—Clay files

(Continued from Page 1)

the Muslim garb to the sect's temples and religious conventions.

* * *

"I DIDN'T GO anywhere," she said. "I didn't do anything the wife of a world champion would like to do. You expect to see the world and do all kinds of things together. I sacrificed all these things and stayed in the background."

Clay told her last week, she said that "I had one more chance to join the Muslims or I would have to go." She said she was willing eventually to join the sect but "I don't want anything forced on me."

"I'm terribly upset over this," Mrs. Clay said. "I love my husband so much. I only want to be with him."

Cassius threatened me with a promise to break off the marriage when he was here early this month. That was the last argument we had. We exchanged words shortly after the fight in Maine, but the difference had been patched up somewhat until the incident here. He tells his version of what that was all about in the annulment action.

* * *

"ACTUALLY," Sonji went on, "I tried very hard to be the kind of wife he wanted me to be. I took the Muslim faith up to a point, eating the way they dictate, refraining from smoking and drinking and all those things.

"But I just couldn't bring myself to those floor-length clothes. And I think you can't blame me for that."

NEWSMEN assumed that Sonji was referring to her exciting figure and suggesting that any woman would rebel against concealing it.

"I love Cassius and I am sure he loves me. At the moment, I'm sure he feels embarrassed by my refusal to go all the way in the beliefs. Maybe it can be worked out. I hope so. For the present, though, that's all I have to say."

CLAY'S suit, filed in Miami Circuit Court by Attorney Morton Rothenberg on behalf of "Mohammed Ali, also known as Cassius Clay," accused Sonji of promising to adopt his austere religion but failing to keep her promise.

Clay's religion prohibits use of lipstick or other makeup, drinking and smoking, requires "habitual attendance" at religious meetings, and bans the frequenting of places where alcohol is consumed.

There are also dietary laws connected with the faith and females are required to wear floor-length dresses "of plain and simple cloth" during religious occasions.

CLAY'S suit seeking annulment charged the 26-year-old Sonji, only promised to accept the religion in order to get Clay to marry her, and practiced the faith "in form only."

The bill of complaint did not go into details but said that on May 26, a day after Clay won a controversial first round knockout in his Lewiston, Me., title fight with Sonny Liston, Clay found Sonji in the lobby of the Schine Inn at Chicopee, Mass., "Both attired and conducting herself in a manner contrary to tenets and belief of the Islamic faith."

He admonished her "concerning her department, whereupon she left him," the suit said.

IT SAID Clay saw her in Chicago June 10, and that the next day, after she renewed her promises to join his faith, they visited a dress shop to find clothes "suitable" for her.

When one dress shop did not have the proper clothes and they started for another, the suit said, an argument developed during which Sonji told Clay she would not convert to the Islamic faith.

She told him, according to the suit, that her promises before they were married "were false and she never intended" to keep them.

THE SUIT charged, again without going into detail, that Sonji "on numerous occasions . . . would leave his abode and would return with renewed vows that she had converted to the Islamic faith and would conform to its tenets, when in truth and fact she had no intentions" of doing so.

Clay, who is 23, and the model entered a common law marriage in Miami last July, the suit said, and were formally married Aug. 14, 1964, in Gary, Ind. Sonji has an 11-year-old child from a former marriage, according to the suit.

Clay, arriving in Los Angeles to make a rock 'n' roll record, said the annulment suit was "my private business."

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—Provident

(Continued from Page 1)

ser, Dr. Henry Thomas Jr., and Roger B. Hopkins Jr.

* * *

MR. TILDON also announced that G. Cheston Carey, member of the Provident Development Committee, was instrumental in obtaining the contribution, one of three gifts in this amount donated to the project.

The director reported that negotiations and discussions between the architect and members of the Development Committee are ending and sketches of the new, $8 million hospital will be unveiled soon.

Construction of the institution, to be located on a site between Liberty Heights Ave. and Resterstown Rd., is tentatively scheduled to begin by early fall, Mr. Tildon said.

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—Vandals

(Continued from Page 1)

they returned.

* * *

"THEY ONLY missed two windows," Mrs. Evans commented. "They found the eggs in the refrigerator and broke every one of them.

"We had only moved in a week ago after our marriag on Saturday," she explained.

She stated that the vandals also poured detergent on the floor and said, "They weren't trying to steal anything because all that was missing were six candy bars and four packs of Kool-Aid.

"Now we are afraid to leave the house. Whenever my husband leaves the house, I stay; when I go, he stays."

Now that the windows are repaired, and screens are placed over them, Mrs. Evans stated that "we intend to remain in the house."

* * *

MILTON SOMMERS of the real estate agency, Sommers and Sommers, which rented the property to the family said:

"We are fairly certain thee vandalism was the work of one or two other of the white neighbors who occupy the rest of the homes in to block.

"We received anonymous telephone calls threatening both us and the new tenants immediately after the Evans family moved in the house.

"For this reason, we suspect the white neighbors in the block. We are thoroughly ashamed that any of our white race could stoop so low."

Mrs. Rebena Sommers, also of the agency, told the AFRO that "it is difficult to believe that all this damage could have been done by the vandals without their being seeen by someone in the neighborhood."

—New contest

(Continued from Page 1)

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4th Prize - Bicycle (boy's or girl's)
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3 officers cited for breaking crime ring

An intensive investigation is being conducted by three members of Chief Inspector George J. Murphy's special squad which may result in linking many of the westside juvenile crimes to an organized gang masterminded by an adult.

Inspector Murphy told the AFRO Thursday that since the investigation started on Tuesday more than 30 car thefts, nine assaults and robberies, and a number of burglaries have been directly connected with what he termed "an organized crime ring".

"The ring, according to the information we've collected, operates in the Northwestern, Western and in the Southwestern Districts," Inspector Murphy stated.

"This is also the crew we believe responsible for quite a few attacks on women in this area and assaults, purse-snatchings and robberies at the Mondawmin Shopping Center.

"So far we have arrested over 9 juveniles, ranging in age from 14 to 18 years. And we are expecting several more before the investigation is completed."

MR. MURPHY said a man about 30 years old is being questioned as the possible ring leader or mastermind.

The Chief Inspector attributed the crack down to three officers of his special squad, Patrolmen Rosario Buzzuro, Edwin Boston and Frances Elder.

"I would like to publicly commend these officers for their tireless efforts, long hours and outstanding police work," said Mr. Murphy.

Although no charges had been formally placed by late Thursday, Inspector Murphy said that charges would be made at the completion of the investigation which is expected before the end of the week.

* * *

THE CRACK down started early Tuesday morning when Officer Buzzuro and Boston observed two youths riding in a car which had been reported stolen.

The youths, 16 and 14 years of age, were taken to Police Headquarters for questioning after they were captured following a short chase.

"From the information we received from these two suspects, other arrests followed which included that of the 30 - year - old man," said Inspector Murphy.

He stated that the officers worked for more than 24 consecutive hours on the investigation.

LIVE ENTERTAINERS—Little Douglass and the Entertainers will give a benefit show at Crownsville State Hospital Sunday at 2 p.m. In a recent talent show at the Walbrook Theatre the group won first place and was encouraged to do the benefit show. From left to right Ashley McNay, Douglass Ford-bey, and Ronald Paysour. There are two other members in the group, Pleniss Randall and Harold Randall.

Teenagers to benefit Crownsville

Little Douglass and the Entertainers, a teen - age group, will give a benefit show at Crownsville State Hospital, Sunday, June 27, at 2 p.m.

Competing in local talent contests for over a year, the group won first place recently at a Walbrook Theatre talent show. As a result, Douglass Ford - bey, the leadeer, said, "My aunt asked me to give a show for them (Crownsville). We are all looking forwad to the show."

The group said that they first followed the style of the singing Temptations, but created their own image by stressing different parts of songs.

Commenting on their name, Entertainers, the young men said that they have a set routine that they do in addition to singing so that their guests will really be entertained.

'Rockin' Robin is manager of this group which includes Pheniss Randall, Carver High School; Harold Randall, Carver High School; Douglass Ford - bey, Douglass High School; Ronald Paysour, Forest Park High, and Ashley McNay, City College.

In addition to the Walbrook, the group has performed at the Cherry Hill Theatre and Douglass High School.

Masons mark St. John's Day

One of Baltimore's most forceful young clergymen, the Rev. Vernon Dobson, will be the principal speaker Sunday when Prince Hall Masons hold their semi - annual St. John's Day service.

The Rev. Mr. Dobson is associate pastor of Union Baptist Church.

The program, scheduled for 3 o'clock, will be held at the Willard W. Allen Masonic Temple, 1301 Eutaw Place at Lanvale St.

More than 2,500 members of the order from throughout the Maryland jurisdiction are expected to attend, according to Samuel T. Daniels, grand master.

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VICTORY SMILE—Miss Bonita Renee Freeman glows after being graduated from Eastern High School. Miss Freeman plans to pursue a major in biology at Maryland State College. As Student Council representative for her class of 65, she served on the Student Council Executive Board.

SUMTER, S.C. — Morris College recently received a grant from the federal government of $113,312 towards the construction of a massive $300,000 multi - purpose academic building. The new building will include facilities for the teaching of natural science, foreign anguages and laboratories.

Mrs. Hall aids NAACP drive

Formerly a realtor, and now a teacher at St. Francis Xavier, Mrs. Philathea Carter Hall of the 1900 block Ruxton Ave., has come to the aid of the Baltimore NAACP Branch Office, according to Dr. Lillie M. Jackson, president.

Trying to make the campaign a tremendous success, Mrs. Hall is helping Dr. John Tilley with the NAACP renewal membership campaign. She worked through the final week of the spring membership drive which ended Tuesday, June 22. At that time three persons had reached the goal of getting 25 or more new members.

* * *

OBTAINING THE goal which qualified them for a gold pin were: James W. Byrd, 1204 N. Bentalou St.; James Crudup, 2024 E. Biddle St., and Cleveland Harris, 2411 Elsinor Ave.

Mr. Harris received his pin on behalf of Local 125 Laundry Workers Union.

Although the spring drive is over, the period for reporting has been extended by two weeks.

As part of the fall drive a Life Membership Dinner will be given in October. Mrs. Hall will be working closely with this affair.

Membership in the NAACP is open to all.

The Baltimore branch of the NAACP is located at 1224 Druid Hill Ave.

Man, 20, charged in homicide

ANNAPOLIS— A 20 - year-old man has been charged with the fatal shooting here of Otto Stevens Jr., 22, unit block W. Washington St., late Tuesday night.

Mr. Stevens was discovered by police with a bullet wound in his head lying on North West St., between St. Ann's Cemetery and Cedar Bluff Cemetery.

Police reported he was dead on arrival at Anne Arundel County General Hospital.

Charged is Maurice J. Wells, who was arrested by police at his home in the 200 block Pindell Ave.

Further information concerning the homicide was not available at presstime.

DURHAM, N.C. — The North Carolina College department of Nursing has been awarded a grant of $8,500 by the Pubic Welfare service of the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare for the period September, 1965 through August, 1966. NCC is receiving the grant for its ninth consecutive year.

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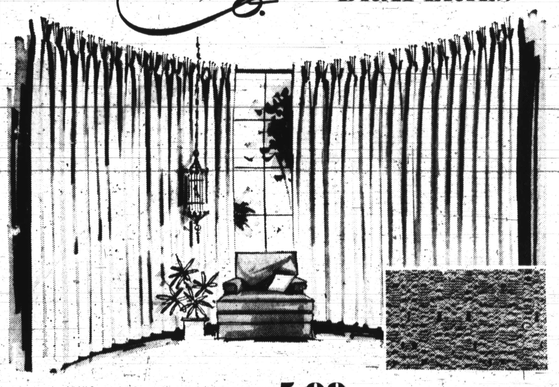
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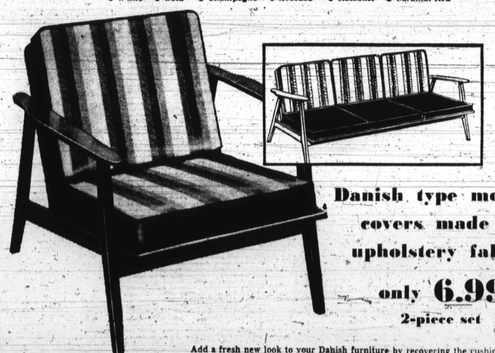
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