Woodberry

(Continued From Page 1)

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...ed to move in."

Asked what she thought of President Johnson's statement that housing should be open to all, she said, "I don't approve of slapping this down people's throats. I think we ought to make the President and the mayor and all these people that are always talking like this, go live with them themselves."

One woman said she was fear that "the people this really hurts are the old people who live on small pensions and won't be able to move out."

She didn't think that they could stay.

"If any others start trying to get in, they will get moved out just like the other party," was the feeling another resident, when asked if the incidents would be repeated.

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MOS T THOUGHT that the neighborhood had not been given a bad name by the move into another home at 701 N. Payson St.

• • •

DO MRS. WALKER'S would-be neighbors feel that the uproar last week has given the neighborhood a bad name?

Do they feel the same as they did last week when they gave at least tacit consent to the mob that turned her away (no one appeared to defend her against the jeers, racial taunts and rocks)?

These were some of the questions asked by the AFRO in a survey of more than 30 residents of the Woodberry section, after the rocks had been cleared and the windows repaired at 3656 Malden Ave. Wednesday —although one police car was stationed at the house nearly all day, too late to do any good for Mrs. Walker.

The reactions of all but two of the 30 row-house residents were essentially the same as this from an elderly woman: "This has always been a while neighborhood and that's the way it's going to stay."

What were their reasons for wanting to keep it "a white neighborhood"?

There was the usual talk about "falling property values (many of the residents are buying their own homes)", but this was not the real reason, as was shown by the way those interviewed rambled on trying to justify their prejudices and fear of "property values."

• • •

ONE SOBER FACED woman stated that she was opposed to colored in the neighborhood because "they are trying to intermarry until everybody will be the same color."

The thought that the incident did not hurt the neighborhood, but "will show everybody that we're not going to mix as fast as they think we are."

Her neighbor, who along with another resident of the block was having a mid-afternoon coffee klatch, listened and said that she "doubted integration would come in my lifetime or in the next 50 years."

The third member of the trio recalled that she had lived on the block for 35 years and offered the suggestion that "there are plenty of nice houses in their own community."

ANOTHER WOMAN, who had lived on the block all her life, stated that "in all these years we never had this trouble until they started throwing and agreed with the woman who said, "It would have gotten a worse name if they had moved in."

In the home where the woman said, "the Lord saw fit to place a curse on the black people" and "I don't think they ought to move in," her five-year-old son sat on the floor intensely

Asked if she thought the mob scene would be repeated if another family tried to move in, she sighed and said, "I don't see how you can escape it, the way these kids get into trouble out here."

The two residents who stated they were not opposed to Mrs. Walker's moving in, simply answered the interviewer's questions without feeling compelled to engage in justifications.

They both deplored the actions of the mob and felt it had given the neighborhood a bad name.

• • •

ALL THE residents interviewed, except one, professed membership in some church and all denied that they had anything to do with the jeering crowds on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday nights.

Most were born in Baltimore or were long-time residents. A few came from Washington or Virginia.

The last person interviewed — an elderly retired man, born in Baltimore, a Methodist, who did not know if he owned his home or not — said that he was opposed to integrating the "all-white neighborhood. This is one of the few places that has kept them out."

He didn't know if the incident had hurt the neighborhood.

As one drives out of the neighborhood, there is a sign reading, "The Iron Curtain Isn't Soundproof."

MARCH 28
Annual Women's Day, South Baltimore Methodist Church, 1117 W. Saratoga St. 11 a.m. sermon by the Rev. Mrs. Ruth Neal and 3 p.m. speaker, Miss Deloris Cousin.

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Dr. Hedgeman sounds her trumpet at annual Blue Ribbon tea

By BETTYE M. MOSS

Oh, la, la!—New York's Dr. Anna Arnold Hedgeman was in Baltimore on Sunday to address the nearly 2,000 persons who crowded High Auditorum.

She is the special events coordinator of the National Council of Churches, and a brilliant speaker, world-traveller and author.

Her new book, 'The Trumpet Sounds,' was published in December by Holt, Rinehart.

• • •

Occasion for her visit was the 21st annual Blue Ribbon Tea sponsored by the Eastside Community Committee, organized by energetic William S. (Bill) Taylor, and the late Mrs. Birtsall Ross.

A truly dynamic speaker, with a marvelous sense of humor, Dr. Hedgeman kept the audience spellbound as she spoke (without notes), on the concerns we face in these historic days: . . . . . .

Typical comments: To teachers: Do everything you can to keep young people in school. They'll be rubbish if you don't.

On role of colored peoples: We are the most significant group of people, not only in the U.S., but in the world today.

On history: Only true Americans are colored people and the Indians. Our sweat and toil went to build this land. Neither of these groups has been paid for it . . . There is need to correct history . . . Lincoln was not the greatest emancipator, Frederick Douglass was. . . .

• • •

On Church: Every four-year-old in Sunday School should be taught to read and write and to know Negro History.

Inner city: This is a term which usually means poor and colored . . . about it means the chance God has given us to save the country. Any group which has survived pure unadulterd hell can challenge a community . . . but let's not do it in hostility . . . register, vote, speak up . . . take positions of leadership.

On Dunbar High: If this school is not fixed up, I won't be back. (his quip after reference to fact that she had appeared at the school seven years ago.)

• • •

On Easter hat: I would suggest we contribute our Easter hat money to Bill Taylor for the program of the Eastside Community Committee.

On integration: I am not concerned so much about integration as I am about quality education.

"Yes, we want integration in schools, but we don't want it only for ourselves. Some white people are pretty nice. We think they should have the experience. They can't get quality education, if they don't know us.

• • •

Thoughtful gesture: Mayor McKeldin, who was present with Mrs. McKeldin (a picture in green), presented Dr. Hedgeman a key to the city.

When he learned that she and her artist-husband, Merritt, had only fifteen minutes to catch the train to N.Y., he offered transportation.

The McKeldins took them to the station in their chauffeur-driven limousine.

• • •

Cuff Note:—Sunday's event raised over $3,000 to send deserving children to camp this summer. Credit is due Bill Taylor, who has spearheaded the Eastside Community Committee since its inception twenty one years ago.

As we said on Sunday, he is one person whose education, experience and achievements qualify him for a top level management post in the administration of the city's anti-poverty program.

• • •

Orchids to Mrs. Annie R. Thompson, who chaired the tea. She's the granddaughter of the late Mrs. Birtsall Ross, co-founder of the committee.

• • •

Elegant: The baby blue hat worn by the tea's treasurer, Mrs. Nancy Jackson.

• • •

Melodic: The voice of Mrs. Mabel Watts of Memorial Baptist Church. She was soloist when the Eastside Community Choir sang, 'Ridin the Chariot To See My Lord.'

Entertaining: The music by the chorus and the Holliman's Student Orchestra, directed by Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Holliman, (Henrietta.)

• • •

More orchids: To these other officers of the women's committee, Mrs. Inez Spicer, president; Mrs. Clara Stills, assistant chairman; and Mrs. Gwendolyn Miller, secretary.

They worked hard. The standing room-only-crowd at Dunbar was a tribute to their efforts.

CUFF NOTE: Members of St. Peter Claver, St. Veronica's, St. Pius, St. Francis Xavier and St. Edwards were among the 2,000 Catholics who gathered at Friendship Airport Monday evening to welcome home Lawrence Cardinal Shehan as he was returning from Rome, where he was inducted into the Sacred College of Cardinals.

Also there: The Rt. Rev. Noble C. Powell, retired bishop of the Episcopal Church.

DR. ANNA A. HEDGEMAN
'If you don't fix up this school (Dunbar High), I won't come back again!'

Vet, father of six, dies suddenly here

Funeral services were held Thursday at the Collick Funeral Home for Normal L. Kennedy, 1614 Normal Ave., who died at Ft. Howard Veterans Hospital Sunday.

Mr. Kennedy, a veteran who served overseas in World War II, was 45 and father of six children.

A native of Baltimore, Mr. Kennedy was born Nov. 16, 1919, the son of the late Helen and Burrell Kennedy. He was employed in the maintenance department at Ft. Howard Hospital for 23 years and worked on the night shift.

Shortly after he returned home from work Friday morning, he complained of a headache, collapsed and was returned to the hospital where he died three days later.

• • •

THE REV. MARKINSON, pastor of Little Ark Baptist Church presided at the funeral services and at graveside rites at the Baltimore National Cemetery.

Mr. Kennedy is survived by more than 25 close kin including his wife, Mrs. Dorothy Kennedy, two small daughters, Brenda and Veronica; four sons, Bernard, Marvin, Dennis, Reginald; two sisters, Mrs. Doris Scott, Mrs. Leona Dedmond; a brother, William Reed; four uncles two nieces, six nephews and other relatives.

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Day Nursery personnel in special class

A new course designed for day nursery school personnel has been added to the Adult Education program of the Department of Education.

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The Instructor Mrs. Harriet Steinberg, is supervisor of Parent Education of the Adult Education Division and director of Liberty Heights Cooperative Day Nursery.

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