Welfare closes doors early because of new applicants

"If the trend keeps on much longer we could be in trouble."

Miss Esther Lazarus, director of the city's Department of Public Welfare, made that comment this week as requests for assistance continued to climb.

So many applicants are seeking help now the office has to close its doors early because it can't handle all the requests.

We began to feel this rising note at the end of last year. We've been closing early so we could process the maximum we can handle." Miss Lazarus said.

"As far as we know" she said, "the cause is connected with the general rise in unemployment."

WHILE PUBLIC welfare assisted just over 1,500 in January of 1957, Miss Lazarus said this month's total could go over 2,000 if the current trend continues.

The greatest single rise has come in the General Public Assistance group, she said.

She explained this group as including those persons able to work but not full employable.

"You might call them the group that's last to be hired and the first to be fired," she said.

The upsurge was expected when the department submitted its budget, Miss Lazarus said, but added if the trend continued there would be trouble.

The AFRO talked to several of the persons waiting at the office on Thursday and two out of four spoken to were new cases.

One man waiting was a hospital patient who has been drawing $80 a month for four months.

A foundry worker, he says his job is waiting for him when he's well enough to return to work.

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ONE WOMAN, who has seven children and is separated from her husband, has been on welfare about five years. She gets $90 a month.

"I don't get along on it but you have to get along. I pay $55 a month rent and there's wood and coal and clothes for the children to buy," she stated.

"Sometimes I can't buy enough food for my children."

She said if she made any effort at all to try to fix up around the house the department asks a lot of questions.

A man smoking a pipe, said he was just trying to get on and this was his fourth day.

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A SELF-EMPLOYED interior decorator with three children, he said he hasn't had work since Dec. 15.

He continued:

"My wife had three days work a week. I picked up a dollar here and there. We ate meats, black-eye peas and fatback.

"This is the first time I've ever had to go to relief or ask anybody for anything.

"Last Thursday me and my wife sat down and talked it over and decided I'd better come on down here.

"I was against it but there are the children. You can't sit by and see them go hungry."

He said his business became bad when a lot of other people he expected to work for, lost their jobs.

"Just think," he said, "I made the big sum of $33.70 during the holidays from Thanksgiving to Christmas."

• • •

A MOTHER of two children whose husband has been out of work two months, said:

"I've been coming here two weeks. I don't know if I'll get anything.

"For the last three weeks we've been staying with an elderly couple who took us in. The man lost his job and they can't keep us any more.

"I had an appointment at 10 this morning but I haven't seen any one yet. This was at 11:30.

"The large number of applicants sit in a room and wait for their names to be called. When the call doesn't come they go home and come back the next day and sit some more.

Jobless up again, new claims off

Trends running opposite directions held true to their individual courses in last week's employment picture in Baltimore.

On the darker side, the jobless total eased past the 30,000 mark as 25,995 drew benefit checks, a jump of 2,546 over the week ending Jan. 11.

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At the same time, 1,018 fewer persons filed new claims last week. The total here was 3,673 against 4,691 the week ending Jan. 11.

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IN ANNOUNCING the figures, Robert B. Kimble, executive director of the Maryland State Department of Employment Security, noted:

"If such drops should continue they would indicate a leveling off of new unemployment."

However, Mr. Kimble maintained his wait-and-see attitude, inclining to point to a definite trend in the figures which would reflect a definite pattern.

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STATEWIDE the same pattern prevailed as for Baltimore.

A total of 45,840 benefit checks were paid, another single week record.

This was up from the 41,958 paid to state unemployed the week ending Jan 11. The previous week it had been 34,796.

Before the record setting number of checks of the past two weeks, the top state payment for a week had been the 36,729 of the week ending Dec. 22, 1945.

Filing of new claims for benefits also dropped off statewide, from 9,303 the week ending Jan. 11, to 8,802 last week.

There were 10,414 new claims the week of Jan. 4.

Despite the fact new claims have been falling off for two weeks, the total checks paid has climbed.

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CHECKING with some of Baltimore's large employers last week, the AFRO found them reluctant to indicate how soon a pickup in business is expected to affect the work demand.

Some expect to see a betterment in February but the general opinion seems to be that any marked change will not develop until after the mid-year point.

Race line, jobs-for-pay make job-hunting tough

Miss Barbara Raye German, 20, 3306 Elgin Ave., has had a trying time going through a maze of newspaper ads, phone inquiries and employment agencies hunting for work.

She was "let go" from her job as an expert addressograph - multigraph operator in an advertising distributing agency about a month ago.

Although she had been employed there for a year at $50 a week, the company changed to IBM Machines and then cut down on personnel since the new machinery requires less help.

Barbara is a June, 1954 Douglass High School graduate in the academic course, but she is skilled in many fields where she may become employed — if there were only jobs available.

• • •

ACCORDING to Barbara: "Everybody says they wish they had known about me before they had to cut down on the number of employees. They would have hired me — but now —"

Barbara adds: "They say it things 'pick up' they'll certainly give me a call."

She has been a payroll clerk, does some typing, is rated as an efficient office manager.

• • •

SHE DISCLOSED that employment agencies are asking as much as 50 per cent of a month's salary to get people jobs.

They want you to pay one-half when you get your job, pay the rest in 30 days.

These are agencies which advertise that they have "professional" jobs available, she says.

"They want you to sign papers which state your life history.

"If you don't have the 50 per cent, some will lend you the money. But — I wonder what happens if you don't like the job and quit?

• • •

ANOTHER INCIDENT noted by Miss German is that employment agencies send young places which are advertised in the papers — and they charge you for that.

They also charge for an "identification picture" and for the cost of "registration," she said.

They want you to pay one factory, you pay anyway, she related.

• • •

MISS GERMAN also noted a subtle kind of color bias which is "hard to put your finger on."

She related this incident:

I qualified. The woman at the employment agency called the employer on the phone and told him about me.

"She said to him: 'She is a Douglass High School graduate. Do you follow me?'

"Or, as I heard her say about another young woman, 'She is a Morgan State College Graduate. Do you follow me?'"

Miss German said all the while she sat there listening to the woman and then heard her say: "Yes, she's colored."

She stated that when the employment agency woman hung up the phone she turned to her and said: "They don't here colored."

• • •

MISS GERMAN also said that the employment agency woman often describes the complexion of the individual to the employer on the other end of the phone.

Then she adds: "Do you follow me?"

She also said she applied at Sinai Hospital where she qualified as a medical records clerk but they stated that the job is for "white only."

Additional difficulty has come to the young woman as she applied at the Unemployment Compensation office for weekly unemployment money.

She stated: "They are in some instances decidedly impatient with the applicant and they must make sure that this job" whether you desire it or not.

She stated: "I simply could not be a bar maid, I am unsuited for the job. I've never had that experience."

"I turned it down and the person at the desk was very disgusted with me. Her attitude was very unkind."

MISS GERMAN also said that she stood in line for almost three hours where there at least 400 persons.

"It was willing, however," she exclaimed. "I needed the $20 to help keep my head above water."

Miss German is the daughter of Mrs. Frances German and the sister of Buddy German who was a student at Yale when he was transferred to Army Intelligence.

Her obligations include clothing and insurance for herself, and helping out on bills at home.

"I've always been ambitious," Miss German claims. "I have my own typewriter. I have taken summer courses to widen my field of ability but I never knew it would come to the point where there are no jobs to be had, regardless of training."

Newsboy bandit gets 18 months

"I do it without batting an eye. I wish there were some way to put the fear of God in your kind."

Magistrate Linwood G. Koger Sr. of Northwestern Police Court, was speaking Monday to Theodore Parker, 19, 600 block Bruce St.

The youth was given a year and a half in the Maryland House of Correction for carrying a deadly weapon and robbing two newsboys.

• • •

WILLIAM HARRIS, 12, 606 block Dukeland St., identified Parker in court as the man who robbed him of $7.50 on Dec. 29 at Edmondson Ave. and Monroe St.

James Jones, 17, 1000 block W. Fayette St., also identified Parker and said he had taken his gold watch and $10 in cash from him at Edmondson and Monroe St., on Dec. 29.

—Many wait in line

(Continued from Page 1)

be a check for him.

Following are some of the individual cases of people who help make up the 30,000 jobless.

JESSE McCLURE, 37, of 542 W. Lanvale St., was for five years a cratetmaker on a job paid from $60-$70 weekly.

He is married but has no children.

"I don't know how much I

McCLURE — Behind on rent "It's hurting"

DUVALL — "It's hurting"

ROBERT GALLOWAY, of 2323 N. Calvert, became 27 on Tuesday.

A married veteran with two children, he was working as an automobile painter — making $81.83 a week.

It was an on-the-job training program.

He has been out of the job since Nov. 15 and now draws $28 weekly to go along with the $55 a month disability check he gets.

"By the time you pay your rent and buy some food you can't buy for gas and electricity and keep up insurance and what not.

"I get the disability check

MOORE — 'What next' 'A few pennies

BARNES — 'I'm doing

will draw here. I've been out of work since a week after Christmas," he said.

Mr. McClure said, "I'm getting behind on rent and something to eat, too."

• • •

HOFFMAN DUVALL, 46, of 2145 Pennsylvania Ave., a construction worker with no job for about three months, is the man who had the hearing which why he left a former job.

When working he said he made about $76 a week. He was, he said, drawing $35 in benefits.

"Right now it's hurting me because I haven't had a check since Dec. 18. I'm not sure I'm to get one today," he said.

Glenny Moore, 24, of 1117 N. Kenwood Ave., an operators helper at a chemical company for 22 months, has been out of work for five months.

He made $57 on the job against $37 in benefits.

Mr. Moore doesn't have a family but says he's beginning to "think about what I'm going to do next."

• • •

CHARLIE BARNES, 22, of 3016 Grayson St., was a stockboy in a shirt shop before being laid off at the turn of 1958 "because business slacked off."

Mr. Barnes, married, made $40 a week and managed to save "a few pennies."

"This is the third week I've been in line here. I don't have the least idea what I will get," he said.

"Nobody's working in my family now. When I was working I saved a few pennies but those few are about gone now."

• • •

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"I get the disability check

G. SMITH — 'That's all

W. SMITH — 'I don't know'

and that's the only way we can make it," he explained.

• • •

WILLIE SMITH, 32, 2024 W. Fayette St., a welder for eight years before being laid off Oct. 2, made $2.06 an hour. Now it's $35 a week.

He is married and has three children.

How is he getting along?

"We are just making out now, that's all. It doesn't do much for me (the check), when you get three kids."

GRAFTON SMITH, 32, 1734 Poplar Grove, a truck driver on one job for five years, was making about $65 a week.

"I've been here eight weeks and I haven't drawn a thing," he complained.

"It's just through the goodness of God and the mercy of other people that we are getting along."

Mr. Smith has six children.

"I don't know what we'll do if things don't soon get better," he said.

THERE'S NO telling how many people in the growing lines don't know if they will get a check.

But cold or rainy, they have to keep coming back.

Estimates vary on end of 'recession'

To Baltimore's small businessmen, the "recession," or its original, is a major interest.

Those just slightly affected see no reason to become "seriously alarmed."

Where the dent in the cash till is deeper, however, some recall "this is how that other one (the last depression) started."

Speculation on when the situation will grow brighter runs from February to "when they cut some of these taxes."

Related questions about how long the government's pump - priming spending will last.

And whether defense spending will affect unemployment before the jobless draw all the benefit checks for which they are eligible.

• • •

HERE ARE SOME of the comments from business people taken in a survey by the AFRO:

Mrs. Bernice Moore, real estate, 1925 Dukeland, feels "we are in some type of a recession."

She estimates her business off "nearly 50 per cent."

"Many of the people we depend upon to sell our property to are losing their jobs or working fewer hours," she explained.

"I noticed since last September that things began to slide a little. It didn't bring in the returns it usually did.

"November and December didn't bring anything. Almost came to a standstill.

"I feel that February will be different. I feel that people are a little afraid (to spend now) but will loosen up soon."

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MRS. MOORE said, "I hate to say it" but it may take a war to get us back to the level we have been accustomed to.

She believes governmental public works will help if "they did enough and hired more help.

"I seems there are a lot of programs going on now but they seem to be able to get them done with a very few men."

Mrs. Moore says "it might be a good idea to March on Washington about getting some more jobs for people."

Another suggested approach was "be a civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) type program as was run during the Roosevelt era after the last depression.

• • •

L. C. ROBINSON, of Robin

than he to tell now long we'll have the high unemployment situation:

"I don't guess it'll do any good to worry about it," he stated.

• • •

HOWARD DIXON, of the Comedy Club on Pennsylvania reports a "big drop in business."

"I noticed it about two months ago. We're off over 50 per cent. It all happened suddenly.

"The only way things are going to get better, they are going to have to cut some of those taxes and open up some jobs," Mr. Dixon said.

"I think it hurts our people more than it does whites because jobs are more available to them.

"It's going to be a lot worse when those people can't draw them weekly unemployment checks.

"If they get that farm employment thing straightened out it will be better for colored people. There are jobs listed in the papers now but we can't get them."

Because people are spending less money, Mr. Dixon said, "I had to change my business to a cabaret style and cut prices to meet their pocketbooks."

He views government spending this way:

"Defense spending will help but it's according to how long the thing is going to last. They may start off big and let it drop in a year."

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ARL KOGER, insurance executive, 2100 block W. North Ave., estimates his business a little better than a year ago.

"So far I don't feel we should be too seriously alarmed because some industries have laid off men.

"Prices that are high usually go down when things are tight. I see no change in the prices," he said.

Explaining the growing unemployment figures, Mr. Koger said:

"I feel that in a lot of ways America is kind of overstocked. We have international competition in these other countries who are now able to compete with us on a world - wide basis, which means our world - wide markets have been somewhat curtailed.

"A lot of things we have been able to dominate in marketing, we're not able to do it any more, therefore we have less productivity because increase in installment plan buying.

He said he feels sure defense and public works spending will snap the country out of the slump this year.

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NOT QUITE so optimistic is N. A. Egorin, of the Fan Record Shop in the 1800 block of Pennsylvania Ave.

"I don't think it's going to get better as soon as it got bad.

"It's very sudden for them to tell you, one or ten men, that you are fired; it's a little slower when time comes to rehire.

"I certainly don't think it'll get better in a month or so.

"Business has fallen off. I'd rather not say how much, just say tha I'm not happy."

• • •

RECALLING the last big depression, Mr. Egorin said "this is the way, the other one started off.

"Everybody, this Hoover (Herbert A.) in the lead, was talking about prosperity being just around the corner."

Mr. Egorin says today people are all "hocked" up to there necks in debt and if they lose their jobs a businessman thinks twice before repossessing goods "because who they going to sell it to."

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AT NORMAN'S SHOE Shop, in the 1500 block of Pennsylvania Ave., Norman Springs said:

"Quite a few people are bringing shoes in. They want them back but they can't get them out, short of money.

"I certainly do feel we are in a recession.

"This is usually a slow season (in the shoe repair business), but now it is almost out in half again from what the slow season usually is.

"We are looking to the government, something has to be done; it can't (the economy) go along by itself and recover."

Sales peoples waiting behind counters with little to do, tell a similar story among other places of business.

—MOSES NEWSON

Dr. Ashby wins divorce; says wife left him

Dr. Cyril Ashby, a dentist, who gave his address as 1113 W. Lanvale St., but added that he is now in residence at Harlem Hospital, N.Y.C., divorced Mrs. Carmen Ashy of Georgetown, British Guiana, here in Circuit Court this week.

He charged that the wife, who he married on August 24, 1945, deserted him in December of the same year.

They are parents of one child, who is in custody of the mother.

• • •

DR. ASHBY also testified his wife left him "She was dissatisfied with what I was able to provide for her, with the home and what I could give her."

She took the baby, born on Sept. 8, 1945, and left, saying that she could not live under the conditions I was providing

—'I can't bury her'

(Continued from Page 1)

reported that three other persons who were on the second floor where fire occurred, escaped and were treated at Provident.

They were Mrs. Lee Carrington, 43; Sinclair Parrish, 47, and Thadis Gampbell, 37.

Mrs. Carrington and Mr. Parrish escaped through rear windows of the building.

They were admitted to Provident with first and third degree burns.

On Thursday Mrs. Carrington's condition was listed as good while Mr. Parrish was on the critical list.

Mrs. Fletcher

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MR. CAMPBELL, who detected the fire and escaped through a rear window, suffered only a finger cut.

Campbell told police he had met Miss Banks on Sunday in front of a theatre, and knew her only as 'Hattie.'

Police said she told them he called to the woman to "let's get out" when he smelled smoke, but she stayed behind to get some clothes.

Mrs. Fletcher said the insurance company with which she had a policy refused to pay off because alcoholism was a contributing cause of death.

The Medical Examiner's Office told the AFRO the cause of death was "acute alcoholism and carbon monoxide poisoning."

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MRS. FLETCHER said she would like to have her daughter's funeral Monday afternoon at the Jackson Funeral home on Pennsylvania Ave.

Mrs. Fletcher explained that her husband is on Social Security and she only works two days a week.

"The cheapest funeral I can get is $270," she said.

Miss Banks, the mother explained, lived with her some time and with other relatives at other times.

"She used to come home at times, you know women of 28 have a mind of their own," the mother said.

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A DEEPLY religious woman, Mrs. Fletcher recalled that her daughter liked to have fun. "You could tell that by the place she was found in.

"This should be a lesson to all women, young or old, who know a wild life.

"To any young woman in the age range of my daughter, tell them to seek Jesus because the ways of sin is death. The Bible says so."

• • •

THEN SHE added as an afterthought:

"I tried to get my daughter to come into the church."

Mrs. Fletcher is vice-president of missionary work and a member of the choir of the Christ Temple Apostolic Church of Cherry Hill, the Elder Willard E. Saunders is pastor.

Miss Banks was born in Baltimore and reared in New York. The family returned here in 1950.

Her mother said she did day's work.

"She loved to bake and sew," Mrs. Fletcher said.

"Almost everytime she would bake a blueberry pie and she wouldn't let anybody get any until I got a slice."

The AFRO ran a front-page story Tuesday on the death of an unidentified victim in the fire.

A boy who lives up stairs above Mrs. Fletcher told her he saw the story asking "Who Is Hattie" and the statement that it was believed the woman had a mother in Cherry Hill.

"I said right off it wouldn't be the only one with a daughter

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GOP dinner chairman will consider hotels' policy for future events

"I wasn't aware of the hotel's policy, and I am indeed happy that you told me about it. I am in complete agreement that this policy should most certainly be taken into consideration when we have future dinners. . . ."

Thomas G. Tinsley, insurance executive and chairman of the United Republican Dinner held Monday evening at the Lord Baltimore Hotel, was answering a complaint about scheduling the affair at that hotel.

Dr. Carl Murphy, president of the AFRO-AMERICAN, had called attention of the dinner committee members to the fact that the Lord Baltimore does not accept colored people as guests.

In his letter, Dr. Murphy said:

"I should be greatly obliged to the members of the Republican Party, if they will take this into account for future dinners and have them at the Sherton-Belvedere or some other place which opens its facilities to all citizens."

Blanchard Randall, treasurer of the dinner committee, answered: "I am in sympathy with your feelings," and will present to our next dinner committee your suggestion about hotels. . . ."

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OTHER MEMBERS of the committee and excerpts from their replies follows:

Cong. James P. S. Devereaux (R., 1st), honorary chairman: "You make a good point and I will do what I can. . . ."

U.S. Senator John Marshall Butler, honorary chairman: "You may rest assured that your viewpoint will be brought to the attention of the leaders of the Republican Party in Maryland."

Rep. DeWitt S. Hyde (R., 6th): . . . I shall be glad to call this matter to the attention of the committee in planning future dinners."

MAYOR JOHN A. DERR of Frederick: "We are cognizant of the situation and any inconvenience thus far experienced can only be attributed to lack of foresthought. You may be assured however, that in the future all consideration will be given this very important subject."

Stanley Scherr: "Although I am vice chairman of the Republican Party in Maryland, I was not consulted, nor informed of the dinner until after the space was publicly announced and the hotel site was chosen."

E. V. duPont, Washington: "While I am a member of the committee which arranged the Eisenhower Fund Raising Dinner for this evening I had nothing to do with the arrangements."

Frank Small Jr., Clinton, Md.: "While my name appears on the dinner committee, as a matter of fact I have had no voice in selecting the hotel where these dinners are to be held. . . ."

• • •

BOB BOYD — TURNER Y DINNER— Three outstanding fan athletes will be special guests at the Turner Station YMCA dinner next Friday at the Sollers High School. They are Lennie Moore, Colt halfback, and Connie Johnson and Bob Boyd, pitcher and first baseman, respectively, of the Orioles.

CONNIE JOHNSON

LENNIE MOORE

$50 dinner sets off Republican drive

By MAX JOHNSON

Governor McKeldin and his Maryland Republicans used a $50 a - plate dinner Monday evening to launch their campaign for what they hope will bring them another State governor, keep their two U.S. Senators and three Representatives in Washington, and perhaps add Representatives from Maryland's four other Congressional Districts.

More than 700 Democrats and Republicans attended.

Speculation was high among them as to whom the Governor would name as their candidate to succeed him in Annapolis.

Some of the higher (and this is a loose usage of the word) speculators were contending that Rep. James P. S. Devereux, World War Two Marine hero and Congressman from Maryland's Second District would be the choice.

GOV. McKELDIN, however, was in high spirits, and touched on the subject of every other party matter of importance, except his choice of the Republican candidate for governor of Maryland.

"There falls upon the members of the Republican party the primary responsibility of selecting as candidates for state offices, men and women for whom the citizens of Maryland — Republicans, Democrats and Independents — will be proud to cast their votes in November."

This paragraph from a six-minute prepared statement was the closest Gov. McKeldin came to the subject.

As of late Wednesday, he was still letting a number of Republicans, and perhaps all of the Democrats, continue to speculate on the matter.

• • •

THE FUND - RAISING dinner reportedly added more than $37,000 to the State's Republican treasury.

The menu of fruit cocktail, celery, olives, consomme, half roast stuffed spring chicken, new boiled potato with parsley and butter, some string beans, something resembling sherbet with cakes and coffee, left little doubt that it was a fund-raising affair.

A reasonable price for the meal, including all possible legal taxes, could probably be a $1.89 in the open market.

• • •

STATE SENATOR and Mrs. Harry Cole and Mr. and Mrs. Emory R. Cole (he is a member of the House of Delegates from the city's Fourth District) were seated at the lower of two head tables.

There were 43 such officeholders, top Republican leaders and their wives at these two tables.

Among the other guests at the affair were:

Magistrates Linwood G. Koger Sr. and Jr.; Charles E. (Mouse) Dorsey and R. V. Hatshett, city liquor inspector; Judge W. Douglass, 8th Ward executive; Donald Boyce, 10 Ward executive;

Hansel Green and Dr. Charles Cornish, of Cambridge; Harry C. Grason, Colton Point; Sidney V. Wilson, Pondton.

Also Samuel Bryan, of the 4th Ward, and William H. Chew, of the 19th Ward.

• • •

GOV. McKELDIN, prior to a closed circuit television appeal from President Eisenhower for increased party unity and strength, told the guests:

"We need no infinite power in human hands to parch some distant land. . . .

"We have the power to help eliminate the doughs of hunger in unfavored places, and to hold back the threatening floods of ignorance and misunderstanding of America's aims.

"The only weather controls that we as a nation need are those that will lift the ugly fogs of intolerance from areas of our own great country — and prevent as great an evil from ever coming into being — a blind of human equality — a haven for life world's oppressed."

(Continued from Page 1)

have been no colored applicants but "if they come in we can serve them."

Mr. Wyatt added: "I can't speak for the board, but I would certainly submit their names just as any other child."

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THE FULL interview with Mr. Swift follows:

Q—Is your branch accepting membership from all youngsters regardless of race?

A—Not yet.

Q—Are you making any steps toward that?

A—Yes, we are — we have many activities where they are included and inter-branch activities.

"Just last Saturday we had a swimming meet here in our pool with the Druid Hill Ave. branch. We have had the Chick Webb Center down too.

"Last week there was an inter-club Tri-Hi Y Council meeting here in which there were officers from Druid Hill and other officers from groups in the city.

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"We are continually having groups like this meet here. We have the Boy Scouts use our facilities for testing in swimming. The Girl Scouts do the same thing.

"Our board has allowed our swimming pool to be used by neighboring organizations on an integrated basis.

Q—Do you have any other plans in mind that will open up more membership pools?

A—Well; I suppose, the only plan in mind would be to do it. But at the moment we have not agreed to do that. It has been discussed by our board. We are in the process of discussion now but we have not completed the meeting.

"We have a date coming up, which has not been set, to meet with the committee which Dr. J. Carey Taylor of the Y Metropolitan Board of Directors is appointing.

"This committee will be made up of the Turner Station YMCA Board of Managers and the Dundalk Board of Managers. When this committee meets it will include both groups and will probably meet here and we will discuss the very question. Until then we will not have an answer.

Q—Is that meeting anytime in the near future?

A—I would hope that it would be soon. We have delayed long enough.

Q—And you feel that something can be done right now?

A—Yes.

Q—Are these your personal feelings or those of your board?

A—The feeling of the board is hard to determine because there are some people who are quite willing. There are others who are not prepared as yet. Because of that, the board feeling, at the moment, has not been changed."

Q—What do you have beside the swimming pool?

A—We have complete facilities including club rooms, food service where we serve meals for groups on occasions . . . The Hi-Y Council was integrated . . . These boys and girls used our swimming pool. There was a dinner, social program and dance in which all groups participated.

"We have done everything except the one step of saying that an individual member can join if he applied individually. We have even included all in some of our formal education program, in other years. We haven't started this year.

"Dr. Thomas's wife in Turner Station was enrolled in the photography group . . . and this group was open to her as well as other members of your Y.

Q—How big is your Y?

A—We have 1,800 members; about half are adults and half are children. I would be interested in your comment in what you think I said, because sometimes things that don't quite come out in your ears in what you think I said.

"What I have said is that we are having many activities here where young people and adults are joined in friendly activities and skill with other people regardless of race, religion and color.

"We are doing that. Now where have we not made change in policy? We formed individual membership but we have had many groups here — the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Twi-Hi, Citywide, council meeting. The only thing we haven't done is open the individual membership . . .

"Is that bad enough? Our feeling is what we have been doing is good and that is as far as we can say.

"I do not make the decisions for the board and I do not have a vote in the board. I carry out their decisions and instructions. They know that these things are happening but at the moment they have not decided to change the form of membership.

"I would be glad that you would say that these things are happening in a positive nature and we hope to make more progress."

Baltimore finds need for a good Pied Piper

Rats, rats, rats!

The Pied Piper and the people of Hamelin know what to do about them—but how about you?

Recently, complaints were voiced that the area where the new State Office buildings are being constructed in the vicinity of the Fifth Regiment Armory and the 1700 block N. Carey St. are literally flooded with rats.

What to do about it?

Since modern man does not have the convenience of a "Pied Piper," neighbors of the Carey St., area report that they sought aid from the Department of Rodent Control, a branch of the City Health Department.

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THE NEIGHBORS avow that an inspector from the Department of Rodent Control delayed taking measures against the rats, reportedly walking around in daylight, until residents had filed a petition with city authorities.

On Tuesday, William Hunter, assistant to the chief of Rodent Control said sometimes "voluntary petitions" are circulated when an inspector does not find the rodent condition "urgent."

However, only four signatures are required before these petitions actionable, he said.

According to Mr. Hunter, the first step after receiving a complaint is an investigation by an inspector from the Department of Rodent Control who decides whether or not the situation is severe enough to warrant their official attention.

One week later, a crew is sent to the area with poisons either red squill or warfarin.

This is mixed with corn to make it palatable to rodents and tinted green to let residents know that it is poison.

Neither poison is fatal to humans or pets, says Mr. Hunter.

He explained that warfarin causes internal bleeding in rodents and red squill acts directly on the nerve centers in the heart.

After eating one of these, the rat dies within two weeks.

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HE ADDED that his Department returns for the unused poison but the dead rats are left to be discarded by the residents.

Mr. Hunter also pointed out that when rat infestation is confined to one or two homes in the block, the responsibility for getting rid of them is on the owner or the tenant.

According to Magistrate Marshall A. Levin and Officer John McAllister of Housing Court, between eight and ten cases of rat infestation in this city are handled every week by that court.

This number does not include the summonses sent out by Housing Authority or the complaints filed by the Health Department, they reported.

U.S. military policy topic of parley

The Georgetown University forum will discuss "Our Military Policy and Communist Un-

Cong. Devereux vote record

(See Editorial Page 4)

Rep. James P. S. Devereux (R-md) is completing his fourth term in Congress. He is prominently mentioned in political circles as the likely Republican candidate for Governor in the coming spring primary.

Compiled below is a record of how Congressman Devereux has voted on vital issues in the past six years. A plus sign means a right vote. A minus sign indicates a vote against the interests of colored people and other minorities. The record is compiled from information available at the Washington Bureau of the NAACP and from the NAACP's lobbyist, Clarence Mitchell:

Date	How Cong. Devereux Voted: Bill	
June 6, 1956	Rep. Rankin (D-Miss.) sponsored bill to establish his own veteran's hospital. NAACP opposed it and bill was killed. Pres. Truman vetoed. McCarran-Walter Immigration bill. NAACP also opposed bill; urged his veto. He upheld. House overrode veto	—
June 20, 1952	Statehood for Hawaii	for +
March 19, 1953	Eisenhower housing	against —
Aug. 21, 1953	Funds for public housing	against —
April 28, 1954	Funds for public housing	against —
May 10, 1955	Hawaii-Alaska statehood	against —
May 16, 1957	Powell amendment to civil rights bill	against —
July 18, 1955	Extension of social security benefits	for +
July 20, 1955	Minimum wage increase	for +
July 21, 1955	Attempt to end public housing	for +
July 29, 1954	Powell amendment to prevent use of Federal funds for segregated schools	against —
July 29, 1954	Motion to recommit to send civil rights bill back to committee (108-6271 votes) it was near approval (House was weakened and he later voted for passage of bill)	for —
June 16, 1957	Southern precedents of civil rights sought to attach sweeping jury trial amendment to H.R. 6127 (after bill up for final passage, he voted for it)	for —

Summary: Of 14 votes recorded here, he receives 4 plus signs meaning right votes. Other ten minus signs indicate wrong votes on civil rights and related issues.

Shade Francis sues his wife; disowns 2 children

Shade Francis, along with a request for a divorce this week, told the court that he wants his two children, but not the twins.

A boy and girl, born on June 5 to Mrs. Margaret Francis, are not his children, Mr. Francis said.

In his petition, filed in Circuit Court No. 2, Mr. Francis charges his wife with infidelity, naming a James Bennett as co-respondent.

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THE ALLEGED infidelities, he said, took place in his own home at 1806 N. Broadway, while he was absent on a voyage.

He is a seaman in the Merchant Marine of the United States.

The husband, who says that he has competent witnesses to prove his charges, says that he has not lived with Mrs. Francis since his discovery of her unfaithfulness, which was in December.

He still occupies the N. Broadway home.

Williams estate

W. Emerson Brown, attorney, and Mrs. Amanda Williams of 3219 Windsor Ave. have been named administrators of the estate of Samuel Williams, father of the latter.

Mr. Williams, who died at the Windsor Ave. address on Dec. 13, 1957, is also survived by his wife, Mrs. Lydia W. Williams of Brooklyn, N.Y. and another daughter, Mrs. Lillie Mae Jones of Brooklyn.

The estate is estimated at $5,000.

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