—Fights for job

(FROM PAGE 1)

AFRO, "The challenge was racist and shows they (Mr. Phillips and Mr. Tierney) know nothing about human relations."

Del. Boswell will testify when the hearing resumes in June.

Kiser Barnes told the AFRO: "I am upset by their action towards me. I understand that this is a conspiracy against me and other aggressive members of the staff.

"All this came about because we were able to insert the commission between the community and the most powerful collection of men in the state, the United Fund.

"I understand why the powers-that-be must come after me, out I am ashamed for them.

"It is ironic that this kind of agency violates all concepts of due process and violates a person's civil rights." — SDP.

TREADWELL PHILLIPS
director of the state
Human Relations Commission

200 Annapolis residents back Liberation Day

"Annapolis residents will join blacks from all over the world in a show of unity against oppression of blacks everywhere, particularly in our motherland, Africa."

This is the word which came Thursday from Blanton Scott, who owns the Kalomo Book Shop at 110 West St. in Annapolis.

He announced approximately 200 persons from Annapolis will journey to Washington for the Liberation Day service. The group leaves 10 a.m. Saturday from First Baptist Church, 31 W. Washington St.

56 long days and no word

Nearly 56 days after his disappearance not a word of hope nor any concrete lead has been given as to where adorable 3-year-old Solomon G. Rose, 3rd, can be found.

Shopping with his mother at the Mondawmin Shopping Center April 1, the child affectionately called 'Poone', mysteriously disappeared while his mother, Mrs. Geraline Gray, 22, was cashing a check.

The National Coast Guards and Baltimore police officers have since combed the city for him without success.

However, the child's parents and the police have not given up the search and sincerely hope for the safe return of the child.

He was last seen wearing navy blue turtle-neck shirt, blue and white checkered pants, tan buck shoes and brown coat.

It is generally thought he may have met with a friendly, lonely, childless woman who has claimed him for herself.

Meanwhile, a reward of $900 has been offered.

Anyone who has knowledge about his whereabouts must contact the AFRO City Desk, 728-8200; or the grandmother of the child, Mrs. Daisy Jackson, 462-3076; or Missing Persons Division of the Police Department, MU. 5-1600.

Panther is found guilty

B-U-L-L-E-T-I-N

Black Panther, Jack Ivory Johnson, 23, was found guilty Thursday of first degree murder in the ambush-slaying of a 38-year-old patrolman by a Criminal Court jury, who returned the verdict with the words, "without capital punishment."

Johnson's punishment is therefore limited to life imprisonment for the murder charge. He was also convicted of assault with intent to murder another patrolman.

According to Assistant State's Attorney Thomas Bollinger, the officers were fired upon in "ambush" fashion by Johnson and two other reported Black panther members.

Marshal E. Conway, 25, a former Postal worker, was convicted of first degree murder and assault with intent to murder charges stemming from the shootings by a Criminal Court jury in January last year.

James E. Powell, 25, was also convicted of the same charges during January 1972. Both men were sentenced to life plus 20-year sentences.

Jurors were told Johnson confessed to police that he took part in the shootings.

Lt. Thomas J. McKew stated the defendant answered when asked about the shooting, "You're not going to get me for killing anybody. I fired my gun into the air."

Lt. McKew also testified Johnson said after he had seen three other companions "pump" shots into the policemen he didn't "have the heart to kill the pig."

* * *

Johnson with Powell, Conway and a third alleged Panther member, all armed with guns, searched East Baltimore for a policeman, jurors were told.

Testimony disclosed when the four men spotted Officers Sager and Sierakowski, one of them stated "Let's off them." Shots were then fired from both sides of the patrol car, evidence showed.

Lt. McKew testified Johnson said they received orders from panther headquarters to "do the job" because several black students had been killed in the South.

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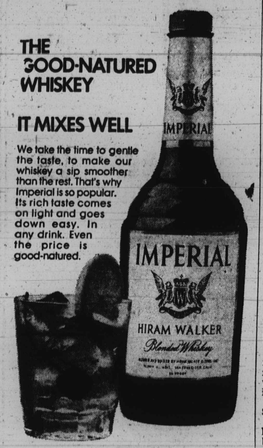

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SCHOOL BOARD TOLD

Slums like quicksand, 'once in, can't get out'

By PAUL EVANS
AFRO SCHOOL WRITER

"A slum is like . . . a guagmire, a big quicksand. Just like you step in something, you just sink and can't get out of it . . . I mean you can live there for months and millions of years and you will see the same place, same time, and same situation. It's just like time stops here.'"

This quote, made before the United States Commission on Civil Rights by a resident of a Gary, Indiana slum, was repeated before Thursday night's meeting of the Board of School Commissioners by Mrs. Margaret D. Armstrong coordinator of Cultural Activities in the Music Division of the city's schools.

Mrs. Armstrong's statement was part of a presentation to board members on efforts to enrich the cultural surroundings and awareness of many of the children in elementary and secondary schools.

"We try," said Mrs. Armstrong, "to make an impact on children who see the same thing. Through music, art, dance, drama and storytelling, students are able to broaden their environment and understanding of the world in which they live."

With funds provided through a ESEA Title I Project grant, 68 elementary and 26 secondary schools have been exposed this year to various forms of artistic and cultural expression.

The fields range from the appearance of groups as the Jimmy Wells Quintet, the New Thing African Heritage Dancers and Drummers, the Maryland Ballet Co., the Eurla Frederick Puppets, the Bob Fields Jazz Ensemble and Young Audiences, Inc.

When the groups appear each has a theme to make the experience as meaningful and lasting as possible.

For example, with the Jimmy Wells Quintet, the theme was "to musically demonstrate the true meaning of the blues as an art form and its effect upon contemporary musicians."

With the appearance of nationally acclaimed poet and published author, Baltimore's own, Mrs. Mary Carter Smith as poet-in-residence, her theme was "to project" through poetry and drama, ways of helping people better understand each other."

Eurla Frederick's puppets illustrated "the different kinds of puppets and demonstrated the many ways that puppets can be used to provide enjoyment and entertainment through a creative program."

The Bob Fields Jazz Ensemble attempted "to develop a better understanding of the meaning of improvisation in jazz."

And, with the John L. Lewis Song Recital, students were introduced to various types of vocal music, e.g. spirituals, gospels, soul and show tunes.

The exchange of experiences for the children, Mrs. Armstrong, explained, was two-fold. Teachers were able to note changes in attitude, technically called "behavior modification" resulting from cultural awakenings.

Did the child's behavior improve? Did he seem eager for the cultural experiences? Did he obtain a better understanding of the multi-racial, multi-ethnic society in which he lives as a result of the experiences?

These are all questions teachers asked themselves, administrators discussed, and psychologists pondered as a result of cultural experiences for disadvantaged (mostly black) children.

Questions stemming forth continue: Are all "problem" children, just that, or are they asking for attention or manifesting their boredom and frustration and feeling they don't "belong" to any group, family or society—or that nobody "cares."?

Although Mrs. Armstrong's presentation wasn't designed to answer all of these questions, it hopefully gave "others" of the board something to think about as Commissioner Elizabeth Murphy Moss's committee on Student Discipline and Rights prepares to make its report to the board and the superintendent on why students act as they do.

In other board matters, Commissioners Larry Gibson, James Griffin and Moss got a firm commitment from Superintendent Roland N. Patterson that more efforts would be utilized to have black architects in a majority black school system have more input into the planning of buildings.

At present there are but two black architects utilized by the system.

Also, he promised that contractors receiving public bids would be checked to see they are equal opportunity employers.

The three commissioners, the AFRO was told, felt this is most important since blacks "have been systematically excluded from the layers of fat in the trade, construction and building industries in America. That is where the money is."

* * *

In weeks to come the board will discuss acquiring a permanent lobbyist for the school system whose sole job would be to get funds from the legislatures for city schools. This would include Congress, the General Assembly and the City Council.

Dr. Patterson agreed to permit a woman student to attend all-male Poly. The student, Miss Martha Ricci, will attend Western and take engineering courses at adjacent Poly not offered at the all girls school.

Her school day would be 30 to 40 minutes longer. The two buildings have different time schedules. Her progress will be reviewed by the board each year. The board agreed.

Commissioner Kalman Hettleman noted the City Council will hold hearings on the school budget Thursday, June 1, 3 p.m. in council chambers at City Hall.

Members present not mentioned were Student Commissioner Arlene Jenkins, Mrs. Maree Farring, Dr. Wayman Scott and Dr. John Walton.

Commissioner Griffin, vice president of the Board, presided.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 8 at the same building, Coldstream Elementary School, Loch Raven and Exeter Hall Ave. at 7 p.m.

LOOK AROUND YOU

Traffic Bureau makes no gains in black employment

EDITOR'S NOTE—Here is another in a series of articles dealing with the hiring policies of public agencies operating in the city.

This series is designed to have AFRO readers become aware that few agencies meet satisfactory black employment levels.

The AFRO encourages its readers to write in about agencies with inadequate black employment so "Look Around You" can make an investigation.

"Look Around You" this week reports on yet another city agency whose only claim of higher black employment is through their participation of the federally funded Public Employment Program (PEP).

* * *

The Department of Transit and Traffic, responsible for road signs, parking meters and traffic lights, has 25 PEP workers (5 white and 20 black) mostly working in the salaried laborer class known as utility aides.

The department employment officer told the AFRO, of the employees on the city payroll, the number of black workers has stayed at 31 over the past two years.

He stated the number of white workers has stayed at the 238 level and the percentage of black workers to whites has held at about 11 per cent.

The commissioner and his five assistants are white. Only 5 people (or 7 per cent) of the department's 68 foremen and supervisors are black workers.

The hope for the PEP workers, the employment personnel officer added, is for them to fill in department vacancies. He said he is working with the Civil Service Commission to give PEP workers an advantage in Civil Service tests.

Presently, there are two vacancies (the department's only vacancies) at the laborer level.

He remarked the chances of getting black employees into higher positions is slim because there has not been a non-laborer job opening for the last six months.

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