WHEN YOU FINISH READING YOUR AFRO PASS IT ALONG TO A FRIEND

GAS FUMES PUT FAMILY IN HOSPITAL

Baltimore Notebook

By MAX JOHNSON

Now that Maryland's General Assembly is more than a week into its 30-day session — another look should be taken at Gov. J. Millard Tawes' legislative program.

This program covers proposed legislation — for which Governor has promised his full support for passage.

And with this review — comes current indications of the chance of passage of this proposed legislation.

Gov. Tawes — in January and again in his State of the State message to the General Assembly Feb. 7 — committed his Administration to support the enactment of the following measures, in the order of his quotations:

* * *

"1. A BILL to reapportion the membership of the General Assembly, with a provision for automatic revision every ten years in accordance with population changes."

There are four such bills now before the Assembly—each designed to bring more equitable, political sub-division representation in the House of Delegates.

Neither bill would affect the one Senate seat allotted to each Baltimore district and to each county.

Chance of Passage — None during this 30-day session.

Perhaps — some compromise legislation with the strong, small county opposition in an almost certain special Assembly session.

* * *

"2. A BILL to abolish racial discrimination in restaurants and hotels."

Two such bills are before the Assembly — one through the Assembly's Legislative Council, and the other by Maryland's Commission on Interracial Problems and Relations.

Chance of passage — None during this 30 - day session.

Passage at a subsequent special Assembly session also appears doubtful — unless Gov. Tawes throws the full weight of his Administration behind this measure.

Meanwhile — the Assembly also has a bill, which would put the matter of whether State-wide public accommodations legislation is wanted up to voters on the November general election ballots.

In view of Gov. Tawes' commitment on public accommodations legislation — Administration leaders can ill afford to let this bill get anywhere.

* * *

"3. AN AMENDMENT to the referendum provisions of the State Constitution, to make the number of signatures required to place a question on the ballot bear a more reasonable relationship to the voting population."

The Assembly has under consideration a bill which would change from the present requirement of 10,000 signatures of qualified voters to place a State - wide Act on referendum — to ten percent of the voters of the State voting in the last gubernatorial election.

Chance of passage — doubtful, in its present form.

Far too many lawmakers argue that the proposed ten percent is too stringent a requirement.

There is a strong possibility this bill will pass, with a compromise lower signature requirement.

* * *

"4. LAWS protecting the public against fraudulent selling practices, and to regulate home improvement industries."

A bill to regulate the home improvement industry was introduced into the House of Delegates on Thursday and reaction has yet to be noted.

* * *

"5. LEGISLATION TO tighten laws regulating the sale of securities in the State."

A bill on this matter, known as the "Blue Sky Law," is currently under consideration in a Senate Committee.

Chance for passage — Good.

Perhaps, with some technical amendments.

* * *

"6. ESTABLISHMENT OF a State program to insure the deposits in non-Federally insured savings and loan associations."

Both the Senate and the House have companion bills, which would establish a State fund to insure accounts in these associations.

Chance of passage — Good.

* * *

HERE, THEN, are the six legislative measures which Gov. Tawes has committed himself to support for passage.

Just how strongly the Governor will support the highly controversial measures here — will be determined by just to what extent he is convinced such support is vitally necessary for his re-election to office.

It's silly to waste time thinking he might be motivated into such support, otherwise.

NEAR TRAGEDY — The arrows on the floor indicate where two members of a family at 1846 Collington St., were found by a neighbor Tuesday after they apparently were overcome by gas. Mrs. Bessie Brice, 48, and Warren Brice, 2 months, her grandson, were found on the kitchen floor. Two more children were found in adjoining rooms, and Mrs. Marian B. Brice was found in the bathroom. At left is John, one of the children found on the floor in another room, after he was brought to St. Joseph's Hospital.

2 still in critical condition

An E. Baltimore family is alive today, thanks to a pot of coffee.

The coffee helped save the lives of 25-year-old Marian Brice and her three children, and that of her mother, Mrs. Bessie Brice, 48.

The Brice family was found unconscious in their second-floor apartment around noon Tuesday, when a first-floor tenant went to find out why Mrs. Brice had not joined her for their regular morning cup of coffee.

Upon entering the apartment at 1846 N. Collington Ave., Miss Josephine Wilson found bodies scattered all through the house.

The occupants had been overcome by fumes from a gas heating system.

Miss Wilson said she found the young mother unconscious in the bathroom, and the rest of the family lying on the kitchen floor.

* * *

TAKEN TO St. Joseph's Hospital in two ambulances were Mrs. Brice and her sons Stanwood, 3; Warren, 2; months; John, 5; and her mother.

Mrs. Bessie Brice, a resident of the 2100 block Orleans St. was visiting in her daugh-

(Continued on Page 21)

Family of 9 unlucky for second time

For the second time in seven days, a near tragedy has disrupted the lives of Mr. and Mrs. Aaron McCray of 806 E. 22nd St.

Last Wednesday night, their two-year-old daughter Doris was hospitalized with critical burns after her hair and clothing caught fire.

Wednesday morning, their seven-year-old daughter Virginia tripped and fell through the entrance to a storm drain at Homewood Ave. and E. 22nd St.

* * *

VIRGINIA, A second grade pupil at School No. 74, was saved from serious injury when her cries attracted the attention of her father.

Mr. McCray was on his way home from work at a steel plant when he heard a muffled cry, and recognized the voice as that of his daughter.

When he reached the girl, he found her lying with her left leg in the drain opening.

Her left shoe and a boot had been swept away.

The child told her parents she fell in the snow as she left a neighborhood store, and skidded into the drain.

* * *

MRS. SUSIE McCRAY said she was in the kitchen of her home waiting for Virginia when her husband walked in with the girl in his arms.

"He knew I would get nervous and excited so he didn't say anything," Mrs. McCray stated. "When he did speak he said, 'Virginia's been hurt.'"

The child, who may have sustained internal injuries, was taken to St. Joseph's Hospital where her younger sister Doris is a patient.

* * *

MRS. McCRAY explained that her other daughter Doris, and a group of children were playing in the basement of their home near a stove when her hair caught fire.

"The children came running up the stairs screaming, 'Doris is burning up.' When I reached the door all I could see was smoke. I found her standing in a corner with her whole head on fire," Mrs. McCray said.

"Seems like every week there's something," the worried mother stated.

The McCrays are the parents of seven children ranging in age from four months to eight years.

Rights bill hearing brings plea for milder proposal

ANNAPOLIS — "We realize, after 11 years of operation, that such a bill is needed.

"We ask that you adopt the milder procedures of our bill. We don't want these people, or information, to be brought in on criminal charges.

"We come to you in humility and ask that you adopt our bill, and not give us one that will create more tension and more bitterness."

William . C. . Rogers Sr., chairman, Maryland's Commission on Interracial Problems and Relations, made this plea Wednesday afternoon on behalf of his agency's public accommodations bill, in public hearing before the Senate Judicial Proceedings and the House Judiciary Committees.

The Commission's bill would handle complaints through the steps of conciliation, then a public hearing if necessary, next a cease and desist order, and finally to an equity court, if the matter was not cleared on any of the previous steps.

* * *

A LEGISLATIVE Council bill, the other up for consideration, would channel complaints to the Attorney General, who would, if it were deemed advisable, direct them to the State's Attorney for prosecution.

All proponents for public accommodations legislation at the hearing Wednesday asked that the Commission's bill be adopted.

* * *

WITH SENATOR Frederic C. Malkus Jr. (D. Dorchester) presiding, proponents and opponents were each allotted an hour and 15 minutes for their presentation.

An integrated group of spectators crowded the House

(Continued on Page 12)

City cop at meeting on integration

By HERB MANGRUM

A Baltimore police inspector was among high ranking officers who met in New York recently, to discuss "the challenge of desegregation for the American police executive."

The unannounced conference, held behind closed doors in a New York hotel, was attended by Inspector August K. Gribbin.

Eighteen states and the District of Columbia were represented at the "hush hush" conference called by New York University's Graduate School of Public Administration.

An official said the confer-

(Continued on Page 21)

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NAACP lawyers plan defense for Freedom Riders; need funds

Maryland NAACP Legal Redress Committee lawyers and their associates met this week to map plans for the statewide defense of 252 Freedom Riders from CORE, Baltimore Civic Interest Group, NAACP, Jackie Robinson Youth Council and the Student Non - violent Co - ordinating committee who have been arrested for demonstrations protesting racial discrimination in places of public accommodation in Maryland, since 1960. Most of them, 219, have been arrested since August of 1961.

Taking part in the sessions were J. Franklin Bourne of Prince Georges County; Tucker R. Dearing, Leonard J. Kerpelman, Juanita Jackson Mitchell, Archie D. Williams, Donald Gaines Murray and Paul J. Cockrell of Baltimore; Eleanor Crawford of Anne Arundel County; Solomon Baylor and W. A. C. Hughes Jr. of Baltimore.

Mrs. Mitchell, secretary of the NAACP Legal Redress Committee, said the attorneys are giving their services without legal fees, as their contribution to the struggle to end racial discrimination in public accommodations.

* * *

HOWEVER, she stated, with the Court of Appeals of Maryland having ruled that arrests of demonstrators for criminal trespass is legal, all convictions must be appealed to the Supreme Court so involved students will not have criminal records.

Funds are needed to pay court costs of the appeals and the bail.

The cost of bail alone for those arrested on Route 40 in Baltimore City, Anne Arundel County, Eastern Shore and Prince Georges County is more than $5,000.

Convictions of 23 demonstrators in Annapolis and 10 in Baltimore County have been appealed to the Court of Appeals of Maryland. The cost of the transcripts of the trial testimony in these cases is some $600.

The case of Robert Mack Bell, et. al, of 11 students convicted in February, 1961, whose convictions were affirmed by the Court of Appeals on January 9, 1962 is being appealed to the Supreme Court of the United States with the help of the National NAACP legal staff.

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Health minister from Nigeria visits Hopkins

Federal Minister of Health for Nigeria M. A. Majekodunmi briefly visited Johns Hopkins Hospital Tuesday to talk medicine with some of the senior staff members.

Carl D. Sherman, assistant director of public relations said the visit was part of a tour aimed at gathering information for a planned medical school at the University of Nigeria in Lagos.

After touring the hospital and talking with several staff members, Minister Majekodunmi returned to Washington with several Nigerian embassy staff members and other dignitaries, Mr. Sherman said.

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Postal employee leaves estate of $23,256

Lawrence R. Christmas, postal employee, who died on October 28, 1961, left his $23,256.60 estate to relatives, an administration account filed in Orphans Court, shows.

W. Emerson Brown Jr., attorney was executor.

The estate derived chiefly from job - connected benefits including U.S. Federal Employee Insurance, U.S Post Office Terminal, and civil service payments of $13,604.14, also included a bank account of $7,540.36.

In addition Mr. Christmas owned an automobile valued at $350; an account in Advance Savings and Loan, $35; a Christmas Savings account, $250; and insurances amounting to $1,356.48.

* * *

DISTRIBUTIONS included $100 to the Druid Hill Avenue Branch YMCA, $100 to Sharp Street Methodist Church, the car to Miss Justine Christmas, $107 to Mr. and Mrs. Bernard White for their children Denise, Eric and Glen White,

Also $35.71 to Mrs. Gloria Christmas White for Dennis Christmas, $107 to Mr. and Mrs. Earl Wilkins for Kooler, and Karen and Keven Watkins.

To brothers of Mr. Christmas, Dr. Bernard Christmas and Oscar Christmas, received $1,613.35 each, as did 10 nieces and nephews, including:

Justine Christmas, Alberta Mitchell, Carrie Christmas, Doris Odum, Gertrude Christmas, Gloria White, Ellen Gordon, Jeannette Smith, Oliver Christmas and Dr. Bernard H. Christmas.

Administration costs amounted to $3,066.12.

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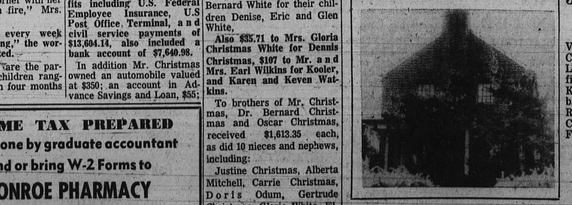

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Tenants Rap New Housing Projects

(STORY IN COLUMN 4)

BLUE STREAK EDITION

Baltimore Afro-American

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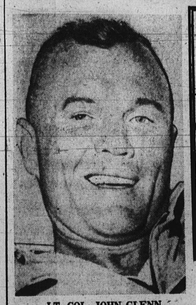
'The View Is Tremendous—The Lights Show Up Very Well..'



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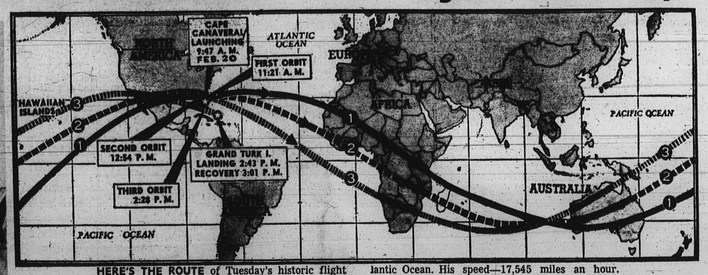

HERE'S THE ROUTE of Tuesday's historic flight into space by Astronaut John Glenn, showing his three orbits of the earth. He blasted off at 9:47 a.m. from a launching pad at Cape Canaveral and four hours and 56 minutes later landed in the Atlantic Ocean. His speed—17,545 miles an hour. This was America's first man in orbit and it has opened the door for further exploration into the great unknown of space.

The heart of Baltimore soared with the Mercury capsule which carried Astronaut John Glenn on his outer-space flight Tuesday.

In homes, in business offices, in stores, in schools, in taverns— they sat and they watched and listened as the great bird that was the Atlas rocket rose slowly, but majestically from its launching pad at Cape Canaveral.

As they watched the drama unfold, the words of the Marine lieutenant colonel, reached out and swept them up into the history making event.

"Oh the view is tremendous. . .the lights show up very well, thank everybody for turning them on, will you . . . ?"

And the people sat and watched fascinated.

When it was all over, we wondered what the people thought.

Comments gathered in an AFRO man-on-the-street survey this week indicated that the orbiting Marine breached some intellectual frontiers

(Continued on Page 25)

MYSTERY SURROUNDS SLAYING OF YOUNG WINDSOR HILLS WIFE

Need to ask for rights called 'Md.'s shame'

By MAX JOHNSON

ANNAPOLIS — "It's a shame that in 1962 here we have to send a delegation in the United States to a state capital to ask for public accommodations bills.

"It's a shameful mission. It's a shame on Maryland.

"High officials ought to be ashamed to have you come down here."

Ray Wilkins, NAACP national executive secretary, was speaking here, Thursday afternoon, during a statewide NAACP mass demonstration in this state's capital.

He was featured speaker at a rally at Mount Moriah AME Church where nearly 500 citizens from 17 Maryland counties gathered.

Previously, an estimated 150 NAACP members and their supporters held prayer services on the State House steps and then marched twice around the Governor's Mansion.

* * *

STILL EARLIER NAACP county delegations visited their respective representative General Assembly members to urge their support of public accommodations legislation.

Their reports were given at the meeting which raised more than $500.

James Morton, a member of Gov. J. Millard Tawes' staff, who representing his chief executive, called the meeting:

"The most impressive sight I have ever seen."

Robert Sweeney, of the at-

(Continued on Page 2)

INSIDE
• ANOTHER IN THE AFRO's series of people on the way up . . . Adoption isn't as difficult as you might think . . . He's a scholar, drummer, entertainer par excellence, and a future African leader . . . All on the exciting and entertaining Feature Page.
• SPECIAL SESSION of Maryland's General Assembly will consider rights law — Page 22.
• YOU MAY NOT AGREE with him, but you'll enjoy reading the trenchant remarks of political writer Max Johnson — Page 32

Tenants rap new projects

Two of the city's newest low-rent housing projects have become the targets of a number of complaints lodged by tenants.

They are Lafayette Courts at Orleans and Aisquith Sts., and Lexington Terrace at Lexington St. and Fremont Ave.

The Lafayette Courts opened in 1955 and cost seven and a half million dollars. Lexington Terrace opened in 1950 and cost nine and a half million dollars.

High on the list of tenant complaints are not enough heat, cracked floors, cracked ceilings, windows pulling away from the walls, walls pulling away from the floors, hot pipes exposed without insulation, and water seepage.

* * *

THE TENANTS have complained that heat is turned down in the buildings at 10:30 p.m. no matter what the weather, and is not turned on again until 6 a.m.

(Continued on Page 3)

HAPPIER DAYS — Mr. and Mrs. Donald Dorsey are pictured with Edward M. Lee, left, her brother-in-law. She was shot to death late Wednesday and Mr. Dorsey is held in connection with the slaying.

Husband gives no statement, ordered held

By GEORGE W. COLLINS

What is the motive behind the death of a pretty Windsor Hills bookkeeper who died of a bullet through the neck early Wednesday evening?

Was it jealousy?

Money?

Or Both?

Was it an accident?

These are the questions being asked this week in the wake of the violent death of Mrs. Arlis V. Dorsey, 27, who was shot in her fashionable apartment in the 2500 block Queen Anne Rd.

But there are no answers. Mrs. Dorsey is dead.

Her husband, Donald Dorsey, isn't talking.

He is being held by police charge with homicide.

* * *

SPECULATION ON the reason for the slaying has run the gamut from mutual jealousy to financial strains.

But it's nothing more than speculation.

The real reason is a mystery.

There were no witnesses to the tragedy which rocked the quiet, upper class residential section on a rainy and snowy evening except Mr. and Mrs. Dorsey.

* * *

MRS. DORSEY was a bookkeeper with 11 years service at a music and coin machine distributing firm in

(Continued on Page 21)

Election date nears

HOUSE OF PRAYER

WASHINGTON

District Court Judge George Hart Jr., Tuesday set April 7 as the election date for a new leader of the House of Prayer for All People.

Notices of the election are to be mailed to elders in the nation-wide church no later than February 24 and credentials should be in the hands of William B. Bryant, court-appointed receiver, no later than March 24.

* * *

JUDGE HART ruled, over the objections of Frank

(Continued on Page 2)

Return set for Easton

In the face of hardened stand by both restaurant owners and local officials, the CIG has announced that it will return to Easton this week.

A spokesman for the group indicated that Mayor Sherwood Hubbard has shown "bad faith" in delaying the appointment of a bi - racial committee. The Mayor had promised to appoint such a committee three weeks ago at the Feb. 19 meeting of the Town Council.

Monday, the Town Council said in a statement that it could not establish a bi - racial committee because "sufficient recommendations for

(Continued on Page 2)

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GOP, Dixiecrats kill urban agency

WASHINGTON

Republicans and Southern Democrats thumbed their collective noses Wednesday at America's 16,000,000 colored people as they crawled in bed together to defeat the proposed urban affairs department bill.

The measure's death which took place in the House of Representatives through a 264-150 vote was a stunning defeat for the Kennedy Administration.

Had the bill passed, it would have meant that Robert C. Weaver, current Housing and Home Finance Administrator, would have been the first colored cabinet secretary, since the President had already announced that Weaver was to be the new Secretary.

Republicans lost no time getting off the racial hook as their Congressional leadership called for the appointment of Weaver as the next Health, Education, and Welfare Secretary.

The present HEW Secretary, Abraham A. Ribicoff plans to resign his post and run for the Senate in Connecticut.

One prominent Republican leader in Congress declared: "Let the President propose Mr. Weaver for the HEW post and there won't be a single Republican vote against him."

The President's reply to this proposal was simple: he had wanted Weaver for Urban Affairs because of his "long experience" in that field and that while Weaver may be "grateful for those good wishes for a Cabinet position where there is no vacancy," the country would have been better served if Congress had created the Urban Affairs Department.

Republicans had decided to vote against the measure on the theory that they have very few constituencies with colored people anyway.

CHILD LEAGUE

Boycott is questioned

By MOSES J. NEWSON

None of the colored persons scheduled to appear on the Child Welfare League's March 1-3 conference here at the Lord Baltimore Hotel plans at this point to boycott the sessions.

The scheduled participants and others have been urged to boycott the conference by the local NAACP, the Civic Interest Group and a segment of local social workers.

They have insisted that Baltimore has not progressed to the point it would be a proper host city for a confer-

(Continued on Page 2)

Grace Bumbry summoned from Paris by White House

Possessing what has been described as "one of the world's most beautiful voices," opera star Grace Bumbry was back in France last night (Thursday) after a hurried flight to Washington for a "command performance" at the White House.

Miss Bumbry sang at a state dinner which opened the White House social season, an affair staged in honor of Vice President Lyndon Johnson, Speaker of the House John McCormack and Chief Justice Earl Warren.

* * *

THE TALENTED singer is the young woman who shocked Bayreuth, West Germany, last July when she became the first colored artist ever to appear in the Festival program held annually in the home of the celebrated composer, Richard Wagner.

At the time, heirs of Wagner who now promote the Festival defended their choice of Miss Bumbry with the assertion that she "has one of the world's finest voices."

Her reaction to the visit to the Executive Mansion was one of sheer excitement, as evidenced by her testimony: "I'd prefer to miss the earli-

(Continued on Page 19)

MISS GRACE BUMBRY

'Downtown Club' vague on admitting all persons

Efforts to ascertain whether or not a new "liberal" business and professional men's luncheon club plans to include non - whites in its membership proved fruitless yesterday (Monday.)

Spokesmen for the group were reluctant to comment on the group's admission policies, which they said were in the process of being formed.

"We have set up a membership committee to decide the type of membership the club is to be consisted of, and I hesitate to predict what their plans will be," said Brent Kensler, execu-

(Continued on Page 2)

200 ministers will lead Selective Patronage drive

Two hundred Baltimore ministers, representing an estimated 100,000 members, have united to lead a Selective Patronage Movement.

The clergymen have set Sunday, Feb. 25, as the date on which they will outline the program to their members, and urge community support.

The Rev. Robert T. Newbold, pastor, Grace Presbyterian Church, is chairman of the steering committee of the Interdenominational-Ministerial Alliance, sponsors of the movement.

He told the AFRO Thursday that Sunday pulpit announcements would be followed with picketing by ministers. Businesses to be picketed are those which have a large percentage of colored customers but deny equitable employment opportunities to all races.

The first picketing demonstration is scheduled for Monday morning at a Northwest Baltimore bakery. The steering committee reports it has been negotiating with the firm since last October.

"Our purpose is not to harm any business institution," the Rev. Dr. Newbold explained, "but merely assist those employers who have not adopted fair and merit upgrading employment practices.

The Rev. Frank Williams, Metropolitan Methodist, is president of the Alliance. The Rev. J. T. Boddie, is co-chairman of the steering committee.

Director of the steering committee is the Rev. Marion Bascom, Douglas Memorial.

Other members of the committee are:

The Revs. Thomas Fraser 3rd, Walbrook Presbyterian; Clinton Coleman, Pa. Ave. AME Zion; William King, Simmons Memorial Baptist; Moses Williams, Zion Baptist; W. L. Clayton, Macedonia Baptist; Edward G. Carroll, Sharp St. Methodist; and William T. Mayo, Timo-

(Continued on Page 2)