Sam Daniels Quits School Board; Sheldon Quits Too

IRVIN ADAMS DIES IN TURNER STATION
(Story, Back Page)

Baltimore Afro-American

PRIVATE SCHOOL AID PLAN DRAWS FIRE
(Story, Back Page)

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Rep. Mitchell Hits War, Poverty And Hunger In His Maiden Speech

'LUCKIEST MAN'

Bullet in heart out, man lives

By ELIZABETH M. OLIVER

Willie Thompson, 31, 1100 block N. Monroe St., is probably the "luckiest man alive today."

The reason the construction worker is able to bear the title is the fact that he IS alive after a rare heart operation at Johns Hopkins Hospital.

On Jan. 6, Dr. T. R. De Meester, staff surgeon, told the AFRO he removed a .22 caliber bullet from Mr. Thompson's heart, sewed up the hole and discharged him after recovery just a week later, on Jan. 13.

Dr. DeMeester attributes survival of the patient after nearly five hours on the operation table as "almost miraculous" and credits the man's unusual courage and personality.

* * *

However, Mr. Thompson told the AFRO he feels it was his lack of fear, confidence in his physicians and himself that kept him from dying.

He explained, "Only the strong survive. I have never been ill and I'm pretty healthy. I never felt like I wasn't going to make it.

"I felt the bullet, like something punching me. I wanted to get it out. I hurt and the pain was bad, but I never felt I was going to leave here."

Dr. DeMeester told the AFRO that the bullet from an unknown assailant hit his patient in the back on New Year's Eve sometime in the afternoon.

Police reports place the time about 3 p.m. when Mr. Thompson was shot on the sidewalk near Guilford Ave. and Lanvale St.

Dr. DeMeester states that the pellet, about the size of a pea, entered Mr. Thompson's liver and then floated along the blood stream until it got caught in the right ventricle of the man's heart.

An operation that night,

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DIANA ROSS
Famed singing star, exchanges wedding vows

Diana Ross pulls surprise

LAS VEGAS, Nev. — Former Supremes lead singer Diana Ross, 26, exchanged vows with Beverly Hills businessman Robert Silberstein here a few minutes after midnight Wednesday morning in a marriage that apparently took most of her music world associates by surprise.

For sometime Miss Ross had been linked romantically to Berry Gordy, head of the Detroit-Los Angeles based Motown recording and television enterprise, but Motown offices in Los Angeles and New York apparently knew nothing of Miss Ross' wedding plans.

Miss Ross and Mr. Silberstein applied for a license a few minutes after midnight and said their vows at the Silver Bells Chapel in a candlelight ceremony perfomed by the Rev. Frank Hutchinson.

A half dozen friends witnessed the wedding. Mark Fisher and Susan De Passee signed the register as witnesses.

The bride was dressed in a see-through paisley pant outfit and Mr. Silberstein, 25, wore sports jacket and slacks.

Both in Motown offices in New York and Los Angeles the AFRO was told by officials representing Miss Ross that they "did not know Robert Silberstein.

One Los Angeles spokesman questioned whether Miss Ross actually was married but the Rev. Hutchinson told the AFRO the bride "looked like Miss Ross, although I do not know her."

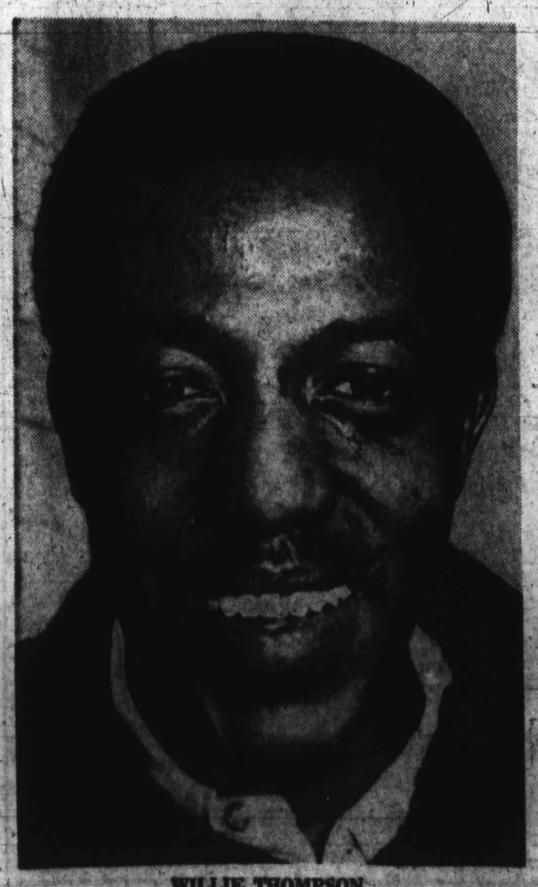
He said he had seen her pictures. He said no one in the wedding party looked like either Mary Wilson, Cindy Birdsong or Jean Terrell, members of the Supremes.

Miss Ross left the long-popular Supremes in 1970 to become a solo act. Miss Terrell took over then as lead singer.

The Rev. Mr. Hutchinson said the wedding ceremony was a short one and that "the bride and groom seemed happy and were laughing and talking."

Miss Ross finished taping for her first television special as a solo about two weeks ago. It will be seen on ABC in March.

Her next engagement will be February at the Eden Roc in Miami Beach.



WILLIE THOMPSON
"only the strong survive"

FOR FIRST TIME

Congress has record 12 blacks

WASHINGTON — With the opening of the 92nd Congress Thursday, black representation went up by one-third in the House of Representatives to a record 12.

This will mean increased influence in the lower house, but it is less than one-third the minimal 43 congressmen needed to equal the black proportion of the population.

There are five new faces in the well of the House, two replacements for retired members and three from new districts.

New members are Reps. Parren J. Mitchell, D. Md., Ronald V. Dellums, D. Calif., and George W. Collins, D., Ill.

* * *

Charles B. Rangel replaces Rep. Adam Clayton Powell, Harlem's doughty preacher-politician, and Ralph Metcalf succeeds to the desk of the late Rep. William Dawson of Chicago.

Mitchell gives Maryland its first black congressman. He succeeds Samuel N. Friedel, who had represented Baltimore's Seventh District since its inception 18 years ago.

Dellums puts Northern California in the picture with his Berkeley seat, joining Rep. Augustus F. Hawkins of Los Angeles.

Collins has put Illinois in the two-congressman category, too, with his Southwest Chicago seat. Michigan and New York are the other states with dual districts.

Re-elected were Reps. Charles C. Diggs and John Conyers of Detroit, Shirley Chisholm of Brooklyn, N.Y.; Robert N. C. Nix of Philadelphia (who may be serving his last term); Wil-

(Continued on Page 2)

Muslims to take Ali back soon?

CHICAGO — Will Elijah Muhammad, Messenger of Allah, lift Muhammad Ali's year-old Muslim suspension on April 4?

The date rolls around less than a month after Ali is to meet heavyweight titleholder Joe Frazier in Madison Square Garden on March 8 in boxing's richest battle.

Whether he wins or loses

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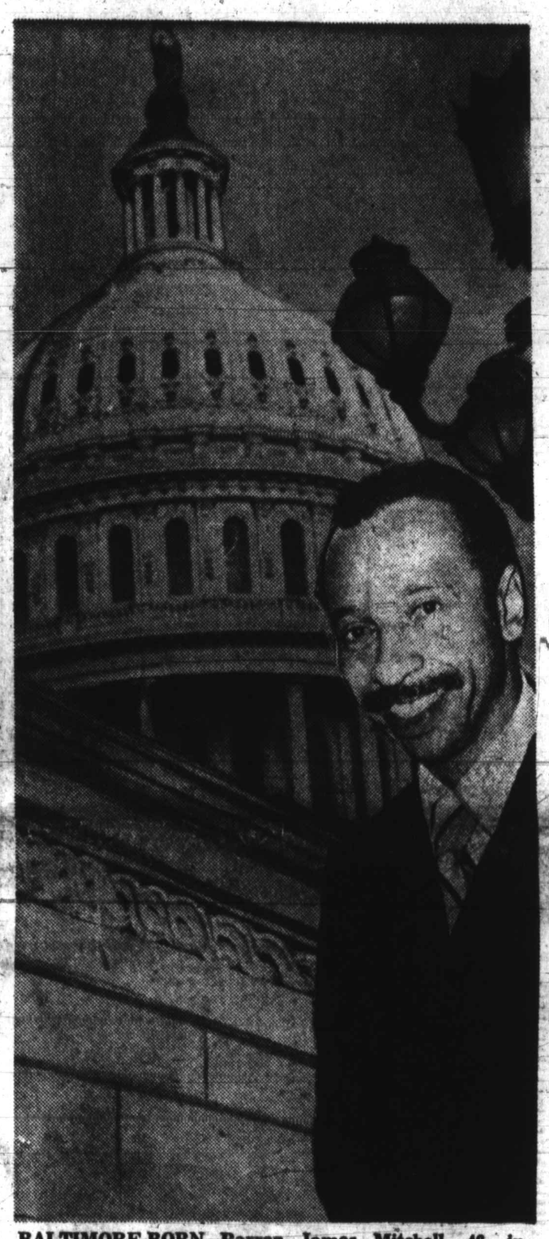

BALTIMORE-BORN Parren James Mitchell, 48, in front of U.S. Capitol. He became Maryland's first black congressman on Thursday. See other photos, features inside.

Widow leaves $143,000 estate

RICHMOND

Mrs. Mamie Knox White, the widow of Dr. George W. White, has left an estate valued at $143,293.95, according to her will which was probated in Richmond Chancery Court last week.

According to the court records, Mrs. White's personal estate was valued at $116,293.95 while her real estate was assessed at $27,000.

The bulk of the estate was left to her niece, Mrs. Julia Mae Green Williams of Hampton. Mrs. Williams and her husband, James L. Williams, were named executors of the estate.

Mrs. Williams was bequeathed the White home at 2416 Brook Rd., all its furnishings, and Mrs. White's interest in property at Beverly Beach in Middlesex County.

* * *

She also received Mrs. White's personal effects and stock in Richmond Beneficial Life Insurance Co., Consolidated Bank and

(Continued on Page 2)

'I have belief, faith', Mitchell

By ELIZABETH M. OLIVER

Maryland's first black Congressman, Parren James Micthell of the state's 7th Congressional District, was scarely seated two hours before he lashed out at the United States as "a nation which has the capacity but neither the will nor the committment to end searing poverty and persisting hunger."

Before a capacity crowd of hometowners from Baltimore, Marylanders and visiting relatives and friends from all sections of the nation, the Hon. Mr. Mitchell added that the U.S. has placed there problems of hunger and poverty at "the lowest priority."

He also declared, amid resounding applause, that the nation is responsible for the Vietnam War and "has embarked o na reckless policy of materialism which has resulted in thousands of deaths, of maiming, of psychological brutalizings in a dirty, senseless war in Southeast Asia."

* * *

Criticizing the Congress, he said "A handful of committee chairmen of the Congress, some of whom dictate the destiny of America by arbitrary, capricious action (and far too often by their inaction on legislation), remain in power because of the Seniority System."

He added, "It is against that background of doubt and uncertainty that I take office."

However, without "promising miracles", he pledged to join "the small band of men in the 92nd Congress which is determined to restore credibility to the system of representative government."

Congressman Mitchell said to accomplish that end, "We must check unbridled militarism and neo-imperialism."

Congressman Mitchell's remarks came at the 2 p.m. reception in his honor in Room 369 in the Rayburn House Office Building.

Among those present were members of his Civil Rights family, Dr. Lillie M. Jackson, Baltimore, the famed NAACP president emeritus; his brother, Clarence Mitchell Jr., chief of the Washington Bureau NAACP; his wife, noted Baltimore attorney, Mrs. Juanita Jackson Mitchell; nephews, Maryland State Senator Clarence Mitchell III; Dr. Keiffer Mitchell, Baltimore physician, Michael and George Mitchell; his sisters, Mrs. Evelyn Matthews, and Mrs. Anna Gittings, Baltimore.

Buses and a caravan of cars which left from the executive offices of Senator Mitchell in Baltimore, carried hundreds of Baltimoreans to Washington for the occasion. Among them were Johnny Fair of the Peoples Democratic Action and vice-president of the Steel Workers Union; D. C. Washington, Mrs. Dolly Robinson; James Wood; and Mr. Mitchell's precinct workers, Earl Savage, Earl Jones, Alonzo Lamont, Mary Montgomery, Horace Davis and Rachael Mabry.

Baltimoreans said they read it in Tuesday's AFRO that all were welcome. They cut the clippings out

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18-YEAR VOTE

18-year vote favored by Md. Senate

AFRO Bureau

ANNAPOLIS — The Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee voted unanimously Thursday afternoon in favor of a bill to lower the voting age to 18 in Maryland.

Senator J. Joseph Curran, Jr. (3rd Balto.) committee chairman is expected to bring the bill to the floor of the Senate today (Friday) with the favorable report and up for second reading.

The SB 29 was sponsored by 22 senators including the four black upper chamber members, Senators Verda F. Welcome, Clarence M. Mitchell (4th Balto.), Clarence W. Blount, (5th Balto.) and Robert L. Dalton (2nd Balto.).

However, five more senators were amended into the bill after the hearing, bringing the total sponsors to 27. As a Constitutional amendment 26 votes are needed for passage in the Senate.

Ministers Play Key Role

By PAUL EVANS

The Board of School Commissioners will meet today (Friday) at 4 p.m. at the Barclay Elementary School, 29th and Barclay Sts., in special session to make its decision on the request by City Superintendent Dr. Thomas D. Sheldon, to be released from his contract with the city.

If Dr. Sheldon at that time makes an announcement that he has decided to remain in Baltimore, much credit for the decision will go to the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance, headed by the Rev. Vernon Dobson.

The Alliance has played a healing and mediating role between members of the black community, black school board members and the Mayor, Dr. Sheldon and Board President, Robert L. Karwacki.

Since Dr. Sheldon first announced, two weeks ago, that he desired to be released from further obligations to the city, the Alliance has met in private session with members of the black community leadership, the Mayor and Dr. Sheldon.

A major part of the Alliance's role was in lessening tensions between black school board members and Mr. D'Alesandro after the Mayor had inferred to the press that black school board members were responsible for the Sheldon resignation and the present crisis on the school board.

* * *

In an unusual private session last week with the board, D'Alesandro announced that he had admonished the board to reconsider its positions.

"I hope," he said, "that each member of the board will search his mind and find ways of cooperating together.

"I hope that after each member has made an analysis of the problem that if he feels that it is in

(Continued on Page 8)

SAMUEL T. DANIELS

DR. THOMAS D. SHELDON

TO QUIT—Samuel T. Daniels, member of the Baltimort City School Board advised Mayor Thomas J. D'Alesandro 3rd, late last night that he will not be available for reappointment. Earlier this week black leaders had urged the mayor to rename him and Mr. Daniels had consented to stay on but early yesterday the mayor claimed he did not have sufficient votes to get Mr. Daniels through the City Council which confirms all such appointments.

At 5:30 p.m. today (Friday) the School Board by a vote of six to one agreed to Dr. Thomas Sheldon's request to accept his resignation.

Earlier in an executive session members had sought to get Dr. Sheldon to withdraw his resignation but he declined to do so.

chuckle

PRISON GUARD: Sir, I want to report that twelve prisoners have just broken out.

Warden: Sound the alarm, blow the whistle, issue machine guns!

Prison Guard: Let me call the doctor first, it looks as if it might be measles.