MANY WHO NEED, QUALIFY FOR WELFARE DON'T GET IT

(STORY IN COLUMN 6)

CORE'S 'TARGET CITY' SESSION UNDER WAY

(STORY IN COLUMN 3)

Residents Bitter In Cherry Hill

(PHOTO-STORY BACK PAGE)

Baltimore Afro-American

Mathias Amendment Saves Housing Bill

(STORY ON BACK PAGE)

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TRAILER CAMPS BAR SOLDIER

Drive launched to put new districting plan before voters

By MAX JOHNSON
AFRO Political Analyst

A campaign to take a councilmanic redistricting plan sponsored by civic leaders directly to Baltimore voters is now under way by the Petition Committee to pass the Modified Bard Councilmanic Redistricting Plan.

The group is soliciting the aid of citizens to obtain by July 25th, the 10,000 signatures necessary to place the plan on the ballot.

Headquarters are in the offices of the League of Women Voters at Sutton Place.

This drive by widely organized, aroused citizens, is the result of the councilmanic redistricting plan passed last Friday by the City Council.

That plan was quickly termed a gerrymander of city districts by opposing councilmen and citizens alike, and disapproving councilmen labeled it a product of the Pollack-Reed forces.

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HERE ARE features of the Modified Bard Plan, which the committee hopes to petition to the ballot for voters' approval.

1. There are to be six councilmanic districts, with three councilmen for each district.

Thus, the City Council would be composed of

—See Drive Launched, Page 29

Investigation asked of Fire Dept. promotions

The city's Community Relations Commission has been urged by the NAACP to investigate charges of discriminatory promotion procedures in the Fire Department.

In addition, the organization has asked Stanley Scherr, chairman, Board of Fire Commissioners, for a conference on the matter.

In a letter to Samuel T. Daniels, CRC executive director, the Rev. John L. Tilley, NAACP manager, stated:

"It is our information that colored fire fighters, who have been stuyding and preparing together for examinations, are ranking high on the lists and have been doing so for the last four years.

"They believe that they are being maneuvered out of appointment to existing vacancies in the position of lieutenant.

"In addition, our association is concerned that there is no colored captain in the Fire Department."

THE REV. Mr. Tilley also asked that the investigation determine whether there exists all white units in the department.

The letter to Mr. Scherr said practically the same things, with these exceptions:

"We would appreciate information as to how many vacancies now exist for lieutenants and the approximate standing of colored fire fighters on the eligible lists.

We would also appreciate information as to how many colored lieutenants there are out of the total number of colored fire fighters."

The letter to Mr. Scherr also suggested that consideration be given to naming a colored captain in the department.

Cunningham draws death for killing Dr. Johnson

John Wesley Cunningham, convicted May 13th of first degree murder in the death of 77-year-old physician, Dr. Louis A. Johnson, has been sentenced to die in the gas chamber.

Judge James A. Perrott, sitting in criminal court, imposed the sentence Thursday morning and said when the 23-year-old man pulled the trigger in the October, 1965 killing hoping to reap dope and money, he committed the most horrible of all crimes.

Before he gave the supreme penalty, he stated: "The crime was one absolutely repugnant to society.

"It is the duty of the court to remove a person such as the one who committed it from society.

"The one way is by imposition of the death penalty."

Cunningham, standing with his attorney, showed no signs of emotion. He was dressed in an obviously new suit, white shirt without a tie and had a fresh "razor's edge" haircut.

Three guards led him from the crowded courtroom to the Penitentiary where he has been placed on death row.

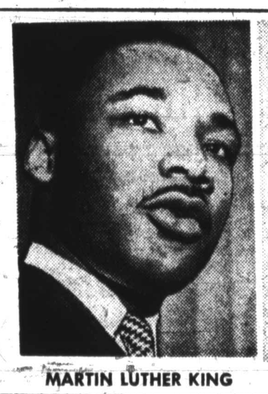
Mr. Freedman gave no indication Thursday that an appeal would be made for his client.

—See Dr. Johnson, Page 29

FLOYD B. McKISSICK

JULIAN BOND

JAMES FARMER



MARTIN LUTHER KING

LONNIE SHABAZZ

MRS. FANNIE LOU HAMMER

Key leaders in Baltimore for CORE meeting

Local and national leaders of the Congress of Racial Equality are non - committal, but the AFRO has learned that their four-day convention here will include protest demonstrations.

The convention, which opens 9 a.m. today at Knox Presbyterian Church, Broadway and Gay St., is tagged "A Working Convention: To Organize For Economic and Political Power."

It will feature nationally prominent speakers headed by Dr. Martin Luther King.

Jackie Hayes and Miss Ruth Turner, public relations representative and national secretary, respectively, confined themselves to the mechanics of the national meeting.

• • •

THEY CONCEDED, however, that a "direct action" project could follow a Saturday rally in Madison Square, at Caroline, Chase, Eden, and Eager Sts.

They also declined to elaborate on who or what would be the target of the "direct action."

With an expected 500 "activist" civil rights leaders in town, however, expert on CORE strategy is certain that CORE will not by - pass this opportunity to make physical use of this "reservoir of bodies," he said.

Speculation was heightened late Thursday when Miss Turner announced that the visiting delegates will "go into the field" to observe close - up the techniques of CORE's "Target City."

The delegates, working in conjunction with the local chapter and allied organizations, are expected to focus attention on housing conditions in the ghetto and segregation in places of public

—See CORE Meet, Page 29

NOTICE

The Advertising Department of the AFRO-AMERICAN

WILL BE CLOSED

MONDAY, JULY 4th INDEPENDENCE DAY

All ads to appear in the Tuesday July 5th issue must be in this office by 4 p.m. on

FRIDAY, JULY 1, 1966

George L. Russell Shatters Judicial Precedent

The Event

By GEORGE W. COLLINS

On Page 4, line 14 of the Superior Court Register a bit of history was recorded shortly after high noon Wednesday.

Amidst formality and traditional ceremony, this entry was writen into the ledger:

'George L. Russell Jr., June 29, 1966.'

The significance of the brief notation goes far beyond the limited boundaries of the dusty and worn binder of the register.

It confirmed the fact that for the first time in the 190-year history of the state and the 99 - year existence of the Baltimore Supreme Bench, a colored man had gained entrance into the Judicial hierarchy.

As a member of the Supreme Bench, one step below Maryland's highest tribunal, Judge Russell is subject to duty in any of the state's seven circuits.

• • •

PERFORMED BEFORE a standing - room - only audience in the warm and ancient courtroom on the fourth floor of the Courthouse, the formal ceremony ended in exactly one hour.

This also included the elevation of Associate Judge Dulany Foster to the position of chief judge of the 16-member bench.

He was chosen for that post by Gov. Tawes to replace

—See The Event, Page 2

The Man

Actually the distance from 820 N. Fremont Ave. to the Supreme Bench at the downtown Courthouse is short.

Judicially, however, it's a long journey. For the traveler who was born colored of skin, it becomes considerably longer.

George L. Russell Jr. completed the difficult course shortly after 12 noon Wednesday when he was sworn in as an associate judge, establishing several precedents in the process.

He not only is the first person of color to reach this legal - judicial plateau in the city and state, but accomplished the feat in what

—See The Man, Page 2

Mrs. Marie Russell Mother | Judge George L. Russell Jr. | Mrs. Marion W. Russell Wife

HAPPY MOMENT —Mother and wife of the Baltimore Supreme Bench's newest judge celebrate the historic event by planting congratulatory kisses on his cheeks.

Offer to kill King revealed by convicted genocide plotter

LOS ANGELES (UPI) — A blow welder was convicted Tuesday of plotting to kill the entire U. S. colored population after he charged the president of the Los Angeles Citizens Council offered him $10,000 to kill Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Herman L. Henry, 41, said during the trial that Roderic Duff put the price tag on Dr. King's head.

Duff, a prosecution witness in the "diabolical plan" trial before Judge Maurice T. Leader, denied the charge, but admitted telling Henry of the figure he had heard at an Alabama meeting.

Judge Leader, who heard the case without a jury, will sentence Henry July 27. He faces a maximum ten - year prison sentence for soliciting to commit murder. The judge will deal with another charge of possession of brass knuckle when he sentences Henry.

LEADER SAID Henry's plot was "a diabolical plan, well conceived to eradicate the colored population." The judge added that it was the product of a "sick mind."

But, Leader said, he did not feel Henry was demented to the point where he could not cooperate with his attorney at the six-day trial.

Authorities charged that Henry tried to solicit three persons, including two investigators from the District Attorney's office, to join the plot to kill colored consumers by selling them poisoned

—See Plotter, Page 31

Many who need welfare do not get it in city

By J. LINN ALLEN

Figures released in Baltimore this week indicate that there may be vast numbers

(SEE STORY PAGE 4)

of needy in the city who are eligible for welfare but not getting it.

Miss Esther Lazarus, director of the Department of Public Welfare, told a State Welfare Board meeting that the number of welfare cases in the East Baltimore poverty target area has risen drastically since the Community Action Agency started its "case-finding" work there last spring.

When the CAA first began operations, she said, there were about 2800 welfare cases the area.

Now, there are 3200 cases in all categories in Dependent Children (ADC) category alone, she reported.

MISS LAZARUS said that ADC cases usually comprise "a little more than half" of all welfare cases, and on that basis computed that ADC's may have gone up as much as 1800 in the year or so since the CAA moved in.

This would represent a rise of more than 128 percent —meaning that, before the poverty program began,

—See Many Who, Page 29

Leaving for Viet Nam in few weeks

"As a service man and an American I feel it is my duty.

"I am a service man by choice, so naturaly I'm willing to do by duty."

A bitter, 23 - year - old Army sergeant uttered that provocative philosophy Thursday.

He was giving his opinion on his upcoming rendezvous with the Viet Cong in the rice paddies and highlands in battle-torn Viet Nam.

Sgt. James Holloway, a Georgia native and veteran of three years service is not bitter about his imminent departure for Viet Nam.

Rather, it is a side effect of duty which has him, in his words, "disgusted and angry."

• • •

PREPARATORY TO reporting to his port of deberkation in California, the young soldier, his wife, Mrs. Kathleen and two small children left Camp Rucker, Alabama, last week for Fort Meade.

They have lived in a trailer house for several months,

—See Bar Soldier, Page 2

'Box' Harris to take police oath today

William A. (Box) Harris, will be sworn in today as the city's top ranking police officer of color in ceremonies 10 a.m. today at the War Memorial Plaza.

Maj. Gen. George M. Gelston, interim police commissioner who will preside, appointed Mr. Harris along with 19 other high echelon officers in the extensive overhaul of the organizational structure of the department.

Mr. Harris, former deputy U.S. marshal and program development officer for the State Office of Economic Opportunity, was named director of the newly - created Community Relations Division.

Officers taking the oath will fill positions created in accordance with recommendations of the International Association of Chiefs of Police following a critical analysis of the present structure.

Mothers Rescuers fight for more welfare help

"I'm a citizen who has a job to do, instead of a poor forgotten colored woman, like some of our people feel."

This statement is symbolic of the new mood creeping slowly through the black ghetto of Baltimore like sunlight at early dawn — a mood that demands rights and respect and a chance for a decent life as the natural birthright of all.

Strong, determined and proud, the statement also is characteristic of the woman who made it — a woman who won't let anybody tell her that being on welfare means that she can't speak out and hold her head up high.

• • •

THE WOMAN is Mrs. Margaret McCarty, 26 - year - old mother of seven who is chairman of the Mothers Rescuers from Poverty, a new group of mothers on relief which is telling the Department of Public Welfare how to run its life — a sharp reversal of the usual situation.

The Mothers Rescuers

—See Welfare, Page 29

Rich Goldwater backer wooing colored voters

Wealthy, Goldwater-backer Louise Gore of Montgomery County, is trying to woo colored Republican voters in Baltimore.

Miss Gore, accompanied by former GOP bigwig Val Washington, hosted a handful of Republicans at a luncheon at the Lord Baltimore Hotel Thursday.

The liberal element of the GOP party in the city, such as Walter Black, city chairman, and Marshall W. Jones Jr., were not invited to participate in the luncheon.

A scramble is on now by Goldwater people to elect committeemen and others who would be loyal to them in future tests.

When Miss Gore sought to become Maryland committee woman instead of the liberal Mrs. Katherine Massenberg, it was the colored vote that defeated her, chiefly because Miss Gore was in Goldwater's corner.

Some observers now feel Miss Gore is trying to use

—See Goldwater, Page 2

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