

Randolph elected to head Caucus

By FLETCHER ROBERTS
AFRO Bureau

ANNAPOLIS — In private session Wednesday, the 18-member black caucus of the General Assembly elected Del. Loyal Randolph (D., 4th) chairman for the 1973 session.

The former chief of the Board of Supervisors of Elections succeeds Del. Arthur L. King (D., Prince George's), who has headed the group since its coming into being three years ago. It is rumored, here in Annapolis, that King has stepped down to devote more time to furthering political ambitions.

Information leaking from the meeting revealed that, in fact, King had refused the nomination. There had been pre-session speculation that the chairmanship would be a contest between King and city Del. John Douglass (D., 2nd).

When reached for comment, Del. Randolph in outlining objectives, remarked "My chief aim is that we (caucus) work as a unit."

On those matters most directly affecting black persons Randolph said the caucus must be "100 per cent together" though "you can not expect people to be alike on all matters. We have our divisions and we have to face it."

Del. Randolph stated he intends to call a public meeting of the caucus sometime next week to lay to rest any and all questions that have, surely, arisen in their long silence.

Others attending the 90-minute-session at the Jeffrey Building were: Delegates Troy Brailey (D., 4th), Walter Dean (D., 5th), Dr. Arris Allen, treasurer (R., Anne Arundel), Joseph Chester (D., 2nd), Frank Conaway (D., 4th), Hildergardeis Boswell, secretary (D., 4th), James A. Scott (D., 2nd), Kenneth Webster (D., 5th), and Senators Clarence Mitchell (D., 4th), Clarence Blount (D., 5th), Verda Welcome, vice-chairman (D., 4th), and Robert L. Dalton (D., 2nd).

In another development, the fireworks expected to erupt on the House floor, Thursday, following the Monday night appearance of City Council President Walter Orlinsky with instructions from the mayor, failed to materialize as the House voted to sustain six of seven Mendel vetoes.

Orlinsky had informed city delegates of a 'conditional' compromise



LLOYAL RANDOLPH

agreement that had been reached with the state's chief executive on two of seven veto messages held over from the 1972 session.

Of particular importance to the city administration were vetoes of H.B. 16, which would provide medical care the state's needy and H.B. 1077 calling for increased state funded school construction.

Orlinsky directed city legislators to base decisions on whether or not the Governor made known details of his compromise measures in his annual 'State of the State' message Wednesday.

Following yesterday's vote which saw the Governor supported in his economy drive, one city delegate was heard to say "It was a vote of conviction. I guess we just voted our convictions."

GI earn

Alphonzo Page, 19, of Baltimore, is \$1,500 richer today by successfully completing the Army's Advanced Individual Training (A.I.T.) at Ft. Jackson, S.C.

He is among the first graduates of the Army's new "BONUS" plan, whereby a man enlists for two years in the Combat Arms, infantry, armor or artillery, and receives the bonus upon completion of his A.I.T.

Introduced on a test basis last year, the "BONUS OPTION" is extended until June of next year.

While at Ft. Jackson, Page was trained with Company A, 3rd Battalion, 3rd A.I.T. Brigade, under the command of Captain James J. Daley. The eight week course ended on Dec. 8.

Page, known as "Lucretius" to his friends in the Baltimore area, deposited his bonus until he returns from Hawaii, where he is currently stationed. He is originally from Camden, New Jersey, where he