—Rat-bite baby

(Continued from Page 1)

tive by marriage.

The baby's mother, Mrs. Ida Manns, 18, her other two-year-old child, and eight brothers and sisters, ranging in age from 8 months to 16 years, live with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Manns, (Pauline) at the Bruce St. house.

When the baby was found, Mrs. Manns told the AFRO:

"As soon as I saw the baby's face, I knew the rats had been eating on her . . . and I knew she was dead."

The baby's makeshift crib was a bureau drawer placed alongside of a bed used by her mother.

* * *

THE BRUCE ST. house, where the family lives, has four bedrooms, a kitchen without gas, a living room and the toilet contains only a flush.

Mr. Manns is a disabled World War II Navy veteran. His family receives aid from the Department of Public Welfare.

Police Sgt. Violet Hill Whyte told the AFRO Thursday that she had requested the Housing Authority to find emergency quarters for Mr. Manns, his wife and seven of their children who are minors.

A 16-year-old daughter is to move with one older married sister. The mother of the dead child is to move, with her remaining child, with another married sister.

* * *

MEANWHILE, Melvin Gerger, vice president of the Public Realty Co., 220 E. Lexington St., whose company owns the house and several nearby, has had workmen repairing the house and cementing rat holes since the AFRO story appeared on Tuesday.

He told the AFRO that he had never received any complaints from the family about rats in the house.

"I knew the house was in poor condition," Mr. Gerger said, "but we couldn't do too much work there because of the large family. We have fixed all of our other houses in that block.

* * *

"WHAT WE have been trying to do is find a suitable house to relocate this family and then do some work on the house. This has been difficult because it's not easy to find a house large enough for them," Mr. Gerger added.

Mrs. Manns (Pauline), told the AFRO she had complained to her landlord six months ago, after she had been bitten on the finger while she was asleep.

The Rodent Division of the Health Department called into the case by Police Sgt. Whyte.

A spokesman in that office said on Monday, no complaints of rats have come from that particular street since 1951.

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"SKIN-SUCCESS"
ANTISEPTIC OINTMENT

BURIED — Veronica Mills, six months old, shows ravages of rat bites.

"Lonely man . .,"

(Continued from Page 1)

reminder of his ordeal.

Ironically, the last thing he remembers prior to the blackout was being in Farmville with his wife, Eliza, and their children, Robert, Joe Louis, Theresa, Charles and Steve.

Was he preparing to move them from a modest farm surrounding to better opportunities in Baltimore? This question hurts Mr. Coles because he does not know.

His next recollection was being in an automobile on Pratt St. nearly two months later en route to Crownsville.

Mr. Coles said he could not recall his wife and other relatives visiting him during this period as he hovered between life and death at Johns Hopkins Hospital, where he underwent two operations.

* * *

SUMMING UP his plight, Mr. Coles said:

"The whole thing is a mystery to me and a mystery to everybody else."

But it is no mystery that a man was arrested and charged with assaulting Mr. Coles.

The accused was identified in court documents as James T. (Beau Jack) Wilson, 32, whose address was listed in the 400 block Wolfe St.

Mr. Wilson was released under $1,000 bail, the papers indicated, on June 5.

On June 25 he appeared before Judge E. Paul Mason for criminal arraignment and entered a plea of guilty to the assault charge.

At this point, James Gentry, assistant State's attorney, told the court:

"We are not ready to dispose of it because he would like to have the medical report of the victim.

"The victim was left unconscious for some days and has subsequently been sent to the hospital in a serious condition. We would like to have the complete information as to the medical report."

Judge Mason then instructed Francis X. Donovan, court clerk, to change the plea to not guilty, and Mr. Wilson was allowed to remain free on bail.

The case against Mr. Wilson was scheduled for trial on Sept. 21.

At that time the State stetted the charge, thereby temporarily closed the books on the case because the prosecuting witness was still confined to Crownsville.

GROPING FOR an explanation of the attack, Mr. Coles told a reporter:

"I'm 31 years old and I never had a misunderstanding at all, so why would I start anything on that night."

Frustrated after five months of trying to fill in the blank spaces, Mr. Coles went to Milton Allen, attorney, last Saturday for help.

Sympathetic to the man's story, Mr. Allen is trying to help him put the pieces together.

* * *

THIS IS the present dilemma Mr. Coles finds himself in:

He is unable to work and support his family, still living in Virginia.

His only income now is money from the Department of Public Welfare.

He is frustrated by his inability to learn the details of almost two months of his life.

And he owes a big bill to Johns Hopkins Hospital, where he is still undergoing treatment to recover his physical strength.

These are his troubles. Somewhere in the deep recesses of a blank memory there may be a solution to some of them.

Can anyone help him, this man who says softly:

"I'm just a lonely man in a world of trouble."

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"The firemen had to take all five of us through the window and down the ladder.

"There was so much smoke I could's see a thing."

That is what Miss Mae Francis Brown said Thursday about an early morning fire which forced tenants in a three-story apartment building at 111 W. 23rd St., to flee for their lives Wednesday.

Firemen rescued two women and three children after a bed in the second-floor apartment of Mrs. Corrine Cook caught fire.

Among those rescued were: Miss Brown, her sister, Mrs. Elnora Dickerson, 25; her three children, Edna, 6; Shirley, 7, and Florence Dickerson, 4.

Mrs. Cook and Harold (Pappy) Michie walked to safety when smoke filled the apartment building around 3 a.m.

Mr. Michie told firemen he was sleeping when the fire started, and an oil lamp was left burning when he went to bed.

TO SPEAK AT MORGAN

The Hon. Victor Andrade, Bolivian Ambassador to the United States, will speak at Morgan State College Wednesday, April 17, 10 a.m., in the E. P. Hurt Gymnasium.

The meeting is open to the public.

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