—Plan X

(Continued from Page 1)

tion before the Nov. 1966 population representation before the Nov. 1966 general election, or councilmen face the possibility of having to run at large.

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THESE WERE the historic findings this week of Chief Judge Roszel C. Thomsen, Judges Harrison L. Winter and Edward S. Northrop in U.S. District Court here.

They stemmed from an April 1963 suit against the mayor and City Council by Mr. Ellis, 1929 W. Lanvale St., and Mr. Williams, his attorney.

The suit charged that Modified Plan X was a violation of Mr. Ellis' rights under the Equal Protection Clause of the 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, due to proposed inequities of representation.

Mr. Williams held that the present apportionment of the City Council itself was unconstitutional, and this body should reapportion itself before further Council business.

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THE JUDGES, in a 32-page opinion, ruled:

"We conclude that Modified Plan X would result in constitutionally invalid discrimination."

They ordered the Council to proceed with a valid reapportionment plan, to be ready for voters approval or rejection in the Nov. 1966 general election.

Their opinion noted there was ample time for this.

Both condemned Modified Plan X as a "politically expedient" vehicle which could get through the City Council without disturbing its present composition, rather than a needed constitutional remedy.

The judges noted in their opinion:

"Under Modified Plan X the voters of the First, Third and Fifth Councilmanic Districts — in which live 40 percent of the total population of the city — can elect an absolute majority of the City Council."

At another point, the judges noting that the present alignment of councilmen remained undisturbed, stated:

"We cannot approve assigning four councilmen to the Fifth Councilmanic District and three councilmen to the Fourth Councilmanic District, when the Fifth Councilmanic District has almost 4,000 fewer inhabitants than the Fourth."

FURTHER, THE judges said the "one person, one vote concept makes clear that the basic constitutional protection is one of equal representation by population and not equal representation by registered voters."

Earlier in discussing the voter registration, the opinion pointed out that a vote in the Second District is worth more than two votes in the Third and Fifth.

Also that a vote in the First District is worth more than two votes in the Third.

Voters in the First, Second, Fourth and Sixth districts, the judges stated, can elect 12 of the 20 councilmen, under the plan.

In respect to the Fourth Councilmanic District, Modified Plan X would have greatly expanded the boundaries but only raised from 59 percent to 60 the number of registered colored voters at time of presentation last May.

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MESSRS ELLIS and Williams said they were first concerned when they noticed that in the municipal primary last year candidates were losing with 7,000 votes in the Fifth District and winning with less than 3,000 in the Second District.

They charged that the original Plan X drawn by a committee headed by Dr. Harry Bard, president, Baltimore Junior College, did pretty much the same thing, and they would not have been satisfied with it.

"It seems," said Mr. Williams, "they were trying to give the colored the Fourth District, which we already have, and let it go at that.

"Plan X was a political maneuver."

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The 8th Annual Juvenile Court Law and Procedure Forum of the Florida A and M. College of Law will be sponsored in the Moot Court Room Oct. 23-24. The theme will be "Judicial Concern for Children in Trouble."

Existing Districts

Councilmanic Districts	Number of Councilmen	Population (US 1960 Census)	Voters (Registered July, 1964)	Each Councilman Represents Population	Each Councilman Represents Voters
1	3	94,761	34,710	31,587	11,570
2	3	84,213	25,758	28,071	8,586
3	4	278,759	116,476	69,690	29,119
4	3	118,339	40,958	39,446	13,653
5	4	223,417	97,784	55,854	24,446
6	3	139,535	41,126	46,511	13,709

Proposed Districts (Modified Plan X)

Councilmanic Districts	Number of Councilmen	Population (US 1960 Census)	Voters (Registered July, 1964)	Each Councilman Represents Population	Each Councilman Represents Voters
1	3	103,102	37,110	34,367	12,370
2	3	170,789	56,416	56,930	18,805
3	4	183,425	84,771	45,856	21,193
4	3	166,263	59,750	55,421	19,917
5	4	162,644	73,728	40,661	18,432
6	3	152,801	45,038	50,934	15,013

TABLE I—Comparison of Present Population of Districts to Proposed Population

Districts	May 9, 1963 Populations	Original Plan X Populations
1st	95,455	129,855
2nd	83,130	177,897
3rd	275,212	147,682
4th	111,962	171,574
5th	233,375	155,258
6th	139,890	156,758
	939,024	939,024

TABLE II—Comparison of Voter Registration in Present Districts to Proposed Districts (Also Councilmanic Representation)

District	Present (4-15-63) Reg. Voters	Present (4-15-63) Councilmen	Original Plan X Reg. Voters	Number of Voters per Councilman*
1st	38,306	3	50,703	16,901
2nd	29,010	3	64,431	21,463
3rd	122,554	4	76,231	19,058
4th	44,039	3	66,211	22,070
5th	100,774	4	71,579	17,894
6th	44,922	3	50,430	16,810
	379,605	20	379,605	

*Ideal: 19,036

May 9, 1963

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TAKE BELTWAY EXIT ROUTE 40 EAST

HONORED—John H. Murphy Jr. (left), during a testimonial dinner at the Catsle Motor Inn, last Friday, was presented a plaque honoring his 57 years of "faithful service" as a Masonic leader by the Imperial Potentate of the Imperial Council of St. Louis, F. Poag. At the far right is the honoree's wife, Mrs. Marie Murphy.

Top Masons in tribute to Murphy

"What a full life. Busy and serviceable, glorious and inspiring. Each phase and contact, experience and adventure, a milestone of exemplary progress, achievement and contribution."

These words of praise, addressed to John H. Murphy Jr., at a testimonial banquet held in his honor last Friday were spoken by the master of ceremonies of the affair, Alfred A. Dixon, imperial oriental guide of the Masonic order.

Mr. Murphy, who has been associated with the Masonic order for 57 years, received during the ceremony tributes from representatives of the fraternal organization from every part of the country.

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AMONG THE dignitaries present to honor the 84-year-old past imperial potentate of Prince Hall Masonry, were Samuel T. Daniels, grand master of the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Maryland; David Muckle, past grand master of the Virginia Grand Lodge; and John G. Lewis, grand master, Louisiana Grand Lodge.

Also present to pay tribute to Mr. Murphy was Thomas F. Poag, imperial potentate of the Imperial Council, and North Carolina educator, who presented the honoree a plaque in commemoration of his "faithful service."

Mr. Murphy was also cited by the Jerusalem Temple, the award presented by illustrious Travis W. Vauls, potentate of the Jerusalem Grand Lodge.

The Jerusalem Grand Lodge presented him with a life membership certificate in both the Jerusalem Temple and the Temple Fairol.

Grand Master Daniels presented the honoree with a plaque naming him as "Mason of the Year."

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RESPONDING TO the honors, Mr. Murphy said, "I thank you who are present tonight who have made this an occasion that I will always remember.

"My father, John H. Murphy Sr., joined Enterprise Lodge August 14, 1873. Grandpa Benjamin Murphy was listed as a member in 1870.

"My brother Dan was raised in Enterprise Lodge, the next younger brother in 1912. Three of us five brothers were, therefore, active Masons.

"So, for 94 years my father, grandfather, and I have been Masons in Baltimore and God has permitted me to have fellowship of my Masonic brethren for 58 years."

"Uncle Jack," as he is called by friends, has an "outstanding record" in the Masonic order, according to Mr. Dixon.

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AN ACTIVE member of Douglas Memorial Community Church, Mr. Murphy is a member of the AFRO board of directors and is associated with the NAACP, American Red Cross, Community Fund, Urban League and Catholic Charities.

Present at the ceremony was his wife, Mrs. Marie Murphy. They live at 1725 N. Carey St.

Public invited to Cylburn park tours

"Propagation of Plants" will be the subject of a talk by B. C. Green, park naturalist, at Cylburn Mansion in Cylburn Park, Oct. 24 at 10 a.m. Cylburn Park is located on Greenspring Ave., south of Northern Pkwy.

After this discussion, the group will go to the park greenhouse to see methods of growing cuttings.

Aging unit backs $7 rate for nursing homes

The State Commission on the Aging, at its meeting on Oct. 15, passed a resolution in support of the State Department of Public Welfare's request for a budget appropriation for the fiscal year 1966, enabling them to raise the rate paid to publicly supported patients in nursing homes to $7 a day.

The increase would be given only to homes meeting strict State regulations.

Oct. 21

The Bible Class of Central Baptist Church will celebrate their 2nd anniversary. Mrs. Zelma H. Wallace, president, and the Rev. M. J. Brackett, pastor and director.

Republicans for Johnson

Bishop Edgar A. Love, Dr. Robert Gill, Dr. G. James Fleming and Miss Lillian M. Young are on the organizing committee of the Maryland Republicans for Johnson.

The committee issued a statement this week urging Maryland voters to "vote for President Johnson, for the good of our country and the Republican Party."

Panel on welfare aid set for Bethel AME

A panel discussion on public welfare agencies, sponsored by the Tompkins Nurses Unit of Bethel AME Church, Druid Hill Ave. and Lanvale St., will be held at Bethel on Oct. 25 at 3 p.m.

Panelists will include social workers Mrs. Maud Williams, Mrs. Juanita Hall and Mrs. Iris Kurland. Dr. Emerson Walden will act as moderator.

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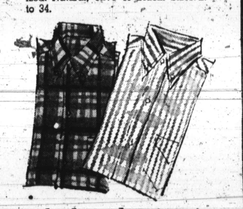

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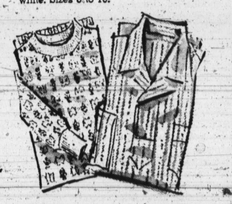

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