ROUND about TOWN

By AL RUTLEDGE

1969 is starting out with every indication of being the year of the artist.

Already, some of our town's best known artists have booked their work in several outstanding exhibits.

Robert O. Torrence II, whose brilliant artistry with brush and camera is well known to all Baltimoreans is one.

Since Jan. 14, Torrence has been showing his movies at the Park Plaza Gallery.

Also on display are some 44 Torrence paintings and drawings wearing sale tags ranging from $25 to the fantastic.

"Is This Society Great," which sells for $700.

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The Catholic Center Gallery, beginning Feb. 2, will feature the works of Charles Stokes, another of friend of Round About Town.

The artist will be meeting the public on the first day of the exhibit between the hours of 3-5 p.m.

The show will close Feb. 28.

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The brand new Peabody Conservatory Dormitory is about to open its first art exhibit on Feb. 2.

It will feature the photographic genius of Berkley S. Thompson and Muhammed Said among other equally fine sculptors and painters.

The show is being sponsored by the Association of Black Artist East. ABA East is an East Coast branch of a program which first started in Los Angeles.

Its purpose is to "restore some humanity in a rapidly dehumanizing world." The greatest emphasis is on the development of a black identity through art within the Black community.

The group is seeking donations from interested parties. They are based at the Huber Memorial United Church of Christ, at 29th St. and the Alameda.

In addition to the works of Berkley and Said, the Feb. 2, opening at Peabody will include productions of Eugene Martin, Captain Karim, Avon Martin, Miss Theresa Thompson and Matthew (Bay Bay) Williams.

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Nelson Taylor, PR man for the Pyramids, Inc. has informed us that registration day for all girls who want to enter the fifth annual Miss Pyramid Contest will began Feb. 2.

The YMCA at 1619 Druid Hill Ave., is where entrants should be at 2 p.m. to meet the contest committee for details.

Actually, the group is shooting for 150 contestants to vie for the all expense paid trip for two to Nassau. The trip will cover four days and three nights at the Nassau Beach Hotel.

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Other first place prizes include: a bouquet of flowers, a crown and cape, an engraved trophy, dinner for two at the Playboy Club, membership in the NAACP and Baltimore Urban League, a record album a month for the entire year and Miss Pyramid and her choice of three persons will be guests of the Pyramids at each Pyramid affair during her reign.

There will also be a $200 second place prize and a $100 third place prize.

For more details interested persons should contact Wilbur James at 235-6646 or Napoleon Clark, 367-4368.

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The National Alliance of Postal and Federal Employees is in the heat of their 'Miss Alliance 1969 Contest.'

The winner of this contest will reign at a swinging cabaret scheduled for Feb. 15. It'll really be the Alliance' second annual Sweetheart Ball.

Which we've learned is already a sellout.

The current standing of the contestants are as follows:

(1 Norma Brown, (2 Geraldine Pugh, (3) Ernestine Tabron, (4) Meriam Dixon, (5) Elsie Humbert, (6) Faye Bridgeforth, (7) Sallie Worrell, (8) Joan Almond, (9) Loretta Lawrence, (10) Ruth Green, (11) Alfreda Henningham, (12) Ethel Daniey, (13) Lorraine Breaux, (14) Jo Ann Jackson, (15) Jo Ann Stewart, (16) Gloria Paul, (17) Ethel Harrel.

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Speaking about sweethearts, two popular couples have recently made it 'legal.'

Allen Pettiway and Miss Joyce Moore became Mr. and Mrs. on January 25 at Shiloh Baptist Church.

Mr. and Mrs. Pettiway have been stalwart swingers for some time and many of their friends from the night circuit put in an appearance at the home of the bridegroom's parents for a reception.

While everyone was making merry, the newlyweds slipped off into the night for places unknown.

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Also on the 25th, Leonard Benny Crosby finalized his love of understanding for Miss Joan Theresa Colston.

The two exchanged vows at Mt. Olivet Freewill Baptist Church at 2 p.m.

May the very best of soulful things bind fast the marriages of these four beautiful people.

• • •

We finally found out why our friend, Miss Diana Jones, was missing from the night club circuit.

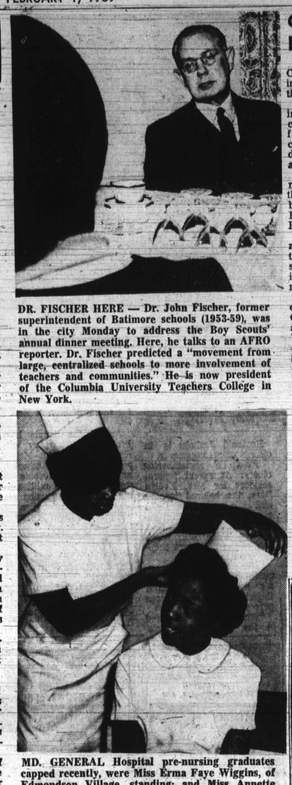
While her friends were balling-it-up, Diana was grooming herself to take a new job.

As a matter of fact, today, Jan. 31, was Diana's last day at Sinai Hospital.

She's now secretary and receptionist to Dr. Roland Snoot whose offices are in the new Gerwyn Medical Center, Gwynns Falls Parkway and Garrison Blvd.

Meet the Press

Three new Cabinet members — Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare Robert H. Finch; Secretary of Housing and Urban Development George Romney, and Secretary of Transportation John A. Volpe—will be guests on a special one-hour edition of "Meet the Press" Sunday, February 2, at 2 p.m., in color, on WBAL-TV 11, Baltimore.



DR. FISCHER HERE — Dr. John Fischer, former superintendent of Baltimore schools (1953-59), was in the city Monday to address the Boy Scouts' annual dinner meeting. Here, he talks to an AFRO reporter. Dr. Fischer predicted a "movement from large, centralized schools to more involvement of teachers and communities." He is now president of the Columbia University Teachers College in New York.

MD. GENERAL Hospital pre-nursing graduates capped recently, were Miss Erma Faye Wiggins, of Edmondson Village, standing; and Miss Annette Eleana Boom of Forest Park.

Credit Union has meeting

The Southwest Inner-City Credit Union held a meeting on Tuesday evening at the Poe Auditorium.

The purpose of the meeting was the election of new committee members in the following areas: board committee member, a credit committee member, and a supervisory committee.

The credit union was formed last year to service the people living within the boundaries of Pulaski St., Paca St., Mulberry St. and Pratt St.

In order to become a member, one must pay a twenty-five cent membership fee, and then he or she is eligible to save or borrow from the credit union.

The board of directors includes: Mesdames Dorothy George, Alice Brock, Agrathare Byrd, and Gloria Webster, treasurer-secretary. Also Messrs. Charles Brock, Leroy Lewis, Frederick Sampson, George Thornton and Donald Young, president.

The credit committee is headed by Mesdames Myrtle McCullers and Thomasina Mitchell and Daniel Johnson.

Last year the 166 Veterans Administration hospitals accommodated 26,626 patients, 12,000 more than during the previous year.

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About 8 percent of home loans guaranteed by the Veterans Administration now go to veterans discharged after January 31, 1955.

75 students take free Afro-American lessons

HEMPSTEAD, L.I. —Seventy-five high school students from Hempstead, Uniondale and Freeport have been getting free lessons in Afro-American history and culture at Hofstra University since Jan. 18.

The program, called Afro-American Winter Project, is being sponsored and operated by a group of college students from Hofstra's Organization of Black Collegians.

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The high school youngsters, ranging in age from 13 to 18, will take Afro-American history, African art, crafts, dance and music, as well as tutoring in math and reading during the 10-week program.

They will also be given "sensitivity training," lessons in how current events and civil rights are affecting Afro-Americans today, and they will get a chance to express themselves in a "Theater of Contemporary Social Problems."

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The program will include seminars with adult educators and field trips to the Museum of Natural History (African Room), African Missions to the United Nations, Afro-American Arts Cultural Center in Harlem and the Schomberg Collection of Afro-American literature at the Harlem Library.

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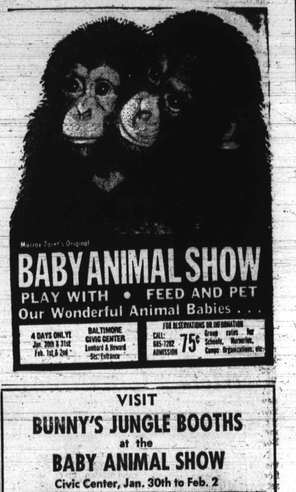

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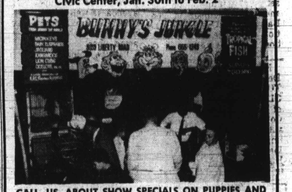

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—CAA board —Teachers to vote

(Continued From Page 28)

nity, will receive $80,000 for transportation services and for 5 salaried positions.

About 500 children are tutored weekly in the program, headed by Dr. Chester Wickware.

Asked whether he thought the 1970 requests would gain the approval of the City Council, Mr. Ellis replied:

"I wouldn't want to hazard a guess, it's hard to say. But frankly, it's a very realistic budget, since we're only asking the city for a tiny increase of a little over $31,000. For every dollar of this, the federal government contributes twenty."

The new requests will first be heard before the City Council's Committee on Budget and Finance, headed by Councilman Joseph Curran.

Mr. Curran, who is also the Council's representative on the Community Action Commission, voted in favor of the budget.

Asked what chances he felt the budget would have in the committee, the liberal Third District councilman told the AFRO:

"We'll have to wait until we've seen the whole picture first—remember, the full text of the budget is 400-500 pages long.

"Of course I can't speak for the other members of the committee, but as it looks in brief I'm in favor of it. One of the advantages of it is that the contribution asked from the city is so small that it will only affect the tax rate by about a tenth of a cent."

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The plan was accepted by the union and the school board, but the City Council must approve any teacher contract.

Dr. Julian said the Council may have the "distasteful opportunity" to veto the proposal even if union-school board differences are settled.

Russell said the union's executive council unanimously rejected the contract proposal ironed out by union and school board negotiators because "not sufficient progress was made over last year. The class size situation remains the same."

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Under the new contract the maximum class size was reduced from 36 to 35.

"It is impossible to properly teach Johnny his three R's when the class size is 35 children. This is the primary reason for the wide-scale remedial problem," Russell said.

He said reading is a primary cause for the high drop-out rate. "It is embarrassing for students in high school to have 4th and 5th grade reading levels. When the new reading material is passed out, many of the students don't know what's going on," Russell said.

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The union spokesman explained there are seven union objections to the contract, including class size.

The other six are remedial reading, Model Schools, longevity steps, salary scales, elementary school preparation periods, and non-teaching chores.

The remedial program was called insufficient, with not enough reading specialists.

The BTU council wants an increase in the number of Model Schools. Model Schools "will be too little and will be too late if more such schools are not put into service," Russell said.

The longevity issue is based on union dissatisfaction with the requirement that teachers about to retire must take additional college course work to be eligible for their full retirement benefits.

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The salary scale proposal provided a $400 increase to teachers who have taught for 11 years in the system. Teachers in their twelfth year were given a $425 increase. Those who had put in 13 years would have received an annual $450 increase and 14 or more year veterans were scheduled for $500 additional annual pay.

Russell said the union was dissatisfied with the amounts and the scale for the salary increase.

The union also wants more time for elemntay school teachers to prepare lessons and an end to teacher chores such as hall and lunchroom duty.

—School Board

(Continued From Page 28)

"There is a time lag because the school board has to approve these minutes. It is merely a matter of delay occasioned by the fact that these minutes have to be printed."

Robert Umphery, a spokesman for the school superintendent, Dr. Thomas D. Shelton, agreed with Mr. Murnaghan's comments: "After each board meeting, the minutes must be typed and sent to printers.

"Every Tuesday before a board meeting, a folder of information gives them a preview of the upcoming agenda as well as a printed minutes from a preceeding meeting which are to be acted upon.

"If the minutes of each meeting were mimeographed, the process would be delayed even more."

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However, James Griffin, a board member, said: "We can't possibly know what we are voting on when we approve minutes that are far behind."

Two months ago, Mr. Griffin spoke out against the tardiness of the minutes. At that time, he was advised that they were having trouble with the printer.

Mr. Griffin's solution was "let them do it on plain paper. They don't need the finished form anyhow. We ought to have minutes promptly."

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Samuel T. Daniels, another member of the board, told the AFRO: "The Board should have immediate access to the minutes of its previous board meeting. The printed form which has usually been given to the board can be prepared for the journal of minutes and filed at any time they are ready, but they ought to be identical to those submitted to the commissioners.

"They can print them next year or ten years from now in terms of the journal itself, but the minutes should certainly be prepared by the superintendent's staff and ready in a matter of a few days in mimeographed form, or any other fashion. They can be typed and photo copies made.

"If they are to have any value to the commissioners, they ought to be available to them at the meeting following that reported by those minutes."

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An AFRO spot check of city and state boards reveals that after each meeting of most boards it takes only about a week to have the minutes printed.

Most of the board mimeographed the minutes.

Three of the boards surveyed revealed the following: The liquor Board minutes are ready within a week and the State Board of Education minutes are usually ready within a week.

The State Board's Dec. 18 minutes were approved at the January board meeting this Wednesday.

The Park Board takes one week.

All three of these boards simply mimeograph the minutes — they're not sent to a printer — until approved by the body.

OIC schedules

(Continued From Page 28)

nt changes in the makeup of the governing body" or loss support of the national body.

According to the latest news release the public is invited to submit names of persons as prospective members of the expanded Board of Directors.

No date has been set for the election of new OIC officers. But a date will be set in the future upon the mutual agreement of the Baltimore OIC and the national institute for the elections, the release said.

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MONTGOMERY, Ala. — Dean J. GERARD NEUTUNE and ARTHUR O. GLASS, associate professor of biology at Alabama State College, represented the institution at the curriculum improvement conference of the Alabama Center for Higher Education recently in Birmingham.

—Morgan proposal

(Continued From Page 28)

not later than Sept. 15, 1969."

Gov. Mandel, who is known to have a keen interest in the development of state colleges, indicated in a letter to Dr. Jenkins his concern over the expansion of Morgan.

The Governor wrote Dr. Jenkins:

"I have examined with great interest the proposal which you submitted on Jan. 14 to the Board of Trustees of the State Colleges, concerning the future development of Morgan State College as a racially integrated, urban-oriented university.

"Your concept of a College of Urban Affairs is particularly interesting in view of the obvious need to prepare young people to participate in the rejuvenation of Baltimore City.

"It is my understanding that, pursuant to existing law, your proposal will go to the Maryland Council for Higher Education for study and recommendation. This referral is most desirable, since I am anxious to preserve the integrity of our tripartite structure of institutions of higher education."

The Governer then advised Dr. Jenkins that he had requested a report from the Council by Sept. 15.

Meanwhile, resolutions to expand Morgan into a university have been passed by the Baltimore City Council and the General Assembly's House of Delegates.

A joint Senate resolution on the same subject is now in the Senate. This resolution will require approval by that chamber and the House for passage.

—Council control

(Continued From Page 28)

program," Dr. Julian commented.

A possible outcome of the investigation may be a suspension of funds for Baltimore in the Community Action program which is funded by Washington.

The investigation has apparently arisen because of complaints that city hall has exercised too much control over the program.

— Integration

(Continued From Page 28)

tions of which we are a part forget about black-Americans. They are not included, they are not a part of the in-crowd," the Rev. Mr. Bascom stated.

He said that the other two Fire Board members "have been understanding and are of a mind to make changes." He also stated that the administrative chiefs "have given me every indication of fully integrating the Fire Department.

More than 4,250,000 World War I and II veterans will receive $236 million in dividends on their GI insurance policies during 1969.

BOARD GIVES OPTION

State schools may permit smoking if they desire

At present, pupils are not allowed to smoke on school premises in any of Maryland's 23 counties.

The Baltimore Board of Education voted Wednesday to give local school boards the right to decide whether students will be allowed to smoke on school property.

And some counties may permit smoking in specific places on or near school premises.

A spokesman for the city schools said besterlay, however, that he doubts there will be any change made here and the ban on pupil smoking will remain.

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Repealing and reenacting Bylaw 720:2, the board's resolution read, "ince the use of tobacco is a serious threat to health, such use by pupils on school premises shall not be permitted unless expressly authorized under limitations and rules adopted by a local board of education."

Before the law, smoking on school premises was forbidden and local boards had no option and no right to enact their own local regulations.

The change grew out of complaints from some local boards that they could not stop pupils from smoking and they were facing a serious disciplinary problem.

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In a special session Dec. 1, the State Board heard testimony from Dr. Homer O. Elseroad, Superintendent of Schools in Montgomery County; Clarence J. Gittings, Assistant Superintendent of Pupil Personnel Services of the Baltimore City public schools and Steve Kent, Prehident of the Baltimore County Region argue in favor of the local option plan.

The change was opposed by officials of the Maryland State Department of Health and the Dorchester County school officials.

Mrs. Harry H. Lehr, President of the Baltimore County Council of Parent-Teachers, speaking as an individual, said she also opposed the change.

But the only State Board vote against the local option came from Dr. Ramsay B. Thomas, M.D. who said there is a growing number of people who are refusing to take up smoking and more are quitting.

"To permit children to smoke is dangerous to their health and from a medical point of view, I can't vote for it," he said.

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Board Vice President, Richard Schifter, who chaired the meeting, explained that "if a county board does nothing, it remains illegal for students to smoke on school grounds; it will take affirmative action, for smoking to be allowed.

"We are all concerned about the serious threat that smoking causes to health. We will continue our educational efforts among students, hoping the smoking habit will decrease."

Mr. Schifter said smoking is "pushed upon youngsters by the advertising media" and "our society has not yet seen fit to control smoking."

The Board majority "sees it as necessary to face up to reality and allow the county boards to control the matter in a manner them deem appropriate."

Schifter predicted that in places where regulated smoking is permitted, there bathrooms and more on the outside of the school.

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In other Board action a $2 million free lunch program was approved for children who are unable to pay lunch prices.

The School Lunch Supervisor told the board that a survey had discovered at least 16,000 children who needed free lunches. 5,000 of them living in Baltimore City.

She said there were more needy children in Baltimore City but some of the questionnaires sent to the school systems had not been returned.

In some counties, the state aid will be supplementing already existing programs.

Md. National, Rialto get U.S. job-training funds

Two new programs to train hard-core unemployed in the Baltimore area for 175 jobs openings over a two-year period were announced this week by U.S. Secretary of Labor George P. Shultz.

The $516,425 for the training is being supplied by the Labor Debartment's Manpower Administration under the Job Opportunities in the Business Sector (JOBS) program.

The largest training contract, $450,000, is with the Maryland National Bank of Baltimore and Light Sts., Baltimore, which will train and hire 150 men and women as clerk-typists, keypunch operators, proof machine operators, and EDP machine operators.

After an average 20 weeks of training, the individuals will have permanent full-time jobs with the bank and earn from $1.92 to $2.69 an hour.

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Rialto Foods, Inc., of 102 South Exeter St., Baltimore, will conduct a $66,425 program to train 25 persons as sausage stuffers and makers, machine packagers, smokers, meat boners, shipping clerks, shipping and receiving clerks, and maintenance men.

Trainees will receive on-the-job training for 32 weeks and will be given full-time jobs with the firm upon completion of the training.

The projected wage after training is $1.80 an hour.

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Recruitment of the unemployed for the training program will be conducted by the Baltimore Area Concentrated Employment Program (CEP) agencies with the assistance of Maryland State Employment Service offices.

JOBS is a joint effort of the U.S. Department of Labor and the National Alliance of Businessmen to find jobs for 500,000 disadvantaged unemployed persons in the Nation's 50 largest cities by June 1971.

More than 165,000 job pledges have been announced to date by private industry.

The Secretary of Labor has set up procedures to enlist the resources of private industry in providing jobs and training.

Under these procedures, funds will be provided to help companies offset the cost of recruiting, remedial education, counseling, on-the-job training; supportive services such as minor medical care and transportation where needed; and a production differential based on what an average untrained disadvantaged worker produces during the training period.

Hidden camera helps FBI accuse singer in Pa. heist

FBI agents arrested William J. Mclain, reportedly a professional singer, on charges of robbing a York, Pa. bank of $23,590 at his home in the 3800 block Norfolk Ave. this week.

The 23 year-old McClain was picked up at his Baltimore home by agents on a warrant filed in Pennsylvania. Officials said that two others were still being hold-p.

McClain was held on $50,000 bail pending legal processing and an eventual return to Pennsylvania to stand trial.

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The accused appeared before United States Commissioner Ernest A. Volkart dressed in a red shirt and red tie. He remained silent.

Edwin R. Tully, special agent of the Baltimore FBI office, said that McClain is charged with the robbery of the York Bank and Trust Company.

A hidden camera in the East Market Street Branch of the York bank caught two men leaping over the counter and pointing pistols at customers before they fled.

ACCUSED—William James McClain, 23-year-old-singer, was nabbed by Baltimore FBI agents this week at his home in the 3800 block of Norfolk Ave., charged with the January 21 robbery of a York, Pa. bank.

BATTLE AWARD — Staff Sergeant James C. Epps, 22 stationed in Vietnam, was awarded the Army Commendation Medal for valor in battle Dec. 5. The award was given for action Sept. 22 when the sergeant's platoon on a search and destroy mission 20 miles south of Saigon came under intense enemy fire. Sgt. Epps established return fire, assisted his wounded men and succeeded in thwarting the attack. The sergeant, who is serving with the 199th Light Infantry Brigade, previously served three years in Germany and will finish his tour of duty in Vietnam in May. He is the son of Mrs. Marcella Epps, 2224 Henneman Ave. Mrs. Epps said her son does not write home about the battles, "and the first I knew of it was when I received the commendation in the mail. When I started reading I thought he had been wounded." Sgt. Epps is a graduate of Dunbar High School and worked in the pharmacy at Hopkins Hospital.

JOBS

Applications for the following jobs should be filed immediately in the office of the Civil Service Commission, 32 South St., Baltimore, 962-3100:

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Planning Draftsman, $5,101.
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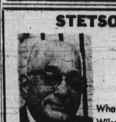

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