MAIA warns against holiday fire hazard

Candles flickering in the window, logs blazing in the fireplaces, trees aglow with lights, mammoth meals roasting, gaily wrapped gifts, are all symbols of the holiday season.

And potential fire hazards, warns the Consumers Insurance Information Bureau and the Maryland Association of Independent Agents.

More than 50 persons lost their lives in Christmas-weekend fires last year, the Bureau notes, while homes and other property valued at $3.9 million were damaged or destroyed.

A review of a homes fire safety rating and well-planned escape sytem for emergency use are therefore vital at the holiday season.

"It's especially important at this time of year," warned John Palmer, president of the Maryland Association, "that children are never left alone — even for a short time."

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. — J. H. Kwabena Nketia of Ghana, a leading authority on African music, was at Harvard University for the fall term, giving the Horatio Appleton Lamb Lectures. His final lecture occurred on Wednesday. He also led a seminar on "The Sociology of African Music" in the Music Department. He is a professor of the University of Ghana, and director of the Institute of African Studies there. He also lectures regularly at the University of California at Los Angeles.

Bob Queen's Review

NEW JERSEY

The vanishing Atlantic and top dog of Atlantic City sporting circles, called this writer in Philadelphia, asking me if I would come down and help set up a big press conference for the other real big kingpin, Senator Hap Farley...

Farley, who had ruled the political roost of Atlantic County since the days when women wore bathing suits that looked like long underwear with the legs cut off, had run into a state-legislated — redistricting problem that stretched his domain into Ocean County...Always powered into office by his faithful black Northside voting bloc in Atlantic City, he now faced the predominantly white county voting power as well...To close this phase of the story, Farley won by the smallest plurality of his career, and it was the northside bloc that again saved his neck...

* * *

But back to Mr. Edgehill, who arranged for members of the press to stay free in his Jamaica Motel, if they chose, and cavort in the swimming pool...He said he would pay the travel expenses from any destination for the conference at his big night spot at Baltic and Kentucky Aves. ...I sent out letters to many newspaper friends from New York to Washington — and all of them, knowing Reggie, came, but only two or three used the motel facility...

The conference went off well, and Hap Farley was awed at the journalistic influence of his host. But as the meeting drew to a close and a sandwich buffet was served along with a few drinks, I approached Edgehill and asked him about the promised travel expenses — that these news people would have come anyway out of friendship to me if possible — but a promise was a promise...Well, the Atlantic City big shot, who talked of the mansion he was building, replied, "Are they poor?" and added, "See that I have the addresses, and I'll send the checks" — when he already had the addresses and how much it cost the individuals to come — for actually, Hap Farley wasn't any news at this time, other than in Atlantic and Ocean Counties.

Most of my friends understood, and may not know exactly what happened until this day — but I wrote them all letters of apology on my behalf — not the fabulous Reggie's. But one group of Philadelphia newsmen buttonholed Edgehill in a corner and in a jiffy he was dispatching a messenger to pick up some cash...They were the only press people who walked away apparently contented, as one who was much wiser than this honest scribe remarked: "We know him, we got ours"...

Time marched on and Edgehill and his nightclubs — about four of them at the time, and his fleet of cabs prospered, so it is assumed...I happened to be in A.C. summer before last at the Harlem, when a musician friend said that Edgehill was having a press party...Upon dropping in to check it out, there was not an Edgehill in sight, nor was there any member of the media...

In Atlantic City last week, I happened to ask a friend how Reggie Edgehill was doing, and the friend replied, "Not good at all — he ain't around," and the story was revealed...It was on Labor Day weekend, when the playground of the world was jammed with the last of the vacationers spending their last big dollars until next season...

Things were going great in the Edgehill enterprises when the bar maids and bartenders, with their rents to pay, car notes to swing and bellys to keep fed, were ordered out by a number of men who carried rather legal looking documents, some screw-drivers and link chains...

As the employees and patrons hit the salt-air, that under other circumstances is generally refreshing, there was much pounding and turning as padlocks were affixed upon the doors and the Atlantic City press reported on the next day that the joints were shuttered by The Boardwalk National Bank...The institution, it seems, was after a far greater sum than the peanuts that were due a group of newsmen a few years before — the figure set at $85,000, which is quite a digit to be in arrears...And all the bank, or friends, or anybody in Atlantic City can say is "He ain't around."

Rutgers joins in minority firm stock

NEWARK, N.J. — Rutgers University has announced its co-ownership of a minority enterprise investment company managed by its Graduate School of Business Administration and established last year with a $200,000 grant from the International Telephone and Telegraph Corporation.

Dr. Edward J. Bloustein, president of the state university, accepted 100 shares of stock in the Rutgers Minority Investment Company (RMIC), valued at $100,000, from Francis J. Dunleavy, executive vice president of ITT. ITT will retain 100 of the 200 shares originally issued to it.

The Rutgers Graduate School of Business Alumni Association holds an additional share for a total of 201 outstanding shares.

The Rutgers investment company is one of 41 MESBICs (Minority Enterprise Small Business Investment Companies) operating throughout the United States which have been set up with private financing under the aegis of the Department of Commerce.

* * *

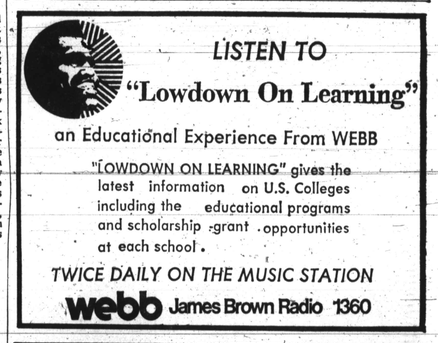
RMIC provides low interest loans and management assistance to help minority persons launch and expand business enterprises which would conventionally be regarded as high risk ventures.

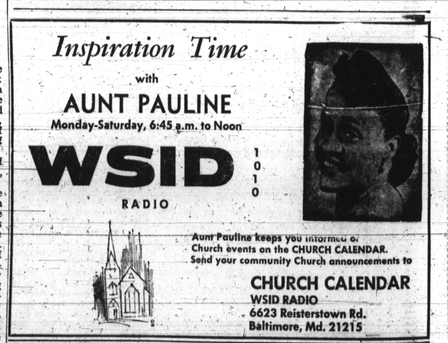
The Rutgers Graduate School of Business is the first school in the nation to actually run a MESBIC. The president of Rutgers MESBIC is Louis T. German, an associate professor at the Graduate School of Business who last year received a presidential citation for his work in behalf of minority business.

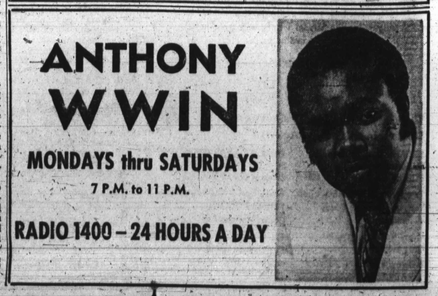
Wage Control Said Farce

A business spokesman has accused the pay board of making a "farce" out of President Nixon's wage controls by approving pay increases far exceeding its 5.5 per cent annual guideline.

The Pay Board also came under attack from labor when a union official charged it with "blundering intercession" for temporarily halting approval of additional wage increases by the Construction Industry Stabilization Committee.







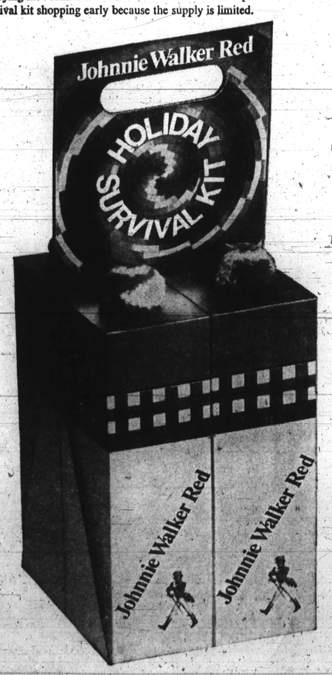
The first law of nature is survival.

Never has the law been so nice to obey.

When friends surprise you by dropping by, graciously greet them by toasting the season with this wonderful Scotch.

Or, happily surprise them with a last-minute gift. Each carton is made so that you may remove the cellophane sleeve carrying the Johnnie Walker Red name and Johnnie's picture.

Do your survival kit shopping early because the supply is limited.



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100% BLENDED SCOTCH WHISKIES, 86.8 PROOF. IMPORTED BY SOMERSET IMPORTERS, LTD., NEW YORK, N.Y.

Carnegie backs voter education

NEW YORK — Carnegie Corporation of New York announced last week a grant of $250,000 to enable the Youth Citizenship Fund to undertake a national, nonpartisan program of voter education for youth of voting age.

Alan Pifer, president of the educational foundation, said:

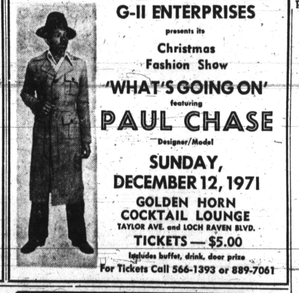
"Participation in the American electoral system has never attained the levels expected of it. This is so in part because of the lack of motivation to vote. But it is also because of our unnecessarily complicated and confusing variety of registration and voting requirements and regulations.

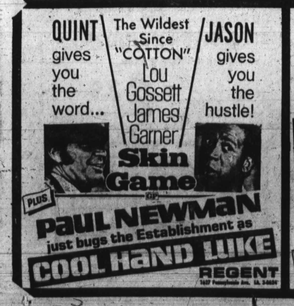
"The Youth Citizenship Fund, by helping to focus national attention on the specific barriers to the registration of youth, may in the process bring about a more general concern for equity and modernization of registration procedures for everyone.

"The Fund will also attempt to educate young people to the value of effecting change through the electoral process and to encourage youth to see the importance of forming a lifelong habit of voting beginning with this first opportunity," he said.

The Youth Citizenship Fund is a publicly supported organization founded specifically for nonpartisan youth voter education and research. This grant will permit the fund to carry out its program in the major population centers of 15 states.

SHOOTING it out with slave owners, Lou Gossett and James Garner, stars of "Skin Game," now playing at the Regent.





What's Happening!

By IDA PETERS

"BUS" HELD OVER AT NEW

The hard driving plot of The Bus Is Coming now in last days at the New Theatre, is further enhanced by the intensity and realism of the film's many action scenes. For example, a police car is fire bombed and destroyed; Corie's car, the final clue that links directly to Joe Mitchell's murder, is discovered by Billy and Tanya in a body shop and a brutal fight between Billy and Corie ensues; a chase and shootout involving the militants and the police (similar to the Huey Newton Oakland shootout), and a dramatic chase and escape through the ghetto featuring Michael and Dobie, his deputy defense minister.

* * *

"ORGANIZATION" AT MET, CARLIN

Sidney Poitier, as Virgil Tibbs, in "The Organization" is held over for third big week at the Met.

* * *

"BLACK WOMEN IN WHITE"

This past Wednesday, a special showing of Arthur Lamb's "Black Women In White," by the Ira Aldridge Players of Morgan State was held in the Little Theatre of Murphy Auditorium for state college administrators, state and municipal leaders, faculty members and guests.

The admission price was a dollar's worth of foodstuffs for "Baskets for Needy Families" project of the Ira Aldridge Players.

The show will continue at Morgan through Dec. 12th at 8:15 p.m.

* * *

PAUL CHASE MODELS G-II XMAS SHOW

Greg Matthews, on production and Lou Jones, director, will be the men behind the Gentlemen II Enterprises Christmas Fashion Show, "What's Going On" this Sunday at the Golden Horn Restaurant (details this issue).

These young men are fashion designers and consultants. Both are Morgan grads and work for the Maryland Commission on Human Relations.

Designer Paul Chase will be the featured model. He is a graduate of Carver Vocational and International Mannequins, N.Y. He has worked with black designer Audrey Frazier in N.Y. and is a teacher with the Walters Academy.

One of the highlights of his collection will be a wool and silk evening jumpsuit in pink and burgundy.

* * *

YWCA TEEN XMAS PROGRAM

A theatre group, choral and piano group, and dance group composed of boys and girls six to twelve will present a Chrisimas program on December 17 at 7:30 p.m. in the YWCA at 1912 Madison Avenue.

First part of the program will consist of dances to the music from "Applause," "Cabaret," and "Shaft." Next, the singing of "Little Drummer Boy" will provide background for a pantomime of the nativity scene. "The Night Before Christmas" will be acted out with the arrival of Santa Claus bearing a token gift for each child present.

Attendance at the evening program is open to children who attend the YWCA year round program of dance, theatre, and piano and choral classes. Fee for these classes is low, partly because the YWCA is a member agency of the Community Chest, supported by the United Fund.

* * *

CHILDREN'S THEATRE

The Children's Theatre Association is presenting a production of The Mirrorman, a play by Brian Way which utilizes active audience involvement.

Two men and two women are needed for the cast. The production will be given at the Baltimore Museum of Art on February 5th.

Auditions will be held on December 15th at 2 p.m. and again at 7:30 in the evening. Interested actors should write: Children's Theatre Association, 225 West 25th Street, or by phone, 889-1234 between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 4 p.m. — Monday thru Friday.

This is a unique theatre experience that should not be passed up by people interested in theatre.

* * *

"TOUSSAINT" AT TOWSON

Tickets are still available for the Towson State College production of Toussaint, original play by C. R. Gillespie. The play will run though Saturday December 11. Curtain time is 8:30 p.m. in the Studio Theatre, on the Towson campus.

Toussaint, under the direction of Maravene Sheppard Loeschke, is concerned with revolution, racism, and religion. Although set in the Haitian islands over 100 years ago, it is a play about today.

The play explores a little known aspect of black history — the Haitian revolution led by Toussaint "the black Napoleon" against the French landowners. Toussaint was the only man to defeat the French army under Napoleon.

Gillespie, who spent several years researching the play, has worked with Center Stage and the Corner Theatre. He was formerly head of the Theatre Department at Towson State College, and is now Vice President of the College.

For ticket information and reservations, contact the College Box Office, 823-7500, extension 624.

* * *

UMBC THEATRE PRESENTS DRAMA

The UMBC Theatre Department presents its second production of the semester, a contemporary melodrama titled Speaking of Murder by Audrey and William Roos. The production is scheduled for December, 10 and 11 at 8 p.m. in the Fine Arts Theatre.

The suspenseful drama reveals perhaps one of the vilest villainesses in recent literature. The cast headed by Eileen Albert includes Cheryl Miller, Paul Krebs, Kathy Albert, Alvin Meckler, Nanci Rankin, Gus Demos, and Susan Steinwedel. The production is being directed and designed by William T. Brown, chairman of the Theatre Department.

All performances are free of charge and open to the public. The UMBC Fine Arts Theatre is located at 5401 Wilkens Avenue, exit 12 west from the Baltimore Beltway.

* * *

TOWSON OPERA

The Towson Opera Workshop will present an evening of operatic scenes Tuesday, December 14th at 8:15 p.m. in the Stephens Hall Auditorium at Towson State College. The program is free and open to the public.

The performance will feature members of the newly formed opera workshop, designed to develop acting singers and singing actors.

The entire workshop prtgram is under the supervision of Arne Lindquist, a graduate student in the Production Manager for the Baltimore Opera Company, and Gerry Phillips, baritone in residence at Towson State College. Pianist Marsha Logis will accompany and Dr. Clifford Alper will be the narrator.

The program will include excerpts from the following operas: The Marriage of Figaro by Mozart, Carmen by Bizet, Hansel and Gretel by Humperdinck, The Old Maid and the Thief by Menotti and Otello by Verdi.

* * *

AT CIVIC CENTER

DEC. 10 — Fri. 8 p.m. — Ice Hockey Baltimore Clippers vs Hershey Bears.

DEC. 11 — Sat. 8:15 p.m. — Baltimore Bullets vs Milwaukee Bucks.

* * *

BOWIE STATE PRESENTS "MESSIAH"

The Bowie State College Chorale will perform Handel's "Messiah" at 8 p.m., Dec. 16 in McKeldin Gymnasium, Bowie State College. The performance, free and open to the public, is being offered as the Annual Christmas Concert.

The Chorale, under the direction of Dr. Eugene Thamon Simpson, is supported by students as well as community soloist and orchestra.

Talented singers from Bowie include Charlotte McElroy, a Choirmaster in Bowie; Brenda Ellis, Bowie State sophmore; Rosemary Haft, Church soloist of Glendale; and Charlotte Woolf, concert and church soloist of Bowie-Belair.

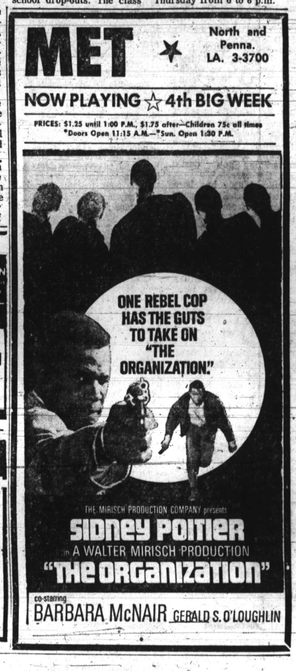
Featured soloists from Baltimore are Rufus Graves and Blanche Foreman, teachers in Baltimore City Schools.

Washington's performers include the organist, Clyde Parker, a member of the Howard University School of Music; and Edward Jackson, a teacher in the District.

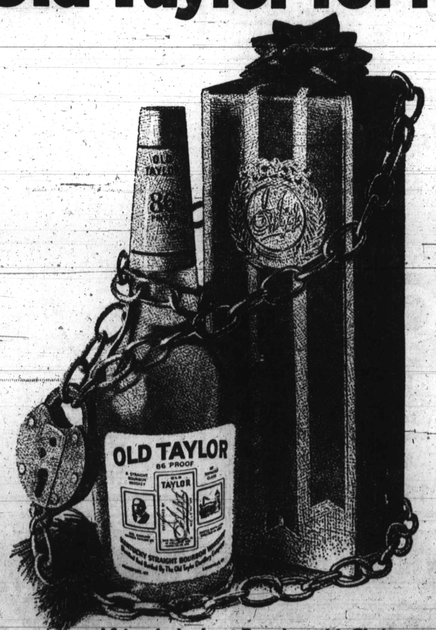
JACKSON, Miss. — Jackson State College is offering the second in a sequence of three key-punch training program classes beginning Thursday and ending March 9. The program is designed mainly for high school graduates, or high school drop-outs. The class is limited to ten students and will be held each Thursday from 6 to 8 p.m.

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — Bethune-Cookman College President Dr. Richard V. Moore, received the Civic League of the Halifax Area (Daytona Beach) Distinguished Service Award at the group's recent annual dinner at a downtown restaurant. Presenting the award was J. Saxton Lloyd, who classified Dr. Moore, head of B-CC since 1947, as one of the area's "top citizens" and a leader in civic affairs, race relations, education and religion.

Keynote speaker at the dinner, Woodrow W. Hasty, minister at Seabreeze United Church, described Moore as a "man who has achieved his measure of greatness."



Who are you saving the Old Taylor for?



Give your good friends the best Bourbon this Christmas.

KENTUCKY STRAIGHT BOURBON WHISKEY, 86 PROOF. THE OLD TAYLOR DISTILLERY CO., FRANKFORT & LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY