WHEN YOU FINISH READING THIS PAPER PASS IT ALONG TO A FRIEND

EEOC Board Splits 7-2 In Dixon Bill Vote

Harford school case set

The school desegregation case involving Harford County will be argued in the District Court here the week of May 4, the AFRO has learned.

Plaintiff in the case is 13-year-old Alvin D. Petit, who has been denied the opportunity to transfer to previously all-white Aberdeen High School.

The NAACP, which represents the youth, contends that his consitutional rights are being violated by the School Board's refusal to permit him to enter the ninth grade at Aberdeen.

The Harford County School Board says it is operating under a court-approved stair-step plan which calls for the desegregation of one class at a time but also, in the case of transfers, permits tests to be used.

* * *

CHIEF JUDGE Roszel C. Thomsen in 1957 approved this plan which calls for the entire school to be desegregated in 1963.

The board maintains that tests taken by young Petit, son of a scientist, indicate he could not make the necessary adjustments at Aberdeen High.

When the matter came before the State Board of Education, the board decided the issue was one which would have to be thrashed out in court since it was the court which set up the stair-step and test plan.

The NAACP also contends that circumstances have changed sufficiently in the county as to no longer justify the application of special tests for colored applicants.

SPECIAL AWARDS were presented to these workers in the annual enrollment campaign of the Druid Hill Avenue YMCA Branch at awards banquet. From left, seated, are: John H. Henderson, campaign coordinator and branch executive secretary; Henry G. Parks Jr., Mrs. Anpetta C. Johnson, Dr. Houston R. Jackson, general chairman for the campaign; Raymond V. Haysbert, Mrs. Enna A. Payne, C. O. Jones and Mrs. Rosalie McGuire. Standing, same order: Samuel Daniels, James R. Hite, Augustus D. Knox, Harold J. Jennifer, Edgar F. Allen, Frank R. Veney, George E. Simms and Embra C. Bowie. Cited workers not seen in picture were Nimrod S. Dodson, Mrs. Victorine Q. Adams, the Rev. J. Timothy Boddie and the Rev. Marion C. Bascom.

New members fail to agree

By MAX JOHNSON

The Baltimore Equal Employment Opportunity Commission's new board finally gave its stamp of approval to the Dixon public accommodations ordinance late Wednesday afternoon — over the objections of two members.

A three - hour hassle on the proposed ordinance —preceded by one almost equally as long Wednesday of last week — ended in a seven to two vote to send it back to the City Council with a recommendation for favorable consideration.

This action put EEOC, a city agency established to protect the employment rights of minority groups, in the uncomplimentary light of saying in effect:

We are all for fighting for the right of a qualified colored citizen to manage a downtown restaurant — but some of us object to him being served there as a guest on his off days.

This is assuming, of course, that all of the new board members are really for equal employment and advancement opportunities for all, regardless of race, creed or color.

This is a new EEOC board sworn in the past Jan. 22, with six of its nine members new faces on the scene —and yet to cope with a real test situation.

* * *

THE VOTE on the Dixon public accommodations ordinance went this way Wednesday:

Against — Mrs. Emil H. Hennings Jr., chairman West Baltimore Steering Committee, and James J. McDonnall, president, Styleplus Clothes Co. and former president, Baltimore Archdiocesan Holy Name Union.

For — Dr. Mildred Otenasek, EEOC board chairman, lecturer in political economy at the College of Notre Dame of Maryland; Dr. G. James Fleming, professor of Political Science, Morgan State College;

Robert B. Watts, attorney and former Traffic Court Magistrate; Francis S. Filbey, president, Baltimore Council, AFL - CIO Unions;

Leon Sachs, director, Baltimore Jewish Council; John Hauswald, general manager, Hauswald Bakery, and Dr. Raymond V. Rangle, St. St. Paul St. and Washington Blvd. physician.

Mr. Sachs, a reappointee to the board along with Dr. Fleming and Mr. Filbey, was absent and cast his vote by proxy.

* * *

MRS. HENNING, the more vocal of the two opposing members:

"I'm afraid the Dixon Bill is violating somebody's rights, other human rights.

* * *

"I am wondering if the colored citizen is taking advantage of the opportunities he has now. If he does, then he has more advantages than many whites. . . .

"The schools are open now. You should be very happy about that. . .

"You are going to drive all the whites to the suburbs. There will be total segregation in Baltimore. They (colored citizens) will have to support this government."

Mr. McDonnall said he was just against a law making it an offense to deny public services or public accommodations to a citizen because of his race or religion.

MRS. HENNING felt so strongly about her stand on the matter, she issued this statement to the press:

"It is my humble opinion that in agreeing to the Dixon bill we will infringe on the rights of one-group of citizens to further the advancement of another group of citizens.

"This does not seem to be either just or democracy.

"While believing in the goals of the Dixon bill, I believe that as human relations are encouraged to improve, as mutual respect is earned, so will equal opportunity be accomplished.

"Therefore, I should rather recommend that the work of this commission be directed at education, that problems are studied, and that peaceful conciliation be continued."

Among those taking sharp exceptions to the stand of Mrs. Henning and Mr. McDonnall were:

* * *

MR. WATTS, who said: "Why should I wait another ten years for things because of the pigmentation of my skin. We have got to realize that we are all Marylanders — all Americans."

Mr. Filbey: "If we do anything, we ought to make it (the ordinance) stronger."

Philip A. Camponeschi, EEOC executive secretary: "This has not happened in other nearby communities —the fear of having a law on the books just has not materialized."

Dr. Fleming: "If Baltimore is going to take its place as a sports and international airlines center, then it's headed in the wrong direction.

"I do think it would be unfortunate for this commission to say it is all right on employment, but not on this."

* * *

THEY ALSO had trouble framing the resolution to accompany the ordinance back to the City Council.

Dr. Fleming drew up one at first that put the board on record as favoring the subpoena powers and authority to seek court action granted EEOC under provisions of the ordinance.

Dr. Rangle objected. He said he thought the ordinance "is fair, and its objectives are fair," but that his opinion was that it would advance further without so earmarking enforcement powers.

So —they re - worded the resolution to this simple statement, in order to get Dr. Rangle's vote to at least show a seven to two majority for the ordinance:

"The EEOC took under consideration the Dixon public accommodations ordinance No. 215. After much deliberation, the commission voted to recommend that the City Council give favorable consideration to this ordinance."

Ordinance No. 215 was introduced in the City Council by Councilman Walter T. Dixon (4th D.) last October 26, and referred immediately to EEOC.

* * *

THE PREVIOUS EEOC board passed the buck on to this new board.

The ordinance asks that:

1. EEOC be given subpoena powers—something the agency does not have now;

2. EEOC would have jurisdiction of determining that there would be no racial discrimination — or religious— public places of services and accommodations;

3. Such public places would lawfully be open to all citizens without discriminatory practices.

It has brought to light a big, strong difference of thought on human rights among some EEOC board members.

Provident dance show on Saturday

The famous Louis Johnson Dancers will be presented in a recital on Saturday, March 19, at the Polytechnic Auditorium, North Ave. and Calvert St.

Two performances have been scheduled — one at 3 p.m. and the second at 8 p.m.

The afternoon performance is designed for students and the tickets are selling for $1 for the students and $3.50 for adults.

All the evening tickets are $3.

Proceeds from the presentation will be used to purchase much needed equipment for Provident Hospital.

Last year, the sponsoring group, the Community Service Organization, was able to purchase a cardiac monitor through another concert.

Information on the tickets may be obtained by calling Mrs. Gertrude Mulr at Lafayette 3-4005.

Dr. Jackson leads YMCA in record enrollment campaign

The Druid Hill Avenue Branch YMCA, under the skillfull guidance of its general campaign chairman, Dr. Houston R. Jackson, concluded its annual membership enrollment by obtaining 2,322 members and $17,065 in cash.

This is the largest result ever obtained during such a drive and was made possible by the all - out effort of the 290 division leaders, captains, and workers.

At the Award Night Banquet, awards were made to all of the producers for outstanding service-and a beautiful plaque was presented to Dr. Jackson for his outstanding leadership.

* * *

THE HIGH producing divisions were led by Henry G. Parks Jr., Victorine Q. Adams, James R. Hite, Augustus D. Knox, Enna A. Payne, Samuel T. Daniels and Frank R. Veney.

Outstanding individual producers were Roosevelt Nixon, Dr. Louis E. Harmon, Samuel T. Daniels, Annette C. Johnson and Edgar F. Allen.

The following persons raised $100 or more and were inducted into the "Century Club:"

Roosevelt Nixon, Dr. Louis E. Harmon, Mrs. Annette C. Johnson, Harold J. Jennifer Jr., The Rev. Marion C. Bascom, Edgar F. Allen, Samuel T. Daniels, Mrs. Ethel T. Payne, Mrs. Enna A. Payne, Wilbur G. Valentine, Augustus D. Knox, William N. Turks, and Frank R. Veney.

Henry G. Parks Jr., Daniel Dixon, Truly Hatchett, Lester B. Wallace, Embra C. Bowie, Claude Young, Thomas Wheeldey, Bernard Sisters, James McDonald, James R. Hite, Edward Z. Watson Jr., George Washington and Joseph Howard.

H. Rayner Parker, Charles Thomas Sr., Leon D. Holsey, Mrs. Rosalie McGuire, Nimrod R. Jackson, Mrs. Alice S. Hazzard, William E. Matthews, Leroy Moody, Archie D. Williams, Roy W. Cragway, Mrs. Missouri Wright, The Rev. J. Timothy Boddie, Mason A. Hawkins, Ernest H. Brown, and Dr. William M. Warren.

Charles P. Howard Jr., Mrs. Sarah Greenwood, Raymond A. Young, Mrs. Ida N. Nicholas, James A. B. Callis, Harry A. Carpenter, James Goodwin, Raymond V. Haysbert, William L. Adams, Mrs. Vivian H. Bundy, Mrs. Edna Williams, Paul Howard, Mrs. Victorine Q. Adams, Mrs. Susie B. Reid, and Mrs. Annie W. Johnson.

POLITICS:

Flowers for Grady

By MAX JOHNSON

Mayor J. Harold Grady brightened this rather gloomy week, weather-wise for Baltimoreans, with a sharp directive to city employees — on the subject of courtesy in handling the public.

It is a directive that reflects the high gentlemanly qualities of the Mayor.

It very definitely points up, in one phase of human relations, the kind of city Mayor Grady would have Baltimore to be.

Here is his directive, issued Tuesday to all city department and bureau heads:

* * *

"I HAVE PERSONALLY received a growing number of complaints from citizens, regarding discourtesy on the part of city employees in their dealings with members of the public.

"There is no justification under any circumstances for discourteous or rude conduct towards persons making inquiries at city offices, or transacting business with city agencies

"Any such instances brought to my attention will be investigated and disciplinary action will be taken promptly.

"You are, therefore, instructed to warn all employees dealing with the public to take particular care to render prompt, courteous and cheerful service to citizens.

"Employees on counter service or other assignments involving public contact should know their jobs well and handle all complaints and inquiries courteously and politely.

"Those who fail to measure up to this standard must be transferred to less sensitive duties, or if necessary, separated from the city service."

* * *

SO — A LONG, overdue directive to city employees on the handling their fellow citizens.

A big, strong caution against handling their jobs as though they are doing the public some special favors.

And while on the subject of courtesy, it might be appropriate to call this matter to the attention of consumers citizens—particularly to the ladies' organizations.

It would be an excellent gesture of goodwill and pride of city government to keep Mayor's office, and inner offices supplied with fresh flowers daily.

Certainly, such thoughtfulness would bring the donor organizations considerable favorable attention.

Mayor Grady, the gentleman that he is, would be the first to appreciatye.

With several of the city's numerous such organizations participating, the cost to each would be a exceedingly nominal.

So — ladies, how about it? Some big, strong petunias for the Mayor.

'Vicky' gets 6 years for manslaughter

Mrs. Earlena (Vicky) Fowler, 27, 400 block E. Lafayette Ave., was sentenced to six years in Women's Reformatory Tuesday for the Oct. 31, 1959 slaying of Miss Shirley Foster in a North Central Ave. tavern.

The defendant was convicted of manslaughter.

Assistant State's attorney Dene L. Lasby told Judge James K. Cullen the defendant stabbed Miss Foster to death as Miss Foster tried to keep her from assaulting a third woman.

Mrs. Fowler was convicted of manslaughter. She testified she acted in self defense.

WITNESSES SAID they saw no weapon on the dead woman who was stabbed while pleading with the defendant not to "cut Lola Gilliam's throat" as she threatened, because Miss Gilliam was sick.

Medical reports introduced into testimony said the dead woman's left lung was pierced when a knife was plunged near her collar bone.

Laurel Cemetery case going back to court

The Laurel Cemetery Lot Owners Association have unanimously voted to appeal the last court set - back and is now on record as favoring a Supreme Court test-if necessary, in an effort to upset sale of the property.

Herbert M. Frisby, association president, announced the decision.

The NAACP's Legal Redress Committee immediately announced it would continue to support the lot owners.

Early this month the plaintiffs' third attempt to offset the sale of the cemetery property was thwarted when Circuit Court Judge Anselm Sodaro ruled he found no "fraud, mistake or irregularity had been perpetrated to deceive the court" which approved the sale.

Lot owners have charged:

That the cemetery operators went into voluntary bankruptcy without properly notifying the lot holders, misrepresented facts before Special Master William Baxter April 24, 1958; in order to gain the right to sell the property;

Used their influence to have the Legislature pass a bill which changed laws governing cemeteries so they could declare the grounds abandoned, and sell them and allow a shopping center to be erected on the site.

* * *

DEFENDANTS WERE Lloyd G. McAllister and Clement R. Mercaldo, members of the City Solicitor's office, and John J. Kaufman.

In the other court decision on the case, Judge S. Ralph Warnken dismissed the lot owners' pleas on grounds he could find no constitutional violation in what the defendants had done.

Dr. Templeton refuses to bow to hotel policy

Dr. Furman L. Templeton, executive secretary of the Baltimore Urban League, has declined an invitation to a regional meeting on problems of the aged because the meeting will be at the Southern Hotel here.

"The Southern Hotel," Dr. Templeton said, "is the only major local hotel which still refuses to grant convention service to colored unless they constitute a negligible percentage of attendance at an event sponsored by white organizations."

The March 30 - 31 regional conference on Positive Health and Life Fulfillment for the Aging, sponsored by the Medical- and Churnigical-Faculty, Dr. Leslie E. Daugherty, President.

Dr. Templeton said he regretted having to pass up the conference because he is a member of the State Commission on Problems of the Aging.

* * *

"IT IS TO BE hoped," Dr. Templeton wrote Dr. Daugherty, "that the faculty and other groups will be mindful of this situation, when scheduling events in the future, if they wish their attendance to be representative of all people in the events."

Explaining his position, Dr. Templeton said:

"I adhere to a personal policy of refusing to attend events in hotels which discriminate against citizens solely because of color or race. **The Southern Hotel is in that category of hotels which I avoid.**

Although I could attend your conference and be served without embarrassment, I could not utilize the Southern's facilities that very same day as an unsponsored individual citizen.

"I am sure you understand my refusal to accommodate myself to such an illogical, undemocratic and discriminatory service policy, especially when a truly enlightened policy is observed by the other local hotels."

Pythian Club adds member

Mrs. Estella Bennett was hostess to the members of the Pythian Social Club at her home, 1308 Ashland Ave., last Sunday.

Following the business session, in which Mrs. Annie Weeden was admitted as a member, refreshments were served.

Attending were Mesdames Lulu Nelson, Edith Brown, Hilda Holmes, Mary Ruffin, Alma Land, Sarah Curtis, Rufus Frazier and James J. Williams.

It was announced that Henry Lewis is on the sick list.

Hosting the next meeting will be Mrs. Edith Brown, 1811 Ashburton St., club president is Mrs. Anna Taylor.

Illegitimacy to be topic at workshop

Dr. Mabel Elliott, now visiting professor of sociology at the University of Georgia and co-author of the widely used text "Social Disorganization," will be the keynote speaker at the workshop on illegitimacy being sponsored by the Maryland State Conference of Social Welfare.

It will be held Monday, March 21 at 12 noon in the Assembly Hall of Brown Memorial Church, 1316 Park Ave.

The workshop grew out of the growing concern about the dimensions of the illegitimacy problem and the conviction that expert analysis and a pooling of professional experience are indicated, according to Mrs. Henry E. Corner, conference president.

Mrs. Corner said it is hoped that this workshop will spark further community efforts to meet this problem.

In addition to Dr. Elliott, there will be a panel of four speakers, each of whom has had specific experience with the unwed mother — Police Sergeant Violet Hill Whyte, Miss Olive Caulk, management aide of McCulloh Homes; Miss Ruth Baetjer and Miss Lillian Snyder, directors of social service of Union Memorial Hospital and University Hospital, respectively.

Dr. Olive Quinn, associate professor of sociology at Goucher College will lead the discussion, for which time has been provided, and will sum up workshop recommendations for community action.

Dr. Furman L. Templeton, Baltimore Urban League, will preside.

Chairmen of the committee planning the workshop are the Rev. Herbert White and Miss Marion Gutman.

Tag deadline

Auto owners who expect to receive their new tags through the mail in time to make the midnight March 31 deadline after which they must be displayed, must get a move on, warns John R. Jewell, commissioner of motor vehicles.

Applications received by Monday, March 21, will be processed in time to assure mail delivery by the deadline, Mr. Jewel said.

No extension will be granted and new tags must be displayed on April 1. As usual, long lines will form during the last minute rush period.

Mr. Jewell also announced the department will be open for business on Maryland Day, March 25, although it is a legal holiday.

TOP PRODUCER—Mrs. Annette C. Johnson was individual top producer in the Druid Hill Avenue YMCA's annual membership enrollment campaign. Headed by Dr. Houston R. Jackson, assistant schools superintendent, the drive set a new record.

REGISTER NOW SO YOU CAN VOTE

A good citizen is registered to be can vote. Who must register? Any new resident who plans to make Baltimore his home and has not registered to vote before.

Any resident who has turned 21 since the last election.

Any resident who failed to vote at least once in the last five years.

Where to register? Basement, People's Court Building, south-east corner of Fayette and Gay Sts.

When you can register: Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Saturdays 9 a.m. to noon.

Q—If I have already registered, do I have to register again?

Ans.—No, not unless you have changed your address or failed to vote in the past five years.

Q—When is the next election?

Ans.—April 26, 1960 and don't wait until the last minute!

Show your voting card in church on Sunday.

107,156 REGISTERED; 37,060 NOT

Colored persons over 21 eligible to vote 144,216
Registered January 1, 1956 73,272
Registered January 1, 1957 76,000
Registered as of Nov. 4, 1958 general election 100,211
Registered May 5, 1959 general election 104,453
Registered since May 5, 1959 1,418
Total Jan. 19, 1960 106,091
Total as of Feb. 3, 1960 106,430
Total as of Mar. 1 106,923
Registered Mar. 2-8 90
Registered Mar. 9-15 143
Total as of Mar. 15 107,156
Still unregistered 37,060

There are 37,060 colored persons in Baltimore over 21 years of age who are still not registered to vote.

Registered as of Mar. 15, 1960, were 430,483 voters of whom 107,156 were colored.

Democrats numbered 335,998, of whom 66,338 were colored. Republicans total 86,156, of whom 38,168 were colored.

Of the 8,536 registered as independents, 1,830 were colored.

If you have not already registered it is not too late to do so before the May 17 primary election to select some U.S. Congressmen nominees and to declare a Presidential choice.

* * *

IN THE primary election if you are a registered Democrat you will be able to help select Democrat candidates.

The same holds true if you are a Republican.

If you are registered as an independent and not affiliated with either party, you will not be permitted to vote in the primary.

However, all registered citizens are permitted to vote for the candidates of their choice, regardless of party, in a general election.

Final registration date before the May 17 primary is April 26. Where register: Basement, People's Court Building, south east corner of Fayette and Gay Sts.

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WITNESSES SAID they saw no weapon on the dead woman who was stabbed while pleading with the defendant not to "cut Lola Gilliam's throat" as she threatened, because Miss Gilliam was sick.

Medical reports introduced into testimony said the dead woman's left lung was pierced when a knife was plunged near her collar bone.

Youngsters burned in separate fires

A seven-year-old girl and a 24-month-old boy were burned in separate fires this week.

On Tuesday, Kevin Hall of the 3500 block W. Lanvale St. was admitted to Lutheran Hospital with third-degree burns of the right side.

Mrs. Bessie Hall reported that her son was burned while lying on a sofa.

A flash fire sent Juanita Hall of the 200 block E. Fremont Ave. to University Hospital Wednesday with burns about the face, arms and hands.

Witnesses reported the child's clothing caught fire while she was lighting a stove in her Lexington Terrace home.

Love R. Land is the name

"Are you pulling my leg?" asked Judge J. Gilbert Prendergast in Criminal Court when a defendant, being arraigned told the court of his name.

On Tuesday, the same defendant, Love R. Land, 36, 1100 block Abbott St., was given a 90-day suspended term on the condition he makes restitution of $13 he allegedly obtained illegally from Unemployment Compensation while employed for a flooring company.

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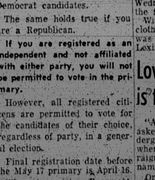

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GARDENS OF ETERNAL HOPE

FLIMFLAM VICTIM TO GET BACK $9,500 (STORY IN COLUMN 1)

BLUE STREAK EDITION

Baltimore Afro-American

68th Year, No. 70 — Copyrighted 1960 by AFRO-AMERICAN Co. for all material previously printed in the current National Edition — BALTIMORE, MD., MARCH 26, 1960 ★★★★★★★ 32 PAGES 15 Cents

'A Big Boom'

DISASTER SITE—The 2800 block E. Chase St. presented this scene at the height of the explosion and fire disaster early Wednesday evening. It completely destroyed three buildings and rendered three others useless. The frightful incident forced 62 persons to seek housing elsewhere. Four persons were seriously burned, were hospitalized. One witness described the noise of the explosion as "sounding like a thousand jets."

—AFRO Staff Photo by Otho Mackey

Flimflam to have a good end

"I had given up hope.

"I never expected to get my money back. People usually don't in cases like this. I'm sure happy.

"I'm willing to forgive the girl. I think she has learned a lesson. I know I have."

Thus spoke Mrs. Alverta Robinson of the 2500 block McCulloh St., on Wednesday when she was told that she would recover $9,500 she lost in a spectacular confidence game six months ago.

The elderly matron and her husband William, a printing plant worker had been saving their money since World War I.

Mrs. Robinson who expressed only mild surprise when she heard the good news said that she and her husband did not attend the trial of the attractive 26-year-old Columbia, S.C. woman who took her money because "nobody told us."

* * *

"NO VERDICT WAS given in Criminal Court Monday when Miss Cynthia Butler appeared ready to make restitution of $5,000 as a partial payment toward the $9,500 loss.

Miss Butler, a $30-a-week hotel maid, was arrested in her hometown three days after Mrs. Robinson lost her savings to a man and a woman outside a Howard St. bank.

Mrs. "Bert," as she is called by her friends, fell for the age-old dropped-pocketbook game and handed over the $9,500 in denominations of tens and twenties.

Miss Butler, an ex-college student, gave police a three-page statement in which she told of meeting a strange man in a Columbia bus station who asked:

"Do you want to make some easy money or stay here and work yourself to death?"

* * *

THE STATEMENT was read to the court by Assistant Attorney Charles E. Moylan.

Portions of the statement follow:

"I first met Mr. — at the

See FLIM-FLAM VICTIM, Page 2

MRS. ALVERTA ROBINSON
She gets $9,500

HAVE YOU JUST MOVED?
IF SO, CALL THE AFRO FOR HOME DELIVERY SERVICE
CALL MU. 5-6016

62 forced out of their homes

An explosion and six-alarm fire rocked the 2800 block E. Chase St. Wednesday afternoon, totally wiping out three entire buidings and rendering three others unfit for use.

By mid-day Thursday Eastern District police said a search to determine if anyone had been trapped in the explosion turned up nothing.

Residents of the block complained they had smelled gas just before the explosion which they described as "a big boom," or "a horrible sound" or "like a jet plane."

One termed it like a mighty clap of thunder, only louder and so close you could feel it."

Miraculously, no one was killed. Four persons, two of them seriously burned, were hospitalized. A policeman, Carrol B. Kaiser, 53, 6100 block Alto Ave., collapsed and died at the scene.

A total of 62 others were forced to seek housing elsewhere, the Red Cross reported after moving into the area.

The 3:15 p.m. explosion-fire wiped out the residences at 2807-09-11 before the flames were brought under control at 5:53 p.m.

* * *

FIRE CHIEF JOHN J. KILLEN reported that the residences at 2805, 2813 and 2815 were rendered useless.

The 2800 block E. Chase St. is crossed on the west by Kenwood Ave. On the east it runs into a vacant lot and next to the lot is the St. Alphonsus Convent.

When the fire had been quelled Wednesday night nothing remained standing of the three demolished homes and a gaping hole was left in the row of two-story homes, just as if someone had taken a huge shovel and scooped them out.

* * *

INJURED in the disaster, thought by many to be the most damaging disaster of this type ever to hit Baltimore, were:

Isham Johnson, 52, 2807 E. Chase St., who was admitted to St. Joseph Hospital in critical condition with burns over most of his body.

Mrs. Emma Johnson, 48, wife of Mr. Johnson, was admitted to Johns Hopkins Hospital in serious condition with first, second and third degree burns over most of her body.

Mrs. Sarah Johnson 70, also of 2807, admitted to Hopkins in satisfactory condition with first degree burns.

Joseph J. Perry, 28, 2809 E. Chase, Johns Hopkins, who

See "A BIG BOOM," Page 9

'Heard a baby cry and ran toward it'

By SHEILA SHIELDS

Women in the 2800 block of E. Chase St. where doing the things housewives usually would be doing on a Wednesday evening just past 3 p.m. on the fourth day of spring.

Mrs. Mary Tyson of 2804 E. Chase St., was standing on her porch with a visitor.

A few doors away, in her home, Hattie Richardson, 2810 E. Chase, was standing at her cellar window, gazing out on the often done on an ordinary day when the sun shines.

Around the corner young Mrs. Cynthia Smith, 1045 N. Kenwood Ave., was occupying herself with her new baby.

* * *

AS NEIGHBORS reconstructed the scene for the AFRO, Mr. Perry — Joseph Perry — stepped up on his front porch, to 2809 E. Chase St., put his key in the door and

"Boom! — a real loud noise like an explosion . . ." said Mrs. Tyson.

He (Mr. Perry) opened his door and it hit him in the face," said Mrs. Richardson.

It cut out and saw the backs of some houses had fallen down — you could see the front wall from behind the houses. The front walls had not collapsed yet.

"I could see a stove was coming from the floor," said Mrs. Smith.

She added, "I heard a baby crying and I ran toward it."

* * *

IN LESS TIME than a star takes to twinkle, the usually calm neighborhood in Northeast Baltimore turned into an area where destruction and mayhem reigned.

While some women ran

See BABY CRIES, Page 2

At least 5 saved as heroes risked own lives in rescues

BY GEORGE W. COLLINS
CHARLOTTE W. DOWNIE

At least five lives were saved during the Chase Street disaster when heroes sprang into action.

The AFRO was able to reach several of them and record their brave deeds.

These included:

Johnny Isaacs Jr., E. Chase St.; Alvin Blake, 28, 502 Hoffman St.; William T. White, 43, 2805 E. Chase St., and Leroy Jackson, 28, 2805 E. Chase.

Mr. Isaacs, son of Mr. and John Isaacs, 116 W. 22nd St., a native of South Carolina. He has lived in Baltimore for 15 years.

Recounting his experience, Mr. Isaacs said: "Some friends were playing tonk and I was finishing a sandwich in the kitchen, when I heard a terrific explosion.

"I ran out of the house and down the street to the house that exploded. I thought somebody must be there.

"The ceiling of the basement had collapsed and was slanted so that a portion was hanging on the basement floor.

"I climbed up the slanting ceiling to the main floor, then I kept going until I got to the top floor.

* * *

"I SAW AN elderly, gray haired woman lying on the floor. Her hair was burning and she told me to be careful because she had a bad leg.

"I lifted her and carried her out and returned to help with the others."

Eyewitnesses said Mr Isaacs returned to the building again and again until he was satisfied there was no one left in the burning wreckage.

* * *

ANOTHER gallant hero was Alvin Blake, a furniture repairman. He remembers the events thusly:

"It was a terrific thing. I was coming out of a cleaners across the street when I saw the explosion.

"I saw a man on the second floor of the house. He broke

See, AT LEAST 5 SAVED, Page 2

AFRO ALMANAC

TODAY, FRIDAY, MARCH 25
82nd day of 1960
23rd day of Lent

Sunrise at 6:02 a.m
Sunset at 6:25 p.m.
12 hrs. 23 min. of daylight
City lights on at 6:45 p.m., off at 5:45 a.m.
17 more days remaining in Lent
20 more days until Easter Sunday, April 17
Palm Sunday, April 10; Good Friday, April 15
27 more days until Daylight Saving time Sunday, April 24 at 2 a.m. set clocks back one hour.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Today, Friday, March 25, Maryland Day; Sunday, March 27, fourth Sunday in Lent; April 11, Arbor Day; April 14, Pan-American Day; April 17, Easter Sunday; April 18, Easter Monday.

FISHING DAYS

No more good-fishing days until April 4-11

PLANTING DAYS

This period, the Vernal (green) season is the most favorable planting time since the earth is fertile, watery, feminine and flexible.

Beans (early)—April 30; beets (early)—April 30; broccoli (early)—March 30; Brussels sprouts—April 15; cabbage—April 15; carrots—March 31; cauliflower—April 7; kale—April 7; lettuce—April 7; onions—March 31; parsley— March 31; parsnips—March 31; spinach—April 20; tomatoes—April 30; turnips—March 30.

Weekend Weather—Temperatures will range 6 to 10 degrees below normal. Friday (today), cloudy cold, sunny but some warmer. Saturday, rain, cold; Sunday and Monday, cold; Warmer Tuesday and rain.

See Full Page of Photos, Stories on Chase St. Disaster page 3

House okeys civil rights bill

WASHINGTON

A five-point civil rights bill, which features the Administration's court-appointed voting referee plan was passed on Thursday and sent immediately to the Senate.

The final vote was 311 to 109.

As passed by the House, the measure does the following:

* * *

1. MAKES IT A Federal crime to obstruct court ordered desegregation orders.

2. Provides Federal penalties for "hate" bombings.

3. Requires states to preserve voting records.

4. Provides schooling for children of service personnel when schools are closed as a result of desegregation controversies.

5. Writes into law the voting referee plan proposed by Attorney General William P. Rogers.

* * *

THE SENATE voted, Thursday afternoon, to send the House-passed bill to the Judiciary Committee of which Sen. James O. Eastland (D.-Miss.) is chairman.

However, in sending the bill to the Eastland Committee, the body instructed him to report the measure out by Tuesday, March 31.

The motion was made by Sen. Lyndon B. Johnson (D.-Texas), minority leader. Johnson's motion was approved 86 to 5.

* * *

THE VOTE FOLLOWED rejection of a motion by Sen. Eastland that the bill be sent to his committee without instructions. The vote was 49 to 19.

All of the 19 votes for the motion were cast by Democrats except that of Sen. Milton D. Young, Republican of North Dakota.

The five votes against Sen. Johnson's motion were cast by Sens. Eastland, Harry F. Byrd, Va.; Allen J. Ellender, La.; Olin Johnston, S.C., and Herman Talmadge, Ga., all Democrats.

BEFORE FINAL passage, the House rejected 204 to 118, the motion of Rep. Richard H. Poff, Virginia Republican, to recommit the bill to the House Judiciary Committee with instructions to report it back

See CIVIL RIGHTS, Page 2

Lawyer says U.S. owes Powell money

NEW YORK — Congressman Adam Clayton Powell Jr., attempted to show Wednesday at his tax evasion trial that the Federal Government actually owes him money instead of its being the other way around.

The Harlem Congressman is on trial in United States District Court on charges that he falsely filed a return for his wife, pianist Hazel Scott, and filed a fraudulent joint return in 1955.

On Wednesday Mr. Powell's lawyer, Edward Bennet Williams, elicited testimony indicating that almost $11,000 in gross income had been added through error to the 1951 return which was prepared for Miss Scott.

* * *

MRS. HATTIE FREEMAN DODSON, Powell's secretary, broke down in tears on the stand as she admitted under Williams' questioning that she had listed some of Miss Scott's earnings twice on her work sheet from which the final return was made out.

Mr. Williams than submitted to the court figures indicating that Miss Scott's gross income had been listed as $49,651, or $10,037.07 more than it should have been.

"Chief Assistant U.S. Attorney Morton S. Robenstine, who admitted that nearly $11,000 had been added to the statement of Miss Scott's gross income through "honest errors" of Mrs. Dodson and James W. Johnson, a former Internal Revenue collector for Upper Manhattan, who made out the actual return.

Mrs. Robson contended, however, that this had been more than offset by failure to list more than that amount on Miss Scott's earnings in Europe and the Near East.

$50 Is the total set aside each week for News Tips and News Photos. For News Tips, call MU. 5-6015, 6017, 6112 and 1813. If no answer, call LA. 3-3024 or WI. 5-2522. Bring your Photos to the City Desk.

Cook willed half million

MIAMI, Fla — Lawyers put the clamp on any expression of joy by a colored cook and her 11-year-old daughter who were willed a half-million dollars by a prominent Dade County attorney.

Joseph Nadler, represented Mrs. Lillie I. Peacock and young Bonita, said "algebraically" "no reporters" requests for an interview with the lucky pair.

Earlier, Mrs. Peacock had said "Yes, I'll talk to you—later" but she apparently changed her mind after a legal huddle with Nadler.

Her husband, Eldridge, maintenance man at a Coconut Grove elementary School here, added "We can not say anything at this time."

THE WILL of Mrs. Peacock's employer, Charles Zaring, oldest member of the Dade bar who died at 95 on Nov. 15, 1959, is expected to be the subject of a hard-fought legal contest.

Already, Zaring's daughter, Mrs. Grace Stone, has vowed to break the will. She blamed the Peacock family for a rift between herself and her father and charged that they "infiltrated the household."

In her suit, Mrs. Stone charged that her father bought an automobile for the Peacocks and gave the cook the privilege of signing checks on his personal account.

Then she said he willed

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