.

Her mother, Mrs. Thelma Lee Goode of Brooklyn, NY., in the home on a visit, is accused with having fired the other.

She has been found not guilty by reason of insanity and is confined to Springfield State Hospital.

Judge James A. Perrott pronounced the verdicts when the women appeared before him in Criminal Court.

In his estimate, the tragic circumstance the couple now finds their lot in "one of the most heartbreaking cases ever seen."

The jurist lifted the $5,000 bail Mrs. Jones has been under nearly a year, released her on her own recognizance pending a Probation Department report, but obviously her heart was heavy when she left the courtroom.

Dressed in all white and gold accessories and with the appearance of a model, Mrs. Jones walked into the street, her head bowed under the load.

* * *

THE DRAMATIC trial began Thursday morning at Montebello Hospital as Judge Perrott and his entire courthouse staff moved into a large hospital room converted for the purpose.

Mr. Jones, pale and helpless on a Striker frame, was wheeled in by an orderly.

He and Mrs. Jones had not seen each other since the

—See Kiss for mate, Page 28

Baltimore Afro-Am

74th Year, No. 88 BALTIMORE, MD., MAY 21, 1966 32 PAGES

'No Shame To Cry' At Mass

REV. GENTRY MCDONALD, OTHER MINISTERS CONDUCT GRAVESIDE RITES FOR AUTO-TRAIN WRECK VICT

U-JOIN pushing ban on pot-bellied stoves

U-JOIN (Union for Jobs or Income Now) Wednesday announced plans to press "with a wide range of tactics" for inclusion of an amendment outlawing pot-bellied and Latrobe stoves in the proposed unified City Housing Code after the Holiday Commission refused to endorse such a provision.

The Holiday Commission, which was set up to write the unified code, reported to a hearing of the City Council Judiciary Committee that, in its view, the evidence of fires and injuries resulting from the use of such solid-fuel-burning heating equipment was "insufficient" to warrant putting the "burden" on landlords which would result if the stoves were outlawed.

The Commission report added, however, that if the Judiciary Committee felt it was important to ban the stove it should favor an amendment which would make them illegal five years after the adoption of the new code.

* * *

WALTER LIVELY, spokesman for U-JOIN, the group which introduced the amendment, said he might organize picketing and demonstrations to get the stoves banned "within a reasonable period." He added that he considered six months "reasonable."

The original U-JOIN amendment, which would

—See Pushing ban, Page 28

'Dear little old lady' jailed in murder case

By ELIZABETH M. OLIVER

A 53-year-old woman described in Criminal Court as "a dear little old lady", has been convicted of manslaughter in the Jan. 19th death of her boyfriend.

Complete with soft grey hair and wearing a neat dotted blue dress, she took the verdict calmly and walked quietly from the courtroom to serve six years at the Maryland Correctional Institute for Women.

When she appeared before Judge James A. Perrott Tuesday morning, it was evidently no new thing for Mrs. Mary Lee Carrington of the 700 block Druid Hill Ave.

The dead man, Ernest Bass, 57, whom she "nicked" on the leg with a 5½-inch table knife, was the third man she had slashed and served time in connection with since 1957.

Others she had cut either with a kitchen knife or a razor "lived to tell the tale," according to the assistant states attorney.

THE INCIDENT involving Mr. Bass however, was described to the court as "most unusual," by defense attorney, M. L. Kaplan, who insisted on addressing his client as "dear."

Medical reports before the court showed Mr. Bass

—See Murder case, Page 28

Foster sons guilty in 'wild west' shootout

Two men, ages 18 and 20, have been found guilty of assault with intent to murder their foster father.

According to Criminal Court Judge J. Gilbert Prendergast the occurrence in which the two youths were involved in the 1500 block Cliftview Ave. in March reminded him of a shot-em-up in Tombstone, Ariz. over a century ago.

He added, "However, the marksmanship here was not as good as it was then."

The family gun feud came on the "quiet Sunday morning" of March 20 when Eddie Lee Gordon, 18, 1100 block Woodyear St. and Nathan Franklin Gordon, 20, 1800 block N. Calvert St. went to visit their foster father.

According to the testimony of James H. Blackwell, 45, 1500 block Cliftview Ave., the two foster sons

—See Foster sons, Page 28

McKeldin hopes apartments are set to 'open'

Mayor McKeldin expressed the hope the city's major apartment interests were moving toward an open occupancy agreement Thursday.

At the same time, Sampson Green, co - chairman of CORE's housing committee, announced that "if Horizon House is still segregated on Sunday, we will be there to demonstrate peacefully."

CORE has scheduled a rally for 2 p.m. Sunday in the Prince Hall Masonic Temple, 1707 Eutaw Pl., at which Lincoln Lynch, national vice president, will further explain CORE's plans here for the federation of civil rights groups headed by Cliff Henry.

After a meeting of nearly two hours on Thursday with owners and representatives of owners of large apartment houses, Mayor McKeldin told

—See McKeldin, Page 28

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SNCC's militant new chief talks of plans for future

By FRANK HUNT

ATLANTA — The new chairman of the militant Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee is an eloquent spokesman for black nationalism and independent political action.

Stokely Carmichael, a 6' 2" 170-pound firebrand, does not like to use these labels. He prefers to think of his "Black Panther Party," an all-colored party which has put a third slate of candidates on the ticket for the Alabama, November 8 elections — as a "party of the people." The fact that the people are all nonwhites is a reaction to a racist system, but is not racism in itself, he believes.

"We have got to work it out for ourselves — white accommodation has replaced white supremacy and the only way the colored man in the South can get ahead is to organize politically.

"We don't want anything to do with those guys who tried to work it in the system, and you see what happened."

"What we've got to do is to organize the pockets of poverty into pockets of power," Carmichael declared.

* * *

THE 24-YEAR-OLD [illegible] of Trinidad took over the leadership of SNCC [illegible] appears to be have been a major upheaval [illegible] SNCC spokesman [illegible] it was a "shake up" [illegible] John Lewis, one of the founders of the group [illegible]

—See SNCC chairman, Page [illegible]

STOKELY CARMICHAEL
New SNCC Chief

Social Security Agency must do more—NAACP

NAACP officials said Thursday the Social Security Agency has made "some progress" in Baltimore in hiring and promoting non - whites but overall, "the rate of progress must be greatly increased."

That assessment came from Herbert Hill, national labor secretary, after a "fruitful meeting" of the NAACP's Government Workers Committee and Social Security Commissioner Ball. Mr. Hill said the NAACP called on Commissioner Ball to take "vigorous and affirmative action" against insurance firms which have been historically anti - colored but now will participate in the medicare program.

* * *

THE NAACP also urged the establishment within Social Security of a division of equal employment opportunity with an assistant commissioner to see that "Com-

Symphony hit by ministers

"We have a contract with Joppatowne and we are trying to perform our part of the bargain," Joseph [illegible] president of the Board of Air Rights Trustees, [illegible] made the [illegible] Thursday afternoon [illegible] after meeting of [illegible] against the Joppatowne housing development, [illegible] contract leg of Route [illegible] in [illegible]

[illegible] position was [illegible] with Mr. Wyzanski [illegible]

Votes roll as student kid for S

Watts as cra