AFRO's Mrs. Santa Makes Her Final Report

Baltimore Afro American

32 JANUARY 8, 1972 YOU KNOW BECAUSE YOU READ THE AFRO

$13,233.46 raised to aid needy is all-time high

"It has been the best year we ever had in our ten-year history. So many people helped us raise an all-time high of $13,233.46, with which we were able to help 1,500 needy families."

This is the word which comes this week from the AFRO's Mrs. Santa, as she prepares to return to her home and soon to the hospital for a throat operation.

Mrs. Santa, in real life AFRO reporter, Mrs. Marie Phillips Cooke, left her sick bed at University Hospital in early October to open the AFRO's annual drive for funds.

At first, she solicited support for her Yule project from her home where the AFRO installed a special hotline telephone.

* * *

In early December, when her doctor said she was well enough to return to the office, she opened Mrs. Santa headquarters at the AFRO office.

Through her efforts, and with the help of civic-minded citizens, she raised the all-time high of $13,233.46. The year before she raised $10,210.90.

Before Christmas Eve, with the aid of Master Sgt. Lloyd Scott and helpers from the Melvin Cade National Guard Armory, 300 families received baskets of food which contained a fat turkey and all the trimmings.

* * *

In addition, Mrs. Santa who was assisted by Misses Sheila M. Phillips, Rachael M. Phillips, Amy Woolridge, Susan M. Wood and Bernadette Baker, mailed 600 $10 gift certificates which were good for either food or merchandise.

The campaign, which was sponsored solely by AFRO-Charities, Inc., a non-profit organization, was not a one-man task.

Mrs. Santa said she could not have done the job without the helpers already mentioned, and Mrs. Janie Sanders who visited the office at least twice a week with a financial report on the candy drive and monies reported from her Wonder Workers.

* * *

Others who helped were: Miss Pamela Widgeon, AFRO news reporter, who acted as Mrs. Santa's assistant and helped with bookkeeping; Mrs. Janette Jackson, secretary to the vice-president and treasurer, who helped type case letters; Randy Yancy, 13-year-old son of Mrs. Lenora Yancy, who solicited money from east Baltimore merchants, and to all others not mentioned.

* * *

Now that the campaign is officially over, Mrs. Santa is still busy at her desk sending out thank-you letters and accounting for monies spent, which will be double-checked by certified public accountants.

In addition, Mrs. Santa helpers manned the phones and supplied volunteers with names and addresses of families listed on Mrs. Santa's file.

Groups and individuals adopted at least 300 of these needy families and made Christmas merry for them.

* * *

Here is the complete list of contributions to Mrs. Santa's drive:—

$737.95 — Mrs. Janie Sanders, Wonder Workers;

$500 — Athletes Anonymous, Miss Mildred Johnson and the Vandals; Prince Hall Grand Lodge;

$226.15 — League of Black Sisters;

$200 — Dr. Uthman Ray, Allen Quille, Pre-Birth Clinic, Local Union No. 194, Staff at Cong. Parren J. Mitchell's Office; Goldseker Realty Co., Legionnaires, Medina Temple No. 1, Vanguards Justice Society;

$160 — Security Dept. and some employees at Johns Hopkins Hospital;

$100 — George Brown, Josiah Diggs Charity Club; Mr. and Mrs. Charles G. Tildon, Palma, Mondawmin Photo Service, A and D Booking, Myra Chapter O.E.S., Hattie Head Hunters, Sanders Barber Shop, George L. Russell Jr.; Herbert Nutter, T.A.D.'s, Inc., C.E.B.O. and Minority contractors Technical and Assistants Program, Twelve Personally Girls, Madison Park Prof. Center, The Lawyers Wives, Maryland Dental Society, Modernettes Social Club, T and R Assistants, Gay La Sell's, Parks Sausage, Adams Realty, Lemmel Jr. High, Mrs. Stella Taylor, Charmettes, Local 44-AFSCME, Dr. Turgot Jeudy.

$80 — Baltimore Fellowship Choir;

$75 — S.V.Q.'s Social Bernard E. Madison Assoc., Retired Enlisted Assoc., Gayets Charity;

$70 — Just Us 8;

$67 —Staff, Enoch Pratt;

$56.50 — Department of Juvenile Services;

$51 — Ashburton Family Group;

$50.42 — Mrs. Sarah Clements;

$50.26 — Carver High Schobl;

$50 —Gem Mite Corp. tion, Gay Street Merchants, Jackson Oil Company, Morton and Dyett, Bridges Burke Assoc., Bar-Belle Field Association, Clifton Park Neighborhood, Las Doces Civic Guild, Colored Women's Demos, Continental Society, Charity Swingers, Diana Kane Models, Happy Ladies Club, Mrs. Frances Branch, William D. Crump, School Marms, Pyramids, Inc., WO-BE-CO Club, N.C. Mutual, Las Companeras, Va. St. Alumni, Master Beauti-

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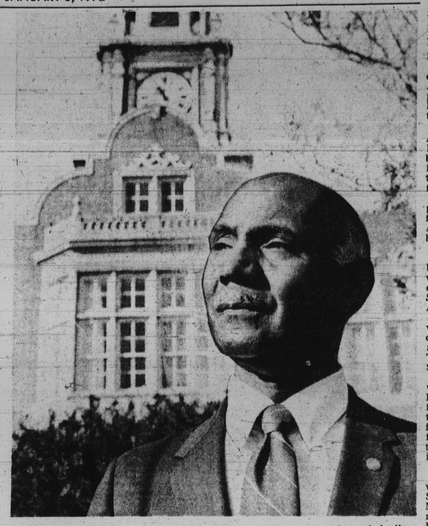

RETIRING—John S. Gwynn, supervisor of duplicating services at Towson State College retired on December 23.

John Gwynn retires after 46 years

Members of the staff of Towson State College describe John S. Gwynn as "a man of few words and an excellent listener."

Mr. Gwynn, supervisor of duplicating services at Towson, retired on Dec. 23 after 46 years of service to the college.

He began work at Towson when he was 15 years old and started his employment as a janitor.

He worked with his father, Lewis Gwynn, who was then head custodian and in 1943 succeeded him in that position. Mr. Gwynn has been responsible for duplicating services since 1957.

During his 46 years at Towson, he has served under four presidents of the college and has seen many changes. When he first began work at Towson, it was the two-year State Normal School.

* * *

Mr. Gwynn is married to Mrs. Cora Gwynn and lives in Perry Hall. He is an active member of Asbury Methodist Church where he sings on the chior and is a member of the steward board.

Now that he has retired, Mr. Gwynn hopes to spend some time traveling, doing church work and gardening. Mr. Gwynn has become a part of the Towson tradition.

A buffet dinner will be given in his honor at the school on Jan. 13.

Edmondson has no trouble

A call to the AFRO City Desk Wednesday afternoon describing an "assault of two teachers by a student at Edmondson High School" proved groundless when this newspaper arrived on the scene.

Principal Lewis Richardson and Assistant Principal Margie Harriss gave the AFRO a guided tour of the building to assure there "had been no trouble whatsoever" throughout the entire day.

Students proved to be attentive to instructors and busily went about conducting laboratory assignments.

School administrators said "nothing out of the ordinary had taken place" and added they felt Edmondson's student body was one of the best behaved in the city.

Burch questions state aid to 'racist' country clubs

In a recent answer to a request for an opinion, Attorney General Francis B. Burch advised State Senator Verda F. Welcome (D., 4th) there is serious constitutional question as to whether a country club which discriminates racially may receive state support in the form of preferential tax treatment.

Maryland law permits land which is actively devoted to use as a country club to be assessed on the basis of that use instead of market value during the time it is being used for country club purposes.

Mr. Burch pointed out that in two counties, tgomery, there are twenty Prince Georges and Montgomery, there are twenty clubs, which, as a group, paid approximately $232,000 less in property taxes in 1970 because of the special country club assessment rate.

Both the Attorney General and Senator Welcome "assumed" that the separate classification of land used for country clubs is constitutional and examined the effect of the "equal protection" clause of the Fourteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

"For there to be a violation of the Fourteenth Amendment," Mr. Burch said, "there must be significant action by the state which deprives a citizen of a constitutional right."

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"For there to be a violation of the Fourteenth Amendment," Mr. Burch said, "there must be significant action by the state which deprives a citizen of a constitutional right."

Mr. Burch pointed out an October, 1971 case decided by a three-judge United States District Court which held that the Equal Protection Clause barred the State of Wisconsin from granting state tax exemptions to organizations which discriminate in their membership on a racial basis.

That case found that the granting of a "tax exemption to such organizations is significant state action."

Reasoning on this the Attorney General said, "We believe that the reasoning of these cases casts serious doubt on the constitutionality of granting tax preferences to private country clubs which practice racial discrimination."

He feels "on a proper factual showing" the courts are likely to be receptive to the argument that the grant of a tax benefit amounts to significant state action, "particularly where racial discrimination is involved."

Concluding Burch cautions that only the Supreme Court or other court of competent and appellate jurisdiction may make a final decision on the matter since there is disagreement among lower level courts on what constitutes "significant state action."

Burch said, "We must abide a decision by the U.S. Supreme Court or a decision by some other court involving the Maryland practice. We have no power to declare a state statute unconstitutional because that is a function of the courts. We can constitutionally." (P.F.E.)

Man gets $7,000 bail reduction

Bail has been reduced in the amount of $7,000 for a man who was "illegally" imprisoned in the City Jail for 123 days when court records were lost and he was held without a grand jury indictment.

The decision to lower the bail from $10,000 to $3,000 was made Tuesday afternoon in the case of William Eugene Owens, 3600 block Liberty Heights Rd.

Criminal Court Judge J. Harold Grady told courtroom listeners the 31-year-old defendant, charged with assault and robbery, "has suffered considerably by his long wait in jail."

However, he stated, although it was "an unfortunate mistake," he contended he made his decision for bail reduction not because of the man's past suffering, but rather because of the seriousness of the charge and the defendant's past confrontations with the law."

Mr. Owens was brought to court last Thursday and released when it was revealed he had remained in jail since August but had never been indicted by a Grand Jury according to proper Court procedures.

* * *

Although he was released on Dec. 28, the charges against him were never dropped.

Mr. Owens was recharged with the crime of assault and robbery with a

(Continue on Page 31)

Mrs. Santa gets thanks from those she helped

The AFRO's Mrs. Santa project, which closed its 14th annual drive last month, benefitted untold hundreds of needy residents.

Here are letters of thanks received this week from some Mrs. Santa helped:

"Dear Mrs. Santa—I am writing to let you know that I appreciate the gift that I received from you. It really helped my children to have a nice Christmas this year. God bless you and may you have a Happy New Year.—Mrs. J. M."

"Dear Mrs. Santa: I received your gift certificate. I thank you very much for the wonderful gift. Have a Happy New Year. Mrs. G. B."

"Dear Mrs. Santa: The basket of food you sent us and the clothes some people brought us made this Christmas the best one we've ever had. I don't know what to say but thank you and may God be on your side.—Mrs. T. B."

Lucky license worth $20

Today's lucky license number is CF — 9033 and is worth $20 greenbacks. We have five other numbers that are listed in today's edition worth $10 each.

In order to win this money you must have an AFRO sticker on your car. Once the sticker is placed on your car read the AFRO every Tuesday and Friday and check to see if your license number is listed.

You may get a sticker from the AFRO or pick one up at your newsstand. If you see your license number listed in a Tuesday edi-

(Continue on Page 31)

Mrs. Helena Hicks heads Housing Social Services

Mrs. Helena S. Hicks brings to her position as director of the Department of Housing and Community Development's new Social Services Division a wealth of experience in social work largely oriented toward families: a personal knowledge of public housing gained both as a one-time resident and as the social worker in a day care center, and a family tradition of deep involvement in community service.

For the past four years, she has held the top professional position, administrator for day care centers, in the Office of Child-hood Development of the Maryland Department of Employment and Social Services. Earlier she was a social worker in the city's schools and a case worker for the city's Department of Social Services.

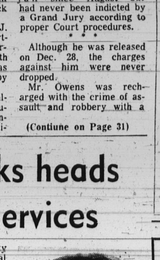
Because of her expertise in child development, she has served on a number of national committees and has been a consultant to several states.

Her administrative experience also includes the establishment of a pediatric social service program for the Department of Health at the Baltimore Maternity Center.

Mrs. Hick's first experience with public housing came between 1946 and 1951, when she was a resident of Somerset Homes, an East Baltimore public housing project.

She is a graduate of Douglas High School and Morgan State College, and one of her early positions was as social worker for a day care center at Westport Homes, a public housing project in South Baltimore. This was the first public day care center in Maryland.

Subsequently, Mrs. Hicks earned the degree of Master in Social Work from Howard University in 1960.



MRS. HELENA HICKS
first to get top housing social services post

Mrs. Hicks does not hesitate to express her belief that service is a value unto itself.

"I really feel," she says, "that the greatest contribution you can make in life is to help your fellow man. I come out of a family which has always been community involved. All of us have been."

This family tradition is best expressed in the person of her father, William Sorrell, who is now on the board of both the Waxter Senior Citizen Center and the Metropolitan Senior

(Continue on Page 31)

Welfare rolls drop

By VAL HYMES

For the first time in two and a half years, the number of city welfare recipients and payments dropped between Dec. 15 and Jan. 1, a result of new screening and administrative changes.

The announcement was made by Employment and Social Services Secretary Rita C. Davidson at a special press conference Wednesday.

The welfare rolls in Baltimore had been growing at the rate of 2,490 persons a month between July and November, she said, but were decreasing by 2,100 persons and $116,000 in payments between Dec. 1 and Jan. 1 of this year.

Mrs. Davidson said she is confident that by March 1, there "will be no one on public assistance in the city

(Continue on Page 31)

NEWSTIPS TOTAL $50 CASH AWARDS FROM AFRO

The AFRO Pays a total of $50 a week for newstips.

If you have some news of importance, call 728-6200.

If you are first to call or if you have a winner, you will be notified within two weeks by mail. The cash award is based on the news of the tips.

5th District meeting on Pimlico High

The public is invited to a panel discussion presentation of the Fifth District Reform Democrats forum on "Pimlico Junior High School, Its Problems and Some Solutions."

The event is scheduled for 8 p.m. at the Holiday Room, Cross Keys, Jan. 12.

On the panel are Senators Rosalie Abrams and Clarence Blount; Kalman Hettleman, member of the School Board; Mimi Joseph, Pimlico Study Group; Dr. Roland Patterson, superintendent of schools; Alexander Stark, City Councilman; Carroll Wagner, Pimlico Junior High principal.

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AFRO's D. A. Murphy Dies; Spent 66 Years On Job

LEGISLATURE'S BIG ISSUE IS GUN BILL
(Story, Back Page, Full Page Photos Inside)

Baltimore Afro-American

GOSPEL FEST WINNERS GET THEIR PRIZES
(Photos, Story Inside)

80th Year, No. 44

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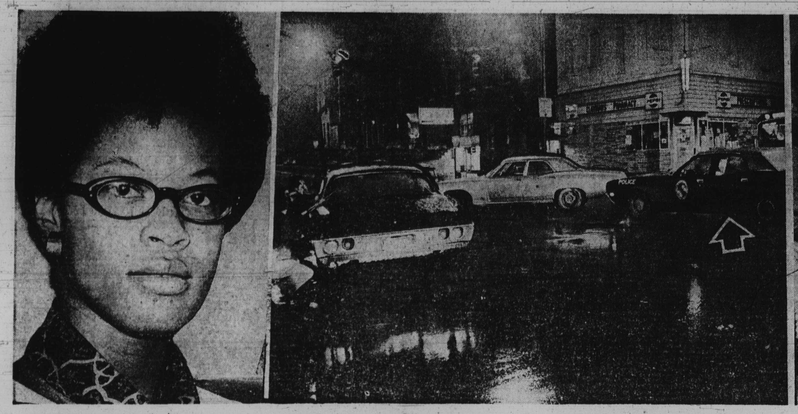
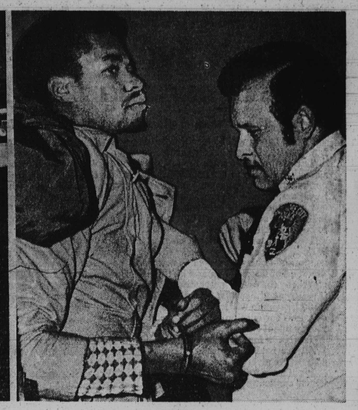
Hostage Tells Of Her Ordeal





KIDNAPPING ODYSSEY — Mrs. Barbara Brooks (left) managed to keep her head throughout a 3-hour ordeal as hostage to an armed bandit, Monday night. He abducted her after robbing Sears in Glen Burnie. He forced her into a police car and drove north through Baltimore. The odyssey (center) came to an end at Greenmount and North Aves. with police closing on all sides to the stolen vehicle (arrow). Patrolman Edward Malecki (far right) first offered himself in exchange for Mrs. Brooks but then knocked the gun away from the bandit, William Morgan.

66 YEARS D. A. Murphy funeral on Saturday

By BETTYE MOSS

David Arnett Murphy, 79, for 66 years of his life an AFRO employee, officer and stockholder, died on Tuesday afternoon. He had been ailing for a year.

Funeral services will be held 1 p.m. Saturday at Grace United Presbyterian Church, Bannister Rd. and Cold Spring Lane.

The family receives friends at the church tonight (Friday) from 7 to 8.

Survivors include his wife, Mrs. Sadie Clark Murphy, daughters, Mrs. Mae E. Dyson and Mrs. Arnetta M. Lottier, both members of AFRO board of directors;

Also six grandchildren, Mrs. Virginia M. Freeman, Mrs. Jane M. Powell, George Arnett Lottier, Miss Sadie A. Lottier, Miss Deborah Lottier and David Lottier and six great-grandchildren.

He was per Virginia and Jon Love, Ronea and Ronald Powell, Christopher Lottier and Michael Prettyman.

He is also survived by a brother, John H. Murphy Jr., now 91 years old, and the oldest living incorporator of the AFRO.

* * *

The youngest of 11 children of AFRO Founder John H. Murphy Sr. and Mrs. Martha Elizabeth Howard Murphy, David Wesley Arnett was born July 9, 1892, a month before his father founded the newspaper.

At the time, the family was living in the 1300 block

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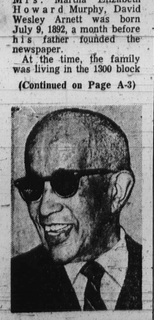

D. A. MURPHY
(See photo, story Page D-1)

12 new lawyers admitted to bar

ANNAPOLIS — Twelve young black lawyers were admitted to the bar today (Friday), the largest number to be sworn in at one time in the history of the state.

Most of them are graduates of the University of Maryland. The swearing-in was in the Court of Appeals here.

The new lawyers are: Miss Joan E. Sessoms, James L. Foster, Richard A. Gaither, Alonzo P. Hairston, Charles Curtiss Lee, Cornelius W. May, Michael Mitchell, Nelson Odoms, Patrick A. U. Opara, Norris Ramsey, Otho Murel Thompson and Henry C. Tribbitt.

The inductee drawing most attention was Dr. Patrick A. U. Opara, a Nigerian, who is professor of sociology at Morgan State College and who already holds three degrees, including the Ph.D.

Dr. Opara is married to Mrs. Marlene Opara who is a social worker with the board of education and has three children.

He earned his A.B. degree from St. Joseph College in 1959, his M.S. in industrial relation from Loyola University, 1961, and Ph.D. from the same institution in 1964. His law degree was from the University of Maryland.

Dr. Opara was a lecturer at the University of Nigeria, 1964-66 and joined the Morgan faculty later.

He is now an associate

(Continued on Page A-2)

JOAN E. SESSOMS
First, youngest woman

DR. PATRICK A. V. OPARA
Gets No. 4 degree

'I managed to keep my head,' says pretty, young cashier

By SCOTT PONEMONE

"The police told me any other woman wouldn't have kept calm and wouldn't have gotten out alive," Mrs. Barbara Brooks, 25, the hostage in Monday's spectacular kidnapping-robbery, told the AFRO.

"I managed to keep my head until the policeman knocked the gun away. Officers piled in from all sides. And I was running up the street before I knew what was happening. Then hysteria set in," Mrs. Brooks recalled.

Police rushed her to Mercy Hospital after her rescue, and she was soon released unhurt, but visibly shaken.

She was still a bit unnerved when the AFRO spoke to her the next day.

"I kept talking and talking to reporters and detectives yesterday (Tuesday). I couldn't stop," said the attractive 100 block Warwickshire Lane (Pumphrey) resident. "Doctors said that is a normal reaction when you're in shock."

Her harrowing adventure started in the cashier's office at Sears in Glen Burnie, where Mrs. Brooks works part-time as a cashier.

The robber, identified by police as William L. Morgan, 26, of 1200 block Urban Way in Glen Burnie, approached the cashier's counter with gun in hand and a paper bag he would filled with money.

"We had $30-40,000 in the safe and bundles of $100 bills," stated Mrs. Brooks. "but I first stuffed in bundles of $5's and $10's and put a bundle of $20's on top so he wouldn't become suspicious."

"My first fright was when he laid me across the counter to shield him from store detectives and other employees," Mrs. Brooks remembered.

"He led me out the building with his gun pointed at my head. (I can almost feel where the gun touched my head). It looked like all of the Anne Arundel police force was in the building with their guns pointed at his head."

Mrs. Brooks seemed to shudder at times as she told her story.

* * *

She recalled the gunman moved out onto the parking lot which was filled with police and police vehicles. Holding her to his side, he approached a patrol car with two policemen standing alongside.

"We got into the back seat of the police car and he closed the door," she explained. "He then realized he was locked in and started shouting for an officer to get in and drive."

No one neared the car until the gunman demanded he be released from the back seat. She said, "We got into the front seat and he drove keeping the gun to my head all the time."

Police report Morgan and his pretty captive travelled north to the Harbor Tunnel. "When we reached the toll booth, he offered to pay, but the lady there saw the gun and fell away, shocked."

"He did a lot of odd things, like that," Mrs. Brooks recalled. "He drove at a moderate speed and obeyed all stop signs and

(Continued on Page A-8)

What army coup in Ghana means

By JOSEPH W. GRIGG

LONDON, (UPI) — A mounting economic crisis and threatened national bankruptcy were the main causes of the military coup which has overthrown the government of Premier Kofi Busia in Ghana, Africa experts said.

A Ghana Army spokesman announced the coup Thursday over the West African country's radio. The announcement charged Busia with "arbitrary arrests, malpractices and economic mismanagement."

The coup was the first in Ghana since former President Kwame Nkrumah was ousted by the Army Feb. 24, 1966.

Nkrumah, a colorful, flamboyant, left-leaning politician, named himself "Redeemer" and life President of Ghana, which had become a republic within the commonwealth July 1, 1960. It had gained independence from Britain three years earlier.

Nkrumah ran the country under a virtual dictator-

(Continued on Page A-3)

EXCLUSIVE ANALYSIS

Odds favor Congressman Mitchell if George Russell puts his hat in ring

By MOSES J. NEWSON

City Solicitor George L. Russell Jr.'s friends may be helping him dig his political grave, for both elective and appointive office, by pushing him into a showdown this year with Rep. Parrer. J. Mitchell, D-Md.

At this point history, and probably everything else that goes into a successful election campaign in Baltimore except financial backing from big-name white contributors, favor Mitchell's reelection.

In modern times no black congressman once elected has been turned out of office by voters of his own race after one term.

More ominous for Russell's outlook, except for former Representative Adam Clayton Powell, who repeatedly was sent back to Washington despite blemishes on his record — for as long as he gave anything like attention to his duties — there have been no recent turn-outs.

* * *

In the black community it is easy to understand why some members of the white establishment, from Gov. Marvin Mandel's supporters on down, might want to defeat Mitchell, who has a reputation for "telling it like it is."

But the community still is waiting to hear reasons why State Senators Verda F. Welcome, D-4th; Clarence Blount, D-5th, and Robert L. Dalton, D-2nd, apparently are anxious to trade Mitchell for Russell.

As primary election day draws closer they will, of course, have more oppor-

(Continued on Page A-3)

New school rule may apply here

By ED ROGERS

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Every metropolitan area in the country may yet find its city and suburban schools merged into one district for integration purposes as a result of this week's precedent-setting court ruling in Richmond, Va., according to civil rights lawyers.

In the Richmond decision, federal district judge Robert R. Merhige Jr. ordered county-city boundaries dissolved where schools are concerned, creating one big metropolitan district so that in-town black schools can be balanced with suburban white ones by busing and other means.

A group of civil rights lawyers, including William L. Taylor, former staff director for the U.S. Civil Rights Commission, told a news conference Wednesday the decision has vast implications.

"In my judgment," Taylor said, "no metropolitan area in the country is exempt."

He conceded there would be exceptions where state lines are involved such as St. Louis, Mo. and East St. Louis, Ill., and Washington, D.C. and Virginia-Maryland.

But he cited as examples of white suburban flight such cities as Newark, N.J., 74 per cent black; Atlanta, Baltimore and St. Louis, all more than 60 per cent black; New York City, more than 50 per cent black and Puerto Rican; and Los Angeles, more than half black and Chicano.

The issue which prompted the Richmond decision, Taylor said, has already been raised or is being raised in cases involving Detroit; Indianapolis, Wilmington, Del.; Grand Rapids, Mich.; and the entire state of New Jersey

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61,029

Last week the AFRO went into 61,029 homes in Baltimore. Don't miss regular delivery every Tuesday and Friday. Call 728-6200 for prompt Home Delivery.

YOU KNOW BECAUSE YOU READ THE AFRO

GOSPEL AWARDS — Famed Baltimore gospel singer, Miss Katie Jackson, was named the area's top female soloist and is shown receiving her award from Miss Gloria Little. Best female singer was one of the many awards bestowed during ceremonies at the Gillis Memorial Church, Sunday. For more pictures and story see inside.
(Photo by J. D. Howard).

CHUCKLE

Scolding little Bobby for his misdemeanors, mother asked, "How do you ever expect to get into heaven?"

Bobby thought a minute, and then said "Well, I'll just run in and out, and in and out, and keep slamming the door — till they say, 'For goodness' sake, come in or stay out.' Then I'll go in.

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