

MAYOR NAMES 2 NEGROES TO SCHOOL BOARD

Daniels, Gibson Picked To Fill Posts; 2 Other Members Reappointed

By John B. O'Donnell, Jr.

Mayor D'Alesandro announced yesterday the appointment of two Negroes to the city's school board and the reappointment of two board members, including Francis D. Murnaghan, Jr., the board president.

The action raised the number of Negroes on the nine-member board to four, an all-time high, and also broke with a long-standing tradition which dictated that representatives of the Johns Hopkins University and the University of Maryland should sit on the board.

New Members Listed

The two new Negro members named by Mr. D'Alesandro are: SAMUEL T. DANIELS, 46, director of the Council for Equal Business Opportunity and a former director of the city's Community Relations Commission.

LARRY S. GIBSON, 26, an attorney who is a member of the former law firm of George L. Russell, Jr., the city solicitor, and who managed the successful campaign of Joseph C. Howard for a seat on the Supreme Bench.

The Mayor also named Mrs. M. Richmond Farring to a new six-year term on the school board, and reappointed Mr. Murnaghan, who was named last December to the unexpired term of Eli Frank, the former board president, to a full six-year term.

Mr. Daniels will fill the unexpired term of Dr. William McElroy, an internationally known Hopkins biologist, who resigned in September. The term expires December 31, 1970.

Dr. McElroy cited two reasons for his resignation—the press of his professional responsibilities and the fact that he had been a board member for 10 years, and “that's long enough.”

Mr. Gibson was named to a

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full-year term, replacing Dr. William S. Stone, dean of the University of Maryland medical school, who did not seek reappointment.

Dr. Stone and Mrs. Farring have represented the most conservative opinion on the school board.

In announcing the appointments, Mayor D'Alesandro recognized that he was breaking with long-standing tradition by not seeking new board members from the Hopkins and the University of Maryland.

He said: "Today's urban education problems require new departures from the era when our two higher academic institutions were virtually the only sources of educational expertise and innovation.

"Both universities have made lasting contributions to education in Baltimore, and we will continue to seek their advice."

The appointments of Mr. Murnaghan, Mrs. Farring and Mr. Daniels have been expected at City Hall for several weeks.

But the name of Mr. Gibson was not mentioned as a possibility until late last week.

A spokesman for Mayor D'Alesandro said that the ap-



LARRY S. GIBSON



FRANCIS MURNAGHAN, JR.



SAMUEL T. DANIELS



MRS. RICHMOND FARRING

pointments will probably be sent to the City Council for confirmation at tomorrow night's meeting.

The Council recesses until January 13 after that meeting, so hearings on the nominations could not be held before mid-January.

In addition to Mr. Daniels and Mr. Gibson, the Negroes on the school board are Mrs. Elizabeth Murphy Moss and James Griffin.

The city's school population is about two-thirds Negro.

Mr. Gibson graduated from City College in 1960. He received a bachelor of arts degree from Howard University in 1964, and a bachelor of laws degree from Columbia University in 1967.

He is a former law clerk in the firm of Venable, Baetjer and Howard, and served as a law clerk to Judge Frank A. Kaufman, of the United States District Court.

He is a member of the law firm of Brown, Allen, Dorsey and Josey, the former law firm of Mr. Russell, the city solicitor.

City Hall sources said yesterday that Mr. Russell and City Councilman Henry G. Parks (D., 4th), both Negroes, actively sought Mr. Gibson's appointment.

Speaking of Mr. Gibson, Mayor D'Alesandro declared that he "brings youth and enthusiasm to his new post.

"He knows the young people

of our city and he understands the forces of change which are at work in our society. I look to him to supply new ideas, a responsible and articulate voicing of the concerns of youth and thoughtfulness in seeking new and innovative routes toward excellence."

Mr. Gibson also has served as a legal research assistant for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People's legal defense and educational fund and its Project for Effective Justice.

Mr. Daniels, the other new board member, has served as a field representative for the AFL-CIO American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, and as executive

secretary of the Maryland Commission on Interracial Problems and Relations in addition to being director of the city's Civil Service Commission.