

## They Will Start Ball Rolling in Baltimore NAACP Drive



Executive committee which met last week to map plans for membership drive in Baltimore. Mrs. Lillie Jackson is president of the Baltimore NAACP branch. The drive will be under the supervision of Miss Juanita Jackson, special assistant to Walter White, national executive secretary.

## Hamilton Street, Once Colored, Has Become White Neighborhood

Tiny Street in City's Center Once Housed Bethel's Pastors, the Hills, Mallorys, Bishops, Brownes, and McCabes.

**By MARTHA E. PHILLIPS**  
This is the fifty-year saga of one of Baltimore's little streets which defied the usual order and turned from a colored residential thoroughfare to one which is almost white.

If you think of ghosts of old Baltimore's aristocratic white families walking in stately silence through the halls of lower McCulloch Street houses, many now occupied by tenement colored renters, then think of stately ghosts of former colored elite strolling through rooms once occupied by many old Monumental City families, but which now houses many of the city's white Bohemians and modern city dwellers.

Today there are only three remaining colored families in the short section of Hamilton Street which runs between St. Paul and Charles Streets.

The records for the opening of streets in Baltimore state that the street was opened in 1857. It begins at Gravel Alley and ends at Park Avenue. Hamilton Street was named for Alexander Hamilton.

To find it, one goes south on Charles Street from Centre. Midway the block between Centre and Franklin is Hamilton Street.

**Was Aristocrat's Street**  
The two blocks of Hamilton Street west of Charles Street have always been exclusively white. Fifty years ago the residents were representatives of Baltimore's most aristocratic families.

Even today a remnant of these old families lives there. East of Charles Street lived colored families equally as genteel as the whites west of Charles. Indeed this street with St. Paul Street around the corner was known as the colored Mt. Vernon Place.

Should one walk through Hamilton Street today, he would still be impressed by its quaintness and mellow aristocracy. Of late years, however, it has taken on a bohemian air which suggests Greenwich Village. There one finds besides the old residences, studios, decorators shops, and beauty parlors. The professional or business places have been designed to harmonize with the quaint little houses, some of which have shutters at the doors.

**Commerce Moves In**  
At the corner of Charles and Hamilton Streets today is the antique and decorator's shop of Oliver Zell. Years ago, this was a fine old residence which boasted of numerous servants including a coachman.

Opposite, on the southeast corner, is an exclusive children's dress shop. There, when this was a fashionable neighborhood, R. J. H. Lawson kept a fine grocery store.

The first house in the block is today 6 E. Hamilton Street. Fifty years ago it was number 21. This property, however, was the property of a white man.

**Dr. Thomas, No Colored People Lived in the Block at That Time**  
One, Emory Bond, kept a restaurant on Saratoga Street not far away. He was a thrifty man and, thought of buying a home. He offered to buy the house at No. 6, but Dr. Thomas refused to sell unless he could dispose of both pieces of property. Mr. Bond had to wait until there was an offer for No. 8, but this was not long, however, for one, John Bishop, bought it.

**Became Bethel Parsonage**  
He was not married at that time and Emory Bond rented the house. It became the parsonage of Bethel A.M.E. Church. Bishop Wayman, then pastor of the

church took up his residence there.

The next pastor to live there was the Rev. John M. Brown, who later became a Bishop. Many were the distinguished Baltimoreans who passed over the threshold of this old house and many a member of old Bethel Church was married there.

**Hills Born on Centre Street**  
When Mr. Bond married, he moved his bride into the house and the parsonage moved around the corner on Centre Street. At the Centre Street parsonage, in the not too distant past, lived the Rev. Mr. Hill and his many children, who later distinguished themselves so successfully in their chosen work.

These children include: Mrs. Violet Hill Whyte, the Rev. Daniel Hill, Joe Hill, who taught at the Douglass High School for a time; Mrs. Grace Hill Jacobs, teacher at Coppin Normal School; Ida and Lee Hill, teachers in the local schools; and Dick Hill, now instructor at Howard University and husband of the former Hilda Anderson.

**Mallorys Had Large Family**  
At 6 E. Hamilton was born Emory Bond's daughter, who later married a Mallory and became the mother of Mrs. Florence Mallory Toomey and Thurston Mallory, Sr. The latter is the father of the large tribe of Myrtle Avenue Mallorys.

When the Mallorys moved from Hamilton Street, they rented the house to the Fenwicks. Mrs. Xavier Fenwick MacDonald was the daughter of the house and for part of her childhood lived there.

When the houses on the east side of St. Paul Street were to be torn down to make way for the construction of Preston Gardens, Mrs. Mallory sold the house to Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Hurd. Mrs. Hurd had lived all her life in Hamilton Street, having been born at the corner of St. Paul and Hamilton Streets. She is the present occupant and owner of the property.

**Bishops Were Undertakers**  
The Bishops, who bought the house at No. 8, were the parents of the late John M. Bishop. For many years John Bishop kept an undertaking establishment in the 1100 block of Druid Hill Avenue. Norman Bishop is the grandson of this family. Later the family bought the property at No. 10.

In more recent years, David Bruce, Sr., lived at No. 8. For more than thirty years he has been chef for Caterer Hughes. The Bruces now live on Dolphin Street, but the older Bruce boys, Harper, Cliff and Dave spent part of their childhood at the Hamilton Street house.

**Masons at No. 10**  
At No. 10, lived the Cassius Masons. Here were born Miss Winifred Mason and her sisters. Miss Winifred Mason was for some years a teacher in the local schools.

The Robert-Masons, parents of the pretty Etta and the late first Mrs. Ralph Cook, are descendants of this family. The Fraziers, parents of the late Mrs. Clarke Smith (Bertha Frazier), Stewart, Clark, Franklin and William Frazier lived in Hamilton Street near the corner of St. Paul. Some of the Frazier children were born there. Later the family bought the property at 511 St. Paul Street, where they lived until they came up town.

**Tenement Now Book Shop**  
A tenement house was in the middle of the block. Next to it was Hoyt's stable, which in later years became a bottling plant for a distilled water concern, and later the Hamilton Club. Beneath the tenement today, there is a used bookshop run by a young white woman. A law office occupies another house where once lived belles and beaux of old Baltimore.

At the corner was a saloon kept by an Irishman named Pat Horn.

Today, only No. 6 retains its former glory and dignity undistilled through all these years. The house at No. 8 is the home of a salesperson at Hutzler's, who thinks it is smart to live in such a quaint street.

The landlord, who refused to keep the house in repair when colored tenants lived there, has completely reconditioned it. Now the once neglected little house smiles through its cream colored venetian blinds and beams proudly upon the two small evergreens on either side of the steps.

In the other houses are studio apartments rented to white tenants of an artistic or a bohemian turn of mind.

**Art Shops and Studios**  
From beginning to end, the south side of Hamilton Street was the back of the fine old residences on Franklin Street. Today the old yards and stables house art shops and studios and one is a part of Bennett's, a kind of hotel for young white women.

At the corner of St. Paul and Hamilton was the back of Dr. Patterson's residence. He was a relative of that famous Baltimore belle who contracted an unfortunate alliance with royalty, Betsy Patterson.

**Walby Warfield's Aunt**  
A few paces up the street going toward Charles is the rear of a house where once lived an aunt of another Baltimore belle whose more fortunate royal alliance made her the talk of the world, Wallis Warfield Simpson.

Next to the Pattersons were the Yeats Stirlings, then came the Douglass Gordons, then another family of Stirlings, then the Bartletts, then the Jesse Tysons (she is now Mrs. Bruce Cotton) and then the grocery store of R. J. H. Lawson.

The block of Hamilton Street across St. Paul is only a memory today, but it too housed old Baltimore families. On the corner of Hamilton and St. Paul at No. 509, lived Jerry Browne, a barber. The first house in this block going west from St. Paul was the Desson home. There Miss Evangeline Desson, who died recently, was born and grew up. Across the street was Karmac's stable. He was a colored man of some means. Mr. Desson was a barber, which in those days was a business of importance.

**Richard Mack on Corner**  
Here lived Richard Mack, who worked for the Garrets for numerous years. Mr. Mack is one of the oldest members of Madison Street Church. The Warren Johnsons, parents of Herbert Johnson, who was for fifty years organist at Union Baptist Church. The Beans, the Pages, and the Burdens also lived there.

The east side of St. Paul Street, like this block of Hamilton Street has gone with the wind, but when the AFRO was in swaddling clothes many distinguished families lived there. As has been previously said the Jerry Brownes lived at No. 509. He kept a barber shop for a white clientele on Light Street near Baltimore. This place was among those destroyed by the great fire of 1904.

**Browns Were Barbers**  
In No. 509 were born all the Browne children, Ida, known to many by her married name, Ida Taylor; Henry Grafton Browne, until a few years ago principal in the local school system; Helena, now Mrs. Helena Browne-Hurd, the only colored property owner in Hamilton Street and Gordon Browne, who for many years kept a barber shop in Atlantic City. He was an institution and referred to himself as a professor and dermatologist.

**Only Two Colored Families Left**  
There are two colored families living in this block today and one of these is the Crump family, whose daughter, Ernestine, is an attractive little manicurist. All that remains of the elegance and gentility of this old neighborhood is in the memory of those who once lived there or who visited there. After fifty years it has all been swept aside on the turbulent tide which marks the onward sweep of a changing civilization.

the most successful and earliest of the Baltimore caterers.

The Jacques family was among the most elect. Descendants of this family living today are Miss Nettie Jacques, a daughter, who lives in East Baltimore, Ernest Jacques and his sister Mary (formerly Mrs. Oscar Johnson) grandchildren and Mrs. Elizabeth Johnson Henderson, a great granddaughter and vice principal of School 101.

**Smiths and McCabes**  
John Henry Smith and his family lived at No. 517. He kept a livery stable and hired coaches. Mrs. Annie Williams of Dolphin Street and the attractive Charlotte Williams are daughter and granddaughter, respectively of this family.

At No. 519, lived the McCabes. They owned this property and were people of substance. Old Mr. McCabe was a staunch member of old Bethel Church and at his death the house was left to the church. He is quoted as having said that he was going to make a will that the devil himself could not break. His daughter, Mrs. Georgine Erb, who died not so long ago, left a substantial sum to Provident Hospital.

**Toomey and the Assembly Rooms**  
Next was Kerney's stable over which were the Assembly Rooms. The rooms were fashionable as a setting for social affairs of the white elite who lived in this section. Later, the best affairs of colored Baltimore took place in them.

Here Prof. Elsworth Toomey presented the second of his affairs which were destined to become a Baltimore institution for more than twenty-five years. Many other of his affairs were given there until an undesirable element caused the place to be given up by the socially elect.

There too the old Baltimore Rifles used to have their drills. Some of the members of this little military organization were: George Mathews, Edward Bond, Packard Tirmand, and Andrew Jackson, father of Pauline Jackson of swimming fame.

On the west side of St. Paul Street which is still intact but greatly changed, lived the Sykeses whose descendants the writer has been unable to trace. Here too, until they moved across into the McCabe house, lived the James Hugheses. Both these families as well as their neighbors the William Brownes and the James Harris were in the catering business. Of them all only the Hughes establishment continues to serve food to the aristocracy of Baltimore. It is managed by a daughter, Florence and her husband, William T. Carter, parents of Mary, Courtney and Hughes. There is also Mrs. Grace Hughes Murphy and Miss Mary Hughes, a teacher in the local schools. Mrs. Robert Clark of Druid Hill Avenue and the former Miss Lillian Hughes, one-time teacher in Douglass High, now Mrs. Harry Bragg of New York, are also daughters of this old family.

**Allen's Tonsorial Emporium**  
On this same side was Castle's barber shop. John W. Allen bought out the Castle place and it became a tonsorial emporium. Mr. Allen later moved his shop to Franklin Street and then to lower Druid Hill Avenue where he practiced his art for many years. He is now reported to be living in Atlantic City. He was an institution and referred to himself as a professor and dermatologist.

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**Monk Makes "Burnt Offering" of Self**  
COLOMBO, Ceylon, (ANP) — Last week a Buddhist monk, B. H. Sarnananda, 28, horrified pedestrians as he wrapped himself in six robes which had been soaked in petrol, then mumbled a prayer, set fire to the robes, remained motionless while the flames consumed him.

A note found later near the pyre read: "I am making this sacrifice as an offering."

# Schools, Churches Changed Since Turn of the Century

## IS CROWN TOO HEAVY FOR THE TITLE-HOLDER?

White Writer Thinks Title a Pain in Neck to Joe.

CHAMP SHOULDN'T BE CRITICIZED

A Fickle Streak Is Uncovered.

Marvin McCarthy, sports writer for a Chicago daily, took his text for one of his columns from Joe Louis's recent decision to retire after he fights Schmeling next June and delved into the matter with alacrity. His story:

An amazing streak of fickleness comes out now in the copper colored youth who was fortunate enough to win the world's heavyweight boxing championship. In his fist adolescence Joe Louis dreamed of one day possessing this prize, but now that he has it, no longer desired it. He longs to be rid of its responsibilities and claim on his time. He wishes to fight one more match, for purposes of cashing in, and then retire to living long and happily ever after, following dictates of his leisurely nature and being done forever with the rigors of training and intensity of warfare.

Louis has indicated this more than once in recent weeks. He displayed an attitude of boredom throughout the Farr match and now admits he will fight Max Schmeling, take the champion's end of the large purse, and win, lose or draw, retreat from the picture. By all the evidence Joe Louis has no pride whatever in the championship. He won it too easily and the fickleness that is bred deeply into the bone and fiber of man has asserted itself. The easy conquest quickly palls, whether the pursuit is of riches, renown or rustle of silk.

**A Strange Thing**  
For every fighter who succeeds to the championship there are a thousand disappointed stumblebums who spend their careers beating brains out against adversity and in the end take the obsession, ungratified, to their graves. There are a hundred good and capable fighters who get so close to the title and no closer, such as Tommy Farr, the Welshman, who if he were champ would cling to the throne as long as one muscle remained unbuttoned in his body and one nerve remained to drive it on.

The world's heavyweight champion is winner of sportsman's greatest lottery, because destiny has singled him out and guided him unerringly through a labyrinth of obstacles and handicaps that kill off almost all. The first 23 years of his life Joe Louis spent following this destiny and now, less than three months after he attained the championship, he is eager to be rid of it.

Joe Louis has gained affluence. He will have enough money after one more fight to keep him in soft ease the remainder of his life. Annuitants within a few years will start paying him \$1000 per month. He has homes of his own and a home for his mother. He has fast automobiles. He has extensive wardrobes and a larder that can not possibly run short of chicken, chops and beverages. He has everything that could appeal to a well-fed young man who is not too fond of blisters on his hands and sweat on his brow.

In St. Louis yesterday he admitted he "wasn't so eager" to meet Schmeling and that he "probably would retire" after his fight with Max next June. He said nothing of pride in the championship or determination to hold it as long as strength remained in his grip. What a change from the tawny ring "killer" of one or two years ago, who chafed at the delay from one "kill" to the next!

**Now Softball Enthusiast**  
Louis is now touring the Jand as patron and star attraction of the "Brown Bomber" softball team. He makes nightly appearances with his "mine and takes turns at bat. He likes to travel and derives enjoyment from knocking about from town to town, trying his punch on loggy pitches in "combat" so unimportant the score hardly is remembered from one night to the next. This way Louis is resting from three months of ring campaigning in an atmosphere of high pressure and tension. To the world Joe Louis is a grim and tight-jawed defender of the championship; in his heart he is a youth of 23 whose ears hear echoes of many banjos and whose feet yearn to dance. Who is there to criticize if Louis wishes now to with-

As Told to  
IDA ANN MURPHY

The YWCA, the AFRO-AMERICAN, Methodist, Baptist and Episcopal Churches, colored teachers, grade schools, and high schools are all part of the rapid progress which the Rev. George F. Bragg, Jr., has seen since he came to Baltimore in 1891, forty-five years ago.

Bethel Church, which grew out of Sharp Street in 1865, had at that time more than 700 in its Sunday School, of which a Mr. Myers was superintendent. Bishop Charles S. Smith, of the A.M.E. Church, said it was the "Banner Sunday School of the world." The pastor was the Rev. Levi J. Coppin, who later became a Bishop.

**Bethel Begs Trinity**  
Trinity A.M.E. Church, an off-spring of Bethel, had from 800 to 1000 members, and was pastored by the Rev. James W. Norris.

Calvary Baptist Church, now an automobile station at Biddle Street and Park Avenue, had a large congregation and was pastored by the Rev. P. H. A. Braxton.

**Union Baptist Church, Guilford and Saratoga Streets,** was the main Baptist church, out of which a number of churches grew. The Rev. William Alexander



MISS BETTYE SHELL, of Baltimore, who spent Labor Day in New York City, visiting friends.—Photo by Woodard.

draw from what at best is a hard and merciless profession? Other heavyweight champions before him have taken the "cut" of abdication and others in the future will follow suit. It simply strikes me as strange that so many young men people the fist would who would give 20 years of their lives to own this prize, and the one young man who has it gladly would throw it away.

Every year thousands of ringdom's rookies lace on the gloves and dream of a distant happy night when they may stand triumphant under the blazing lights and hear that charmed chant—"The winnah, and new champeen." Not one in a thousands sees the dream come true, and here is one whose vision did materialize . . . already tired of it all! But that, I suppose, is something else bred deeply into the bone and fiber of man. Kings sigh in the secrecy of their chambers and millionaires gaze pensively out the window at urchins in the street.

**Principal Got \$900**  
George W. Biddle was principal in the male department at a yearly salary of \$900. Miss Fannie L. Barbour was principal in the female department at a salary of \$696.

At that time, the schools were divided in two sections, the male department, upstairs, and the female department, downstairs.

**Riggs's School Teachers**  
There were 1220 students at the Riggs Avenue School. The teachers included: Daniel C. Credit, Ellen L. Anderson, Mary E. Taylor, Ada S. Truist, Charles H. Anderson, Jacob H. Charlson.

Walter Scott, Edward Reed, Adelaide Fossett, Nannie B. Brown, Violet B. Thompson, Mamie C. Neal;

Gertrude Anderson, Florence Matthews, Lillian Truist, Clara Rayner, Estelle Langley, Emma S. Thompson, and Nellie Tompkins.

There were four colored annex schools outside of the city limits. George B. Murphy was principal at Calverton Road and Edmondson Avenue; Annie O. Waters was principal on Frederick Road, with M. Louise Smith and Cecilia Johnson, teachers.

The largest annex, Twenty-one and One-Half Street near Barclay, was in an alley with 207 students and six teachers. The teachers were: Garrison Truist, principal; Georgine Kelley, William Murray, Florence Gray, Susie Stewart, and Frances L. Murphy.

**Weglein Was Instructor**  
One of the three night schools had George B. Murphy as principal with William Lee, Cecilia Watkins, John C. Anderson, Susan Spriggs, Henry B. Harris, and Macy Martin as teachers. David E. Weglein, white, now superintendent of Baltimore schools, was then an assistant teacher in the colored night school at Howard and Montgomery Streets.

The Rev. Mr. Staley, white, principal of the Colored High School, got a salary of \$1500, while the colored principals received \$680. Salaries of the teachers ranged from \$700 to \$432. The salary of a first-grade teacher in the elementary school equaled certain salaries of teachers in high school.

left and formed Sharon Baptist; the Rev. Garnett-Waller formed Trinity Baptist. Union Baptist, in turn, grew out of the mother church, the First African Baptist Church, founded on Caroline and McClellan Streets in 1836, founded on Caroline and McClellan Streets in 1836. The church celebrated its centennial last year.

**Whites Were First Leaders**  
Said the Rev. Mr. Bragg in his "Men of Maryland":

"The Methodist Episcopal churches became self-governing bodies after the close of the Civil War.

"Sharp Street Church, Centennial, and Asbury congregations, all run back to the beginning of Methodism, but the pastors and class leaders of these congregations were all white."

St. James M.E. Church was the first colored church in the city affiliated with an existing white body, St. Paul on Charles and Saratoga Streets.

The Rev. George B. Johnson, white, assistant at St. Paul, was priest at St. James when the Rev. Mr. Bragg took charge in 1891.

St. James was then located on High Street. In 1901, the congregation moved to Park Avenue and Preston Street, then to the present location on Arlington and Lafayette Avenues.

Forty-five years ago, there were only sixty-three communicants, but now there are 700. Six men have been sent out into the ministry from this church.

Sharp Street Church, then on Sharp Street, was pastored by the Rev. M. M. Carroll.

Metropolitan M.E., now the Rev. C. Y. Trigg's church on Carrollton Avenue and Lanvale Street, was then on Orchard Street near Druid Hill Avenue, with the Rev. Mr. Ryder as pastor.

**School History from '85**  
In 1885, before there was a colored high school, Dr. Joseph H. Lockerman, later principal of the training school, and Miss Fannie L. Barbour, former mathematics teacher at Douglass High School, won distinction when they passed the public school examination, made purposefully high to shut them out.

In 1895, a political revolution occurred, due to the solid support of the Republican party by colored voters.

The late Warner T. McGuinn, attorney, was then made clerk of the liquor board. Malochi T. Gibson, another lawyer, was made secretary of the judiciary committee of the Legislature, and the Rev. William B. Derrick, became chaplain of the Legislature.

The mayor appointed colored street cleaning department with hundreds of others as employees. A fight began to substitute colored teachers for whites in colored schools, to reform Cheltenham, and to get a colored man on the school board.

By 1895, there was one colored high school, two grammar schools, and nine elementary schools, of which only one, at Carrollton and Riggs Avenues, had an entire colored staff.

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Today teachers in elementary schools get \$1200 and high school teachers get approximately \$1600. Also from these first nine elementary schools have grown thirty-four elementary schools, three junior high schools, one high school, one vocational school, and one school for the handicapped.

**3 Pass 45-Year Mark**  
Of these early teachers of forty-five years ago, Pauline Brown Wharton, Lillian Truist, and Isabella Hall are still teaching.

**Douglass Speaks**  
Douglass spoke in Baltimore at the sixth annual commencement of the Colored High School, June 22, 1894. Mr. Douglass told the eleven graduates, as recorded in the Rev. Mr. Bragg's "Men of Maryland":

"A little learning may be a dangerous thing, but the want of learning is a calamity to any people. The resistance is not to the colored man as a slave but to him as a man, a gentleman, and a scholar."

## Borah Doesn't Want Public to Know What He Said?

NEW YORK—Although he made extensive remarks in opposition to a Federal anti-lynching bill on the floor of the Senate, August 11, with a statement that an extension of his remarks would appear in the appendix of the Congressional Record, Senator William E. Borah, of Idaho, failed to put his speech into the Record so that it could be examined.

This was disclosed here this week by NAACP Secretary Walter White, who wrote Senator Borah inquiring why he withheld from the public the important debate on the anti-lynching bill.

## Fisk Singers Carry on Work



NASHVILLE.—The Fisk Jubilee Singers today carry on the same traditions that the original band of eleven students began back in 1870.

The singers were organized by George L. White, son of a blacksmith of Cadiz, N.Y., who had been stationed in Nashville, during the latter part of the Civil War.

When the Fisk School opened there in 1866 in the Federal Army Hospital Barracks, he came to guide the pupils in vocal music. The next year, when it was chartered a university, he became the treasurer as well.

On October 6, 1871, the band of eleven, nine of whom had been

slaves, left Nashville, followed by the good wishes, prayers, misgivings, and anxieties of the whole university.

Without proper clothing, or financial backing, they literally sang their way from town to town.

**Mrs. Cole Still Living**  
Within the next three years, the singers made two tours abroad. Of that original group, Maggie Porter Cole is still living. Maggie Porter sang the solo parts in their concerts on both European tours.

By the end of the winter of 1874, they had secured a fund of \$40,000 for the development of Fisk University. Twenty-five acres on the site of Old Fort Gillem of Civil War days was purchased. The students worked with the

laborers in leveling the earth and soon Jubilee Hall, the first permanent building in the South for the education of colored people stood a monument to the exquisite music of the Fisk Jubilee Singers.

**Mrs. Myers Directs**  
Since 1915, the Jubilee Singers have been directed by Mrs. James A. Myers, who has taken them on four European tours. President Thomas A. Jones and his wife, members of the Philadelphia Friends, continue the early Quaker influence traditional to Fisk.

The present group of singers is composed of six men, three of whom are students at the university, and Mrs. Myers, who directs them with a tiny tuning fork and her own voice as she sings with them.