

Harris Edward E.

Born Dec 13 1876

Appoint March 5 1907 3-nights with older men Sub-Patrolman

Ass'd March 8 1907 Beat by Chief Perry D Knapp

Appoint Sept 1 1907 Regular Patlm

Promoted May 1 1912 Det-Sergeant

" July 1 1914 Det-Lieutenant

Retired Dec 31 1941 Under the Famous 65 yr law

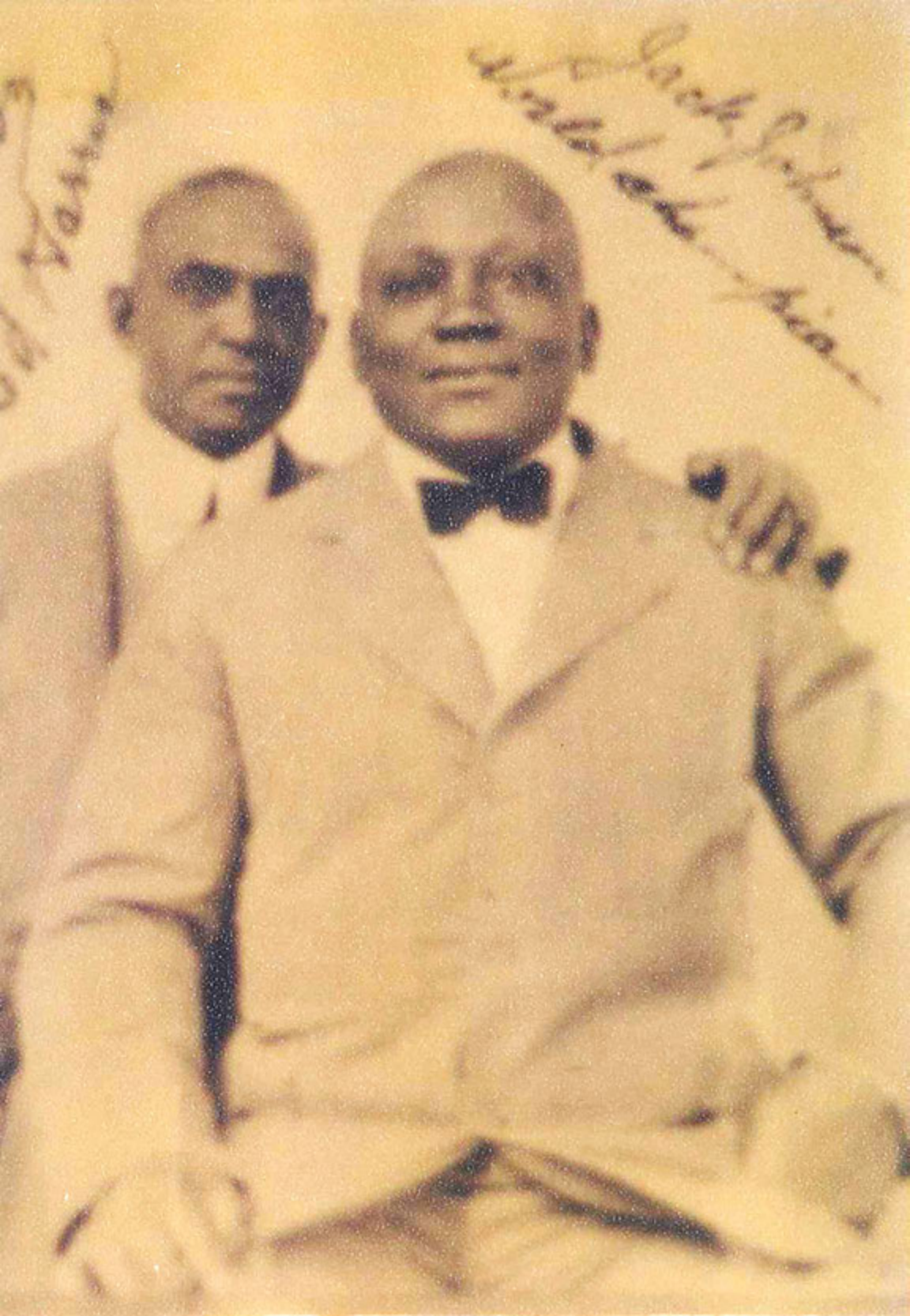
Reinst'd Sept 1 1943 The 65 yr law ruled unconstitutional by
The State Supreme Court. August 28 1943.

Died April 18 1949 from a heart attack.

Services were held Thursday April 21 1949 in St Benedicts church
1717 Washington str at 9am Burial in Forrest cemetery.

He was an actor by nature and the possessor of a remarkable baritone voice that carried him to Broadway Heights almost half century ago. He was born in Washington D-C He joined John W Ishams Octorooms early in the 90's. He moved from the minor parts to starring roles in many all Negro musical comedies and light Operas, that included such hits as the Smart Set, Oriental America and the Black Daddy Troubadors. In 1904 he was at the height of his career with the Famous Williams and Walker Shows. Then one night his amazing baritone cracked and his days as a show man and big time star were over just like that. He came to Toledo to become a waiter in the Harners Chop House St Clair-Jackson str. The famous gathering place for all politicians, Athlets, and all other professional men. On March 5 1907 Mayor Brand Whitlock and J.J. Mooney Toledo's first safety director made him a policeman





Wm. Davis

Wm. Jackson

Harris, Edward, T.

5

EXECUTIVE OFFICES
THE CITY OF TOLEDO
BRAND WHITLOCK, MAYOR
AMBROSE A. MOODY, VICE MAYOR
BERNARD DAILEY, SECRETARY

5 March, 1907.

Dear Sir:

I have this day appointed to the substitute class of patrolmen of the Toledo police force P. Cavanaugh and E. T. Harris, and instructed them to report to you for further instructions

Yours very truly,

Brand Whitlock
Mayor.

Perry D. Knapp, Esquire,
Chief of Police.

W.

Handed to Mr. V. -

Harris E.T.

Badge 121

Nippers

Whistle

Key

Rules

Sworn 3/7/7

EXECUTIVE OFFICES
THE CITY OF TOLEDO
BRAND WHITLOCK, MAYOR
AMBROSE A. MOODY, VICE MAYOR
BERNARD DAILEY, SECRETARY

Cavanaugh P.

Badge 122

Nippers

Whistle

Key

Rules

Sworn 3/8/7

5 March, 1907.

Gentlemen:

I have this day promoted C. P. Mavis and E. O'Neill from the substitute to the regular class of patrolmen of the Toledo police force; and have appointed from the eligible list to the substitute class of patrolmen P. Cavanaugh and E. T. Harris.

Yours very truly,



Mayor.

To the Honorable,
The Board of Public Safety.

W.

H. Stark

May
14th
1934

Edward Harris, Detective,
Police Department,
Toledo, Ohio

Dear Mr. Harris:-

I wish to commend you for the work you did in reference to the apprehension of the murderers of George Stacy, a taxi-driver. To me it was a wonderful job and I want you to know that your Chief and myself greatly appreciate your efforts and the results obtained in this matter.

The Detectives often get blamed for things which are impossible for them to perform and seldom are commended for any good work they do. It is, therefore, a great pleasure to me to especially commend you for the good work you have done.

Respectfully yours,

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY.

John A. Price
Director.

JAP/s



RAY E. ALLEN
Chief of Police

CITY OF TOLEDO
OHIO

DIVISION OF POLICE

GEO. N. SCHOONMAKER
City Manager

Dec. 13th, 1941.

Pension Board,
Police Dept.,
Toledo, O.

Gentlemen:-

Kindly place my name on pension roll
as of Jan. 1st, 1942. Entered service Mar. 5, 1907,
and continued without interruption up to present time.

This request is made in compliance with
Rule 14 of the Pension Board.

Respectfully,

Edw. Harris.
Detective-Lieutenant.



CITY OF TOLEDO
OHIO

RAY E. ALLEN
Chief of Police

DIVISION OF POLICE

GEO. N. SCHOONMAKER
City Manager

Aug. 16th, 1943.



REC'D
AUG 16 1943

Civil Service Commission,
City of Toledo, Ohio.

Gentlemen:-

I was compelled to take full-service pension as of Jan. 1st, 1942, because of the 65-year compulsory retirement, although I felt that I was fully able to continue my duties as a Detective-Lieutenant.

Feeling that I am able to continue such duties and be of good service to the Division of Police because of the present emergencies, I respectfully request that I be re-instated to my former position of Detective-Lieutenant effective Sept. 1st, 1943.

I assure you that I will give the best service possible.

Respectfully,

R. E. Allen
Approved,
Chief of Police.

Ed. Harris
Approved
Director, Public Safety.

Ed Harris

Nb. When emergency is over, I shall be glad to resume my retirement.
E.H.

8-17-43 Approved by the Civil Service Commission.

Fred J. Mery
Secretary.

Aug. 19th, 1943.

Mr. Edw. Harris,
733 Palmwood Ave.,
Toledo, O.

Dear Sir:-

It is with pleasure that I
notify you that you have been re-instated
to position of Lieutenant-Detective in
the Division of Police, effective Sept.
1st, 1943, by the Civil Service Commission.

You will report to Inspector
Fruchey for assignment.

Respectfully,

R. E. Allen
Chief of Police.

REA

TOLEDO POLICE DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF

C H I E F

APRIL 18TH, 1949.

IT IS WITH DEEP REGRET THAT I ANNOUNCE THAT DETECTIVE LIEUTENANT EDW. HARRIS DIED AT 7.15 THIS P.M.

EDW. HARRIS WAS APPOINTED PATROLMAN ON MARCH 5TH, 1907, PROMOTED TO SERGEANT-DETECTIVE MAY 5TH, 1912, AND LIEUTENANT-DETECTIVE JAN. 1ST, 1914, AND SERVED FAITHFULLY AND WELL AND WAS HELD IN HIGH ESTEEM BY HIS FELLOW WORKERS AND OUR CITIZENS.

SERVICES; THURSDAY, APRIL 21ST, 1949.

BODY LIES IN STATE AT DALE FUNERAL HOME 572 NEBRASKA AVE.

BODY WILL BE TAKEN FROM FUNERAL HOME TO 733 PALMWOOD AVE., WHERE FUNERAL PROCESSION WILL FORM AND BODY WILL THEN BE TAKEN TO ST. BENEDICTS CATHOLIC CHURCH, 1717 WASHINGTON ST. WHERE SERVICES WILL BE HELD AT 9.00 A.M.

BURIAL AT FOREST CEMETERY.

PALLBEARERS; BENJ. H. FISHER
ROY SHELTON
DR. H. S. GOODLOE

E. L. LEVERETTE
J. B. SIMMONS, JR.
J. SLATER GIBSON.

HONORARY PALLBEARERS; EDW. A. DE ANGELO
RAY E. ALLEN
RALPH MURPHY
JOS. FRUCHEY
JOHN T. MICHALAK

FRED GOCKERMAN
WM. GRAY
DANL. PERZYNSKI
THOS. CAREY
FRANK DE LORA

THE HONORARY PALLBEARERS WILL REPORT AT ST. BENEDICTS CHURCH AT 8.45 A.M.

MOTORCYCLE SQUAD WILL ESCORT BODY FROM DALE FUNERAL HOME AT 8.00 A.M., TO 733 PALMWOOD AND THENCE TO THE CHURCH AND THEN TO FOREST CEMETERY.

ESCORT OF POLICE OFFICERS, (IN SACK COATS) WILL REPORT AT 733 PALMWOOD AVE. AT 8.00 A.M. TO CAPTAIN A. W. BERNHAGEN.

FLAGS AT ALL STATIONS WILL BE AT HALF-MAST UNTIL AFTER FUNERAL.

R. E. ALLEN,
CHIEF OF POLICE.

APPROVED;
EDW. A. DE ANGELO
DIRECTOR, PUBLIC SAFETY.



LONG AGO

WHAT A difference in styles, as well as personnel, a quarter of a century makes. Members of the Toledo detective bureau posed for this picture June 10, 1922. The cap for formal wear by well-dressed sleuth was on its way out, while the old bowler of the teen decade had disappeared. Left to right, in the top row, are Joseph Fruchey, now head of the bureau; Roy Havens, retired; Michael Rowan, Ernest Raitz, Joseph Swiatecki, Capt. William Carroll (deceased), William Julert (deceased), Fred Langhoff, Bernard Cummings, retired; James Ford, retired; John Mullen, Michael Daly (deceased). Center row, Capt. Fred Buck, retired; John Hodges (deceased), Edward Harris (deceased), William Culver (deceased), Dan Gavin (deceased), John Connors, retired; Stanley Kina, retired; Frank DeLora, Garnet Stevenson, Edward Eaton (deceased); Dick Martin (deceased); Capt. Ralph Van Vorce, retired. Seated,

John Henahan (deceased), William Herman (deceased), Capt. James O'Reilly, retired; Irving Brown (deceased), Albert Hassenzahl (deceased), John Hovey (deceased), Louis Kruse, retired; Stephen Quinn (deceased), Frank Peters (deceased), Charles Mavis, retired; Inspector William Delehanty, later chief of police (deceased); Bert Dobzeniecki (deceased), and Fred Palicki (deceased). Such bureau stalwarts as Capts. Mose McCloskey, Emmet Cairl, Edward Rock (deceased); Capts. Willard Rydman, retired, and George Timiney, now Lucas County sheriff; Inspector Louis Hass, former chief of police, and Arthur Langendorf were not available on that day long ago when this picture was snapped in front of the old police headquarters on Superior St. Only 9 of the 44 men then comprising the bureau are still active in Toledo police work.

COPS RAID AN ALLEGED OPIUM SMOKERS' PARTY

A raid this morning at 4 o'clock on the home of Lucile Carr, 1719 Spielbusch avenue, broke up an alleged opium party and resulted in the arrest of Charles Jackson, John Franklin, Arthur Allen, Charles Love, Stella Jennings, Nellie Harper and Lucile Carr. All are colored.

Sergeant Lutz and Patrolmen Harris, Behrendt and Raitz entered the place and found all of the party, according to Lutz, smoking "dope" pipes. Two complete opium sets were found in the house. Members of the party are held on suspicion.

TUFT OF HAIR IS CLUE TO ROBBERY

When Tom Bishbash was held up and robbed of \$75 by two colored women on St. Clair st. shortly after midnight on Sunday morning, he grappled with one and pulled a tuft of hair from her head.

Plain Clothes Man Harris, armed with the "hank o hair" and a hat, which the woman had lost, started out in quest of the alleged thief. He arrested Laura Emery, 22, of Jackson ave. When she was taken before Bishbash at the Central station he said he identified her.

Bishbash became so excited he was stricken with heart trouble and was taken to St. Vincent's hospital. He is in a serious condition.

ARRESTED ON SUSPICION

As the patrol wagon, with four women taken in a raid on Mary Hunt's cafe, was on its way to La-grange station, Driver Reld heard calls for help and saw two men attacking another man at Monroe and Huron sts. Officer Harris and Motor Cop Connors chased the two and Harris caught one, who gave his name as William Boszinski, Toledo. He was arrested on suspicion

NEGRO IS RUN DOWN BY AUTO; TO RECOVER

W. H. Cooper, 60, negro, 1603 Canton st., was reported by attendants at St Vincent's hospital to be much improved on Monday morning from injuries received at Jefferson ave. and Erie st., on Sunday, when he was run down by an auto driven by Herbert Donnelly, 19, of the Scottwood apartments. Cooper's head was injured. He was sent to the hospital in Clegg's ambulance by Detective Harris and Patrolman Daly. Donnelly was released on his own recognizance.

Switzerland shares with Scotland the distinction of being the best educated country in the world.

COPS TAKE TWO; FIND JEWELRY AND SOME TOOLS

Men who gave their names as Ora Parent, 26, and John Dixon, 32, 1709 Spielbusch ave., were arrested by Detectives Cairl and O'Reilly on Wednesday night.

Nine other men were arrested as suspects and much plunder recovered by police on Wednesday. Police believe several of the prisoners know much about many hold-ups which have occurred recently.

After arresting Parent and Dixon, Cairl and O'Reilly searched the men's room. They found watches, diamonds, rings and other articles. Officers said they found some burglars' tools. The jewelry is valued at more than \$1,000, police said.

Complaining they had beaten him when he requested the return of some furs, which he said he owned, B. S. Morehouse, fur dealer, 1607 Madison ave., caused the arrest of Joseph Babcock, 50, 531 Cherry st., and George W. Martin, 28, Chicago, Ill., on Wednesday night. The men were found by Detectives Herbert, Delehanty, Kruse and Harris.

LIEUT. HARRIS

Detective Bore Widespread
Fame As Officer, Musician
And Linguist

*Following Is Reprinted The Article
Published By The Toledo Times,
Authored By Doc Holst, Concerning
The Death Of Edward T. Harris, April 18*

From the Toledo City Journal, June 23, 1949

Detective Lieut. Edward T. Harris, once a minstrel star and one of the nation's outstanding Negro detectives, died at 7 p. m. last night in his home at 733 Palmwood Avenue of a heart attack.

Lieutenant Harris, 72, oldest police officer in years as well as service, was appointed a patrolman on March 6, 1907, by Mayor Brand Whitlock and almost immediately established himself as a sleuth of brilliance.

His police career that saw him become a symbol of racial harmony in Toledo was begun after he had been the baritone star of the famous Williams and Walker show of the early years of the century. One night his amazing baritone cracked and his days of stardom were over.

As a youngster out of Washington, D. C., his birthplace, he joined John W. Isham's Octoroons at the age of 12. Despite his lack of formal education and his roving life of a trouper, he studied languages and by the time he had progressed through such ancient hits as "The Smart Set," "The Black Daddy Troubadors" and "Oriental America," he had mastered French, Italian, Spanish, German and Norwegian.

After the failure of his voice, he eked out a living in New York as an interpreter for several years and then became a waiter in famous eastern restaurants. He came to Toledo in 1906 as a waiter in Hanner's Chop House, St. Clair and Jackson Streets, an eating place famous decades ago as a gathering place for politicians, athletes and professional men. The then Safety Director J. J. Mooney was struck by the fine manners and culture of his waiter and prevailed upon him to become a policeman.

Mayor Whitlock in promoting him to a sergeant of detectives in 1912 said, "Ed, you are the

type of Negro that makes a white man feel inferior."

Despite Lieutenant Harris' reputation for tact and diplomacy, he went through at least one difficult period in his police career. His only demerit came in 1913 during a police administration that went down in municipal history for its racial and religious bigotry. He was reduced not only to a patrolman but was ordered to report to old Lagrange Street Station as a departmental painter and handy man.

There Mayor Carl H. Keller and Safety Director George Kapp on a tour of inspection found him painting a police official's porch swing. The next day Mayor Keller and Director Kapp called him to the Valentine Building, then the City Hall, and promoted him to the lieutenantancy he held at his death.

For the last 35 years Lieutenant Harris was the city's mayor so far as his own race was concerned. The law-abiding majority worshiped him almost as an idol while the evildoers feared his ability to solve their most tricky crimes.

In the days before homicide became a specialized branch of detection, Lieutenant Harris was known for his abilities to set white detectives straight on murders with a mystery element in them. One of his cherished possessions was a letter from the late Mayor Whitlock after he had become Ambassador to Belgium during the World War I years. He told Mr. Harris that he missed his brilliant conversations and that he never would be able to forget "the best analytical mind he had met in Toledo."

Three years ago Safety Director Edward A. DeAngelo asked that Mr. Harris be assigned to his office as a special investigator. It was there yesterday that he complained to the director his left side was paining him. Mr. DeAngelo sent him home. Dr. Paul Hohly treated him during the afternoon and he appeared better. At 6:30 P. M. Mrs. Harris telephoned Detective Capt. Ralph Murphy and asked him if he could come to the house; that she thought her husband was dying. Mr. Harris died a few seconds after Captain Murphy reached his bedside.

Besides Mrs. Harris, Lieutenant Harris is survived by a son, Ivan, a Detroit automobile factory superintendent. The body is at the Dale Mortuary. Services will be at 9 A. M. Saturday in St. Benedict's Church of which he was a councilor.

