The AFRO-American

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By John H. Murphy Sr.—1840-1922
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"We are Americans and as Americans we would speak to America." Frederick Douglass

Magistrate Dempsey's statement is right

In the past ten days, we have been treated to a good bit of hurrah about the case of one Vincent Holden, Cherry Hill mechanic, whom police charged with 17 traffic violations.

His attorney, former Traffic Court Magistrate Stanley Scherr charged the accusations were "trumped up." After trial before Chief Traffic Court Magistrate Thomas F. Dempsey, Holden was found not guilty.

Magistrate Dempsey said he dismissed the charges because:

1. He was not convinced by police testimony that the accused committed all the 17 violations charged to him.

2. This and the defendant's convincing denials and his statement of police conduct during the arrest had a truer ring.

What we have here is an exception—here is a magistrate who says the police are not always right and a citizen's word holds as much weight in his court as the policeman's.

Since the case came to public light, there have been inferences that Magistrate Dempsey acted improperly and/or was influenced in making his decision.

And, we have the police, determined to be absolved, dragging out the defendant's prior driving record.

The investigation continues this week. But we are impressed by the statement Magistrate Dempsey made when the case was first publicized. Said he.

"I would like to stress that the mere making of charges by a person in authority (police) does not automatically render any defendant guilty, regardless of his station in life.

"The ordinary citizen has definite rights and privileges, and those rights will be protected by the court regardless of the race, creed or economic status of those involved."

We think this is a forthright statement by a judge. We need more judges who will exercise their right to judge no matter who the prosecuting witnesses are.

Fight against Hepbron

In the last election Police Commissioner James Hepbron kept machine bosses from using private police in uniform from entering polling booths.

Machine bosses who sought to intimidate voters by using cameras to photograph voters in polling booths were thrown out.

On election day, police kept an eye on the crooks who usually sought to rig the voting machines or put them out of order temporarily.

Strict orders barred regular policemen in uniform from entering polling booths except at opening and closing time.

POLICEMEN were directed not to read the totals from the voting machine, but to leave the recording of the vote to the election judges.

The machine bosses who had ideas for officers regularly assigned to certain precinct polls were double crossed by Commissioner Hepbron at the last election.

The commissioner gave out his lineup of police assigned to precincts in advance. Then on election eve, he switched all of these police assignments.

Inspectors, captains, lieutenants and sergeants were all ordered on duty to insure an honest count of the vote.

THE POLITICAL boss is never pleased when honest police are looking over his shoulder on election day.

So the question is how much of the current campaign being waged against Commissioner Hepbron is political and machine inspired?

One thing we can safely say.

If the Non-Partisan tickets had been elected last November no charges would have been filed against Mr. Hepbron.

May we be pardoned?

Mr. Tucker Dearing, in an adjoining column, takes issue with our Dec. 27, 1958 editorial, "It Won't Happen Again."

That editorial reviewed what had been accomplished in Baltimore and Maryland through the brilliant efforts of NAACP legal counsel, but pointed up our regret that a New Yorker had to come here and file suit against roadside restaurant discrimination.

Actually, we neither meant nor implied any reflection on Mr. Dearing or any other lawyer.

They have done a beautiful job of opening public schools, parks, bathing beaches and other places of public recreation to all citizens.

If it hadn't been for Mrs. Juanita Mitchell, William Toadvine, Robert Watts, Linwood Koger and Tucker Dearing none of these victories would have been possible.

They carried the ball in all of these cases and we hope we can rely on them in the future.

But we still hope we can be pardoned for not filing that suit invoking the old English common law which required all roadside eating places, all taverns and inns, all hotels, to serve all well-behaved travelers regardless of race, creed or color.

THE AFRO'S CREDO

A newspaper exceeds because its management believes in itself, in God and in the present generation. It must always ask itself:

Whether it has kept the faith with the common people.

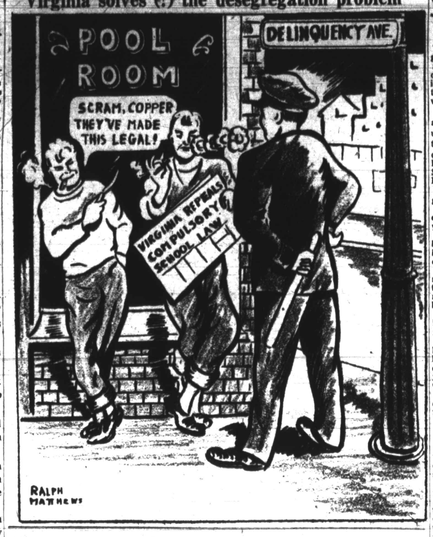
Whether it has no other goal except to see that their liberties are preserved and their future secured.

Whether it is fighting to get rid of slums, to provide jobs for everybody.

Whether it stays out of public except to expose corruption and misdeed, honors, even profane or sanctimonious.

—GEORGE MURPHY, SR., 1929

Virginia solves (?) the desegregation problem



We miss Harry

The Maryland Legislature is hardly two weeks old but already we are beginning to miss Harry—Harry Cole, that is.

Fourth District Senator Cole was defeated for re-election last year.

But every year from 1954 to 1958 when he was Senator Mr. Cole introduced a bill to ratify the 14th Amendment.

This is the amendment which guarantees citizenship rights to all and became law in 1868.

Maryland is also one of the states which refused to ratify the war amendments in 1870. Oregon was another state which refused ratification, but last year the Oregon Senators voted unanimously to ratify the 15th Amendment.

The sponsor of the bill said, "This is a token of our sincerity to the downtodden peoples of all of the Americas."

State action, the sponsor added, will strengthen the United States Commission on Civil Rights in its effort to guarantee the right of colored people to vote in the South."

Up to now, the Maryland Senate has voted down four Cole resolutions to ratify the 14th Amendment.

And to make matters worse, there is now no Senator Cole to keep ratification resolutions before the Maryland lawmakers.

No time to rest

In the closing registration days of last October, Womanpower registered 3,296 colored persons and an amazing total of 1,582 were registered on the final day.

On the eve of the councilmanic primaries scheduled for March, mobile registration units were set up throughout the city, during January.

Womanpower was not active.

The number of voters registered in the final days before the books were closed last week totalled only 1,516.

The total number of colored voters registered in the city when registration closed last fall was 101,771.

Today the number of qualified colored voters in Baltimore si 103,380.

LAST YEAR everyone connected with Womanpower and the NAACP Registration and Vote Campaign recognized the present worth of the ballot and its future potential.

Either all of the arguments used by Woman power and the NAACP's Registration and Vote Committee are valid today or they had no meaning last year.

The need for registration and the need to get out the vote in the councilmanic primary election is inescapable.

Nothing worthwhile cane be accomplished in one spurt. In a crusade for freedom nobody can afford to get tired.

Leadership in Baltimore is happily not confined to a few people.

If Womanpower and the NAACP's Registration and Vote leaders consider themselves on vacation, we hope new leadership will take up the work from here and go forward to victory.

An alarming statement

The new chairman of the National Conference of Christians and Jews, Maryland Region, is Dr. Lewis Webster Jones, former president of Rutgers University.

Dr. Jones is reported to have made the alarming statement that he doesn't believe the South can be reformed or coerced from the outside.

Whether he meant it or not his outburst sounded exactly like Governor Faubus and the White Citizens Councils, who have been saying the same thing over and over again since the Supreme Court's 1954 school decision.

It's the same states rights hogwash echoed by those who say the Supreme Court is not the interpreter of the Constitution and that the 14th Amendment doesn't apply to any Southern state unless it is first approved by the governor, the legislature and by a referendum of the voters.

It's the argument of those who say let's vote on whether we shall obey the law or not.

Sightseeing

By JAMES D. WILLIAMS

With all these investigations going on in our town, a wide awake citizen needs a scorecard just to keep up with who is investigating who, or should that be whom is investigating whom.

Well, let's not quibble about a little bit of English and leave us plunge ahead resolutely to this dissertation which could be subtitled: "Inside an Investigation" or "Things Were Slow Down at the Office So We Had An Investigation."

There are three important ingredients for an investigation.

First you need someone to do the investigating, secondly you need plenty of space in the newspapers and time on TV, because what's the use of having an investigation unless you can get some publicity.

Oh, and thirdly, you need somebody to investigate, but this is really a minor matter as you can always find somebody to investigate.

It is recommended that an investigator start out by making the wildest and the most implausable charges he can lay his little hands on, the theory being that the worse names you call a person the more publicity you can get and after all what's wrong with a little bit of publicity, especially if you're an elected official who has to run for office again.

BASED ON some of the investigations I have been privileged to witness, and I say "privileged" with a nasty sneer on my face, this is the way an ideal investigation should go.

The investigation has to be staged in a large enough room to accommodate the press and television people and the friend of the chairman who will cheer for the chairman and the person being investigated.

CHAIRMAN—Mr. Jones you are charged with conspiring to commit malfeasance, planning to overthrow the city administration, a heinous crime if I've ever heard one, accepting bribes, subscribing to the New Republic and using dirty words in mixed company. How do you plead, guilty or guilty?

MR. JONES—I want a lawyer.

CHAIRMAN—Why Mr. Jones, you don't need a lawyer. This is an honest and impartial hearing designed to get at the true facts before we hang you.

MR. JONES—But I didn't do nothing.

CHAIRMAN—That's for the members of this committee to decide and if you make another statement like that we'll charge you with trying to influence the committee.

* * *

THEN THE chairman should introduce the witness against the poor guy, and these witnesses should not be too difficult to find since you can always locate somebody who is quite willing to malign another person.

At selected points in the testimony the chairman should issue statements about what a man being investigated. The statements don't have to be true but they will make headlines and that's the main purpose for the investigation.

After the witnesses finish their testimony the chairman can recess the meeting before the poor slob has a chance to reply to the charges.

In a couple of months everybody will have forgotten the poor guy, who by this time has lost his job and the chairman who started the whole thing can point to the investigation as a victory for the ball.

Of course, no one will ever know whether the guy was innocent or guilty, but that's not important. It seldom is in these investigations.

Noteworthy

By HERBERT MANGRUM

While in the process of gathering news I was frequently chased, ignored, called vile names and have even had a shotgun pointed in my direction.

Until Wednesday, no one had ever laid a hand on me a writer, that is until a young woman took it upon herself to eject me from her northwest Baltimore home.

To add insult to injury, she pulled the caper after I had been cordially invited into the home by a relative who wanted to give me a story with a little information on a homicide.

The moment she saw me she turned into a tigress and told me to leave.

I didn't mind that, but when she grabbed hold of the dry goods before I could take a step, I figured that was taking things a bit far.

I never got angry however, because it tickled the h-- out of me to see her so excited.

I wonder if she knows the meaning of the word courtesy?

Readers Say

The Slack case

Dear AFRO:

I note with some great deal of concern an editorial which appeared in your paper on Dec. 27, 1958. The title of the editorial was "It Won't Happen Again."

In the editorial you seem to apologize for the failure of the NAACP in taking the initiative in filing in the Court a suit challenging the validity of the policy of restaurant owners in refusing service to colored persons because of their race.

This case challenging racial discrimination by the Atlantic White Tower System, Inc. was filed by Miss Slack through her attorney Charles P. Howard.

As one of the attorneys who has been very active with both the Baltimore Branch and the Maryland State Conference of NAACP Branches, I personally think we need make no apology.

In my short seven years with the NAACP I have personally participated in more than 16 different NAACP cases in Maryland. I have no available records of cases handled by other NAACP lawyers during this period.

I remember none in which we have not been successful. To mention a few we were successful in eliminating segregation in Public Parks, swimming pools and beaches in Maryland; we were successful in integrating schools in Cecil County, in Harford County, in St. Marys County, in Anne Arundel County, and in Charles County.

We eliminated segregation in some of the taverns in Baltimore City. We eliminated segregation on school buses both in Charles County and Howard County.

We eliminated segregation in the Coast Guards at Curtis Bay.

I have on my files a letter from the Howard Johnson Restaurant Corporation, guaranteeing service to all travellers in its restaurants regardless of race, creed or color.

* * *

I HAVE associated in these cases with Robert B. Watts, Linwood G. Koger Jr. and Juanita Jackson Mitchell, but the bulk of this work has been carried on by Mrs. Mitchell and your humble servant.

We receive nominal fees plus expenses from these cases. Mrs. Mitchell received no pay at all. We work hard and diligently in these cases.

We cannot solicit Civil Rights cases. Persons whose Civil Rights are violated must first make a complaint to the NAACP before we can enter the case. I am not aware of anyone who has ever made a complaint to the NAACP who did not receive some help.

Mrs. Lillie M. Jackson, the state president and also president of the Baltimore Branch as well as Dr. Carl Murphy, the chairman of the Legal Redress grievance committee would never refuse help to anyone making a bona-fide complaint.

I am not aware that Miss Slack sought the services of the NAACP in this particular case. She apparently sought the services of a private attorney as she had every right to so.

I make no comment upon the theories of the Slack Case, since it is a matter now before the court. I do know that the NAACP has made a powerful effort to persuade citizens to register and vote.

As a result of that effort we now have over 100,000 colored citizens registered to vote in the City of Baltimore as well as an increasing percentage throughout the State of Maryland.

If every colored citizen in the State of Maryland will register and vote we will be able to elect to office the type of citizens who will pass Civil Rights laws which will guarantee to all citizens regardless of race or color service in all restaurants and other privately owned places of public accommodation.

This will certainly be one solution to the type of case which Miss Slack has filed.

TUCKER R. DEARING

If You Ask Me

By B. M. PHILLIPS

People, places and things....

Happy birthday cards by February 8 to the Rev. Walter E. Paige, pastor of Faith Baptist Church. His address: 1521 Payson St.

February 10 hellos to Miss Theresa Weaver, city teacher of 1336 Druid Hill Ave.

Cards should be in the mail by February 13 for the Rev. Robert T. Newbold, pastor of Grace Presbyterian Church. His address: 829 N. Fremont Ave.

AME Churches throughout the city next week will celebrate the birthday of Bishop Richard Allen, founder, and first bishop of the church. He was born Feb. 14, 1760 and died in 1831.

Remember birthday cheer on or by February 15 to the AFRO's Cornbread Lady, Mrs. Fannie joe Reid, whose food column appears regularly in this newspaper. Her address: 1306 W. Lanvale St.

Also celebrating on February 15, Mrs. Marco Williams, wife of the Druid Health Center director. Your cards will reach her at 3413 Rosedale Rd.

* * *

It's number four for the Edward Exum family of 832 Whitmore Ave.

Mrs. Exum (Ruth), gave birth to Edward Jr. on Tuesday at Lutheran Hospital. Baby weighed in at 10 pounds, 9½ ounces.

And, he's the first boy for the family. Other three children are all girls, ages 3, 5, and 6. Mr. Exum is a seaman

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So - sorry - we - forgot your birthday cards to Mrs. Rosanna Hough, 3205 Carlisle Ave., who celebrated on February 3.

Also, belated birthday greetings to Mrs. Wilhelmina Cooper, 339 Bloom St. Her birthday was February 2.

* * *

Hellos to Mrs. Ivy Harris, Gilmor Homes management office, at Johns Hopkins Hospital, Brady 4. She underwent surgery on Thursday morning. Mrs. Harris is the wife of William (Boxy) Harris, U.S. marshal.

* * *

There was joy and sorrow in the Lawrence R. Tinson house: hold this week . . . so they need your prayers and cards. Their address: 1702 Rutland Ave.

On Sunday afternoon, their daughter, Arletta, was married at St. Francis Xavier Church, to Tilman Garnett, AFRO district circulation manager.

At 7:30 p.m. Sunday, their young son, Ronald Tinson Jr., 23-year-old Morgan senior, died in Johns Hopkins Hospital.

Death was due to a brain tumor. He leaves a wife, Rosie, and two small children.

* * *

Mr. and Mrs. Garrett Rawlings (Edna) were in St. Louis, Mo. for a meeting of the National Association of Hospitals and Homes of the Methodism Church.

Also attending from Baltimore: the Rev. C. S. Harper, and Mrs. Mattie D. Carter.

The Rev. Mr. Harper is superintendent of the N. M. Carroll Home here and Mr. Rawlings is president of the Carroll Home board.

* * *

Pleasant person met this week: Mrs. Hattie L. Janey, 1817 Presstman St.

She is the wife of Handy Janey, who conducts a produce stand. They have four sons, ages 22 months to 22 years. The family attends Mt. Calvary Baptist Church.

By the by, get birthday cards in the mail by February 9 for Mrs. Janey.

* * *

Coming up Sunday 3:30-7:30 p.m. at the Madison Avenue YWCA: a fashion show in flowers, sponsored by Summers Florist (1544 Pennsylvania Ave.). Mrs. Loretta Valentine is in charge, and predicts this will be a real show.

If you want instruction and ideas on how to arrange flowers for all occasions, you won't want to miss this show.

By the way—while Summers Florist still bears the name of the late William L. Summers, who founded it years ago, it is now owned and operated by Carl Norwood. Associated with him is Stuart Tulman.

And, another coincidence, after the death of Mr. Summers several years ago, his associate in the business conducted it for a while. He was the Harry Burrick, who died at a nursing home last week.

* * *

Frontiers at their Tuesday meeting voted to hold a night session soon to entertain wives of all chapter members and wives of deceased members.

At the meeting, the chapter will formulate plans to organize wives of members and wives of deceased members into an auxiliary.

Guests at Tuesday's Meeting, Colt Star Big Daddy Lipscomb and Oriole star Connie Johnson, who attracted largest crowd of the year. Johnson said they found out more about baseball and football than they ever knew before.

About this and that....

The James Woods (Biddy and Frankie) have pfft. The divorce suit is due in court any day now.

The Jesse Hughes (he's the postal worker, she's the nurse), have deserted Lafayette Avenue for parts west. They are in their new Forest Park home at 2624 Hillsdale Ave. across the golf course. There is plenty of room for the young sister (David Hughes) to play.

Word from Columbus, Ohio, tells of the birth there last week of a baby girl to Mr. and Mrs. Jack Howell.

Baby Weighed in at 7½ pounds, and has been named Cheryl.

Mrs. Howell is the former Cheryl Jenkins of N.C. The new baby is a cousin to the AFRO's Floyd Snowden.

* * *

LEROY HARDESTY is principal of the brand new school — Mt. Royal Elementary, at McMechen and John Sts.—which opened Monday morning. There are 17 teachers now, 26 expected by of September.

* * *

Graduation note: Hermione Hardin was the second ranking student in the February graduating class at Eastern High on Wednesday evening.

She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Luther Hardin, and granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Reckling Sr. Her grandpop was longtime Douglass High principal.

Miss Gertrude West, daughter of Mrs. Emma Jackson of Baltimore and Langston Stringer of Providence, R.I., were married here a Sunday ago at the Durham St. home of her mother.

The Rev. Samuel Redd, pastor of Mt. Ararat Baptist Church, officiated. David Wise was best man and Miss Gertrude West, maid of honor. Vicky Cosby was flower girl.

Among guests at the reception were: Messrs. and Mesdames James Harper, Norris, Leroy Williams, Jesse Cosby, Bennie Thomas, and Mesdames Mary Williams, Ardelia Gans, Laura Bates, Frances Austin and Miss Minnie Butler and Miss Emma Austin.

* * *

Howard University's holiday greetings sent out at Christmas is an attractive calendar with interesting pictures on each page along with the calendar requirements and other things for each month before and the month to follow, plus an interesting story about college activities.

Get one of the inside pages, a beautiful picture (by Scurlock) of President Mordecai Johnson and his entire family.

More people and things...

Do send cherry hellos and so-glad-you're-getting-well-greetings to 13-year-old Cassandra Cassell, at 718 N. Carrollton Ave.

She is the School No. 132 sixth grader who underwent a serious heart operation at Hopkins Hospital on January 8.

Her mother, Mrs. Elaine Bevans Cassell reports this week that her child's recovery was made possible because generous AFRO readers answered her plea for 23 pints of blood for the youngster (published in AFRO Jan. 10).

Orchids to the Third Armored Cavalry Regiment at Ft. Meade which led the blood donors.

* * *

Johns Hopkins Hospital this month begins using plastic wrist bands to identify all patients.

This means that shortly after a patient's admission, the medical records history room will stamp the patient's name and history number on a small card.

This card will be inserted into the clear plastic portion of the adjustable band.

After it is snapped on a patient's wrist it can be removed only by cutting it.

Note: the bands also will be placed on the legs of newborns, replacing the present system of head identification.

* * *

Friendly person met this week: Mrs. Melvin D. Fox (Willie Ruth) of 1409 N. Decker Ave. She—and her hubby, a Bethlehem Steel employee, and their five children—recently moved into Baltimore from the Fairfield area.

Oldest son, Melvin D. 3rd, was graduated from Benjamin Franklin Junior High in Brooklyn last week, and is now enrolled at Polytechnic Institute here.

Other Poltillo children are also school age: Willie is at Clifton Park Junior High. Patricia Ann, Linda, and David are at School No. 85.

By the by, now that they are residing in town, Mrs. Poltillo hopes to find time to have that long overdue reunion with her cousin, Mrs. Geneva Peters. They were neighbors, together in Texas. Mrs. Peters is the wife of Will R. Peters, education instructor at Morgan.

* * *

In manifolding Parks Sausage Co.'s new "flavor-seal" package wrapping last week, forgot to say that it was done by the new Kartridge-Pak machine installed in the Baltimore plant under the supervision of William Johnson.

It has an electronic control panel and Mr. Johnson went out to the manufacturer's to train in its operation. Supervisor in its operation is Paul Branch.

Mem of Parks Sausage: Otho Russell Ringgold recently joined the Baltimore office staff. William F. Ball is a new staffer in the Philly area.

Racial Attitudes Enter Hearing On Realty Firm

By MOSES J. NEWSON

Persistent efforts by the State Real Estate Commission failed to keep "blockbusting" and racial attitudes from taking a prominent place in its stormy, two - day hearing of complaints against a local realty firm.

Neither of these represents the issue to be decided in five cases in which the license of the Manning - Shaw Realty Company, 1837 Eutaw Pl., is at stake. There is no law against so-called "blockbusting."

What the state commission will have to decide in the first case, which took two days and some sharp exchanges among attorneys and witnesses, is whether the firm is guilty of fraud in the sale of a home at 3800 Grantley Rd.

THE COMPLAINANTS, Allen and Jeanette Kleiman of 3801 Grantley and Bernard and Dora Cherry of 3802 Grantley, represented by Melvin J. Sykes, charge a "Sold" sign was posted on the property when it was not sold to create panic among white homeowners.

Manning - Shaw's owners, Warren S. Shaw and Manuel M. Bernstein, represented by J. Calvin Carney, deny the charge. Mr. Carney counter claims that there is a conspiracy against his clients.

Members of the Real Estate Commission are Edward J. Dyas, chairman, MacGardiner and Ralph P. Ripley. Its executive secretary is W. G. Nicholson. Joseph S. Kaufman, assistant attorney general, is advising the commission.

Chairman Dyas announced Wednesday evening at the end of the hearing on the first of the five cases that the others would commence to be heard, one at a time, beginning at 10 a.m. on Feb. 24.

Because of the volume of testimony in the case it was considered unlikely that a decision would be made before the other cases are under way or completed.

* * *

RACIAL ATTITUDES cropped up on the first day when it was disclosed that Mr Sykes had been quoted in a national magazine on the "blockbusting" situation in Baltimore.

Commission members strived to cut off questions and testimony obviously dealing strictly with racial attitudes.

In this article the attorney is quoted as saying "It's a pretty frightening thing when you look down your street and all you can see are those flamin- signs that say Sold - Sold - Sold."

He says in the story that in the Ashburton area, whites have joined with some colored homeowners to undertake a campaign aimed at luring white buyers.

"We're going after white buyers only. Frankly, it's a quota system, and our colored neighbors go along with this as the best way to preserve property values in view of community attitudes" he is quoted.

Many of the witnesses in the case were members of the Ashburton Area (Improvement) Association which is predominantly white. The area also has a New Ashburton Improvement Association which is predominantly colored.

* * *

JOSEPH J. CARTER and his wife Marie, who were residing at 2331 Madison Ave at the time and also had two other houses, are the persons to whom George Straughn of Manning - Shaw contracted to sell the home on June 19, 1958.

That is the sale date on which the "Sold" sign appeared on the property.

Mr. Sykes sought to show through witnesses that the first contract is contingent upon a financial credit approval and a "Sold" sign should not be posted until after this approval.

* * *

HOWEVER, it was brought out that once a prospective buyer is screened to the extent that he can get the first contract, the "Sold" sign is generally posted, both in the belief the property is sold and to keep the owners from further bother by other prospective buyers.

The same home which the Carters were supposed to buy, was later shown to David F. Riddick of Turner Station, who is a $100 a week night manager of the Fulton Tavern. Fulton and Baker, which is operated by Mrs. Bernard Turk, 3400 block Dennlyn Rd.

Mrs. Turk, who is secretary of the Ashburton Area Association, testified her husband had asked Mr. Reddick if he was interested in the Grantley Rd. place. She later said Mr. Riddick was sent to see if the place was actually sold.

Mr Carney insisted Mr. Riddick was not a bona fide prospective buyer as he testified and stated he was merely used as a "tool" in the "conspiracy against my clients."

Mr. Carter testified concerning the $18,000 house he said he and his wife had a total weekly income of about $100.

Mr. Sykes sought to show that normal screening of the Carters would have resulted in the decision that they could not afford the home. He called Sgt. Violet Hill Whyte of the Northwestern Police District to testify she lattr visited the family and found them to be hard put to make ends meet.

* * *

ANSWERING THE screening question, Mr. Shaw said that when Mr Carter came to him he was selling three houses and offering to pay approximately one - third down.

Though this figure was later reduced, Mr. Shaw pointed out that because of the other homes, the firm had sufficient collateral interest so as to eliminate the risk angle if the man's credit later proved not so good as it was set forth to be.

Where sufficient money is put up to eliminate the financial risk, he said, the initial credit screening is not generally so strict among any realty firm.

The home at 3800 Grantley was shown to Mr. Hildale, after August 27, 1958, subsequent to a discussion with Mr. and Mrs. Carter when a question of their being able to complete financial arrangments developed, Mr. Shaw said.

There were also charges that Mr. Bernstein fraudulently received his license by answering "no" to a question on whether he had been convicted of crimes in a five-year-period.

Mr. Carney said Mr. Bernstein was cleared of this charge in a 1957 hearing before the commission which ruled the five - year period was up when the license was issued.

* * *

ALSO Mr. Carny said the laws of the real estate board refer to convictions in State Courts rather than Federal Courts as was the Bernstein case.

The first day's hearing saw an explosive exchange between Carney and Mr. Gardiner, a member of the commission, when Mr. Gardiner followed a line of questioning Mr. Carney had objected to and the attorney called his conduct "indecent."

He later apologized, saying he meant no reflection on the commissioner. Mr. Gardiger said the apology was not necessary.

Mrs. Ella Heller, a real estate broker, who was formerly associated with Manning-Shaw, testified that they would put up "Sold" signs before the financial approval was granted, some of the first payments did not meet FHA or VA requirements and other things.

But under questioning she testified "I can't recall a case" where Manning-Shaw got a contract signed when the financial requirements of FHA or VA were met nor on the other things. "I lost track of them all," she said.

At one point, on a property in the 3000 block Federal St., Mr. Carney declared she had "doubled - crossed Manning-Shaw for $100" by selling the place to another customer. She replied, "If you want to call it that."

She said she broke off the relationship which she testified was the best arrangement she ever had, because of dispute with the company. Mr. Shaw said the relationship was ended because of complaints received regarding her activities. Complaints, he said, included a loan from an official of the commission, suggesting her activities be curbed.

DURING round-about questioning of another witness, Mr. Gardiner reminded the participants what the hearing was about.

* * *

"What we want to know is if there was any fraudulent purpose in putting up the (Sold) sign."

He noted that until just recently the placing of such signs by realtors "was an accepted practice."

When the witness referred to a place that once bore a Manning-Shaw "Sold" sign but was still empty, Mr. Carney asserted:

"I think this is a fitting example of how his clients are being misharged."

He said the property in question was closed on July 1957 and the buyer, for some reason or other, has been unable to occupy the place.

Harry Ashman, after some objection was permitted to introduce figures on large sheets which were introduced to show where the Manning - Shaw sales are concentrated.

When Mr. Ashman said he had been paid nothing to work up the figures and expected no pay, Mr. Carney pursued a line of questioning aimed at developing a possible motivation.

"Unless Harry is richer than I think he is" he said, "I don't see how he can do it for nothing."

Mr. Ashman said he lived on Alto Rd. and added:

"I live in the area. It is a changing neighborhood. We have been in the area since about 1923. If the area breaks too much, we will have to move."

Asked why, he started to reply: "Because you can't raise a family in that general area with that type of . . ."

When Mr. Carney questioned, "who said you can't," the reply was "well, you can if you want to."

The defense attorney said "This just goes to show how desperate they are."

* * *

A POLICE OFFICER was called upon by Mr. Sykes to produce some housing citations against Manning-Shaw.

These included such things as failing to remove trash, dirt and debris, and refuse.

After another squabble about the posting of "Sold" signs Mr. Gardiner again reminded that they had been used for a long time to aid in sales.

Mr. Carney said the only findings that another witness, Mrs. Helen Dietrich, a broker, had with Manning-Shaw was her refusal to let them sell a Federal St. property to a colored family. She was dismissed.

But she came bristling back to the chair saying, "That is an outright lie." Then she stalked from the hearing room.

A racial covenant was involved and when she took Manning-Shaw before the Commission the Commissioners complimented Manning - Shaw for refusing to handle it her way.

Malcolm Sherman, a realtor, now a regional vice president of the real estate unit and formerly and still holds important local offices, testified it was a uniform practice for realty firms to place a "Sold" sign after the initial contract was obtained.

"This has been the practice," he said. He denied that it was a violation of policy with which FHA or VA had approved financial arrangements to post the "Sold" sign.

A number of local businessmen in the real estate and mortgage field took the stand to testify as to the good reputation of the Manning - Shaw Company and to express their belief they are desirous of continuing relations with the firm.

THESE INCLUDED:

John M. Deponai, vice president of Central Savings Bank; Hugh Gamble, vice president of Weaver Brothers Corp. mortgage banker for the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. of Maryland, and Carroll Fitzsimmons, representative of the Royal Oak Building and Loan Association.

Also, Sidney Needle, attorney, representing the Calvert Building Loan Association; J. David Lassahn, president of the Blair Rd. Read Building Loan Association; and Arthur A. Odaco, secretary of the Royal Building Loan Association.

Carl Heinmuller Jr., former president of the Real Estate Board of Baltimore, testified that to his mind the contract in question was a bona fide transaction.

The hearing recessed for 20 minutes in the evening to await Mrs. Turf, who had been summoned to appear.

She testified that she did not know how a canceled check and statement belonging to Manning-Shaw was photostated after it came to her place by mistake.

Mr. Sykes revealed that her husband turned them over to him and he had the copies made.

In response to questions she testified that all four of the complainants in the case are members of the Ashburton Area Association of which she is secretary.

She said she did not know that Mr. Reddick, her tavern's night manager, had been to see the Grantley Rd. home, after her husband asked him "if he was interested in it," until the next day.

"It was done to see if it was sold," she said.

* * *

"AT THE close of the case, Mr. Sykes said all of the five cases would be pressed.

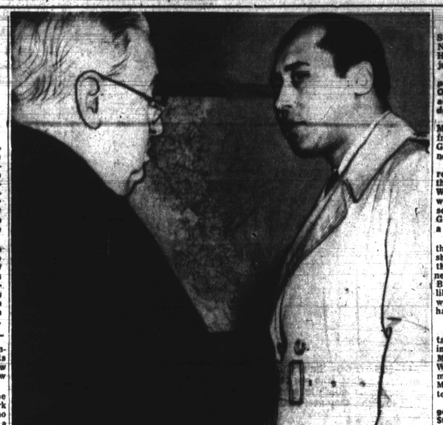
Chairman Dyas polled the attorneys to submit before the Feb. 24 case a list of witnesses to be called and documents which will be needed in order to expedite the case.

THIS HOUSE at 3800 Grantley Ave. in Ashburton is the focal point in fraudulent sale charge heard this week by the State Real Estate Commission.

BULLETIN

Joseph J. Carter, who figured in the hearing before the State Real Estate Commission this week, was given a six-month suspended sentence and placed on probation Thursday for a year for contributing to the neglect of his children by failing to provide them with adequate food and heat.

Judge Charles B. Moylan in the Division for Juveniles, Causes heard testimony that Carter had been sacrificing the health of his nine children to meet the payments on his Grantley Rd. home and another he is buying in the 2000 block N. Payson St.



CONFERENCE — J. Calvin Carney, left, attorney for Manning-Shaw Realty Company, talks with firm co-owner Warren S. Shaw during recess in hearing before Real Estate Commission.

The AFRO goes to the Colts banquet

By B. M. PHILLIPS

Orioles Hoyt Wilhelm and Herb Brown, Colts Gino Marchetti, Stephen Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Neal Worthington, Bruce Kelley, Herb Fisher, new owner of Tijuana;

Lawrence Watson, the sign painter and his attractive wife, Olivia . . . (she was dressed in an attractive tangerine-colored dress and hat);

Mrs. Watson is employed by Minick Brothers—she present from the same firm, Mrs. Gladys Hunter, William Conner and Jerry Tony.

Also saw Otis Warren, the realtist; Mrs. Esther Gordon, the pretty widow who wore red. With her, Mrs. Inez Lewis, who was wearing an attractive blue sequin hat; and Mrs. Marian Gilliam, whose black dress had a pretty sequin neckline.

At the same table with them, the Stephen Blowes (Bessie)—she pretty in blue; and across the table from them, Mrs. Melinee Yerrill of the Pauline Brooks salon, who always looks like a picture in a book—she wore navy with a small navy hat decorated with a flower.

* * *

Across the room at another table—wearing white and looking good in it—Mrs. Bernice Moore, the real estate broker. With her, Mrs. Lavinia Coleman, agent with the firm; and Mrs. Sallie Freeman, city teacher.

And, Robin Marvis, WSID general manager; Howard Stober, WEBB; John Triplette and John Russell, Heilman Brewing Co.; Ed Slater, the postal worker;

Harry Valentine, the motion picture projectionist, who is senior member of the large Valentine family;

Also Marvel Cash and Credit Co.'s H. Adler, R. Lieman and A. Donner;

And, AFRO staffers—Howard and James Murphy, Mabloe Oswell, Milton Brunch and Shelton Cohen; and of course, Mrs. Lenny Moore and Mrs. Connie Johnson and Mrs. Troy Brailley.

* * *

P.S.—Head table guests are still talking about how the Mayor served them a new way to eat imperial crabs.

Seems as though he picked the crab up and dumped it out of the shell, mashed it like you would a potato.

And, that isn't all—the mystery of what happened to the shells you find in the crab was cleared up when he left.

There was a pile of them on the floor in front of the chair where he sat!

Other familiar faces about: Herb Brown, Billy Hassett, Stephen Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Neal Worthington, Bruce Kelley, Herb Fisher, new owner of Tijuana;

Lawrence Watson, the sign painter and his attractive wife, Olivia . . . (she was dressed in an attractive tangerine-colored dress and hat);

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This column spied about— Willie Adams, Magistrate Linwood Koger, AFRO veep D. Arnett Murphy, Ray Hayabert of Parks Sausage, Mrs. Helen G. Wherley, president of WSID Radio;

George Boone of the appliance firm which bears his name; William Barnhill of the realty firm which bears his name; Crawford Colvin at Colvin Realty; Mrs. Myrtle Freeman of Myrtle's Dress Shop;

And, Recreation Department exec Harold Jennifer, Warren Shaw of Manning - Shaw; William T. Rideout Jr.—he's with Colvin; Elhana Washington Jr., the Ft. Meade employee;

Joe Louis E. Harmon arrived and sat at a "rear table just as the AFRO's Sam Lacy, veteran sports editor, was introduced.

That was when this column learned that a good sports writer is also a good speechmaker. Our Sam gave a whale of an address . . . a whale . . .

"Life begins at 40 . . . Jackie celebrates his 40th birthday tomorrow . . . this man who is just beginning to live . . . if he can do as much in the 40 years ahead of him as he did in the twenty behind him, someone might start rewriting the history books.

"**. . . the Colts deserve the best of everything . . . that's why a man of Robinson's stature was chosen to recite the toast in their honor tonight . . . Jackie Robinson, who rallied from an humble beginning, overcame a mass of obstacles . . . just as the Colts did . . .**

* * *

**But Jackie's flight was delayed. At 8 p