

GEORGE BELL, LARGEST MAN IN WORLD SHOT TO DEATH AFTER SHOW; WOMAN COMPANION HELD BY POLICE

Colored Man Who Played Part of "Son of the Bean Seller" is Victim—Miss Mazie Ealy With Whom He Attended Dance and Said to Have Quarreled, is Arrested.

MILWAUKEE—George O. Bell, colored, said to be the largest man in the world and a principal in the Chu Chin Chow production playing at the Davidson theatre, was shot and killed instantly in his room in a rooming house conducted by Mrs. Grant Reeves at 299 Fourth street, at 4 o'clock Tuesday morning.

Miss Mazie Ealy, also colored, was taken into custody by Detectives Byron, Alberts and Mueller, and is being held at central police station, charged with the shooting. She pleads self-defense, the police say.

Hit by Two Bullets

Bell was shot twice with a .32 caliber police positive pistol. One of the bullets entered below his right eye, and the other in the center of his chest. He died instantly, according to the coroner, who took the body in charge.

Following the show at the Davidson theatre Monday night, the police say, Bell, accompanied by Miss Ealy, attended a dance, conducted by colored people at Miller's hall, Eighth and State streets. It is said by the police that the couple quarreled during the dance, leaving the hall at about 2:30 o'clock Tuesday morning.

Bell took Miss Ealy to the rooming house, but according to the police, left her in front of the place and went to the Turf saloon at 309 Fourth street.

She Follows Him

His entrance was followed by that of Detectives Byron, Alberts and Mueller, who were on duty in the neighborhood. A few minutes later Miss Ealy entered the place and, addressing Bell, is said to have pleaded with him to return to the rooming house with her. He refused and she left.

The detectives, who witnessed the affair in the saloon, spoke to Bell, finally inducing him to leave for his room.

About five minutes later Bell left the Turf saloon, the three detectives left and walked south on Fourth street, toward State street.

As they passed the rooming house at 229 Fourth street, they heard the muffled reports of two revolver shots. Dashing up the stairway leading to the rooms on the second floor they broke down the door and, according to their story, found Miss Ealy standing over the body of Bell, with a smoking revolver in her hand.

Tells of Quarrel

Questioned by Lieut. Robert Flood, she is alleged to have made the following statement:

"We had quarreled earlier in the evening. When he came home from the Turf saloon, he became abusive and kicked at me, saying 'I'll kill you.' I then ran to the trunk

and taking out the revolver, shot him."

John L. Clark, 340 Tremont street, Boston, another member of the show, told the police that he was asleep in an adjoining room to the one occupied by the couple, when he was awakened by the sound of voices raised in anger. "A few minutes later I heard Miss Ealy exclaim, 'you will strike a woman, but you're afraid of a man,'" he told the police. "This was immediately followed by the two shots."

Bell played the part of the "Son of the Bean Seller" in the Chu Chin Chow production. He was seven feet and eleven inches tall and weighed about 375 pounds. His home was at 139 Fifth street, New York.

Miss Ealy is 25 years old and is said by the police to have been his common law wife for about two and one-half years. Her home is also in New York.

W. S. WILLIAMS, BELOIT, PRESIDENT, WIS. RACE CONVENTION.

Who Is One of the Candidates for Aldermanic Nomination in His Ward.

The following is clipped from the Beloit Daily News:

With peace and quiet reigning in every ward in the city it remained for the first ward to furnish the fireworks in the aldermanic election that will be held on April 1.

Only One Contest

Three candidates for a seat in the council from this ward had filed their papers this morning and, according to each, a three-cornered contest for the seat is certain. Those who have filed their nomination papers with the required number of signatures are Fred R. O'Neal, former member of the county board of supervisors, W. A. Rossow, former member of the council from the first ward, and William S. Williams, colored. The names of all three candidates will be on the ballot unless withdrawn in the near future and it was not believed today that any will quit the race.

In no other ward had any contest developed at noon today. All nomination papers must be certified and filed by tonight, according to the city clerk.

Despite criticisms to the contrary, the Y. M. C. A. is doing a great work in these parts. The crying need of the hour is a full force of helpers. There are places for men and women with a desire to serve.

We are seeing our first women of color since coming to France. During the long months with our organization we could see nothing but white faces. What a relief!



"A GREATER HOWARD UNIVERSITY" IN PROSPECT

Comprehensive Program for Development of Negro's Foremost Institution for Higher Education

(Special to The Blade)

WASHINGTON, D. C., Mar. 25.—Plans of a definite and far-reaching nature have been formulated by Dr. J. Stanley Durkee, the new and progressive president of Howard university, that will establish at the nation's capital a truly effective instrumentality for the higher education of the Negro.

A comprehensive program was announced at a recent meeting of the Board of Trustees and unanimously adopted by that body, which is to be put into execution during the coming year. Positive steps have been taken to build on historic Howard Hill a "Greater Howard University," expanding and vitalizing the lofty purpose, conceived more than half a century ago by the immortal Gen. Oliver W. Howard, to lift the colored millions of America to the highest moral and intellectual plane and to provide a permanent agency for the development of race leaders.

A program "Evolutionary and Revolutionary" "The system I have proposed, and with which the board is in thorough and sympathetic accord, will be evolutionary and revolutionary," said Dr. Durkee to a press representative in a recent interview. And, it will be all that—for Dr. Durkee is a great big man, with a big brain, who has the courage and capacity to do big things in a big way.

Since the coming of Dr. Durkee just a few months ago—at the instant call of thoughtful friends of Howard university, he has given the needs of the school the closest study, and it is the general feeling that the broad-gauged recommendations he has made will ultimately meet the demand of this exacting age for LEADERS—pathfinders in all the complex phases of the life of the Negro people. He is an intense believer in the efficacy of the higher education as a solvent for many of the problems that perplex the colored American, and it is his determination to make Howard the exponent of the Negro's loftiest aspirations, just as Harvard and Yale stand for the highest intellectual standards of the other race. Howard, as he sees it, should become the "Great National Negro University," in the fullest sense of the term.

Some Details of the Plan According to the plan outlined, the university will be reorganized on the junior college plan, with senior schools. After the completion of two years' work in the junior college the student will enter one of the senior schools for special training, along lines of individual preference and adaptability. The senior schools, as shown on a carefully-prepared blue-print, will be composed of Schools of Medicine, Law, Theology, Music, Applied Science, Journalism, Commerce and Finance, Liberal Arts, Education and General Service—the last named to embrace Library training, and Departments of Athletics, Physical Education and Military Science. Each school will have appropriate subdivisions. Thus, it will be seen that President Durkee has enlarged the scope of the institution by adding four schools to the six which already existed.

In order that the university may take its proper place among the higher institutions of learning, and to concentrate its energies on real university training, the secondary work done by the Academy and Commercial school will be discontinued at the end of the present school year. It is expected that the work of the academy can be turned over to some other institution, with adequate facilities. The work of the Commercial school is to be raised to a college grade in the new School of Commerce and Finance, leading to a degree and giving a worth-while business education that will be in keeping with the modern requirements of the commercial world. A military unit for instruction in military science and tactics has been authorized by the war department, and this will offer another avenue for useful training for health and discipline. A fine gymnasium and athletic field are to be provided, and a university press is to be developed. A Summer school is also among the many new features to be introduced. Classes will be maintained at a full roster and no time will be wasted on doubtful experimentation with classes below the normal standard. To recruit the school membership a system of allotting scholarships to accredited secondary schools in generous measure will be adopted, and many excellent schools giving a limited training, will serve as valuable "feeders" to the university. It will thus be seen that the university idea is brought to a high level and that the essential secondary work of our youth is not endangered. On the contrary, it will be strengthened.

Many Notable Improvements in Contemplation

The physical aspect of Howard university is to be materially improved. By recommendation of President Durkee, the trustees have voted to erect several new buildings and to remodel the old structures, with a view of adding both to the beauty and utility of the school. A new administration building is to go up in the near future, and the tidy Georgia avenue approach to the grounds is to be altered beyond recognition. The campus is to undergo radical changes and improvements. A government landscape expert will supervise the work of laying out "Victory Avenue," to surround the picturesque Howard hill, and which is to commemorate the part played by Howard men in the world war. All of this building and landscape development is to be along lines suggested by the Fine Arts commission. In this entire program of scholastic and physical improvement of the "Greater Howard University" it is gratifying to state that Dr. Durkee has the warmest approval and backing of the Secretary of the Interior and the most influential members of congress, which will insure the granting of the funds necessary to carry these ambitious projects to completion in due season.

Three new offices are created under the new system, the necessity for which has long been recognized. There are a Dean of Men, a Dean of Women, and a Registrar. Their duties are self-explanatory and their services will bring a helpful impetus into the life of the school. The morale of the teaching force will be vitally improved by a much-needed definite system of promotion. Upon the recommendation of Dr. Durkee a graduated scale of salaries has been adopted, with automatic increases and advancement in rank, as an incentive for greater efficiency, stricter moral character and heartier cooperation in the ideals for which the school stands, for upon these qualities retention and promotion are based. Teachers are thus enabled to go at their work with a cheerfulness, assurance and greater singleness of purpose than ever before.

Preference Given to Equipped Teachers of the Negro Race It may be stated here, with all possible emphasis, that there is not a scintilla of truth in any rumor that Dr. Durkee proposes to "eliminate" colored men from the faculty of Howard university. He makes it quite plain that some white men should be on the roster of assistants, to foster a proper spirit of racial cooperation and friendly acquaintance—but, it is to be his fixed policy that wherever equipment is anything like equal, the colored man will be given preference over white applicants, for, as he correctly says: "Howard university is primarily a colored institution—a nursery for race leaders—and colored men of superior ability should have every possible opportunity to reap whatever benefits it may have to bestow, as a stimulus to the best endeavors of the worthy members of the race." Dr. Durkee, therefore, will secure his workers for the "Greater Howard University" from the very best talent available among the Negro people, retaining those who "made good" and adding others, as they are needed, from a list

of "picked men" from the outside. Howard Alumni to be Stirred to Greater Activity

Under Dr. Durkee's plan, a sturdy effort is to be made to arouse to a greater degree of interest in the university among its graduates and former students. Next month, Rev. Emory B. Smith, President of the National Alumni association of Howard university, is to make a tour of thirty to fifty days throughout the country in the interest of a more active and extensive cooperation of the Alumni associations of the university, and to generate a more enthusiastic "Howard spirit." The selection of this very live Christian leader and comrade-like alumnus is regarded as an excellent one, and all are confident that his message will be most inspiringly delivered.

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That Dr. J. Stanley Durkee is a sincere and substantial friend of Negro progress is not in question. He is a friend of humanity, regardless of color, creed or condition, and there is not a atom of race prejudice in his great big heart or in any part of his red-blooded anatomy. This is amply demonstrated by the whole-souled enthusiasm which has characterized his labors for the betterment of this splendid institution, to which he has come at a tremendous personal sacrifice, and by the far-looked-out vision which is giving the race in his unflinching determination to bring about the reforms necessary to expand this time-honored center of the higher culture and Christian leadership into a finer and broader exponent of university life for all our people. Dr. Durkee merits and enjoys the most cordial support the race and nation can give him in the promotion of this great cause.

Secretary Edward L. Snyder sailed for America with the 366th Infantry. Before sailing, Snyder spent some time in Paris taking on the sights and becoming a part of the gay life. On the whole, the Congress made a favorable impression upon the local population. All are hopeful that the results will be positive and far reaching.

Tabloid Of News

RICHMOND, Va.—Colored citizens of Richmond, to the number of about 20,000 have signed a petition asking that members of their race be appointed principals and special teachers in the schools here.

WASHINGTON — Col. William Pearl, chief secretary of the Salvation Army in the United States has announced the acquiring of the four-story building at 7th and P street northwest, as a welfare house for colored soldiers. The building will be in charge of Adj. James N. Roberts, a colored Salvation Army officer.

PORTLAND, Ore.—The colored people of Oregon, are much incensed over the failure of the legislature to pass the "Equal Rights" bill, which was finally voted down by a vote of 31 to 24.

MONTGOMERY, Ala.—Based on urgent telegraphic requests from various citizens of Chicago, President Wilson requested Gov. Thomas E. Kilby to grant a reprieve to Sergt. Edgar Caldwell, who was sentenced to be hanged at Aniston for the murder of Cecil Linton, a conductor on a Hanniston street car. The president requested a "brief reprieve" to permit "the Attorney General, at my request to examine the records in the case."

MEMPHIS, Tenn.—Directors of the Plymouth Community House have issued an appeal for \$10,000 to complete the work of aiding Negroes of Memphis with a community center.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa.—William Robinson, for some time an acting detective on the local police force, has been made a regular detective.

SARDIS, Miss.—Bob Medford and Barney Nance died at the Baptist Memorial hospital in Memphis last week, from gun shot wounds received in a shooting scrape with a colored soldier, who has not been apprehended.

BRUNSWICK, Ga.—A mistrial was reported in the case of Benjamin Jordan, who on Dec. 2nd shot and killed ex-Alderman B. F. Jones (white), whom he found in his home with Mrs. Jordan.

ALBANY, N. Y.—Martin J. Healy assemblyman from Harlem, has introduced a bill into the legislature by which colored officers will command the state's colored military forces.

CHICAGO, Ill.—Albert Hanson filed a petition yesterday with the Supreme court, asking that Elbert R. Robinson be restrained from collecting funds to "prosecute a ten million dollar lawsuit." He has already collected \$600,000. Hanson alleges, his collateral being notes and premises on a railroad wheel invention.

NEW YORK.—The National association for the Advancement of Colored People, through its secretary, John R. Shillady, of New York, has called the attention of the Secretary of Labor Wilson and the Pennsylvania authorities of the wholesale department from Coatesville, Pa., of men who during the war were employed in the various industries, but who are now unemployed as a result of the shutting down of these industries.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa.—For the first time in the history of Philadelphia a colored common councilman—Richard A. Cooper—is a member of the finance committee of that body.

SOMERVILLE, Tenn.—White people of this city have issued an order that no "Colored newspapers" be circulated in the town, but that everybody must read The Falcon, a local white paper.

ORANGEBURG, S. C.—The Bankers Life Insurance company was organized here with a capital stock of \$10,000, to do a general life insurance business.

WASHINGTON — Investigations Negro migration to the North during the war, just issued by the Department of Labor, indicate that the total migration may have been as great as 350,000, extending over a period of about eighteen months during 1916 and 1917.

CLARKSBURG, W. Va.—Charging that colored people are excluded from grand jury panels because of their race and color, John Epperson and Ethel Whitman, both colored, today entered pleas of abatement in the Harrison county court.

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—R. L. Mayfield, local lawyer, who recently was disbarred from practice in the courts of Tennessee, has filed with the court of civil appeals, sitting at Nashville, application for rehearing.

CAMP LEE, Va.—The number of D. S. crosses and French decorations displayed among soldiers returning from France to this camp testify to the bravery of the colored soldier.

HOLLY SPRINGS, Miss.—Ben Ingram, charged with murder of Green Brumley, wealthy white farmer, whose death occurred after the gun duel on Dec. 10, 1918, was acquitted today.

quitted today in the circuit court after one of the most vigorous legal battles ever waged in Marshall county.

RICHMOND, Va.—Judge Beverly T. Crump, in the Law and Equity court of this city last Monday signed a decree declaring a dividend of 25 per cent to the depositors of the defunct Savings Bank of the Grand Fountain, United Order of True Reformers, which institution closed its doors October 10, 1910.

CHICAGO—Through the efforts of Attorneys Rapier and Westbrook, "Judge" A. C. Mayo of Gary, Ind., was arrested here charged with false representations in selling lots at Gary.

HAMPTON, Va.—The Newport News Shipbuilding Co. employs 4500 colored men, the largest and best paid group of colored men in the industries.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—To commemorate the living and the dead who were heroes in the great world war from Jefferson county, the directors of the Civic association went on record in favor of erecting a Liberty building in Alabama in which the names of all men in the service shall be engraved on its walls, and in which the community gatherings will take place.

THOS. SPURLOCK SAVED BY MILWAUKEE BOY.

MILWAUKEE, Mar. 14.—Bugles T. Fraction of the 370th Infantry (old 8th of Chicago), discharged from Camp Grant Tuesday, February 25, arrived in Milwaukee on the 26th on a short stay, visiting his mother and father, Mr. and Mrs. James Lake, 428 Seventh street. Sunday he expects to leave for Chicago and later return to Milwaukee to live permanently.

Although not decorated with various medals for bravery, or having performed superhuman feats, Fraction had a number of experiences which he said he would remember the remainder of his life.

After arriving in France a large part of the 370th was brigaded with the French troops. Machine Gun Company No. 3, of the French 59th Division, of which he was a member, was commanded by General Mangin. This division saw many hard days of fighting around Soissons, the Argonne forest and the St. Mihiel district. He relates a story of how he was captured on September 26, on the Soissons front, by ten Germans, and without a gun of any description he fought his way out safely and returned to his commanding officer. At this point he stopped, and before he resumed his story Fraction, with a little persuasion and pressure, he agreed to continue.

"In October," he began, "I was on the Soissons front for 22 consecutive days, raining pitchforks nearly every day, without being relieved, and each night was compelled to sleep on a floating bed that is, a few boards in a mudhole covered with straw, if handy, and if not we would spread our blankets over the boards and sleep on it. While I was carrying a message from the front line, the post commander told me that the post commander during the battle I saw Sergt. Norman Henry of our company machine gun get choked and refuse to work, and all of this time the German's guns, large and small, were pouring a steady stream of lead, fire and gas at us. Rather than retreat or find shelter, Sergeant Henry remained at his post, repaired his gun, and later his comrades routed the Huns. He was awarded the distinguished service cross and croix de guerre."

While awaiting orders to attack the enemy, Private Thomas Spurlock of Pittsburgh and Fraction, who were fortunate enough to be together quite often and grew into inseparable pals, were in the front line trenches in the closing battle of the great war and immediately a gas shell, apparently from nowhere, exploded in their midst. By quick work Fraction was able to don his gas mask and before he could shout a word of warning to Spurlock, his comrade crumpled and went down in a heap, gasping and choking convulsively from the effects of mustard gas. With the assistance of Fraction he succeeded in getting his mask on and getting back behind the lines safely. The two pals were separated for two months before they saw each other again, and later they met at Brest before coming home. Reprinted from Pittsburgh Courier.

Our race men are here at the Peace Conference and are doing a lasting work. Notably are Dr. W. E. B. Du Bois, Col. Roscoe C. Simmons, Rev. Wm. H. Jernagin of Washington, D. C. At the race conference last week, more than 27 representatives were present. The resolutions that were prepared and that will be presented before the Peace Conference proper are a masterful presentation of the claims of the black people throughout the world.

Mrs. Hutton, widow of the late distinguished Wm. A. Hutton, was in attendance at the Race Congress.

Our old friend Major Joel S. Spingarn came all the way from somewhere in Germany to greet those for whom he has labored so untiringly.

"Lend a Helping Hand"

Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church "Bound For the Promised Land" in Their \$1000 Rally

Sunday, April 6th
Service All Day With A Special Program. Let Everybody Assist
Rev. Geo. W. Dudley, Director O. Hall, Clerk

Silver Leaf Charity Club Milwaukee, Wis.

Annual Sermon
BY
Rev. Boyd R. Winchester
Special Program and Music
Sunday April 6th 2:30 p. m.

Mrs. D. Thornton, Pres.
Mrs. K. M. Wilson, Sec'y