LADY BAILIFF, pretty Miss Constance Diggs, 26, recently become the first black woman to serve as bailiff with the city Traffic Courts.

Lady bailiff – a first

When asked her opinion of women in court, without hesitation 26-year-old Miss Constance Diggs replied, "I feel that my feminity adds to the court."

Several weeks earlier, Miss Diggs had become the first black woman ever to serve as a bailiff to the Traffic Court for Baltimore City. There are two other women similarly employed by the court.

She listed as future plans to attend law school, "not just to become a lawyer, but to understand people. I like helping people out with problems."

The daughter of Mrs. Marie Diggs, she termed herself a "diligent church worker" a member of the Highway Church of Christ, Harlem Ave.

She is also a vocalist with the noted Baltimore Fellowship Ship Choir directed by James R. Peterson.

Miss Diggs is a graduate of Douglass High School and attended Maryland State College where she majored in social services.

Beware! Bee bites can be dangerous

Bees — not snakes or scorpions — are the leading man killers among venomous creatures warns the Baltimore Safety Council.

The local chapter of the National Safety Council points out in a recent release that the group of insects classified as hymenopterous, but better known as wasps, bees and hornets are man' biggest threat.

A 10-year national study of 460 deaths from snake and insect bits reveals that bees caused 50 per cent of these fatalities. Snakes caused 30 per cent and scorpions only 2 per cent.

* * *

Many people are not aware that they are highly allergic to bee venom until it's too late.

The number of fatal or near fatal cases due to allergic reaction is increasing. The first allergic reaction is usually not fatal and provides a warning to the victim.

A bee sting usually only leaves a painful swelling that goes away in a few hours, but an allergic reaction can vary from dizziness to headaches, from abdominal cramps to extreme nausea, from itching to death. Difficulty in breathing hives and swelling in a spot different from the location of the sting are other warning signs of alergy. A doctor should be seen immediately.

Once a person is sensitized to the venom of one kind of Hymenoptera, he will be allergic to the sting of them all.

There are measures a person can take to avoid being stung. Sweet smells attracts bees, so avoid strong perfumes and hair sprays, hair tonics and sun tan lotions. Floral fragrances in particular seem to attract insects.

When a bee is around, avoid swift movements, and if a bee lands on you, don't slap at it. A bee usually won't sting unless threatened.

DEATH NOTICES—When a loved one dies, you can have your funeral director let your friends know. Simply call AFRO Classified, 728-8200. Death notices accepted up until two hours before publication, noon on Tuesdays and Fridays.

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Court reform groups plan state meeting

Four organizations interested in the modernization and improvement of Maryland courts have announced that they are co-sponsoring a second state-wide Citizens Conference to be held in Annapolis on September 7 and 8.

A similar conference held just four years ago and attended by approximately 125 citizens from throughout the state formed the Citizens Committee on Modernization of Maryland Courts and Justice, a non-profit corporation, which worked for the passage of legislation establishing the District Court of Maryland.

The Citizens Committee, of which Mrs. Alan Y. Cole of Bethesda is now the president, is one of the sponsoring groups.

Robert L. Weinberg, a Baltimore attorney, has been designated by the Maryland Bar Association to be Conference Chairman with Mrs. Cole. Mr. Weinberg was chairman of the first conference held in September, 1969, also in Annapolis.

Preliminary plans for the conference provide that the topics to be considered include the new criminal justice standards advocated by the American Bar Association, the concept of unified single level trial courts throughout the state, and problems relating to the selection and retirement of state judges. Invitation will be sent to selected citizens throughout the state, but lawyers and judges will not be included as conference invitees. Governor Marvin Mandel and Chief Judge Robert C. Murphy, the co-hosts of the conference, will be sending out the invitations within the next month.

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Beef shortage due soon food expert claims

Donald S. Perkins, one of the food industry's chief spokesmen, predicted earlier this week that as a result of the continued freeze on beef prices, beef shortages will begin to hit the nation's markets next week.

Government officials have said they do not expect to see shortages until early September.

Mr. Perkins is chief executive officer of Jewel Companies, Inc., a Midwestern supermarket chain and chairman of the Food Advisory Committee of the Cost of Living Council.

* * *

He said that smaller farmers, who postpone sending their cattle to market until the government lifts price ceilings on beef, will be the cause of immediate shortages.

The limits on the cost of beef are due to continue until September 12 under the Phase 4 economy plan.

The Cost of Living Council dismissed reports that markets are raising their prices unnecessarily.

* * *

But William Walker, general council of the agency, said that the Internal Revenue Service will be making checks to see that the companies in the food industry are complying with the Phase 4 rules.

Open house to feature student works

The Summer Writing Opportunity Program (SWOP) on campus at Friends School holds its 5th annual Open House and Exhibit on Thursday, August 2 from 10:30 a.m. to noon.

Persons are urged to come and visit with us. Students will display what they have been doing this summer in mathematics, in science, in art, in black history and in English.

When persons arrive on campus, a SWOP student will direct them to the auditorium.

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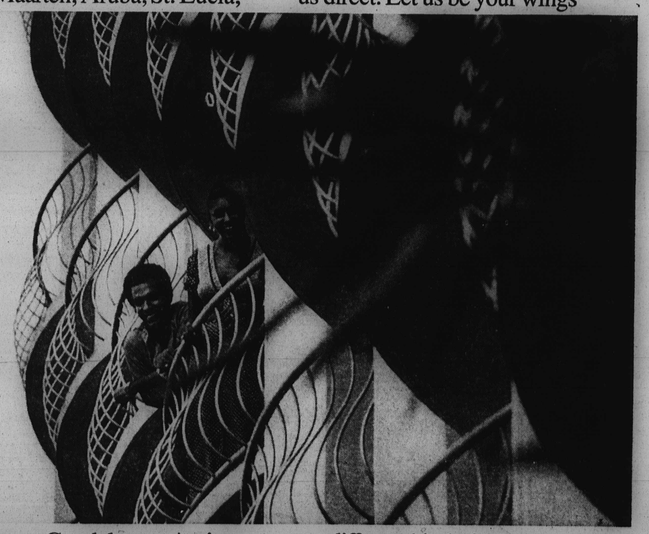

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SPOTLIGHT IS ON MID-SUMMER WEDDINGS HERE

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Social Security Worker's Life Saved

Lottery men pay fines of $3,000

By Pam Widgeon

Three men who were convicted of lottery came to Criminal Court prepared on Wednesday to pay fines and court costs.

One of the defendants had a brown paper bag containing over $3,000. Judge Basil Thomas fined the defendants $1,000 each plus court costs and placed them on probation.

The defendants were Barry M. Pierce, 43, 900 block Mount St., received two year's probation; Leroy G. Brooks, 45, 1600 block W. Lanvale St. one year's probation and Charles A. Tyner, 44, 2200 block Rockrose Ave. placed on probation for two years.

Court records state police went to the Spirits Cat Club in the 1600 block W. Lanvale St. on Jan. 7, 1972 with a search and seizure warrant for the three defendants.

Evidence showed police recovered from the office in the club 1,524 numbers, 42 lottery slips which represented $844 in play, tally sheets and a dream book.

Court records show at the time of the raid, the club was owned by Mrs. Loretta Jones. Barry Pierce is now the propitetor of the club according to court records.

The AFRO was told the defendants paid the sheriff $3,495 in $1' $10' $20's $50s and $100 bills before they left the court.

Rule death of teacher a suicide

Funeral services were held Thursday for William Watson Jr., 32, at Heritage United Church of Christ. Watson was a math teacher at Alicia Crossland High School, North Ave., and Calvert St.

Dr. Craig Duncan, medical examiner at the City Morgue states Watson's death is listed as suicide. The doctor reported death was caused by gunshot wounds of the head.

Police report Mrs. Barbara Watson, wife of the deceased, discovered her husband around 3:30 p.m. on Sunday slumped in a black leather chair in the basement of their Pennwood Rd., home.

According to police, Mrs. Watson stated her husband had been very depressed and moody for sometime, about work and the difficulty he had getting a summer

(Continued on Page A-2)

Appeals Court overturns redistricting

By Fletcher Roberts
AFRO Annapolis Bureau

ANNAPOLIS — For failure to comply with a state regulation requiring prior public hearings, the state Court of Appeals ordered the Governor's reapportionment plan thrown our citing constitutional defects and the turned around to readopt the same redistricting scheme.

The Mandel plan which is now the Court adopted plan, would divide the state into 47 roughly equal legislative districts each represented by three delegates and one senator.

* * *

The Court authorized "to review the legislative districting of the State" found the Governor's plan "invalid" on grounds that insufficient public hearing had been "held prior to preparation of his districting plan."

The Court observed that hear' requirement . . . was that conducied in Annapolis on January 4, 1973, but that . . . hearing was deficient" under state law for failure to give proper legal notice to the public.

The order signed by Chief Judge of the Court Robert

(Continued on Page A-2)

Lawmakers to attend convention

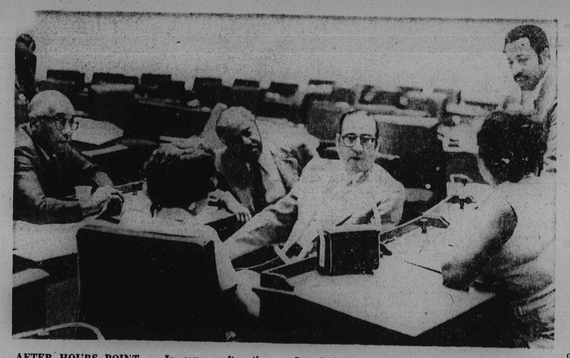
AFRO Annapolis Bureau

ANNAPOLIS — Three black Maryland legislators will attend a four-day convention in Chicago of the National Legislative Conference hosted by the state of Illinois and its legislature.

Del. Joseph A. Chester (D., 2nd Baltimore) will be joined by two Fourth District Democrats, Delegates Troy Brailey and Lloyal Randolph, along with 3,500 legislators nationwide in taking part in the discussions to be held Aug. 7-10.

* * *

The conference is designed to provide maximum opportunity for interstate communication and cooperation on major problems currently facing state governments and the federal system.



AFTER HOURS POINT — In caucus after the first day of the Special Session of the Maryland General Assembly were: (from left) Delegates Joseph A. Chester, (back turned) Lena Lee, Calvin Douglass, Lloyal Randolph, Hildagardeis Boswell and (standing) Frank Conaway.
(AFRO Staff Photo by Fletcher Roberts)

$200,000 Extraordinary Assembly

What's in it for taxpayers?

By Fletcher Roberts
AFRO Annapolis Bureau

ANNAPOLIS — Like it or not, Maryland taxpayers will be asked soon to pick up the tab for the 30-day special session 1973 General Assembly to the tune of $200,000.

On a per capita basis, that's roughly $1,070 per man or $36 per day for the 185-member state Assembly.

So just what exactly are we getting for our investment? What's so 'special' about this Special Session that it costs $200,000?

To take a closer look, let's apply the method of 'cost-benefit analysis' which simply means, if the costs exceed the benefits, then it's a bad investment.

* * *

This 'Extra-ordinary Session' was called by the Governor in accordance with state statutes to revise sections of the state's Annotated Code, the first such rewriting since 18**.

But what's really going on in Annapolis? One legislator, who wishes to remain unnamed, states emphatically that committee hearings to date have been little more than "childish exercises in reading aloud."

A quick visit to the Senate Committee on Judicial Proceedings (whose task it is to recodify state law regarding the courts) Tuesday confirmed that apprehension.

* * *

In 45 minutes deliberation, witness after witness appeared before the committee to give 'expert' testimony on some usually obscure, highly technical facets of the law, only understandable to the lawyers who drew them up.

Which immediately brings yet another question: Was not one of the underlying motives for recodification of the code to make it more understandable to the layman on the street?

To properly answer this question, a brief look into the background of Code revision must be taken.

* * *

In July 1970, Gov. Mandel established the Commission to revise the Annotated Code. He charged the Commission 'with responsibility

(Continued on Page A-2)

Slay man hidden inside her home

A 40-year-old Woodlawn Social Security Administration career development woman specialist and a 33-year-old man are under investigation in the slaying of an East Baltimore man in the 1000 block Edgewood Rd. last Saturday night.

Mr. Edmonds was found slain in what police state was a gunfight between him and his former girlfriend and her friend.

* * *

Miss Holland is a prominent figure at the Woodlawn Social Security Administration where she works as career development specialist in the Bureau of Health Insurance for the past 15 years. She is also treasurer of the Local 1923 (AFGE).

She told police she lived in fear wondering when her former boy-friend, Mr. Edmonds, whom she had put out of her house, was going to kill her.

Homicide investigators report they found the victim dead behind a dining-room table. He was lying on his right side with both hands extended slightly forward.

Police reveal he was clutching a .32 caliber H and R blue steel revolver with one live cartridge and one empty chamber. Also found near the body was a switch knife with a wooden handle.

Police state a .38 caliber blue steel revolver was also recovered from a suspect at the scene.

Detectives quote Miss Holland as saying she returned to her house with

(Continued on Page A-2)

Miss Evelyn Holland and Elijah A. Jones, police reveal, are thus far free on their own recognizance, pending investigation into the run murder of James H. Edmonds, 31, in the home of Miss Holland.

Mr. Edmonds was found slain in what police state was a gunfight between him and his former girlfriend and her friend.

* * *

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(Continued on Page A-2)

Dr. Adams ordered to reappear

Dr. Frederick Kit Adams of the 600 block Barstow Rd. appeared in Domestic Relations Court yesterday (Thursday) before Judge Lucy Ann Garvey.

He was picked up Thursday morning as a result of charges brought by his ex-wife, Mrs. Yvonne Adams Thompson. The veterinarian, who is employed at Academy Animal Hospital, 5900 block Belair Rd., will have to reappear in court on Aug. 20 to "show cause" for his dropping behind in support payments for his daughter, Judge Garvey ruled.

* * *

There was a mix-up in court because the body attachment on which Mr. Adams was picked up was a duplicate that was not

(Continued on Page A-2)

Will real Black Oct. please stand up?

A call the AFRO received late Thursday said that Black October, the mysterious anti-dope group, is still on the trail of narcotics pushers in Baltimore and "will accomplish its goal to wipe out persons on the list".

The AFRO was unable to reach relatives of Sherman Dobson, age 20, who has been charged with the Friday, July 13, murder of Det. James A. Turk Scott. There was therefore no way to find if the Dobsons have any secret messages that the youth is not a member and not connected with the crime.

However, police claim they are "watching" persons they think may be the Black October crew and expect arrests soon. "We're closer to it," police said Thursday night as to other suspects.

As Black October's warning that a "big one" will die Aug. 2 circled the town, police denied they have given anyone protective custody.

Word was received nevertheless that Maurice Proctor, police say is a supposedly "known Eastside dealer" has been charged with selling dope by the Narco Squad and is in City Jail under $150,000 bail pending court action.

AND WHEN THEY GOT THERE, the cupboard was bare of beef, that is. In this photo the Rev. Howard Cornish, pastor of Morgan Christian Center and AFRO reporter, Miss Mary Curtis, listen as the butcher says there just aren't any cow steaks, roasts or even ground beef.

What shall we eat and where withall get it?

By Mary Curtis

"No beef" is the cry now heard everywhere, from restaurants and packing plants to households. Baltimoreans and citizens nationwide are asking, "What shall we eat?"

The beef price freeze, in effect until September 12, is causing farmers to keep their cattle off the market.

James Martin, owner of Sampson's Soul Food Restaurant, 900 block Fayette, is one businessman who is really worried.

He said, "We have to really dig for beef. I almost have to beg the wholesalers. They only have ground beef and in my business we use the best cuts. It won't be too much better when the freeze is lifted. Prices will be up 12 per cent per pound which is ridiculous."

About other meat prices he added, "Pork and poultry have really gone up. Last week I paid the wholesaler $1.04 per pound for pork. This week it's $1.37. Chicken has risen 8 cents. I see no relief. Some buyers are saying that chicken will soon be $1 per pound."

* * *

Clyde Hartlove of Esskay Meats, the largest wholesale company on the East coast, stated, "We have had to temporarily go out of the beef business. As of this week, 100 employees are on layoff.

"The farmers are the ones who have the beef and they are holding back. Some are shipping the cattle to Canada and Japan and selling it there.

"It is not profitable to buy beef with the freeze on. We would lose 4 cents on

(Continued on Page A-2)

Sen. Mitchell files 'Watergate motion'

Maryland Senator Clarence M. Mitchell 3rd (D. 4th Baltimore), has filed a "Watergate Motion" seeking dismissal of federal tax suit against him on the grounds that "he and members of his family are considered to be political enemies of the (Nixon) administration."

The unusual motion arises from, among other reasons, testimony by former counsel to Pres. Nixon, John Dean 3rd, at the Watergate Committee hearing last month that Nixon administration has black-listed over 200 persons as "political enemies."

Congressman Parren J. Mitchell (D. 7th Md.), uncle of the accused state lawmaker, "has distinction" of having his name on the second of the "enemy lists."

The motion also cites testimony before the Select Committee on Presidential Campaign Activities that the Nixon administration utilizes federal law enforcement agencies, including the Internal Revenue Service, to harass the President's political enemies.

An indictment handed in April by a Federal grand jury charges the Sen. Mitchell with failing to file income tax returns for 1967-70.

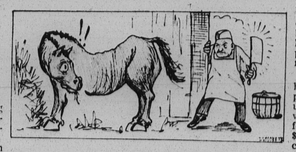
* * *

Judge Joseph H. Young said this week he would delay trial until April, 1974 in order not to interfer with Mr. Mitchell's duties in the General Assembly.

Even though Mr. Mitchell's name is not included in Nixon's "political enemies," his attorneys contended he has engaged in political activities that may meet the displeasure of the present administration.

These include Mr. Mitchell's active support for Democratic Presidential candidate, Hubert H. Humphrey against Nixon in 1968 and campaigning for

(Continued on Page A-2)



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PLOICE DO NOT KNOCK befor they enter
NAACP-BP Oil contest comes again
ARUNDEL COUNTY meets desegreation plan

Dr. Patterson explains contract technicality

By Bill Rhoden

Earlier this week, School Board President, John Walton demanded an explanation as to why a contract under which 800 school administrators had been operating for 15 months was never submitted to City Hall for approval.

According to Dr. Roland N. Patterson, superintendent of schools, it has been "the tradition of the school system not to submit such agreements."

Addressing the Board of School Commissioner's during their regular weekly meeting, Dr. Patterson apologized for the oversight and stated that from now on, all contracts would be submitted to the city solicitor's office prior to their being signed.

Dr. Patterson also responded to a letter from the State Board of Education which criticized the city board for various irregularities in the recent PSTA-BTU representation election

(Continued on Page A-2)

AFRO 82 years August 13th

The AFRO-AMERICAN Newspapers will be 82 years old Aug. 13. If your birthday comes in the month of August, write to us, let us know.

Tell us something about yourself and include a glossy black and white photo (no snapshots). We will publish the story and photo without charge.

Address: AFRO 82nd Birthday, In care of City Desk, 628 N. Eutaw St., Baltimore, Md. 21201.

(Please do not call. Just write us. Be sure to include your full name and address.)

ALOHA — A 93rd birthday lei goes to the AFRO's John H. Murphy Jr. from a great grand niece, 10-year old Marilyn Rose German of Honolulu, Hawaii. For story and other photos see inside.
(Photo by Wallace Baden)