NAOMI ALSTON STOUT JUDGE ROGER M. YANCEY

Contents of letter from Mrs. Yancey undisclosed as judge metes sentence

By BOB QUEEN

ELIZABETH, N.J. — Naomi Alston Stout, 42, wearing a bright yellow dress and her hair swept back, had to return to an ante room last Friday to compose herself before returning to receive "no less than 10 years and no more than 15," in the Feb. 9, 1972 fatal shooting of Essex County Judge Roger M. Yancey.

Judge John L. Ard, who presided at the Union County Court trial of nearly two weeks that ended with her plea of non vult, asked her attorney, Richard Walsh, if he "had a problem" when he stepped to the bench and observed Mrs. Stout sobbing uncontrollably.

The time was granted while the court heard several other motions and pronounced other sentences.

Within 30 minutes, her calm restored outwardly, she stood to hear the final chapter on the stormy romance that had been a part of her life since she was 27 years old, and that ended so tragically in the Downtowner Motor Inn, Newark on the last of "many meetings" according to her trial testimony.

But prior to the actual sentence, Attorney Walsh said that he and his client had read the pre-sentence report and agreed on the contents with the exception of two items.

He said that she "didn't know anything about" two alleged charges cited, a contempt of court, dated Sept. 3, 1965, and a "disturbance," of July 1, 1967. The court agreed that there was no substantiating evidence of such charges and advised Mr. Walsh that they would be eliminated from any decision surrounding the sentence.

Walsh also revealed in his plea that a letter had been sent to the court by Mrs. Roger Yancey, wife of the deceased. He asked the court to also base the sentence upon the weight of the evidence presented and the defense ending in her guilty plea "In view of the entire contents of the letter from the wife of the deceased addressed the now competent," he concluded.

Neither Mr. Walsh nor the court would reveal the letter's contents, but the AFRO learned later that the letter reportedly projected the widow's loyalty and faith in her late husband.

Judge Ard agreed with Walsh also, that rehabilitation was not an issue, and, he related this factor as he posed defendant.

"I'm not going to moralize or lecture you this morning," Judge Ard stated, "But considering a woman with your background and training, there may have been factors in the past that caused you to feel that a point had been reached . . . that you took the life of another — for which you had no right."

Judge Ard said that "I see members of your family are here, and I believe some of them were here during the trial. They have stuck by you. You are lucky, for many defendants stand here alone.

"But I must tell you," he continued, "the nature of the crime was so great that the public would be scandalized if the punishment amounted to little. The sentence recommended by the state is extremely just."

He then intoned that on the indictment No. 2843, he was pronouncing her sentence to "not less than 10 years, nor more than 15 years at the Correctional Institution for Women at Clinton, N.J."

Advised that she could appeal his sentence within 45 days, and be supplied with counsel if unable to do so, she answered in the same calm voice as displayed throughout her trial — "Yes I do."

The death of Judge Yancey, on February 10, 1972, approximately 15 hours following the shooting during the couple's rendezvous at the plush new motor inn, created a sensation across the country.

Yancey, the first black judge appointed to the Essex County Common Pleas bench, and having served previously as a district court judge and former Assistant State Attorney General, was buried in his native Estmont, Va., and was a distinguished alumnus of Hampton Institute.

Mrs. Stout, who revealed a long romance with the jurist, and stating on the witness stand in her trial that she had been his "mistress" for nearly 15 years, is a former fashion model, secretary and schoolteacher.

-Bus hold-up

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corner, police said.

The suspects were identified by police as David Carter, 18, 800 block Argyle Ave.; Robert L. McBride, 18, 800 block George St.; Orren Davis, 17, W. Preston St.; and Lloyd H. Elliot, 19, 850 block Robert St.

Total bail of $145,000 was set in Central District Court Thursday for the four youths.

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Judge Broccoline set $70,000 bail for Elliot after he had been told the suspect had been free until Wednesday on $2,500 bail on a narcotic charge.

The other suspects were held in $25,000 bail each.

Police said the incident happened at 2:20 p.m. when the bus stopped at McCulloh and Preston St. to picked up passengers.

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Worthington Winkler, driver of the bus, told police as the four youths hopped into the bus one pointed a gun at his head and asked him to lay on the floor of the bus.

He told police the three other youngsters went to the passengers and asking them to "Give it up and quickly," snatched their purses.

Mr. Winkler told police the gunman threatened to blow off the head of anyone who refused to cooperate.

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Mrs. Dora Alpher, 3400 block Dovenshire Ave., told the AFRO the bandits snatched her handbag containing about $55, her eyeglasses and other valuables.

"They scared me out of my wits," she told this reporter.

Mrs. Alper stated many of the passengers gave up their purses voluntarily, "may be because they didn't want anyone to be hurt."

Police state the four youths have been charged with five counts of assault and robbery. They said Mr. Elliot was also charged with carrying a deadly weapon and pointing a shotgun at Mr. Winkle.

Holdup Squad officers told the AFRO the purses were not recovered but the shotgun was found in the bushes in the 900 block Stoddard Ct. Residents said they saw a man throwing it away.

15-year-old Dundalk co-ed missing July 24

Karen Des Ramey, 15, 200 block Chestnut St., has been reported missing from her home since July 24.

Described as 5 ft. 6 ins tall, weighing 136 lbs., and brown in complexion, Miss Ramey was last seen wearing a white hoiler with black and yellow dots; blue knickers, and sweat socks with red and green bands at the top.

Mrs. Juanita L. Ramey, her mother, told the AFRO Tuesday Miss Ramey left home for the Dundalk Junior High School where she was working to pick up her pay check but had since not returned.

A former graduate of Dundalk Junior High, Miss Ramey is expected to go to Dundalk Senior High in fall.

Anyone who sees her or knows her whereabouts should contact the Missing Persons Division of the Police Department, MU. 5-1600 or call the mother, Mrs. Ramey, 282-6507.

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Students may get off to campaign

A resolution passed July 26 by the State Board of Education may allow high school seniors and juniors to take class-time to campaign for political candidates this fall, G. A. Crenson, a Public Affairs official in the State Department of Education, told the AFRO.

"This is a state-wide resolution, not a by-law," said Mr. Crenson, "so the school systems may or may not implement it, as they choose."

The new resolution places no three-day limit on student political activities as the original 1970 measure did.

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"This will be a matter decided by the student, his parents and school officials," Mr. Crenson told the AFRO.

"To enter the program the student must produce a written request from the candidate or organization that wants him," added Crenson, "and when he is finished, the student will have to write an evaluation of his experience.

"Although 1,000 students participated in 1970," the official stated, "a few school superintendents felt that some were using it to goof off."

This year, the 1970 record is expected to be broken, because, says Crenson, "We have our past experience to go on; it is a Presidential year, and the students can vote."

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—Mayor wants

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who were not serving a sentence.

"In short," the Marbury Committee remarked, "it was impossible to tell with any reasonable degree of accuracy who was in the jail, why they were there, or how long they have been there."

The committee commented, the lack of coordination over the arrest-to-sentencing cycle has left, as of April, 1411 of the jail's 1519 inmates not serving any sentence.

Of the 1,411, most awaiting sentencing. The committee insisted those stages take too much time and must be reduced.

The report stated, 'Many of those awaiting trial have been in jail more then 150 days."

As an example of the jail's difficulty in keeping inmate statistics, the report cited, as of May 16 some 518 inmates were listed as awaiting hearing in District Court.

But on checking with District Court, the committee found, only 420 of them were scheduled for hearings.

Further investigation revealed, of the 88 not schedulled for hearng 28 had their hearing as long ago as April 1971, 16 had no commitment papers on record at District Court, 14 had already been given probation by District Court, 15 had charges dropped against them as long ago as October 1971, 4 also were already sentenced, 6 in state hospitals, 2 out on bail and one was never in jail.

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The committee pointed out long waits until trial is the fault of the Supreme Bench for not appointing a Criminal Assignment Commissioner for the past two years and urged the Supreme Bench to do so "promptly."

The number of pre-trial inmates can be greatly reduced, the committee proposed, if the "too stringent" pre-trial release standards were lowered, meaning lower bails and more recognizance releases.

The Marbury group reported those last year released on recognizance appeared in court as directed 95 per cent of the time, which was better than the rate for those released on cash bond or corporate surety.

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Also, the committee urged a tighter no-postponement policy so cases would come to trial not the present 30 plus day average but around 15 days after arrest.

Chemical testing of suspected narcotics now takes about six weeks, so Marbury police recommended a considerable reduction in this delay.

As to Criminal Court cases, the report noted the average time between indictment and trial is just under 90 days and that time is partly due to defendents who claim they have private counsel but really do not.

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With constant revision of the Criminal Assignment Commissioner's office, the committee hoped the 90 days can be lowered to 30 to 60 days.

The Committee also recommended additional workers in the State's Attorneys Pre-Trial Section, prompier sentencing and prompter pre-sentencing reports.

In conclusion, the Mayor's jail committee remarked: "The most striking feature of the administration of criminal justice in Baltimore made apparent to us in our investigation of ways to reduce the jail population is that no single agency has the complete knowledge of the system or responsibility to see that all phases are coordinated."

—Judge lists

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library and physical exercise programs."

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By Sept. 29, the judge noted a Medical Advisory Committee appointed by the Mayor last week will report on all aspects of medical care in the jail.

Counsel for the warden and the Jail Board have told Judge Kaufman the Rules of the Jail will be amended to include the eleven specific parts of the decree.

The judge, in turn, ordered all inmates be given up-to-date copies of the Rules and the Rules be posted "in one or more conspicuous locations within the jail."

The decree deals with the rights of inmates and the way these rights can be legally withheld and how inmates can appeal to loss of

For example, the inmate has a right to be in a normal cell on an average security section.

The decree sets forth the circumstances under which an inmate can be transferred to solitary confinement as well as the rights of the inmate to a hearing to see why or why not he should be there.

The decree takes up the privileges to receive and send mail as well as the rules concerning inspecting and censoring mail.

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Judge Kaufman includes a section assuring those inmates who can not afford to provide his own toilet supplies and his own writing supplies and stamps that the jail will provide for their needs.

Also, the decree is involved with rights to receive visitors, to correspond "with whom he pleases," to participate in religious observance, to make phone calls, to receive medical attention, and to have sanitary mattress.

Other rights mentioned include having regular, hot meals, access to books and magazines, a reasonable amount of physical exercise, proper hearings on changes of personal rights and inmate initiated complaints, and meetings with legal counsel.

—Social Security

(FROM PAGE ONE)

here. We are a society by ourselves."

She continued, "If a wife calls and points to a woman employee she claims involved with her husband. I do not feel the supervisor would fire the husband.

"The government and the union require we show cause for firings and show grounds for dismissals. We follow the code and only if there is "notorious conduct unbecoming a civil service employee" is there dismissal.

"If, of course, a romance causes frequent absences and inefficiency we do not condone that."

"If we get calls from spouses complaining of marital problems with our employees we suggest they see a marriage counselor. If this matetr is affecting her work then we try to help her."

MORAL CLIMATE

These are the reasons the AFRO's attention was directed to the 'moral climate" alleged to be at Social Security:

1. A recent divorce filed alleged that a husband had been snatched from his family by a Social Security employee and the place is noted for "home-breakers."

2. Rumors persist of numbers writing, playing the horses and other gambling since the 1970 vice raids that arrested 27 persons and made headline news nationwide.

One of the employees was later found dead on the street and as Mrs. Crenson states, was "evidently connected" with the outside racketeers who had sent their lieutenants into Social Security to conduct gambling.

One of the others arrested committed suicide. Several received sentences and dismissals.

3. Recently a woman employee was critically wounded by her husband after she told him she was leaving him for her Social Security boyfriend. Her husband, a serviceman, killed himself and the home was broken leaving an ailing wife and fatherless children.

NEXT WEEK — More on Social Security's complex society; the nation's 5th largest government building with 30 per cent black employees; 62.5 per cent of the 18,177 population women and some of the highest salaried persons on the East Coast.