Maryland's 1969 Best Car Salesman Found Slain In Vacant House

By Willie Egyir

Melvin Wade, 44, who won state recognition in 1969 as the best Maryland car salesman, was found fatally shot in a vacant dwelling in the 600 block W. Conway St. Jan. 4.

Police reports reveal the 600 block Ruxton Rd. resident was discovered lying on his back bleeding profusely from gun wounds of the head. He was pronounced dead at the scene by the police.

Homicide detectives state they have no motive, clues nor suspects in the 10:51 p.m. slaying.

Mr. Wade was buried in the Arbutus Memorial Park at 1 p.m. Wednesday after funeral services at the Morton and Dyett Funeral Home.

Police reveal they received a call for a shooting in the 600 block W. Conway St. and upon their arrival discovered the victim lying in the vacant building with his legs bent at his knees and both hands in his pockets.

* * *

Search of the scene found two spent cartridge cases above the victim's head, according to investigators.

Neighborhood residents told police they heard two gunshots and observed a man run out of the vacant house into a Buick Electra 225 with green body and white top. Two men were waiting in the car, police were further told.

Witnesses said the unidentified car drove East on Conway St. then turned south on Russell St. and out of sight.

Mr. Wade, relatives state, was for 17 years a car salesman and also a professional boxer and a close friend of Archie Moore, the famous former light heavyweight champion of hte world.

Described as a popular and friendly man, Mr. Wade was a Korean war veteran discharged with the rank of a sergeant. Miss Mary Helen Wade, his sister, claims he also won the purple heart for his bravery and fighting for his country.

Born in Maybury, W. Va., Mr. Wade attended the public schools in Baltimore and enjoyed talking to people.

In addition to his sister, Miss Helen Wade, he is survived by his father, Sidney Wade, Sr.; two brothers, Sidney Jr. and Curtis Wade; three other sisters, Mrs. Dorothy Lee, Mrs. Cordaries Creek and Mrs. Arlene Bruno; his devoted friend, Mrs. Oris Johnson and her children, Miss Marsha Johnson and Michael Johnson and his grandmother, Mrs. Arlene Jordan.

Mystery surrounds his death

Lt. Chapman new fire capt.

Three citizens, two firemen and one civilian, were among 25 recipients of citations and promotions at the Board of Fire Commissioners meeting Jan. 8.

Lt. Curtis L. Chapman, 40, 1609 Montpelier St., has been promoted to the rank of fire captain effective Jan. 23. Chapman, a 17-year veteran, has been a lieutenant since 1967. He is presently assigned to Engine House No. 27.

Fireman William J. Scott, 30, 833 N. Washington St., received the Exemplary Performance Certificate for heroism. He and three other firemen saved the life of a three-year-old girl at a fire Dec. 23, 1974 in the 1800 block of N. Spring St. Scott is stationed at Engine House No. 9, Oliver St. and and Eutaw Sts.

Fire Chief Thomas Burke announced he is drafting a letter of appreciation to Daniel Jones, owner of Jones Barber Shop, 1930 Payson St. Jones is helping curb the false alarm rate in his area.

He placed a false alarm warning sign in his shop window after it had been dislodged from the alarm box in front of his establishment by vandals. Chief Burke cited Jones' efforts as a fine example of good citizenship.

Mr. Byrd awarded diploma

MORGANFIELD, Ky. — Job corpsman, Robert Byrd of 3830 Derby Manor Dr., Baltimore, Md., was awarded his general equivalency high school diploma at the Breckinridge Job Corps Center in special award ceremonies on Dec. 31, 1973.

The GED diploma is earned by corpsmen only after successful completion of a wide range of academic studies and after passing a written test administered at the University of Kentucky — Henderson Community College.

VFW 8509 marks 20th anniversary

The John and Samuel Tyson Post No. 8509, Veterans of Foreign Wars will mark its 20th anniversary Jan. 13 with a 5 p.m. special program at the 335-37 E. North Ave. headquarters.

Awards will go to Officer Robert Helms of Central District Police Department; Alan Murrell, State Public Defender; Mrs Mary Clayburn, WWIN radio; U.S. attorney George Beatie.

Commander Robert McFarland will also present a $25 saving bond to Michael Brown winner of the drug abuse poster contest.

John Wilson, Lawrence Wilson, Lorenzo Wingate and Roland Dorsey will receive honors for saving several children trapped in a house fire.

PAUL F. EVANS successfully underwent surgery Wednesday to transplant an eye cornea. He is recuperating in Wilmer Eye Clinic, Johns Hopkins Hospital, Room 214. Mr. Evans is a professor and head of Public Relations at Coppin State College.

Man charged in death of woman shot in cab

Homicide police state Earl Young, 32, 1400 block Montpelier St., was arrested early Tuesday morning in his home and charged in Jan. 8 shooting death of Miss Gloria Brown, 23, in the 1000 block Cator Ave.

His trial has been set for Jan. 23.

Detectives state Miss Brown who shared an apartment with her sister, Mrs. Florence McCoy in the 2000 block Linden Ave., was fatally shot on the head as she was riding back home from work in a Checker taxi-cab.

The cab had stopped at a traffic light when a white 1964 Chevy pulled alongside the cab, police state. The rest of the story is narrated by Lawrence Johnson, 22, 3800 block Wabash Ave., the cab driver, who was identified in a police statement as a friend.

Mr. Johnson told police he observed the driver of the Chevy pulled out a shotgun and pointed it at the head of Miss Brown sitting on the right side of the front seat.

Police quoted the cab driver as saying both he and Miss Brown saw the man point the gun, and he ducked down thinking the victim had done the same.

However, police state, he saw the girl slump forward bleeding from gun wounds of the head. The victim was pronounced dead on arrival at the St. Agnes Hospital.

Detectives quote an unidentified hospital telephone operator as saying a male, identifying himself as a brother of the victim, called to inquire about her condition, but when asked whether he was coming to see her, the caller hung up. Miss Brown had no brothers in Baltimore, according to relatives.

The body of Miss Brown will be shipped Sunday to Inman, S.C. for burial.

She is survived by one daughter Tonya; two brothers, Jerome and Harold Brown, all of South Carolina; mother, Mrs. Anne Mae Brown of South Carolina; her sister, Mrs. Florence McCoy; one uncle, James Brown and an aunt, Mrs. Carey Kenny.

Big Brothers need volunteers

Big Brothers of Baltimore, Inc. opened its recruitment campaign this month. The group asks help for more private citizens who will adequately work to help a boy and to build a better America.

This is the month when formal recognition is given to the volunteer and the role he plays in serving the community through his close personal friendship with a boy.

Through a combination of comfort, understanding and counseling, the Big Brother helps his little brother to develop into a respectable, responsible member of the community.

If you know a man who would make a good Big Brother, ask him, or them, to call 685-6210. It is a 24-hour answering service.

Baltimore Afro American

This is our 82nd Year. Founded August 13, 1892.

32 JANUARY 12, 1974 YOU KNOW BECAUSE YOU READ THE AFRO

104 YEARS OLD is William Hope shown in photo with Mrs. Matilda Burney, age 91 and member of the Mt. Olive Freewill Baptist Church 44 years. The two attended the church banquet recently and were among nearly 800 guests celebrating the 55th birthday of Bishop Leo K. Caesar. (For more on the auspicious occasion see inside this issue).

Lone gunman robs bank in broad daylight

Police are looking for a 6-foot man in his mid-20's who, early Wednesday morning, robbed the Maryland National Bank located on Howard and Saratoga Sts. of $2,469.

Police information officer, Brian Joyce told the AFRO, the lanky thief sporting a goatee, entered the bank shortly after it opened for business at 9:24 a.m. and went to the counter.

Officer Joyce said the thief pointed a gun at the teller and announced, "This is a holdup," slipping a brown paper bag to her.

The teller put the cash into the bag and the suspect raced out through the swinging doors and slipped away on the crowded sidewalks.

Police reveal there were ten employees and four customers in the bank at the time of the robbery.

Atlanta mayor predicts new era

ATLANTA (UPI) — Dismissing what he called the "propaganda" of the New South, Maynard Jackson Jr. called for a "new era, a new beginning for the cities of our land" this week in his inauguration as Atlanta's first black mayor.

"We stand not so much as a gateway to the South, but as a gateway to a new time, a new era, a new beginning for the cities of our land," Jackson said. "It is a great moment for us. Many eyes are watching us. Many cities are examining us."

"In spite of much propaganda to the contrary, we have not yet seen the birth of a really new South," he said.

"Now we stand with a choice. We can live as if this were simply the worst of times, as if there were no path for Atlanta save the terrible mistakes of the urban North. Or we can strike out in still uncharted directions."

Jackson pledged, as he did throughout his campaign last fall, to wage a massive battle against crime and to be "death on the drug trade."

But he called for "a new, vigorous moral spirit in the community", to underline organized efforts against crime.

"We will do our utmost to create a new climate in which the need for crime, the alleged romance of crime, the so-called adventure of crime will be replaced with a sense of purpose and dedication to the building of a new kind of humane city," he said.

Aides to the new mayor had predicted a crowd of 5,000 persons and Atlanta's Civic Center was jammed to capacity, for the "people's inaugural," including black political leaders from throughout the country.

Jackson, the city's 47th chief executive, was installed as the city's first "strong mayor" under a new charter which went into effect Monday morning.

Jackson, the last vice mayor before the job was abolished by the new charter, defeated incumbent Mayor Sam Massell in a runoff last October after a campaign marred by charges of racism.

A Dallas native, Jackson moved to Atlanta at the age of seven when his father, the late Rev. Maynard H. Jackson, became pastor of historic Friendship Baptist Church.

He first sought political office against U.S. Sen Herman Talmadge in 1968. While defeated overwhelmingly, he scored an upset by carrying Atlanta.

Social Security snags untangled for elderly

Failure to report changes of address to the Social Security Administration was the principal reason why over 200 elderly Baltimore residents did not receive their monthly checks last week, according to District Manager Thomas R. Shortley.

"Most of the problems were due to people changing their addresses without notifying us," said Shortley. "Since Monday we've been busy getting those checks re-delivered," he commented further.

In answer to the report that over 600 people sieged his seven district offices Monday, Shortley said that at least two-thirds of them were there signing up under the new Supplemental Security Income program, a federal project which now handles the distribution of social security benefits.

That task had previously been done by state and local governments.

"We've received very good cooperation from the public pertaining to our new program. Although lines have been long,

(Continued on Page 31)

Girl's hair set afire on bus

Sympathetic friends came to the rescue of Miss Dana Smith, 14, whose hair was set on fire as she and other schoolmates were riding back home on a city transit bus Tuesday.

Unprovoked, one of two girls set fire to the hair of the 1200 block Glenheven Rd. resident as she left her seat to complain to the bus driver about tormenting attitudes of the two girls.

Police state they are looking for two girls who go to the Northern Parkway Junior High School together with Miss Smith.

Police reports reveal Miss Smith and her friend were riding home after school when two other students began "bothering" them. When Miss Smith left her seat to protest to the driver, one of the tormentors set fire to her hair with a match.

Suggestion would turn Mt. Moriah into an Annapolis courthouse

Eugene Lerner, attorney for the city of Annapolis, told the Maryland State Court of Appeals Tuesday instead of knocking down Mt. Moriah AME Church, the Anne Arundel County should convert the building into a new courthouse facility.

Arguing against the intention of the county to knock-off the historical church, Mr. Lerner observed the pulling down of the church, if allowed by the court, could "destroy the entire Annapolis historic district."

The county took the controversy over the destruction of the church to the state's highest court following a number of injunctions from numerous city and historic organization protesting the county's intention.

The protesting organizations include Annapolis Historic Commission, the Maryland Commission on Negro History and the city of Annapolis.

When converted into a courthouse, Mr. Lerner suggested, the action would meet the need for both preservation of the church, as wanted by the organizations and expansion of the courthouse. The county has indicated on several occasions that it wants the pulling down of the 99-year-old church so that it could build its new courtrooms in its place.

However, the organizations and the city of Annapolis while fighting to keep the church are being confronted with a prospect of a $500,000 suit by the county against them for costs over-runs due to delays in construction of the new courthouse.

The county did not discuss before the court what it wanted built on the land, but confined its arguments to whether the Historic District Commission has jurisdiction over the "performance by the Anne Arundel County or its governmental functions."

Some of the court's nine judges asked who was responsible for maintenance of the church since it was owned by the county.

A GOOD CITIZEN is registered and prepared to VOTE. Do so TODAY at Supervisors of Elections, People's Court Building, Fayette and Gay Sts. Next election is Sept., 1974. Register from — 8:30 to 4:30 p.m. Mondays through Fridays.

Applications for state Appeals Court invited

Joseph Sherbow, chairman of the Appellate Judicial Selection Commission, announced that the Commission is receiving applications to fill a vacancy in the Court of Appeals of Maryland. The vacancy is from the Sixth Appellate Circuit, composed of Baltimore City.

This Commission welcomes recommendations from all Bar Associations, interested groups and individuals.

The recommendations should be sent to the Commission at its office, 27th floor, 10 Light Street, Baltimore Maryland, 21202.

Individuals may apply directly.

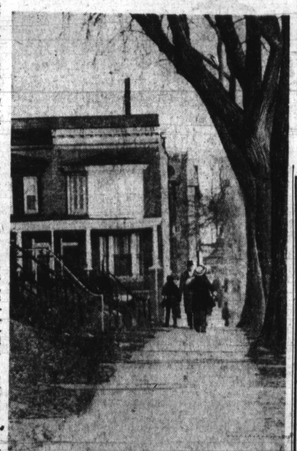
questionaire forms must be returned or delivered so as to reach the Commission no later than 5 p.m., Friday, Feb. 1, 1974.

Members of the Commission are: E. Dale Adkins, Jr., E. Ralph Hostetter, Henry J. Knott, William F. Mosner, David E. Betts, Odell H. Rosen, Marvin S. Kaminetz, Edgar A. Merkle, Sr., Dr. George W. Settle, C. Ferdinand Sybert, Eli Frank Jr., and Mrs. William Pinderhughes.

American Bar meeting Jan. 15

Chesterfield H. Smith, president of the American Bar Association, will address members of the Bar Association of Baltimore City at the association's meeting Jan. 15 at the Hilton Hotel.

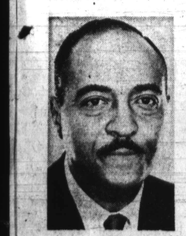
City Bar Association president, George L. Russell Jr., will preside.



WEATHER REPORT—Tuesday found Baltimoreans at 33rd and Calvert walking in Spring-like sunshine. The warm afternoon dipped into below freezing and snow during the night. Wednesday morning's blizzard-like weather disappeared by mid-afternoon. Nightfall found the thermometer back to winter.

(AFRO staff photo by Roman Hankewycz)

William Waters speaks at NAA dinner Jan. 15



WILLIAM D. WATERS
Internal Revenue chief

"The IRS Role in Business" will be the topic when William D. Waters, district director of the Internal Revenue Service, speaks at the monthly dinner meeting of the National Association of Accountants, at 8 p.m. Jan. 15, at Club Venus.

He expects to cover the current participation of the IRS in the energy shortage and its involvement with price and wage stabilization.

ABORTION
Free professional advice
WELFARE PATIENTS ACCEPTED
Cost as low as
$65.00
WOMEN'S COUNSELING SERVICE
752-0707

ATTENTION!
CHURCHES—ORGANIZATIONS—SCOUTS—INSTITUTIONS—SCHOOLS
HELP ECOLOGY • HELP YOUR TREASURY
WE PAY IMMEDIATE CASH FOR
OLD NEWSPAPERS $1.00 PER 100 POUNDS
Follow These Simple Instructions:
1. TIE PAPERS IN BAILS OF APPROXIMATELY 25 LBS.
2. BRING TO
SOUTHWEST RECYCLING CENTER
1552 RIDGELY STREET
See Diagram of Directions Below.
To Balto. RUSSELL STREET To D.C.
RIDGELY STREET
SATURDAY MORNINGS
8 A.M. TO 12 NOON
For Further Information Call 539-0228
SOUTHWEST RECYCLING CENTER
P.O. BOX 4373 - BALTO., MD. 21223

CITY OF BALTIMORE
DEPT. OF FINANCE
BUREAU OF COLLECTIONS
IMPORTANT NOTICE
Applications for refund of the Baltimore City tax on fuel oil, gas, electricity, Coal, and Steam paid during 1973 are now available. This applies only to buildings having a combined commercial/residential usage. Not to private residents. Application forms may be obtained by calling 396-3968 or 396-3984.
Deadline for filing applications for the year 1973 is April 1, 1974
Signed
Charles L. Benton
Director of Finance

FOR RENT
50 CAR GARAGE
with large lot
call
1507 E. Baltimore St.
LA. 3-4576 or 675-2377

Sam Torsell, Choir Director 50 Years, Retires At The Age Of 90

By John H. Murphy III

Nearly 200 persons gathered in the undercroft of Grace A.M.E. Church in Catonsville to pay tribute to Samuel Torsell who is retiring as director of the Senior Choir of Grace Church.

"Mr. Sam," as he is known to his fellow churchmen, is now 90 years old and has been a devoted churchman all of his life.

He has served for many years as the superintendent of the Sunday School.

The Senior Choir has been under his direction over 50 years as his charming wife, Mrs. Ida Torsell, accompanied the choir on the organ.

Mr. Torsell was extremely active in the community. He has served as Past Chief Antler of Council No. 27, Past Exalted Ruler of Crescent Lodge No. 355, I.B.P.O.E. of W., member of the Elks' Band and Landmark Lodge No. 40, AF and A.M. (P.H.A.).

For more than half a century, Mr. Torsell was a reporter for the AFRO and the AFRO's senior newsboy giving dependable service to Catonsville residents.

Charles Hayes, Grace trustee, presided as many leaders of the community came to give tribute to Mr. Torsell.

* * *

A poem recited by Eugene King aptly summed up Mr. Sam's life.

People liked him
People liked him, not because
He was rich or known to fame;
He had never won applause
As a star in any game
His was not a brilliant style,
Him was not a forceful way,
But he has a gentle smile
And a kindly word to say.

* * *

Never arrogant or proud,
On he went with manner mild;
Never quarrelsome or loud,
Just as simple as a child.
Honest, patient, brave, and true
Thus he lived from day to day,
Doing what he found to do
In a cheerful sort of way.

* * *

Wasn't one to boast of gold
Or belittle it with sneers,
Didn't change from hot to cold
Kept his friends throughout the years.

* * *

Sort of man you'd like to be
Balanced well and truly square
Patient in adversity
Generous when his skies were fair
Never lied to friend or foe,
Never rash in word or deed
Quick to come and slow to go
In a neighbor's time of need.

Solos were by Arnold Ebb, the new choir director. His rendition of "How Great Thou Art" moved the entire audience into singing with him.

* * *

Other persons to pay tribute to Mr. Sam were Mrs. Alice King, Elhana Washington, Mrs. Amy Warden, Mrs. Louis Shorter, Rev. Jentry McDonald, pastor of Morning Star Baptist Church, who quoted from

(Continued on Page 6)

Uncle Sam, still 'Mayor' of Catonsville, was AFRO reporter more than half a century.

SAMUEL TORSELL

CITY EMPLOYEES ASK $50 MILLION INCREASE

(SEE INSIDE)

Baltimore Afro American

Founded Aug. 13, 1892

LATE CITY EDITION

82nd Year, No. 46

Copyright 1974 by the AFRO-AMERICAN Co. for all material previously printed in the current National Edition

BALTIMORE, MD., JANUARY 19, 1974 20 CENTS ONE YEAR $10.00

LOTTERY NUMBER 372866

(JAN. 17 DRAW)

10-Year-Old Pupil Tortured

Child, pounded to death, left dead in alley, part of his left ear cut off. Homicide police conducted round-the-clock investigation, hoping to apprehend 'merciless' suspect. An arrest may come this weekend.

Mystery still shrouds the beating death of an Edgewood Elementary School pupil who was on his way to a basketball game but never made it.

The tortured body of Bryan Spencer Holmes, 10, 3722 Winterbourne Rd., was found in an alley behind the 700 block of N. Fremont Ave., by a passerby, 5 a.m. Jan. 11.

The medical examiner reports cause of death as multiple craniocerebral injuries (head wounds).

City medical examiner, Dr. William Medart, told the AFRO young Holmes was hit 13 times on the head with a heavy and sharp instrument.

"It could be an axe," he explained, but he is not sure.

He added there were "multiple injuries" and some were "very deep," and estimated the child was dead "a few hours" before his battered body was found.

* * *

A passerby, Thomas Dyson, 2611 Spelman Rd., who flagged down Officers H. Fritz and J. B. Struck, reported he "stumbled over" the body while walking down the alley in the rear of 725 N. Fremont.

Officers state the victim was lying on his back, near the concrete steps, with his head pointing south and his feet and legs together pointing north.

BRYAN SPENCER HOLMES
his murder still a mystery

His left hand was in the left jacket pocket.

The right arm was extended away from the body, bent south. The right hand was clenched.

A large cut, approximately 2 inches long, was over the left eye. An approximate 3-inch puncture was in the front of the left ear.

* * *

Investigating officers added a piece of the left ear at the top was missing. There were several puncture wounds in the temple and several large ones extending across the top of the head.

The young boy was wearing a blue parka, blue trousers, and a blue turtle neck shirt. A red bag containing a pair of tennis shoes and a "P" shirt were found near the body.

According to Lt. Francis Elder and Sgt. Girard Bander of the Homicide Squad, authorities have no leads or suspects.

* * *

The AFRO visited the Edgewood School Wednesday and found the flag flown at half-mast in memory of the slain child.

Joseph Cook, assistant principal, described Bryan as a "very active pupil interested in school activities."

Young Holmes went to Edgewood from Harlem Park Elementary School last September as a 4th grade student. There, he won the affection of both students and teachers as a sports enthusiast and a smart student in the classroom.

He got along with fellow students and his personal friends state, "He never gave anyone any trouble. We all liked him."

* * *

The teachers were puzzled and sad about the bizarre slaying of the lovable youngster.

But some expressed doubt as to whether he showed up at school or not the day of the slaying.

His teammates told the AFRO he never did. One stated he and three other boys waited near the gym for the coach, William Davenport, to pick them up and take them to play a game at School No. 63.

The teammate said he never showed up for the game.

Police report the mother, Mrs. Rita Holmes, told them her son left home in a friend's car to go to the game.

Mrs. Holmes refused to talk to AFRO reporters.

* * *

A solemn crowd of nearly 200 persons attended last rites for the slain boy at St. Pius Catholic Church Wednesday morning.

In the eulogy, Father Joseph DelVecchio said, "Let us pray for the family that they may hold up under the stress.

"Also, let us pray for the person who did this terrible act, may God have mercy on him."

Attending the funeral were Mrs. Shirley Gerhardt, Edgewood principal; Mrs. Judith Martin, senior teacher; and 10 fifth grade classmates.

Regional Superintendent Jeffrey Moss and his assistant, Mrs. Vandeline Clarke were also there, as were Social Security co-workers of the boy's mother.

* * *

Before and after the 30-minute mass, friends stood outside in the shivering 40-degree weather, to talk about the "great little guy."

The Holmes' landlady, Mrs. Iris Reeves, told the

(Continued on Page 2)

HOMICIDE DETECTIVES Howard Corbin (front) and John Kurinig shown in the AFRO staff photo by Roman Hankewycz, were searching through sticks, stones, dried blood at the scene Wednesday afternoon looking for evidence. The body of the 10-year-old was found near 3 a.m. Jan. 11 in the rear of the 700 block N. Fremont Ave., an alley named Webster St.

Brailey returned as vice-chairman

Del. Troy Brailey, D-4th, choice of the Black Caucus to continue as vice-chairman of the Baltimore City Delegation was officially named to that post today by recently elected Chairman Del. Paul Weinsengoff, D-2nd.

Del. Brailey served as interim chairman until Weinsengoff was elected Jan. 11.

Del. Loyal Randolph, Caucus chairman, hailed Brailey's appointment as recognition of the strength and unity of the black members of the House of Delegates

GENERAL ASSEMBLY news — there's more on what the Black Caucus is doing in Annapolis Inside This Issue

STATE OF THE STATE

Jobs, Welfare Lacking, Says Caucus

By Claudette Newsom
AFRO Annapolis Bureau

Noting that the past year has seen Maryland become a postmark for greed, corruption, kickbacks, payoffs, the quick fix and easy ethical standards, Gov. Mandel highlighted governmental accomplishments in his State of the State address before a joint session of the General Assembly, Wednesday.

However members of the Black Caucus questioned some points the governor boasted of and criticized some of his plans to clean-up the state's soiled image.

"Maryland boasts one of the lowest unemployment rates and highest income levels in the nation," the governor told the Assembly.

Del. Isaiah Dixon Jr., D-4th, said that although unemployment may be the lowest of any other state, black citizens are among the highest in this category in Maryland.

"I am dismayed that the governor did not mention or suggest a remedy for this 'continued situation,' he declared.

The governor also told legislators, "I am also requesting your approval of $114 million to increase public assistance payments," during the coming year.

"I am disappointed that he didn't mention one word on day care centers," said Del. Hildegardeis Boswell, D-4th.

"I am concerned that welfare mothers will have no institutionalized care centers to leave children while they go to work," the legislator said.

If that happens she said, "These mothers may have to quit work and may have to fall back on welfare."

* * *

"The challenge before us is to redeem Maryland by regaining the confidence of our citizens", the governor said, outlining his plans for campaign reform.

Mentioning his two task forces, created last week to end controversy over Maryland's system of awarding contracts, Gov. Mandel also told legislators, "I will ask you to limit to $100 the

(Continued on Page 2)

Juvenile school reports 'distorted,' Hilson says

Robert C. Hilson, director, Department of Juvenile Services, told the AFRO in a Jan. 14 letter that recent media reports sexual abuse, beatings and drug use in any state training school are inaccurate and distorted.

He says he invites anyone and everyone to "come see what is going on for themselves."

A State Police Department probe has been launched.

Mr. Hilson's letter is as follows:

The story as related by a daily paper is completely misleading, distorting, and grossly inadequate in several areas.

The article implied that beating of youngsters in our training schools, sexual abuse among youngsters, and drug use was rampant and of frequent occurrences.

I categorically and emphatically deny this to be fact.

While, admittedly, there may be some instances of staff striking a youngster or a youngster having possession of some drug, these are certainly isolated instances and are handled by this department in the most appropriate manner.

ROBERT HILSON
come see for yourself

Notices have been established and are followed to minimize the possible abuse of youngsters and to minimize the possibility of drugs available within the institutions.

The report which was mentioned in the daily is one that has not been released by this department. We do expect to release it

(Continued on Page 2)

AFRO Honor Roll nominations open

The AFRO-AMERICAN Newspapers will give its highest honor, a place on the Honor Roll, to the persons or organizations who in 1973 have unselfishly benefited the community without thought of personal gain. An engraved plaque goes to each one finally chosen.

Any citizen may submit nominations by letter addressed to AFRO Honor Roll, City Desk, 628 N. Eutaw St., Baltimore, Md. Nominations deadline is Feb. 23.

Radio WEBB scores victory

Circuit Court Judge James W. Murphy on Thursday morning threw a suit filed against Radio WEBB out of court and ruled the complainants had no standing.

WEBB, operating as J. B. Broadcasting with soul singer James Brown, principal owner, therefore continues on the air as usual.

Diamond Jim Sears, manager, was jubilant as he told the AFRO, "We won."

* * *

Complainants Ben Strouse, Leon Back, Samuel and Mathilda Feldman, owners of the old 1380 Broadcasting, 1956-67, sold the station to WEBB Inc. and then James Brown took over in 1970.

The group filed for receivership Jan. 11 claiming J. B. Broadcasting was operating under a dissolved Maryland corporation, owed many debts and needed a receiver to take charge of assets.

Judge Murphy required the complainants pay court cost and ordered receivership dissolved.

Big Head Brother tells AFRO his story

By Pam Widgeon

Bernard J. Lee, 33, known as "Big Head Brother," is a hard-working man who leases the sundry section at the Penn-Del Medical Centers, Pennsylvania and Dolphin St.

Police files list him as one of Baltimore's "big time narcotics dealers."

This reporter visited "Brother" at the sundry Wednesday night and found him diligently working along with the other employees.

We started a conversation and he invited me into his small cluttered office located in the back of the store. 'Brother,' 5' 10", was neatly dressed in purple pants, blue shirt and white tennis.

His office has a large brown desk piled high with papers, a clock radio and two chairs. There is nothing elaborate, in fact the room is so small only four people could get in at one time.

Speaking of his childhood, 'Brother' said he attended Booker T. Washington Junior High and Carver Vocational. He once lived in the 800 block W. Fayette St.

He said "I got my nickname Big Head Brother when I was a child because my head was big. I used to

(Continued on Page 2)

BERNARD J. LEE

INSIDE
• MORE GAMBLING ARRESTS include 10 local men after Jan. 17 Federal indictments

INSIDE
• NIXON APPOINTS Mrs. Edna DeCoursey Johnson to a Presidential advisory post

INSIDE
• YMCA AIDE found not guilty by Central District Judge Benjamin Brown

INSIDE
• SCHOOL BOARD APPROVES Dr. Patterson's $240.9 million budget for 1974-75 school year

INSIDE
• NO DATE SET for Roosevelt Nixon murder trial. One accused teenager pleaded guilty, may turn state's witness

FULL MICRO SAFETY