MEDICAL TEAM — Black medical students from the University of Maryland and Johns Hopkins University planned a six-week program that would orient minority students in their freshman year of medical school. Shown in photo are (seated): Joanne Chambers, sophomore at the University of Maryland Medical School; Mona Chambers, secretary; Nathaniel Evans, a sophomore at Johns Hopkins Medical School and (standing) Ira Stone, a medical student at the University of Maryland.

MISS BUCHANAN SAYS GOODBYE TO DOUGLASS:

After 47 years, teacher calls retirement sweet, 'the way children are today'

By ELIABETH M. OLIVER

Miss Nellie Buchanan, Douglass High School Latin and German teacher since February, 1923, retired in July to round out 47 years in the same post.

In possession of a rare sense of humor and witty as only she can be, Miss Buchanan said, "Whew! Let's not talk about it!" when the question was repeated, "How long did you say you taught at Douglass?"

Miss Buchanan has not only been known as an expert in Romance Languages but also as "tops" in elocution and director of the Douglass "Mask and Wig Dramatic Club" for nearly half a century.

Working tirelessly and with astounding high interest all those years, she is credited with giving many students the inspiration which led to Broadway.

Among one of the stars is Miss Ann Wiggins Brown, now married and a resident of Norway, who was the first "Bess" of "Porgy and Bess" on Broadway.

Miss Brown visited Miss Buchanan last week and recalled, "It was because of you that I was able to have my name in bright lights."

Miss Buchanan also coached Avon Long who later became famous and was the first "Sporting Life" character in "Porgy and Bess" on Broadway.

MISS NELLIE A. BUCHANAN
Douglass High teacher 47 years credited with giving Broadway stars a start in her school dramatic club

Miss Buchanan has also inspired many students to become language teachers.

* * *

However, most significant retirement comments to come from Miss Buchanan include those on "how children have changed."

After nearly 50 years on the scene in the high school from which she was graduated, Miss Buchanan must be considered an authority.

She states, "The way chidren are today is the only thing that makes retirement sweet. My, they are somthing!

"It takes more effort to keep them in line than it did. They are teachable but you have to get them in line to teach them.

"And then too, they just do not work at learning like they used to do.

"There are fewer dedicated to learning. The majority seem to take learning as something the law requires. That's No. 1 and No. 2, they feel school is just a place to go to get away from home."

Miss Buchanan places the blame squarely at the feet of parents who, she states, "Have completely let down."

* * *

Citing as an example, she said "The lack of respect the children have just burns you up.

"They tell you that you cannot tell them what to do and they remark, My mother doesn't tell me what to do.

Chuckling to herself as if she got out of teaching in the nick of time, she added. "It takes too much to hold them down.

"Children today just do not know English and it follows that some of the teachers do not know the language either.

"When I came along, you learned English.

"But, the present methods fail to give it to you. My, it gets my goat when someone cracks a verb. But the stress today is on communication and if they communicate with a cracked verb, well—

"And the obscenity the children go though today! They say it as if it is nothing and you hear so much of it, a teacher just has to pretend she did not hear it.

"You cannot change the children's viewpoint. They think they are not talking unless the use obscenity. And, our folks! We are the ones who should never touch it."

* * *

Miss Buchanan boasts the rare ability to look at life with humor and she says she knows how to relax and keep busy doing interesting things.

She states, "I will not sit down and wait for the thing they call Death. When it comes, it will just have to catch me in the midst of doing something."

At presnet she is busy getting her home painted and although she has painters on the job she says she is doing a great deal of it herself, "because I like to."

The lively teacher also says she will travel a bit but not too much since she went abroad long ago "when not many persons were going to Europe."

Miss Buchanan also states that she will keep on writing poetry as she has done as a hobby for many years.

She states, "I should call it "poetry" because I write about lots of things, most anything."

Her favorite from literature is the prelude to "Evangeline" which includes the well-known line, "This is the forest primeval, the murmuring pines and the hemlock."

Miss Bucnhanan also likes best black poetry and prose and recalls how she used to quote Paul Lawrence Dunbar and recite his poems during her career as teacher and head of the "Mask and Wig Club."

Here she adds that she received over 40 medals for elocution and her pupils often took first, second and third place in contests.

* * *

Miss Buchanan also likes a member of St. Mary's Episcopal Church all her life, as she puts it. "I was there three weeks before I was born and was christened there three weeks after I was born."

She is the daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. George H. Buchanan. Her only living sister is Mrs. James H. Ford, Baltimore, a former teacher.

* * *

Her other sister is the late Miss Lottie Downs who died in 1968.

Midway in review of her family background, Miss Buchanan inserted, "I have lots of nieces and nephews. One of them, Maurice Ford, 10, resides with me, so you can see I am a mother too. "I will never not enjoy life."

Lifer glad wife has divorced him

The legal grounds of imprisonment of a husband won a divorce this week for Mrs. Walter Drew Foster of East Baltimore.

Mr. Foster, 29, has been confined to the Trenton, N. J., State Penitentiary since Aug. 28, 1963 serving a life term for murder.

He and his wife were married June 2, 1957 in Baltimore by the Rev. Edward M. Revels when she was 17 and he was 19.

* * *

The wife filed for divorce here in Circuit Court in December, 1969 and the husband was served by a sheriff at the New Jersey prison.

On file in the court here is a letter signed by the husband immediately after he received the notice of his wife's intentions to divorce him.

In the letter Mr. Foster stated that he was sorry he coul dnot be present in the Baltimore divorce court for the hearing scheduled for Jan. 3 since he had been in the Pen seven years.

* * *

However, he added, "As for my wife, I can see no reason why the court should not grant her a divorce.

"If it was in my power I would give her a divorce myself."

The letter concluded, "When the case is over, please be so kind as to send me the papers that say I am legally divorced."

Mr. Foster should get a copy of the decree by mail next week.

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Toiletries—Downtown

the fast change wardrober
$34

A smart practical look for fall. The fast change wardrober is actually several outfits in one. It includes an acetate-nylon blouse, a vest of wet look vinyl, and pants and a skirt of bonded rayon-silk. Choose it in combinations of red or brown, and begin experimenting. Sizes 10-16.

Saratoga Dresses
Downtown Westview

HUTZLER'S

SATURDAY'S HOURS: Downtown 9:30 to 5:30 Westview, Towson, Southdale 10 to 5:30 Eastpoint 10 to 9:30

No. 1 — Smart midi coat teams with its own argyl knit top and pants. One of the looks endorsed by Ward's designer advisory council.

No. 2 — Pick a peace jacket in crushed vinyl and then pair with an unbuttoned tweed skirt for the newest look going.

No. 3 — D-ring skirts give guy that broad-shouldered look, and also feature wider long sleeves and double-buttoned cuffs. Ward's polyester and cotton blend keeps its press through the hottest day. Sizes 10 to 20.

No. 4 — Fringed, full, and fabulous . . . the knit poncho pantset from California at Ward's!

No. 5 — Big zip shirt has a buttoned cadet collar, comes in blue, yellow, lime or gold cotton. Sizes S-M-L, $4.00.

No. 6 — The look is longer for back-to-school, even in sizes 7 to 14. For example, this polyester double knit dress from Montgomery Ward has elegant white inserts to accent the lowered waistline.

No. 7 — When is a poncho not a poncho? When it's a cape style, like this great-looking wool melton snap cape, designed in California for Wards. Taxi yellow, navy or chocolate brown, small, medium or large, and sparked with crinkly vinyl.

No. 8 — Wendy Ward model Marim Simons has a vested interest in Back-To-School looks like this long tweedy vest skinning down over a bonded orlon solid color dress. Navy or Brown coordinates, Sizes 7 to 14, the set.

No. 9 — What goes with the new vested suit from Ward's? A chain-laced open-necked shirt of polyester and cotton from Ward's, with deep cuffs. The suit comes in blue or brown stripes, sizes 14-20.

No. 10 — Flattering fur frames this handsome fitted camel-colored coat in the newest boot-skimming length. One of the looks endorsed by Ward's designer advisory council.