One of the most vital concepts of life is death. Based on this concept, the Greater Detroit Memorial Society (DOMS) has taken death out of the dusky closet to provide guidance dur-ing a most profound, emotional ex-perience.

and a must protound, emotional ex-perience. According to Carrie Peebles, presi-dent of the Detroit organization, many entroited by the control of the control and resultsion at the times a sortion and resultsion at the times are a that they have neither the presence of mind nor the physical ability to ar-range the kind of funeral service suit-ing to the deceased. "The members of the Memorial So-ciety fill out a Final Registration Form stating what type of an ar-rangement they prefer," said Mrs. Peebles. "Hopfully, by pre-stating their wishes families will abide."

MEMBERS of the society strongly

MEMBERS of the society strongly advocate simple arrangements.

"Many times families are high-pressured into buying the very best," said one new member of the society and long-time member of the Birmingham Unitarian Church in Bloomfield. "But he would love this casket for \$1,000" when it's put to you like that, it's hard to turn down."

The Detroit Memorial Society, along with similar societies all over the country, does not buy this pitch.

REPRESENTATIVES of area

churches which sponsor the mon-profit, democratically-operate memorial society said at their recent annual meeting that a simple service memorial society said at their recent annual meeting that a simple service and the service of the services. The services was dear with funeral services, said an Williams, representative for power of the Emerson Unitarian Universalist Fellowship in Troy. Mrs. Williams added that it is important to state one's wishes beforehand to relieve survivors of guilt feelings when left to plan a service. "Many families feel as though it's the last farewell, so we better do it good," she said.

ACCORDING to Ruth Sercombe representative for the Northwest Unitarian Universalist. Church of Southfield, tradition is still a stronghold in elaborate funeral services. Although a "air number" of people have responded to the guidance of ferred by the society, there are those who believe simplicity is contrary to "Many people make their wish for a simple procedure known. But when their families reach negatively to the idea, they drop it themselves," said Mrs. Sercombe.

THE DETROIT MEMORIAL SO-CIETY sees alternatives to the ex-pensive tradition of caskets and flo-wers. One is cremation, which returns the body to the elements. Another is

bequeathal of one's body to a medical school, or parts of one's body to a tis-sue bank.

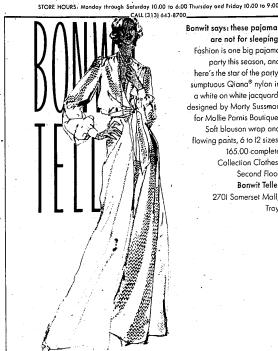
Even immediate burial is consid-ered an option to long; three-day cere-monies performed around dead bod-ies, according to the society.

THE REPRESENTATIVE to the THE REPRESENTATIVE to the society for the First Presbyterian Church of Farmington, Mrs. Helen Cope, said the real value of the memorial society is its knowledge of the options to a traditional funeral service and its ability to guide families during a particularly rough period. "The GDMS knows what services are available and what funeral directors will cooperate with a simple memorial service," said Mrs. Cope. "But the families uttimately make their own decision."

. . .

THE MAIN THRUST of the 'simple service' as advocated by the GDMS is in holding a memorial service or meeting after the death and away from the body. The emphasis is placed on the personality of the deceased.

ceased. Growing membership figures in memorial societies indicate, as one member said. "More and more people are asking friends and relatives to remember the as a file-not a corpse." Other area GDMS sponsoring organizations include the Birmingham Friends Meeting, Birmingham and the Farmington Unitarian Universalist Church, Farmington.



Bonwit says: these pajamas are not for sleeping! Fashion is one big pajama party this season, and here's the star of the party: sumptuous Qiana® nylon in a white on white jacquard, designed by Morty Sussman for Mollie Parnis Boutique. Soft blouson wrap and flowing pants, 6 to 12 sizes, 165.00 complete Collection Clothes, Second Floor **Bonwit Teller** 2701 Somerset Mall, Trov

Treatment costly

Spine injuries disable many

year, many in their teens and early 20s. More than 75 percent of them are

males.

Automobile accidents cause most spinal cord injuries but motorbikes and sports, particularly diving into shallow water, also claim their share

of victims.
Unless the spinal cord is completely cut. a patient can improve, usually during the first six months. General-ly resent treatment tries to prevent complications and teaches the patient to live with his handicap.

THE SPINAL cord is a bundle of perve fibers and cells which connect be brain ovin the muscles, skin and internal organs. carrying messages back and form.

When the cord is damaged at the level of the chest or lower back, both Legs, and the lower parts of the body are paralyzed. When the injury is at nock level, the arms also are paralyzed.

yzed.
Treatment is time-comsuming and costly. Initial hospitalization may last 5kx months. During that time, patients encounter many special problems such as loss of bone mineral and the

formation of kidney and bladder stones caused by prolonged bedrest

A COMPONENT of the National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Stroke (NINDS), supports four acute spinal cord injury research centers where work is directed mainty toward minimizing or reversing acute injury to the spinal cord.

NINDS intramural scientists are conducting research on the possibility of regeneration within the central nervous system – the ultimate hope for patients with severed spinal cords.

Research on goldfish and salamaniers, which regenerate a cut spinal cord. lend new insight into processes which may eventually play a part in treatment for spinal cord injuries.

SOMETIMES THE sinale cord is A COMPONENT of the National In-

SOMETIMES THE spinal cord is damaged by a blood vessel abnormality. NINDS scientists, working with radiologists, devised a way to diagnose and surgically correct such disorders – one of the rare instances where spinal cord injury may be prevented by early diagnosis and surgery.

gery. Many injuries can be prevented by adhering to safety precautions. For those injuries which do occur, the emphasis in on rehabilitation.

Party celebrates 50th anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. Louis P. McGowen of Birmingham celebrated their 50th weeding anniversary at a party recently at the Delray Beach, Pla., home of their daugh-zer-in-law and son, Mr. and Mrs. Neil McGowen, formerly of Bir-mincham

The party was also hosted by the ouple's daughter and son-in-law, 1924.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Brandemihl of

Livonia.

ATTENDING THE party werethe couple's 13 grandchildren and
one great grandson.
Other friends and relatives from
Michigan and Florida honored the
McGowens.

Q BEASURE FOR **GIVE a PORTRAIT** yourself your children or the family pet **APRIL 3-13** FIRT VOLKME from photograph or sitting CHARCOAL-PASTEL OR OIL SOMERSET MALL

Keep your eye on our brightly knit streakers

Vivid streaks of color are in the running on our attention-getting cotton knit tops. Zesty multicolored stripes make a bright and bold entrance on the spring sports scene, displaying a delightful variety of styles and shapes. Left. sleeveless v-neck tank, \$19. Center, scoop-neck short-sleeved top, \$23. Right, long-sleeved polo with navy collar and cuffs, \$28. All are streaking in for small to large sizes Young Dimensions in Sportswear.

