St. Mary's School tears down old wall

Another Baltimore landmark has crumbled under the march of time and the wrecking hammer.

A 11½ to 20 feet wall surrounding St. Mary's Seminary, 650 N. Paca St., is being demolished.

The wall, dating back to the first of the last century, will be replaced by a newer and more modern structure.

Father Joseph Law, seminary treasurer, said the new wall will be eight feet tall with a 4-inch decorative white cap.

Father Laws said the exact age of the old wall is unknown.

A contractor is analyzing the mortar to determine the construction period in which it was built.

PRELIMINARY EXAMINATIONS, he added, shows that it was built sometime around 1807.

According to plans, all of the ancient structure, except 90 feet on the St. Mary St. side, will come down.

The remaining part will be cut down to comply with the new measurements. This section will be cleaned and remortared.

* * *

THERE ARE three reasons for the face-lifting at St. Mary's, which began two years ago.

The condition of the physical structure of St. Mary's, which has occupied the site since 1792, demanded rehabilitation, Father Law said.

A desire to improve the appearance of the Seminary also figured in the decision.

"After all we do live here permanently and most of us will be here, so we felt that we should do some housecleaning," the priest stated.

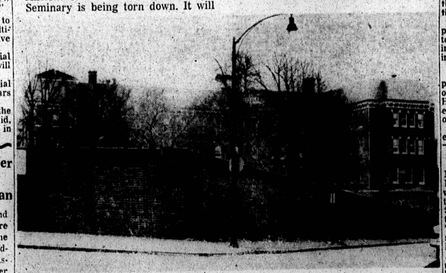
The seminary also wanted to do its part in helping Baltimore become an attractive city.

Father Law said the burial ground, no longer in use, will be maintained.

The school moved its burial ground to Catonsville 40 years ago, he said.

Oldest building on the grounds now, the priest said, is the chapel, constructed in 1808.

WALL CAME TUMBLING DOWN — Ancient structure around St. Mary's Seminary is being torn down. It will be replaced by a newer and more attractive one.



WAITING TURN — This section of the nearly century-old wall awaits its turn for the wrecker's hammer.

Nine charged in Crownsville case

Nine employees at Crownsville State Hospital have been charged with contributing to the delinquency of minors.

The charges resulted from an investigation by hospital officials, started three weeks ago.

Hearing is set for 10 a.m. Dec. 2 before Judge Michaelson in Annapolis.

Dr. Charles S. Ward, superintendent, said the situation was brought to his attention by a patient.

* * *

FOLLOWING FURTHER questioning of other patients and employees, the superintendent called in Anne Arundel County police.

The State's Attorney's office formally charged the workers Nov. 14.

Dr. Ward said his investigation showed that six female patients were involved.

However, he said, the report that a nurse is scheduled to be charged for allegedly aiding five patients to escape is incorrect.

* * *

ON NOV. 15, the State Department of Personnel, on recommendations of the Mental Hygiene Department, suspended the workers, pending the outcome of the hearing.

Six of the suspended employees live on the hospital grounds, two in Annapolis and one in Gambrills, Md.

Suspended employees were identified as:

Emmett Tydings, Clarence Mason, Wilbur L. Harris, Paul L. Hunter, Miss Marie A. Price, and Edward Thomas, all of Crownsville;

Also Ralph A. Jones, R.F.D. 1, and Charles W. Randall, Berry Ct., both of Annapolis, and James C. Robinson, Gambrills.

Ferndale police, who were called in by Dr. Ward, refused comment.

John Blondell, Anne Arundel County assistant state's attorney, said comment would have to await the return of C. Osborne Duvall, state's attorney, who was reported on vacation.

Kenneth Barnes, administrative assistant, Personnel Department, said, regardless of the outcome of the case, his department will investigate.

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Mrs. Adams, Dr. Phifer elected to board of Advance Savings, Loan

Dr. Theodore Phifer and Mrs. Victorine Adams were elected to membership on the Board of Directors of Advance Savings and Loan Association at their November 16th meeting.

President W. O. Bryson reported that Advance has assets of $322,282.

The Association has $178,000 in mortgage loans, $18,000 in loans on savings accounts, $7,000 in improvement loans, owns $28,000 ground rents, $54,000 government securities.

Advance made its first FHA Insured mortgage loan on November 7 under the new system.

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Bishops' annual appeal will aid needy poor of many lands

The annual Catholic Bishops' Thanksgiving Clothing Collection for the needy poor of many lands conducted throughout the nation this week, ends November 27.

Blankets and bedding, bolts of cloth and cotton remnants, men's work clothes and clothing for infants and children are the most urgently needed items.

Packaged articles may be left at any Catholic Church during the Appeal.

In Baltimore the collection is being supervised by the Rev. Thomas J. Mardaga of the Old Cathedral Rectory, 408 N. Charles Street.

BURHA model home at 642 N. Carey St.

A model home of what can be done by way of rehabilitating a property — if you have the money—is open for public inspection 12 noon to 5 p.m. daily at 642 N. Carey St.

This is a three-story house in the Baltimore Urban Renewal and Housing Agency's Demonstration Block 314, purchased and rebuilt by a private developer.

BURHA acquired the property for $4,400 and sold it to Samuel Gorn, the developer, for $1,770.

Mr. Gorn is said to have invested $18,000 in the property, installing a completely new interior with three modern apartments.

Each has a unit kitchen and tiled bath with shower, along with pastel coloring.

* * *

MAYOR J. Harold Grady officially opened the house Tuesday morning, with BURHA officials and representatives of neighborhood organizations as first inspectors.

The house will remain open to the public until further notice.

Meanwhile, an interior park within this block is expected to be completed in two weeks' time.

This demonstration block is bounded by Harlem, Edmondson Aves., Carey and Calhoun Sts.

The properties in this block have been, or are in the process of being, rehabilitated in accordance with an experimental plan advanced by BURHA.

WALL OVEN is part of new look for rehabilitated home at 642 N. Carey St. Giving it a look here are Mayor J. Harold Grady, Mrs. Mamie Grafton and Samuel G. Gorn of the firm which renovated the three-apartment house.

Moylan says Gov. Davis helps Reds in Cold War

"Gov. (Jimmy) Davis is the most devastating fifth column and the most effective political saboteur, that the Soviet Union has possessed behind our lines since the heyday of his neighbor and intellectual brother Orval Faubus."

Charles E. Moylan Jr., assistant state's attorney of Baltimore, included that statement in a talk over Radio Station WCBM last week.

His radio talk was on the integration troubles in New Orleans.

* * *

PAINTING HIS own word picture of what was going on in the 15th largest city of the nation, Mr. Moylan said:

"It took 150 federal marshals and policemen to make certain that four tiny little girls were able to attend the first grade without being ripped apart by a mob . . .

" . . . **Middleaged women were screaming obscenities . . . a federal judge was hanged in effigy . . . mothers were receiving their children . . .**"

Then he posed the question of whether those involved in the protest could "be so irresponsible as not to realize that their bigotry and ignorance is not their own private concern but is the stuff of which world diplomacy is made. Or don't they care?"

* * *

MR. MOYLAN said the growing Afro-Asian bloc "is the area where the ideological war is being waged for the mind of man. this is the pivot on which our survival hinges."

What happens to America's colored citizens, Mr. Moylan said, "is vitally important to a Nigerian, a Hindu and a Burmese.

"What is it the Jimmy Davises wish? Would they lose the cold war in order to maintain their own bigotry? . . . Will the Ku Klux Klan be able to take up the slack if we lose Africa and lose Asia?"

Ten years in 12 thefts

Judge J. Gilbert Prendergast on Tuesday sentenced Johnny Felder, 33, 600 block W. Franklin St., to a 10-year prison term for burglary and directed his transfer to Patuxent Institution to see whether he should be confined permanently as a defective delinquent.

The term was imposed in connection with two of 12 burglary cases against Felder.

Concurrent terms were placed in eight cases and two were dropped.

E. Thomas Maxwell, prosecutor, told the court that Felder was traced through pawn shop records and that most of the stolen articles were recovered.

In addition, Mr. Maxwell said the man told police of entering dozens of other west side homes, but charges could not be placed against him because the victims had moved and cannot be located.

Felder had used screwdrivers to force doors and locks on houses on McCullon St., Eutaw Pl.; Fulton Ave.; Carey St.; Fayette and Saratoga Sts.; and Edmondson and Fremont Aves.;

LL. Delmar Kelly said that police had several cartons of stolen goods which had to be returned to pawn shops because the authorities have not been able to trace the original owners.

Fraud defendant wins suspension

Josh Woods Jr., 38, 500 block Gilmor St., was sentenced to 18 months in the penitentiary in Criminal Court Wednesday, but it was suspended on condition he make restitution of $328.74 which he was convicted of defrauding the Welfare Department.

Woods was convicted by Judge Joseph R. Byrnes after testimony showed that he was receiving welfare payments in addition to $14.02 from the Workman's Compensation Act.

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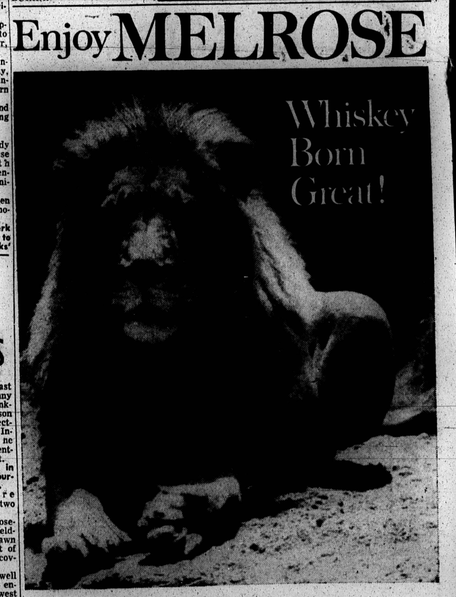

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Their Specialty Is Helping The School Problem Child

- **57 school social workers devote their entire working day in trying to help children who simply can't adjust to school**
- **Baltimore leads the country in work of this nature**
- **To qualify for the position of school social worker requires six years of college plus two years of field study.**

Baltimore Afro American
Feature Page
NOVEMBER 26, 1960 15

By George Collins

There are 14,940 Baltimore school children who have problems which retard their learning.

These problem children represent but a fraction of the total school population, 170,000, but that's a lot of children, nonetheless.

The job of seeking out and correcting these problems falls to a special branch of the Department of Education, the Division of Special Services.

Backbone of this unit is a group of specialists. Their specialty?

Detecting and arresting problems plaguing thousands of young minds.

They are known as school social workers, but a more adequate description would be "Children's Problem Detectives."

* * *

TO AID parents and teachers in locating and licking Junior's and Sally's burdens, the Department of Education uses 57 of these detectives.

They are under the overall supervision of the Division of Special Services for Pupils, headed by Dr. Arthur Lichtenstein.

Head of this team of problem investigators is Miss Elizabeth Armstrong.

She oversees the work of five specialists, who in turn supervise the work of ten - member teams.

Team supervisors include Mrs. Dolly Walker, Charles Cephas, Joseph Frankford, Mrs. Eugenia Weaver, and Mrs. Marjorie Everingham.

* * *

THESE INVESTIGATORS are a new breed of experts in the field of social science.

Unlike the old conception of a social worker — good samaritan trudging through the community ministering to the poor and needy — social workers are a cover of highly trained and competent technicians.

As Dr. Lichtenstein puts it, "they have to be, they are working with the most complicated pieces of machinery in existency — human beings."

In order to qualify for the profession that has been described as "re-bending the twig" they must measure up to rigid standards.

Before these investigators become active operators, according to Dr. Lichtenstein, they must complete two years of post graduate study in a social work in a recognized college or university.

After taking a master's degree, they must then get two years' practical experience.

* * *

SUCH EXTENSIVE preparation is necessary, the director said, because the range of problems encountered by the school social worker far exceeds those faced by an agency social worker.

Not only must they deal with children, but hostile parents and impatient teachers while conducting a series of complicated and touchy interviews and conferences.

A comparatively new development, the first school social worker joined the Division of Special Services 24 years ago.

Baltimore has since become the country's leading city in this area of education, the director states.

Baltimore's social work experts are in great demand by other education departments, anxious to learn of the new approach in dealing with children with problems.

* * *

WHAT ARE problem children?

They are youngsters unable to adjust to school life due to emotional or physical disturbances.

On the physical side of the ledger, need of eyeglasses, ill - fitting shoes, clothes, ear, nose, or other medical failures help create a problem child.

A child who has a morbid fear of school, refuses to participate in the classroom routine, ignores homework assignments, fights, talks, or has a general disruptive effect upon the classroom procedure, are a few examples of emotional disturbances.

There are also more serious examples, Dr. Lichtenstein reported.

These take the form of stealing, setting fires, running away from home and school and chronic lying, the child behavior expert related.

Usually parents are prone to place the blame for their children's problems on the school.

However, a majority of the cases originate in the home, according to Dr. Lichtenstein.

Reluctant at first, parents are willing to cooperate, once they realize this mistake.

* * *

NATURALLY, there are many problems getting the attention of Special Services at the moment. However, two emotional problems commonly encountered are outstanding.

They are "the School Phobia Child" and the "Non or Poor Achiever."

The former is a child who has a morbid fear of school while the latter, capable of doing good work, fails to do so.

Usually, the first person to sense that a youngster is best by some disturbing influence is the teacher.

If his or her efforts fail to get results, the principal is then called in.

If after conferring with parent and child, the school feels the problem is beyond its reach, the case then goes to the social worker.

But first, the nature of the problem must be determined.

A thorough physical examination will either tag the case as medical or emotional.

If the disturbance requires medical attention, the pupil is referred to a clinic for treatment.

Otherwise, the school social work investigator goes to work.

* * *

BEFORE SEEING the child, the detective is briefed on the case.

The youngster's I.Q., medical history, environmental background and other pertinent information are throughly probed by the investigator.

Then begins a series of interviews with the problem child.

If these interviews indicated that the problem is rooted in the home, — and more than one - half of them are — parents are made part of the search.

As he does with the child, the investigator holds a series of meetings with the parents, but never in the presence of the youngster.

If the problem is solved, as in two-thirds of the cases, the child becomes an average, or in some cases, a superior student.

If the investigator finds he is unable to reach the problem child, as in 10 to 15 percent of the cases, the child is referred to Juvenile Court, treatment clinic or training school.

* * *

A TYPICAL case history of a "School Phobia Child" case follows:

Bobby X first came to the attention of the school social worker when his teacher, Miss Y, told the principal, she had an emergency in her class.

Bobby had been brought to school by his father that morning.

As he reached the door, he began screaming, kicking and pleading with his father to take him home.

However, the father, obviously embarrassed and disgusted with his son, led him to the teacher and hurried out the door.

Now Bobby was complaining that he was sick with pains, chills and fever. He refused to stay in the room.

He was taken to the nurse's room and the school checked with the family doctor.

It was found that Bobby had been thoroughly examined by the doctor only recently, and nothing was physically wrong with him.

* * *

BOBBY REFUSED to leave the nurse's room, saying he was sick and afraid of the teacher, who "picked on him."

When the combined efforts of parents and the school to get Bobby to stay in class failed, he was referred to the social worker.

After examining the child's history, the investigator held the first interview.

When the social worker saw Bobby, the timid boy was slumped in a chair, casting his eyes about as if seized with fright.

Trying to put him at ease, the trouble shooter asked Bobby if he were afraid.

The youngster answered yes. What of?, the worker wanted to know.

"The teacher," replied Bobby through tear-filled eyes.

"She makes me awful nervous by hollering and picking on me," he volunteered.

Asked why the teacher would pick on him, Bobby didn't know.

However, when he insisted that she did, the social worker agreed with him.

"This world is full of tough people," the investigator assured the child, and it might well be that the teacher was giving him a hard time.

When the worker showed an interest in Bobby's plight, the youngster became relaxed and showed a willingness to exchange ideas with the problem detective.

* * *

FOLLOWING THE initial interview, the social worker determined that Bobby was the victim of a sense of insecurity.

The reason, he was convinced, was hidden in the home.

Conferences with the parents were scheduled, seeing one at a time.

From the father, a firm, and quick-mannered insurance man, the investigator learned, that Bobby was a source of disappointment and impatience.

The boy disliked rough games, had few friends, was completely withdrawn, much different from his younger brother.

The social worker also made a mental note that like Bobby's father, his teacher was also firm in her manner.

It was further revealed that the father, working long hours each day, had little time for his son.

While interviewing the mother, the worker detected evidence that she was burdened with a sense of insecurity.

Getting no help from her husband, who felt involved providing for the family, she was completely enveloped with the caring for two younger children, housekeeping and other problems.

She, too, had virtually forgotten little Bobby.

* * *

CONVINCED THAT she was unable to cope with mounting responsibilities presented by the children and home, the mother developed tension and anxiety.

This, the investigator decided, was being transferred to Bobby.

The child was utterly helpless and unsure of himself.

As his stern teacher, Bobby saw a resemblance of his father, who must have disliked him, the boy believed, because he ignored him.

During the course of the interviews, the investigator relayed his findings to the parents.

They both agreed to make a greater effort to share attention among the three children, rather than confining it to the younger ones and ignoring young Bobby, the oldest.

The father found time to take Bobby places, watch television with him, showing an interest in the things that concerned the boy.

The mother too, had nice things to say to and do for her "big boy."

Gradually, the problem detective noticed that Bobby's brooding became nonexistent.

Instead of running from the teacher, he now bought her apples when his father carried him to the market.

* * *

A CASE history of the "Non-Achiever" is similar to the above, however, it has its own peculiarities.

Take the case of Jane Doe who has an I.Q. of 102, but is unable to do the required work of a fourth grader.

While other students take part in the classroom activity, Jane just sits there.

She never gets homework, doesn't bother to use materials for classroom work, refuses to associate with others, and shows general disinterest in school.

The school called in the school social worker.

The first interview told the detective that Jane was uncomfortable in the classroom.

She felt ostracized because her clothing were tattered. Other children, she felt, would ridicule her run-over shoes, heedless socks if she attracted their attention by participating in the classroom routine.

From the mother, the social worker found that Jane was one of 10 children.

Her mother and father were separated and the family was receiving public assistance.

With ten children, there just wasn't enough to go around, the mother said.

The obvious need here, the worker observes, is to get more assistance for the family.

Also guidance for the mother in caring for the fatherless brood.

When this help was forthcoming, Jane lost her inferiority complex.

* * *

WHILE THESE are only two cases handled by the Division of Special Services, the overall statistics indicate the success of the division in its short life:

Of all cases referred, two - thirds are solved. Another six percent respond favorably, but at a much slower rate Dr. Lichtenstein reports.

Only 10 to 15 per cent of cases coming to the attention of the detectives prove unreachable.

These are referred either to court officials, treatment clinics or training schools.

Dr. Lichtenstein said his workers concentrate on elementary and junior high schools.

This course of action is taken because the division hopes to have students adjusted before they reach the high school level.

Case loads vary, depending on the social worker, the director said.

While some workers don't wish to process more than 30 cases at one time, others are happy to carry 45 cases.

The 57 workers average 90 cases per school term, Dr. Lichstein reported.

* * *

HOWEVER, to cope with the task serving the 4,940 junior high and 10,000 elementary problem children, the Division is in great need of more workers.

Pay scales are the same as that of teachers with M.A.'s.

The director also reported that the profession of school social workers is now attracting more men as it develops.

Among the present staff are 10 males, two of whom are supervisors.

Unlike the familiar crime detective, the life of a child problem detective moves very slowly.

But there's no lack of excitement.

One social worker put it this way:

"To know that you had a part in rescuing and setting right a young life is a rewarding experience.

"Really, you can't describe it!"

MRS. HELENA HICKS AND YOUTH WITH PROBLEM

Cute - But Homeless!

If a small child could bring more happiness into your home, now is the time to act.

Both the Family and Children's Society, 204 W. Lanvale St., and the Maryland Children's Aid Society, 57 W. 29th St., have a number of children available at this time. Some of them are pictured on this page.

These healthy, cute youngsters need a home.

The Family and Children's Society, through the cooperation of ministers, has designated Sunday as a time when the need for the adoption of children with no parental ties will be pointed up.

This season of the year during a period when "the Baby of the World" was born, was selected as a good time to stimulate couples to adopt a child.

The Christmas season is always one of happy times or parents and their children.

* * *

WHILE STEPS are taken to see that every child gets a suitable home, there is no longer a lot of red tape in adopting a child.

The steps are simple and it does not take a lot of time.

Couples without children, and in some cases those who already have some, are able to adopt children.

To get information about adopting a child from Family and Children's Society, 204 W. Lanvale St., visit the agency or call it at MA. 3-7232.

To get information about adopting a child from the Maryland Children's Aid Society 5-7 W. 29th St., visit the agency or call it at TU. 9-8257.

Children's Aid Society also has offices at 18 W. Dover St. in Easton, Md. and 21 Court St., Westminister.

* * *

IF YOUR HOME needs a child, one of these agencies has one who is just what you want and he, or she if you prefer a girl, needs you, too.

Don't fret about red tape. You'll be surprised how easy it is.

If you act now, you'll be closer to the final adoptive step by Christmas.

And even if you don't have your adoptive child in time for Santa Claus to visit him this year, think of all the Christmases to come when he'll be growing up under your guidance.

CHARLES
Wants a father's knee to sit on, also a mother.

ROSALIE
She's thinking how nice a home would be for Christmas

CARL
Personality child with faith in future

Safe Toys

Peeking from beneath Christmas trees across the nation Dec. 25 will be all sorts of playthings — round toys, hard toys, soft, cuddly toys, noisy toys.

But little if any thought will be given to how safe they are.

This, the Baltimore Safety Council points out, just isn't smart.

"Fortunately," it said, "most toy manufacturers have done their best to make their products safe for youngsters. But a toy perfectly safe for an 8-year-old may be quite unsuitable for a toddler."

The Council made these recommendations about buying toys this Christmas:

1. Teach children how to use the toys.

2. Keep an eye out for possible wear or damage — broken edges or splinters, for example.

3. Perhaps most important, buy toys that suit the child's age.

* * *

THE COUNCIL gave these suggestions on what toys to buy:

For children up to 2 years. Buy sturdy rattles, washable squeak toys, stuffed animals and dolls, blocks with round corners, push or pull toys, and large colored balls.

Beware of small toys that can be swallowed, flammable toys, and toys with poisonous paint, sharp edges, button eyes that can pull loose, removable parts.

Age 2 to 3. Tops for tots in this, the exploring set — sandbox toys, large peg boards, tricycles, low rocking horses, bright picture books, large crayons.

Beware, again, of sharp, rough edges on toys, small removable parts, flammable toys, lead-based paint, objects that can be swallowed.

Age 3 to 4. Excellent are toy telephones, doll buggies and furniture, miniature garden tools, building blocks.

Stay away from toys that break or splinter, those too heavy for the child's strength, sharp or cutting toys.

"Help pack safety in Santa's sack," the Council said. "Be sure children get safe toys for Christmas."