—Students sent

(Continued from Page 1)

trespassing and fined $100 each or 30 days in prison.

Following the pattern established in other sitdown cases, the students decided to spend the time in jail rather than pay fines.

Instead of being confined to the jail in Rock Hill, they were sent-to the country prison, 14 miles south of here, where they were put on work gangs.

They are Robert McCollough, Frank H. Graham, Mark C. Workman, Willie E. McCleod, David Williamson, Willie T. Massey, John Gaines o ol;Jc .Ffk AR

All of Rock Hill; James F. Wells, Mitt Village, S.C.; and Charles Taylor, Rahway, N.J. The tenth person was the former student, Thomas W. Gaither.

• • •

THE DEFENSE COUNSEL Ernest A. Finney, attorney of Sumter, S.C., contended in court that the students were arrested within 18 seconds after they had been asked by the manager to leave a McCrory five and dime store.

The lawyer also told the court that the arrests were in violation of the students' constitutional rights and that the state laws upon which the arrests were made were discriminatorily applied.

After City Recorder Billy D. Hayes, who was acting as judge, convicted the students and sentenced them, Finney filed notice of appeal. Appeal bond was placed at $200 each.

• • •

AFTER SPENDING a night in the city jail, a night at the prison camp and part of a day on a chain gang, one of the students, Taylor, asked that bond be posted for his release.

The bail money was posted by the Rev. C. A. Ivory, rector of Herman Presbyterian Church and president of the Rock Hill NAACP.

Following his release, Taylor, an honor student, told the AFRO, that he intended to continue in the demonstrations.

"Sooner or later, we're going to end racial segregation in public places," he said, adding: "But we're going to keep at it."

Taylor also said he was composing a letter, on behalf of the jailed students, to the President to help them.

Taylor said that jail and prison officials treated them polite, but that conditions within the institutions were bad.

• • •

THE CITY JAIL, he said, is without mattresses, or any type of bedding. "We slept on steel," he stated.

The youngster declared that physical conditions at the prison camp were not as bad as at the jail, but the food was horrible.

The menu for the day he was there was recalled as follows:

Breakfast, grits, eggs, coffee; Lunch, black-eyed peas, redbeans, cornbread, tea.

Taylor reported that the other students sent word that they were determined to "stick it out." He said, all they asked was that fellow students visit them when permitted, that people support the sitdown movement.

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Groundhog sees shadow; severe weather to stay

Miss Lulu Groundhog, the woodchuck at Druid Park Zoo, and all her groundhog relatives in Baltimore saw their shadows on Thursday morning and returned to sleep for another six weeks.

A "second winter," scheduled to stay at least six weeks, began Thursday, according to Groundhog Day legend, since the furry little animals saw their shadows.

To be sure winter No. 2 gets off to a good start. Today (Friday) the schedule calls for some snow, the weatherman reports.

Temperatures will continue bitter cold, below 8 degrees.

Saturday is forecast as fair but continued cold; Sunday and Monday, same outlook cold.

—Coming events

(Continued from Page 1)

er and McCulloh Sts.

FEB. 5

A special showing of documentary film devoted to George Washington and Abraham Lincoln is set for this evening at 8 p.m. in the Enoch Pratt Free Library's Central Auditorium, 400 Cathedral St.

FEB. 4

Morgan Bears tangle with the five from Virginia State in a basketball thriller in Hurt Gymnasium on the Morgan Campus at 8 p.m.

• • •

Board meeting of the Women's Auxiliary, Crownsville State Hospital, 1:30 p.m., Mondawmin Auditorium.

• • •

A workshop for ministers, chairman of Commission on Education, Church School superintendents, teachers and workers with children, youth and adults at Christ Methodist Church, Washington and Chase Sts., 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

FEB. 5

Annual "Back to God" services will be held by the American Legion in the War Memorial Building at 3 p.m. The general public is invited.

• • •

Dr. S. S. Chowdhry is the speaker this morning at 10:30 a.m. at the Morgan Christian Center. He is president of the Union Theological Seminary, Bareilly, India.

"The Value of Positive Dissent" will be the subject of a talk before the Baltimore Ethical Society at 11 a.m. at 3800 Gwynn Oak Ave. The guest speaker will be L. D. MacIntyre, president of the American Ethical Union.

• • •

Sounds, the cool kind, are what you'll be hearing in the Murphy Auditorium at Morgan State College from 5 to 7 p.m. and again from 8 to 10 p.m. The men making the sounds will be Art Blakey and the Jazz Messengers.

FEB. 6

The Baptist Ministers Wives Conference of Baltimore and vicinity will hold the business meeting of the year at the Baptist Center, Mosher and McCulloh St., 5:30 p.m.

FEB. 7

The Baltimore Museum of Art has the opening of a retrospective exhibition of paintings by Milton Avery.

FEB. 8-12

Arena Players present "The Showoff," three - act comedy by George Kelly Walbrook and Ellamont. 8:30 curtain, Wed. thru Sunday.

FEB. 8

Awards Night for Volunteers and regular meeting of the Woman's Auxiliary of Provident Hospital, 8 p.m. in the Hospital Annex.

FEB. 10

The young adults of Gilmor Homes will hold a teen record hop in the community building, 1515 Vincent Ct., 8 to 11 p.m.

FEB. 9 - 10 - 11

Great fun for the entire family as the Somerset Homes Community Council presents a carnival. There will be games, prizes and refreshments all at the Somerset Homes Auditorium from 4 to 10 p.m. The address is 500 N. Central Ave.

FEB. 10

The Episcopal Church Women of the St. Katherine Chapel is presenting a card party in the chapel at 8 p.m. Admission $1. Prizes to be awarded.

FEB. 12

Kappa Chapter, Iota Phi Lambda Sorority holds annual living makers of history program, 11 a.m. Walbrook Trinity Presbyterian Church, Walbrook and Ellamont Aves.

FEB. 14

St. Katherine's PE Church, 4 to 8 p.m., Pancake Supper.

FEB. 15

PALMA'S annual dinner meeting, 7:30 p.m., Wilson's Restaurant.

FEB. 19

The Young People's Missionary Department of the United Baptist Missionary Convention of Maryland presents the Morris Queen Chorale in recital at 4 p.m. at Wayland Baptist Church.

FEB. 19

Annual Women's Day at St John AME Church, 11 a.m. & 4 p.m. Morning speaker will be the Rev. Mrs. Agnes Alston and in the afternoon it will be Mrs. Gertrude Wells.

FEB. 20

At 8 p.m. at Bethel AME Church, Druid Hill Ave. and Lanvale St., a Space Age Hairstyle and Hat Show with 50 beauticians competing for three trophies. Affair will benefit Bethel's Women's Day.

FEB. 24

Pi Omega Chapter, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, 8th annual Mardi Gras, Winchester Street Armory, Braddish Ave. and Winchester St., 10 p.m.

FEB. 26

Mrs. Margaret Blake McRae, contralto, in recital, 5 p.m., Masonic Temple, 1301 N. Eutaw Pl., auspices Trinity Chapter No. 5, OES.

FEB. 28

Annual Roosevelt Day Dinner of Americans for Democratic Action, 6:30 p.m., Sheraton - Belvedere Hotel. Arthur M. Schlesinger Jr., speaker.

APRIL 30

The Baltimore Branch of the National Alliance of Postal Employees will give a testimonial dinner honoring its president, John W. White, 6 p.m. at the Sheraton Baltimore Inn.

Ernest Chesson, popular night club singer, dies

RICHMOND

Popular nightclub singer Ernest Chesson died Monday at the A. G. Williams Hospital where he had been a patient for two days. He was 37.

Exhibiting a show business personality since the age of 13, the talented entertainer had often been featured in clubs in his native Baltimore, Boston, NYC, Norfolk, Richmond and had done a raved-about stint in Las Vegas.

FROM BALTIMORE where he was reared, he was brought to Richmond by Bennie Bradley, making a dance hit almost at the Casa Blanca Club. For a long time too he was featured at the Devils' Club.

Mr. Chesson won Eastern Seaboard acclaim on tours with Littlejohn and His Silhouettes, and with the Richard Morgan combo.

For the past few years, he had been employed as a projection machine operator at Medical College of Virginia, limiting is singing engagements to special club affairs.

He was a member of Fourth Baptist Church.

He resided at 613 North 31st St., Richmond.

Funeral services for Mr. Chesson will be held Saturday, Feb. 4, at Fourth Baptist Church, the Rev. R. L. Taylor, officiating.

• • •

BESIDE HIS wife, Mrs Margaret Brown Chesson of Richmond, he is survived by his mother, Mrs. Myrtle A. Chesson of 2009 Whitelock Ave., Baltimore.

Also a sister, Mrs. Mildred C. Yates, and two brothers, William and Joseph Chesson, also of Baltimore.

—JFK tests

(Continued from Page 1)

fews conference Mr. Kennedy announced that he has directed the Federal Housing Administration to reduce the interest rate on FHA - insured mortgages from 5 3/4 per cent to 5 1/2 per cent.

He also announced that he has directed the Veterans Administration to speed up payment of national insurance dividends amounting to over $280,000,000 to be paid out this year. The purpose of the speed-up, he said, is to assist the economy of the country.

BATON ROUGE, LA.

The Alumni Federation of Southern University last week gave the university a check for $10,000 for the F. G. Clark Student Loan Fund. J. C. Leary, alumni president, made the presentation which was in recognition of President Clark's devoted service to the university and citizens of Louisiana.

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—Public conscience

(Continued from Page 1)

Roosevelt (March 4, 1905) seemed only vaguely aware that millions of American citizens were deprived of the right to vote simply because they were colored.

Long - winded President William H. Taft plaintively told the nation March 4, 1909 that the movement to give colored people the suffrage had failed.

But, said Taft, the 15th Amendment remains and will not be repealed.

Woodrow Wilson, March 4, 1913, and March 5, 1917, ignored the question of voting rights for colored persons altogether.

Warren G. Harding, March 4, 1921; Calvin Coolidge, March 4, 1925; Herbert Hoover, March 4, 1929; and even Franklin D. Roosevelt in four inaugural addresses, March 4, 1933, January 20, 1937, January 20, 1941, and January 20, 1945, had no words of hope and encouragement for millions of colored people denied the constitutional right to vote.

• • •

WHEN INAUGURATED on January 20, 1949, Harry Truman said "we believe all men are created equal, and have a right to equal justice under law and equal opportunity to share in the common good."

Later, he went on to abolish segregation in the armed forces and restrictive covenants on property so that colored citizens could live anywhere they could purchase property.

President Truman saw to it that for the first time millions of colored southerners registered and voted.

Under his strong hand, the government took the important first steps to end public school segregation.

• • •

THIS BRINGS us down to President Kennedy again. He is in the White House today, elected on the strongest civil rights platform in history.

The excerpts from inaugural addresses of U.S. Presidents quoted above indicate that for almost a hundred years the denial of constitutional rights to colored people at the ballot box and elsewhere has disturbed the national conscience.

But none of them did as much about it as Harry Truman when he was President.

To President Kennedy comes the opportunity . . . **do as well and to do it better.**

We like what Grover Cleveland, in his second inaugural address, said about party platforms and party pledges on March 4, 1893.

Said President Cleveland, "Even if insuperable obstacles and opposition prevent the consummation of our task, we shall hardly be excused.

"And if failure can be traced to our fault and neglect, the people will hold us to a swift and exacting accountability."

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—'Like a son . . .'

(Continued from Page 1)

reporter about the death of her husband.

• • •

MR. SIMMONS, a 79-year old retired contractor was beaten to death with a ball peen hammer last Sunday.

Relatives said Mr. Simmons had just returned home from church services at Morning Star Baptist Church when he was attacked in the dining room on his home.

A 16-year - old youth who grew up in the Simmons home has been charged with the slaying.

Thomas Long of the 100 block N. Fremont Ave. was arraigned on Monday in Central Homicide Court.

The youth is being held without bail for a further hearing.

The defendant is a former 11th grade pupil at Carver High School.

• • •

WESTERN DISTRICT Police said the slaying occurred during a burglary at the Simmons home.

The home is located less than a block from the Pine Street Police Station.

Police said they were given this story when they arrived and found the 64 - year - old widow seated in a chair beside her husband's body.

That she and Mr. Simmons left home for church around 10:45 a.m.

Mrs. Simmons stated that following services her husband left church ahead of her as usual and walked home.

Mrs. Simmons was driven home in the car of a church member and arrived shortly after 2 p.m.

She reported that when she reached the rear of her home she found a pane of glass missing from a door and her husband lying face down in a puddle of blood.

Mrs. Simmons said she went to a third-floor room where she discovered that $50 in cash had been taken from a bureau drawer.

She later called her cousin Mrs. Lena Mayton of the 2200 block Penrose Ave.

A waller containing $3.03, keys, eyeglasses, two pencils and a notebook were removed from the body.

Police were told that $124 was stolen from the Simmons home a year ago. The loss was not reported.

• • •

FOLLOWING a preliminary investigation, Sgt. John McLaughlin was directed to a home on Fremont Ave. where he found a piece of human flesh and blood stains on a kitchen door.

A total of $65 was found in a bureau drawer by Lt. John Spites and Sgt. George Andrews of the Western District and Det. Patrolman Clarence Roe.

The youth was arrested at his home around 7:30 p.m. Sunday.

• • •

FUNERAL SERVICES for Mr. Simmons were held Saturday at Morning Star Baptist with the Rev. Nathaniel Wicks officiating.

Mr. Simmons was a deacon at Morning Star for more than 30 years.

He was a member of Sunday School Class No. 4 and was active in all areas of the church.

He had resided in the Myrtle Ave., community since 1913.

Mr. Simmons and his wife, the former Miss Lottie Thantel of Louisa County, Va., had been married 35 years.

Mr. Simmons was born in South Carolina and was the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. William Simmons Sr.

Mr. Simmons is survived by his wife and a number of **nieces and nephews.**

—Trapped

(Continued from Page 1)

because of the ice on the street.

"When we got in, the fire was in the stairway and we couldn't get up the steps.

"When the firemen got in, the children's skin had turned reddish," he added.

"The firemen gave them artificial respiration."

• • •

POLICE REVEALED that firemen gave mouth - to - mouth respiration to the children on the living room floor, but to no avail.

They also revealed that the father was at work when he was notified of the fire.

When the AFRO talked with relatives at Provident Hospital, the mother, father, aunt and grandmother were awaiting news of the condition of 9 - month old Kevin.

Mr. Wilson said he left home at 7 a.m. and the children were in good health and playing about the house as usual.

He said that the gas heaters in the bathroom, living room and kitchen were in good condition.

"Pacing the corridor outside the hospital emergency room, he said all he was concerned about was his children.

He said: "I can't talk now. I don't care about anything but my children."

Mrs. Wilson was under treatment for shock and could not speak. She wept softly without control. Sobs wracked her body.

• • •

HER MOTHER, Mrs. Hazel Wiley, 1144 Argyle Ave., the children's grandmother, said she was notified of the tragedy by neighbors and was so stunned. "I couldn't believe it."

She said, "I am so upset. I couldn't say a word now."

Mrs. Patricia Boulware, 1101 Argyle Ave., the mother's sister and aunt of the children, told the AFRO the tragedy is more than the family can bear."

She said: "We're all too shocked for words. This is almost too much for any of us.

"We just buried our grandfather, Paul Nelson, He died Jan. 13.

"Trouble never stops coming."

Alonzo Nelson, 1144 Argyle Ave., who is Mrs. Wilson's uncle, said he reached the father by phone to notify him of the fire.

Police said the alarm was sounded by Cornelius Cornish.

Freed once, man gets 2 years in pen

A 65-year-old man, freed on a numbers violation in police court, last month, was sentenced to two years in the penitentiary on the same charge in Criminal Court, this week.

Joseph H. Spriggs, 65, 2300 block Druid Hill Ave., was dismissed Dec. 3 by Magistrate Milton Saul in Northern Police Court.

Arresting officers protested the verdict and asked State's Attorney Saul Harris to take the case before the grand jury.

The jury returned a five-count indictment and Criminal Court Judge Joseph L. Carter convicted Mr. Spriggs late Monday.

During the trial, Racket Squad officers testified they observed the defendant writing numbers in a bar in the 2300 block of Druid Hill Ave.

ARMED WITH a search and seizure warrant, issued by Judge Ruben Oppenheimer, police arrested the man and confiscated lottery paraphernalia and $125 in cash.

Milton Allen, defense attorney, argued that Magistrate Saul rightly dismissed the charge because officers failed to produce sufficient evidence.

What they called lottery evidence was, in reality, Mr. Allen argued, some figures on a piece of paper. Police had no evidence that these figures were numbers plays, he told the court.

However, Judge Carter ruled that the state had proved its case and sentenced Mr. Spriggs to two years in the penitentiary.

Pending an appeal motion, bail was set at $5,000.

WEATHER

SNOW

A heavy snow warning has been sounded for tonight. Flakes started to fall this morning and will end tonight with accumulations of four inches or more. High today in the 20s. Low tonight 18. Saturday, partly cloudy and cold.

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MERCANTILE

---Rejected

(Continued from Page 1)

know who wants what," he said.

Advised that previous renewed projects, Waverly, Broadway and Area 12, had displaced colored families some years ago, before he came to Baltimore, Mr. Henderson said:

"The policy of this is a broad thing, but on the history of it, you can't blame them." (the citizens).

• • •

The members reported present and voting for the open occupancy clause are:

Dr. Hugh Price Hughes, Mrs. Gladys Taylor, Mrs. James H. Milburn, Dr. Robert J. Hill, Reuben Jones, Howard Mitnick, Dr. Leo Klein, the Rev. Marcus G. Wood, Samuel T. Daniels, John Berry, the Rev. Marion Bascom, Isadore Samuelson, Milton D. Allen, Mrs. Courtlendt Brown, the Rev. W. L. Clayton, Mrs. Harrison Bryant, Mrs. Juanita Mitchell.

• • •

Edward G. Howard arrived after the vote was taken.

Other members in attendance declined to comment on their vote, or to say whether they were for or against the strong open occupancy clause which was approved.

Pleasanton Conquest 3rd, told the AFRO he "I have no comment."

The Rev. John T. Middaugh asserted, "It was determined by the group the chairman would speak for the group."

• • •

Hans Proelicher Jr., another member, declined to say how he voted, but he did say:

"It is a lie to say I'm against open occupancy. . . .

The Urban Renewal Commission has taken a position, by means of the preference clause, by which it can not possibly recede . . . you can't do it when you've gone that far.

"The failure to have faith in the Commission was tragic because the people who voted not to have faith in it were those who would have benefitted most by having faith in it. . . ."

• • •

Edward A. Atkinson, another member, confirmed that he voted with the minority at Thursday's meeting, but added: "I am for open occupancy, but I think it is a matter of how it can be arrived at. I feel it can be arrived at by supporting the Commission in its present stand. It seems I was in the minority on this but that is my opinion."

• • •

Other members reported absent were: Mrs. Maude B. Smart, the Rev. Edward G. Carroll, Miss Hermonie Wharton, the Rev. Timothy Boddie, Linwood G. Koger Jr., Mrs. Marguerite A. Harmon, Dr. Edward N. Wilson, Dr. Furman Templeton, Mrs. Helen T. Ulless, Mrs. Shubert Sturdivant, Mrs. Mary M. Ketterly, Jerry Weiner, John B. Graybill and Egbert Ottenheimer.

• • •

RICHARD L. STEINER, BURHA director, told the AFRO Thursday night he was not sure what steps the commission would take. Mr. Steiner said a regular meeting of the commission is scheduled for noon next Friday but he thought it likely a special meeting would precede that, if one could be arranged.

"We were hopeful the advisory committee would uphold the plan," Mr. Steiner said. He said that the position of the advisory committee has no official effect on the actions of BURHA but explained that the commission has always tried to cooperate with its advisory committees.

Whether BURHA will take the plans for the project to the City Council and try to get them approved without approval of the advisory committee is the decision the commission will make when it meets.

The Project I plans earlier had been scheduled to go before the City Council late in January.

• • •

The fight against the preference clause has been spearheaded by the local NAACP but has had the support of numerous community organizations and leaders.

Dr. Lillie M. Jackson, president of the local NAACP, who has promised to fight the preference clause on the City Council floor and in the courts if necessary, told the AFRO:

"We were pleased with this vote. We sincerely hope that BURHA will respect the demonstrated wishes of the area's people. The vote was right because it was a right cause."

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Since the wrangle over the preference clause began, Mayor J. Harold Grady has said he feels the new BURHA policy is "a step forward."

Just Thursday, a number of Mayors were called on by President John F. Kennedy to speed up their renewal works as an aid in boosting the economy.

A BURHA spokesman told the AFRO "we are anxious to move ahead with this project as soon as possible."

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After Thursday's meeting the AFRO talked with several members of the committee. Here are their statements:

Mr. Rev. Mr. Bascom:

"There have been statements alluding to the possibility of the project failing if we insist upon open occupancy. I say if the demand for open occupancy will cause Project I to fall down, then let it fall.

"This is no time for colored Americans to compromise."

Milton D. Allen:

"The action was an adequate expression of the true feelings of the entire committee. It further expresses the thought voiced by the committee back on Nov. 3 when it first adopted open occupancy as its policy and so advised BURAH."

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Mrs. Harrison Bryant:

"If we have any standing, this should mean there will be a strong clause in the new ordinance. Certainly we have the satisfaction of voting for what we thought should be, after all we are working for the future."

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John L. Berry: "We agreed that the chairman would speak for the group, but I voted with those who wanted to take a stand on open occupancy."

The Rev. W. L. Clayton: "I think the action of the committee was standing by the original position. The committee had already decided for open occupancy. On Thursday, they reaffirmed that position."

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Mrs. Courtlendt Brown: "I have no comment at this time."

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Isadore Samuelson: "I have agreed with the majority vote. I voted that way. It's the only fair way. Those in the area should stay there in the low and high income brackets."

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Mrs. Juanita Mitchell: "The vote is a mandate from the citizens who have been too patient and too reasonable too long.

"The Mayor and City Council who are responsible for Urban Renewal operation can not ignore the seriousness of this problem of open occupancy."

Wednesday is being held without bail.

Roger Franklin Blakney, 2500 block N. Aisquith St., was booked by Southwestern police, yesterday (Thursday).

Fire and police investigators said the East Baltimore youth started the fire with a pile of linen on the second floor of the Medical Care building.

More than 1,000 workers in this area were evacuated from the building in 20-degree weather.

Blakney was arrested when he was identified by workers who saw him leave the area. minutes before the fire broke out, police reported.

No trial date has been set. The State's Attorney will take the case directly to the grand jury, police reported.

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UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL blaze at its height

Hospital fire

A 17 - year - old youth, charged with setting the fire-alarm fire which struck University Hospital, midday Thursday, is being held without bail.

Dr. Hugh Price Hughes: "I was with the majority. The new phrasing means more than the old phrasing of it. We're all underpriviledged. We should have privileges, not promises."

The Rev. Marcus G. Wood: "I was in favor of it. Open occupancy, period. It is unfair to move people out and give them the privilege of coming back."

Howard Mitnick: "It's obvious Urban Renewal benefits should be available to all people. Anything else is impossible."

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