Florence Snowden's death ends historic era in Baltimore

The Sister of Dr. Lillie dies at age 88 after extended illness

By Elizabeth M. Oliver
City Editor

Mrs. Florence Legonia Carroll Snowden died April 5, 1981 at age 88. Last rites were held April 8 at Bethel AME Church. She is buried in Mount Auburn Cemetery in the Carroll family plot where other members of her distinguished family are buried.

Mrs. Snowden was the sister of Baltimore's freedom fighter the late Dr. Lillie Carroll Jackson. Her death closes an historic era in the city.

Mrs. Snowden was elected to the AFRO Hall of Fame in 1941 and in 1944 received another one of the newspaper's highest honors, a place on the AFRO Honor Roll.

LIFE STORY

Here is the story of her life as printed in the funeral program:

Florence Legonia Carroll Snowden was the youngest of eight children of Charles Henry and Amanda Bowen Carroll.

In 1873 her mother, Amanda Bowen of Montgomery County, went to teach in the colored schools of Howard County and met Charles Henry Carroll. In 1875 they were married and came to Baltimore to live where their children were born.

Educated in the public schools, Florence was married April 8, 1912 to John Wesley Snowden of Greenspring Valley, Baltimore County, by Rev. Father George F. Bragg of St. James Episcopal Church.

MR. AND MRS. JOHN W. (FLORENCE) SNOWDEN
Given surprise 44th wedding anniversary dinner in 1956. They had been married 58 years when he died in 1970.

Throughout her adult life, Florence was engaged in church, community, fraternal and political work.

Her mother, Amanda Bowen Carroll, became a member of the Bethel AME Church, recruited by the Rev. W. Sampson Brooks who had been brought to Bethel from Kansas by John H. Murphy, Sr., trustee, to be the new pastor to pay off the big mortgage debt.

Mrs. Carroll who had a neighborhood ice cream parlor and newspaper business at 1134 Druid Hill Ave. became an ardent worker and leader in the successful campaign to free the church from debt.

Mrs. Snowden, following her mother's leadership, became an early member of Bethel.

Her husband, John, joined in 1929. She founded the Bishop Brooks Sunshine Circle; he became an usher, then chairman of the Usher Board, member of the Trustee Board, later vice - chairman.

Both husband and wife attended the AME General Conference and were dedicated life long members

ZONING BATTLE

Mrs. Snowden was a 34 - year member of the Baltimore Branch NAACP Executive Board.

In a totally segregated city, with the help of the NAACP headed by her sister, Lillie M. Jackson, Mrs. Snowden organized the first neighborhood protective association in Baltimore, the Northwest Residential Protective Association.

She remained president more than 25 years.

It was organized in the home of Dr. George B. Murphy Sr., school principal, and his wife, Grace Hughes Murphy, at 1741 Druid Hill Ave. to fight the Liquor Board application to place a tavern at the corner of Druid Hill Avenue and Laurens Street.

With the help of NAACP lawyer, W.A.C. Hughes Jr., the first battle was a resounding victory.

This association with NAACP help spearheaded a crusade against the exploitation of colored residential communities by the granting by the Liquor Board of excessive numbers of alcohol beverage licenses near homes, churches and schools of colored citizens and the granting of exceptions to the zoning law by the Zoning Board which kept colored neighborhoods overcrowded and congested with public health violations and aesthetic nuisances abounding.

Citywide support was garnered in the hard fought case against the Zoning Board granting the permit to establish a mattress factory in the 500 block Wilson Street, a case won in the Court of Appeals of Maryland in 1960.

Also the Northwest Residential Protective Association began to carry cases to the Court of Appeals, winning new legal precedents, it became a model for other neighborhoods.

Mrs. Snowden, responding to appeals from across the city, helped those neighborhoods organize new neighborhood clubs, training their leadership to conduct similar battles, with the help of the NAACP, to keep their neighborhoods wholesome.

Mrs. Snowden was an outstanding fraternal leader.

She served as District Deputy of the Shiloh Allen Lodge of the National Ideal Benefit Society of Richmond, Va. and organized the Marion Armstrong Lodge of that society. She was also member of the Trinity Chapter No. 5 of the Order of Eastern Star until her health failed in the last five years of her life.

She founded the W. Sampson Brooks Temple of the Improved Benevolent Protective Order of the Elks of the World, and served as Daughter Ruler and later as District Deputy of that organization.

She organized junior units of the fraternal organizations she headed, recruiting her grand nephews and nieces, and children of other relatives and friends.

Her grand nephew, State Senator Clarence M. Mitchell III, who was elected to the Maryland State Legislature at 22 years of age, first learned how to conduct meetings and parliamentary procedure as a 12 - year - old officer of the Junior Shiloh Allen Lodge in the old Galilean Fisherman's Hall in the 1200 block of Argyle Avenue.

GOP LEADER

Mrs. Snowden was a lifelong Republican political leader. She believed in a strong two party political system and never switched. She served as Republican election judge over 30 years and voters depended on her assistance at the 7th precinct polling place in the old Fire House at McCulloh and Gold Streets.

When the late Charles F. Woodland was elected Republican Ward executive of the 17th Ward, 4th District, in the primary election in the 1930s he organized the 17th Ward Republican Club in his home on Myrtle Avenue. Mrs. Snowden became an active supporter and worker.

Mrs. Snowden also served actively in the Fourth District Republican Club under the leadership of Mrs. Madie Mitchell.

She was an air raid warden in World War II. She drove beautiful, long Buick automobiles which she and her husband dedicated to transporting participants to NAACP, church, political and civic meetings thereby insuring attendance.

AUNT FLORENCE

Though Mrs. Snowden had no children of her own, she was beloved "Aunt Florence" to her nieces, nephews, grand nephews and nieces, and other young people.

She and her husband loved, supported and encouraged them in all of their activities, educational, religious, political and civic. Whatever contributions they have made to their community, the loving, caring and sharing of Aunt Florence is reflected therein.

Mrs. Snowden was an unusually gifted, liberated woman. Her boundaries of service widened throughout her life, undergirded by a deep religious consecration of her talents, resources and her being to the improvement of living for all mankind.

MRS. FLORENCE LEGONIA CARROLL SNOWDEN
1893-1981

Surviving her are her nieces, Mrs. Virginia Jackson Kiah of Savannah, Ga.; Mrs. Juanita Jackson Mitchell of Baltimore and Mrs. Marion Jackson Smith of Los Angeles, Calif.; her nephews, Bowen Keiffer Jackson of Baltimore; Charles Carroll of Baltimore and Osborne Carroll of Los Angeles.

Also, her grand nephews and nieces State Senator Clarence M. Mitchell III; Dr. Keiffer Jackson Mitchell; City Councilman Michael Bowen Mitchell; George Davis Mitchell; Christine Jackson Rucker, Laurel, Md. and; Lillie May Jackson II; Bowen Keiffer Jackson Jr.; Darryl Jackson and Barbara Anne Jackson of Santa Barbara, Calif.; Sister Marie Holland Benigna; cousins and other relatives.

Pall Bearers were: Sen. Clarence M. Mitchell III, Dr. Keiffer Jackson Mitchell, City Councilman Michael Bowen Mitchell, George Davis Mitchell and Bowen Keiffer Jackson.

OCTOBER, 1939 AFRO file photo shows Mrs. Florence L. Snowden (center) and members of the Steering Committee of the NAACP Membership Drive. They assist divisional leaders in carrying on the campaign. The goal is 5,000 members by October 11. Left to right are: Mrs. Enolia McMillan, campaign chairman; Mrs. Daisy Lampkin, national field secretary of the NAACP; George B. Murphy Sr., John W. Haywood Jr., Mrs. Florence Snowden, general of the army teams; Raymond Young, admiral of the navy teams; Mrs. Lillie M. Jackson, local president; Mrs. Geneva R. Woods and Mrs. Mary E. Hawkins, captains. Standing on the right is Miss Margaret Williams, one of the campaign workers.

Palm Sunday services at St. Bernadine's on TV

"Jesus Enters His City", the Palm Sunday Liturgy from St. Bernadine's Church in Baltimore, Md., will be broadcast live as an NBC Television Religious Program, Sunday, April 12.

The Celebrant of the Mass will be Father Jerome Moody, C.SS.R., Pastor of St. James and St. John Parish. The Homilist will be Father Edward Miller, Pastor of St. Bernardine's Church.

Music by the St. Bernardine's Choir will be under the direction of the parish's Minister of Music, Roger L. Holliman. Among the music to be sung by the congregation and choir are "We Have Come This Far By Faith", "Remember Me", "Can We Get A Witness?" from "Your Arm's Too Short To Box With God", "Were You There When They Crucified My Lord?", "Holy, Holy, Holy", "Free At Last", "Enlovory" and "What Is This".

FOUNTAIN BAPTIST CHURCH
1215 E. MONUMENT STREET
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21202

The Announcement:
On Thursday, April 16, 1981 at 7:00 P.M., The Dramatic Guild of Fountain Baptist Church will present Its First Play, "THE SYMBOL OF A CROSS." Immediately following the play we will have Baptismal Service. At the conclusion of this service, The Lord's Supper will be served by the Deacons of the Church dressed as the Disciples.

Mrs. Helen Evans, Chairman
Olivia Brown, Secretary
Rev. Herman A. Ford, Pastor

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICES
OF THE
UNITED COUNCIL OF
CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY CHURCHES
OF MARYLAND AND VICINITY
FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 1981—12:00 Noon
AT
GILLIS MEMORIAL CHRISTIAN
COMMUNITY CHURCH
4016 Park Heights Ave.

Rev. Benjamin Ball
President

Rev. Theodore C. Jackson
Host Pastor

PREACHING THE SEVEN LAST WORDS

Presiding	*Rev. Theodore C. Jackson, Jr. D.D.*
First Word	*Rev. George W. Baynard*
Second Word	*Rev. Charles White*
Third Word	*Rev. Eunice King*
Fourth Word	*Rev. Arthur Jones, Jr.*
Fifth Word	*Rev. Kevin Rogers*
Sixth Word	*Rev. Carl Washington*
Seventh Word	*Rev. Tommie Jenkins*

MUSIC WILL BE RENDERED BY THE PARTICIPATING CHURCHES
ALL ARE WELCOME:
Rev. Benjamin Ball; President of Council
Rev. Theodore C. Jackson, Jr. D.D. Host Pastor
Bro. James L. Mosley, Executive Secretary

The Ensemble
Israel Baptist Church
Preston & Chester Streets
Balto., Md. 21213

You are cordially invited to worship with The Ensemble of the Israel Baptist Church in their Annual Pre-Easter Recital on Sunday, April 12, 1981 at 6:00 p.m. at the Church, Preston and Chester Streets. This will mark the beginning of our Passion Week Services. Don't miss this rare treat!

Michael Diener, President
Joyce McNair-Hanner, Directress
Bernice M. Waker, Accompanist
Rev. H. Walden Wilson II, Pastor

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Mrs. Frances Bennett

Funeral services for Mrs. Frances E. Bennett, 41, will be held April 11, 9:30 a.m. at St. Joseph Church, Monastery Avenue and Frederick Road. The family will receive friends April 10, 8:30 p.m. at William C. March Funeral Home, 1101 East North Ave.

Mrs. Bennett died April 7 at Deaton Medical Center, where she had been confined since August 1980. Born in West Baltimore, she attended St. Pius Catholic School and Baltimore City Public Schools. She also attended Community College of Baltimore.

At the time of her death, she was employed at Harlem Park Junior High School as a teacher's aide and formerly worked as a teacher's aide at George Street Elementary School, 601 Brune St.

FAITH BAPTIST CHURCH
"The Praying Church"
Bond Street and Ashland Avenue
Baltimore, Maryland
Dr. Walter E. Paige, Minister

Cordially invites you to attend
PALM SUNDAY SERVICES, APRIL 12, 1981
8:00 A.M.—Early Morning Worship Rev. Junior Chambers, Preaching
9:15 A.M.—CHURCH SCHOOL and Member Orientation Class
10:45 A.M.—WORSHIP—Sermon by the Pastor
BAPTIST TRAINING UNION WILL IMMEDIATELY FOLLOW Worship Service
THIS IS THE LAST SERVICE FOR THE DAY
and
GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE, APRIL 17, 1981
with
MEDITATIONS ON THE SEVEN LAST WORDS OF CHRIST
11:45 A.M.
PARTICIPATING MINISTERS:
Rev. Clifford M. Johnson, Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church
Rev. Robert T. Hurte, Community Baptist Church (Assist)
Rev. Nathaniel Higgs, Southern Baptist Church
Rev. Julius Ford, Magothy Charge United Methodist Church
Rev. R. Moses Williams, Zion Baptist Church
Rev. Leroy Fitts, First Baptist Church
Rev. Herman Ford, Fountain Baptist Church

"But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed." Isaiah 53:5

GOSPEL TABERNACLE BAPTIST CHURCH
3100 Walbrook Ave.

Dr. Clay Evans of the Fellowship Baptist Church, Chicago, Illinois will preach in a SPRING REVIVAL at:
BEGINNING Monday, April 13 to 17, 1981, Services will begin each evening at 8:00 p.m.
ALL ARE WELCOME
REVEREND EDGAR L. REID
Minister of Church

ISRAEL BAPTIST CHURCH
1220 N. CHESTER STREET
PASSION WEEK SERVICE
APRIL 13—APRIL 17, 1981

Rev. Wilkinson

Guest Minister
Rev. Raymond R. Wilkinson
Pastor of
Hill Street Baptist Church
Roanoke, Virginia
Service—7:30 P.M. Nightly
All Are Welcome
H. WALDEN WILSON, Pastor

DOUGLAS COMMUNITY CHURCH
"The People of the Way"
Lafayette and Madison Aves.
MARION CURTIS BASCOM
D.D. Minister
James S. Hammond, M.

Sunday, April 12, 1981
Eight and Eleven O'Clock
"The Palms, Yes—But the Hands Too!"
MARION C. BASCOM, Preaching
Good Friday
7:30 P.M.
April 17, 1981
"Olivet to Calvary"
A sacred cantata by J. H. Maunder

Hosanna to the Son of David
—deVictoria
Ride On King Jesus
—Edward Boatner, arr.
Upon a Borrowed Donkey
—Lovelace
Lift Up Your Heads
—Handel

Parish children practice for Good Friday play

By Sue Williams
AFRO Staff Writer

"This play," says a voice from somewhere in the dimly lit sanctuary of St. Edwards Catholic Church, "is about the calvary in your own back yard."

One of the opening lines from St. Edwards' production of "Chirs? Christ in the Concrete City," the statement is indicative of the power and the force of the message that six young people will present to their audience on Good Friday at the church located at Lafayette and Poplar Grove Streets. If the lines pierce the heart or make one squirm with a new awareness of the meaning of the crucifixion of Christ, then something has been done, says the director. That is what the play is meant to do.

"This is one of the most powerful ways of teaching the Scripture," says Father Maurice Blackwell, pastor of St. Edwards and director of the play.

"I can preach, I can teach, and I can give the young people passages to study. But for them to live the Scriptures through drama is more powerful than you might think."

The six young actors and actresses are only part of a larger whole, explains Father Blackwell. Because one of the main objectives was to pull as many young people from the neighborhood into the production, "many others are involved, from staging to lighting to making costumes. Even nearby Carver High School is involved; those students are printing the tickets.

"This has been a way of evangelising," explains the young priest. "Since we began working on it, two young people have joined St. Edwards and converted to Catholicism. And some of the young people who have started coming here are starting to bring their friends."

The play, by alternating between Gethsemane and the actual location of the church on Lafayette and Poplar Grove, has given the young people, no matter their level of involvement, a new sense of the Easter message. As explains Angelo Saxon, one of the actors, it has "changed his heart."

"It's hard to believe that people can be like that...like the way we act in the play. Doing this has made me more aware of how we are in everyday life. We have really learned about the evil that people do."

Tracy Jones, also an actress in the play, agreed with Saxon.

"It's something to actually stand by and see...it's like we really see him crucified. You don't even have a chance to say 'I'm sorry.'"

Tracy, who nervously admits that she would like to attend Catholic school (isn't that silly: she asks), says doing the play has made her more aware of what being Christian means. "It makes me feel like I have to act like the person I play," she said.

The learning of the Scriptures has been something else the young people have experienced.

"If I had never done this play," said Jennie Craig, "I would have never known about Barabbas. I had heard the Easter story a lot of times, but I had never heard of Barabbas."

Tracy Jones agreed, saying that when somebody talks to her about the Bible now, "she knows a little more."

The play is giving the kids a whole new dimension of Christ in their lives," explained Father Blackwell. An admitted drama lover, the priest said he at one time really wanted to be more involved in the theater, but that he is excited now about being able to use his talents and give his gifts back to God.

"I feel that my drama experience gives me a chance to creatively teach the Scripture. It's a good Bible study opportunity."

Under the watchful eyes of Father Blackwell and those of the assistant director, 17 year old Maurice Saxon, the young people have been rehearsing almost daily. For some, it is their first experience on the stage. Others profess to be more polished, with a few school productions under their belts. But all of them have changed, at least a little, from doing this play.

They are inspired by God, by themselves and by the support of the parish, which, Father Blackwell says, joined in prayer last Sunday for the success of the production.

The play is but one of the many activities Father Blackwell has pushed and prodded and titillated the young people of the neighborhood with for over a year. In his efforts to reach and draw young people into the folds of the church, there have been week-end retreats, a 10-mile walk at Thanksgiving for the past two years against hunger, visits to nursing homes, the establishment of baseball and basketball teams which compete city-wide, and the construction of an altar in the church as a tribute to the God they have come to love and to know so much better.

Through it all, through the activities, the plays, and finally, the weekly meetings, the young people, the parents and the priest have grown. Some of the parishioners once told him that he spent too much time with the young people, Father Blackwell says. But he told them that if they the parents would spend more time, he would be able to spend less.

Until that happens, he continues his work, pulling young people from the streets into the folds of the robes of Christ. Has it really made a difference? Do they feel closer to God? Do they pray more?

Angelo Herbert says yes. He prays a lot...his mother makes sure they pray day and night. And yes, it helps.

That's for sure! It helps you get you through a basketball game, and it can do that, it can do anything...it can [illegible] anything."

Panel to discuss crisis

A Palm Sunday platform will be held 4 to 6 p.m. Sunday, April 12 at Sharp Street Memorial United Methodist Church, Dolphin and Etting Street.

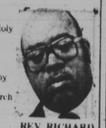
The theme is "A Choice, Do We Still Have One"? Participants will include citizens who work in the field of education, community development and urban affairs. They will give their views on the urban crisis and recommendations for initiatives the black community should pursue.

Among topics that will be discussed are Why government programs, such as CETA and other manpower efforts have failed to effectively resolve black structural unemployment problems.

ST. JAMES' EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Lafayette Square, Baltimore, Maryland
The Reverend Donald O. Wilson, Rector
The Reverend Hugh R. Page, Jr., Assistant
Dr. Robert T. Ford, Deacon
Maurice Murphy, Organist—Choirmaster

PALM SUNDAY—(PASSION BEGINS)
8:00 A.M.—Blessing and Distribution of Palms
9:00 A.M.—Distribution of Palms, Church School, Procession
10:30 A.M.—Liturgy of the Palms (Lafayette Square Solemn Procession, Solemn Eucharist
MONDAY AND TUESDAY BEFORE EASTER:
12:15 P.M.—Holy Communion
4:00 P.M.—Vespers
MAUNDY THURSDAY:
10:00 A.M.—Holy Communion
10:45 A.M.—6:00 P.M.—Repose of Blessed Sacrament
6:00 P.M.—Solemn High Mass
6:45 P.M.—Covered Dish Supper
GOOD FRIDAY:
10:00 A.M.—Good Friday Liturgy
12:00 NOON—3:00 P.M.—The Three Hours
4:00 P.M.—Vespers
The Rev. Donald O. Wilson, Rector
Mr. A. Maurice Murphy, Organist—Choirmaster
The Public Is Cordially Invited To Attend

PERKINS SQUARE BAPTIST CHURCH
2500 EDMONDSON AVE.
CORNER OF WARWICK
APRIL 12, 1981
COMMUNION SUNDAY



REV. RICHARD OGLE
Pastor

8:00 A.M. Early Morning Worship Sermon by the Pastor. Holy Communion
9:15 A.M. Church School New Members Class
10:30 A.M. Open Heart Service
11:00 A.M. Morning Worship, Sermon by Rev. Emmett Palmer Wingfield Baptist Church Lynchburg, Va. Holy Communion
3:00 P.M. Musical Concert featuring the Gospel Chorus of the Wingfield Baptist Church
6:00 P.M. BTU New Members Class
Church Officers Night

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Mt. Sinai Baptist Church
922 East Preston Street
Baltimore, Md.
April 13th thru 16th 1981
Holy Week services will begin at 7:30 p.m. each night. Our guest speaker for the week will be Rev. Douglas Miles of Brown Memorial Baptist Church.
April 17, 1981
Seven Last Words Service will be held at New Lebanon Calvary Baptist Church 12:00 p.m. located 501 N. Milton Ave. Rev. Walter H. Stone, Pastor
April 19, 1981
Easter Sunrise Service at 7:00 a.m. Breakfast will be served immediately following the service.
REV. WM. BROWN—

—Students explain

(Continued from Page 1)

"I'm never quite sure I want to do this," he says, "and I ask myself a thousand time, 'Do I really want to do this?'"

If he were to decide that he did not want to stay in the priesthood, he only knows that he would remain in the ministry. Other priests are not so open with their feelings. It is not easy.

"Being a priest was not on my agenda," said Father Maurice Blackwell "I stayed out of the church until I was 18. But when I got back in it, things just started to happen."

What the priests do have in common, despite the austerity of the lives they have chosen to live, is a commitment to the Roman Catholic Church. They have grown up in its tradition and its beauty, and want to remain a part of that tradition to do the work they feel Christ has called them to do. So it is to be a Methodist or a Baptist or Presbyterian minister would not be the same.

"Being a priest is not paying your dues," argues Edelen. "I'm not paying any dues. Sure it's hard, but it's worth it."

More, it would seem, the priests are where they need to be. And with that in mind, the questions of why take a back seat.

—Norman Muldrow

(Continued from Page 13)

Muldrow says gospel music is becoming more popular today but he feels there is still a need for the basic hymns and spirituals.

During their first year of singing, they have appeared in concerts in churches in Maryland, North Carolina and Washington. The group of men are members of Morning Star, Macedonia, New Shiloh and Harlem Park Community Baptist Church.

Each member of the choir received a certificate of appreciation from Muldrow at an anniversary tea Sunday. Among other groups to sung were the Marylan Suburban Mass Co The Evans Brothers Gospeletes and St. Pe Claver Church Choir St. Indigoes, Md

NUTTER Funeral Home
3035-37 W. NORTH AVE.
WI. 7-4655
WI. 7-7618
"A SERVICE WHICH INSPIRES CONFIDENCE"

Wayland Baptist Church
3200 Garrison Blvd.
Baltimore, Md. 21216
Sunday, April 12, 1981
(PALM SUNDAY)
4:00 p.m.—Sanctuary Choir in Recital
HOLY WEEK
Mon. April 13 thru Thur. April 16
Services 7:30 p.m.
Holy Communion Thursday
Wayland Baptist and Fellowship Christian
3200 Garrison Blvd.
Rev. Kevia Rogers, Pastor
Music by Mass Choirs of Both Churches

Friday April 17 (GOOD FRIDAY)
5:00 p.m.—Fish Fry
Sponsored by Men of Wayland
Saturday, April 18
10:00 A.M.—Luncheon
Sponsored by The Matrons
Speaker:
Mrs. Aurelia Downey, President
Nannie Burroughs School of Religion, Wash. D.C.
Sunday, April 19 (EASTER SUNDAY)
7:00 A.M.—Sunrise Service
Music by Combined Choirs of Wayland
9:30 A.M.—Sunday School
10:45 A.M.—Morning Worship Service
3:30 P.M.—Pre-Anniversary Chancel Ensemble

MACEDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH
718 W. Lafayette Avenue
You are cordially invited to attend our services.

Palm Sunday	
Holy Communion	11:00 A.M.
Wednesday, April 15	
Baptizing	8:00 P.M.
Easter Sunday	
Church School Program	9:00 A.M.
Morning Service	11:00 A.M.

DR. W. L. CLAYTON, Pastor