IS SOCIAL SECURITY A PLACE WHERE ANYTHING GOES?

Schoonfield: Time Off For Bad Behavior

WARDEN HIRAM SCHOONFIELD

"It almost seems there is no alternative for (the City Jail warden's firing). I hate to say that. I've never been involved to go after anybody like this."

Maryland Director for AFSCME Union Ernest B. Crofoot, as stated above, still regrets hunting for Warden Hiram Schoonfield's head, but, he told the AFRO Thursday, the warden must be fired.

At the end of a two-day hearing of the new Jail Board Wednesday, the warden was not fired.

He was reprimanded and placed on immediate suspension without pay for two weeks while the Board studies recent reports and court decisions on City Jail to evaluate "the ability of the warden to continue in his present capacity."

"If the Board weighs every report and probes in an energetic manner," Mr. Crofoot suggested, "it can reach a conclusion in two weeks that the warden must be replaced."

The union leader remarked the jail's correctional officers, meanwhile, will not walk off their posts. Officers on B shift have walked off twice in the last week, last Thursday and Monday.

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Mr. Crofoot explained the most important development from the hearing is "the confidence of the officers in the Jail Board has been restored."

He added, "If the Board continues to conduct itself like this, it will have the cooperation of the officers."

In the hearing that began Monday with the union's accusations and continued Wednesday with the warden's defense, the question was how the warden conducted himself at a meeting with union people in his office Thursday afternoon, July 27.

In charging the warden with racial slurs, union witnesses including city Labor Commissioner Robert Hillman and Mr. Crofoot testified the controversial remarks came when negotiation of officer demands were "1½ minutes away" from a satisfactory conclusion.

Union witnesses told the Board the warden got up from his chair, leaned across his desk, wagged his finger and shouted at a black female officer (matron), who came in to complain about a parking problem.

Witnesses said Warden Schoonfield called her a "scrub woman," and a guard from the back of the room then asked the warden to show her respect and added, "You don't like us blacks?"

The warden, they stated, responded, "No." Witnesses also attributed the warden with having called another matron a mother of an "illegitimate child."

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In his defense, the warden did not deny having said the words in question, but he did say the union witnesses misrepresented the intent of his remarks.

He testified his use of "scrub woman" was just to let the matron "recall" that he helped make her a matron when she came to him "desperate" for work.

Mr. Schoonfield admitted saying "no" to the question of not liking us blacks," but commented he was referring just to the actions of the black officers in his office, not to all black people.

He also admitted using the word "illegitimate" but was responding to a matron who was claiming to be "half-married" and so was asking her if half-married meant she had "an illegitimate child."

In the Board's decision presented after two hours of deliberation, Board President H. Mebane Turn-

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NAOMI GETS 15 YRS. IN N.J. JUDGE'S MURDER

(SEE STORY ON PAGE A-2)

Baltimore Afro American

66,979 FAMILIES READ THE AFRO LAST WEEK — PUBLISHED TWICE WEEKLY

BISHOP ROBINSON THIRD AME PRELATE TO DIE

(SEE STORY ON PAGE A-6)

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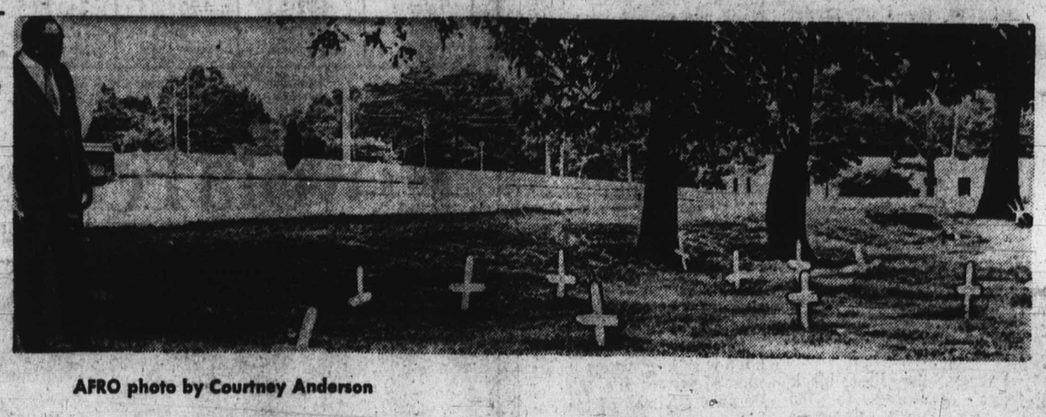
Del. Brailey Wants To See Inside Graves



AFRO photo by Courtney Anderson

'If bodies have to be dug up to get the answer, I want it done'—Brailey

Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services Secretary Robert J. Lally told the AFRO he is as interested in the secret cemetery where inmates are buried as Del. Troy Brailey and as soon as he gets Del. Brailey's letter of demands he (Lally) says he will get the answers. The letter was mailed Aug. 3.

The demands Del. Brailey wants include extensive research on the inmates buried in the grounds there between the Correctional Camp Center and the Jessups Women's Prison.

Highlighting Mr. Brailey's letter to Mr. Lally is the request that if necessary, the skeletons be dug up and inspection made toward discovering how the

(Continued On Page A-6)

Is Social Security 'heartbreak' hill?

Is the Woodlawn Complex Social Security with its 15,777 employees a little town where broken hearts abound?

Do secret romances lead to broken homes? Does vice exist so that you can "put your numbers in" anytime? What about prostitution, hot clothes, color TV's and playing the horses?

Is Social Security the place where "anything goes?"

DIVORCES

According to Mrs. Charlotte Crenson, for 30 years the press officer who gets into every nook and cranny and hears or sees all, "No doubt there are love affairs, divorces, marriages in proportion. But there's no higher proportion of divorce and vice here. We are more visible. It's like living in a gold fish bowl."

Proudly she added, "Our employees have pride and are most committed. They are not ashamed to say they are employed here."

PROCESS SERVERS

Mrs. Crenson revealed process servers do come to summon employees to court "but no one is dragged off" and no one is allowed to come on the premises except federal marshals.

Pleasantly, she replied that two out of three employees are women and with women out-numbering the men, "you would expect romances.

"We have a lot of pretty girls here," she smiled.

Mrs. Crenson also said the atmosphere is relaxed and with two coffee breaks, no pressure on employees who wear mini skirts, bushes (white and black), sideburns, long hair, and without coats and ties, "the people are human beings."

ROMANCES

Excitedly she informed, "Lots of couples fall in love and get married. Some met in 1938 when we opened and now have children working

(Continued On Page A-3)

Two citizens cited at City Hall

Two city employees who helped prevent injury and loss of life during two separate fires have been honored at City Hall.

Receiving Citizen Citations from the Mayor at a special ceremony were: Mrs. Vernice West and Mr. James Glynn. Both work for the Department of Housing and Community Development.

Mayor Schaefer said, "One of the positive aspects in our city is the dedication of the large majority of our employees. Day-in and day-out they do an excellent job without fanfare.

"They are preparedt to to extraordinary lengths above and beyond the call of duty to give assistance. Too often we hear only about what went wrong. The bravery of Mrs. West and Mr. Glynn should be recognized."

• • •

Mrs. West, a telephone switchboard operator at the HCD Office at 1313 Druid Hill Ave., was cited for her action when a two alarm fire struck the building on July 10.

Despite pleas from other employees, she continued to call all offices to

(Continued On Page A-6)

A SMALL TOWN in its own right with 15,777 employee population, Social Security has all problems experienced by human beings thrown together by circumstance.

He's 100 today

"I feel fine, I can't get around too fast. I can't dance anymore. My feet bother me but I can still walk around the room."

These were the words of Gabriel A. Bennett of Woodstock, Md., who is celebrating his 100th birthday today (Friday). A special mass will be celebrated at his home for his birthday.

In March 1898, he went to

(Continued On Page A-6)

Judge Murphy backed by District Court Chief Judge

In answer to protests and allegations that District Court Judge William H. Murphy has been "letting out" dangerous criminals, Chief Judge Robert F. Sweeney of the District Court of Maryland has filed a firm statement.

The questions on Judge Murphy's decisions arose again last week when Patrolman Lorenzo Gray was supposedly slain by a man who had been previously released on his own recognizance in an unrelated case.

Judge Sweeney's state-

(Continued On Page A-8)

Meade GI's dream may soon be true

By SCOTT PONEMONE

"It's sort of like a dream, but I'm afraid the dream won't come true." Pvt. Dwight Drewery, who has been in Army stockades for 13 of the last 20 months, is dreaming about living with his wife and 2-year-old daughter.

Last fall after his release from 10 mos. in a stockade in Germany for charges he said that arose because he complained about a Klan-style cross burning, Pvt. Drewery remarked, he felt his dream was getting so close.

But he ran into trouble in Ft. Meade when he tried to get his discharge papers and a year's back pay, was court-martialed and, as he said, "The Army pushed my dream away."

• • •

With the aid of his lawyer, Luther West, and Rep. Parren Mitchell, Pvt. Drewery never served his 3-month sentence from his Ft. Meade trial and stayed with his aunt in Baltimore as he waited for his discharge papers to come by mail.

Monday he received a phone call from his "excited" wife, Mrs. Lorauger Drewery, who has been living in Newport News, Va. and became excited himself: his discharge papers came.

As soon as he gets the papers mailed by his wife, he explained his whole future changes: he can get a job, arrange veteran's payment of college tuition in the fall, and by next Friday send for his wife and little Nicolette.

Also, Pvt. Drewery stated, if the Army still does not send him his back pay, he is going to talk with his lawyer and draft a letter for a suit.

10-15 YEARS is the sentence handed Mrs. Naomi A. Stout, former Jersey teacher, in slaying of Judge Roger M. Yancey. Story inside on Page A-2 gives details.

NEW JAIL REPORTS

Mayor wants city courts coordinator

Mayor William Donald Schaefer gave the Supreme Bench two months to select an administrator to coordinate the state and local criminal justice system in Baltimore or he would make the appointment himself.

The mayor made this decision Tuesday as he released the second report of his blue-ribbon committee on City Jail. The committee is chaired by William L. Marbury.

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The need for a court coordinator, the report explained, was made evident to the committee when it found "no reliable statistics" on the jail inmates

(Continued On Page A-3)

Judge lists rights of jail inmates

In the U.S. District Court case of several City Jail inmates versus Warden Hiram Schoonfield, Judge Frank A. Kaufman stated in his Interim Decree dated July 27 he expects two reports from the mayor within the next two months to show how his orders for improved jail conditions are being implemented.

Judge Kaufman wrote the mayor has agreed to file a report by Aug. 22 to include jail "procedures for determining indigency and standards and rules which are required in connection with food, clothing and hygiene, visiting arrangements ... and religious, educational,

(Continued On Page A-3)

No. 5 bus holdup brings $145,000 bail

Four teen-aged bandits staged a bizarre purse-snatching raid in a daylight armed holdup of a city MTA bus Wednesday afternoon and nearly succeeded in making off with an unspecific large amount of money.

Police claim $106 in cash and a $161 check were taken from the passengers but, an unidentified passenger, told the AFRO he suspects much more was taken.

With one of the bandits pointing a sawed-off shotgun at the head of the driver, the youths employed threats and terror in the dramatic stickup of the capacity-filled Slade Ave., No. 5 bus in the 900 block McCulloh St.

Holdup Squad detective reports claim with their loot hanging over their shoulders the youths fled the bus with its scared and excited passengers.

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However, said the report, three of them were arrested 20 minutes later as they were entering a bar only three blocks away from the scene of the holdup.

The fourth person was arrested in the 1100 block Argyle Ave., just around the

(Continued On Page A-2)

NO. 5 BUS DRIVER Worthington Winkler was talking with two passengers who did not wish to release their names when AFRO photographer John Dorman came along with his camera at Preston and Hoffman Sts. shortly after 3 p.m. Wednesday.

INSIDE TODAY

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