Test shows Off. Owens was poisoned

Investigations into the mysterious December 1 death of Officer Wiley M. Owens Jr., 31, are resumed after latest medical examiner's reports show he was poisoned.

Off. Owens, father of three children, who was assigned to Insecticral Services, was admitted to the Union Memorial Hospital November 25. He went into coma the next day and died the next Saturday without regaining consciousness.

Dr. William Medart, assistant medical examiner, told the AFRO the officer died after consuming thylene glycol, an active colorless and odorless ingredient.

He said after their original examination found traces of poison in the officer's kidney, the kidney was taken to the Armed Forces Pathological Laboratory in Washington where it was detected he had consumed the ingredient.

"We don't know how he got it but positive examination shows he died from poisoning." According to Dr. Medart it is up to homicide police to prove otherwise.

Police Department spokesman stated Wednesday police are trying to determine whether the death was accidental, suicide or homicide.

Reached in his office Homicide Lt. Francis Elder told the AFRO, "We are not on that case yet."

However, police information director Dennis Hill stated: "We are looking into it. We have talked to many people. We have to have a thorough investigation."

HISTORY REPEATS — Edward B. Pauls, N. Smallwood St., a retired steelworker and USWA foreman, shop steward 12 years, was employed in the Bethlehem Steel tin mill but now spends time at the library reading. This week he found a 1916 newspaper which said Baltimore teachers may leave school "if not given higher salaries. The story said the School Board faced a hard task getting the budget ready for 1917, teachers were scarce and half the Poly faculty asked for a raise. "Unless pay is increased, wholesale desertion will come from the ranks of the teachers. The outlook is serious," the story revealed.

Forest Park man suffers gunshot wounds

Major Sylvester White, 21, 3000 block W. Forest Park Ave., is in critical condition at the Provident Hospital following gunshot wounds of the abdomen he suffered at 8 p.m. Thursday in an argument with a man.

Police state Michael Henson, 19, 3900 block Liberty Heights Ave., has been arrested and charged with the near-fatal shooting.

City, mayor must respond to school suit by Monday

The city has until Monday to answer a civil suit filed Tuesday in Circuit Court charging Mayor Schaefer, the City Council and its president, Walter Orlinsky with deliberately delaying contract talks between the city and striking teachers and have literally closed the schools.

Co-signers of the unprecedented suit are Dels. Lena K. Lee, Joseph A. Chester, Frank M. Conaway, Isaiah Dixon Jr., Calvin A. Douglass and Lloyal Randolph, chairman of the Black Caucus.

Because the suit claims "irreparable harm" has been done the teachers, children and taxpayers by the delays, Judge Joseph Howard issued a 5-day show cause order rather than the customary 10 to the city solicitor's office.

If the city should fail to respond by Monday a "judgement by default" will be rendered against the city, although the authors of the suit Del. Lena K. Lee, must still appear in court to prove allegations made against the named parties.

* * *

City Solicitor George L. Russell Jr. hinted Wednesday that the city may object to the legality of the suit on grounds that the allegations contained therein are beyond the purview of the mayor and the City Council.

The city could also stall for time in hopes that the strike will be settled by Monday, thus relieving it of the responsibility of appearing in court...

But any move the city makes is pure speculation at this time; although a reliable source in the court house says that if the suit goes into litigation, it could be one of "paramount importance!"

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Woodlawn Highlights

By Majorie R. Green

If you are employed inside a gigantic complex like the Social Security Woodlawn headquarters with approximately 17,000 people, names don't seem to matter too much. It's the faces of people and the casual meetings that you really seem to remember.

Imagine trying for weeks to place a face with a name without success and finally picking up the telephone and hearing a voice ask "Don't you remember me? I was your partner in crime many years ago."

Yes, I remember Mrs. Virginia Lively. Each year we would meet at SSA's Annual Awards reception and marvel at how easy it was to enter without an invitation. The receptions seemed more exciting in those early days before an invitation and a tour guide badge placed this writers name on the official guest list.

It was February 1944 when Mrs. Lively entered on duty at the Candler building. She started as a clerk in the old flexoline section. Later she moved into the certification branch and on Feb. 1, she ended her career as a coding clerk in the Records Classification Branch, BDP. In a special tribute to her more than a hundred co-workers gathered at the Blue Crest North on Feb. 15 and showered her with gifts and good wishes.

The program featuring greetings and songs was coordinated by Mrs. Mildred Wheatley. Special guests attending the reception were Mesdames; Elizabeth Reeves, Willie Danson and Louise Jackson; Mrs. Lively's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Cholson; her daughter, Mrs. Jean Graham; grandchildren, Denise and Eric Graham; aunts,, Mrs. Lena Jones and Miss Mary Arrington.

Committee members helping with the arrangements were: Mesdames Geneva Shiflet, Julia Ransome, Velma Lyle, Esther Simms, Mae Cuffee and Shirley Mays. Mrs. Lively's retirement plans include working part-time with the Retired Citizens Program and keeping house for her husband Willie, who retired from Aberdeen Proving Grounds several years ago.

* * *

Mrs. Mamie C. Jones was promoted recently to a GS-8 supervisory position in the Reports Analysis Branch, BDP.

Frederick Shelton, file clerk in the Dickinson building is one of SSA's most active sportsman. He has worked 13 years for the Social Security Administration.

A graduate of Douglas High School, he is now enrolled at Morgan State College under the Upward Mobility program. He is also involved in SSA's job enrichment program to provide a worker with greater responsibility, more independence in carrying out that responsibility, and more timely feedback about his performance. His spare time is spent training a Carroll Park Football team called the Baltimore Rams and coaching and SSA basketball team called, Lakers. Mr. Shelton's wife, Lavinia was among the first black telegraph operators at the Western Union Telegraph Co.

They both are members of Morning Star Baptist Church.

* * *

Send news items for this column: c/o Woodlawn Highlights P.O. Box 785 Baltimore Md. 21203

MARCH 8

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Night in Monte Carlo, Eastwind, 9000 Pulaski Highway, 10 p.m.-2 a.m.

MARCH 10

The Md. Pharmaceutical Society Banquet honoring senior black pharmacists, Le Fontaine Bleu, 3120 Erdman Ave., 7 p.m.

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"PUNCH 'N GRO"
The seeds are pre-planted in the plastic tray. Punch holes in the lid, add water and you've started a garden. When the weather warms up, transplant outdoors. There are Punch 'N Gro kits for a wide variety of flowers and vegetables.
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SAVE 21¢
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