—1961 roundup

(Continued from Page 1)

the scene as John F. Kennedy was sworn in as 35th United States President in Washington on Jan. 20.

Baltimore citizens called on Mayor Grady to talk over the Open Occupancy clause in BURHA contracts.

* * *

THE WORST fire in Anne Arundel County history burned seven children on Jan. 22.

Baltimore ministers appealed free aid for 27,000 Haywood and Fayette County, Tenn. citizens, victims of vote reprisals.

The snow which tied up Baltimore for 45 days was cleared away by the City and sunshine, but below freezing temperatures increased suffering.

FEBRUARY

Four small children died in a fire at their home on Tilton St. on Feb. 2.

The weatherman reported that the 1961 total of 45 inches of snow was the all-time record for Baltimore. Closest total was 51 inches from the 1898 blizzard.

More snow falling on Feb. 9, 1961, made the winter the most severe in 63 years.

The Rev. Ernest P. Clark succeeded the Rev. F. J. Frye as pastor of Ames Methodist Church. The Rev. Mr. Frye died in December 1960.

Members of Pennsylvania Avenue AME Zion Church presented the keys to the new Dorchester Rd. parsonage to their pastor and wife, the Rev. and Mrs. Clinton Coleman, on Feb. 9.

Weighted down by the latest snow, the roof of the Pennsylvania Avenue church caved in above the choir loft.

Mrs. Allegra Taylor was named teacher of the year by the National Society for the Prevention of Blindness. Mrs. Taylor worked with the blind as part of her duty as teacher at School No. 138.

* * *

TEMPERATURES WENT up to the upper 40's as Baltimore breathed a sigh of relife in "Spring-like" balmy weather.

Douglas Memorial Church marked its 36th anniversary.

The first member of the Baltimore School Board, veteran attorney George W. F. McMechen, died on Feb. 22.

MARCH

Announcement was made of the Feb. 7 decision that all Maryland training schools for delinquent children must integrate. The result of an NAACP suit, the decision was handed down by the Maryland Court of Appeals.

Plans for the New Provident Hospital were announced.

60,000 unemployed persons were out looking for jobs.

450 persons attended a testimonial banquet for Dr. Berman Harris Sr., Tri-State Elks president, civic, church and fraternal leader.

Mrs. Nina Yolande DuBois Williams, longtime Dunbar High School teacher and daughter of Dr. W. E. B. DuBois, died unexpectedly on March 14.

Mrs. Jennie V. Williams, wife of Maryland State College president, Dr. John T. Williams, died on March 14.

John H. Murphy III became the 3rd president of the AFRO - AMERICAN Newspapers as Dr. Carl Murphy, president since 1922, became chairman of the board and publisher.

Dr. Phebus Butler died at the age of 69 on March 28.

APRIL

Easter arrived on Sunday, April 2 with Spring temperatures as Baltimoreans looked back on the tough est winter in history.

A secret report of a market analysis revealed that BURHA's proposed Mount Royal - Fremont Renewal Project 1 was exposed as discriminatory in designating an overwhelming majority of proposed homes for white families while the 19,502 colored householders proposed to have only 1,000 units.

Warden Charles P. Price, chief administrator at the City Jail retired after 38 years.

The 145th annual session of the Baltimore Annual Conference of the AME Church met at St. John AME Church.

MAY

Baltimore's New Municipal Court judges were sworn in on May 1 as they assumed the duties of the former Municipal Court and poor boxes were officially cut out. They included Judge Robert B. Watts.

* * *

AS THE first man, Naval Commander Alan B. Shepard Jr., soared into space, the Walbrook branch of the Union Trust Co. hired its first colored tellers and Dr. George B. Brain, superintendent of schools, was ill, due to fatigue and exhaustion.

The NAACP Spring campaign sought 1,000 new members.

Loyola College selected Dr. Ralph Bunche as its June commencement speaker.

The City Health Department warned citizens against the Rocky Mountain spotted fever as the tick season approached.

Dr. Robert C. Weaver, Federal Housing chief, was in Baltimore as guest speaker for the 21st annual State NAACP Conference.

The Baptist Missionary Convention and Auxiliaries of Maryland reelected the Rev. Willard Clayton president at the 35th annual session.

JUNE

The Rev. John Tilley, pastor of New Metropolitan Baptist Church, resigned to become public affairs director of Shaw University.

Street Inspector Bernard J. Schmidt was named Police Commissioner to succeed Commissioner James Hepburn.

259 persons were graduated from Morgan State College on June 5.

Attorney George Russell was named to the Jail Bord.

Three colored midshipmen graduated from the Naval Academy at Annapolis and Ensign Mack Johnson Jr., was recommended to return to the Academy as an instrictor in Russian.

Boy Scout Hershel P. Smith of Troop 272 was one of 153 scouts to receive the Altero Dei Award from Archbishop Keough.

First colored Cardinal, His Eminence Laurian Cardinal Rugambwa, Bishop of Rutabo, Tanganyika, Africa, offered Holy Mass at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington with hundreds of Baltimoreans present.

* * *

NATHANIAL LIPSCOMB, "The Dawn Strangler" who terrorized East Baltimore Negroes in 1936 and murdered two women, died in the gas chamber.

More than 200 persons attended the Tri-State Elks Lodge convention in Cambridge, Md.

Final approval was given the controversial first project in the Mt. Royal-Fremont Urban Renewal Area by the City Council.

Vice-president of Liberia, Dr. William R. Tolbert Jr., and four other top officials of the African republic, made an unofficial visit to Morgan State College.

Old Northwestern Police Station in the 1200 block Pennsylvania Ave. was partially destroyed by fire on June 20.

JULY

Catholic training schools for girls were desegregated.

The NAACP stepped up a fight to end segregation in jobs at the C and P Telephone Co. and the Baltimore Gas and Electric Co.

July 4 came on Saturday to mark a long week-end holiday and witnessed the traditional Fourth celebration passing from the American scene.

Miss Najwa Adra, daughter of Mrs. Neserine Adeb Clift, wife of Morgan State College professor, Dr. Virgil Clift, was given to the interracial couple in custody action by the Federal Court. The decision was against her father, Lebanon's ambassador to Iran.

A mysterious fire gutted New Antioch Baptist Church at Eden and Hoffman Sts.

The public showed growing concern about treatment received by visiting African diplomats traveling Route 40 and being refused service at restaurants.

Big Daddy Lipscomb, Colt star, was traded to the Pittsburg Steelers.

AUGUST

The village of Catonsville, Md. marked its 94th birthday.

Mrs. Beard Brown, local Elk Lodge official and national treasurer of the fraternity, was defeated in the election for the post as Grand Daughter Ruler.

AFRO City Desk reporters staged an "African diplomat" ride on Route 40 to focus world-wide attention on discrimination on the highway restaurants.

The Rev. Harrison J. Bryant Jr., brilliant son of Bethel AME pastor, the Rev. Harrison J. Bryant Sr., died suddenly on Aug. 31.

Dr. George B. Brain, school superintendent, banned school picnics at the Enchanted Forest because of the park's discrimination policy.

SEPTEMBER

Johnny Sample quit the Baltimore Colts saying "I'm just fine," went to the Pittsburgh Steelers.

Three Philadelphians on a hunger strike in the Elkton, Md. jail to protest discrimination were sent to Crownsville State Hospital where Dr. Charles Ward proclaimed them sane.

Cherry Hill celebrated its 14th birthday as a community.

Archbishop Lawrence J. Shehan was appointed coadjutor to Archbishop Francis P. Keough.

Dr. Edward N. Wilson announced plans to retire as Morgan registrar in July, 1962.

OCTOBER

Dr. W. W. Allen, head of Maryland Masons 37 years, died at Johns Hopkins Hospital on Oct. 2.

The famed Graves Quadruplets of Annapolis, Md. marked their second birthday on Oct. 10.

Archie Moore, light heavyweight champion, defeated Pete Rademaker in a bout in Baltimore.

The Yo-Yo fad was in full bloom in Baltimore.

Hiram L. Schoonfield became new warden at the City Jail on Oct. 9.

Mayor J. Harold Grady hired the first colored clerk in his office.

Gov. J. Millard Tawes issued an appeal to Freedom Riders not to demonstrate in restaurants on Route 40.

The 94th annual convention of the Maryland State Teachers Association was held in Baltimore.

CORE decided to call off the proposed Nov. 11 Freedom Ride because restaurants had promised to desegregate along Route 40.

110,146 registered colored voters counted in Baltimore.

NOVEMBER

Nov. 11 Freedom Rides in Baltimore and on other Maryland highways other than Route 40 attracted world-wide attention.

Miss Dorothy Evonne White of Eastech High School was elected "Miss City College."

CORE took picketing to the Governor's Mansion in Annapolis.

Baltimoreans stepped up demonstrations at local restaurants on week-ends with up to 500 students from all areas of the Eastern Seaboard taking part.

Mrs. Verda Welcome, House of Delegates member, pledged for nominations to the Maryland Senate.

DECEMBER

William L. Fitzgerald, veteran attorney, died Dec. 5.

The City Council called for a probe of segregated Police Boys Clubs after AFRO's exclusive story on situation.

Archbishop Keough died.

Freedom Riders continued mammoth demonstration in Maryland.

On Christmas Eve, 10 Freedom Riders were arrested in Crisfield, Md., home of Gov. Tawes.

An AFRO survey revealed that BURHA has had a turnover of top personnel in Planning Department.

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WANTED BY the FBI is John B. Everhart, described as extremely dangerous. Everhart was sentenced to life imprisonment in Georgia in 1956 for a murder. He escaped in 1958. He has been employed as a truck driver, laborer, freight handler and may represent himself as a member of the clergy. He is about five feet six inches tall, weighs 175 to 187 pounds, has black hair and brown eyes. Anyone knowing his whereabouts should call the nearest FBI office.

—Innocent man

(Continued from Page 1)

"He wrote letters to everybody," Mr. Welman told the AFRO this week.

Finally one of his numerous pleas received a response.

* * *

It was in the form of a letter sent to Governor Tawes. The governor forwarded it to the Parole and Probation Department, asking for an investigation.

Mr. Welman assigned two of his best investigators to the case.

Their preliminary investigation revealed startling evidence, Mr. Welman declared.

Following a conference with Judge Carter, who contended evidence produced at the trial was sufficient to convict beyond a reasonable doubt, investigators from the State's Attorney office were called in.

* * *

HEADED BY Det. Lt. Vincent Gavin, the squad, including Det. Sgts. Francis Wood, Dennis Mello and Dets. August Loetz and Thomas Coppinger, dug up evidence which completely exonerated Higgins; Howard Reamer, prosecutor, said.

Mr. Reamer, who prosecuted the first trial, Tuesday introduced evidence that showed Linwood M. M. Gladden, 23, 1500 block N. Collington Ave.; Robert Green, 22, 1800 block N. Chapel St.; and Stinson pulled the robbery.

Green, now serving a non-support term in the house of his part in the holdup.

Stinson, who pleaded not guilty at the first trial, implicated himself and Gladden, Tuesday.

Gladden pleaded not guilty.

Judge Carter imposed a five - year sentence on Green but withheld sentencing Gladden, pending motion for a new trial.

* * *

HOW WEIGHTY a factor was Higgins' criminal record in the 11-month mistake no one is willing to say.

But Mr. Welman admits that it contributed greatly to the final decision.

"Put yourself in the judge's place," he began.

"Who are you going to believe a middle - aged woman who works hard and has no record, or a man who has been in trouble several times?"

The record shows that Higgins spent one year in the reformatory for burglary, 1955; and two years in the reformatory for larceny in '58.

He was also held for investiation at least three times in 1960, after being fined for junking without a permit.

Mr. Wolman was asked how many other Higginses or Horace Sprigg's are now behind bars for crimes they never committed.

(Mr. Sprigg is the celebrated victim of a "three-year mistake' in which he served time for a crime he never committed).

"There is no way of knowing," Mr. Wolman said, but compared to the number of guilty ones going free, the number is infinitesimal."

But how do these infinitesimal few feel about it, was the next question.

"Horrible," he replied.

Are there any safeguards against this sort of thing? was the final question.

"Unfortunately, no," was his answer.

Riders will return to Crisfield

While all concerned with a public accommodation bill keep silent, restaurant segregation fighters have turned their attention on Gov. J. Millard Tawes' home town.

New target of demonstrators from the Civic Interest Group and the Congress of Racial Equality is Crisfield, Md., in Somerset County, which claims the state's chief executive as its most illustrious native son.

Ten CIG'ers spent Christmas in jail there after being charged with trespassing at the City Restaurant on Christmas Eve.

Four — Miss Bonnie Klein, 21, of New York University, NYC; Frank McDougald, 19, Donnie Fleming, 18, and Reginald Robinson, 22, all of Baltimore — were released on $100 bail Tuesday after asking jury trials in Somerset County Court.

The other six will be freed today (Friday.)

They are:

Tilly Hansen, 22, formerly of Cincinnati; Faith Holsaert., 18, Barnard College Brooklyn; Margaret Williams, 20, and Dianne Ostrosky, 18, Goucher, both of Baltimore.

Clarence Logan, chairman, CIG, said a delegation of 50 students will be on hand in Crisfield to greet the freed prisoners and stage more protests at the town's only major public eating place.

* * *

POINTING OUT that the purpose of the mission is ; "to express the support of the organization for the quality of public accommodations in all parts of the Free State," Mr. Logan wired Governor Tawes:

"On Friday, Dec. 29, the Civic Interest Group will encourage groups of colored and white persons to seek service in places of public accommodation in your hometown of Crisfield. We trust that such service will be given without discrimination because of race.

"We are, therefore, calling on you as the governor of the state and an outstanding product of Crisfield to aid us in the fulfilment of this objective."

* * *

WALTER CARTER, Cochairman, Baltimore CORE, said his group is planning a massive freedom ride on the Eastern Shore similar to the Route 40 protest of Dec. 16.

Indicating that the 'She's be said, because substantial progress has been made in desegregating places of public accommodation there.

MEANWHILE, with the General Assembly convening five weeks from now nothing is heard about the proposed public accommodations bill.

Governor Tawes, who referred the suggested law to Thomas B. Finan, attorney general, to study its legal aspects, is silent.

Mr. Finan, who has had the bill more than two weeks, is equally mum. Telephoned requests to speak with him have produced this stock reply:

"Mr. Finan is out of his office or he is in conference." Requests that he return the calls have all been equally futile.

The bill was sent to the state's chief legal office after the Commission on Interracial Problems and Relations added several amendments to the original law approved by the Legislative Council.

The amendments were added when demonstration leaders rejected the council's first bill as being full of loopholes.

* * *

AN ASSISTANT in Mr. Finan's office said no one can comment on the matter but the attorney general, who is personally handling the study.

The commission meanwhile, is marking the time until the attorney general acts.

"We can say or do nothing until we hear from Mr. Finan," a spokesman said this week.

Governor Tawes, who said he would back the original bill until a "better one" comes along, withheld comment on the amended bill, described as "a good one," until the study is complete.

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—Four sisters

(Continued from Page 1)

by his letters to the governor.

The oldest sister, Mrs. Carol Taylor, 27, of 1717 Washington St., who practically raised him, said:

"Well with myself I always felt he was innocent. I've always been very close to him."

Mrs. Louis Faulkner, 959 Chester St., said "he was at my house baby sitting for me that night. I knew he didn't have anything to do with the robbery."

* * *

MRS. RUTH HEATH, 25, of 2202, also always believed her brother innocent.

"I always felt it. The way he talked I could tell then he was telling the truth or not," she declared.

The youngest sister, Miss Jeanette Higgins, 14, of 1717 Silver Court, Douglass Home said "yes, I believed he was innocent."

Mrs. Higgins is the third child of five of Edward and Hanaiko Higgins — Douglass Homes address.

Mrs. Higgins is a housekeeper and her husband is a custodian for a newspaper.

EEOC looks into jim crow charge against BURHA

David Glenn, executive secretary of the Equal Employment Commission, announced Thursday that the organization has taken steps to investigate the charge of discrimination placed against the Urban Renewal Planning Division by Daniel L. Nicholas.

Mr. Nicholas said: "We would be remiss if we did not look into the matter. We are interested and will be in contact with BURHA since the case falls within the jurisdiction of EEOC.

"We will so whatever action BURHA takes and then take appropriate action at that time."

Meanwhile, Mr. Glenn told the AFRO EEOC will request all reports and records on the case from BURHA.

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If You Ask Me

By B. M. Phillips

Justice Douglas speaks up

The Supreme Court's ruling in the Louisiana sit-down cases was unanimous on Monday.

Chief Justice Warren wrote the 17 - page opinion for the Court . . . concluding . . . that the police who arrested the petitioners (Southern University students), and the courts which convicted them, violated the due process law guaranteed them (students) by the 14th Amendment of the Constitution.

The 14th Amendment you know says:

". . . no state shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any state deprive any person of life, liberty or property without due process of law, nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws . . ."

While all nine justices agreed with the opinion written by Chief Justice Warren, three of them had additional words to say.

* * *

Justice Frankfurter took three pages to give his views; Justice Harlan took 23 pages; and Justice Douglas, 10 pages.

Love the way Justice Douglas expressed his views. Listen to him:

"The police are supposed to be on the side of the Constitution, not on the side of discrimination . . ."

"Restaurants," he continued, "whether in a drug store, department store or bus terminal, are part of the public life of most of our communities. Though they are private enterprises, they are public facilities in which the states may not force a policy of racial segregation."

* * *

AT ANOTHER point, Justice Douglas observed: "Restaurants; though a species of private property, are in the public domain

"And, "I do not believe that a state that licenses a business can license it to serve only whites or only blacks, or only yellows or only browns.

"Race is an impermissible classification when it comes to parks or other municipal facilities by reason of the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment . . .

"By the same token, I do not see how a State can constitutionally exercise its licensing power over business either in terms or in effect to segregate the races in the licensed premises."

* * *

And, "The authority to license a business for public use is derived from the public.

"Colored people are as much a part of that public as are whites . . . A license to of his home to anyone he desetablish a restaurant is a sires.

license to establish a public facility . . . is a license granted in law, equality of law for all members of the public . . .

". . . one can close the doors of his home to anyone he desires . . . Mrs. Nine Meyers

"But one who operates an hotel or other business from the government enjoys a privilege that derives from the people . . ."

Lest we forget

Sometimes, as members of a minority group we forget that other minorities have met the same problems we have, and in fact encounter difficulties today just as we do.

In the lobby of Sinai Hospital is a bronze tablet which memorializes Thomas Kennedy, 1776 - 1832; "a Christian gentleman and an earnest advocate of civil and religious liberty."

The tablet continues: "In his day, because of certain proscribed oaths declaring belief in the Christian religion, Jews could not hold office under the state or city government, seek appointment in the Army or Navy, or practice law.

"Thomas Kennedy resented these disabilities. He was elected to the Maryland House of Delegates in 1812, and in 1818 presented a bill removing political disabilities of the Jews.

"The bill was defeated that year. Kennedy was reelected in 1818, 1819, 1820, defeated in 1821, reelected in 1822, defeated in 1823, reelected in 1825.

* * *

"He finally succeeded in having his bill passed at the 1826 session of the legislature.

"During his struggle for what he conceived to be the right, he said: 'I pray God I may die before I cease to be the friend of civil and religious liberty, and a supporter of the rights of the people.'"

This memorial is erected to his memory by a relative and admirer. B. H. G. Jr."

* * *

The Kennedy tablet hangs near the hospital admission office where Miss Meyers works.

Miss Myers has been the hospital's admissions director for 18 years.

When she noted we were copying the words from the tablet, she came out to observe, 'Isn't that a handsome tablet.'

"It was in the old hospital. When they were looking around for a place to put it here in the new hospital, I told them this was an ideal spot."

It is.

Small world. It developed Miss Myers is sister to Miss Gertrude Myers, co - owner of the Joseph Katz advertising firm.

More on Myrtle Ave.

Our 'do you remember?' article on 1000 block Myrtle Ave., which was inspired by the ceremonies marking the beginning of construction of George B. Murphy Homes on that site, brought many responses.

Leland R. Finney, now of 307 Main St., Dundalk, writes:

"Your column on the 1000 block of Myrtle Avenue about the old homes, I remember them all, but can't quite remember the names of any more of the occupants in that block.

But, I can name a few in the block below that block. At the corner of Myrtle and George Sts. (N.E.) was a Dr. Stiefel's drug store. At the entrance facing 901 Myrtle Avenue.

He was a very fine man. I also remember his daughter and son, Charlie. At 903 a Chinese laundry was run by Wah Lee. I used to run errands for him, and he always gave me some little lemon pies.

The late Mrs. Carrie Campbor lived above the laundry. At 905, the high steps was where I resided. At 907, I believe the family was named Thompson.

At 909 the Foote family lived. At 911 the Sam Jordan family lived. He had a furniture wagon.

At 917, lived the finest lady in the neighborhood or any other neighborhood. Dear old Mrs. Boston, who now is in her nineties. She was Matilda Storey's mother. Her other children were Lilly, Lorraine and son John Jr. Mr. Boston was a railroad man and a fine gentleman. —

At 929 were Mr. and Mrs. George Siddons. He was the florist so long at George and Penna. Ave.

I can fill you in on the Brooks family who lived just below your home, I believe (1041). The younger sister used to babysit for the J. Stewart Davises.

At 1001, the bar on that corner was run by Mr. Samuelson, father of the brothers who own the Crown Loan office on the Avenue.

At the corner where Kerr's drug store was, a grocery store was there before Kerr's and a couple doors away lived a Mr. Eichelberger, a house painter.

Another few doors away lived the beautiful Edith Lynch.

Also, Harry Thomas, who had the cabaret on Myrtle Ave. at Mount Royal, where the big Mormon car. He married my third grade teacher, the late Miss Ruth.

Then old Perkins Square Baptist Church on the corner of George and Ogden Sts. The late Rev. Frank and Mrs. Williams and their beautiful Consule.

Of course Perkins Square was the place where we met integrated, Mrs. Y quoted the social worker.

When Mrs. Y persisted in her claim, she was referred to the hospital superintendent who in turn had his secretary talk to the now thoroughly confused mental patient and his wife.

Mrs. Y said the secretary, Mrs. Anne Stevens, told her that 'Spring Grove is not quite ready to integrate.'"

* * *

MRS. STEVENS told the AFRO that the hospital administration "regrets the incident."

"We tried to explain to Mrs. Y that it was nothing personal. The administration has no feeling whatsoever on this. We are working along lines of integration but it takes time," she assirted.

She said the VA had not called to confirm their referral. "This should have been done in any case," she said.

Dr. Bruno Radauskan, superintendent of Spring Grove was unavailable for comment.

A SPOKESMAN for the Veterans Administration said that the assignment had been made by the social worker who is not familiar with the community."

E. N. Eisenhardt, chief social worker at VA said Mr. Y should have been assigned to Crownsville State Hospital.

"It's not our fault, the fault lies in the Maryland community," he added.

* * *

TOHE R. Y. case comes in the wake of the recent commissioning of the Advisory Council on Mental Hygiene to investigate the problem of integrating Maryland's six state mental hospitals.

According to Dr. Thurmon Mott, assistant commissioner on Mental Hygiene, the State Board of Mental Health and Hygiene expects the advisory council to come up with the "when and how" of the desegregation project.

The committee is composed of private citizens representing professional associations related to the field of mental health, and includes Dr. Percival C. Smith, a member of the Maryland Medical Association.

The council has been meeting since Dec. 15, according to Dr. Mott.

"It's going to be a complicated thing to completely redo our admission procedures —it's going to take a great deal of planning," he noted.

HE SAID the patient's proximity to a state hospital will probably be the determing factor in any desegregation plan used.

Actually only four of the six institutions which handle mentally disturbed people are segregated, and have clauses in their charters which dictate that they accept patients on the basis of race.

The Eastern Shore State Hospital, in Cambridge, is for whites only; as are Springfield, in Sykesville, and Spring Grove, Catonsville. Crownsville in Crownsville, Md. is chartered to accept only colored patients.

Rosewood, a hospital for the mentally retarded, has been integrated for a number of years, and Clifton T. Perkins, which treats extreme cases, was integrated upon its opening in January, 1960. Both are located in Pikesville.

Dr. Mott said he has no idea why the desegregation has not spread to the other hospitals.

He, said the staffs at all the state mental institutions are integrated.

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More people and things

Ring Jan. 19, 1962 on your calendar now. That's the date the We Moms Club has set for its benefit affair to be held at the Catonsville Armory.

The cocktailer will benefit the Provident Hospital building fund and the NAACP membership fund.

Officers are: Mesdames Minerva Williams, president; Vanessa Porter, vice president; Marie Coles, corresponding secretary; Patricia Holtzclaw, recording secretary; Lucille Williams, treasurer; Jeannette Johnson and Mae Cornish, business managers; and Jeannette Smith, editor.

* * *

Met this week:— A young man going places: New honors came on Nov. 20 to Dr. Odom N. Coker, who became a diplomat of the American Board of Surgeons.

The new Diplomat is a native of Orangeburg, S.C., a graduate of S.C. State College, and of Atlanta University, where he received his master's degree in biology.

Until last year when he went into private practice, Dr. Coker was fulltime attending surgeon at Provident Hospital, where he was in charge of the training program for the surgery department.

After three years in the Army (he was an enlisted man), he returned to school, earned his medical degree at Meharry in 1950. Afterwards he interned at Lincoln Hospital in Durham, became a resident in surgery at Reynolds Hospital in Winston - Salem, then came here to Provident as chief resident in surgery—'54-'55.

* * *

He later studied at the Harvard Medical School and worked at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, before returning to Baltimore in 1957 to take the Provident post.

Dr. Coker belongs to the Baltimore City Medical Society; the Monumental City Medical Society and the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty of the State of Maryland.

He is also president of the Former House Officers Association of Provident Hospital. He is a Kappa man.

Read the foregoing again. Then count up the years. You get a general idea how long one has to work and study to become proficient in his field.

P.S.—Dr. Coker is a bachelor. He declares he has no wedding plans.

* * *

Good Deed: Melvin Robinson Jr., 14 - year - old Clifton Park Junior High student, found a wallet containing $41.61 while on his way to a meeting of Boy Scout Troop No. 223 (Zion Baptist Church) last week.

He returned the wallet to resented part of her week's its owner who revealed it repay. She said her husband has been ill at home for three years.

Although Melvin believes honesty is its own reward, the owner of the wallet forced him to take a $2 gift.

* * *

Winner: Best skater under 12 was the title won by Arlice Bishop of 2322 Whittier Ave. when the Pledge Club of Zeta Nu Sigma Sorority held its second skating part at the Coliseum on Friday.

* * *

Oddity in the news: Mrs. Elnora Lewis died while seated in a car at Prestman and Fulton week back.

It was at this same intersection two years ago that she suffered painful injuries, when she was hit by a car.

—Spring Grove

(Continued from Page 1)

admittance on an out-patient basis at University Hospital.

"But he had been at University Hospital as an outpatient in 1959. He wanted to be hospitalized," Mrs Y maintained.

* * *

SHE SAID the social worker, a dark - haired young lady, consented at her husband's insistance, a call to Spring Grove was made in her presence and it was arranged to have Mr. Y admitted there the next day, she maintained.

Mr. Y is a slightly built light - brown haired, fair skinned man, with grayish - green eyes. His father was white.

Mrs. Y, on the other hand, is brown skinned.

* * *

ON WEDNESDAY morning when Mr. and Mrs. Y reached Spring Grove the receptionist referred Mr. Y to a social worker in the out-patient office. Mrs. Y said she had to wait at least 30 minutes for the worker to appear.

The worker told her it was all a big mistake.

"We can't take your patient. Mr. Y is not integrated," Mrs. Y quoted the social worker.

When Mrs. Y persisted in her claim, she was referred to the hospital superintendent who in turn had his secretary talk to the now thoroughly confused mental patient and his wife.

Mrs. Y said the secretary, Mrs. Anne Stevens, told her that 'Spring Grove is not quite ready to integrate.'"

* * *

MRS. STEVENS told the AFRO that the hospital administration "regrets the incident."

"We tried to explain to Mrs. Y that it was nothing personal. The administration has no feeling whatsoever on this. We are working along lines of integration but it takes time," she assirted.

She said the VA had not called to confirm their referral. "This should have been done in any case," she said.

Dr. Bruno Radauskan, superintendent of Spring Grove was unavailable for comment.

A SPOKESMAN for the Veterans Administration said that the assignment had been made by the social worker who is not familiar with the community."

E. N. Eisenhardt, chief social worker at VA said Mr. Y should have been assigned to Crownsville State Hospital.

"It's not our fault, the fault lies in the Maryland community," he added.

* * *

TOHE R. Y. case comes in the wake of the recent commissioning of the Advisory Council on Mental Hygiene to investigate the problem of integrating Maryland's six state mental hospitals.

According to Dr. Thurmon Mott, assistant commissioner on Mental Hygiene, the State Board of Mental Health and Hygiene expects the advisory council to come up with the "when and how" of the desegregation project.

The committee is composed of private citizens representing professional associations related to the field of mental health, and includes Dr. Percival C. Smith, a member of the Maryland Medical Association.

The council has been meeting since Dec. 15, according to Dr. Mott.

"It's going to be a complicated thing to completely redo our admission procedures —it's going to take a great deal of planning," he noted.

HE SAID the patient's proximity to a state hospital will probably be the determing factor in any desegregation plan used.

Actually only four of the six institutions which handle mentally disturbed people are segregated, and have clauses in their charters which dictate that they accept patients on the basis of race.

The Eastern Shore State Hospital, in Cambridge, is for whites only; as are Springfield, in Sykesville, and Spring Grove, Catonsville. Crownsville in Crownsville, Md. is ch