

# Local Deaths and Funerals



PRATT

### FUNERAL SERVICES HELD FOR EDGAR W. PRATT

Funeral services were held Tuesday, Jan. 21, at the White Rock Baptist Church for Edgar W. Pratt who died Jan. 18 at Duke University Medical Center. Rev. Lorenzo A. Lynch delivered the eulogy.

Mr. Pratt was born in Durham and spent his early years in the city. He attended the Durham City Schools, graduating from Hillsdale High School. He joined White Rock Baptist Church at an early age and was a member of the Senior Choir. He later became director of the Kyles Temple A.M.E. Zion Church Choir.

For a number of years he lived in Washington, D.C. and New York City. He later returned to Durham where he joined his brother in business until he retired due to ill health.

He is survived by a daughter, Mrs. Gwendetta Pratt Boyd of New York City, a sister, Mrs. Gladys Pratt Newby of Gary, Ind., a brother, Emmet C. Pratt, and several nieces and nephews. Burial was in Beechwood Cemetery.



THOMAS BOYD STROUD

### Thomas Boyd Stroud of 1023 Morehead Avenue died Wednesday, January 15, at his home.

Funeral services were held at 2:00 p.m. at Russell Memorial on Saturday, Jan. 18. Rev. L.H. Whelchel officiated.

Survivors include his wife, Mrs. Fannie T. Stroud of the home, two daughters, Mrs. Ruth S. Lewis of Portsmouth, N.H. and Mrs. Grace S. Thornton, of Durham, three sisters, Mrs. Fannie Tapp, Mrs. Louise Wooten, both of Durham, and Mrs. Ella Christ of Atlantic City, N.J., one brother, Wilbur F. Stroud of Durham, eight grandchildren and one great grandchild.

Interment was in Beechwood Cemetery.

### LETTER OF THANKS

My dear Friends:  
I wish to thank each of you for your kindness shown me during the bereavement of my dear husband, Baxter Rigbee. Your cards, telegrams, flowers and many gifts helped to lighten my heavy heart.  
May God bless you.  
Ida M. Rigbee

# Miles Davis Is Looked Upon As King Of Jazz

Most music enthusiasts, with the exception of hard-core jazz people, look upon Miles Davis as some sort of King of Jazz, the type of musician one acknowledges as the best because everyone says he's the best. Many people have never taken the time to listen to the music of Miles. He has become the most unknown King. There are even people who don't like his music who, declare he is the best. Why this mysterious adulation for Miles? Is it because he has never commercialized his music? Is it because he has been the guiding force between the formation of several popular jazz/rock bands of today? Maybe its because of his celebrated lifestyle. Is he idolized because there are so many obvious music impostors around these days. Surely the fact that he was the first jazz artist to use heavy electronic music successfully to create his sound has produced innumerable permanent fans, who forgot that there was a highly creative Miles Davis before synthesization.

Miles laughs at attempts to categorize him, explain his fame or compare him to this musician and that musician. It seems that the greatest compliment to the man is that in reality he cannot be adequately categorized as a jazz musician, Jazz/rock or jazz R&B musician. How can one categorize the music of "Bitches Brew," the offering from Miles that started an entire new trend in popular music? The closest we can come to a description is a bit putrid and unfair to his creative abilities. He combines many types of music into haunting chord patterns that are unpredictable and seem almost as if they are alive with character that is a bit more than music. There is a communicated feeling that grabs you and says, "Don't try and understand for it may be above you, but listen, you may learn something, or get the feeling you always hope to get from listening to great music, that inner stimulation that rhythm gives your soul."

Miles Davis says that if his music does indeed give that type of stimulation it is because he is 80% music and 20% all of the other things people are made of. In his latest album on Columbia Records, "Get Up With It,"

Miles lets us know once again what he and his music are made of. From the beautiful ballad tribute to Duke Ellington titled "He loved Him Madly," to the African rhythms of "Mtume," to the blues rock of "Red China Blues," to the special funk of "Honky Tonk" and "Rated X," this album is a work of art by a man who cannot be categorized. If anyone receives any awards, gold records, etc., it should be the public that is finally ready.



Black Americans of my vintage, and even of a few years younger, will remember quite well the period of the Great Depression. Officially begun in the late 1920's, the depression era had begun effectively for black Americans some years earlier. The age-old, and seemingly endless pattern, of being the "last hired and first fired" had been in operation since the ending of the Reconstruction in the 1870's. Still blacks debated their plight, were dealt with respectfully through the back or side doors of the White House and so had some measure of hope.

It was not until World War I that blacks came to know for certain that they were to be the indefinite economic and social outcasts of America. It was the world-renowned, idealistic and scholarly President, Woodrow Wilson, who gratuitously re-segregated the public toilets in Washington, D.C., and who abruptly terminated the unofficial presidential meetings with black advisors on black needs and aspirations. He invited this latter group to leave quickly by the same door by which he had entered, adding tersely that no white man had to respect as binding any commitment he might have made with a Negro.

# Black Empowerment

By Dr. Nathaniel Wright, Jr.

HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVIST

### "NEW BLACK DEPRESSION"

A note or two further regarding the men who worked on "the road" speaks graphically of our long continuing plight of economic depression during the 1910's, 20's, 30's and 40's. When I moved from the Mid-west to Boston in 1947, there was an average of slightly more than one college degree per man among the red caps in Boston's famed South Station. The third job which a presently sitting black judge in Boston had before being called to the bench was carryin' bags in South Station. A distinguished black bishop of the Episcopal Church who died just a few years ago had followed much the same route.

It is a relatively easy matter to forget the difficulties in one's past. But we do so as black Americans to our peril. We have experienced, in fact, only an awesomely few non-depression years. These could be marked roughly from the end of World War II to the middle of the 1950's. Lest we forget, it was in response to a lack of black economic and social progress that the seeds of unrest were sown leading to the rise of such leaders as Martin Luther King Jr. and Malcolm X and to the hope-laden response of President John Fitzgerald Kennedy in 1962. We have never been on what might be called "the fat side" for very long.

The Census Bureau tells us of the sad statistics for 1973 regarding the unclosing social and economic gap between white and black Americans in a report circulated currently by the NAACP.

Median black family income was down to 58% of white family income after reaching 61% in 1969. Even in 1969 white families, on the average, were nearly 40% better off than blacks. Is this the kind of "progress" that more than 100 years of freedom should require?

# Durham Man Named Employee Of The Month



EUBANKS  
Norman B. Eubanks, Administrative Supply Technician with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, has been named employee of the month by the

Agency's Federal Women's Program Advisory Committee. The committee reported that this honorary award is given in recognition of "outstanding job performance and sincere concern for humanity."

Eubanks joined the Environmental Protection Agency in 1970. Since coming to EPA, he has helped in the establishment of the Agency's mailroom and motor pool sections and served as Chief of both areas until 1973. Recently, Eubanks set-up a self service supply store at the Agency's National Environmental Research Center, located in the Research Triangle Park, for use by EPA employees from all facilities.

# Widow of Dr. DuBois Invited To Teach Creative Writing

AMHERST, MASS.—Mrs. Shirley Graham DuBois, widow of Dr. W.E.B. DuBois, will be returning to the United States this month to teach creative writing during the Spring semester here at the University of Massachusetts, it was announced last week.

Mrs. DuBois, author of 11 books, resides in Cairo, Egypt, where she has lived since her expulsion from Ghana following the coup that overthrew the government of Dr. Kwame Nkrumah in 1966. Her first published novel, "Zulu Heart," was recently released by The Third Press. Her biography of Tanzania President Julius Nyerere is due for release soon by the same publisher. Mrs. DuBois is currently at work on a book on the women of China.

She recently made an extended visit to China (her sixth) where she collected materials for her book on the women in China. She was accompanied on her trip by her brother, Lorenz Graham and his wife Ruth Morris Graham, both writers of books for children, her son, David G. DuBois, editor-in-chief of the Black Panther Party, and her lawyer, Bernard Jaffe of New York City.

Last year the University of Massachusetts announced the acquisition of the very valuable papers of Dr. DuBois. Mrs. DuBois came here then from Cairo to make the formal presentation and to announce

He has been responsible for transportation services to visiting dignitaries and serves as a volunteer Equal Employment Opportunity Representative for fellow employees.

# Consolidated Statement of Condition

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes items like Cash and due from banks, U.S. Treasury securities, Obligations of Federal Financing Bank, etc.

### ASSETS

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes items like Demand deposits of individuals, partnerships, and corporations, Time and savings deposits, etc.

### LIABILITIES

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes items like Reserve on loans and securities, Capital accounts, etc.

### RESERVE ON LOANS AND SECURITIES

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes Reserve for bad debt losses on loans, Reserves on securities, etc.

### CAPITAL ACCOUNTS

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes Capital notes and debentures, Equity capital, total, etc.

### MEMORANDA

Average of total deposits for the 15 calendar days ending with call date \$34,918,177.22

Average of total loans for the 15 calendar days ending with call date \$15,805,537.18

Total deposit of the state of North Carolina or any official thereof \$1,120,058.42

I, J. B. ANGLIN, JR., Comptroller, of the above-named, do solemnly swear that this report of condition is true and correct, to the best of my knowledge and belief.

J. B. ANGLIN, JR.

Correct-Attest: State of North Carolina, County of Durham, ss: Sworn to and subscribed before me this 14th day of January, 1975, and I hereby certify that I am not an officer or director of this bank.

# Crossword Puzzle

Crossword puzzle grid with clues. ACROSS: 1. Kitchen tool, 7. Clergyman, 13. Mental condition, 14. Forest warden, 15. Middle East native, 16. Big cat, 18. English letter, 19. Thing: law, 20. Congress, 21. Perceive, 22. River border, 23. Over, 24. Leave, 27. Strike with foot, 31. Oak fruit, 32. Harpsichord, 33. Move, 34. Printing errors, 35. Male nickname, 36. Indian tribe, 37. Browns slightly, 40. Inter, 41. Completely, 44. Judean king, 45. Space, 46. Entreaty, 47. Bind, 49. Bothers. DOWN: 2. Skin opening, 3. Ages, 4. Catch: slang, 5. Building wing, 6. Softens in feelings, 7. -- and cons., 8. Sped, 9. At, 10. Incites, 11. Ooze, 12. Playing card, 17. Kind, 20. Gained, 21. Whole, 22. Unpowered vessels, 23. Hawk, 24. Pat lightly, 25. Medieval shield, 26. Seed vessel, 28. Collection of facts, 29. Intersected, 30. School group: abbr., 32. Having teeth, 36. Hint, 37. Powder base, 38. Continent, 39. Horses: slang, 40. Make tea, 41. Too, 42. Sly glance, 43. Girl, 45. Consumed, 46. Average, 48. Exclamation, 50. Erbium: chem.