Congressman Parren Mitchell Makes Maiden Speech

-Hits war, poverty

(FROM PAGE ONE)

and went to Washington by the thousands.

Members of the Congressman's family and authorities on hand at the reception in his honor in the Rayburn Building estimated over 4,500 persons filed through to wish him well. It was the largest reception in recent times.

Beginning as early as 11:30 a.m., a nephew Michael Mitchell, said buses were pulling up.

At 4 p.m. when the AFRO left the building, a host of elementary school children led by teachers and backed up by numerous parents swarmed into the front door.

The line went down the steps and into the street, probably 400 kids "seeing history happen."

Among Baltimore schools and colleges were delegations from City College, School 130, Morgan and Coppin State; students and teachers; individuals from Loyola, University of Maryland, Johns Hopkins, numerous high and junior high schools and elementary schools.

For Sake of History

Also there "to see Parren" and for the sake of "history" were hundreds of whole families, adults representing clubs, churches, bar associations, the police department, City Council, judges, state legislators, labor unions and organizations, Baltimore elected officials, members of the state's attorney's staff, civil rights groups, interracial clubs and councils.

Among them were Court of Special Appeals Judge Charles E. Moylan Jr., Judges Joseph Howard, William and Mrs. Murphy, Delegate Ike Dixon, City Councilman Robert Marshall, State's Attorney and Mrs. Milton Allen and assistants Rodney Watts and Jack Debonaire, attorney Joseph Raymond, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Niles, Rev. Wendell Phillips, Maurice Braveman, Dick Catterton, Bertram Dorsey, Mrs. Vay Hebron, Mrs. Esther Middleton and Freedom House delegation.

School 130's members of Freedom House, Norman Jackson, Rufus Matthews, Steven Lindsay, Tony Sinkler, Mary Brown, Norma Middleton, Sharon Flemming:

John White, president and vice-president Wesley Young, National Alliance of Postal Employees; Allen Anderson, Montgomery County Space Agency engineer; Conrad Johnson and Percy Ifill, the Baier-Daniels Project architects; Thomas Fraser, interim Morgan president; Rev. Vernon Dobson, Walter Lively and numerous fellow congressmen and their wives.

Oath at 1:48 p.m.

Congressman Mitchell and other freshmen congressmen were unable to take the oath until 1:48 p.m. The election of the new Speaker of the House, Carl Albert of Oklahoma and other House business consumed all the previous time from 12 noon on.

Due to shortness of time the oath was read and the new members replied "I do." from their seats. Some of Mr. Mitchell's friends seated in the gallery failed to realize the event they had come to witness had taken place, it was over so quickly.

For the occasion, Mr. Mitchell wore a gunmetal gray suit with a fine light stripe, blue shirt minutely plaid in purple, gray and blue and set off by a violet tie and black slipper boots.

Between an early morning caucus and the 12 noon opening session of the 92nd Congress, he greeted scores of Baltimoreans and his family in his 1228 second floor Longworth Building office. During the Congressional session he was seated in the aisle seat, fourth row from the rear of the first section on the left of the podium.

Although others of the 435 members went "seat-hopping" handshaking, group-cuddling, laughing and chatting, Congressman Mitchell sat pensive as if indeed he was aware it was an historic moment. He answered the roll call with "here", loud and clear.

Later the AFRO took photos of Mr. Mitchell and all the black congressmen, including Mrs. Shirley Chisholm, New York, the first and only black woman member.

ARMY HERO — In World War II, Congressman Mitchell was 1st lieutenant with infantry division, was injured in combat, earned Purple Heart.

Among the many famed persons to shake the new congressman's hand at the end of the 92nd Session was Cleveland's Mayor Carl Stokes, present as guest for the swearing in of his brother, Ohio Congressman Louis Stokes.

Mr. Mitchell cast his vote for Speaker Carl Albert along with a total of 250 other Democratic congressmen. Congressman Gerry R. Ford failed to win the Speaker's seat with only 176 votes out of the 426 votes cast.

His First Resolution

Congressman Mitchell's first Resolution offered on Jan. 21 was to redesign Rule 10 of the Rules of the House of Representatives Section 4 "All property and records of the former Committee on Un-American Activities and the Committee on International Security are hereby transferred to the Archives, not to be opened for official or public inspection."

It was mainly to the interracial crowd of citizens who supported the new congressman that he addressed the first speech of his career.

The talk is as follows.

"It is good to see you here. I knew you would be here because you are the same warm and wonderful friends who have been with me throughout the years.

"You are the same selfless, sacrificing friend who gave so much of yourselves during my campaign in an effort to insure that this moment would indeed take place.

"I am grateful to you for all that you have done but above all else I am grateful for your friendship and for a family of strength which has stood with me.

"Today, I was sworn in as a member of the 92nd Congress of the United States of America.

"That action was the end result of what is properly described as a people's campaign, one in which the people made the decision, affected the strategy and determined the objective."

* * *

He added: —

"As I sat in the House chamber waiting to be sworn in, I was caught up in a sense of history. Within that chamber the debates and the dialogues on the great issues of our times have been heard.

"The House walls have echoed the debates over the question of full citizenship for black Americans.

"Those walls have echoed the tortious debates over isolationism versus internationalism. Within those walls the words for and against an internal, humanitarian philosophy dealing with welfare and education and health, had echoed time and time again.

"I was indeed caught up in a sense of history as I sat there. But the shadows of history are dwarfed by the dimensions of the critical issues this nation now confronts. And the most critical of these is the issue of credibility in the system of representative government.

"Far too many people understandably are voicing their doubts.

"Their lack of belief is predicated on many developments.

"Racism and discrimination are still countenanced by the Federal, state and local governments despite denials and protestation to the contrary.

* * *

"Witness the fact that the Mississippi delegation to the 92nd Congress still pursuing racial exclusionary policies, was seated and the members of that delegation retained their seniority in the Congress.

"Those who doubt, have seen a nation which has the capacity but apparently neither the will nor the commitment to end searing poverty and persisting hunger, placed these problems at the lowest priority level.

"They have seen this nation embark on a reckless policy of materialism which has resulted in thousands of deaths, of maimings, of psychological brutalizings in a dirty senseless war in Southeast Asia.

"Internationalism has been perverted in militarism. Those who question the workability of the system have seen a hardfisted men, committee chairmen of the Congress, some of whom dictate the destiny of America, by arbitrary capricious action, (or far too often, by their inaction on legislation), remain in power because of the Seniority System.

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

"My course is clear.

"I can not promise miracles.

"Nor can I promise immediate successes.

"I can and do promise that I shall be a part of that small band of men in the 92nd Congress which is determined to restore credibility in the system of representative government.

"To do this, we must conquer racism. To do this, we must place humanitarism at the core of our objectives.

"To do this we must check unbridled militarism and neo-imperialism.

"However, most importantly to do these things we must have faith, and belief, and confidence in you. I have such faith and belief. Knowing you as I do, it cannot be otherwise."

FAMILY GROUP — Maryland's new congressman, Parren James Mitchell, standing extreme right, shown with members of his family. Standing, left to right, Kirk Kish, brother-in-law, George Albert Mitchell, brother; Clarence J. Gittings Jr., brother-in-law; Clarence M. Mitchell Jr., brother. Seated, Mrs. Anna Mae Mitchell Gittings, sister; Mrs. Virginia Jackson Kish, sister-in-law; Mrs. Juanita Jackson Mitchell, sister-in-law. Other sisters not shown are Miss Elsie Mitchell and Mrs. Evelyn Matthews. Another brother, Lorenzo is deceased. The Congressman's parents were the late Mr. and Mrs. Clarence M. Mitchell Sr. (Elsie Davis).

Congressman Mitchell a fighter all of his life

Baltimore's Parren James Mitchell, the first black man ever elected to Congress from Maryland, took seat Thursday, Jan. 21.

Congressman Mitchell who thus makes history that will forever be recorded in the state's annals, has long been a history maker.

Nearly 21 years ago, in 1950, he became the first person to study at the University of Maryland's, College Park campus, then a segregated institution of higher learning. When the university sought to set up just for him a complete off-campus course in Sociology, he filed suit.

The successful legal effort sponsored by the NAACP resulted in the opening of the college in two branches for his sociology and the School of Nursing. In his joint-complainant Miss Esther McCready. Their efforts earned them an AFRO Honor Roll citation.

Before that, in the 1930's, when Congressman Mitchell was beginning a long career as an active NAACP member, he joined pickets protesting lack of equal employment opportunities, an unpopular effort then.

Considered the town's most eligible bachelor, the 45-year old freshman Congressman saw overseas duty with the 92nd Infantry Division from 1943 to 1947 in World War II. He was platoon leader, executive officer, company commander.

He was honorably discharged as 1st lieutenant after receiving the Purple Heart and Combat Infantry Badge with three battle stars.

He returned to Morgan College as a sophmore and was graduated in June, 1950 with honors.

He worked fulltime at Social Security from 4 p.m. to midnight and got only a few hours sleep before 8 a.m. classes the next day.

By 1952, Congressman Mitchell had earned a masters degree at the University of Maryland with honors. He became a junior analyst with the Department of Commerce and then a probation officer under the Supreme Bench of Baltimore. From 1953 to 1954 he was Sociology instructor at Morgan and for two days a week continued without salary as probation officer.

Next he was full-time probation officer and special lecturer for Morgan evening classes. In 1957 he was a post-sentence case worker in the Supreme Bench's Domestic Relations Division and in May, 1963 served as executive secretary of the Maryland Commission on Interracial Problems and Relations.

On leave from the Supreme Bench on two occasions, he attended Yale summer school for Alcohol Studies and later pursued courses for a doctorate at the University of Connecticut.

In September, 1966 he took the $22,500 post as Baltimore's executive director of the Community Action Agency.

* * *

Never finding time to get married, he is author of several monographs and member of the nation's foremost Civil Rights family which includes Dr. Lillie M. Jackson, NAACP president emeritus; brother, Clarence M. Mitchell Jr., head of the D.C. NAACP Bureau and sister-in-law, noted Baltimore attorney, Mrs. Juanita Jackson Mitchell; His nephews include Maryland Senator Clarence M. Mitchell II and Baltimore physician Dr. Keiffer Jackson Jr.

Congressman Mitchell's candidacy was supported by national and local elected officials, civil rights, labor and peace organizations.

A lifelong member of St. Katherine's Episcopal Church, he is a board member of the National Association of Community Development, the Maryland Committee for Day Care; Baltimore Neighborhoods Inc.; board member of the Martin Luther King Parent-For Democratic Action, Child Center; Americans the Committee for a Sane Nuclear Policy.

On the Civil Rights front, Congressman Mitchell helped found the first U.S. Labor Dept. job training center on the Eastern Shore; picketed in 1963 to end discrimination at Gwynn Oak Amusement Park; led the 1966 battle against discrimination in military off-base housing; in 1968 fought nursing home and pharmacy efforts to exempt their employees from the minimum wage law.

In 1970 he led anti-war protests sponsored by Moratorium Committee and Johns Hopkins.

Congressman Mitchell also served in 1970 as mediator between police and students in a Morgan confrontation and took the leadership position in numerous other efforts on the Maryland equal opportunities front.

* * *

and in so doing, you have given us not only inflation — but a recession at the same time.

For the first time in recent history the Nation has fallen behind in its productivity as indicated by the GNP.

You have brought unemployment to a record high of six percent with four million six thousand Americans out of work. Unemployment among black Americans is unprecedented in recent decades.

In January, 1969 you declared — that wages and prices would take care of themselves — without voluntary or imposed restrictions. And they certainly have.

We have a critical housing shortage — compounded by a critical shortage of money with which to buy a decent American might purchase a home.

The war continues — in spite of your talk of troop withdrawal — it goes from one surprise escalation to another — with war costs continuing to rob our domestic economy of critical attention to its needs.

* * *

You pledged to "make our streets safe from criminals" — but your solution to the problem of crime is to make the streets of the powerless unsafe and unprotected.

Your support of repressive legislation now permits police to kick down doors and to keep citizens in jail without bail in violation of their constitutional guarantees.

It is no wonder that many Americans seem to exist now in a state of shock. For their economic and job security is threatened — and they are afraid.

* * *

You have shown by your comments on fair housing and school desegregation enforcement, that black Americans can look forward to more of the same from this Administration — call it a "punitive backlash" or call it "pure racism."

You have proclaimed that 1972 will be a "good year" — second only to 1972 which you claim will be a "very good year." For a few, we are certain this will be true.

However, if one is black, jobless, and trying to feed and raise a family in slum, the turnover in the calendar housing infested by rats, day year will go unnoticed.

And so, as you have consistently refused audience to the black members of Congress — the elected and legitimate representatives of 25 million Americans — we now refuse to be part of your audience when you deliver your "State of the Union" address. For the words of one message will not provide solutions to the problems which you have either created or ignored."

Black Congressmen rebuke President

This is a release from the black members of the House of Representatives in a letter dated Jan. 21, to President Nixon, signed by Shirley Chisholm, John Conyers, Jr., Augustus Hawkins, Robert Nix, William Clay, Ronald Dellums, Ralph Metcalfe, Charles Rangel, George Collins, Charles Diggs, Jr., Parren J. Mitchell, Louis Stokes.

They are informing the President we will not be in attendance on Friday when you deliver your State Of The Union Message.

Your consistent refusal to hear the pleas and concerns of black Americans dictates our decision to be absent.

Basic needs an obligations to our nation and our constituents have been ignored by your administration.

And so as you have consistently refused audience to the black members of Congress, the elected and legitimate representatives of 25,000,000 Americans, we now refuse to be part of your audience when you deliver your State Of The Union address.

For the words of one message will not provide solutions to the problems which you have either created or ignored.

Here is the full text of the letter to President Nixon:

Dear President:

This is to inform you that the undersigned black members of the House of Representatives will not be in attendance on Friday when you deliver your "State of the Union" message.

Your consistent refusal to hear the pleas and concerns of "black Americans" dictates our decision to be absent. Basic needs and obligations to our Nation and our constituents have been ignored by this Administration.

Americans, especially black Americans, are fully aware of the "State of the Union."

That has become all too clear by virtue of your actions and glaring lack of courageous and humanitarian leadership over the last two years.

In the past session of Congress we have seen many fights. There was the fight to retain the Voting Rights Act. — in spite of your strong objections to it. You showed us the way to protect the voting rights of blacks in Mississippi was to move federal registrars to Utah.

We fought for the continuation of the Legal Aid Program — whereby the poor have learned that the law and lawyers are not exclusively reserved for the rich.

* * *

This program has been fighting for its life since you assumed office — and still rests on very tenuous grounds.

We fought, unsuccessfully, for the continuation of the Job Corps Program, whereby youth who have never had a chance could be given some start and training for life.

But your Administration won that battle — closed 59 Job Corps Centers and pledged to set up a new and better and less expensive program for the 16,000 youth who suddenly found themselves back on the street where they started. But in 18 months — only five of these new programs have been able to get off the ground.

We fought against the proposed cuts in aid to education and we fought to override your vetoes of health and manpower programs.

We know even after your message we must continue the fight if we are to right the wrongs that exist, and re-order the priorities of a nation cruelly suffering from the devastating effects of war, inflation, unemployment and poverty.

Two years ago in your inaugural address you promised to "bring us together."

However, your policies and politics have divided this Nation more than it has ever been divided. You have aroused and encouraged the fears and prejudices of many.

The divisive nature of this action has resulted in pitting the rural areas against the cities, the rich against the poor, black against white, and young against old. You have failed to give the moral leadership necessary to guide and unify this Nation in times of crisis.

As we ponder the State of the Union we may well wonder how we have come to such a perilous point. You pledged to put our "fiscal house in order" —

Mr. Mitchell's oath of office

This is the oath of office taken by Congressman Parren J. Mitchell; the four other black freshmen Representatives-elect and the others of the total of 48 freshman Representatives-elect:

"I do solemnly swear (or affirm) I will bear and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office which I am about to enter. So help me God."

(Signature)

The oath was administered by the Speaker of the House Carl Ber Albert Oklahoma (D-3). Beginning at 12:30 p.m. each new member was called in the order of his state. Each was accompanied by the senior member of his state's delegation.

Congressman Edward Garmatz of Maryland's third Congressional District and member of the House 20 years was Congressman Mitchell's escort.

43-DEGREE temperatures characterized Thursday Jan. 21 when Maryland's first black Congressman, the Honorable Parren J. Mitchell, took his seat in the 92nd Congress. — Photo by AFRO staff photographer Benjamin Phillips IV was taken in Druid Hill Park in the freshman Congressman's home town, Baltimore.

This is the kind of day it was when Cong. Mitchell took office

This is the kind of day it was

What kind of a day was it Jan. 21, 1971, the day when Congressman Parren James Mitchell took his seat in the 92nd Congress of the United States, to become the first black member from the state of Maryland in its 479-year history?

WEATHER

Brilliant January sunshine with temperatures a few degrees below the 32 freezing mark was forecast.

On inauguration day, temperatures had climbed to a pleasant 45 degrees. Each of the New Year's Day 15-inch snowfall was still on the ground.

The entire week of the opening session of the 92nd Congress had been below 32 degrees, a "hard" freeze running down into the teens both in Baltimore and Washington.

Ice skaters were safe on four-inch crusts on ponds and streams both in the nation's Capitol and Baltimore, the Honorable Mr. Mitchell's home town.

THE SCENE

Washington was crowded with visitors from across the nation to witness the swearing in ceremonies, receptions for the new Congressmen and many events of the Capitol's righ social season.

Furs, both fake and real, mini, midi and maxi skirts, fabulous wigs and long, hanging hair, everything that marked the vogue of the year of 1971 were in evidence.

Thousands of persons from the highest ranking diplomat and statesmen rubbed elbows with plain citizens from remote rural towns in each of the 50 states.

SWEARING IN of two delegates Floyd Adams (2nd Dist.) and Kenneth L. Webster (5th Dist) at the House of Delegates in Annapolis last week by Speaker of the House, Thomas Hunter Lowe.

Secretary post goes to Sen Blount

AFRO BUREAU

ANNAPOLIS — The appointment of Sen. Clarence W. Blount (5th D.) as secretary of the Baltimore City Senators Delegation was announced here Tuesday by Sen. Joseph A. Bertorelli (1st D.), chairman.

Sen. Blount will assist the chairman at meetings and with various communications that are necessary for efficient functioning of the delegation.

This 5th District's black senator was one of two black upper Chamber city members who broke a stalemate of several days last Friday, and voted for Sen. Bertorelli as chairman as against aspirant Sen. Julian L. Lapides (2nd D.)

Sen. Blount said afterwards he did so because he understood Sen. Bertorelli had better communication with Gov. Marvin Mandel, and could best help forward the city's program.

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Sen. Robert L. Dalton (2nd D.), the other black delegation member voting for Sen. Bertorelli in an 8-4 tally, said his reason was obvious.

Sen. Lapides is an official of a rival Democratic faction in his district.

"Why should I give him a club to beat me with?" he asked.

However, the two other veteran black members, Senators Verda F. Welcome and Clarence M. Mitchell 3rd (both 4th D.) voted for Sen. Lapides.

They long have considered him far more liberal than Sen. Bertorelli.

Also announced with the Blount appointment was that Sen. John Carroll Byrnes (3rd D.) would be assistant chairman in the Baltimore City Senatorial Delegation — MAX JOHNSON

Rewards for Drug offenders

AFRO BUREAUU

ANNAPOLIS — Somebody stands to make a lot of money, if not killed in the process, if a bill introduced in the Senate Tuesday passes this General Assembly.

The bill would provide a procedure for payments of $10,000 in rewards to persons supplying information leading to conviction of upper echelon drug distributors and suppliers.

In short, this means if you put the finger on a big-time dope peddler and he is convicted, you would be richer by $10,000.

The rewards would be supplied by the State Board of Public Works, according to provisions of the measure.

The SB 49 was brought in by Sen. Roy N. Staten (D Baltimore), and referred to the Judicial Proceedings Committee.

The committee is headed by Sen. J. Joseph Curran Jr. (3rd Balto.), and black members are Senators Clarence M. Mitchell 3rd (4th Balto.) and Clarence W. Blount (5th Balto.)

Dixon hits congressional redistricting committee

AFRO BUREAU

ANNAPOLIS — Del. Isaiah Dixon Jr. (4th Balto.) leveled sharp criticism here Wednesday, to the selection and make-up of the newly appointed legislative committee named to formulate a congressional redistricting plan for Maryland.

The committee includes five members of the Senate, four from the House of Delegates and two members of Gov. Marvin Mandel's staff.

Sen. Verda F. Welcome (4th Balto.) is the lone black member, and the lone woman on the committee.

Gov. Mandel named the group after receiving recommendations from Sen. William S. James, president of the Senate, and Thomas Hunter Lowe, speaker of the House.

The group is to formulate a plan on which the whole General Assembly must act.

* * *

Here is Del. Dixon's statement on the matter:

* * *

"I am of the opinion that, either by oversight or design, the Redistricting Committee, as reported by the press on Tuesday, Jan. 19, is not, in fact, a representative committee. My specific objections are as follows:

"(1) That although Baltimore City may be greatly affected by the redistricting that will develop, and, although one-half of the city of Baltimore is black, there is not one black member from the Maryland House of Delegates on this committee, although there are twelve black delegates from Baltimore City who are members of this body.

"(2) Not only were none of the black members of this body selected to serve on this all-important committee, but no Baltimore City delegates, either black or white, male or female, were put on such committee.

"(3) There are only two members of such committee from Baltimore City, one of whom is Senator Verda Welcome.

"Senator Welcome, being the lone black member of such committee, is not completely representative of the black community on matters of redistricting since she represents a major political faction in the black community which did not support the candidacy of Parren Mitchell, who has just become the first black congressman from the state of Maryland in the entire history of Maryland.

* * *

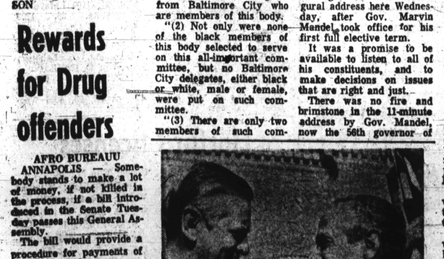
"It is for these reasons that I ask that the composition of this all-important Congressional Redistricting Committee be revised, or at least expanded, so as to be fair, equitable, and representative of the state at general, and Baltimore City in particular, and of the black community.

"If these points of personal privilege are ignored, I can only repeat the well-known phrase to the effect that, "the only thing that we learn from history is that we learn nothing from history."

When advised of the Dixon statement in reference to her lack of support for the new Congressman Mitchell, Sen. Welcome told the AFRO:

"He is a liar."

She would not elaborate, only to say she has her organization literature proving the Mitchell support.



INAUGURATED — Gov. Marvin Mandel, right, inaugurated Wednesday for his first four-year full term, congratulates Blair Lee 3rd, Maryland's first lieutenant governor, partially hidden at right is Attorney General Francis Burch.

Mandel, Lee take office, ceremonies without pomp

AFRO BUREAU

By MAX JOHNSON

ANNAPOLIS — "I am neither liberal nor conservative. I belong to no cults or cliques; I am not swayed by fad or fashion. I will do what must be done because I believe it is right.

"And I share the wisdom of Woodrow Wilson's observation that 'the ears of the leader must ring with the voices of the people.'

"I assure you, your voices will always be heard."

These were the concluding lines of the inaugural address late Wednesday, after Gov. Marvin Mandel took office for his first full elective term.

It was a promise to be available to listen to all of his constituents, and to make decisions on issues that are right and just.

There was no fire and brimstone in the 12-minute address by Gov. Mandel, now the 56th governor of Maryland elected in a continuous line.

* * *

Rather, it was a sober call for togetherness, along with some indications of his approach to the office.

Here is how he put it:

"To be compassionate but firm, to feel but to be fair, to hear but to weigh, to respond but not to be pressured, to accept this office as a great public trust — these are my ambitions as governor of Maryland.

"I ask you to join me in this venture, for the success of each of us depends upon the determination of both of us."

The tone of his address leading up to his dwelt at length on the disunity and distrust among people of this country, and common problems that more often are not faced together.

* * *

The Rev. Octavius H. Graham, pastor of Baltimore's Knox Presbyterian Church, gave the invocation launching the final phase of the inaugural ceremonies from a platform on the east portico lawn of the State House.

The Rev. Mr. Graham was the lone black person to have an official part in the proceedings.

The outside ceremony was conducted in sunshine, but with bitter cold weather and biting wind. Yet, approximately 300 dignitaries and spectators were in attendance.

Frank A. DeFilippo, the governor's press secretary, had said earlier that there would be "no pomp, no pretense" about this inauguration, and there wasn't.

Both Gov. Mandel and Lieutenant Gov. Blair Lee 3rd took oath of office in the Senate chamber dressed in business suits.

Chief Judge Hall Hammond, of the Court of Appeals, administered the oaths in a ceremony that lasted about five minutes.

* * *

The small chamber was crowded with House of Delegates members and senators, and persons other than the press who were fortunate in obtaining permits. Court of Appeals judges in robes were also present.

Both U.S. Senators Charles McC. Mathias and J. Glenn Beall Jr. were among the dignitaries, as well as former governors, J. Millard Tawes and Theodore R. McKeldin.

Mr. Tawes presented Gov. Mandel to the outside audience, in an introductory speech as long as the governor's address.

Inside after the oath of office ceremony, Mr. McKeldin standing near the Senale's rear podium turned and asked this writer:

"How do you get up to the balcony?"

His office when governor was for four years around the corner from the Senate chamber balcony. Actually, the governor's offices have been there all along.

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An interested spectator in the Senate balcony directly over the podium was Samuel N. Friedel, former congressman, who was displaced Thursday by Maryland's new black Congressman Parren J. Mitchell.

In addition to the Rev. Mr. Graham, clergymen, participating were plentiful.

Bishop Harry Lee Doll opened the ceremony in the Senate chamber, and Rabbi Israel M. Goldman gave the benediction.

Lawrence Cardinal Shehan gave the prayer outside following the governor's address, and Rabbi Abraham Shusterman rendered the benediction.

* * *

Later on in the afternoon, Gov. Mandel stopped past the State House press room on the ground floor, to chat informally with newsmen as he does from time to time.

Asked if there were more to come, he said:

"It's all over."

"Will there be an inaugural ball?" he was asked further.

"No ball," he replied.

So ends, perhaps, one of the most down to earth inauguration of a governor ever witnessed in Maryland.

It was Gov. Mandel's day, and he geared things to his liking.

The governor is not necessarily cheap, but there weren't even coffee and cakes for the guests.

—END 1 Lee 6 —

IN THE LEGISLATURE

Mandel unveils $1.7 billion state budget, no new taxes

AFRO BUREAU

ANNAPOLIS — Gov. Marvin Mandel placed before Maryland's General Assembly here Thursday a proposed, whopping state budget totalling $1.722 billion for fiscal 1971-72.

He termed it "a budget that is prudently designed to meet the ever increasing needs of the citizens of Maryland, without placing new financial obligations upon them."

The new budget carries no hike in taxes.

In actual dollars, the governor said, it represents an increase of $243.1 million in general, special and federal funds — or 15.1 percent — over the current operating budget.

It is a budget that has been generally termed good by earlier viewers, in that it contains something for almost all phases of state government.

There is reserved even $14 million for aid to non-public schools, in the event the General Assembly votes such approval.

Also at the non-agency level, the governor included $2 million for the University of Maryland and Johns Hopkins University Medical Schools, which he said were in a "temporary" financial squeeze.

"Another area that has long been neglected," Gov. Mandel said, "is that of day care centers."

"Included in the budget is a recommended $4.4 million to expand the existing program under the Department of Employment and Social Services.

"Also included in the budget are requests for significant increases in health care and services for our citizens totaling $48 million.

"I can think of none in which services are more vital to the well-being of the general public."

* * *

Turning attention to the many thousands of disadvantaged people depending on welfare programs for subsistence, the governor explained new budget grants thusly:

"Because of the increased caseload in Maryland's welfare programs due to federal economic policies and high unemployment, it is necessary to request an increase of $27 million beyond current spending levels — the largest single increase ever recommended in the welfare program.

"The request includes $2.5 million cost of living increase in food allowances."

Further to the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, the governor recommended increased appropriations of $49.1 million, including a hike of $3.7 for the Drug Abuse Authority.

He said 77 additional positions are recommended to staff two Drug Abuse Education and Counseling Centers, and to complete staffing for six teams providing follow-up counseling for hard core drug addicts.

The medical care services include funding for preventive medical services for those persons lacking adequate financial resources.

* * *

Gov. Mandel, at an earlier budget briefing for the press, was unable to pinpoint, however, the extent of financial aid recommended for the hard-pressed Baltimore City.

As for state colleges, a hike in total funds recommended is $7.8 million, including a net increase of 215 positions.

Of these, three are recommended for Bowie, 17 for Coppin and 77 for Morgan State College.

Recommended appropriations for chronic disease hospitals provide an increase of $653,492, of which $372,113 is for salary increments and overtime payments and $83,961 for 14 new positions.

These are some of the major items unveiled in the new budget.

However, the governor at that earlier press conference said requests of agencies were not yet available for comparison to their grants.

Hearing set on overtime pay law

ANNAPOLIS — The Advisory Committee, Minimum Wage Act of Maryland, under the Department of Labor, will hold a public hearing Monday on the minimum wage law.

The hearing will be at 10 a.m. in Room 904, State Office Building, 301 W. Preston St., Baltimore.

Center of controversy, according to William R. Welsh, deputy commissioner, is the premium pay overtime amendment to the minimum wage law, calling for one and one-half times the usual hourly rate after 40 hours of work per week.

This amendment became effective July 1, and has stirred considerable adverse criticism state-wide in segments of the business community, Mr. Welsh stated.

He said amending legislation is being prepared for this session of the General Assembly, but did not specify by whom or its nature.

Physicians propose new abortion bill

AFRO BUREAU

ANNAPOLIS — As first noted in last Friday's edition, a new abortion bill was introduced in the House of Delegates Thursday by two physicians, Delegates Aris T. Allen (R Anne Arundel) and Torrey C. Brown (2nd Balto.)

The HB 100 is similar vetoed last year but has added protective features.

It provides the decisions would be strictly between the patient and attending physician, and that no abortion would be performed after 20 weeks of pregnancy.

Added provisions are that such an operation could only be performed by a duly licensed physician and in a licensed and accredited hospital under jurisdiction of a special hospital committee governing such operations.

The bill was referred to the Environmental Matters Committee whose black members are Mrs. Lena K. Lee (4th Balto.) and Lloyd B. Adams (2nd Balto.).

Senate given fresh eggs bill

AFRO BUREAU

ANNAPOLIS — Almost everybody likes fresh eggs, and Sen. Verda F. Welcome (4th Balto.) wants to tighten controls to insure that the housewife does not unwittingly purchase any spoiled ones.

She introduced in the Senate Tuesday a bill to this effect.

It provides for marking, seizure and condemnation of eggs unfit for human consumption, under jurisdiction of the State Board of Agriculture.

First offenders would be subject to fines of from $50 to $100, and second offenses and thereafter from $100 to $250.

The SB 53 was referred to the Economic Affairs Committee, headed by Sen. James A. Pine (D. Baltimore).

2ND TERM OATH — Mrs. Lena K. Lee (4th Balto.) is shown last Wednesday in the House chamber as she took oath of office for a second consecutive term as a member of the House of Delegates. The delegates took the oath while standing at their desks. Mrs. Lee is among the all black seven-member House delegation from her district.

Corporal punishment asked in public schools

AFRO BUREAU

ANNAPOLIS — Corporal punishment may lawfully be administered to unruly students in public schools, if a bill now before the General Assembly passes.

The bill introduced in the House of Delegates Wednesday morning has this wording covering public schools:

"Corporal punishment may be administered by a principal or his designee in matters of principle, but its use shall be as a last resort and be limited to severe discipline cases where all other reasonable means of handling have failed."

The HB 95, introduced by Del. Frederick C. Rummage (D. Prince Georges), was referred to the Constitutional and Administrative Law Committee.

A public hearing will be held, should there be sufficient requests.

Keeping everyone happy, his job at inauguration

AFRO BUREAU

ANNAPOLIS — "Today, my job is to keep everybody happy".

William Brown, Silver Spring, Md., a free-lance caterer, was preparing for the reception which followed the inauguration of Gov. Marvin Mandel and Lt. Gov. Blair Lee 3rd, when the AFRO spied him.

He told the AFRO, "I think Blair Lee will make an excellent Lt. Gov. and of course, Mr. Mandel will make an excellent governor. Both are very liberal in their views, race-wise it appears."

A widower, Mr. Brown is employed at Fredmont Investments in Silver Spring. This is my first inauguration for the state of Md.; however, I catered the inauguration for President Eisenhower in 1952."

* * *

Also present for the inauguration, was Mrs. Geneva Curry who resides on Dallas St. in Baltimore. Mrs. Curry is hostess for the House Galleries, where she is responsible for filing bills. She served in the house chamber for four years as bill-keeper.

Mrs. Curry told the AFRO, "I attended former Gov. Agnew's inauguration. I'm here because I enjoy being around politicians.

"I am a member of the New Era Democrat Club, and the Mt. Royal Democrat Club. I campaigned actively for Delegate Joseph A. Chester (D.-4th)."

* * *

Arnold: Ebb, 65, of Catonsville, was also present for the Wednesday ceremonies. Mr. Ebb lives on Wesley Ave. with his wife, Violet. Mr. Ebb, the father of 9 children, recalled a former inauguration he attended.

"Although this is my first visit to the inauguration in Annapolis, I did attend one in Washington years ago. President Roosevelt's inauguration to his second term of office."

"It was really different then . . . I can remember newsmen broadcasting in the sewers, on top of trucks and cars . . . The old movie camera's. I'll be able to see a little better today." — DEBBIE BROWN

J. Glenn Beall Sr., friend of all, is dead

J. Glenn Beall Sr., friend of black and white citizens alike and in urn admired and respected by both races, died last Thursday at his Frostburg, Md., home.

The former state senator, congressman and later U.S. Senator, was 76. He had been ill with a heart condition.

Young oldtimers in the black community will remember Mr. Beall well, for his almost unfailing appearances at churches, and virtually at any of this community's affairs of note.

A staunch Republican, he would be seen excorted by the late Augustus D. Knox, a strong GOP leader in the black community.

Those who remember Mr. Beall and his grieand Gus Knox remember they went almost everywhere together.

* * *

The Beall image a couple of decades back in the black community was akin to that of Theodore R. McKeldin in this community today.

There are those who contend Mr. Mckeldin attend much of his constant-movements in the black community after Mr. Beall.

However, Mr. Beall was a constant figure in this community, during a period when it was not something popular to do.

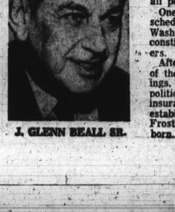
In a period of years as a lawmaker stretching back to 1930, Mr. Beall lost his bid for a third term in U.S. Senate in 1964 to former Sen. Joseph D. Tydings, a foe far younger man.

But he lived to see his son, J. Glenn Beall Jr., also a staunch Republican, defeat Mr. Tydings for the same Senate seat last year.

Sen Beall, in mourning with the family, cancelled all public engagements.

One was a reception scheduled Thursday in his Washington office for his constituents and well-wishers.

After he was knocked out of the Senate by Mr. Tydings, Mr. Beall turned from politics to real estate and insurance business he had established earlier in Frostburg where he was born.



J. GLENN BEALL SR.