—Frisco ashamed

(Continued from Page 1)

I'm not mad about it now.

"I figure every guy has his own problems and he's got to

WILLIE MAYS

lick them for himself. If the neighbors don't want you what's the use of buying?"

Mrs. Mays evidenced obvious anger as she fired: "Down in Alabama where Willie comes from one knows where his 'place' is and that's something at least. But up here it's a lot of camouflague. They grin in your face and then deceive you."

THE STAR of the New San Francisco Baseball Giants, Willie Mays, may be able to buy the $37,500 house he wants in San Francisco, after all.

It now is reported that the home owner has changed his mind and agreed to sell the property in an all-white neighborhood to Willie and Mrs. Mays.

The owner's wife, Mrs. Walter Gnesdiloff, says they will know shortly whether they will sell to Mays.

BEFORE THIS new report, Mayor George Christopher had invited the ball player to bring his wife and stay at the Christopher home until they find a place to live.

The mayor acted after Mays had run into a racial squeeze play — the owner deciding not to sell to Mays because of what he called pressure from neighbors and business interests.

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THE SURVIVORS—Shown are the remaining members of the Bennett family. From left to right they are Henry Bennett, holding the three-month-old baby Bonita, Henry, Jr., 7, Mrs. Mathilda Bennett and Barbara, 8. The fire left the Bennetts homeless.

—Mom grieves

(Continued from Page 1)

ing room was in flames.

"The children were asleep, together in the back room. Jackie and Beverly were in the bed near the window," he recalled.

In the darkness Mr. Bennett said that he fumbled for the light switch but failed to find it. The family then made its way to safety, but not Jackie and Beverly.

"I thought my wife had the two children," Mr. Bennett said, "and she thought I had them."

Simply and sadly Mr. Bennett recalled his wife's reaction when she learned that the children were still in the house:

"She just screamed."

* * *

BATHED IN the glow of the fire, the parents stood outside helpless while inside the building the lives of their children slipped away.

Finally the flames were beaten back and firemen were able to enter the building and bring the lifeless bodies out.

Jackie and Beverly were pronounced dead on arrival at Franklin Square Hospital. Mrs. Bennett was treated there for minor burns of the left hand and hysteria.

The two older children, Henry Jr., 7, and Barbara, 8, the baby, Bonita, three months, and the father, escaped without injury.

Mr. Bennet spoke of the tragedy in a low, unbroken voice as if to assure his wife of the strength he offered as her support.

Under the weight of her sorrow she sat with her head lowered.

"She hasn't eaten much," said her husband sadly.

WITH THE three remaining children to care for, the Bennetts have little to work with: Everything they owned was destroyed by the rasping fire which a neighbor said looked like a torch.

Mr. Bennett is from South Carolina, his wife, from North Carolina. They met here in Baltimore 11 years ago and they married.

In the years of their life together, the Bennetts managed to accumulate many things that they have no more.

"I just bought a dining room set six months ago," said Mr. Bennett and explained that this completed the furnishings of his home for the family.

The only thing salvaged from the charred shell that was once their home was the kitchen table — the metal couldn't burn.

* * *

MR. BENNETT is a porter for a chain of restaurants in Baltimore. He has been reliefman there for three months.

Funeral services for the two Bennett children will be held from a funeral home at 322 N. Schroeder St. at 11 a.m. Saturday.

—'Roaring furnace'

(Continued from Page 1)

for one of her sons.

Thomas F. Potter, fire chief, 16th battalion, said the one-alarm fire apparently started in the kitchen then swept through the building.

"The wole thing was a roaring furnace when we got here," he said.

"We found one of the boys, the largest one, lying on the floor of the second floor front bedroom and the other on a sofa downstairs."

The side of the two family unit where the Greens lived appeared to be a total loss.

Mr. and Mrs. William F. Middleton, of 3325, the adjoining unit, said they could probably save about two rooms of furniture.

This was the second time this week that fire had claimed the lives of two children. Monday, two children of Mr. and Mrs. Clinton Bennett perished in a fire at 2553 McHenry St.

MR. MIDDLETON, 36-year-old lift truck operator, said the fire was about under control when he arrived home.

His wife, Mrs. Josephine Middleton, told the AFRO, "I smelled smoke on my side and ran out. I was not dressed or anything to go call the fire department but I called to someone else to call."

Mrs. Flanagan said she looked out the school window across a field and saw the fire about 10:15 and told a secretary to call the fire department.

"For a while there was nothing but smoke, then it flamed up," she said.

JOSHUA GROSS, 36, a disabled veteran who lives two doors away at 3321 Sun St., helped hold the hysterical mother.

"I was washing some clothes when I looked out and it seemed real dark and cloudy like. I ran out and found smoke was coming from all the doors and windows. You couldn't get in the house.

"Elizabeth was out in the front. I had to help hold her. She wanted to go in there but we couldn't let her, there was too much fire," Mr. Gross said.

Another son of Mrs. Green's, five-year-old Joseph, was not at home at the time of the fire. Later he was sent to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Rufus Harris, 1514 Chesapeake, where a relative picked him up.

MRS. HARRIS said she and her husband were sitting at a table when they noticed the smoke and ran over. She said her husband kicked in a side door but there was too much fire to get in.

Mrs. Harris said Mrs. Green, whom she said lived along with her children, had moved to the 3327 Sun tddress about three weeks ago from the Fairfield Projects.

Mrs. Minnie V. McGorings, at Robert McGorings' Confectionary Store, 1500 Chesapeake, expressed the concern of many of the neighbors:

"I heard the crowd coming and ran out back and saw the smoke and the flames just a leaping. I ran back and called the fire department. It really frightened me. I told the operator it was so close to our place. It was a big fire, too."

Another who sw Mrs. Green being restrained was Miss Gloria Shirley, 23-year-old waitress at Marty's Tavern.

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—'Coffee Death'

(Continued from Page 1)

first and second degree burns over about 25 percent of his body.

Mr. Wiggins, who was twice arrested at his home, 1821 Little Walsh St., in connection with the burning, was released from custody Tuesday after police said an investigation showed the death was accidental.

MR. WIGGINS, a 33-year-old brick mason's helper at Sparrows Point, was first arrested by Northwestern District police Sunday and released Monday morning.

Affer the baby died at 5:47 p.m. Monday he was again taken into custody and freed late Tuesday.

The Wiggins have three other sons, Alphonso, 5; Albert Lee, 3, and Eugene, 2.

They have resided in Baltimore about three years after coming here from Raleigh, N.C.

Mrs. Wiggins said the incident occurred this way:

"My husband had gone to Emmett St. to pick up his brothers Lester and Arnelle who were here from New York. They wanted some coffee when they came in."

"I was busy dressing the other three youngsters and told him to wait a little bit but he went ahead and made the coffee himself.

"The coffee pot I have doesn't have a handle on it, just a little end.

"Roy was coming through the bed room with two cups and the coffee.

"The baby was on the edge of the bed. When he saw his father coming he started crawling toward the edge."

Mrs. Wiggins said her husband dropped the cups and in trying to catch the baby while holding onto the coffee pot, dropped the pot onto the bed.

"I ran to him (the baby) and picked him up. My husband told me to wrap him up and let's take him to the hospital. I didn't realize he'd got burned that bad," she said.

MRS. WIGGINS said her husband had just got up Sunday when he went to pick up his brothers.

Police said when they first attempted to question Mr. Wiggins he was in such state that interrogation was impossible.

Mrs. Wiggins said, "I know he was all broken up over accident."

Funeral services for the infant were held Wednesday.

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Simmons elected to Toledo council

TOLEDO, Ohio (ANP) — James B. Simmons Jr. last week was re-elected to the Toledo City Council for the sixth time, finishing fourth in a field of 18 for nine seats.

Making his most impressive showing since popular voting was returned in 1951 Simmons polled a total of 52,845 votes. His previous high was 45,474 in 1955 when he finished fifth.

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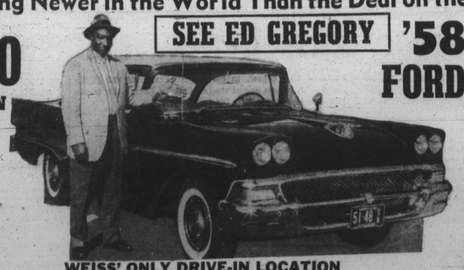

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