

a match, and accidentally set himself on fire.

A passing police officer noticed smoke coming from the van and reported it inside. Two

Ms. Pearl said that Mr. Smith's only other surviving relative, Ms. Pinky Beal, of Collins, Georgia, was also interested in taking legal action.

Dr. Gray Funeral

(Continued from Page 1)

Walter C. Wynn, pastor of Taylor Memorial Baptist Church.

Also Rev. Alpheus Bright, pastor of Bethany Baptist Church; Rev. Marion C. Bascom, pastor, Douglas Memorial Community Church of Baltimore, Md.; Mrs. Irene B. Nolley; Clevell Harris; Oliver W. Dukes, Jr.; Winston Carter, and Mrs. Kathleen J. Dennis.

The pallbearers were: Deacons Daniel Spraggins, Melvin Waller, John Bivins; trustees Lawrence F. Wells, Thomas Holloway and Rufus Smalls. The honorary pallbearers consisted of the remaining deacons and trustees of the Church.

Dr. Gray, besides his widow, is survived by a son and daughter. His son is Rev. William Herbert Gray, III, pastor of the Union Baptist Church in Montclair, N. J.

NO FRATERNAL RITES

His daughter is Mrs. Robert (Marian Anne) L. Secundy, who only a few weeks ago was appointed the first Black trustee of Vasser College.

Besides being pastor of Bright Hope Baptist Church where he succeeded his late father, Rev.

William Herbert Gray, Sr., the deceased was also chairman of the board of directors of Berean Manual Training and Industrial School at the time of his death.

Rev. Gray was a member of Mount Olive No. 27, Prince Hall Masonic Lodge, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, The Elks, Frontiersmen, Alpha Kappa Mu National Honor Society and Phi Delta Kappa Fraternity, Tau Chapter, University of Pennsylvania (National Education Honorary Membership). No Prince Hall Masonic or any other fraternal rites were performed at his funeral, part of the instructions he left.

Deacon Melvin Waller, a lifetime friend of the pastor and first vice chairman of the church's deacon board, summed up Dr. Gray's loss in these words:

"This is a great loss to the church (Bright Hope Baptist Church). We couldn't have had a greater loss. He supplied the church membership with a superb leadership and love. That is why we are carrying out all his wishes," deacon Waller added.

Dr. William Gray

(Continued from Page 1) Besides being pastor of Bright Hope Baptist Church, where he had succeeded his late father, Rev. William Herbert Gray, Sr., the deceased was also chairman of the board of directors of Berean Manual Training and Industrial School, at the time of his death.

Fleming D. Tucker, Noted Lawyer, Dies

Mahalia Jackson Vic

Injured Sojourner Nets 21

Points, 26 Rebounds As

Bears Stop Speedboys

(SEE PAGE 20)

PUBLISHED TWICE-A-WEEK

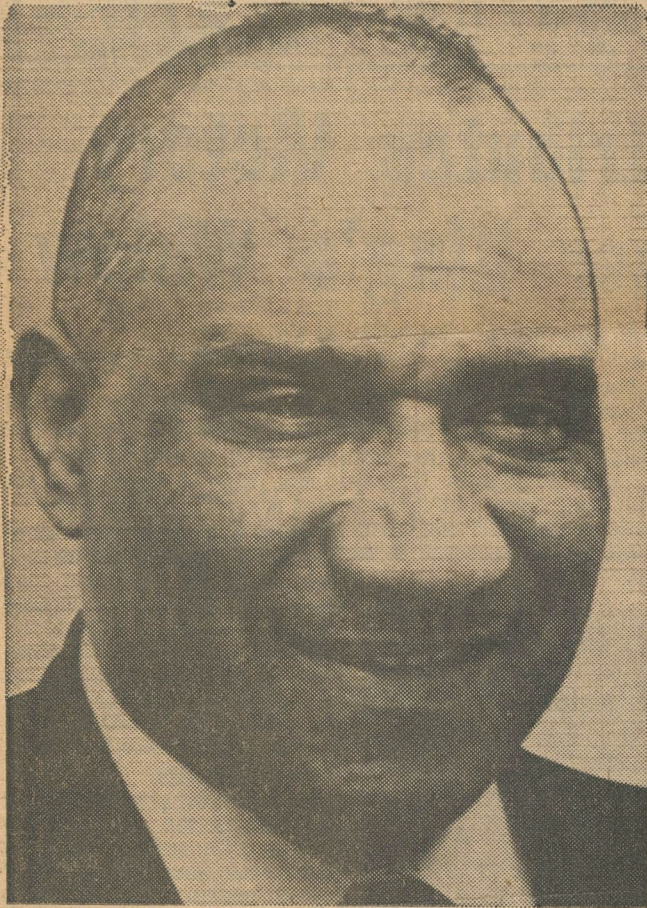
The Philadelphia

• THE CONSTRUCT

VOLUME 88 — NUMBER 23

PHILADELPHIA, PA.,

Dr. William H. Gray Apparent



DR. WILLIAM H. GRAY, JR., pastor of Bright Hope Baptist Church, who died suddenly after a heart attack suffered in New York's Statler Hotel last Wednesday morning.

Letter of Instruction Found by Widow After Minister Dies in N. Y.

By RALPH H. JONES

(See Story on Page 3, and Jack Saunders Says, Page 9)

Dr. William H. Gray, Jr., pastor of Bright Hope Baptist Church, who died in a New York hotel Wednesday morning, apparently had a premonition that death was approaching.

Dr. Gray's widow, Mrs. Hazel Gray, told the Tribune a few hours after the prominent minister's death, that she found a letter of instruction in Philadelphia.

Mrs. Gray said in the letter Dr. Gray indicated that his funeral was not to exceed one hour, and that flowers were to be omitted and donations made to his favorite charity.

Dr. Gray died of a heart attack in New York's Statler Hilton Hotel. He was 60 years old.

Dr. Gray was on a mission of study for the American Baptist Convention, located at Valley Forge, Pa. He and an accompanying group had left Oregon, Colorado and Utah and he had stopped over in New York to rest and bid bon voyage to friends soon leaving for Africa.

Thomas R. Booth, chairman of the Trustee Board at Bright Hope Baptist Church, received a telephone call from Rev. Gray about 10:30 A.M. Wednesday. He said that Rev. Gray informed him that he was ill and had placed a call for the hotel doctor to help him. Booth immediately left for New York, but Rev. Gray had expired when he arrived. His son, Rev. William Herbert Gray, III, who is pastor of Union Baptist Church in Montclair, New Jersey, also went to the hotel, after being contacted by Booth.

LEFT INSTRUCTIONS

Mrs. Hazel Yates Gray, and his son, upon returning to Philadelphia, found a letter of instruction written by the deceased that his funeral rites were not to last more than an hour. There is to be no fraternal services and in lieu of flowers, donations are to be made to the William H. Gray Educational Fund in care of Bright Hope Baptist Church.

Lee Roy Harper, the mortician

in charge, informed the Tribune that Rev. Gray's remains will lie in state at Bright Hope Baptist Church, Sunday, January 30 and viewing will be from 1:30 to 7:30 P.M. with funeral rites scheduled for 8 P.M. Interment will be Monday in Mount Lawn Cemetery.

Rev. Gray is also survived by a daughter, Mrs. Robert (Marian Anne) L. Secundy, who just a few weeks ago was named as the first Black trustee of Vassar College.

The instructions left by Rev. Gray ruled out Prince Hall Masonic, as well as other fraternal rites. Rev. Gray was a member of Mt. Olive No. 27, Prince Hall Masonic Lodge, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, The Elks, Frontiersmen, Alpha Kappa Mu National Honor Society and Phi Delta Kappa Fraternity, Tau Chapter, University of Pennsylvania (National Education Honorary Membership).

Grand Master Alvin H. Swiggett, of the Pennsylvania Prince Hall Grand Lodge, had already instructed Mt. Olive Lodge he planned to be present at their ceremony before word of no fraternal ceremony had been released.

(Continued on Page 3, Col. 1)