THE STATE OF THINGS

The Time Bomb Issue

By VAL HYMES

The time bomb of the 1972 session is education.

That musty, stuffy word sounds innocuous, but it means well over half of every county's budget and more than half a billion dollars — or 41 per cent — of the State's budget.

It's political dynamite with a fuse shortened by the taxpayers' tempers over leaping taxes. And it sits on a powder keg of problems appealing to the emotions.

Hanging over the head of public education, like the sword of Damocles are court decisions dealing with parochiaid, those prohibiting reliance on local property taxes to finance education, and in Congress or on the campaign stump, the hottest of them all, busing.

But in Annapolis, the spark that will ignite the fuse is a bill to do away with lifetime tenure for teachers. It requires review every five years after a three-year probation period. The present trial time is two years.

Although the bill's chief sponsor, Sen. James Clark (D. Howard-Montgomery) was working on some amendments this week to satisfy some of the opposition, most of the State's 40,000 teachers still are ready to tar, feather and lynch all 22 sponsors of the companion measures in both houses.

Among those sponsors are Sen. Verda Welcome and Del. Joseph A. Chester of Baltimore.

Although many superintendents, principals and local school boards favor the idea of some method of reviewing the teacher's effectiveness, teachers' groups and educator-legislators called it a "ripper bill" that would destroy academic freedom, create "kangaroo courts" and eliminate a protection adopted by the General Assembly in 1922 to wipe out political influence and nepotism in teacher ranks.

Teacher bargaining rights, the proponents counter, have provided answers to those ills, while a teacher surplus allows some weeding out, and the public is demanding an accounting of its education dollar.

The Senate Finance Committee was planning to vote on the bill this week.

Somewhat overshadowed, but nonetheless potent is an accountability bill by Baltimore City Sen. Clarence Blount. It would require that each school set goals, test the children, then report progress on reaching those goals to county boards, then to the State Department of Education, which must in turn report each year to the Legislature on a school-by-school basis.

It's interesting to note that the State Department of Education has supported that measure, feeling, apparently, that it's time to bring mediocre schools to public attention, but has reservations about the tenure bill.

At the same time, 175 secondary school principals met last Friday in Annapolis, opposed the tenure bill, but supported the accountability bill with amendments, saying, "We're ready to be accountable."

The trend seems obvious. Senator Blount's accountability bill will be offered as a compromise to the fearful and the fence-riders on teacher tenure.

Even Governor Mandel has indicated to me that he "certainly feels schools ought to be ekt accountable for pupil progress," and that such a bill would make educators "sit up and take notice," while he adds that present laws allow removal of inept teachers — if administrators would use them.

The issue seems to boil down to a question of whether teachers are to be considered true professionals capable of policing themselves. Senator Clark says he has the votes today, but the powerful teachers' association is still working hard.

Surrounding this tinder box are some peripheral but equally explosive issues, like the Governor's bill to abolish senatorial scholarships, another expected this week to remove the ban against the local governments of eight counties from owning more than 10 school buses, and one already in and past the House that will let Frederick and Carroll County principals and vice principals join 15 other counties in spanking students.

And while several measures would increase State aid for the operation of schools, others would try to take away from the Governor his power over priorities in building schools, yet keep the cost burden on the State.

Prince Georges Sen. Meyer M. Emanuel Jr. and Shore Sen. Mary L. Nock worked all summer with the Legislative Council on a 55 per cent State funding and seem to have more sympathy in the Legislature right now.

But Governor Mandel is not buying any new aid plan this year, although he did say he would not object to a bill that would merely revise the formula, as does legislation by Baltimore City's Del. Benjamin L. Cardin.

Still another such bill was waiting in the wings this week that is reported to come closer to true equalization than any other plan.

* * *

The Governor also said again this week that he has not moved to reorganize the State Department of Education because he cannot find anyone to serve as chairman of the task force to tackle the monumental job of unraveling miles of red tape.

Since his announcement that the Department of Agriculture will be next, it may be an omen that education could be the 13th cabinet level agency.

Other education bills in the hopper would increase cigarette taxes to boost aid for educating handicapped children, give early retirement benefits to teachers, set up reading evaluation programs (which the Department has already launched), call for a study of school bus safety, attack discrimination through better school site planning, and to require teachers to report symptoms of child abuse to Social Services officials.

And the State Board of Education still hopes to find funds for pre-school education and black and ethnic minority studies.

If the education industry cannot read between the lines in these Bills and see that a taxpayers' revolt is focusing right on it, there will be no escaping the blast and the fallout.

What's News Dept. — OFF-TRACK BETTING, DOG RACING, lotteries come up for hearings Thursday... THE GUN BILL goes to the Housing floor this week.. reapportionment Governor's man) became law but new size General Assembly bills still pend.. BEER TAX has Mandel nod.

Sexuality forum open

The second series of forums on human sexuality are presently being held every Monday at the University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC). This group effort, instituted last year, is designed for students and is open to the public.

The forums, held at 1 p.m. in Lecture Hall One, will consist of a variety of subjects concerning sexuality. Representatives from Gay Liberation of Baltimore will speak on March 6.

Planned parenthood will sponsor Dr. John Whitridge on March 13, to speak on "That thing called The Population Explosion."

Provident hosts health careers workshops

Provident Hospital recently hosted an Education Industry Visitation Workshop on Health Occupations.

The second in a series, the workshop was designed to acquaint guidance counselors in the area with various careers in health care so that they could provide this information to their students.

The day-long session was coordinated by Mr. Leonard Smith, Personnel Director of Provident Hospital.

50 counselors saw a narrated slide presentation, heard a presentation by personnel employed in various health occupations and toured various areas of the hospital.

Model Cities conducts urban crisis workshop

"We all still have a lot of homework to do if we are to better the plight of the inner-city," stated Mrs. Betty Jackson after a workshop sponsored by the Model Cities Emergency Parents Board.

Mrs. Jackson, project director for the Emergency Parents, made this comment after a panel representing many agencies and organizations discussed "Social Action, Social Legislation, and Social Commitment to the Urban Crisis."

Mrs. Agnes Underwood, an Emergency Parent from Area "D," introduced the speakers.

They were Joseph D. Jones, Manpower Representative for the National AFL-CIO Human Resource Development Institute and Mr. Luther Starnes, Director of Public Affairs for the Department of Employment and Social Services, who substituted for Secretary Rita Davidson.

Points brought out in both speakers' presentations stirred the small audience to demand their inclusion in the panel.

Other panel members were Mrs. Ida Wells, Model Cities Project S.A.G.A.; Mrs. Esther Siegal, Housing and Community Development; Mrs. Loretta Wall, substituting for Dr. Roland Patterson; Mrs. Ruth Mednick, the Health and Welfare Council; Charles Dorsey, Legal Aid Bureau; Mrs. Mary Sollers, State Comprehensive Health Planning Council; Charles L. Spoler, the American Red Cross; and Lt. Carolyn Robinson, the Police Department.

Moderated by Mrs. Carolyn Wainwright, Assistant Chief of the Model Cities Community Information Division, the panel members briefly explained what the agency is doing to combat the urban crisis.

Fiery questions from an audience composed of workers and residents of the urban community followed.

Many concerns centered around the fact that the "AFL-CIO has yet to be attuned to the needs of the black worker," as one participant stated. Other issues raised included the welfare effort, the housing situation, and emergency services available through the Red Cross.

MARCH 6-9

WBAL Radio, will host a special "Salute to the Circus" Monday a noon, at Hopkins Plaza. Highlighting this special program will be a free noontime circus with clowns, cycle act, animals, and other features from the Ringling Bros. and Barnum and Bailey Circus.

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Mandel's Gun Bill Splits Black Vote In House

MRS. PHYLLIS W. BRACEY
Social Security employee shot by hubby, had sought divorce. She is recovering from three gunshot wounds.

Army Major Kills Self After Shooting His Wife

MAJ. ALONZO BRACEY
In 1958 he was ROTC grad at Morgan. Viet vet, stationed at Ft. Belvoir, Va., took his own life.

Baltimore Afro-American

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Wife employed Social Security; he was Viet vet

Members of the well-known Bracey family of Baltimore and the Wood family of Lorriane, Ohio, were shocked and grieved this week when tragedy struck them twice within 24 hours.

Shortly after 2 a.m. Monday, the Wood's daughter, 36-year-old Mrs. Phyllis Bracey, was shot three times and seriously wounded by her husband, Army Major Alonzo Bracey, a Fort Belvoir, Va. officer and Vietnam veteran.

Mrs. Bracey is employed at Social Security, Woodlawn.

After the incident in her apartment in the Wakefield development near Dickeyville, Mrs. Bracey was taken to Lutheran Hospital and confined to intensive care unit with bullet wounds of the head, mouth, finger and neck. Last reports state she is recovering.

One bullet entered her head and exited her mouth. Police also report another hit her hand and a third entered her neck and went to her lung.

Shortly after 12 midnight, Tuesday, Major Bracey was found in the 1000 block W. Lafayette Ave. home of his brother, James, suffering from an apparent gunshot wound of the head.

Police state apparently dying a suicide, the 36-year-old Morgan State College 1958 ROTC graduate, had left his wife's apartment immediately after she was wounded. They report the warrant they subsequently secured for him for assault with intent to murder his wife is now abated by death which came to him by his own hands. A .22 caliber revolver was found at the scene.

Major Bracey's brother, James Bracey, a Martin

(Continued on Page A-6)

POLICE VERSION

Wounded wife tells police her story

Mrs. Phyllis Wood Bracey, 36, wife of the Fort Belvoir, Va. major was seriously wounded by her husband on March 6, the night before he died at his own hands.

Mrs. Bracey was struck by several bullets from a small caliber gun, inside her home on Crimea Rd. in the Wakefield Apts. in the plush, historic Dickeyville area of Northwest Baltimore shortly after 2 a.m.

At home in her apartment were her live-in maid, Mrs. Irene Johnson, 84, and the two Bracey children, ages 8 and 5 years.

WIFE'S STORY..

After the shooting, Mrs. Bracey told her story to the

(Continued on Page A-6)

Dr. Julian lays Mayor Schaefer out

Dr. Emerson R. Julian, the highest-ranking City Council member according to the votes he polled has given Mayor Schaefer a verbal spanking in a letter addressed to His Honor March 8.

The "good laying out" comes after Dr. Julian says the mayor took it upon himself to say he is giving preference to city residents in filling job openings when the original idea and battle for the cause were Julian's to begin with.

Mayor Schaefer made his announcement March 7 in a special press conference and, to heap insult upon injury, failed to invite Dr. Julian to be present. Further,

(Continued on Page A-3)

YOU REGISTER NOW PRIMARY ELECTION MAY 16, 1972 DEADLINE TO REGISTER APRIL 17, 1972

Court drops Goldseker case

U.S. District Court Judge Roszel C. Thomsen granted the plaintiffs their request to dismiss the antitrust and civil rights suit against the Goldseker Realty firms Wednesday.

Attorney Larry S. Gibson,

(Continued on Page A-3)

CONGRESSIONAL STRENGTH — Congressmen John Conyers of Michigan and Louis Stokes of Ohio (chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus) clasp hands with Congressman Parren J. Mitchell (D-7th) at a testimonial dinner for Rep. Mitchell, Sunday.

Sitting judge principle is 'Polluted'—Howard

By Judge JOSEPH HOWARD

Never in the history of the State of Maryland has an appellate judicial race produced so much publicity and the threat of one's filing caused such caustic criticism. During the past weeks, I have been accused of being an instrument of insidious intimidation and the mainspring in some black political movement.

The Sunpapers have used their most acid adjectives in unusual proportions to characterize my conduct, and their editors have be-

(Continued on Page A-7)

A POLITICAL ANALYSIS

7th D. voters' mood seems to worry political pros

By MOSES J. NEWSON
Executive Editor, AFRO-AMERICAN Newspapers

The mood of black voters in the Seventh Congressional District, somewhat reflected at Rep. Parren J. Mitchell's successful fund raiser Sunday, seems to be troubling political clubs grappling with decisions of whether to back incumbent Mitchell or challenger George L. Russell Jr.

Neither Senator Verda F. Welcome's Fourth District Democratic Organization nor the Metro Democrats, which include businessmen William (Little Willie) Adams and Henry Parks, has taken a stand.

Both organizations admittedly are split, as was the Fifth District organization run by State Senator Clarence Blount. Senator Blount and his group now have come out for Con-

(Continued on Page B-7)

HAPPY OCCASION on their wedding day Oct. 7, 1961, when both families gathered for photographs. From left are James A. Wood, bride's father; James Bracey, brother of deceased major. The Rev. Inez B. Bracey, mother of the major; James R. Wood, the bride's brother; Mrs. Phyllis W. Bracey, bride; Major Alonzo Bracey, bridegroom; Mrs. Dannie Wood, bride's mother and William Wood, bride's brother.

World's 3rd largest port has women longshoremen

Now women are invading the Port of Baltimore. They have joined the International Longshoremen's Union and, as they say, they are doing anything a man can do on the docks of the world's third largest port.

Miss Savannah Cunningham, 24, of Edmondson Village, a Carver Vocational High School business education, 1966 graduate, was the first to apply in the field where up to this point no women have been employed.

She states, "I was already working on the Port driving foreign cars that come in from other countries. I have been driving three years.

"I went to the ILA Local 858 Union and applied on March 3. I have met no opposition because I am a woman.

"I get the same wages as a man and I do the same jobs, crane operator, tractor driver, unloading and loading cargo whatever."

Miss Cunningham is an accomplished organist and plays mostly as a hobby. She is organist for the Ultra Tones Social Club band. She is the daughter of Mrs. Mary Foster and stepfather William Foster.

Another lady who has joined the longshoremen is Mrs. Nellie I. Swanson.

She told the AFRO "They used excuses why I shouldn't join and I refused to listen to them telling them I would accept under any condition."

Mrs. Swanson, of S. Avondale Rd., is the wife of Richard Swanson. They have one daughter, Shella. Swanson.

The new lady longshoreman is a member of Lively Hope Baptist Church.

She further explained, "I am a former employee of Bethlehem Steel tin mill, where I worked as a machine operator until I was laid off."

When asked, how she felt about working with all men, she stated "I have been accepted by some and not accepted by others but will continue to work there. I like the money. With the cost of living you have to work where the money is."—PAM

Mrs. Savannah Cunningham

GUN BALL

Gun Bill lay-over expected

By PAUL EVANS
ANNAPOLIS

Today (Friday) the House is expected to vote on a motion that will lay the Gun Bill over until the 65th day, when the rule allowing it to be put off day after day ends.

From that point on, in the 90-day session, bills may only be laid over for one hour. Thus action could be forced on the controversial issue.

The amendment to be taken up today (Friday) by Del. Lena K. Lee would give Baltimore City and the counties the right to make their own gun laws "where the governor's bill is weak."

Del. Lee said, "This does not meet the needs of the state. It was designed to create political hysteria."

The Administration's Gun Control Bill—a spource of controversy—almost to the point of violent contact within the black community since it was first introduced as an emergency measure in both houses of the General Assembly, has now split the House Black Caucus.

The caucus, consisting of the 12 black delegates from the city's second, fifth and fourth legislative districts and Dr. Aris T. Allen (R, A.A. County) and Arthur King (D, Prince Georges County) splittered disastrously over the merits of the limit search or "stop and frisk" segment of the bill and the entire proposal at face value.

As the delegates received the bill for third reading

(Continued on Page A-4)

Angela's jury off balance

BULLETIN

SAN JOSE, Calif. (UPI)—Attorneys yesterday completed a tentative jury of nine women and three men, all but one of them white, Davis' murder-kidnap trial.

All 12 were cleared after questioning for "cause" but were still subject to peremptory challenge later in the selection process. Several were expected to be excluded by that method.

Two women tentatively seated in the morning session brought the panel to its full complement of 12.

SAN JOSE, Calif. (UPI)-Ten jurors tentatively have been seated in the Angela Davis trial, including a black woman Wednesday who said, "I am a fair

(Continued on Page A-4)

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