

# Ratification Day rites set

By **KAREN HOSLER**  
Staff Writer

A descendent of Marquis de Lafayette, the French general who helped the colonies win the Revolutionary War, and the French ambassador to the U. S. will be honored guests at Ratification Day ceremonies tomorrow in Annapolis.

The all-day celebration commemorating the ratification by Congress of the Treaty of Paris in the State House in 1784, ending the Revolutionary War, will open Maryland's Bicentennial activities for 1976.

The program will open at 10:30 a.m. in the House of

Delegates chamber during a joint session of the state legislature, which also begins its 1976 meeting tomorrow. Robert C. Murphy, chief judge of the Maryland Court of Appeals, will give the keynote address.

Count Rene de Chambrun, an

attorney from Paris and descendent of Lafayette, will speak and receive a honorary degree from Dr. Wilson H. Elkins, president of the University of Maryland.

At 11:30 a.m., Gov. Marvin Mandel will speak at a ceremony commemorating the treaty ratification. The ceremony will be held in the Old Senate Chamber of the State House, where the original treaty was ratified. At the time, the State House served as a temporary capitol of the young nation, which was then bound together by the Articles of Confederation.

Following the ceremony in the Old Senate Chamber, Ambassador Jacques Kosciusko-Morizet will join the state officials at the French Monument on St. John's College campus in a wreath-laying tribute shortly after noon.

Space for spectators will be limited for the morning ceremonies, but the public is encouraged to attend a Bicentennial preview sponsored by the state Bicentennial commission in Frances Scott Key Auditorium at St. John's from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Students from Arnold Elementary School will perform a special song and dance number at 2:30 p.m. in the auditorium and Chambrun will discuss his famous relative and the general's role in the American Revolution about 3 p.m.

Exhibits on the activities planned for the coming year by the local Bicentennial committees in each of the 23 counties and Baltimore will also be on display at the auditorium.

## City man fined in D.C. for soliciting prostitute

An Annapolis man was one of four men fined yesterday in Washington for soliciting prostitution. Police and prosecutors said it was the first time a local court has sentenced a man in a prostitution case.

Gerald Copeland, 35, was ordered by Judge Eugene Hamilton to pay \$50 or spend three days in prison. Copeland paid the fine.

Copeland was arrested Nov. 27 in Washington and faced trial yesterday with three other Washington men. In the past, men arrested in prostitution cases have escaped without a finding of guilt or a sentence, according to police.

Judge Hamilton said "There has to be some action taken from the point of view of the consumer as well as from the point of view of the seller."

Hamilton also urged publication of the men's names, saying it would serve as a deterrent. Copeland's address could not be obtained from court officials this morning.

The maximum sentence for solicitation in the nation's capital is \$250 and 90 days in jail.

Court records indicated each of the four men paid fines levied by the judge.

In recent months, city police have been arresting men and women in a drive against prostitution. Most of the men were arrested after they solicited plainclothes policewomen.

But of the men arrested, few have gone to trial. Police said most were granted first offender status leaving them without a criminal record.

Until Hamilton's sentences, the few who went to trial and

were found guilty had received probation or suspended sentences.

Charles Light, head of the Metropolitan Police Department's morals division, hailed Hamilton's action as a major help to the police drive against prostitution.

The act of prostitution is not a crime in the District, but soliciting sexual service for money is.

Police Chief Maurice Cullinane said he is aware some believe soliciting is a victimless crime. But Cullinane said other crimes, such as muggings and robberies, often accompany prostitution.

## 4 to face numbers count

BALTIMORE (AP)—Four of five men indicted by the Baltimore City grand jury on 15 counts of conspiracy and bribery in an illegal numbers racket surrendered themselves to police Monday.

A spokesman for the city

sheriff's office said the four men who turned themselves in Monday were Jerome Greenbaum, Calman Berstein, Alexander DeFabio and Vernon Townsen. The name of the fifth man will not be released until he turns himself in.