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Lane Tells Frontiers Plans for New Cheltenham Stand

Making a surprise appearance before the Tuesday luncheon meeting of the Frontiers Club, Gov. William Preston Lane declared that plans for a new Cheltenham (Boys Village) have not been abandoned, but rather deferred for what he considers, "more pressing matters."

"It was not easy," the Governor said, "to decide what things shall be given priority. As I saw it, our mental hospitals were in greatest need, our tuberculosis sanitariums were in next greatest need and our schools came next."

Governor Lane pointed out that he estimates it will cost between four and five million dollars to rehabilitate Boys Village and that the State is presently spending funds to improve its present condition.

Baltimore Gets Biggest Slice

Approximately 24½ million dollars in State funds, he said, go to Baltimore City. Without this money, he continued, the tax rate on real property in Baltimore would be four dollars per hundred valuation.

As a result of State funds, more than 300 miles of streets have been paved in Baltimore and a loan fund for the counties totaling 50 million dollars has been set up to help these divisions of government maintain their credit rating.

The present school population, the Governor declared, is some 320,000 and in six or seven years that figure is expected to be increased by 115,000.

Lowered State expenditures for education, he pointed out have enabled Maryland to rise from the low 40's to almost second in the per capita expenditures for education.

Reviews His Record

The Governor took occasion to review his three and a half years in office and while he did not make a direct bid for re-election, he made it very clear that changing horses in midstream might not be a wise procedure.

He was introduced by Calvin Douglass, local attorney, who with Lloyd Randolph, Democratic leader, accompanied him to the luncheon in the Druid Hill Ave. branch YMCA.

Dr. Bernard Harris, president of the local chapter, reported briefly on the recent national convention at Atlantic City. He introduced P. J. Chessom, a member of Tidewater Chapter and high school principal of Norfolk, Va.

Edward N. Wilson, registrar at Morgan College, introduced Dr. William (Bill) Alexander, who has been empoved to handle the promotion of Morgan's athletic contests.

Governor Lane Visits Frontiers During Election Year

Having announced his candidacy for re-election, Gov. W. Preston Lane attended the Frontiers Club meeting, Tuesday, at the Druid Hill Ave. YMCA, and reviewed his service record as Maryland's Chief Executive. With him, left to right, are, Calvin Douglass, assistant city solicitor; Dr. Bernard Harris, president of the Frontiers, and P. J. Chesson of the Norfolk, Va. chapter.

(Henderson Photo)

Robinson to Run for Judicial Post

Julius P. Robinson, attorney, filed this week for election to the Supreme Bench of Baltimore.

Graduated at the age of 18 from the Law School of the University of Maryland, Mr. Robinson worked as a clerk in the drug store of his uncle at Greene and Franklin Sts. and attended school at night.

During the depression era, he served as counsel without salary for the Baltimore Federation of Labor.

Runs as Independent

Running as an independent, Mr. Robinson expressed the opinion that the city should be divided into judicial districts, with a judge being elected from each.

He ran once before for a seat on the Supreme Bench, but lost, although he received some 33,000 votes.

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AFRO Story

(Continued from page one)

he will study at Harvard on a Nieman Fellowship.

As a youngster he sold stories and articles to the AFRO, and in later years has had his works published in Kansas City Poetry Magazine, American Unity, Methodist Youth Magazine, Crisis, Opportunity, and scores of national newspapers.

In 1949 he won the Cleveland (Ohio) Newspaper Guild Award for outstanding reporting (expose of housing inequalities and high rents, resulting in $150,000 in over charges being returned to tenants). Last year he won the Wendell Willkie Award for a series of articles exposing inequalities in the public school system of Cleveland.

He was recently appointed to Cleveland's Community Relations Board representing the CIO Newspaper Guild.

Booker is a regular contributor to the magazine section of the AFRO, and his delightful stories have won him many friends through the nation.

James H. Hill, who was born on South Howard Street, Feb. 20, 1916, was graduated from the Douglass High School in 1934.

In 1933 he wrote the Douglass school song in collaboration with Meridity Birche who set it to music. In 1934 he conducted a teenage column for the AFRO, and one year later sold his first story to the AFRO magazine. In 1936 he wrote a series of short stories for McClure's Newspaper Syndicate.

He has written and sold more than 125 short stories to newspapers and magazines since 1934.

In 1944 he became the first colored news editor and assistant education director of CIO's Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers.

Hill has been living in Philadelphia since 1946, but he is still a regular contributor to the AFRO magazine. He specializes in Westerns and stories with historical background.

Both of these successful young Baltimoreans were inspired and encouraged to develop their literary talents by the regular reading of the AFRO. The editors of the anthology and the staff of the AFRO believe that "Best Short Stories by AFRO-AMERICAN Writers" will be an inspiration and encouragement to thousands of young and old readers throughout America.

Baltimore Plan Arouses Nation

(Continued from page one)

"Punishment, or the threat of punishment, is not the purpose of Housing Court. We attempt to educate tenants and landowners to their social responsibilities."

Offenders' Philosophy

As the presiding officer of the court which convenes each Tuesday, Magistrate Kruger lectures, listens, pleads, argues, and cajoles with people who consider themselves perfectly law abiding.

Many offenders argue that the condition of their homes is their own business.

Tenants feel that their only concern is paying the rent, and the landlords' only concern is to collect it. If a man wants to live in a hovel, they contend, let him stew in his own juice.

Slums Dent City Funds

The social philosophy of housing has changed. Magistrate Kruger counters, because the "mind your own business" attitude is costly to everyone.

About half of the city's income is spent upon the slums and slum dwellers. Every rat found in a dank cellar takes a $2 bite out of the municipal pocketbook.

Dissatisfied tenants, especially colored tenants, can seldom find another place to go. They have no other alternative than to make the most of their slum abode.

It is at this point that the Baltimore Plan functions.

How Plan Functions

Serving as an intermediary, the "plan" gives these unfortunates the alternative of making their slum habitable, and the landlord an opportunity to improve the value of his property.

Costs of improvements are eventually borne by increased rents which the tenant is usually glad to pay.

Thus, the plan serves as a stopgap until either private enterprise or government can provide the badly needed new housing.

4,000 Summonses Issued

Beyond moral considerations, the slums are expensive to all except a few landlords who profit from misery and despair. Literally slums are everybody's business.

This is the lesson that Magistrate Kruger has taught to some 4,215 people who have been haled into his Court.

These people have taught their friends and neighbors, and have also spread the word, that fines as high as $50 might be imposed upon violators.

Fine Is Last Resort

But the magistrate is reluctant to exercise his power to punish offenders.

He and his corps of 20 policemen and "sanitarians" of the Health Department attempt to give violators every effort to comply with the law before a fine is levied.

"A five or ten-dollar fine may deprive a man of his daily wage," the magistrate asserted.

Investigations by Blocks

The inspectors and police make impartial block-to-block investigations. When they see a breach of the housing code they issue a "note of compliance."

A reasonable time is given the offender to comply. If he fails to co-operate, a summons is issued. That's the way in which over 100,000 violations have been disposed.

Housing Court has systematized the "plan" which unwittingly began in 1941 when ordinances were passed establishing minimum housing and sanitary requirements.

With law as an exterminator, the Health Department started its block-to-block campaign in 1945 to clean up the city's worst sections.

Magistrate's Problems

Progress was slow because of the various interpretations by district magistrates of the health codes.

Drunks, petty thieves, vagrants, and wife beaters claimed the magistrates' attention.

Ironically, they were too lenient with those persons responsible for the housing conditions that breed crime.

Postponements were readily granted by the harassed jurists. Crafty defense lawyers could easily get dismissals for grateful clients.

Court 3 Years Old

In July, 1947, Housing Court was established in a big, dingy traffic court room in police headquarters.

Since its humble beginnings, reams of newspaper and magazine articles have been written about its benefits to the underprivileged of Baltimore.

Realtors Condemn Plan

Real estate interests have blown its worth all out of proportion to its actual accomplishments in an effort to forestall Federal aid to housing.

Other realtors, who have been fined for health violations, have damned the court as meddlesome and socialistic, i.e., contrary to the "freedom" of a landlord to extract whatever the rental traffic will bear from his tenants.

Cook Seeks Co-operation

The energetic, forthright G. BROWN BROWN BROWN Yates Cook, health law enforcement director, believes that there is an educational job that must be done among vested interests before the plan can be effective.

Rather than shun selfish elements, he solicits all people in the population to co-operate for better housing in Baltimore.

Mr. Cook, too, is primarily concerned with people. "I am interested in people first," he said, "and every approach in government that would aid the people."

Surface Just Scratched

"We have just begun to scratch the surface," the director proclaimed, refusing to acknowledge the vast success that has been attributed to the Baltimore Plan.

Mr. Cook is too much concerned with the job to be done to indulge himself in self-backslapping.

He is concerned with the children who come from homes that make them delinquent, and with the generations of families who have yet to know the self-respect that a clean shirt gives a man.

Both Baltimore planners want new, low-cost housing, and hope that their program will educate people to appreciate new housing when it comes.

Meanwhile, young Housing Court goes about a clean-up job that will only end when the slum is lifted from the conscience of a city.

Masons Praise 24th Infantry

Members of the 24th Infantry Regiment of the 25th Division, now fighting in Korea, were cited in a resolution of Knights Templars at the supreme session of the AF & AM Masons at Houston, Tex., recently.

The resolution said in part: "As a result of the resourcefulness and undaunted spirit of our colored brethren, the United States has won its first decisive victory over its opponents n Korea.

Marylanders Attend

Among the 2,000 Masons and Eastern Star members who attended the six-day session were 14 from Maryland. They were:

Clarence Wyroff, grand master; John H. Thornton, deputy grand master; Samuel M. Bunn, senior warden; L. E. Hicks, junior warden; and Isaac Hardy, grand tiler, who represented the Hiram Grand Lodge of Baltimore.

Mrs. Clara Bens, grand matron; Miss Helen Benton, associate grand matron; Miss Mary Clayton, grand secretary; Mrs. Mattie C. Heath, Miss Carrie Saunders, Miss Georgia V. Perry, and Mrs. Lyman Payne, who represented Naomi Grand Chapter of Eastern Star.

Also in the Maryland delegation were U. E. Carroll of the John G. Jones Consistory, and Mrs. Louis Burks, supreme royal grand matron of Eastern Star.

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Rev. Holmes

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Man Breaks Neck in Dive at Beach

A dive into shallow water by a 35-year-old Virginian at Sparrow's Beach, Sunday, resulted in a broken neck. His condition is described as "satisfactory" at the Anne Arundel General Hospital.

Head lifeguard, Calvin Brown, said the victim, Willard Fuller of Richmond, was making a running dive into the water when he apparently miscalculated the depth of an incoming wave. He dove into about a foot of water.

Fuller was conscious but paralyzed when taken to the hospital. His condition was first considered as "rather serious."

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Social Security Bill Periled

Knowland Amendment Would Vitiate Law

WASHINGTON

Local citizens viewed with alarm this week, the "States Rights" amendment added by Sen. William F. Knowland (Dem., Calif.) to the Social Security expansion bill, HR 6,000.

Approved by House-Senate conferees on Tuesday, the bill is to be voted on in the House, today (Friday).

As amended, it gives a free hand to local State administration — a feature which will be especially pernicious in the Southern States, where members of the colored race who should benefit by the bill's provisions will be at the mercy of prejudiced local Dixiecrats.

Ups Recipients 9 Million

HR 6,000 brings into the Social Security system for the first time about two million domestics and farm workers, as well as some 7,000,000 other workers. It also increases retirement benefits.

With the Knowland amendment, however, it would be virtually impossible for the Secretary of Labor to enforce the Federal standards required in State Unemployment Insurance laws.

A State might be denying benefits to hundreds or thousands of workers, contrary to the Federal labor standards, but nothing could be done about this for months or years until appeals had gone through the courts.

What would this mean to minority members below the Mason-Dixon line can be easily imagined.

According to the labor standards, a State cannot deny benefits to a worker if he refuses an offer of work because:

(1) A labor dispute is in progress, (2) the hours, wages, or conditions of work are substantially below those prevailing in the community, or (3) because he would be required to resign from or refrain from joining a bona fide labor organization.

Bad Features Listed

The undesirable features of the Knowland amendment are as follows:

First, the Secretary of Labor could not raise any question about a State's failure to keep these standards — unless the State changed its law by legislative amendment.

If the State changed the meaning of its law through regulations or interpretations, the Secretary would be helpless to call the State to account.

Secondly, the Secretary of Labor could not raise any question as to whether the State was conforming or not until an objectionable application or interpretation of the State law had gone through all administrative and judicial reviews provided by the State law.

90-Day Lapse Provided

Thirdly, any finding by the Secretary of Labor that a State was "not conforming" would not take effect until 90 days after such finding.

And fourthly, the Secretary of Labor would be prohibited from withholding administrative funds from a State which had denied benefits to workers entitled to benefits until the question of entitlement had been decided by the highest State court.

The Knowland amendment was introduced on the Senate floor without any hearings and was not considered at all by the House, but was accepted by its conferees in the conference on HR 6,000.

High Mass Sung for Mrs. R. B. Lacy

WASHINGTON

Funeral services were held this morning (Friday) for Mrs. Rosa B. Lacy, long-time resident of this city and well-known worker in Catholic Charities.

Burial rites were preceded by singing of solemn requiem high mass at St. Augustus Church. Interment was in Mt. Olivet Cemetery. Sodality prayers were held at 8 p.m. on Thursday at her residence, 1222 Kenyon St., N.W.

Mrs. Lacy, 81 years of age at her death, was the mother of Mrs. Evelyn L. Hunton, principal at B. K. Bruce School; Mrs. Rosina L. Hove, teacher at Logan School; Erskine H. Lacy, government worker, and Sam Lacy, sports editor of the AFRO-AMERICAN Newspapers.

Death on Monday afternoon was the aftermath of a prolonged illness which had kept her confined for approximately three years. She had lain in a coma for nine days prior to Thursday.

Mrs. Lacy was the widow of Samuel E. Lacy, who died in April, 1948.

For many years she had been active in the affairs of her church and a short time before her death had relinquished the presidency of the Cardinal Gibbons Charity Club, a society founded at St. Augustus, 11 years ago.

Surviving in addition to her four children are a sister, Miss Rachel Bell; three grandsons, Maj. Benjamin L. Hunton, Lt. Ramon R. Hunton, and Samuel H. Lacy; a son-in-law and two daughters-in-law.

Bynum Promoted in Rank to Captain

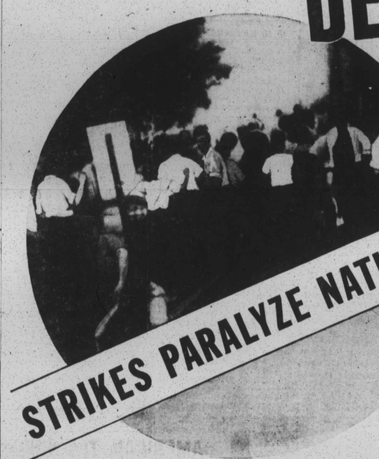
WASHINGTON

Former Lieutenant Rolin Bynum, a National Defense public relations officer in the Pentagon, has been promoted to captain.

Captain Bynum hails from Montclair, N.J., and was formerly a member of the 477th Bomber Squadron and 332nd Fighter Group serving under Col. B. O. Davis Jr., at Lockbourne Air Force Base, now inactivated. He has been a lieutenant since March of 1943.

Captain Bynum, an Air Force officer, has been stationed in the Pentagon for about two years in the Public Information Section. He is married to Mrs. Lois Bynum and has one child, Patricia. The Bynums reside at 2401 Shannon Pl., S.E.

WORLD HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMP DEFEATS ENGLISHMAN



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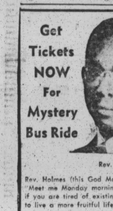

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My Slogan for the 1950 Colts is ....
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