—No 'C' in 'Y'

(Continued from Page 1)

privilege of all facilities any YMCA branch offered, colored members in practice were more or less restricted to the Druid Hill Ave. and Turner Station branches.

They were likewise sent only to Camp Druid Hill while white members were sent to Camp Canoy.

• • •

AFTER A COMMITTEE studied the problem for a year, the board adopted a resolution embodying a declaration of the National Council which requested all member associations "earnestly to work toward the elimination of segregation and other forms of discrimination."

It also adopted seven other implementing measures which included these two:

(A) Urge that branch boards of managers and staff move as rapidly as practicable to an all inclusive membership in keeping with the Christian purpose of the YMCA.

(B) Continue the special study Commission as a resource group to branches until its services are no longer needed."

During this time some of the branches reported they already had open membership policies

At the same time, how fast the YMCA of Baltimore should or could move toward integration, seemed to be the unanswered question.

• • •

JUST HOW FAR the program has progressed in the 3½ years since June 1955 is what the AFRO was seeking to find out this week.

There seems to have been more progress policy - wise than in the way of practice.

Still, there is concrete evidence that some progress is being made in some areas.

Those conclusions are based on information garnered from the branch executive secretaries.

Here are the outstanding steps generally known to have been taken by the general office:

It has been announced that the YMCA camps are now open to any YMCA member, regardless of race.

All new branches or units of the YMCA are organized with the understanding memberships are not to be denied on the basis of race.

Also, the board of directors approved the change in the bylaws of the Druid Hill Ave. branch taking out the clause that specified its use was for colored.

ON THE OTHER HAND, at the Central Branch, in the same office with the general offices, where it might be expected an example would be set, progress over 1955 has been somewhat slow.

E. Baugher, executive secretary, says that "perhaps the major drawback is in membership. We have run into some difficulty there, but we see some promise there."

He said the board of managers has not seen fit to lower the "traditional bars."

However, he said, in some of the programs such as "providing space for people of all colors, there is no question about it all."

The coffee shop is open to all. The dormitory is open to all. Various meetings are attended by anyone.

Mr. Baugher said the branch is now publicizing a Fall Religious Emphasis Conference to which members of all races are expected.

"We are making progress," he said.

• • •

RUDOLPH D. WHEELER, executive secretary of the Turner Station YM, says its doors are open to all and there are a number of white members, one of them on the board of managers. All facilities are open to any YMCA member.

The Metropolitan Community Extension Branch includes the Eastern YMCA, just over a year old and two smaller units, one at 5200 Edmondson Ave. and one in Oella near the Howard County line.

Though the Eastern Y comes under the policy of all new branches accepting all members, program director Walter Freeman said it has no colored members "as far as I know."

S. W. Stahl, associate general secretary of the YMCA, said he did not know if the other two units had colored members. **He said he did not think any had applied.**

• • •

D. DEANE WYATT, executive secretary of the Northeast Branch, said:

"We accept applications from anyone. We do not have any colored members now, have never had any applications as long as I have been here.

"The way it stands now our board has said we're here to serve youth. I'm sure if a colored boy or girl in the community wanted to join and applied, he would be served."

He added that his unit served a predominantly white community. They have limited facilities.

At the Towson Branch, executive secretary Edgar T. Martin said memberships were open to all. **The only colored person ever to apply did so because she was interested in a parking facility near her work which was restricted to members and she was accepted, he said.**

This member has since dropped out, he added.

He said numerous colored youths use the Y as part of club groups in the community and "and we have been expecting them (to seek membership) and if they come in they will be accepted."

Mr. Martin said the colored population in the Towson area was "quite low."

• • •

THE NORTH BALTIMORE Branch's executive secretary, Burt P. VanDeusen, said his branch accepts colored members and has some at this time. He said they have full use of the facilities at the branch, which are quite limited.

The other branch with facilities more in keeping with those of the Central office, is Dundalk, L. B. Twist, executive secretary.

Mr. Twist said his branch has no colored members "yet" and that a committee appointed to study the question two years ago has not yet brought in a report for the board of managers to act upon.

The matter of when the report is expected is "on an indefinite basis," he said.

Mr. Twist said while the facilities are not open "fully," some use of them is made by colored or interracial groups.

He said the swimming pool may be used by such groups "on a planned basis, not if they just drop in."

He said Girl and Boy Scout groups who are now integrated, continue to use the pool on Saturdays for swimming classes.

• • •

THE JOHNS HOPKINS University Branch is open to all though geared to the use of Hopkins students, said Jack Brown, assistant to Dr. Chester Wickwire, executive secretary.

He said there are now colored members but he did not know how many. He said the available facilities and sponsored programs are for all and that members of any other branch are welcome, although the program is actually set up for the university students.

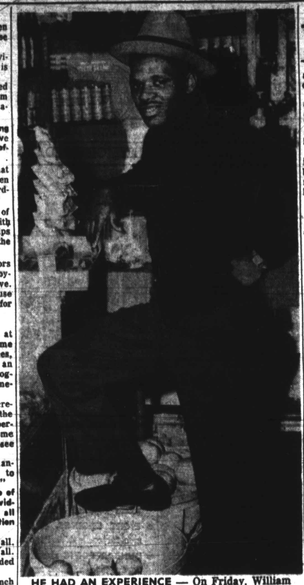
John Henderson, executive secretary of the Druid Hill Ave. Branch said memberships there are open to all and there are some white members, most of them on a sustaining basis.

He said the facility most taken advantage of by whites is the dormitory space where guests are rather frequent.

Another progressive note for the YMCA is in its Schools branch where colored are admitted to any area of work.

Mr. MacGregor and J. Cookman Boyd Jr., chairman of the board of directors, will probably have more notes of progress to add to the record when they talk to the AFRO.

They also may be able to explain the apparent lag in the efforts to bring the practice among the branches into line with the announced policies of the general office.



HE HAD AN EXPERIENCE — On Friday, William B. Miller, 25, 600 block N. Calhoun St., said he was at one of his three poultry stands in Belair Market when Northeastern District Police arrested him and held him 27 hours for investigation. Mr. Miller was cleared and released but he said police refused to let him make a phone call. In addition to his market stand, Mr. Miller also operates a grocery store at 513 Brune St.

—McDonogh

(Continued from Page 1)

to the colored people of Baltimore..."

• • •

EVER SINCE Mr. Smith's letter to the AFRO appeared in 1939, efforts have been made to get McDonogh trustees to open the doors to colored boys.

Finally, in 1957, the NAACP Legal Redress Committee authorized Linwood Koger Jr., attorney, to meet with the board to determine whether they would end segregation voluntarily and if not, to file suit.

Last week, the Board stated it would begin gradual integration, opening the first grade in 1959 - 60; second grade the following year etc until complete integration would be accomplished in 12 years.

On Thursday, the NAACP Legal Redress Committee authorized the following statement on the McDonogh resolution:

"We are going to study the board's action to determine whether we will accept the resolution in its present form or whether we will continue to insist on the suit. It will be necessary to study the resolution first to discover whether it has come up with too little too late."

• • •

ON THIS POINT, Mr. Smith, said on Thursday: "After all these years, there should be complete integration. It is long overdue.

"All that money has been spent all these years on white boys only. Some of our boys here in Baltimore could have gone to McDonogh back in 1873 as Mr. McDonogh willed it and made a special mark in life.

"We should have been there a long, long time ago, but they held the purse from us.

"I am glad the AFRO brought the facts out, and I hope you keep on pursuing it and that our boys will go there."

• • •

MR. SMITH, a native of New Orleans, can testify that training received at a McDonogh School is invaluable. He has had a long career as a government worker and is a noted historian. He has a priceless book collection.

New Orleans, followed the will of John McDonogh and opened schools there where colored boys were admitted.

As a youngster, Mr. Smith recalls, he and all male members of his family studied at McDonogh in New Orleans.

"My father (William — he was a skilled mechanic), finished McDonogh in 1873. I graduated in 1882.

"My brother, Dr. A. A. Smith (an East Baltimore dentist) took his first three r's there. My brother, Andrew, who is now living in California, also attended and my brother Charlie too. He died in 1921."

• • •

THE BALTIMORE McDonogh School has instruction for boys from grades one through twelve.

Students may commute from their homes or stay on the campus. Scholarships are available.

Tuition fees range from $7,400 to $1,700 for boarding students per year; and $465 to $175 for day students.

Robert L. Lambert is headmaster.

Applications should be addressed to the Director of Admission, McDonogh School, McDonogh, Md.

—'Like a nightmare'

(Continued from Page 1)

and he came in with another officer in uniform.

"When I thanked the nurse and started to leave, the plainclothes man called me back. The city officer asked me to explain how I had gotten burned.

"I told him a stove blew up in my face and that I had been brought to the hospital by my brother who was outside in his car waiting for me.

"The plainclothes man sent my brother home and told him that he would drive me home. home. They drove me home but they wouldn't let me go in.

"My wife told me they asked how I had gotten burned and my son and brother - in - law told them.

MY WIFE said that when she asked what it was all about they wouldn't tell her.

"They told her that I would be back in ten minutes and that he wanted me to talk with a man.

"They carried me to the Parkville station. While on the way they told me to keep my hands out where they could see them.

"When we got there they took my stuff (Cigarette lighter, keys, tobacco pouch) and told a sergeant at the desk: "This man is not to have any telephone calls and no visitors." Then they locked me up.

"The plainclothes officer told me he would send two detectives down to see me on Monday.

"When they came down around 1 p.m. Monday I told them I hadn't done anything. They took me down to an automobile place in Towson to have a man take a look at me but he was not there.

• • •

"THEY TOLD someone to send the man up to the station house when he came back, then they took me to the Towson station.

"About 35 minutes later, they came up in a cell door with a man from the automobile and asked him if he had ever seen me before. The man said "no."

Another officer told them to bring him out."

"When they took me out of the cell the man said I was definitely not the man because I was too tall.

"The sergeant then told me I would be released and not to worry, but first I would have to take a test.

• • •

"I HEARD later that they had called on my job at the Calvert Distillery to find out how long I had been working and whether or not I had ever been in any trouble.

"Around 5 p.m. Monday when everyone else was getting off, they sent me to a lieutenant's office and he gave me the lie detector test. He asked me to answer yes or no to his questions.

"He asked me my name, address, whether or not I was married, how I got burned and if I was in the Brooks-Price Garage on Saturday.

"After the first test the lieutenant said I was lying and said he was going to give me another test. I answered the same way.

"The lieutenant told me "If that's the way you want it. O.K." and carried me back to another Lieutenant's office who told me, 'you're going home.'

"The lieutenant asked me how I was going to get home and I told him my brother would pick me up.

"He let me call my brother on his phone. That was the first time they permitted me to use the phone. After that they put me back in the cell.

• • •

"WHEN MY brother and wife came the lieutenant met them at the front door and asked them how I got burned. My brother told him the same thing.

"After my brother gave them his address, they let me go."

Mr. Adams explained that while at Towson, he asked two officers to "please call my wife."

"At Parkville I sat in a cold cell because the window was slightly open. I told them all along I didn't know why they were holding me.

"I had never been around Brooks - Price and have been in Towson only once. That was last summer when I went to a drive-in movie."

• • •

THE FACT that Mr. Adams was in police custody was verified on Thursday by county police who said they were investigating a fire that occurred near an auto agency. Safe on Saturday.

At Towson, Sgt. George Lowens told the AFRO that Mr. Adams "was brought in here Sunday and questioned in connection with a safe robbery.

"He gave a substantial story and his story was verified by his brother.

"He was held until sometime Monday when he was questioned by detectives and then he was released." Sgt. Lowens said he did not know how long Mr. Adams was in custody.

Mr. Adams told the AFRO that he has asked the local NAACP to investigate the police action and file complaint with authorities.

The NAACP office reported late Thursday it is asking an investigation of the complaint by Mr. Adams.

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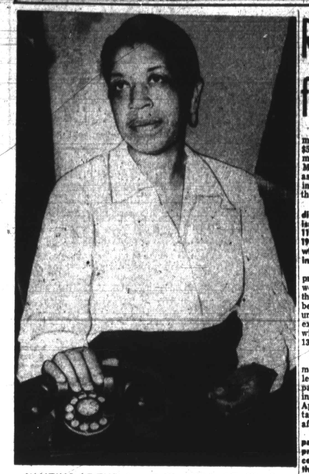

WAITING AT THE phone is Mrs. Mildred Smith who believes so firmly her son is innocent she has taken quarter-page advertisement in the AFRO hoping some AFRO reader will "help me to help my son."

—LAf. 3-5740

(Continued from Page 1)

of his arrest, shortly after the crime, was a strong factor in his conviction.

Lemuel and his attorneys contended, during a four-day trial before a jury of three women and nine men, that he was playing basketball on the outdoor court at Douglass at the time of the crime.

Lemuel maintained that his elbow struck the nose of a fellow player, causing it to bleed so some of the blood got on his clothing.

• • •

HEREIN lies the faint glimmer of hope the frantic search of Mrs. Smith

She is clinging desperately to a prayer that this youth, or someone else who has knowledge of this incident, will come forward and verify her son's story.

A faint and almost remote possibility that an active youth would remember such a minor injury to himself on a given date — July 30, 1958 — eight months ago.

Such is the prayer of Mrs. Smith.

Her AFRO ad reads, in part:

"Please help me to help my son."

"He wore dungarees, white tee shirt and white shoes. If you played with him at Douglass on morning of July 30, or know anyone who did, please telephone me. Lafayette 3-5740."

• • •

LEMUEL can offer no help in this situation.

He doesn't know the name of the youth with the nose bleed, or who the other players are.

He had just been in the city three weeks, since July 8, on a vacation from his home in Amsterdam, N.Y.

Mrs. Smith had insisted that he have some relaxation prior to entering his senior year at the Wilber H. Lynch High School in Amsterdam — rather than work on his usual summer job.

In Amsterdam, Lemuel was a star and the only member of his race on the high school basketball team.

He was the only colored person in his school fraternity and a member of the Kiawanis Club.

• • •

HIS HIGH school principals and coaching staff said this of him, in a letter to Mr. Allen:

"We, the undersigned can state unequivocally that in our experience with him, Lemuel at no time exhibited any tendencies or patters of behavior which would suggest that he would be inclined toward delinquent or criminal behavior.

"On the contrary, we found him at all times and under many various circumstances to be tractable, receptive to directions or suggestions, and cooperative in every way."

But — there is another side to the factual picture of the crime of which Lemuel has been convicted.

• • •

THIS IS the side of the investigating police under Sgt. Joseph Judd, Northwestern District — and that of the victim.

The police maintained that Lemuel gave oral statements implicating himself.

The victim, beaten up severely head injuries necessitated operations and hospitalization until Labor Day, positively identified Lemuel as her assailant.

A chance passerby at the time of the crime, a young man now in the army, also identified Lemuel as the person he saw run from the shop, just before he discovered the injured young woman.

The jury believed this evidence rather than Lemuel and he is now under a penitential motion.

But Mrs. Smith, who has lost about 100 pounds during this trying ordeal, from weight of 243 pounds done to about 155, believes Lemuel's story.

She and her husband, the Rev. J. L. Smith, assistant pastor of Mt. Olive Baptist Church, Saratoga Springs, N.Y., have four other children older than Lemuel.

They have 12 grandchildren, with three more expected.

Here is Mrs. Smith's stand in the case:

"Lemuel had money of his own. There was no reason for him to rob.

"I know my son is innocent.

"All of this is very, very expensive for us. But we are going on — going on as long as we have anything at all to go on, with to save our son."

Such is the moving picture of a trusting mother — strongly believing her son has not strayed from the path of her righteous teachings.

A faithful mother, desperately trying to save her son.

Record set for checks

The Department of Employment Security paid a record $54,856,693 in State unemployment insurance benefits to Maryland residents last year, as compared with $22,855,099 in 1957, and $21,165,803 in 1954 the previous high year.

Robert B. Kimble, executive director, said the Department issued 1,854,454 checks to 119,437 separate individuals in 1958, 33,534, or 28.0 percent, of whom exhausted their benefits in the course of the year.

All claimants under the State program are entitled to 26 weeks of benefits. Many of those who exhausted State benefits went on to file claims under the temporary Federal extended - benefits program, which provided an additional 13 weeks of benefits.

• • •

THE YEAR began with payments at record monthly levels. The peak in checks paid, only slightly higher than in January, was reached in April and there was a gradual tapering off in payments thereafter through November.

The tapering off was due in part to modest seasonal improvement in employment conditions, but even more to the number of persons exhausting their full entitlement no longer eligible for benefits.

December showed a sharp **rise in payments, largely because** of seasonal layoffs.

The December, 1958, increase was slightly smaller than the December, 1957, increase, but it occurred on top of a larger amount of existing unemployment and so represented a substantially larger amount in the aggregate.

The amount of the average weekly benefit check in 1958 was $30.77, as compared with $28.78 in 1957.

Primarily, however, it was due to the fact that a greater proportion of more highly skilled workers, who draw higher wages and therefore are entitled to higher benefits, were laid off in 1958.

Mrs. Thomas dies

Funeral services for Mrs. Madeline Thomas, 36, 2200 block Ashburton St., a former waitress at the Club Alhambra on Pennsylvania Ave., will be held Sunday, 1 p.m. at the Charles Law Mortuary, 802 Madison Ave.

esashrdl h h h hmmhhrr rd dd

Mrs. Thomas was employed at the Alhambra for some 15 years and was one of the best known waitresses on the Avenue. She had been ill for a week prior to her death.

Burial is scheduled for Arbutus Memorial Park.

Library to close

The Enoch Pratt Free Library's main building and branches will be closed Monday (Feb. 23), in observance of Washington's Birthday.

Arthur H. Parsons Jr., library director, reported that bookleading service would also be suspended on the holiday by the library's two bookmobiles.

PLEASE HELP ME TO HELP MY SON

MY SON LEMEUL SMITH
17 years old, 6' tall, 210 lbs.

MRS. MILDRED SMITH

This is the last thing I can do to help my boy. A jury has found him guilty of a serious assault. He might be sentenced to 20 years in the Penitentiary. I'M SURE HE'S INNOCENT. At his trial the jury did not believe he was playing on the outdoor basketball court at Douglass High School during the morning of July 30, 1958, when the assault was committed. He wore dungarees, white tee shirt and white shoes. If you played with him, or know anyone who did please telephone me.

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4-PIECE $199 LIVING ROOM SUITE $117.88 NO MONEY DOWN Includes: big inner-spring sofa, large club chair, lamp table and beautiful table lamp.
3-PIECE $219 BEDROOM SUITE $117.88 NO MONEY DOWN Includes: bookcase bed, large dresser and mirror, big chest. In gorgeous silver mist color.
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Ladies' 2-Pc. KNIT SUITS $6.88 Worth $39.95 6 to sell.
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