22 citizens serve on top city boards

There are 22 citizens serving on major municipal boards and agencies in Baltimore under the appointive powers of the mayor.

Six of these are women.

Only one of these boards—the Planning Commission—carries a salary, and that is $1,313 annually for each member.

A vital board covering the interests of all citizens which is not integrated and never has been is the Board of Municipal and Zoning Appeals. It is salaried.

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THE BOARD of Fire Commissioners is not integrated and never has been. It also is salaried.

There are two city agencies as such where the appointive powers are those of the governor, not the mayor.

One of the three - member Board of Supervisors of Elections, which was integrated for the first time last year with the appointment of Marshall W. Jones, East Baltimore mortician, as the Republican minority member.

The other is the three-member Board of Liquor License Commissioners, which has never been integrated.

Both boards are salaried.

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HERE ARE the major boards and agencies and colored citizens serving on each:

BOARD OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS — Mrs. Elizabeth M. Moss; J. Percy Bond.

PLANNING COMMISSION —John L. Berry.

CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION (integrated for the first time in April) — Dr. G. James Fleming.

BOARD OF RECREATION and PARKS — Mrs. Rubye C. Gill.

JAIL BOARD — Dr. Bernard Harris Jr.

CIVIC CENTER COMMISSION — George L. Russell Jr.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMISSION — Mrs. Charles F. (Emma) Michael; Hural Thompson; the Rev. Frank L. Williams.

DPW ADVISORY COMMITTEE — Mrs. William M. (Wilhelmina) Garner.

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MAYOR'S SPECIAL ADVISORY GROUP ON CRIME —Dr. Carl Murphy; Dr. Furman L. Templeton.

COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY COMMISSION — Mrs. Madeline Murphy; the Rev. Robert T. Newbold, vice chairman; Kenneth O. Wilson; Dr. Oakley H. Saunders.

BALTIMORE URBAN RENEWAL and HOUSING AGENCY COMMISSION — Dr. Saul M. Perdue.

MAYOR'S COMMITTEE FOR DECENCY — Dr. Murphy; Dr. Templeton.

COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC SAFETY — Mrs. Victorine Q. Adams; Mrs. Gill (aforementioned).

CIVIC DESIGN COMMISSION — Mrs. Gill.

BALTIMORE MUSEUM OF ART — Dr. Martin D. Jenkins.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION — Raymond V. Hayshert.

BALTIMORE COMMISSION ON HUMAN RELATIONS — Dr. Edward N. Wilson; the Rev. James L. Moore; Dr. Templeton.

POLICE DEPARTMENT ADVISORY CONSULTANTS ON COMMUNITY RELATIONS — Charles Curtis Jr.; Tucker R. Dearing; Bishop Williams· Dr. Templeton Edgar Love; the Rev. Mr. (both aforementioned.

ZONING COMMISSION — Edgar M. Ewing.

City Council members serve until 1967

Here are the members of Baltimore's City Council, the current law - making body elected in 1963 and to remain in office until next year's municipal elections.

President Thomas D'Alesandro 3rd, Room 307 City Hall.

1st District — William Bonnett, 1905 Aliceanna St.; James J. Duffy, 2307 Eastern Ave.; Joseph J. Staszak, 416 Imla St.

2nd District — Charles Panuska, 2416 E. Fairmount Ave.; Clement J. Prucha, 2921 E. Monument St.; Thomas Ward, 1223 Linden Ave.

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3RD DISTRICT — Larry S. Bee, 5225 York Rd.; J. Joseph Curran, 4222 Kelway Rd.; Frank X. Gallagher (vice president,) 823 Fidelity Bldg.; John A. Pica, 923 Evesham Ave.

4th District — Walter Dixon, 1935 McCulloh St., Henry G. Parks Jr., 1737 Druid Hill Ave.; Maurice Soypher, Munsey Bldg.

5th District — Jacob J. Edelman, Md. National Bank Bldg.; Reuben Caplan, 218 E. Lexington St.; Leon A. Rubenstein, Knickerbocker Bldg.; William D. Schaefer, 720 Munsey Bldg.

6th District — John J. Hines, 1709 W. Lombard St.; Dominic M. Leone, 1517 Jackson St.; William J. Myers, 4101 Brooklyn Ave.

Vote power hiked 14% in 10 years

By MAX JOHNSON
AFRO Political Analyst

There has been a 14.3 percent increase in colored voter registration in Baltimore in the past 10 years.

In 1956, the city's Supervisors of Elections tabulations showed colored citizens formed 19.7 percent of Baltimore's eligible voters.

As of January, colored eligible voters formed 34 percent of the city's total.

Total registration at that time was 397,720, of which 134,362 were colored and 262,717 white, with the remainder classified in other races.

The all-time high colored registration reflects intensive efforts of the NAACP, churches and cooperative civic organizations in conducting many, many registration campaigns.

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LEGISLATIVE district wise, the 4th has climbed steadily in colored registration to stand now as the lone one of the city's six where such registration is far in the majority.

In 1956, to use round figures, there were 19,900 colored and 21,000 white citizens on the books in the 4th District.

Now 10 years later, there are 40,400 colored and 17,400 whites registered in this district.

The 2nd District is next highest in colored voters registration, with 29,700 on the books in contrast to 35,300 white.

Next highest in this respect is the 5th District, where 29,200 colored and 55,800 white citizens were registered in January.

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THE COMING September and November will bring a primary and general election in Maryland, the first on a state-wide basis since the presidential election in 1964.

Voters in the state will elect a governor, attorney general, comptroller, congressmen, state senators and House of Delegates members, with lesser offices in the various political subdivisions.

There were 133,096 colored citizens registered in Baltimore for the 1964 presidential election, and 268,842 whites on the books.

This reflects an increase of 1,260 colored now registered as eligible voters since that time, and a decrease of 6,125 white citizens in this Category.

For the 1964 election, 76 percent of the colored registered voters were Democrats, 23 percent were Republicans and 1 percent as Independents.

At that time, 84 percent of the white citizens registered were Democrats, 14 percent were Republicans and 2 percent Independents.

These percentages have changed but very slightly since that period.

Then, too, 72 percent of the colored persons eligible to vote were registered, and 71 percent of the white persons so eligible were registered.

There has been just a slight variation in these percentages since.

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In 1896, an AFRO advertisement by John M. Johnson, dentist at 434 Orchard St., said "beautiful sets of teeth" could be had for reasonable rates with a good fit guaranteed. Extracting was done with great care and fillings could be had from gold, silver or CEMENT.

A FIXTURE — Harry Hart, a familiar figure at all major gatherings, and daily visitor to City Hall, Courthouse, Police Headquarters, is a personal acquaintance of governors, mayors, and other political and community leaders from all walks of the city's life. He was photographed recently while attending the budget hearing.

COUNCILMAN WALTER DIXON COUNCILMAN HENRY PARKS JR.

GENTLEMEN FROM 4TH—Fourth District Councilman Parks makes point during debate in City Council chambers while colleague Dixon listens.

The SAVINGS BANK of Baltimore

ANNOUNCES INTEREST AT THE RATE OF

4 1/4% per annum

THE GREAT PLUS OF ICMB

At The Savings Bank of Baltimore, Interest Is Calculated on Monthly Balances — a method that protects your interest—even if you should make a withdrawal prior to the end of the interest period. ICMB can mean a great deal of EXTRA interest for you! If you should make a withdrawal, you still earn interest for the months your money is on deposit.

NO LENGTHY TIME REQUIREMENT

Note that the new high rate is REGULAR interest for the 6 months ending September 30, 1966. Interest will be credited in our usual manner. Money may be withdrawn at any time. You money earns interest every month it is in the Bank. Deposits made by the 10th earn interest from the 1st.

EXTRA–IMPORTED STAINLESS STEEL PLACE SETTINGS

Ask to see our beautiful 5-piece Tulip Time Place Settings. You may purchase this $7.95 value for only $2.42 — with each $25 deposit. After you have purchased 5 place settings, we will give you a sixth set — as a bonus absolutely Free.

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Use this coupon to Open Your Account today
Mail to: The Savings Bank of Baltimore, Maryland, Md. 21203
I am enclosing check or money order for $_____ to open a new Savings Account. I understand my new bank book will be sent to me by return mail.
Please check: ☐ Individual Account ☐ Joint Account
I prefer to bank at the office checked:
___Balto. & Chas. PRINT NAME _____
___Chas. & Mulberry _____
___Arbutus _____
___Hamsdale ADDRESS _____
___Loch Raven _____
___Merritt Park _____
___Pimlico SIGNATURE _____
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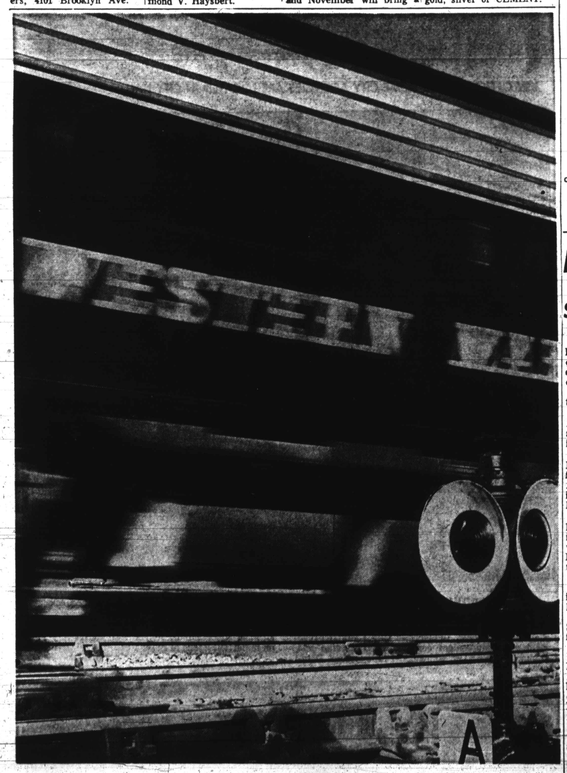

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WM WESTERN MARYLAND RAILWAY

Baltimore is center of state, federal agencies

Baltimore, this state's largest municipality, is the center of practically all federal and state agencies operating in Maryland.

Perhaps, two major exceptions are:

1. The Maryland Court of Appeals, which is located across from the State House in Annapolis.

2. The Department of Motor Vehicles headquarters, formerly located at Guilford Ave. and 21st St., but now in a new building near Glen Burnie.

The city, otherwise, is the location of numerous other major state agencies, most of which are in the Mount Royal Plaza compound adjacent to the Fifth Regiment Armory.

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THE STATE Office Building at 31 W. Preston St. houses such agencies as:

State Retirement Systems; State Fiscal Research; offices of the governor and state comptroller; Budget Bureau; Commissioner of Personnel; Planning Commission; Department of Public Improvements; State Auditor; Tax Commission, and Parole and Probation Department.

Also, the Archivist Department; Department of Labor and Industry; State Accident Fund; State Insurance Department; Aviation Commission; Public Service Commission; Real Estate Commission; Commission for the Aging, State Athletic Commission.

And, the Maryland Racing Commission; Boards of Motion Picture Censors, Professional Engineers, Hairdressers and Examiners of Nurses; Central licensing; Department of Forest and Parks; Maryland Veterans Commission;

Departments of Health, Mental Hygiene, Correction, and Education; Interracial Commission; Subversive Activities; Employees Credit Union and Workshop for the Blind.

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ACROSS THE street from the State Office Building, the State Roads Commission is housed in a building of its own.

A half block further north at 1100 N. Eutaw St., the State Department of Employment Security is also housed in a building of its own.

The state headquarters of the vital Department of Public Welfare, formerly housed in the State Office Building, was moved recently because of a need for space to a building in the 1200 block St. Paul St.

The Attorney General's Office has quarters in the new One Charles Center Building, Charles at Lexington Sts.

On the federal side, the U.S. District Court is on the fifth floor of the post office. The post office is the biggest federal employer.

And practically all non-military agencies of the U.S. government located in Maryland are in the city. The Social Security Administration is nearby at Woodlawn.

• • •

In 1898, the Eutaw Clothing House, 326 S. Eutaw St. near Conway, was operated by John W. Williams, the only colored tailor in the state of Maryland. In his AFRO advertisements, he offered to make a fine suit for $8. An excellent pair of trousers could be made to order for $3. A suit could be scoured and pressed for $1 and dyed and pressed for $1.50. Perfect fit was guaranteed.

HOW CITY SPENDS ITS MONEY: 10-YEAR REVIEW

By RUSSELL E. DENISON
Director,
Commission on Governmental Efficiency and Economy, Inc.

This article evaluates and analyzes some of the more important aspects of City finances during the decade between 1955 and 1965.

Those financial characteristics deemed significant from the standpoint of the taxpayer are outlined:

A. Continued growth in municipal expenditure and funded indebtedness.

B. Rate of growth of the assessable basis insufficient to keep pace with increased spending, thereby contributing to increased taxation which has spiralled upward since 1958.

C. Imposition of nuisance taxes and service charges as a means of alleviating the unrelenting upward pressure upon the property tax.

D. The emergence of State/Federal aid as an important and substantial element in municipal budgets.

E. The continuing fruitless struggle of the municipality to secure a fair and equitable broad - based revenue to relieve the burdening of the property tax.

• • •

HERE, IN brief, are the highlights of the trends in municipal appropriations and revenues for the decade between 1955 and 1965.

1. The City's current fund budget (exclusive of Capital Improvements provided from bond issue funds) has increased $198,609,000 or 133.2 percent.

2. General Fund appropriations (which directly affect the property tax rate) have increased $116,359,000 or 98.3 percent.

3. Departmental appropriations (salaries and wages and operating expenses) increased $140,569,000 or 122.6 percent.

4. About $113,612,000 or 80.8 percent of that increase in departmental spending was allocated to Education, Public Welfare, Police, City Hospitals and Health.

5. Salary and wage appropriations more than doubled to reach $163,261,000 for 1965 and the number of positions has increased to 30,300 or 43.6 percent.

6. Taxpayer contributions to employee pension funds, an important element of personnel costs, have risen $10,733,000 or 116.7 percent.

7. The cost of servicing the City's ever - increasing indebtedness (interest and retirement of debt created by bond issues) has risen $15,320,000 or 93.7 percent.

8. The City's taxable basis (assessed value of property) subject to unlimited rate taxation has increased $534,743,000 or 23.0 percent.

9. The City's unlimited tax rate has risen by $1.40 or 45.9 percent to the 1965 high of $4.45 per $100 of assessed valuation.

10. Revenue from taxes on real estate has increased $41,737,000 or 73.6 percent.

11. Revenues from City sources have increased $83,525,300 or 79.6 percent, while revenues from State/Federal aid sources have increased $115,083,000 or 260.1 percent.

APPROPRIATIONS

Municipal Operating Budget

The City's operating budget of $347,693,903 (excluding capital outlay from bond issue funds) in 1965 was $198,609,000 or 133.2 percent above the 1965 budget of $149,085,000.

As detailed below, $140,568,000 of the total operating budget increase was accounted for by the salaries and wages, materials and supplies and other expenses incurred in departmental operations.

It is apparent that the increased social and welfare functions account for the bulk of the departmental spending increases over the past decade.

The six major functions listed above account for 75.2 percent of the total departmental spending in 1965 as compared with 68.3 percent in 1955.

City spending for the traditional services and functions (such as highways, Street Cleaning, Refuse Removal, Water Supply, etc.) have grown at a rate of 4 percent a year for the last ten years as contrasted with the annual rates of growth for Education, Welfare, Health and Hospitals which range from 12 percent to 35 percent.

General Fund Increases

The Key to Municipal Spending

It is the annual increase in General Fund spending that largely controls the size of the property tax. Here is the record of such spending over the 1955 - 1965 period:

			Increase	
			Amount	Percent
1955	$118,368,801			
1956	131,707,489		$13,338,688	
1957	138,607,542		6,900,053	
1958	155,301,533		116,693,991	
1959	164,355,094		9,053,61	
160	174,35,992		10,000,898	
1961	184,927,902		10,571,910	
1962	191,190,91		6,262,38	
963	20,692,134		11,501,843	
1964	214,662,411		14,970,77	
1965	34,727,672		17,065,261	

The taxpayer will note the fluctuation in these annual increases.

For the ten - year period, these increases averaged $11,636,000; for the five - year period between 1960 and 1965 they averaged $12,100,000; for 1964 and 1965 they averaged $16,000,000, substantially above the average for the decade as a whole.

To help support the increases in 1964 and 1965, it is pertinent to point out that the City property tax rate has been increased by 50 cents.

Salaries and Wages Principal Components of City Spending

Personnel costs comprise the largest part of the City's budgets. In 1955, salaries and wages accounted for 43.1 percent of the total budget and in 1965 they accounted for 42.5 percent.

During the decade, salary and wage appropriations rose by $82,911,000 or 105 percent. In 1965, the budget authorized approximately 30,300 jobs, making the City Government the largest employer in Baltimore.

With the rise in City employment, there has been corresponding rise in employee pensions. Higher pay has helped to boost 1965 pension contributions by taxpayers by $10,733,000 or 116.7 percent above the $19,927,000 appropriated in 1955.

CAPITAL OUTLAY

The City appropriates funds from both the Operating Budget and Loans (bond issues) to provide the financing of Capital Improvements.

In 1955, capital outlay from current funds totalled $9,909,000; in 1965, the capital outlay appropriation of $40,974,000 was $31,065,000 or 313.5 percent above that of ten years ago.

Loan fund appropriations remained nearly stationary during the period. The increase from both fund sources amounted to $31,657,000 or 75.8 percent.

CITY FUNDED DEBT

The City has two kinds of bonded indebtedness: self - supporting and non - self - supporting.

The former is designed to be paid through revenues derived from the operation of the facilities for which funds are borrowed, for example, water rates and conduit rentals.

Other than self - supporting debt is incurred for the construction of improvements such as schools, sewers, hospitals, jail, etc., which earn no revenue.

This debt is a direct charge upon the taxpayers and must be provided for in the annual tax levy. Here is the indebtedness picture for the 1955 - 1965 period:

	Net Debt Jan. 1955	Net Debt Jan. 1965	Ten-Year Increase Amount	Ten-Year Increase Percent
Self-Supporting	$ 96,813,000	$137,387,000	$ 40,573,000	48.7%
Non-Self-Supporting	143,825,000	266,651,000	122,826,000	85.4%
Total Net Debt	330,038,000	404,172,000	$174,134,000	53.0%

NOT: The City's outstanding bonded indebtedness at January 1, 1966 was $418,484,200 of which 29 percent is self - supporting.

• • •

REVENUES

City's Assessable Basis. The taxable bases of real estate and tangible personal property (both subject to full rate taxation) increased from $2,322,000,000 to $2,857,000,000 or 23 percent. Real Estate alone (80 percent of the total basis subject to full rate taxation) increased in assessed value from $1,896,000,000 to $2,307,600,000 or 19 percent.

The City's unhappy experience with the tax on manufacturers' inventories and equipment (which had to be abandoned) had a noticeably depressing effect upon the basis for tangible personal property. The 1965 basis of $569,800,000 was nearly $300 million below the peak figure of $865,000,000 reported for 1958.

The real estate basis continues to grow, albeit slowly and steadily. It increased $183,149,000 or 9 percent between 1959 and 1965.

• • •

TAX RATE. Increased City spending, in contrast with a slowly increasing taxable basis, has accounted for the increase in the tax rate over the past ten years. Of the $1.40 increase, 85 cents occurred in the four years between 1961 and 1965; 50 cents has occurred in just the years 1964 and 1965.

City taxes in 1955 were equivalent to 2.67 percent of full value of real estate as compared to 1.84 percent of full value in 1955.

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TAX COLLECTIONS. Although the taxable basis has increased slowly, the higher tax rate has produced a greater yield from the basis.

During the past decade the anticipated full rate taxation yield increased from $70,821,000 to $127,125,000, almost 80 percent.

City taxpayers meet their tax obligations currently, as evidenced by the fact that in 1964 the City collected 97.3 percent of current taxes as compared with 96.9 percent in 1955.

OTHER CITY Taxes Revenues. These have increased from $34,022,000 in 1955 to $61,243,000 in 1965. This is an increase of 80 percent and is in line with the overall increase in revenues from the City's own sources. Significantly, Water and Sewer Charges have increased from $10,000,000 to $18,000,000.

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FEDERAL/STATE SOURCES. Revenues from these sources are up $115,083,000 or 260 percent in ten years.

Principal functions for which Federal/State aid has increased are Welfare Highways, Education and Health.

Increases were also recorded for functions such as Urban Renewal, Community Action (anti - poverty program) and Hospitals.

Function	1965	1955	Increase Amount	Increase Percent
Education	$ 81,474,000	$ 35,791,000	$ 45,683,000	127.6%
Welfare	49,449,000	16,396,000	33,053,000	202.1%
Police	24,295,000	12,268,000	12,027,000	98.0%
Fire	14,908,000	8,108,000	6,800,000	83.8%
Hospitals	11,977,000	3,547,000	8,430,000	238.6%
Health	9,717,000	2,148,000	7,569,000	352.5%
Other	$191,820,000	$ 78,208,000	$113,612,000	145.3%
	$ 83,313,000	$ 36,208,000	$ 56,867,000	74.1%
Departmental Operations	$275,133,000	$114,566,000	$160,568,000	122.7%

MARSHALL W. JONES JR. is Republican minority member on the three-seat Board of Supervisors of Elections. He was named over a year ago by Gov. J. Millard Tawes, and is the first of his race on this board.

Representation due to increase in Council

The municipal election next year could bring more than the present two colored members into the City Council.

Basis for this assertion lies in the races vastly increased voter registration strength, population growth and expansion — and keener political awareness.

This political awareness puts citizens on guard against gerrymandering attempts by the Council in the alignment of new councilmanic districts.

Baltimore's two colored councilmen, Walter T. Dixon and Henry G. Parks Jr., both representing the 4th District, are the first of their race to serve together since 1931.

Mr. Dixon is a veteran now rounding out his third consecutive term, having been elected in 1955.

Mr. Parks was elected in 1963, and is serving his first term.

• • •

THE HISTORY of colored councilmen in Baltimore reflects the results of election system changes and gerrymandering.

From 1891 to 1931, a 40-year period, six colored men saw service in Baltimore's City Council.

There were only 10 years of that 40-year period during which no colored men were in the Council.

During those days, Council elections were held by wards.

But then came the drawing of councilmanic districts for such elections, and an obvious gerrymandering move to split the strength of colored voters.

• • •

AS A RESULT, no colored councilmen were elected from 1931 until 1955 when Mr. Dixon won office — a 24-year period.

Here is the history of colored city councilmen in Baltimore.

It will be noted that the periods 1919-23 and 1927-31, two colored councilmen served together.

The complete listing follows:

Harry S. Cummings —1891 to 1892.

Dr. J. Marcus Cargill — 1895 to 1897.

Harry S. Cummings 1897 to 1898.

Hiram Watty 1899—to 1905.

Harry S. Cummings—1907, to 1919.

William L. Fitzgerald — 1919 to 1923.

Warner McGuinn 1919—to 1923.

Walter Emerson — 1927 to 1931.

Warner McGuinn — 1927 to 1931.

Walter Dixon 1955 to—(?)

Henry G. Parks Jr. — 1963 to (?)

Up until 1931, it is noted that Mr. Cummings served three separate terms, and Mr. McGuinn two separate ones.

MAYOR'S AIDES — David L. Glenn is administrative assistant to Mayor Theodore R. McKeldin. Miss Sonja Reynolds is one of his clerk - stenographers. The mayor appointed Mr. Glenn; former mayor J. Harold Grady, added Miss Reynolds to that office. Both are firsts.

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