Chicago Realtors Charged With Home-Rent Fraud

Took 2 Million Dollars From War Workers, Others in Search for Homes, State Claims

CHICAGO (ANP) — Unscrupulous rental agents and real estate operators here in recent years have mulcted more than 6,000 people, most of whom were war workers, of an estimated two million dollars in operation of a room-renting racket ,it was charged here last week.

O. P. Lightfoot, chief of the frauds and complaint section of the State's Attorney's office, who made the charge said hundreds of war workers who came here paid from $500 to $10,000 to rental agencies to find them a place to live.

Operators Listed

He named as one of the big operators, W. H. Garrette, who, two weeks ago, was found guilty on nine indictments charging him with a $200,000 real estate fraud. He was sentenced to from one to 10 years in prison.

Mr. Lightfoot revealed that his office is seeking a Bernard Barkin, accused of heading a Southside rental racket in which more than 100 complainants charge they have lost $20,000.

He named five agents, who were accused of sending clients to Barkin, known to be an ex-convict with a prison record for robbery.

Those involved in the Barkin deals are Thomas White, D. R. Lane, W. S. Nelson, Andrew Jones, and the Rev. Edna White. The latter is now in county jail awaiting trial, and cases against the others are to be taken to the grand jury.

Also under arrest are Thomas Williams and his secretary, Miss Evelyn Bates, both apprehended on a charge of operating a confidence game.

In felony court, Williams' bond was set at $8,000 after 118 homeseekers signed complaints charging they gave him $12,000 on deposits on apartments they never moved into.

According to the State Attorney's office, Williams rented the same apartment numerous times to different persons, taking deposits ranging from $40 to $500.

Parents of Accident Victim Ask $75,000

WASHINGTON

Fuddie C. and Mrs. Pearl Phelps, parents of James E. Phelps, killed on Christmas Day, 1947, when a Greyhound passenger bus collided with the auto their son was operating, last week, 364 days after his death, sued for $75,000 damages.

The parents, who live at 44 Florida Ave. N.W., say the accident happened at Halethorpe, Md., and charge that the bus was "negligently, carelessly, and recklessly driven."

The Phelpses told the District Court that they depended upon their son for support and maintenance. A jury trial and court costs also are asked by the couple in the action filed on Christmas Eve.

Lt. Hickabottom One of 120 New AF Officers

WASHINGTON

First Lt. Verdia Mae Hickabottom of Los Angeles was among 120 Regular U.S. Air Forces women officers appointed under provisions of the Women's Armed Services Integration Act of 1948, by President Truman this week.

Lieutenant Hickabottom and the other 119 are the first Regular USAF appointees in the history of the Air Force. All must pass a final type physical examination before receiving their regular commissions.

Lt. Hickabottom graduated from the WAC Officers Candidate School in the fall of 1944. She served at Godman Field, Ky., and with the 332nd Fighter Group, Lockbourne Air Base, where she was second in command of a squadron of 108 women.

There are now 178 colored women in the Air Corps. There are four officers, including two captains, Capt. Ruth Lucas and Capt. Scott.

School News

Though a "Christmas Postal Service" inaugurated two weeks ago by the 6B-6A class of Murphy School No. 119, over 1408 cards were handled.

Mail boxes were made by the pupils and placed on each floor of the building. Vancey Motley was postmaster, assisted by postal clerks and letter carriers from the sponsoring class.

Workers at a nearby laundry heard carols sung by the third grades pupils of Miss Ruth Jones. Children in the class of Mrs. Mary Redd presented old and new carols for parents and schoolmates.

"The Story of Christmas" was presented by Mrs. N. Lambson's class, and "The True Spirit of Christmas" and "Santa's Mistake" by the fourth graders of Mrs. Helena Heiner and Miss Annie Mae Batson."

Cards to Helpers

The second grade classes of Mrs. M. Freeman and Mrs. M. Maxwell shared programs, while children under the direction of Mrs. D. Gaither, made gifts for their younger brothers and sisters.

Mail service was set up in the school "post office" to parents, friends, teachers, schoolmates and community helpers.

The fourth annual Christmas sing was conducted on Thursday by Miss A. Dukye Woode, music specialist of the Department of Education.

The gay and colorful Christmas party given to parents and pupils of the opportunity classes of School No. 117 on Tuesday, included a full course turkey dinner.

Carol singing and other Christmas activities were followed by the distribution of gifts. Mesdames Bessie Garner and Lee Hill Fletcher were the teachers and Mrs. Rosalie McGuire, principal of the school.

Program at Sharon Church

The annual Christmas program of Hurst School No. 120 was held on Wednesday evening at Sharon Baptist Church, with the primary grade pupils presenting, "What is Christmas," and the intermediates, the pageant, "The King is Born."

Scenery and costumes were made by the pupils who also designed invitations and programs. Following the program remarks were made by the host pastor, the Rev. James L. Moore, and the principal, Mrs. Florence Gloster.

SOLLERS SCHOOL NEWS

Talmadge Hill, assistant coach at Morgan College, was guest speaker on an athletic program sponsored recently by the Sollers Point High School physical education department.

Stressing industry, courage and the spirit of fair play, Mr. Hill explained how successful teamwork is achieved and urged the pupils to develop acceptable social attitudes.

Theodore Patterson, senior, and Miss Clare Goode, junior, were crowned king and queen, respectively, at Royal Coronation ceremonies held last week at Sollers High School.

Adopts Alma Mater

The school adopted an official alma mater from words composed by William Tilghman. Misses Marie Harris and Martha Bell of the 10-A class received certificates of merit for their efforts in the contest.

The Dramatic Club of Sollers High, under the direction of Miss Jane West, presented three one-act plays recently in the school auditorium. Arthur Lamb, of Morgan College dramatic department, commended the participants for their excellent characterizations.

The Parent-Teachers Association sponsored a pre-Christmas dance in the school auditorium last Friday. Proceeds from the affair will be used to purchase school furnishings. George Ford is president.

Christmas activities for pupils of Cherry Hill School No. 159 included a free movie showing of "Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farb," starring Shirley Temple.

Holiday features for the youngsters also included a special program for the upper grades at the community center, and another for the lower grades under the direction of primary teachers. Mrs. Enna Fayne is principal.

Student Teachers at Junior High

These pupils acted as instructors at the Johns on Junior High School No. 106 on Hill St. near Sharp St., where "Student Day" was recently observed as a culmination of "Courtesy Week" sponsored by the Student Council under direction of Miss Laura McDaniel. Principal is Mrs. Vivian E. Cook.

CANADIANS' PATTERNS STRANGE:

Can Eat Anywhere but Work as Menials

By ISAAC JONES

WINDSOR, Ontario, Canada—(ANP)—Here in Windsor, there is not much social prejudice to be found, but plenty of economic bias. While the colored Canadians or Americans will be accommodated at most of the entire eating establishments or hotels in the downtown area of the city, finding employment is different.

The white collar and clerical jobs are taken by the white Canadians; thus, domestic jobs are left to colored workers.

I recall one case of bias in a Windsor downtown restaurant during the war when a colored Canadian was refused service. The Windsor daily newspapers carried a front page story about the incident, and hundreds of white Canadians felt that it was a blot on democracy in Canada.

However, it appeared that there wasn't any law to force such service, after it has been refused on the grounds of race in Canada.

Christmas in Canada

Christmas in Canada is celebrated differently than in the U.S. Dec. 26 is also a holiday here. The day after Christmas is known as "Boxing-day"—when Canadians visit their friends and exchange presents. Christmas Day is mainly a day of family celebration.

Thanksgiving comes in August here. During the year they celebrate a number of holidays that we do not have.

Oddities in the dominion include mail boxes. They are red in color and look like the American fire department boxes. Instead of pulling the flap down to mail a letter, the Canadians have to lift up the cover to place mail in them.

Their paper dollar bills are much larger than ours. In the Canadian alphabet the letter "Z" is called "Zob." That is how the law enforcement agencies can determine Canadians from Americans.

When other methods fail they have them to repeat the alphabet and if "Z" is used, it means the person in question is an American and not a Canadian.

Elder Morton Popular

Perhaps one of the best known colored Canadians in Windsor and throughout the whole country is Elder C. L. Morton, pastor of the Church of God, who has broadcast over Radio Station CKLW for over 10 years. He has a large religious following of both races.

During his annual baptism services in the Detroit River on the Canadian side, thousands of persons come to Windsor by train, cars and chartered buses, from as far away as New York and Pennsylvania.

His broadcasts are heard twice weekly, Wednesdays, at 1:30 a.m., and Sundays at 3 p.m. Many white Canadians worship at Elder Morton's church. The Windsor Arena is used for services on the first Sunday in June to accommodate the big congregation—this is the annual baptismal day.

Among the colored physicians in Windsor, Dr. R. T. Chatters tops the list. His patients are both colored and white. You will find his waiting room full most of the time.

The leading dentist is Dr. B. Perry. He has the same type of clientele and in his waiting room as many whites sit as colored.

Yule Brightened by Council Work

WASHINGTON

The Essex County Civil Council's auxiliary devoted itself to spreading cheer to mark the Christmas holiday season.

Baskets were given to the needy, hospitals were given supplies and patients were entertained at parties and presented gifts.

Parties were given at Fuld Hall, St. Michael and Community Hospitals.

Serving on the program committee were Mrs. Meyer C. Ellenstein, chairman; Mrs. Kate Inge Fuller and Mrs. Rosamond Stewart Marrow.

The council, of which Mrs. Samuel Cooper is president, was organized with the purpose of "planting the seed of brotherhood throughout Union and Essex Counties" and fighting against poverty and spreading cheer in hospitals and among those who are despondent.

The membership of the women's auxiliary has more than 300 members of all races, and creeds. Meetings are held monthly at the Hotel Sheraton here.

Courtesy Week Marked by School

Charles Stewart and Doris Wood were elected by popular vote as the most courteous boy and girl in the Harvey Johnson Junior High School where Courtesy Week was sponsored recently by the Student Council.

Rules of courtesy were studied, class discussions were held, and special reports made by members of the council. A Good Manners Clinic was held for all class and school officers.

Grace Smith won the word building contest based on the week's slogan, "Always Be Courteous."

Student Day Climax

Student Day on Dec. 14 culminated the week's activities. Roosevelt Perry, president of the Student Council served as principal. Charles Stewart, vice-principal, and Jacqueline Johnson, secretary.

Miss Laura McDaniels is Student Council sponsor. Serving as student teachers were:

Doris Ricks, Mary McCullum, Evelyn Sewell, Sara Nichols, Lorine Hudson, Virginia Heath, Margaret Grandy, Shirley Ross, Cora Hopkins, Evelyn Jones, Ella worth Young, Charles Boone, Arthur Dixon, Prince House, Theodore Johnson, Rosa Brandon, Rudolph Horried, Cordel Caldwell, Minnie McGee, James Smallwood, James Moore, Sadie McGill, Shirley Brunson, Charles Jones, Wilbert Bell James White, Richard Dunn, Ida Woodlon, Ruth Hunter, Shirley Hardy.

Thelma McDonald, Bernice Jackson, Lilly Hamy, Lucinda Wallace Sylvia Smith, Silas Robinson, Annie Woods, Bertha Wilson, Evelyn Savage, Sylvia Dean, Vivian Ware, Madeline Mercer, Marlene Jones, Joseph Fleming, Laura Harris, Shirley Lawson, Eula Black man, Glenda Sharp, Constance Williams, Jean Houston, Richard Manning, Louis Miller, Hilda Lewis, Elworth Morris, Florence Boone, William Boone, Mary Nicholson and Robert Bradley.

Suspect in 8 Bad Check Deals Held

Bail totaling $4,000 was set Friday against Frank Jones, 42, of 1646 Fulton Ave., on eight charges of passing bad checks.

The man was arrested Thursday night on three of the charges by Officers Isador Gelass and Aanthony Cadden. Investigating the case further Sgt. William Vinup came up with five additional complaints against Jones.

Totaling some $300, the checks were passed from Oct. 30 to Dec. 19 upon automobile supply dealers for the purchase of various car supplies, it was said. Magistrate Thomas Fitzpatrick set bail at $500 on each charge.

Man, 38, Jailed for Scaring Girl

Identified by a 12-year-old child as the man who dragged her into an alley and flashed a long-handled sword, Walter Davis, 38, of 534 N. Calhoun St. was sentenced Friday, to 30 days in jail at Northwestern police court.

The child, visiting her aunt during the Christmas holidays, said she was walking to the mailbox when Davis, whom she does not know grabbed her near Calhoun St. Edmondson Ave., Thursday. The child said she broke away and ran.

Sword Found Under Bed

When her aunt summoned Officers Fred Fitzberger and Walter Costen, after observing the house Davis entered, they found a sword under the man's bed at his home.

Davis admitted that the sword belonged to him, but denied that he was the man who had grabbed the girl. Magistrate Thomas Fitzpatrick sentenced him.

Beauticians Make 10 Families' Yule Gay

CAMDEN —Ten needy families in this area were made happy on Christmas morning when members of Modern Beautic Unit 16, delivered baskets fo

More than 85 cans of food had been donated by members and friends who bought canned goods to each monthly meetings.

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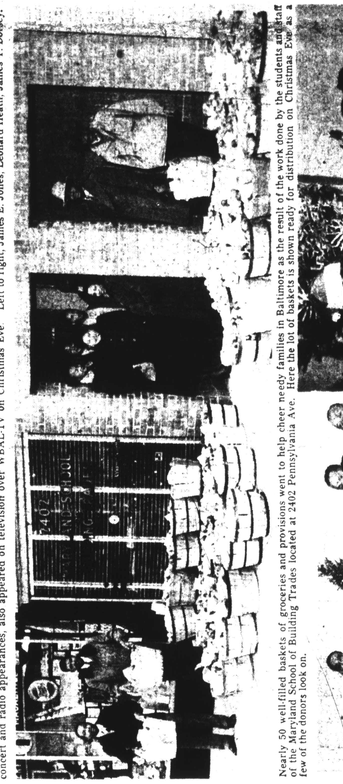
Christmas Was Like This—

The popular Baltimore Boys' Choir under the direction of W. Meredith H. Birche, is shown giving one of its effective renditions of Christmas carols at the Southern Parkway Pharmacy. The group also appeared on television over WBAL-TV on Christmas Eve.



Workers at Conoco Service Station, Pennsylvania Ave. and Druid Hill Ave., were busy on Christmas Eve as they served motorists. Left to right, James E. Jones, Leonard Heath, James T. Dorsey.

Nearly 50 well-filled baskets of groceries and provisions went to help cheer needy families in Baltimore as the result of the work done by the students and staff of the Maryland School of Building Trades located at 2402 Pennsylvania Ave. Here the lot of baskets is shown ready for distribution on Christmas Eve as a few of the donors look on.

The Southern Life Insurance Co. gave parties this year in Cherry Hill to supplement the joy of Christmas for children of needy families living in the area. Here Santa Claus, John Mahlon Oswell, Mrs. Edna Rawlings, Mrs. Alice Carroll, George Lotter, Howard E. Perry in the role of Santa at the Cherry Hill Parkway Pharmacy, distribute toys for the girls. Holding gaudiest of the gifts is Willard W. Allen, company president.

The Baltimore Afro-American January 1, 1949

The Ban Against Interracial Sports Was the Most Controversial Issue of 1948

Tennis Players Arrested En Masse

The most controversial civil rights issue in Baltimore during 1948 was the unwritten law prohibiting interracial sports as effected by some officials of the Department of Recreation and Parks.

With the suspension from city tennis courts of the interracial ball team known as the Fulton Park Aces

and the arrest in the mass arrest of 24 interracial tennis players, seven of whom were white, who had gone to spray together in an unlawful and riotous manner, the issue was joined and no assistance was in sight for a speedy settlement.

Park Board Takes Issue

The Park Board, which authorized the suspension, claimed it was not a school question because there is no written law or ordinance which establishes the ban as a matter of policy, the Board of Estimates ruled in January and has taken no further action on it.

Following the arrest of the tennis players, including members of the Baltimore Afro-American staff, and the Baltimore Tennis Club, protested on July 1 in Druid Hill Park, the Aces were ordered off the courts.

Three days earlier, officials of the Baltimore Tennis Club had secured an injunction against the suspension of the Aces, pending a school question.

Mr. Charles A. Hook, superintendent of parks, announcing to his subordinates the suspension of the Aces on Sunday morning, said he had taken the action on the advice of the Board of Estimates, which had received a communication from R. Brooke Maxwell, director of parks, quoting the following action taken by the Board of Estimates:

"That the policy of the Department of Recreation and Parks be adhered to in the matter of the Aces until further study by this board." The action was taken by the Board of Estimates after the board has voted against this policy.

Following the mass arrest the mixed matches were played on Sunday morning, July 4, under the direct supervisal of park police headed by Capt. Joseph Pitts. The matches were discontinued.

Instead of Arresting Station

Instead of leaving the courts, the players sat down in protest and when the police came they were arrested at Northern police station. The players were taken into custody on the scene, some being carried off by the police, and others were taken from the park in patrol wagons, when the police arrived at the scene in force.

The park discrimination case became nationally known when resolutions against the segregation were introduced by the Young Progressives party, that party's convention and the national convention at Philadelphia late last summer.

Instructed to discontinue the tennis games these young ladies sat on the courts while police hovered nearby.

Determined to remove this play from the tennis courts, one of the players takes up bodily the lady who is twisted behind his body.

After literally being carried off the tennis court, this player was charged with conspiracy to gather in a riotous manner to disturb the peace.

Dr. J. E. T. Camper, President of the Tennis Club, for Congress at the time witnessed the mass arrest of the interracial group of tennis players.

Disruption of the tennis matches attracted a crowd of 200 spectators, who hovered around the patrol wagon as the arrests were being effected and later followed the players to Northern police station.

The Baltimore Afro-American, January 1, 1949