—Guards on, off

(FROM PAGE ONE)

go and help the guards then on duty with the "shake down" of all convicts which began Tuesday.

Officers claim they were told to go back to work or they would be suspended by Warden Gerald McClelland.

Guards were unhappy with Gov. Mandel's indifference to their demands and claimed his favoring the rioting inmates placed their lives in danger.

During the protest the chairman of the guards committee was revealed to newsmen for the first time as, Earl Smothers who served as spokesman.

In talking with Officer Smothers, the AFRO learned that the Secretary of Public Safety and Correction, Col. Robert J. Lally had come into the meeting at 9:50 a.m. and delivered the ultimatum.

This command was supposedly followed by a threat of suspension issued by Warden Gerald McClelland.

* * *

This angered the officers and a protest consisting of a semi-walkout was staged.

This left a skeleton crew of officers o duty.

There were just enough officerst o man the walls of the institution and maintain control of strategic points throughout the Pen.

Angry, Warden McClelland, came out to tell the guards that if they weren't going to work, to leave the premises.

During this time, 54 city policemen were called in and manned the vacant spots left by the guards.

A total of about 65 guards walked off the shift usually consisting of close to 140 officers.

* * *

When word was released that prisoners were escaping from the South Wing, the segregation area of the Pen, all of the guards proved the importance of their job to them by running back into the institution to put things back in order.

In actuality there were no prisoners escaping from the South Wing.

When the guards walked off, all of the inside office workers walked out of the Pen also. This was about 10 a.m.

One of the office workers stated that "After the officers eaev, we have no protection."

* * *

The major cry of the guards was for Gov. Marvin Mandel to come to speak with them.

The governor at that time was in Washington testifying before the Senate Finance Committee on a revenue sharing bill.

After the disturbance everything was secured, the meeting continued and the guards returned to their posts.

The meeting continued in a discussion of their three remaining demands.

* * *

Ernest Crofoot, director of the Maryland Public Employees Council 67 was present. To see that things were not running into the union's jurisdiction was Tyrone Lane Maryland Penitentiary Local 1427, A.F.S.C.M.E., A.F.L.-C.I.O.

All that had to be straightened out was some clarification of rulings concerning the inspection of mail.

* * *

The guards also expressed their concern about outsiders coming into the institution as members of self-help organizations and distributing contraband to the inmates.

After such self help organizational functions are over, an over abundance of contraband is found, such as liquor, dope, and other items.

The guards reportedly state that the inmates themselves admit to only being concerned about the next social function and nothing really productive comes of these groups.

The guards state they would like to see an end to all such groups that bring in people for no other reason except for socializing.

The guards have also mentioned their concern with public officials making promises without looking into the matter sufficiently.

These public officials, they claim, have no sort of background into what they are asking to be done.

The guards say that there are public officials who know what they are talking about and deserve to be heard.

Overall the guards were pleased with the results of the meetings and are now in the process of getting things back in order.

* * *

In speaking with Col. Lally, newsmen learned that whenever a legislator wants to visit the institution now he would have to be cleared through his office.

Col. Lally stated that he was not aware of any promises that the governor made during the riots.

The colonel expresred thatin speaking with Gov. Marvin Mandel, the

-Forgotten

(FROM PAGE ONE)

assistant press secretary, Thomas Burton, told the AFRO the governor had not answered the telegram and that he was in Washington appearing before the Senate Finance Committee.

Claiming he spoke for the governor, Col. Robert Lally told an AFRO reporter that Mandel made no promises on the South Wing but did say no mental or physical reprisals would be taken.

A woman phoned the AFRO that each day a group goes to the Eager St. side of the pen to holler to the inmates to see what is going on.

She said Thursday the inmates yelled down, "They're beating the hell out of us."

Another passer-by quoted inmates-as saying they had not eaten in three days.

Another street walker revealed one inmate said he was so badly beaten he could not eat if there had been food.

Pen officials claim food is served regularly and inmates have clothing on in the South Wing which is reputed to have only a toilet hole in the floor and nude inmates.

* * *

Here is Congressman Mitchell's release on the telegram to Gov. Mandel dated 10 a.m. July 20:

Congressman Parren J. Mitchell today called on Maryland Governor Marvin Mandel to assure that officials of the Maryland Penitentiary live up to the agreement negotiated for the release of the three (3) hostages held during Monday's disruption at the Maryland Penitentiary.

In a telegram to the Governor, Congressman Mitchell cited an agreement that there would be no mental or physical retribution and no transfers to the South Wing cell block.

"Not only have the men been transferred," noted the Maryland Conresman, "the press and attorneys have been barred from the penitentiary.

"Your ability to deal with future situations depends upon your credibility with the prison population."

Congressman Mitchell added that he recognized the legitimacy of the guards' complaints.

Mitchell called on the Governor to remove the men from the South Wing, reopen the penitentiary, and allow a citizen's group to monitor the condition of these men.

Inmates hold guards at county jail

The third in a series of penal uprisings took place at the Prince Georges County Jail in Upper Marlboro on Tuesday.

Some 100 inmates gained control of the second floor and held three unarmed guards hostage until after officials met to hear their demands.

At least $4,000 in damage was done to the jail's library.

Damage totalled over $1.5 million in the Monday incident at the Maryland Penitentiary and $500,000 in last Saturday's disturbance at the Maryland House of Correction in Jessup.

Governor Marvin Mandel is in the process of taking immediate steps in improving conditions for inmates and tightening discipline in the state's prisons.

Robert J. Lally, secretary of public safety and correctional services has been instructed to analyze and make recommendations on the manpower situation at each prison; draw up and enforce a uniform set of prison rules for guards and inmates in all correctional facilities, and set up training programs for prison supervisors and staff members.

Mr. Lally is also to devise a new medical-care program for all prisons; review all convict self-help programs, and speed up the implementation of expanded inmate rehabilitation programs.

—Del. Lee

(FROM PAGE ONE)

without further ado walked towards the administration building leaving the two to fend for themselves.

* * *

However Frank Brown, a penitentiary official, met Del. Lee and the AFRO reporter just as they were descending the steps.

Mr. Brown told the two the whole place had been sealed off and no visitors will be allowed in there.

He said the sealed-off area is necessary for a "big shake down" in progress at the Pen.

It will be recalled that during Monday's revolt many inmates were seen carrying many dangerous weapons.

Mr. Brown stated the situation is well in hand but could not tell when visitors will be finally allowed in.

The Northern gate, the usual entrance for the public, is completely sealed off.

The only way to the Penitentiary yard is by the Eastern gates where there is strict control.

As this reporter and Del. Lee were walking towards the main Penitentiary entrance, inmates were heard shouting:

"We can't get anything to eat. We are starving." They also claimed they were being brutalized.

However, an official denied the inmates were being refused their daily meals. There are no brutalities either, he said.

The Pen itself, scene of disturbances, earlier this week, was quiet as there were few people around. However, curious passers-by were often seen stopping and peeping through the fence.

Nominations for governing board end July 25

Nominations for the Governing Board of Provident Comprehensive Neighborhood Health Center end July 25.

Sixteen persons will be elected to the Governing Board.

Qualifications for Board membership are: 18 years old or older; registered patient of Provident Comprehensive Neighborhood Health Center; and resident of the following area whose boundaris are North — Gwynns Falls Pkwy. and Druid Lake Drive, east—Jones Falls Expressway and Mt. Royal Ave., south—Baltimore St. and west—Pulaski and Longwood Sts., Franklintown Rd. and Claymont, Braddish and Warwick Aves.

To become a candidate send your name, address and telephone number to: Election Committee, Provident Comprehensive Neighborhood Health Center, 907 Edmondson Ave.; Balto., Md. 21223

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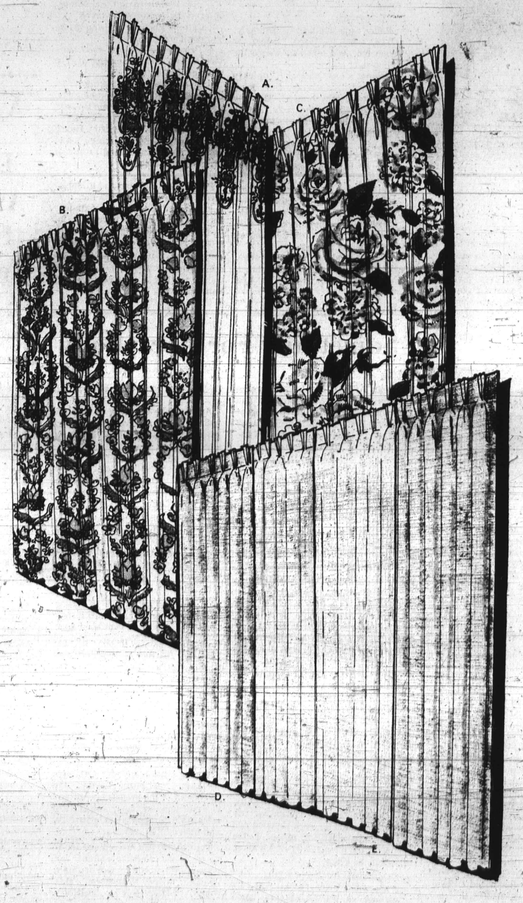

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C. "Princess Rose"	Reg.	SALE
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144x84"	68.00	51.00
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