MCKELDIN AGAINST WELFARE SEARCHES

Baltimore Notebook

By MAX JOHNSON

The program of the Baltimore Urban Renewal and Housing Agency is adversely affecting the happiness of thousands of families and individuals this Yuletide season — more so than in past years.

For some — BURHA has brought a brighter outlook with modern new homes, pleasant surroundings.

These fortunate families and individuals are those who are now residing, or will, in the new George B. Murphy Homes — a colorful public housing project recently completed in the George St. area.

There is little question here that theirs should be a happy Christmas period — for they can look to the new year with some degree of certainty.

But — these are the relatively small number of families affected by BURHA's operations who are, or will be, residing in the Murphy Homes' 758 units.

* * *

FOR THOUSANDS of other families, though — it's quite a different situation.

BURHA has — and still is doing so — forced upon them ill - afforded home renovation expenditures, loss of old community ties and friends, a climate of uncertainty about the future.

This, I should say at the outset, is not to be construed as a criticism of the principles of urban renewal as such.

I do question sharply the manner in which BURHA is administering those principles.

For this agency's method of operation will take much of the otherwise happiness from the homes of many, many families this joyous season of the year.

* * *

LET'S LOOK, for example, at the thousand or more families just displaced from BURHA's Madison Park - South renewal area — that now ghost continuity between Dolphin and Laurens Sts. and McCulloh and Park Ave.

There were many long-time residents of this area retired, or semi-retired, on fixed incomes — with strong friendship ties there.

BURHA's acquisition of their homes and subsequent relocation of these citizens has all but destroyed these ties — by dispersing them away from the surrounding area entirely to other sectors of the city.

This means these citizens face this Yule period away

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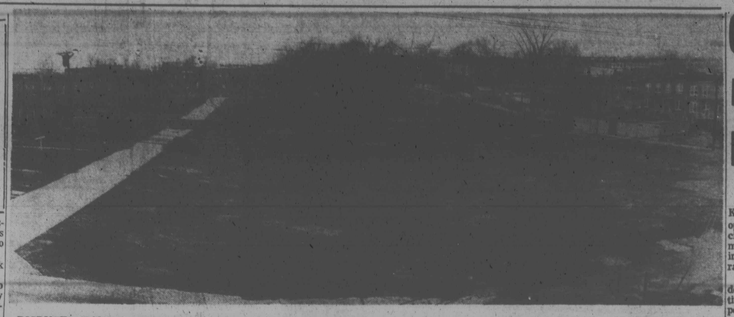

DISPUTED HANLON HILL LAND—This is city property in Hanlon Hill area off of Gwynns Falls Pkwy. that has been recommended for sale by City Comptroller Hyman A. Pressman. Homeowners are protesting saying that they want to develop plot for neighborhood recreational purposes. Hanlon area residents say sale would mean construction of rental dwellings which would lower property values.

Opposes no-warrant principle

By MOSES J. NEWSON

Mayor Theodore R. McKeldin said this week he is opposed as a matter of principle to the Welfare Department's midnight searches by investigators without warrants.

"Without knowing all the details of the visits or investigations I am definitely opposed to it as a matter of principle," he told the AFRO.

Earlier in the week Councilman Leon A. Rubenstein (D., 5th) introduced a resolution supported by Mayor McKeldin which would require building inspectors to obtain warrants before entering homes in most instances.

Emergency situations and routine inspections after completion of improvements are

(Continued on Page 31)

Pianist asks $50,000 in injury suit

Miss Mary Ann Walker, prominent local entertainer, has filed suit in Superior Court against a cab company here, asking $50,000 for injuries received in an auto mishap.

A pianist known professionally as the "Ivory Tickling Empress," she has named the Belle Isle Cab Co., 500 block E. Preston St., as defendant in the suit.

Miss Walker, through her attorney, Amos I. Meyers, charged she was injured on Nov. 17, 1962, when a company cab in which she was a passenger struck a cement divider on the highway near Glen Burnie.

She was employed at the time at a lounge on Crain Highway, according to Mr. Meyers, and injures to her head and shoulders forced her to lose several weeks of employment as a result of the mishap.

Miss Walker, who lists her professional address in the 1500 block Pennsylvania Ave., is well known throughout the metropolitan night club circuit.

Homeowners rap Pressman on Hanlon Pk. land deal

Is city land in the Hanlon Park area being sold to a private developer because the Department of Recreation is angry with residents there who opposed its plans for a new building?

Yes! says the Hanlon Hill Community Association, headed by its president O'Neill W. Koger.

No! contends City Comptroller Hyman Pressman who has approved sale of property located off the 2800 block Gwynns Falls Parkway.

This disputed property threatens to be a political explosion in days to come with Hanlon Hill area homeowners fighting Mr. Pressman's decision to sell the land.

* * *

THE CITY PLANNING COMMISSION has scheduled a hearing on the Hanlon Hill land battle Tuesday, Dec.17, Room 200, Court Square Building at 1 p.m.

Later the controversy will be heard anew at a hearing before the Board of Estimates and finally in the City Council.

Fifth district city councilman Ruben A. Caplan told the AFRO on Wednesday that "I definitely want these citizens to have a hearing when the ordinance comes back to the City Council. Councilman Dominick Leone of the Ways and Means Committee has promised to see that Hanlon Park residents will be able to give their opinions."

The councilman said that Hanlon residents had their best chance to kill sale of the disputed land when the issue came before the City Council.

According to Mr. Koger, president of the Hanlon area neighborhood association, homeowners in his organization seek use of this city property for "neighborhood recreational use" and oppose its sale because "this sale would bring absentee landlords to this neighborhood values."

* * *

MR. KOGER, in a letter of protest to Comptroller Pressman, said, "It was his group's feeling that the city was selling the land because the Department of Recreation had recommended this be done."

He further stated that the Department of Recreation was being "vindictive" in abandoning the property and had based its action on a previous controversy.

This, he explained, was the recent successful fight by Hanlon - Ashburton homeowners to prevent erection of a recreation building in Hanlon Park.

Mr. Koger contended that the Department of Recreation had decided to "wash its hands of all property in this area because it couldn't have its 8-way in Hanlon Park."

Comptroller Pressman has thus far gone along with the Department of Recreation's recommendation that the city sell this property.

Thus, he has also drawn the fire of irate Hanlon homeowners who want to keep this park property intact and for use as a neighborhood - supervised recreational area.

IN HIS correspondence with Mr. Pressman, the Hanlon community official also said:

"The proposed sale and the manner in which you have gone about selling the land referred to is contrary to your espoused principles of open dealing; where public business is involved and fair treatment of all citizens . . .

Also, Mr. Pressman was informed that **"when colored residents first moved into the subject neighborhood, a substantial portion of the lot in question was park property and was so posted. The population in the area has increased and, therefore, there is more need for this area than there ever was."**

Mr. Koger further claimed that homeowners were being unfairly treated, that they had no advance notice of this sale and that they were under the impression that the city would continue to maintain the area as park property.

Mr. Koger also pointed out that "Mayer McKeldin has

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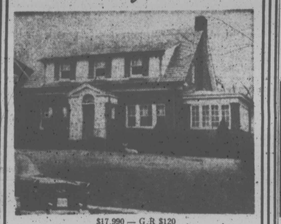
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A CHRISTMAS PRESENT — James A. Morton, left, and Leroy O. Dyett (standing), morticians, beam while checking architect's drawing of proposed $150,000 funeral mansion with George L. Russell Jr., their attorney. Full speed ahead with plans was made possible this week when the Small Business Administration approved their request for a $100,000 loan, negotiated by Mr. Russell.

Widow to administer Boddie estate

Mrs. Emery Moore Boddie has been granted letters to administer the estate of her husband, the Rev. Dr. J. Timothy Boddie, by the Orphans Court of this city.

Mrs. Boddie posted a bond of $2000. No estimate was given of the value of the estate.

The Rev. Dr. Boddie, who had been pastor of New Shiloh Baptist Church for 21 years, died on November 22.

He was active in numerous church and civic groups, including the Advance Federal Savings and Loan Association of which he was second vice president.

His heirs, in addition to the widow, include two sons, Capt. J. Timothy Boddie Jr. of Tuskegee, Ala., William Boddie, U. of Md. medical student; and Mrs. Marcia Cummings and Mrs. Veshti O. Roberts, daughters, both of Los Angeles.

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THE TRAGEDY OF HUNGER
FAMILY LIVES ON CEREAL AND BISCUITS
(STORY IN COLUMN ONE)

BLUE Streak EDITION

Baltimore Afro-American

72nd Year, No. 44 — Copyrighted 1963 by AFRO-AMERICAN CO. for all materia previously printed in the current National Edition — BALTIMORE, MD., DECEMBER 21, 1963 ★★★★★★★ 32 PAGES 15 CENTS

THE WEATHER
A cold weekend at hand. Today (Friday) sunny, windy and very cold. Highest in the lower 20s. Saturday sunny and continued very cold. Fair and cold on Sunday.

DR. KING SAYS SEGREGATION CAN DESTROY THE NATION

Mrs. Santa gets last minute pleas

While most of Baltimore is safe in warm homes as the cold winds sweep the streets, there are families who shiver and suffer because they have no heat.

One of the heart tugging cases that came to the attention of Mrs. Santa this week was that of the 5 Family.

19 people, 9 plates

They sat down to eat in their basement kitchen. But not all 19 of them at one time.

All of them never eat together. There aren't enough plates. Even counting the broken ones there are but eight or nine plates.

Today the menu was cream of wheat and biscuits — and the 11 children and 8 adults were happy to have that. Some days it is not that good.

When Mrs. Santa visited the home after receiving a letter from the family she soon learned why they were eating in the basement of their $10 a week, rundown dwelling.

* * *

THERE'S NO heat upstairs. When it's cold outside it's cold upstairs and Thursday it was cold outside. Heating costs up to $10 a week (for gas and electricity).

Other conditions in the dilapidated situation include broken-down furniture and a dire scarcity of bed linen.

Members of the family are forced to live together by illness, lack of work and poverty of all.

The parents who rent the home have young children of their own.

Forced in with them are two married daughters who between them have eight children but no homes and no incomes.

Explaining the lack of heat, one parent said:

"We had to take the gas burners out of the upstairs bedrooms because we could

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- BOY ATTACKED in school hall—Page 24
- AFRICAN STUDENTS riot in Moscow—Page 22

628 N. EUTAW ST.
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Guilty in tot's death

"I can only say that the brutal and horrible rape of this little seven - year - old girl and the rape of the other woman is the most revolting and sadistic crime this court has ever heard.

"I feel that the death penalty is eminently justified."

So said Criminal Court Judge Charles D. Harris Thursday as he imposed three death penalties on Irvin L. Johnson, 21 - year - old former messenger.

Johnson was convicted Wednesday of the May 25 rape and strangulation murder of Debbie Washington, daughter of a couple who befriended him, and the rape of the wife of his host at a party last April.

* * *

JOHNSON, WHO lived at the home of the child's parents in the 600 block Portland St., stood impassively while Judge Harris tolled off the triple gas chamber penalty. He kept his eyes fixed on the judge until hearing these words:

"You will be taken by the sheriff and delivered to the warden to await execution by lethal gas in the Maryland Penitentiary."

Dropping his head, Johnson smiled faintly as two of the 12 sheriff deputies and policemen who surrounded him, took him by the arms and led him from the courtroom.

Sentencing of the convicted murderer and rapist was delayed for one hour when his

(Continued on Page 2)

HEADS FREEDOM RALLY — Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., left, as he arrived at Friendship Airport Thursday to address a giant freedom rally at the Civic Center. Dr. I. Logan Kearse (center) is host and chairman of the Maryland Freedom Rally Committee and the Rev. Ralph D. Abernathy, treasurer, of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, of which Dr. King heads, is at right.

Bomb scare fails to halt meeting

By GEORGE W. COLLINS

Bitter cold weather, a bomb scare, and Christmas shopping were no match for Dr. Luther King Jr. Thursday night and 9,000 persons went to the Civic Center to make the Freedom Rally a smashing success.

Twenty-one minutes before Dr. King strode to the podium to deliver one of his patent eloquent pleas in the cause of civil rights, a bomb scare was telephoned to Fire Department Headquarters.

Fifty firemen and eight pieces of equipment responded and firefighters, police and ambulance personnel methodically searched the huge auditorium without interferring with the program.

Deputy Fire Chief Emory J. Kempf, who commanded the search, refused to evacuate the building which would have driven the huge throng into bitter cold.

The peak shopping rush, just six days before Christmas, had no noticeable effect on attendance at the first massive freedom rally held in Maryland. The majority of those attending, estimated at 9,000 by Chief Usher Charles Lieberman, were in their seats when the program began at 7:30 p.m.

Few, if any, appeared to be aware of the bomb scare which came while the offering was being taken.

* * *

OFFICIALS DECLINED to spread an alarm, the AFRO learned, due to the tight security police had thrown around the building and Dr. King, which minimized the chances of a bomb being planted.

A small army of policemen —from Detectives, the VIP Squad, Traffic, the districts and private detectives—was literally all over the center.

Chief Inspector George J. Murphy, who headed the security detail withheld the number of officers assigned, only saying "we have enough for any eventuality."

The chief inspector refused to discuss reports of threats against Dr. King's life saying that "he's a public figure and we can't take any chances.

At 10:06 following the offering and ringing welcome messages from Mayor Theodore R. McKeldin and leaders of religious and civil rights organization the lights dimmed and a hush fell over the great hall.

The man who had earlier been described as the "Moses of the 20th Century," and "Disciple of Mahatma Gandhi," stepped to the podium bathed in a spotlight.

He reviewed the events of the "Sweltering Summer of the colored Americans' discontent" and said there were many "dark moments," including:

"Protest demonstrations

(Continued on Page 29)

Big guard for King

Dr. Martin Luther King, here to address a Freedom Rally at the Civic Center Thursday, predicted that Cambridge, Md. and Danville, Va., would be the next "hot spots" in the struggle for equality.

Addressing a press conference at the Friendship Airport where he arrived Thursday afternoon from Detroit, the leader of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference was asked by the AFRO to list the next "Birmingham, Ala., or Oxford, Miss." in the continued war against segregation.

"There are several communities which could become the scene of a major effort to break down the barriers of segregation," he answered.

Among them he listed Cambridge, Danville, Williston, N. C. and possibly Albany Ga. and Montgomery, Ala.

Cambridge, Birmingham and Oxford were scenes of violence and bloodshed during summer-long protests a-

(Continued on Page 29)

SNCC members are bitter over snub by White House

By MOSES J. NEWSON

With its annual executive board meeting set for Dec. 27, the Student Non - Violent Coordinating Committee remains in the dark as to why it alone of the big six civil rights groups hasn't been invited to see President Johnson.

The militant organization, known as SNICK, goes into its executive meeting to make plans for its 1964 direct action plans with many of its members bitter over what they consider a deliberate snub by the White House of its leadership.

The executive board meeting will be held either in Atlanta, SNICK headquarters, or in Cambridge, Md., according to John Lewis, chairman.

* * *

LEWIS DENIED this week

(Continued on Page 29)

Still no clues in pink scarf murder

The investigation continues into last week's pink scarf strangulation of pretty clerk and aspiring actress, Mrs. Joyce Brown, but police still remain puzzled.

Mrs. Brown, 21, was found early last Wednesday morning on the floor of her first floor apartment in the 3000 block Mt. Royal Terrace, with the scarf tightly knotted about her neck.

Police have reportedly questioned "scores" of persons, but without success or a single clue that could lead them to the murderer.

* * *

SHE WAS discovered at 1:25 a.m., by a fellow tenant, Carter L. Bryant. However the medical examiner's office later reported that an autopsy revealed the woman had been dead for several hours.

Mrs. Brown was buried Monday in Stalsville, N.C., after a brief service here at the Herbert G. Nutter Funeral Home Saturday.

Fans, celebrities at Dinah's funeral

CHICAGO — The funeral service for Dinah Washington, "Queen of the Blues," was held here Wednesday, the city she had called home since early childhood.

The rites, scheduled for St. Luke's Baptist Church with the Rev. Eugene Ward officiating, came after thousands of fans viewed the body and nationally known celebrities yesterday made their way here for the funeral.

The singer, who died last Saturday from what is believed to have been an accidental overdose of nerve pills, was flown here Thursday from Detroit where she died.

* * *

HER BODY arrived at O'Hare Field in Chicago shortly after dark. It was escorted by her husband, Dick (Night Train) Lane, a star of the Detroit Lions football team.

Even as the plane bearing the famous blues singer arrived at the airport, so were celebrities of show business. These included Frank Sinatra, Eartha Kitt, Bing Crosby, and Sammy Davis Jr.

Joe Glaser, world famed impresario, who helped Dinah attain stardom was expected to arrive in time for the rites.

* * *

APPROXIMATELY 300 people were packed into the United Funeral Chapel when the body arrived directly from the airport. Within the first hour approximately 500 people passed the casket.

Miss Washington's hair was red, crowned with a tiara. She wore a yellow dress, a soft white jacket, with a ribbon just below the left shoulder and sequined shoes.

The 39-year-old songstress was found by her seventh husband. A coroner's inquest was scheduled to determine the cause of death. A ruling is expected within two or

(Continued on Page 2)

NOTICE
The Five Star Edition of The AFRO - AMERICAN will be on sale Monday, December 23rd.

$100 ready for New Year baby

The AFRO's annual $100 gift to the New Year's baby whose birth is first reported to the paper will be carried on this year.

All that's necessary is that someone call and report the birth. Under the rules of the contest, a baby born after the time of what may officially be the earliest New Year birth, can win only if the latter is the first reported to the AFRO.

FUN FOR THE YOUNG

Mrs. Santa and Regent are ready for annual Christmas party, Tuesday

"I'll be waiting for you. Come early and let's have a 'jolly good time!'"

That's Mrs. Santa's last - minute message to her 1,300 young guests who are invited to the annual AFRO - Regent Christmas party.

The time is 9:30 a.m. Christmas Eve. The place is the Regent Theatre, 1627 Pennsylvania Ave.

And for her young guests whose parents have appealed to Mrs. Santa for help, the management of the Regent Theatre has joined with the gracious lady to bring this package of holiday joy and fun.

The Regent will also be the scene of another spectacular entertainment achievement when on Jan. 1 it presents "Gone Are The Days," starring Ossie Davis, Ruby Dee and Godfrey Cambridge.

This is the movie that has already won glowing praise from critics and should be on the "must-see" list of all moviegoers.

* * *

THE GAY PROCEEDINGS on Tuesday will kick off with an exciting movie "Fun In Acapulco" starring Elvis Presley.

There'll be music by the swinging band of young Mr. Music, Jerome Scruggs.

Mr. F. W. Doodle of television fame will put in a personal appearance to greet the hundreds of his young fans and which there is a merry Christmas while going through his famous and hilarious antics.

George Taylor, brilliant young magician will delight

(Continued on Page 30)

JEROME SCRUGGS

STRANGE PETS

Will a kinkajou crawl down your Yule chimney?

Be a sport. Plunk down $75 up to $100 on your nearest pet shop counter and buy a child a kinkajou for Christmas.

Kinkajous are the big thing in animal - lovers circles these days.

They make unusual gifts.

If you are wondering what in the world a kinkajou is . . . It's a sort of raccoon . . . It has a long tail and a furry coat of yellowish brown. It comes from the forests of South America and can be tamed. It eats honey, bugs and small birds.

It is just one of the odd beasts and fowl available as pets this Christmas and possibly just the thing for a kid who is an animal nut.

If a raccoon from South America is not your idea of a house pet or $100 seems steep for something that will be another mouth to feed, take heart, you can buy a horned toad for $1.60.

* * *

A FLYING squirrel to glide through your living room can be purchased for about $12.95. If your neighborhood pet shop is fresh out of flying

(Continued on Page 31)