BTU makes integration demands

By ROGER J. NISSLY

Advancing on a promise that "collective bargaining" is the way to reach meaningful integration of schools and teaching staffs, the Baltimore Teachers Union has presented a list of 12 demands to the school administration.

Conferences with an administration committee on the demands are continuing.

The union states that in 1967, 13 years after the Supreme Court school decision, "segregated schools are still working to the severe disadvantage of colored pupils, primarily because they preserve the image of white supremacy."

It is this false image that is most damaging to the self-concept of pupils, the union reasoned, "and it is this false image that any plan for integration must aim at eliminating first of all."

* * *

ONE OF the union's major points on changing the image is that colored staff members "must occupy administrative positions equal in importance to those occupied by whites."

Among the union's unique suggestions is the imposition of boundaries around any school where racial balance among students is achieved — in order to maintain it.

The union also demands that a colored principal be appointed or transferred to a senior high school with a predominantly white student population.

UNION PRESIDENT Dennis Crosby said that talks are continuing with the administration and that agreement has been reached on some of the points.

Other union demands are for:

1. An announcement by the School Board that it favors open occupancy — this the board has done — and encouragement of the City Council to pass such legislation.

2. The three vacancies which will occur on the board during 1968 to be filled by colored citizens.

3. Greater colored representation on the Board of Superintendents — the 10-member board has two colored superintendents — with first consideration for vacancies given to colored staff.

4. The appointment of at least one colored specialist in those supervisors' offices where no colored members is now assigned.

5. No new white teacher assigned to a school where the majority of the faculty is white, and no new colored teacher assigned to a school where the majority is all colored until effective racial balance in faculties is achieved. Exception: colored males in elementary schools in all colored communities.

6. A PROGRAM in cooperation with the BTU to establish a program for recruiting experienced teachers to transfer voluntarily to inner and outer-city schools for racial balance, with a workshop for retraining.

7. A new Dunbar Senior High School to be built south of North Ave. and north of Orleans St., to become a pilot school for faculty integration and quality education. The union rejected an alternative to change the name of the projected Clifton Park High School to Dunbar.

8. Booker T. Washington Junior High School to become the same type of pilot school.

9. A recruitment drive for colored males to staff elementary schools in the inner city.

10. The development of an effective curriculum incorporating the historically accurate role of colored in American and World History.

The remaining two points called for a colored principal at a white high school and boundaries where racial balance has been achieved.

THE PEACE MARCHERS invaded Washington, D.C. for demonstrations at the Lincoln Memorial and the Pentagon on Saturday. It was one of the biggest anti-war protests in the nation's capital and was backed by marches in other countries. Estimates on the size varied from 50,000 to 200,000. Many signs called for end to racism as well as war (photo at left). In right panel, couple with son in Vietnam, Don and Betty Murch of Erie, Pa., take a break. There was some violence and a number of arrests in area of Pentagon where soldiers were on duty. (AFRO Staff Photos by Irving Phillips).

Richardson beats drug charges

McKinley Richardson, 39, owner of a pool hall in the 1500 block Pennsylvania Ave., was dismissed in Western Municipal Court Monday afternoon on a charge of possession and control of narcotics.

Judge John McGuire, however, held Mr. Richardson under $500 on a companion charge of maintaining a common nuisance pool hall for illegal traffic in narcotics and sent the case to the Grand Jury.

Held on narcotics charges growing out of the same case were:

Nick M. Archer Jr, 36, 3400 block Chessell St.; Charles Webster, 33, 1500 block Pennsylvania Ave., and John H. Long, 24, 3600 block Cottage Ave.

Bail for each was set at $3,000. They are charged with possession of narcotics.

They were arrested Saturday by police, headed by St. Lawrence Wineke of the Narcotics Squad, who converged on the pool hall.

* * *

UNDER QUESTIONING Monday by James W. McAllister, attorney for Mr. Richardson, Sgt. Wineke admitted that no narcotics had been found on the pool hall owner at time of his arrest, and none had been found on the premises as such.

Narcotics, he said, had been found on the other three men.

The pool hall, Sgt. Wineke told Judge McGuire, is a place where "there is a constant flow of dope addicts."

City rec campaign pleases Humphrey

"We have got to save this program. But it's going to be a battle because we are fighting that same old crowd — Southern Democrats and Republicans."

Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey was talking to the AFRO Friday, while watching hundreds of children and young adults enjoy facilities of a mobile recreation center.

Heartbeat of Operation Champ, the center was erected at Division and Gold Sts., where Mr. Humphrey, Mayor Theodore R. McKeldin, Sen. Daniel B. Brewster conducted a personal inspection of of the program.

They were accompanied by a large contingent of Secret Service men and city policemen.

Patting Patrolman Alan Burke, Operation Champ director, and Frederick Nims, director of the Concentrated Employment Program, the Vice President lauded Baltimore for having "the best Operation Champ in the nation."

He urged that the "Baltimore Story" be told and retold to the rest of the nation.

Mr. Humphrey said in addition to giving inner city children the kind of program offered by Operation Champ, the anti-poverty program should be given funds to conduct a "comprehensive campaign program for inner city children."

IN TOWN to address a fund raising dinner by the AFL-CIO Committee on Political Organization, the Vice President was conducted on tour of Community Action Agency centers, and shook hundreds of eagerly outstretched hands of young and old greeters.

Surveying the mass of humanity and hearing voices of small children and teenagers as they danced, played basketball, bounced on the trampoline, the Vice President waved his arms jauntily and delcared:

"This is wonderful. This is great. I just wish those who voted against the anti-poverty program could see this."

Mr. Humphrey had glowing praises for Parren J. Mitchell, CAA Director, Patrolman Burke and Mr. Nims, two program directors.

He began his day of activity in Baltimore Friday morning, with an initial visit to a anti-poverty center in the 800 block E. Eager St.

Then followed a whirlwind of activities, including a private luncheon and a series of talks with city dignitaries prior to the evening dinner.

Liberties Union to honor Gelston

The annual meeting of the membership of Maryland Branch American Civil Liberties Union will be held at 7 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 5.

The dinner meeting to be held at the Statler-Hilton Hotel will be addressed by Lawrence Speiser, director of the American Civil Liberties Union's Washington office.

The Maryland Branch will honor Major General George M. Gelston, state adjutant general, by bestowing on him its 1967 Civil Liberties Award. Jack L. Levin is chairman of the Award Committee.

Race issue splits ranks of marchers

The East Coast Black Front for United Action held a rally at Banneker Stadium, Georgia Ave., NW, last Saturday, in a parallel demonstration to the Peace March.

Most of the persons attending were recruited from contingents which had come to the Washington for the New York City for the rally.

Speakers called upon young black people to "analyse the political situation," and come to meaningful decisions about where they are heading.

PARTICIPANTS REPRESENTED cities as far away as Detroit and Chicago, whose spokesmen urged a new pride in the attempts being made to win a better way of life for non-white Americans.

They told the gathering that complacency was still a problem in the struggle, but indicated how the dedicated might make meaningful contributions. "We are an undeveloped nation," they said, and in need of hard work to achieve recognition.

* * *

A REPRESENTATIVE from Detroit, bearing the slo-

(Continued on Page 8)

Few faces of color in ocean of anti-Vietnam marchers

By ORVILLE GREEN

WASHINGTON

From the loudspeakers comes the order, "All members of the black contingent please congregate under the letter 'I,' under the letter 'I.'" Sure enough, there they are, just standing around, impatient.

It's only 10 o'clock, but you have to push your way through crowds of hippies and flower-children dressed in gaudy colors and strange outfits, barefooted, or wearing hip boots.

There is not much talk among the waiting marchers as yet, but there is a good deal of shuffling around, and the loudspeakers are constantly blaring.

In the black contingent at last, you wonder if somebody gave the wrong directions. There is hardly anybody here, it seems, and they are almost lost in the vast sea of whites.

Anyway, it's still early. Most of the people from New York haven't arrived, and they can be expected to have a good showing. Washington isn't represented either.

A youngster from New York roams through the group, whispering in a confidential fashion, "What? Not coming?" somebody asks. You draw closer, and he tells you, in the same furtive manner, "The Washington group is not coming here. We are to meet them at Banneker Park."

In a flash, he is gone. As he moves through the group a murmur begins, and grows, and soon there are discussions.

Undisturbed, a girl from Philadelphia passes the time singing, slowly swaying from side to side. Her song is sad, and low. Soon she attracts a group of her own.

Others join in the singing; from a solo to a duet, then a trio. Before long, the group is singing, "If I had a hammer," and the black contingent area becomes integrated.

The courier continues to spread his message, the discussions become more intense, and slowly the singing dies down. Song gives way to talk, and discussion gives way to argument.

Mrs. Edna Ewell, of the Inner Voice newspaper in Detroit, has led a contingent from "motor city." She is very upset at the suggested change in plans, and makes no pretense about her displeasure.

She doesn't want to attend the rally which the Washingtonians have planned, following a march through local ghetto areas. Most of her colleagues share her attitude.

"If I wanted to have a rally I could have stayed in Detroit," she says. "I keep my cultural thing to myself. I don't display it." Her remark gains the attention of a bearded young man, dressed in a white poncho, and boots.

"Don't say that sister," he pleads. She answers, "What

(Continued on Page 8)

Provident gets $4,400,000 loan

The Maryland Hospital Commission approved Monday a $4,000,000 loan application from the Provident Hospital Development Program.

A new Provident has been estimated to cost $15,000,000 and that is the basis on which the request was granted, it was announced.

Previously estimated to cost $8,000,000, the increase in construction costs had skyrocketed since the original plans were unveiled, according to Charles G. Tildon, director.

To date $8,389,000 has been gathered for the new hospital; to be located at Liberty Hgts. and Reisterstown Rd.

Of that amount, $2,730,000 were raised through public subscriptions, Mr. Tildon said, emphasizing the point that Provident is one of two city hospitals which exceeded its projected goal through fund raising.

Add $2,000,000 grants each from the city and state, plus a $850,000 grant from the Hill-Burton Fund, the original estimated cost of the hospital has been surpassed.

With the new estimated cost of the hospital jumping to $15,000,000, Mr. Tildon said another public appeal, geared to raise an additional $1,500,000 will be made.

Meantime, Mr. Tildon reported, as soon as Provident's Board of Trustees have analyzed construction bids, construction contracts will be let.

War protest ends after 2-day seige

By SAM FOGG

WASHINGTON (UPI) — A die-hard group of Vietnam protesters were forced from their vigil outside the Pentagon early Monday, ending the largest anti-war demonstration in the Capital's history.

When a demonstration permit expired at midnight, U.S. Marshals and military police moved into a crowd of about 175 demonstrators. About half of them walked voluntarily to waiting trucks. Others went limp and were carried away.

But there was no repetition of the violence that marked the opening day of the anti-war rally Saturday when thousands of shouting demonstrators laid seige to the vast defense nerve center.

Before the midnight expiration of the demonstration permit, the demonstrators that remained told the soldiers they would not resist. They kept their word and MP's and marshals carried those who went limp very gently.

One girl was carried off draped in what appeared in the gloom to be a Viet Cong flag.

ORGANIZERS of the rally, the climax of a week-long, nationwide protest of U. S. policies in Vietnam, had said demonstrators would try to disrupt the Pentagon when its 27,000 employees began coming to work Monday.

But at the end only a small knot of protesters remained. When troops defending the vast five-sided building on the Virginia side of the Potomic moved among them,

(Continued on Page 8)

Nurses meet here Oct. 25-27

The 64th annual convention of the Maryland Nurses Association meets Oct. 25 and 26 at the Sheraton Belvedere Hotel

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Over 800 persons were present Sunday evening for memorial services held at Eastern High School auditorium for the late Dr. Lawrence G. Paquin, superintendent of Baltimore public schools until his death Oct. 12. Paying tribute were members of the Board of School Commissioners, the Board of Superintendents, local clergymen, vocal and instrumental groups from various schools.

Ministers want school head to come from outside city

Citing a "disturbing trend" in the public school administration, reflecting a "lack of imagination, a general low level of competence and a dearth of concern," the Interdenominational Ministers Alliance announced it is marshalling forces within the Baltimore community to reverse the trend.

The Alliance this week gave its stand on three important issues in a position paper, "An Open Letter to the Baltimore Community," addressed to the mayor, City Council, School Board, Board of Superintendents, Board of Estimates and candidates for mayor.

The ministers repeated their position opposing the $20 million school bond issue, unless more of the money is earmarked for the inner city. The group wants the priorities reversed so that 60 per cent, rather than 40 per cent, of the issue goes for new schools in the inner city.

* * *

CALLING FOR a new school superintendent to be found from outside the city is a key demand of the organization.

Also demanded is "administrative reform," with the suggestion for a citizens' group "with concurrent authority in all matters of budget and program" to work with the school administration.

The position paper emerged from a meeting of the ministers Friday morning following Thursday's explosive verbal confrontation with the School Board.

On the bond issue, the School Board said it would make an announcement within a week on any decision to reallocate funds.

The present projections for the use of the money were outlined by Dr. M. Thomas Goedeke, associate superintendent in charge, at the board meeting.

* * *

THE OUTER-CITY schools to be built include:

Rognel Heights Elementary No. 89, Sidehill and Seminole Ave., $1,850,000; Callaway Elementary, Callaway and Fernhill Aves., $1,800,000 and Greenspring Junior High School, Greenspring and Woodland Aves., $7,070,000.

The inner-city schools include:

Caroline Elementary No. 250, Caroline and Eden Sts., $1,850,000 and Joseph C. Briscoe Junior High No. 451, a replacement for a special curriculum school for 400 students at Preston St. near Druid Hill Ave., $1,510,000.

Remodeling and renovation is slated for one outer and three inner-city elementaries.

The outer-city School 52, Springhill and Cottage Aves., will receive $1,000,000.

In the inner city, School 116 will be replaced and School 139 renovated at Central Ave. and Lexington St. at a cost of $2,150,000, School 122 at Preston St. near Druid Hill will be renovated for $1,210,000.

Conversion of School 298, Broadway and North Ave., to an elementary school is scheduled for $1,240,000.

An additional $70,000 is set for equipment for School 27, Fayette and Chester Sts., and $250,000 is set aside for miscellaneous improvements on many schools.

* * *

THE INNER city schools concerning the ministers are detailed in the recent building survey by the firm of Booze, Allen and Hamilton.

The Alliance gave the label "hidden" to the firm's report, which has been concluded but not released.

The four-page position paper was signed by the Rev. Frank L. Williams, president of the alliance, and the Rev. Marion C. Bascom, chairman of its Civic Committee.

The paper said that in the present school administration "we find no sympathy for the hurt of the inner city and no programmed effort to change a pattern of spending that seems to cater to the affluent."

It called for a new superintendent "fully sensitive to priority needs caused by inequities of long standing which continue to hurt and haunt."

The alliance continued its stand against someone selected from within the system, demanding "an exhaustive search" for a successor to Dr. Laurence G. Paquin.

DISILLUSIONED WITH the "crisis-oriented approach" necessary for inner-city residents to make known their grievances, the alliance submitted its proposal for the citizens' committee.

The committee would also

(Continued on Page 8)

Council passes CAA job plan

An ordinance setting up $200,000 in supplementary funds for the Community Action Agency's inner city employment program was given final passage Monday evening by the City Council.

It provides for the employment of 1,150 persons in the Department of Education, Bureaus of Sanitation and Parks, through state funds.

The ordinance okays project extension through next June 30.

Among other business in a brief session, Councilman Henry G. Parks Jr. (4th D.) called for stepped up action on a minimum wage ordinance, which would up the wage and broaden worker coverage.

* * *

ALL REMAINING ordinances in Council's files die when this Council leaves office Dec. 7, but new ones are still being introduced.

Among those brought in Monday was included one to increase the penalty for false fire alarms, another making it unlawful to shoot arrows from bows except in designated areas and a resolution seeking a report from the Baltimore Urban Renewal and Housing Agency on updating property acquisition procedures.

Counseling for unwed mothers

The State Department of Public Welfare, upon the recommendation of its Advisory Council on Child Welfare is offering a free counseling service to young unmarried mothers and their families.

The counseling office, under the direction of Mrs. Doris T. Johnson, is located on the third floor at 210 N. Calvert St.

Telephone inquiries may be made by calling 837-9000, extension 8852, Monday through Friday between 8:30 a.m., and 4 p.m.

THE COUNSELING service, also called the Young Unmarried Mothers' Project, is scheduled to operate for three years.

Counseling is available to any unwed girl 16 years of age and under, in her first pregnancy, currently residing in either Baltimore City, Baltimore County or Anne Arundel County, and not receiving a casework service from any other social agency.

The Project is designed to assist young unwed mothers with problems associated with pregnancy, including sound planning for the baby and helping them adjust better in the community in the future.

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CLAIMS POLICE HAULED POLITICAL DINNERS

(STORY IN COLUMN 5)

500 La. Guardsmen Invade Grambling

(SEE STORY ON PAGE 15)

Baltimore Afro-American
Seventy-fifth Anniversary

Dr. King Begins 5-Day Jail Term

(SEE STORY ON PAGE 15)

76th Year No. 31
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Giles Bros. Free After 6 Years

SURPRISE — AFRO's Vietnam Correspondent, Mike Davis, left, arrived home Monday morning to find AFRO President John H. Murphy 3rd, putting up the 'welcome home' sign. Mrs. Elizabeth Murphy Moss, AFRO vice president, stands next to him. Helping with the sign, Edward Smith, building superintendent.

MIKE DAVIS COMES HOME

'The ground felt firmer...' - Mike

(More Photos and Stories on Page 20)

By MIKE DAVIS
AFRO Correspondent

A brisk October breeze whistled around the corner of Eutaw St. as I walked into the offices of the AFRO Monday morning.

The 26,000-mile trip I had begun four months ago to cover the war in Vietnam had started on that same corner on a Monday morning in June.

It was good to be back in Baltimore among my friends and fellow workers who had been so encouraging to me during my assignment abroad.

NO HAND GRENADES

The air smelled a little cleaner, the ground felt a little firmer and for the first time in four months I didn't have to worry about someone tossing a hand grenade on the sidewalk.

It was really good to be back among familiar faces. It felt good once again to take my seat at the large horseshoe-shaped city desk.

I met hundreds of service men in Vietnam and many of them will be my friends for the rest of my life.

HARD TO LEAVE

It was difficult to leave these men after having shared the horrors and the joys of war with them.

Perhaps with AFRO readers' prayers, they too, will soon return safely to the United States.

The morle among troops in Vietnam is high. They are all looking forward to the day when they can join friends and families in an atmosphere of peace and tranquility.

Though governments make war, war in the final analysis is fought by the little guys. Though officers make the decisions it is the little guy that must go out and execute them.

LETTERS IMPORTANT

Vietnam is full of little guys. Fellows from Baltimore, Washington, Richmond and every other city on the map who have been shipped thousands of miles from home to fight in a foreign land.

Letters are important to them and for this reason folks at home should write them often.

They have asked me to thank home folks for their support and the faith they have placed in them.

It is difficult to attempt to explain mixed emotions. As I have said before I am glad that I am home but I wish that I could have brought the servicemen with me.

VIET WAR NOT EASY

Their tour of duty in Vietnam is not an easy one. It is difficult to fight a war and one year in Vietnam seems to be more like ten to the average serviceman.

One does get a sense of pride and satisfaction after having completed an assignment and signing "30" to his final story.

I want to thank the readers of the AFRO-AMERICAN newspapers for their interest and concern. It made the job worth doing and inspired me to work hard and do my best for you and our boys in Vietnam.

THANKS TO READERS

It's good to be back and I am looking forward to settling down and getting back into a regular and less hectic routine.

Again, thanks to all the AFRO readers. You have been a wonderful audience and I enjoyed doing the job for you.

It's good to be back home again.

22 months spent on death row

By ROGER J. NISSLY

"Then I ask that the defendants be discharged."

Judge W. Albert Menchine granted the defense request, and the Giles brothers, John, 28, and James, 26, were freed from six years of waiting Monday morning.

Of those six years, 22 months had been spent on death row waiting for their execution for a 1961 conviction on rape charges.

The end to their six-year vigil came during the first day's preliminary proceedings of their second trial on the charges in Baltimore County Circuit Court.

The crowd in the courtroom swept the brothers, with handshakes and backslaps, out onto the grassy lawn in front of the courthouse in Towson.

* * *

THE SPENCERVILLE (Md.) brothers, looking like and stating they were "relieved," talked of their future and tried to dismiss the last six years quickly for newsmen and television cameras.

Well wishers, relatives and members of the Giles-Johnson Defense Committee, which had worked for the commutation of the death penalty and the release of the brothers, gave a holiday mood to the courthouse lawn as the brothers were interviewed.

For this, their second trial, "we came completely and fully prepared," James said. "We fully expected to win."

As it was, the prosecution decided to 'nol pros,' or not prosecute, the case after two and a half hours of debate Monday morning.

"Perhaps it would have been better if the trial had gone on and we gained acquital," James felt, but the technicality made little difference to the friends and relatives.

* * *

WITHOUT THOSE friends and the defense committee, which finally took their case all the way to the Supreme Court, "we wouldn't be here today," John said.

"There's no doubt, we would have been executed," James added.

John, the older but younger looking of the two, became interested in horticulture in the Maryland Penitentiary and took 10 correspondence courses in the subject from Pennsylvania State University.

Since their release on bail in July when the new trial was ordered, John has been working in this field in the Baltimore area.

James, who wants to major in English in college and also took correspondence courses, worked with the Council for Christian Social Action, part of the National Council of Churches, over the summer.

Asked their feelings on justice at this point, the brothers declined comment. "And anyway, our lawyers instructed us not to say anything on that," James said.

"There was a big difference between this morning and the procedures at the first trial," he observed later.

* * *

AT THE first trial the brothers had a court-appointed lawyer, who, the present defense was quick to

(Continued on Page 2)

AFTER SIX YEARS—The Giles brothers, James (left) and John are shown earlier this year as they left Montgomery County Court house after their new trial had been ordered. After two and a half hours of preliminary proceedings in their trial yesterday, the brothers were freed after six years in jail.

Police linked to political dinners

Walter Lively, 2nd District candidate for City Council charged today that two Democratic opponents used on-duty, uniformed policemen to deliver dinners being sold at a political dinner and rally attended by Tommy D'Alesandro, William Shaefer and other political notables to raise money for their campaign.

"I have just talked to Police Commissioner Pomerleau, and several other officers, about this dangerous violation of police regulations. I have asked that this particular case be investigated immediately and that a strongly-worded directive go out to the Eastern District pointing out that the Police Department and police personnel must stay out of politics," Mr. Lively told the AFRO.

"These two politicians in particular (Mach and Prucha) have always ranted and raved about how the poor were wasting tax money and here we find them using the duty policemen to help them continue their domination over the colored voting majority in the 2nd District," Mr. Lively said.

* * *

MR. LIVELY, who has been endorsed by the AFRO along with Robert Douglas and James McLean, said at about 1:30 p.m. Sunday two policemen in patrol car No. 9462 double parked in front of Mach's Political Clubhouse at 838 N. Chester.

"The officers went inside for about a half an hour and then came out with several dinners, and an older man with several more dinners.

"All three men got into the patrol car and went to Oliver's Tavern where one officer ran in a few dinners.

"Oliver's Tavern, it might be worth mentioning, is owned by City Councilman Charlie Panuska.

"The patrol car then continued to Daley's Tavern where all three men got out, went in and stayed for some time."

* * *

"IT IS BAD enough," said Mr. Lively, a longtime civil rights activist who has criticized the police department on more then one occasion. "But policemen who are supposed to be impartial are helping anti-colored politicians remain in power.

"But, this situation continues all year long. This is one of the kinds of things the police are doing when colored people need them, but can never find them. Instead of protecting our neighborhoods they are out bar-hopping with various political bosslets.

"The voters and taxpayers are the ones who most suffer from this lack of police protection. Something must be done about it and if colored voters turn out in force Nov 7 something will be done."

242,500 votes for ministers

As the Favorite Minister Contest moves into its third week 242,500 votes have been cast for 149 ministers in the Baltimore area.

The complete listing of ministers receiving votes appears on page two.

Is the name of your favorite minister there? If not, cut out the coupon on page two so that he will have a chance to win one of the prizes.

Leading the top ten vote getters was the Rev. Julian Price of Second Baptist Church with 45,400 votes, almost 30,000 more than his nearest opponent.

In second place is the Rev. Roscoe C. Williams of the Orchard St. Methodist Church with 15,900 votes.

The Rev. Lawyer L. Swinson, New Metropolitan Baptist Church is third with 12,900 votes and fourth with 9,900 votes is the Rev. J. Lloyd Garrison of John Wesley Methodist Church.

With a total of 8,200 votes cast in his favor, the Rev. W. W. Payne, of Wayland Baptist Church is in fifth place

Sixth is the Rev. George W. Baynard, Shiloh Christian Community Church with 7,000 votes and the Rev. Harold Carter, New Mt Shiloh Baptist Church is seventh with 6,300 votes.

* * *

A NEWCOMER to the top-ten list is the Rev. Joseph S. Grant, St. John AME with 5,100 votes. He occupies eighth place.

Ninth is the Rev. Olin Moyd, Mt. Lebonan Baptist Church, with 5,000 votes.

Closing the top ten list is the Rev. Marcus G. Wood, Providence Baptist Church with 4,600 votes.

* * *

AT THE end of the contest, the 12 top vote-getters will share $1,500 with first place winner taking the lion's share, $500.

The second place winner will

(Continued on Page 2)

Evangelist dies in church while giving 'testimony to the Lord'

Sunday nights at the Israelite Pentecostal Holiness Church at 1406½ Laurens St., are usually lively.

Voices, tambourines, and hand clapping are normally combined to create a symphony of sounds as the people, on the words of the pastor, the Rev. George H. Singleton, "make a joyful noise unto the Lord."

It was very quiet there 8 p.m. Sunday. The reason was crumpled at the foot of the improvised altar.

Covered with coats and a hand-printed banner which read "Mid-Summer Revival and Healing Services" were the remains of Evangelist Cherry Elder, 68, 3608 Duvall St.

She had collapsed and died, from an apparent heart attack, while testifying "for the Lord," the Rev. Mr. Singleton told the AFRO.

* * *

EVANGELIST ELDER of the Jerusalem Holiness Church, 1900 block N. Rosedale St., was visiting Israelite Pentecostal group in "for a long testimonial" at the time of her death, the Rev. Mr. Singleton recalled.

The evangelist's last words, according to eyewitnesses to the dramatic event, were:

"All you workers for the Lord must let your work follow your ministry." Her listeners, added:

"She then asked 'All you people to pray for me,' and threw up her hands and fell to the floor," the witnesses reported.

Mrs. Elder, a native of Athens, Ga., who has lived here since 1958, was pronounced dead by Firefighter Dennis M. Frazier, a No. 4 Municipal Ambulance attendant, which responded.

The body remained at the altar until 9:30 p.m. when it was removed to the Medical Examiner's office.

In explaining the delay, a spokesman for the Medical Examiner office told the AFRO there is only one morgue wagon and it was tied up in other sections of the city.

When reporters reached the scene, children and adults were sitting silently with eyes glued to the front of the small church.

* * *

MINUTES BEFORE the morgue wagon arrived, Mrs. Elder's son, Colonel P. Elder, rushed into the church and knelt at his mother's side.

Removing a coat from her face he gently cradled her head in his arms and wept quietly, repeating:

"Oh, Mama, oh, Mama, oh, Mama!"

When attendants from the death wagon began easing Mrs. Elder on the stretcher the son pleaded soulfully:

"Don't let them take Mama away. Don't let them take Mama away. Don't let those mean people take Mama away!"

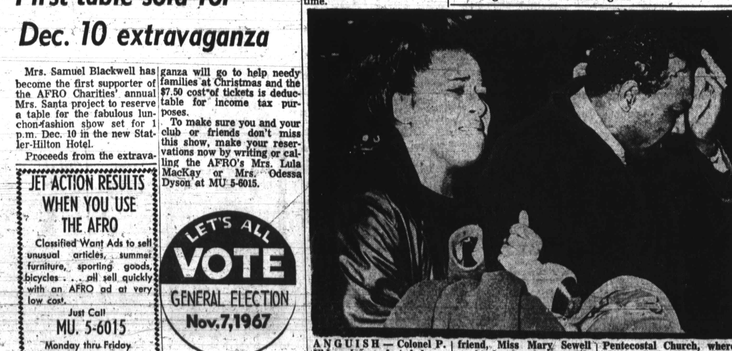
* * *

MR. ELDER told the AFRO Monday that his mother has been an evangelist "most of her life."

Love Elder, the evangelist's husband is retired. Their children, in addition to the younger Mr. Elder are:

Mrs. Cherry Sembler, Cornelius and Clarence Elder, all of Baltimore and Mesdames Ophelia Cooper of Georgia and Josephine Parrish of Alabama.

Funeral arrangements, being handled by the William C. March Funeral Home, were incomplete at press-time.



ANGUISH — Colonel P. Elder, is comforted by a friend, Miss Mary Sewell as he leaves the Israelite Pentecostal Church, where he found his mother dead at the altar.

First table sold for Dec. 10 extravaganza

Mrs. Samuel Blackwell has become the first supporter of the AFRO Charities' annual Mrs. Santa project to reserve a table for the fabulous luncheon-fashion show set for 1 p.m. Dec. 10 in the new Statler-Hilton Hotel.

Proceeds from the extravaganza will go to help needy families at Christmas and the $7.50 cost of tickets is deductable for income tax purposes.

To make sure you and your club or friends don't miss the show, make your reservations now by writing or calling the AFRO's Mrs. Lula MacKay or Mrs. Odessa Dyson at MU 5-6015.

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