## BUA elects officers

The Black Underwriters Association, formerly the Underwriters Association of Maryland has held several meetings during the past months designed to restore the association to the position it formerly occupied in the community and civic life of Baltimore.

The Association composed of the personnel of the Supreme Life Insurance Company. Mutual Benefit Society, North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company and the Southern Life Insurance Company elected: Marian Lloyd, president; Phillip A. Robinson, vice president; George A. Kelson, trreasurer; Marva Lotta, financial secretary; Irene J. Cromartie, secretary; Amos Lee, public relations; Pearl E. Pindle, chaplain.

In March the Association held its first Annual Dinner with the Hon. Thomas J. Hatem, insurance commissioner, as guest speaker. Mr. Hatem delivered a very informative speech to a full audience.

The Black Underwriters Association is presently engaged in observing the 40th National Insurance Week, an annual occurrence in which members and friends of the National Insurance Association renew their efforts to have the general public fully recognize the necessity for financial protection against death and disability.

THE STATE OF THINGS

## Lynching Party's not over

By Don and Val Hymes

"A lynch mob attitude." That's what an oil industry called recent moves on Capitol Hill to do away with the big companies' tax breaks.

But, he warned, the energy consumer will wind up at the end of the rope.

That's a familiar tune. We heard it all through the last legislative session, and we're going to hear it again May 29 when the oil companies level their big guns on Gov. Marvin Mandel to convince him to veto three pieces of legislation.

This veto hearing may be more important than it looks. On the Congressional scene, bills to end the oil depletion allowance and other tax breaks worth billions to the companies have made more headway than expected. But big oil still has hopes of delaying them or killing them altogether.

On the other hand, cide July 23 if they want a Maryland could start a chain reaction in state capitols around the nation to pass similar bills that would hamstring a lucrative industry that was never concerned about state lines.

The governor has already signed one, in fact — a local bill to let St. Mary's County voters deban on oil refineries and other heavy industry. An Anne Arundel bill to do the same thing is awaiting signature.

That's the way the domino effect worked in the state as several other counties talked of similar bans, and that's what the oil companies fear on a national scale if Mandel signs into law bills that would:

Eliminate the state oil depletion allowance. This would be the first state to do that, and during hearins oil spokesmen warned that the idea could spread and cost the consumers "billions." Sponsors including the governor, thought that was the idea, and resented the threat.

Phase the oil companies out of the retail business by July, 1975. This bill, pressed by Comptroller Louis Goldstein and station operators, would also forbid new company owned or operated stations after July 1 of this year.

Guarantee dealers whose leases are not renewed by oil companies without "good cause" a reimbursement for the "good will" they have built with their customers.

One not on the veto hearing agenda, but one the companies also fought, takes away from the distributor and gives to the dealer a portion of the gas tax rebate as payment for the trouble of collecting it.

Another oil bill that failed — but not until it gave plenty of headaches to the oil companies, would put them under the Public Service Commission like the utilities.

The thought of that job gave the PSC the willies, but it's a job that has now been undertaken in large measure by the Gasoline Tax Division as it adds facilities and technology to enforce the state's pioneering "truth at the pump" laws.

Maryland's suit against the Federal Energy Office was no publicity stunt. It challenged oil companies allocation figures with the "bloodhound" inventory system started here long before there was an energy crisis. That's when the oil companies started to take it on the chin, but it was no wild swing.

Washington Star-News Maryland reporter James R. Rowland was asked recently by industry spokesmen why they took such a beating in the last session.

He saw it as a combination of many things: the energy crisis, reports of rising oil companies prices ("the rich getting richer)," and a strong dealer lobby. These men, usually in their smudged uniforms, gave each legislator" a direct line to the constituents" standing in a gass line back home. And when they reached the pump the prices were up again.

In an election year, a blow against oil companies would seem like a blow for the average guy, for the consumer. This crisis, in fact, was more of an issue than those generated by Watergate and the kick-back corruption scandals.

The oil industry didn't have a chance.

As one senator told us early in the session, "The only villians down here this year are the oil companies — and us."

And the way it's been going lately, nothing has changed.

For once, because of an improbable combination of circumstances, it isn't possible to create a white-hat image with money.

## Douglass '54 plans reunion

The Douglass High School Class of '54 will hold a reunion meeting on Saturday, May 25, at 12 noon at 1108 Mondawin Concourse.

The reunion committee will meet at this location every Saturday until June 8.

For further information contact Del. Kenneth Webster, D-Balto., at 669-5414 or Mrs. Betty Nunn at 664-2525.

## Pimlico science seminar

During the week of May 27, the following professors will present the scientific process in the form of a demonstration-discussion at a seminar for the students of Pimlico Junior High School.

Dr. Ernest Silversmith, Morgan State, chemistry; Md. Medical School; Biochemistry; Dr. Seymour Pomerantz, Univ. of Md. Medical School, Biochemistry; Dr. John Dryder, Johns Hopkins University, chemistry.


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# The making of a priest

By Elizabeth M. Oliver with photos by J.D. Howard

The Cathedral of Mary Our Queen on Baltimore's historic Charles St. was packed to standing room only long before the 10 a.m. May 18 ordination rites began.

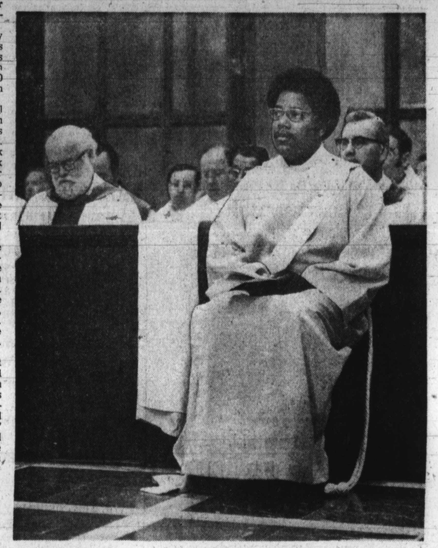
Devout Catholics of all races were still pouring in after the ceremonies opened for Maurice J. Blackwell, the only black candidate among the six future priests. Father Blackwell, age 28, is also the second priest ever ordained in the Archdiocese of Baltimore, the first Catholic See in the United States.

His Eminence Lawrence Cardinal Shehan performed the 120 minute rites as the last ordination of his 50-year career. Other new priests are Fathers William P. Foley, Marion F. Helowicz, P. Edward Kenny, Lawrence F. Kolson and Joseph L. Muth.

Highlighting the ancient ceremonies was the All Saints Catholic Church Choir singing Spirituals and ending with the popular song, "Reach Out And Touch Somebody's Hand." Thus the revitalized church and the old were united. William Cummings, II is director, James Burns, organist.

It is possible the Cathedral has never been so beautiful. Over 200 white-

(Continued on Page D-30)



ALL CANDIDATES for the priesthood are prone on the floor, a sign of humility.

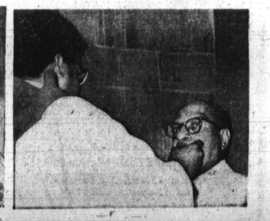
THE CATHEDRAL OF MARY OUR QUEEN was the setting for the splendid ordination ceremonies. Left on the altar are members of the new priests families. The candidates for priesthood are kneeling and in the dramatic photo by J. D. Howard at right are Lawrence Cardinal Shehan reading of the church. (Right above) is Father Blackwell from the book. The choir is in the loft at the rear awaiting the ancient rites which were to end in his dream, to become a priest, to minister to his people. Seated to his right with the white beard is Father Frederick H. Duke, Saint Marks, Catonsville.

Father Blackwell is robed by his sponsor, Father Joseph Begay, SSJ, Tuskegee, Ala.

The vows are read by His Eminence Lawrence Cardinal Shehan (second right) as Father Blackwell kneels.

FATHER BLACKWELL joyfully walks from the altar to an outer room to wash his hands. This part of the ancient ceremony precedes the final vows which officially make him a priest, a child of the universe, to teach, pardon and console and bestow blessings. The 28-year-old Baltimorean reared and trained in the Catholic Church, has the highest of qualifications and met all requirements for consecration. He delivered his first sermon at St. Peter Claver the next day, Sunday, May 19. Present at all rites were members of his family, Mrs. Priscilla Kelly, mother; Harold Kelly, stepfather; Charles Blackwell, father, and stepmother, Mrs. Blanche Blackwell; Mrs. Veronica Fletcher, aunt; Wayland Blackwell, brother, Columbus, Ohio. Four brothers in the audience were Charles, Robert and Leo Blackwell, Baltimore.

CONGRATULATIONS came from some 200 priests at the altar. Below Father Blackwell humbly goes to his mother and stepfather, Mr. and Mrs. Kelly to give his first communion. (All photos courtesy of the Catholic Black Caucus by J. D. Howard.)



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