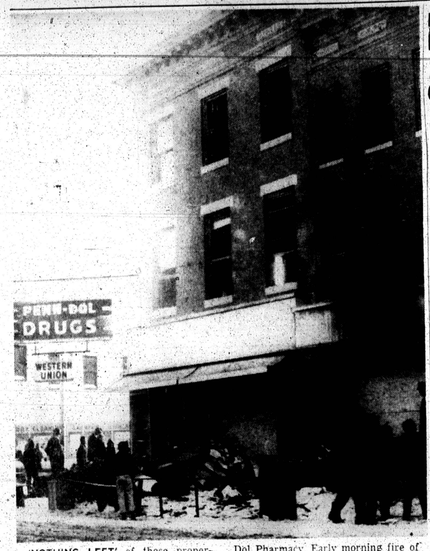
# RANDOLPH URGES CRASH JOBS EFFORT




'NOTHING LEFT' of those properties at 1200-1202 Pennsylvania Ave., corner of Dolphin St., housing Penn-Dol Pharmacy. Early morning fire of undetermined origin razed buildings.

PENN-DOL BLAZE

## Fire closes city's only all-night drugstore

By B. M. PHILLIPS

"A customer said he smelled smoke. Benny opened the door at 1202, and as soon as he opened the door, the fire came right on through and around. It cleaned the whole place out.

"We don't have a thing left here. What was in good shape, the Fire Department took care of. . it's all over now. We have nothing left.

Friendly Jack Schumer, 5604 Menlo Drive, proprietor of Penn - Dol Pharmacy, was rushed to the scene early Wednesday morning fire which leveled the store properties at 1200 and 1202 Pennsylvania Ave.

THREE OF ten employees at work in the store and living in rooms occupying second and third floor apartments at 1200 escaped unscathed. Mrs. Lil Schumer, college student, lived on third floor in one of the apartments. Firemen rescued a Spanish-speaking man, a Spanish-speaking woman and a child from the burning building.

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Lipsitz, both two-year lease residents, escaped out the front door. He is a B. and O. Railroad employee.

Penn - Dol is the city's only all - night drugstore, open seven days a week.

Mr. Schumer said it is impossible to give an estimate of damage, or to guess what might have caused the blaze. The buildings are assessed by the city at $30,700.

THE EMPLOYEES on duty at the time were Benny Chesley, time clerk, who discovered the blaze at 12:45 a.m. and sounded the first of two alarms; Dr. John J. Wilson, the pharmacist; and Mrs. Goldie Norris, clerk.

Mr. Schumer was at his home when he received word of the fire. He made the three-mile trip from his home in seven minutes, despite the snow-covered streets.

On Thursday, he and his employees were inventorying the damage, and checking with the insurance inspectors.

He estimated it may take "five or six weeks or longer to get straightened out. We'll need everything new in here. Yes, we'll rebuild.

THE PENN - DOL properties were originally owned by Mrs. Schumer's father, the late Louis Maseritz. He died two years ago.

IN 1900, Mr. Maseritz opened a haberdashery at 1202, later adding a post office station and still later, a novelty store.

In 1930, Mr. Maseritz purchased the drugstore property at 1200, corner of Dolphin St.

In recent years, Mr. and Mrs. Schumer have owned and conducted the business, which has been a popular meeting place for people from all sections of the city.

The Schumers inaugurated the all night, seven - day a week policy. Majority of the store's employees are colored.

Of the fire, Mrs. Schumer told the AFRO: "It is the worst tragedy for us. We were upset for Christmas . . yes, it happened so suddenly, and there's not a piece of anything left . sure, we had insurance, but it is never enough to cover, not when you're completely burned out."

## School Board to study names for new schools

The School Board on Thursday, asked Dr. George B. Brain and his staff, to study a recommendation that two of the city's new public school buildings now under construction, bear the names of individuals.

Existing policy is to name schools for the community in which they are located, although exceptions have been made upon request from time to time.

Before the board was selection of names for the following schools: No. 19, Lexington St. and Myrtle Ave., No. 202, Lafayette and Braddish Aves., No. 251, Stulbert's Granite, Frankfur and Allendale Sts., all still to be built; and No. 200, Catherine and Lombard Sts. and No. 305, 2500 W. Lombard Sts., old buildings now identified by numbers only.

HERBERT M. FRISBY, Arctic correspondent, and former head of the Douglass High science department, requested that the board consider the name of Maryland-born Matthew A. Henson, co-discoverer of the North Pole with Admiral Robert E. Peary, in 1909; and Harry T. Pratt, for more than a half-century a teacher and principal in the Baltimore schools.

His letter to the board requested that it "re-examine, reconsider and amend its rule . . . of naming of some of our new school buildings after Mr. Henson, Mr. Pratt, or other persons, wherein the mention of their names would inspire our youth toward highest purposes and accomplishments. . ."

Mrs. Elizabeth M. Phillips is a member of the Board, seconded Mr. Frisby's suggestions, and suggested further the names of Dr. John Hope, former superintendent of Baltimore schools (1930-1952), now at a Columbia University post, and Dr. Elizabeth Morrissy, longtime school board member (1948-1960) and nationally known educator.

John W. Curlett, president of the board, noted he has been the policy not to name schools for persons still living.

THE BOARD also approved the appointment of Dr. Thomas Goedeke, as director of junior and senior high schools, effective Jan. 16. 1961. Dr. Goedeke is now principal of the Gwynns Falls Park Junior High.

He succeeds Dr. Vernon S. Varsona, who was named assistant superintendent of secondary, vocational and adult education to succeed Thomas A. Van Sant who resigned in September to take a New York position.

J. Leonard Hirschhorn, principal of Jane Addams Junior High School, was chosen to replace Dr. Goedeke at Gwynns Falls.

In other action, the Board accepted the resignation of three elementary teachers, and an educational Psychologist.

THEY ARE:

Mesdames Rosamond M. Chenoweth, Joan H. Hodous and Joyce A. Moberg, all of Baltimore; and Mrs. Ruth Jones, psychologist.

Mrs. Edith Walker, director of elementary education; Richard Micherdzinski, director of art education; and Emile Serpass, director of music education, explained the music and art programs in the schools.

Members present at the meeting, in addition to Mr. Curlett and Mrs. Phillips, were: Eli Frank Jr., Mrs. M. Richmond Farring, Dr. Roger Howard, John R. Sherwood, and Dr. William D. McElroy. Samuel Epstein and Henry P. Irr were absent.

The next scheduled meeting of the board is Jan. 19, 1961.

LUCKY PICTURE in each edition. Find the circle about your head, come to the City Desk and collect $5. Your head could be circled in a street scene or at a sports event when you didn't even know the picture was made.

## Horton appointed inspector

A captain, a lieutenant, a sergeant and seven patrolmen were promoted in the Police Department Wednesday.

Captain Millard B. Horton, 56, commanding officer of the Eastern District, was promoted to inspector.

INSPECTOR HORTON will be replaced at Eastern by Lt. George H. Deuchler Jr., 51, of the Western District.

Lieutenant Deuchler was promoted to captain.

Lieutenant Deuchler's replacement at Western will be former sergeant Carroll J. Flanagan, 39, of the Central District.

Sergeant Flanagan was appointed lieutenant.

The promotions became effective on Thursday.

THE SEVEN NEW SERGEANTS are:

Charles E. Kearney, who will remain with the Detective Bureau.

Charles F. Maisch, who will remain with the K-9 Corps.

Joseph J. Lynch of the Central District who was assigned to Northwestern.

Stanley W. Nelka, Southwestern, assigned to Northwestern.

Gordon H. Graff, Northwestern, assigned to Central.

Otis E. Hopper, Northern, assigned to Southeastern.

And, Wilbur S. Holland, who will remain with the Rackets Division.

THE NEW inspector was appointed to the police force in 1931.

Inspector Horton was promoted to sergeant in 1938, and appointed a lieutenant in 1947.

Inspector Horton was made captain in 1951 and was assigned to the old Northwestern District.

He was assigned to Eastern when the new district lines were drawn last year.

Inspector Horton resides at 4311 Sheldon Ave.

CAPT. DEUCHLER was appointed by the Department in 1935 and was promoted to sergeant in January of 1949.

Captain Deuchler has been a lieutenant since December of 1953.

He resides at 3302 Ellerslie Ave.

Lieutenant Flanagan was appointed to the Department in June of 1946 and was made a sergeant in April of 1952.

Lieutenant Flanagan resides at 323 Westowne Rd.

INSPECTOR HORTON replaces Inspector William E. Taylor who recently retired from the Police Department.

In his new position, the Inspector will be in charge of police headquarters at night.

Inspector Horton's office will be at the Eastern District station.

## It was not 2534

A typographical error in the vital statistics appearing in the Tuesday, Dec. 13th issue, incorrectly gave the address of 2534 McCulloh St., in listing the death of Baby Girl Brown. The 2534 McCulloh St. address is that of Mr. and Mrs. Phillip W. Hutton, who have resided there for years. The Brown baby who died 17 days after birth lived at 1534 McCulloh St. The AFRO is happy to make this correction.

DOG GONE GOOD FUN in the snow is enjoyed by little Miss Jean Murray, 2416 W. Lafayette Ave., and her dog. Low temperatures promise the snow will stay awhile to delight children (and puppies too) who like a white winter.

## Baltimore area jobless above 36,400, climbing

More than 36,400 of the Baltimore area labor force of 729,100, or 4.9 percent, are out of work.

These figures from the Maryland Department of Employment Security, are for October and compare with the 47,400 (6.5 percent) out of work here at the same time in 1958, the last recession year.

Any time the percentage reaches 6 percent of the labor force it is considered critical.

Significantly, unemployment is on the rise in Baltimore in a period when things are usually better and the outlook for the first part of the year is not too promising.

The "Baltimore area" labor force includes workers from Baltimore City, Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Carroll and Howard counties.

THE BUREAU of National Affairs has just released a report predicting more layoffs in auto plants and aircraft as steel, metalworking and mining continue to be hardest hit.

Nationally, according to the bureau, the more than 4 million persons out of work now will climb to 5 million by January and then to 5½ million by spring.

That would bring the unemployment rate to about 7 percent, which is close to the national 1958 recession rate.

At the same time, because of the high colored population in Baltimore City, a third of the total, that segment of the community usually sustains an employment rate above the national level.

SOME LABOR leaders in the Baltimore area are fearful that many of the workers now laid off or working part time are never going to be called back on a full time basis..

Some of the larger employers of the area are reluctant to discuss the unemployment situation.

At Bethlehem Steel the AFRO was told Thursday the company had not been giving out such information and did not plan to do so now.

A spokesman at Baltimore Chevrolet suggested unemployment figures might be obtained by calling the central office in Detroit.

WESTERN Electric which hires about 6,000 reported "layoffs for the past two months but no large numbers." The layoff rate was estimated at 1.7.

A spokesman estimated that January and February "will be pretty much the same."

The same official complained that he has "been shocked by the number of things being bought by Americans from abroad, lower cost industries with which we can't compete. We almost have to eat what we make."

Industry leaders are complaining more and more that high labor costs and things such as feather - bedding are forcing them into a production - cost corner where they find it difficult to compete with goods from other countries.

FRANCIS S. FILBEY, president of the AFL - CIO Council for the Baltimore area, said "there is less employment now in most areas when it should be better.

"Baltimore is just as badly hit as any other section. . when the steel mills reduce it has its effects all along the line.

"However, we have a great deal of confidence in the new Administration (President - elect John F. Kennedy)."

Mr. Filbey said he thought if things' continued at the same level into the new year, Mr. Kennedy would initiate some pump - priming projects.

George Willinger, president of Teamsters Local 557, which represents about 5,000 of the Teamster Joint Council's estimated 24,000 members, told the AFRO:

"It's real bad now, worse than it has been in previous years."

He estimated his local's drivers, dyepipers, platform laborers, etc. at about 30 percent unemployed and about 5 percent on reduced work weeks.

On the other hand he pointed out that right now the cab drivers, crab workers, fuel oil people and a few others were doing pretty good because of the weather.

Mr. Willinger said the slack off at Sparrows Point also curtailed his men's work be-

(Continued on Page 31)

WHAT'S COOKING IN BALTIMORE

## Public meetings open to all

CITY COUNCIL meets Monday in City Council Chambers, City Hall, Fayette and Holliday Sts., 5 p.m.

ZONING BOARD meets Tuesday in Room 231 at City Hall; 1 p.m.

CITY PLANNING COMMISSION meets Wednesday, 2 p.m., Room 400 of Municipal Building, Lexington and Holliday Sts.

FIRE BOARD, Tuesdays, 1 p.m., Fire Department Headquarters, Gay and Lexington Sts.

LIQUOR BOARD meets Thursday, 1 p.m. in City Hall, Room 310 (subject to change).

SCHOOL BOARD—Thursdays, 4 p.m., 3 E. 25th St.

## Art museums open to all

Baltimore Museum of Art, Wyman Pk. Dr. near Charles and 31st Sts. daily 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.; closed Mondays; open Tuesday 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. to 11 p.m.; Sundays, 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. Closed Christmas Day.

Flag House and 1812 Museum, Pratt and Albemarle Sts., open Tuesdays through Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Sundays, 2 to 5 p.m.; closed Monday, Christmas Day.

Hampton House, Dulany Valley Rd., sponsored by the Maryland Society for Preservation of Marys and Antiques. Open Tuesdays to Saturdays, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sundays, 1 to 5 p.m., closed Mondays.

MUNICIPAL PEALE MUSEUM, 225 N. Holliday St. open week days, 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Sundays, 1:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., closed Mondays, Christmas Day.

Peabody Institute Library, 17 E. Mt. Vernon Pl., open Mondays through Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Walters Art Gallery, Charles and Center Sts., open week days, 1:30 p.m. to 5 p.m., 7:30 p.m., 9:30 p.m., Sundays, 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. and holidays. Closed Mondays.

## 'Dawn Strangler' suspect loses bid to Appeals Court

Another possible door of escape was slammed shut in the face of Nathaniel Lipscomb by the Court of Appeals this week.

The court rejected Lipscomb's plea for a reversal of the verdict and affirmed the decision of a lower court that the 31-year-old man must pay with his life for the rape-murder of three women.

In the absence of any further appeals, Lipscomb will be returned to the Baltimore Criminal Court and the date will be set for his execution at the Maryland Penitentiary.

THE SOFT-SPOKEN Lipscomb was convicted earlier this year of the three rapes and murders which occurred in the Northeastern section of the city.

All of the crimes were similar in nature, in that the women were all killed at dawn and were strangled.

The man sought in connection with the crimes came to be known as the "Dawn Strangler" and until his apprehension fear hung over the area in a heavy cloud.

The victims and the dates of their deaths were: Mrs. Mae Hall on Dec. 9, 1958; Mrs. Lottie Kight, Dec. 14, 1958, and Mrs. Pearl Wear, April 14, 1959.

Four days after the last death, a team of policemen, which had been assigned to the area with instructions to catch the "Dawn Strangler," took Lipscomb into custody.

IN THE suspect's pocket, the police said, were found three pairs of ladies panties.

Robert B. Watts, Lipscomb's attorney, pleaded his client not guilty by reason of insanity, but the plea was in vain when psychiatrists ruled the man knew right from wrong.

In statements, which police said Lipscomb gave, the defendant linked the death of a combination of liquor and his desire for female companionship.

All of the statements were similar in that he said he was drunk at the time and in a moment of excitement grabbed the women about the neck.

## Warns of ending up in slums on doles

"We must wage a monumental struggle for survival in industrial life.

"Unless we can get a crash program that will inspire our youths to transform themselves into skilled workers, we are going to become the denizens of the great metropolitan areas who will live off doles in the slums.

"The colored employee is facing his most crucial hour. . .the future is dark. . . I honestly am afraid we don't have enough time."

Veteran labor leader A. Philip Randolph delivered this urgent message here at meetings, first to a group of ministers, then to a cross - section of community leaders, at Douglas Community Church, on Thursday.

* * *

Tonight (Friday) at 8 p.m. he will bring his dramatic plea for action to any and all comers at a public meeting at Douglas Church, Lafayette and Madison.

* * *

MR. RANDOLPH, president of the Brotherood of Sleeping Car Porters and the American Negro Labor Council and a vice president of the AFL-CIO Federation, is touring the nation drumming up interest in a two - day meeting where the problem will be discussed.

The meeting, a Workshop and Institute on Race Bias in Trade Unions, Industry and Government, will be held in Washington, D.C. Feb. 17-18.

Sponsored by the ANLC, plans are to have delegates register at $3 each and participate in the sessions with leaders from all areas of employee - employer contact.

Out of it, Mr. Randolph hopes will come a nationwide movement to force down racial bars in trade unions, industry and government "so that the young colored man will have the same training and job opportunity as the white youth."

The oncoming rush of automation makes immediate action urgent, Mr. Randolph asserts.

* * *

CITING FIGURES which showed that in February, 1959 when the unemployment rate in the nation was 6.4 per cent but that for colored workers was 11.7 percent, Mr. Randolph declared:

"A recession for white

(Continued on Page 31)

## Walter Collins, 64, kin of Baltimorean, buried in Chester

Funeral services were held in Chester, Pa., Thursday for Walter Collins, 64, longtime Philadelphia Electric Co. employee.

Mr. Collins, ill with a heart condition for sometime, died on Dec. 4.

His wife, Mrs. Georgia Porter Collins, died 18 months ago. A son, Walter Jr., 17, survives.

Other survivors include five sisters, three of whom reside in Baltimore, and one brother. They are: Raymond Collins, Boston; Mesdames blanche Hughes, Geneva Hillen and Marjorie Butler, also of Baltimore and Mesdames Evelyn Franklin and Marietta Hall, both of New York.

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BLUE STREAK EDITION

# Baltimore Afro-American

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# Ambassador Says Wife Abducted Child

## Clift case in Federal ct.

"We were divorced in 1948. I gave her permission to take our child to visit her grandmother in Iraq.

"I saw her later in 1948 and we discussed reconciliation . . she had agreed to my conditions.

"I took her to the airport in spite of all my responsibilities. We kissed and said au revoir and she went to Iraq to finish her business there, and she and my daughter were to return to me.

"She left . . . this is the first time I've seen her since."

These words came from a Federal Court witness stand on Wednesday at the start of a hearing for the custody of a 14 - year - old Baltimore high school girl born in the Middle East.

Speaking was the girl's father, Abdul - Rahman Omar Adra, Lebanese ambassador to Tehran, Iran.

* * *

THE TEENAGER is Najwa Adra, a ninth grade pupil at the Woodbourne Junior High School.

Her mother is Mrs. Nezrine Adra Clift, the Ambassador's first wife, now a Baltimore school teacher.

Mrs. Clift is now the wife of Dr. Virgil A. Clift, head of the Department of Education at Morgan State College.

The legal battle which began in 1949 and has already spanned two continents, began here in September when Ambassador Adra, through a Washington lawyer, filed suit charging that Dr. and Mrs. Clift abducted his daughter from Lebanon without his permission.

The suit charged:

1. That Mrs. Clift took their daughter to Iraq for a visit and never returned her.

2. That Mrs. Clift transported their daughter to various countries in Europe "evading the father's efforts to find her.

3. That in June, 1958, she married Dr. Clift and brought their daughter to the U.S. without the father's consent.

4. And that the father had a judgment handed down in the Religious Courts of Beruit, Lebanon, granting him custody of their daughter.

THE AMBASSADOR asked that the Lebanon court decision be upheld.

At the Wednesday hearing, which was expected to last through the week, Dr. Zaki Jwaideh, an expert in Arab law from the Library of Congress, testified that legal principles in Lebanon said the mother had the right to raise the girl until the age of nine years.

After that, the child was given to the father as the legal guardian.

Even so, he said, the mother was not allowed to take the child more than one day's journey from the father's residence.

Upon questioning by the Court, the legal expert could not say whether the mother could delay giving up the child and whether the passage of time destroyed the

(Continued on Page 3)

## Disasters

Thomas A. Butts Jr., 26, a native of Richmond, Va., was one of the survivors in the tragic fire which raced through the super aircraft carrier, "Constellation" at the Brooklyn Navy Yard, this week. Some 40 persons were killed.

Mr. Butts, a Navy Yard employee, escaped with smoke filled lungs and eyes.

DARNELL MALLORY, 20, a freshman at Omaha University, was one of the 128 persons killed in the worst air crash in history last Friday in Brooklyn. His sister is Miss Nordine Mallory, a graduate of Morgan State College.

SPECIAL NOTICE

The Business, Circulation and Advertising Departments of the BALTIMORE AFRO-AMERICAN will be closed on Monday, Dec. 26, because of Christmas holiday. The offices will reopen Tuesday. The AFRO-AMERICAN wishes all a MERRY CHRISTMAS.

CHRISTMAS 1960 greetings are extended AFRO readers by these third-grade pupils at Rutland Elementary School No. 129 in East Baltimore. From top to bottom, Deborah Blair, David Roberts, Michele Austin, Patricia Rinehart, Kenneth Green, Ina Rae Thomas, and Laurence Smith.

# Mrs. Santa Is 'Thrilled'

## 3 La. officials face contempt counts

NEW ORLEANS — Three top Louisiana officials Wednesday were ordered by a three-judge Federal Court to show cause on Jan. 13 why they should not be cited for refusing to pay teachers at two integrated schools here.

They are Lt. Gov. C. C. (Taddy) Aycock, House Speaker Tom Jewell and Supt. Shelby Jackson.

The court was asked by a U.S. attorney to hold the three in contempt for refusing to pay teachers at William Franz and McDonough 19 schools, desegregated early in November under a Federal court order.

* * *

IN ADDITION, the court also ordered four New Orleans banks to honor checks the School Board wants to write on $700,000 in deposits. Further, the city was told to turn over to the board $200,000 in taxes it had withheld.

It was the second time during Wednesday that the state and its officials suffered a sharp blow in efforts to keep its schools segregated.

Earlier in the day the House killed a bill to increase the tax one cent Gov. Jimmie Davis had hoped to use the $28 million in revenue to support private segregated schools.

United States District Attorney M. Hepburn Many filed motions in U. S. District Court Tuesday asking that the court declare Lt. Gov. C.

(Continued on Page 3)

## Jail Bd. to end policy

Segregation of inmates inside the Baltimore City Jail will be eliminated at the next meeting of the Jail Board on Jan. 11, 3:30 p.m.

Mayor J. Harold Grady told the AFRO this week he was not aware that there was still segregation of the races at the City Jail when an AFRO story and editorial appeared in the Dec. 17 issue.

Mayor Grady said he has discussed the matter with Harry D. Kaufman, president of the Jail Board, who agrees there isn't any reason why it (segregation) can't be eliminated. It will be taken care

(Continued on Page 3)

## Air Force captain files complaint against colonel

WASHINGTON — Air Force Capt. Charles Milton Penny has officially filed his complaints against certain policies with the Inspector General's Office. He came to Washington last week to make the complaints after his commanding officer at McConnell AFB informed his girl friend that he was colored.

Captain Penny, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Oscar T. Burrell, 4623 Gault Pl. NE., said his complaints were reported to Col. Harry Maxwell, AF chief of complaints in the IG office at the Pentagon.

ACCORDING TO the captain, he talked with Col. Max well and filled out forms making the following recommendations:

1. The Air Force should send out policy statements on race relations which would clarify the service's stand on such matters as all base commanders and commanding officers.

2. That designation of a man's race should be deleted from personnel service records because such designation has no real meaning in determining whether or not a man deserves a promotion.

IN ADDITION to making the aforementioned recom-

(Continued on Page 3)

## Christmas will never be the same for Eli Gibson

Christmas will never be the same for Eli Gibson, garage attendant of 1504 N. Smallwood St.

His wife, Mrs. Catherine Gibson, died suddenly on Wednesday. She would have been 48 on Christmas Eve.

Mrs. Gibson had not complained of being ill, no more than not feeling so well.

Mr. Gibson said he was driving his wife home from the suburbs where she worked as a cook, when she slumped over in the car dead.

"I CAN'T GET over it. I just can't understand it," he repeated over and over as he recalled.

"We were riding along, talking about the children, the window down, and let her have a little air. The next minute she was dead. Now I don't know what to do," Mr. Gibson said hopelessly.

The Gibsons had nearly completed their Christmas plans, and were looking forward to a happy holiday. Their attractive Smallwood St. home was aglow with Christmas decorations, the wife had supervised.

THE DAY before her death, Mrs. Gibson confided to friends she had nearly completed the Christmas baking for which she was well known.

Funeral services were held Sunday at Payne Memorial AME Church, where Mrs. Gibson was an active member for 14 years.

Two funeral wagons of flowers bore testimony of the esteem in which she was held by friends and neighbors.

In addition to her husband of 14 years, Mrs. Gibson leaves two grown sons by a former marriage, James and Ralph Justice; and an aunt, Mrs. Serena Edwards, Philadelphia.

## AFRO Regent party set

Tomorrow (Saturday) will prove to be a red letter day for some 2,500 youngsters who will crowd into the Regent Theatre.

Each and every one of them will be a guest of honor at the third annual AFRO - Regent Christmas Show.

The show will start promptly at 9 a.m. and will feature not only an outstanding film, selected for its appeal to the pop corn set, but also a fast paced and exciting live show.

Portions of the show will

Continued on page 9)

## Child, 10, writes for her mother

In a 10 - year - old's handwriting, a little girl wrote the AFRO's Mrs. Santa:

"My mother is sick. She had triplets and besides we have three sister, 8, 6 5 years old. I don't see any way we will get any Christmas. We need food, clothes, shoes."

Mrs. Santa has already sent the family a food certificate and 100 from funds AFRO readers have contributed. Their Christmas dinner is assured.

However, the four girls need dresses, (sizes 12, 10, 8 and 6) and shoes (sizes 5½, 5 and 3), which some generous reader can still supply. Just call Mrs. Santa at MU. 5-6015. Ask for Case No 549.

Also, to make other families happy, see other cases listed in Mrs. Santa's column in this issue.

### For last minute 'Santas, here's what to do

If you want to make a last minute gift to a needy family, read the list of letters in this edition of the AFRO.

Select one that appeals to you and call Mrs. Santa here at the AFRO office, Mulberry 5-6015. For the name and address of the family.

Mrs. Santa will be accepting calls at this number until 8:30 o'clock tonight (Friday) and until 1:30 p.m. on Saturday.

Because of the lateness of the hour, she will not be able to provide any pickup service, but requests that you play Santa by delivering your gift to the family you choose.

Mrs. Santa hopes that there will be a number of these last minute gifts, because a number of families have not been taken care of.

## Baltimoreans open hearts, purses to help the needy

"If anyone says people are without hearts, I can certainly tell them differently.

"These past few weeks have been thrilling ones, because so many wonderful people have shown that they have sympathy for the less fortunate."

This was the statement that came late Thursday from the AFRO's Mrs. Santa, as she prepared to ring down the curtain on the fourth annual campaign to help the needy families of Baltimore.

THANKS TO THE more than generous response of the public, a record number of needy families are going to have their best holiday ever, this year.

More than 1,000 of these families appealed to Mrs. Santa for help in letters sent to the AFRO, prior to the Dec. 15 deadline.

The pleas came from the young and the old, those full of hope that the future will be better, and those who long ago lost hope that anyone cared what happened to them.

Mrs. Santa published as many of these letters as possible, and appealed to AFRO readers to help these deserving families.

The response to these letters was overwhelming, with people from all sections of the city pledging their assistance.

IN ADDITION, many people made cash donations to the Mrs Santa Fund.

This money was used to purchase food certificates which were sent to a number of the needy families.

It seemed to Mrs. Santa that just about everyone in Baltimore wanted to help, and she welcomed their support with open arms.

The 229th Truck Transportation Battalion of the National Guard commanded by Lt. Col. Melvin Cade, gave the campaign a tremendous

(Continued on page 2)

## Youngster wants blood for mother

A bright - eyed 10-year-old walked into the AFRO office on Tuesday afternoon with a dollar and a note in her hand. She said she wanted to see Mrs. Santa Claus.

In the AFRO City Room, she found Mrs. Santa. The note was about her mother, Mrs. Alice E. Nutter, 431 Manse Ct. It said "My mother is in University Hospital in need of blood. Please give plenty."

Advised that the AFRO would run her plea free of charge, Brenette Nutter handed the $1 bill to Mrs. Santa and told her to put it in the fund to help deserving youngsters on Christmas.

## 'Mrs. Santa, is Mr. Santa there?'

Dozens of youngsters have called the AFRO's Mrs. Santa Claus this week to make their Christmas requests, and to confirm that Mrs. Santa is real.

This conversation on Wednesday afternoon is typical.

Caller: Hello, Mrs. Santa. Where is your husband?

Mrs. S—He's out getting toys for boys and girls. Maybe if you're good, he'll see that you get something.

C—Is Mr. Santa up at Mondawmin?

Mrs. S—Did you see him there? He told me that was one of the places he would stop.

C—Thank you, Mrs. Santa.

## Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Masons sends Graves Quads Christmas check

High on the list of the AFRO's Mrs. Santa's helpers are members of the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Maryland Masons, who sent $50 marked for slow suits for the Graves quadruplets of Annapolis.

The Masonic group also sent Mrs. Santa $50 for the general fund to help other needy families.

Samuel Daniels is grand master.

The Masons' check for the quads came after an emergency appeal from their mother. Mrs. Jane Lorraine Graves, who disclosed the quads are without the necessary heavy winter clothing to go out of doors.

"THEY ARE growing and need so many clothes it is difficult for me to supply them," she said.

Mrs. Graves has eight other children who also must have clothes and food.

If any other group would like to adopt the quadruplets for Christmas, they may call the AFRO's Mrs. Santa at MU 5-6015 today.

ENJOY
Your AFRO most when
You find it in
Your vestibule?
You come home
From work
Right to your door
by carrier.
Call
MU. 5-6016