—James Brown

(Continued From One)

voluntary act, he emphasized.

The James Brown signs have been taken down and Mr. Tochia said the name may not reappear again depending upon the decision of the management which may include additional new stockholders.

Henry A. Tochia Sr. is president with his son, the general manager, as treasurer. Both are Pennsylvania residents. James Brown owns no stock.

The firm has other motels in Pennsylvania. Young Mr. Tochia told the AFRO the "James Brown" name was paid for and used in joint effort to make the motel a success.

However, he stated, the name caused the motel to be thought of as "an all black establishment when what we wanted was an integrated clientei, all races."

The motel's financial condition came to attention when court records reflected this week the fact that young Mr. Tochia had been released on $5,000 bond and charged in Central District Court Monday with a misdemeanor.

Apprehended on a warrant on Wednesday, he was charged as corporation treasurer with the criminal offense of failure to pay the Baltimore city hotel tax of $1,654.71 for the months of May, 1970 and December, 1970.

According to Assistant City Solicitor Joseph Woytowitz, the money was due to be paid to the Director of Finance of Baltimore under a city ordinance which authorizes hotel owners to collect 3 percent of the rent charges to patrons as "hotel tax".

Mr. Woytowitz said, "The Inn-Towner did not turn over the money. It is a crime not to pay. No returns were filed for those months. We asked them to pay the arrears out. A bad check was given in the amount of $1,654.71 and dated Feb. 1, 1971 to the Director of Finance."

When interviewed by the AFRO Thursday afternoon, the Inn-Towner corporation treasurer, Mr. Tochia Jr., said the money would be paid on Monday and did other odds as soon as possible.

He stated, "It has been a question of survival lately. In recent months we have had to pay over $400 a week for 24-hour security. Some nights we have had to turn down money from many patrons we did not feel were desirable.

"We have tried to run the place right but we suffered a couple of raids unfortunately and beyond our control. Although we had no knowledge of the actions of the people, we suffered a loss in image.

"Then too, there are debts owed us by patrons who did not pay for lodging and banquets and affairs.

"We have to take a breather now. We want new stockholders. This is a beautiful place, one of the finest in the nation. We want to sit back and look at the picture and regroup, so to speak, to see what can be done to make it a go."

Young Mr. Tochia also said the present food and beverage manager, Robert Washington is remaining and Miss Barbara Sartor will stay as administrative assistant to the general manager. Frank Morrison of York, Pa. is asstsant manager.

Mr. Morrison also said the motel will open again when legal procedures are completed and the same personnel and set-up will be used. He also stated the phones are temporarily disconnected at the request of the corporation and as part of the reorganization.

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—Jury frees

(Continued From One)

sor, and another at their apartment, a pitifully dressed and wearing her brown hair in a loosely curled bush, kept openly as her husband described how he was beaten.

Also describing the beating was an interior decorator, Constantine Grimaldis, an eyewitness.

Also arrested during the disturbance Mr. Grimaldis said he was seated in the rear of the prisoners' bus when police brought Moody to the vehicle.

He stated, "They pushed him and pulled him and pulled his hair. They pushed him when the door of the bus. They hit him down. They beat him on the head and back with their night sticks. One shoved his night stick in his face.

"He's face was bloody. They put us in the paddy wagon. Moody fell on me. I asked a policeman to help. He refused. Moody fell unconscious."

Mr. Grimaldis also quoted policemen as using racial epithets and profane words.

Philip Marcus, a Massachusetts Institute of Technology graduate and at present a University of Maryland law student, also arrested and seated on the bus, quoted police as using profane words and racial epithets.

He told the jury he also witnessed Moody being beaten into unconsciousness by police on the bus. He said, "I got up tight. I couldn't see why."

Also testifying was a telephone installer, Lonnie Davis, who said he went to the demonstration "to see what was going on" and accidentally met Moody.

He stated when he, Moody and other persons passed by the police bus, a police officer raised the window and sprayed them with mace.

Leon Claiborne, a Coppin mathematics student, testified he also saw police spray mace from the bus. Standing by and only watching, he said he was told by police to "get the hell on down the street."

To bring a ripple of laughter from courtroom spectators, Judge Jones commented, "So you got the hell on down the street?"

The witness however told the jury he did see a crowd of police rushing and pulling on Moody and "one of them hit him in the face with a black jack," before he "got the hell on down the street order."

Mr. Moody was graduated from high school under the Army equivalency courses and earned AB and MA degrees from Coppin. He served in the Korean conflict and is former president of the Coppin

—Block murder

(Continued From One)

the night of the fatal shooting.

The third man being held is a 27-year-old man of the 3200 block of Ravenwood Rd., who is detained on probable cause.

According to Dennis Hill of Public Information Office, in answer to Congressman Parren Mitchell and concerned black citizens, "The police looked like they were dragging their feet but we had to go in secret to keep from driving the suspects underground where we would never find them.

"The night of the tragic shooting the people on The Block did not cooperate with the police so we had to go hushed for fear we would blow our chances.

"We can assure the public we are on top of it to bring the guilty persons to justice."

—Mrs. Birdie Smith

(Continued From One)

weather permits. Following special events at the church, she refreshed cool and calm as a cucumber.

Teachers organization and the Maryland State Teachers group at Coppin honored her for her Leadership and Creative Writing Awards and was a member of the student government body during undergraduate work.

He became a Fellow Program Director of COPE after teaching at Coppin. According to the president, Dr. Burnett, the college has "nothing but praise" for the young professor and administrator. — EMO.

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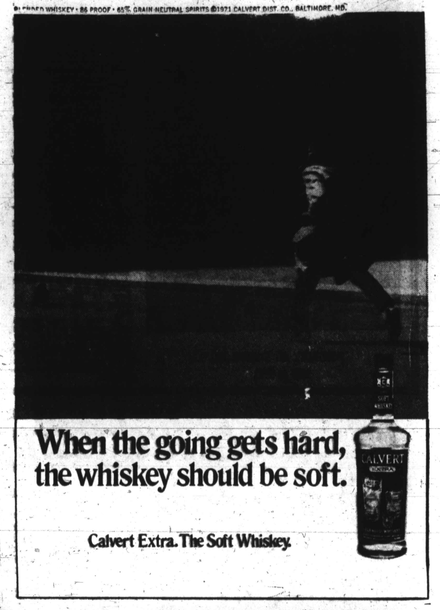

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School discipline top board issue

By PAUL EVANS

The Board of School Commissioners approved last night (Thursday), nearly three hours after its introduction by Superintendent Sterling S. Keyes, a more stringent code for the handling of attacks upon teachers and students by other students in the city's schools.

The Board also voted to request the staff of the Department of Education to present to the Commissioners at their next meeting a comprehensive plan for the establishment of adjustment classes or centers in every secondary school for students who are unable to be disciplined in the classroom by teachers through normal procedures.

• • •

In his statements to the Board, Mr. Keyes called upon a number of community and governmental agencies to lend support to the discipine code which he outlined. Such agencies or organizations as the City Council, the Episcopal Diocese of Maryland and the Archdiocese of Baltimore were mentioned.

Highlighting the new code is:

"Any physical attack or threat with a weapon by a pupil upon staff means an automatic indefinite suspension for the pupil and immediate removal from that particular class."

This drew fire from commissioners Larry Gibson, Elizabeth Murphy Moss and James Griffin.

The three commissioners contented that existing codes were available to handle extreme disciplinary problems in the schools; the ones being submitted were not needed, and may be more restrictive upon the rights of the students involved.

Mr. Griffin wanted to know what constituted a physical attack on a teacher. Mr. Gibson inquired as to how long a student would have to wait until he was given a hearing on the allegation of an attack or threat by a teacher or staff member.

He felt that — contrary to the Superintendent's code — that a staff member must file a complaint on the matter whenever a student is charged.

Other highlights of the administration's code include:

The pupil charged by a teacher will not be returned to class until the Division of Special Services completely reviews the matter and except in special cases will recommend placement in a regional adjustment center for not fewer than five school days. (The posture of the adjustment center is pending recommendations from the school staff).

When the formal complaint is filed, the Special Services Division will provide the principal of the school, within 10 days, its decision on the position of the student. This decision will be submitted to the superintendent who must make a decision within 20 days on the student. If he does not within the time period, the child may be returned to school.

Other efforts by the Superintendent to bring community efforts into the school discipline problem includes the creation of a proposal called "Project Help."

This will include students, teachers, administrators, parents, and agencies of the city helping youth to develop specific codes of conduct for each of the schools. Student representatives from each school would form a committee to develop codes which would meet with approval of parents and school officials.

The second part of the Superintendent's proposals discussed the security procedures in the schools.

Highlights are:

Access to school buildings will be restricted to one entrance and exit with the exception of large buildings where this is not practical.

Youngsters will travel in pairs through the building. Students are being asked to report scenes of disruption and violence and not be bystanders.

Three additional amendments proposed by Commissioner Gibson were voted down.

They included:

(1) Establishment of "adjustment centers in each of the junior high schools by the beginning of the next school year.

(2) Students will attend the adjustment center for a maximum of five days and will return to the classroom.

Adjustment centers will be staffed by teachers who choose to work in such classes and by teachers' aides. The adjustment class will have no more than 18 students.

The entire problem of school security and discipline has come up prominently with the alleged unprovoked attack upon a teacher at Lombard Junior High recently by a student.

It has brought a strom of reaction from some parents and teachers implicating that the Board and the Superintendent are tying the hands of the teachers in allowing them to discipline students whom they contend are responsible for trouble in the schools and the classroom.

Recent assaults on teachers and chillren by other students and outsiders have created an almost near panic in the school system.

Some members of the Board have sought to deter the implications of other board members and teachers and parents that black students and the open enrollment policies, now in effect, have been the reasons for the supposed breakdown of school conduct and discipline.

• • •

The open enrollment issue will come before the commissioners at a public hearing at the Poly-Western High auditorium on April 8 at 7 p.m. The public, commissioners say, is urged to attend.

During the audience hearing part of the meeting, Howard Marshall, president of the PTA at Pimlico Junior High, said that many inner-city children attend schools on the outer fringes of the city because it is thought that the better schools and the better teachers are there.

He proposed that a moratorium be placed upon the building of schools in the outer sections of the city; that teachers be rotated every three years among all the city schools; that adjustment centers be in each school; and that there be adequate protection of all teachers and children in the schools.

Mr. Griffin asked whether the curriculum offered in the outer schools was the reason for the exodus of inner-city children to the outer schools. Mr. Marshall felt this was a possible factol.

In other matters the Board agreed to formulate new procedures for audience hearings so that meetings would not begin so late as to deter the audience from hearing parts of the meeting because of the lateness of the hour, as suggested by Commissioner Robert J. Thiebiot.

A battle almost developed over the release of test scores by the Board as proposed by Commissioners Moss, Gibson anl Griffin.

Commissioner Cyril Byron asked that complete test scores not be released so that, in his words, distortions would be made by the public in comparing the scores of one school to another, thereby making inaccurate value judgements on the capability of specific schools and teachers to prepare children.

Mrs. Moss contended that scores were public business and the public entitled to know how the schools and the pupils ranked.

The Board voted 5-3 to release only a summary of the test scores and not the entire report. Mrs. Moss, Mr. Griffin and Mr. Gibson cast the nay votes.

Discussion was delayed on the open enrollment policy until April 8. Also tabled was discussion of year-round schools.

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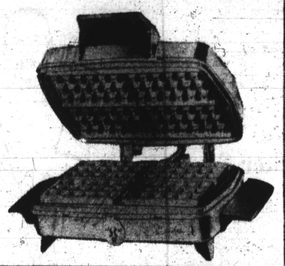

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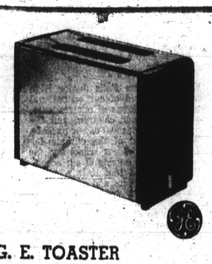

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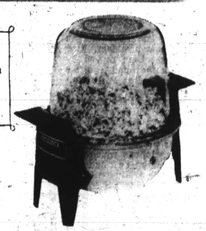

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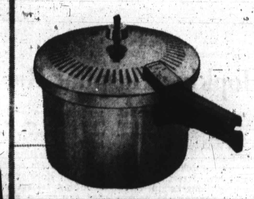

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