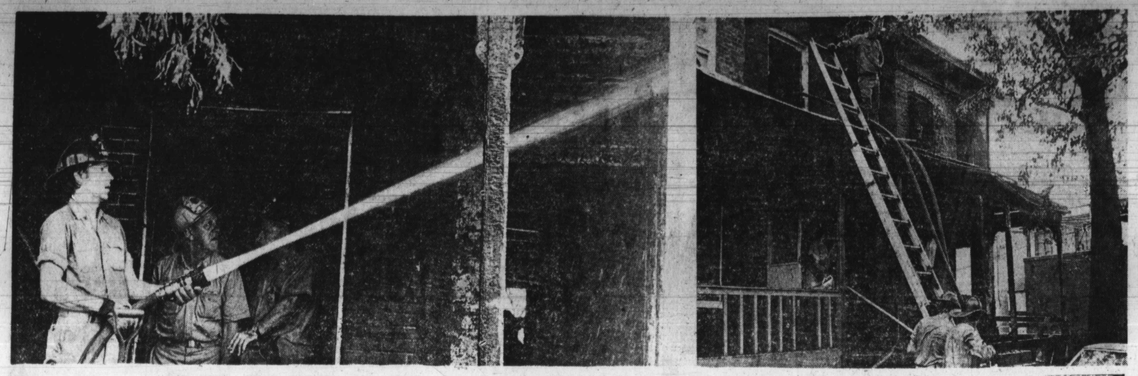

THE FIRE THAT BURNED OUT FOUR HOMES — A 2-alarm fire swept though four homes in the 2100 block of Herbert St. Though no one was injured, the fire completely gutted the houses.

(AFRO staff photo by Roman Hankewycz)

THE STATE OF THINGS

The buck keeps passing

By Don and Val Hymes

Most Marylanders may look on Baltimore City as a festering sore needing a bandage or iodine once in a while to keep it from blowing up or burning down.

But to those who live there and govern her, Baltimore has reached a critical point in her illness. She may die without the help of the rest of the state.

"We've heard that before, many times," said more than one legislator last winter when city officials launched a massive plea for a large-scale rescue operation from the state. The unions say the city has the money somewhere. The city says the buck stops with the state. The governor says it stops in Washington — where it still languishes.

* * *

So when Baltimore officials asked the legislature for a $36 million package last session, was that in hopes of getting more than they would have otherwise? As it was, they got $15 million. So now the question is whether the strikes were allowed to reach a dangerous point to dramatize the city's problems.

It did make it politically worthwhile for the governor to ride on his white charger. That's the way it happened, as if it had been rehearsed.

The public listened to all kinds of horror stories about dangerous working conditions and pitiful wages for men doing the dirtiest work of all. The public can understand how a paycheck won't stretch to meet inflation's demands. But when even the police, who were forced to arrest their striking colleagues, would break the anti-strike law to make their point, it was a cue for the governor to appear on the scene.

* * *

So with the help of the State Police, the city was quieted. But he came without money. And as Councilman Robert Fitzpatrick put it, "We're not talking about lopping off the frills. Those were cut years ago. We're talking about cutting off one hand if we're going to keep the other hand alive — unless some help comes from outside.

"You can't give a blood transfusion from the right arm to the left," he added. "It's the same blood. We need new blood."

Council President Walter Orlinsky used the same metaphor. His point was that "you can't get blood out a turnip." His city, he said, has never cried wolf. For generations it supported the rest of the state. It faced its own problems head-on. Even now, he said, it's prepared to bite the bullet by cutting payrolls and services.

But when they call the situation desperate, they mean it. With one of the lowest per capital incomes in the nation, it levies perhaps the highest taxes. About 80 per cent of the state's welfare recipients live there along with 70 per cent of its elderly. And its economic generators are sputtering badly.

The real tragedy, as Fitzpatrick said, "is that the sanitation workers were right. They were not getting a living wage, and then to be offered 6 per cent when the inflation rate is 12 per cent. Both sides were right. And a governor from the city sat back and watched the city go down . . ."

* * *

The city workers who carry the garbage, treat the sewage, guard the jail, and clean the zoo cages, in most cases emerged from the chaos as men of considerable dignity, with faith in the city administration and their fellow men.

But the police had — and still have — a more difficult quandary, because it is our safety, and not theirs, that is immediately jeopardized when they strike.

So in this case Governor Mandel said that a police strike cannot be tolerated, and he is right if the community is to be preserved. But he added that he and the attorney general's office are trying desperately to find some kind of collective bargaining tool for workers in critical areas so they may at least have a voice in their dealings with their state, city or county.

* * *

The future of our state, in which Baltimore lies, may depend on the success of this search as inflation's grip spreads fear at every social level.

And what about the money? What is the "fair share" of the state's wealth that Baltimore says it deserves? After 200 years, it is an economic burden as well as a political one as the population and power shift to the suburbs.

These questions must be answered — and soon — and it appears that the buck finally stopped: at State Circle. But Mandel's mind seems to be elsewhere.

If only the politics could be forgotten long enough to concentrate on this crisis. It's obviously a time for statesmen.

But as Orlinsky said ruefully, "This is political silly season. Everybody's running for office. Be realistic."

Upton approves buildings

The Upton Planning Committee recently gave its endorsement to the building of five developments in the Upton community. John Wall, a representative of the Mid-City Development Corporation, Chevy Chase, Md. also gave that company's cooperation in the development of such projects.

The first in the Greenwillow Manor to be constructed is the 900 block Pennsylvania Ave.; Boone Manor, 1000 block Pennsylvania Ave.; Zion Towers, a 204 unit building for senior citizens, and Woodland Garden Apartments across from the Robert Marshall Recreation Center.

Mrs. Lena Boone, president-chairman, told the AFRO, "Right now the committee has a firm commitment to the Greenwillow project. We should soon have the feasibility for the Boone Manor and Zion Towers and we're working for the Woodland apartments."

The job of the Upton Planning Committee is to approve every building development in our area. We work in cooperation with the city."

$1.5 million refund checks still unclaimed

Internal Revenue Service is trying to give away nearly $1.5 million in undelivered refund checks to Maryland and District of Columbia taxpayers, according to IRS District director Gerald G. Portney.

Mr. Portney said 3,360 area taxpayers are still waiting to receive a total of $1,321,555, primarily because they have moved and left no forwarding address with the U.S. Postal Service. Although refunds may sometimes be lost or stolen, often they have simply been delayed because of errors or omissions on the return.

"Anyone who filed a return by April 15 and still hasn't received a refund due should give us a call or come in to one of our offices," Mr. Portney said.

"While we can remail an undelivered check within a few days, after October 1, those checks will be cancelled and issuing new checks will take much longer. If the check has really been lost or stolen, we can put a tracer on it."

If you call IRS, be prepared to give your name, new and old address, as it appeared on the return, social security number, and type of form filed. In the Baltimore area dial 837-1040; in Washington, D.C., Prince George's County, and Montgomery County, dial 488-3100; and in all other areas of Maryland, dial toll free 1-800-492-0460.

Historical society holds exhibition

The Maryland Historical Society, 201 W. Monument St. will feature a special exhibition of photographs, uniform and antique dolls, on loan to the Society from the School of Nursing, Johns Hopkins Hospital on Aug. 1-Sept. 27.

From 1889 until 1973, the Johns Hopkins School of Nursing had grown to be one of the finest nursing schools in the country.

SUMMER INTERN — Senator J. Glenn Beall Jr., (R-Md.) gets a young person's point of view from one of his summer interns, Miss Bonita Williams, an education and psychology major at Goucher College. Miss Williams was one of eight Marylanders chosen to work on the senator's staff this summer. They work on various projects in the office, such as helping keep track of legislation and correspondence.

Mitchell to stump for Ford in Memphis

Congressman Parren J. Mitchell, D-7-Md., will spend all of Saturday, July 27, in Memphis, Tenn., campaigning for the election of state representative Harold Ford.

Mr. Mitchell will make the trip at Mr. Ford's request "because I think he will be an excellent Member of Congress," he said, "and because we have got to increase black representation in the U.S. House of Representatives."

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity meet Aug. 2 site in Harlem Park

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif. —Five regional-vice presidents have important roles to play when the 8th anniversary convention of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. convenes here. Aug. 2-8, at the St. Francis Hotel, announced Dr. Walter Washington of Lorman, Miss., general president.

Thadeaus H. Hobbs, Los Angeles, Calif., as Western vice-president, is this year's host. Attorney James R. Williams, Akron, Ohio, will deliver the Fraternal address. He is the Midwestern vice-president.

Also programmed are Attorney Charles P. Howard, Baltimore, Md., Eastern vice-president; Robert M. King, Waco, Tex., Southwestern vice-president, and Attorney Bennie J. Harris, Chattanooga, Tenn., Southern vice-president.

Participating in the Ecumenical Service on Sunday will be the Rev. Frederick D. Haynes, Third Baptist Church, San Francisco; Dr. James Matthews, St. Cyprian Episcopal Church, San Francisco; Dr. Booker Anderson, United Methodist Church, Richmond, Calif., Dr. Martin L. Harvey, chaplain, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Baton Rouge, La., and the Rev. Charles Taylor, Washington, D.C. chaplain, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity.

Also on Sunday, the Public Program will be held, with the Honorable Charles Rangel, U.S. Congressman, 19th Congressional District, New York, as the keynote speaker.

Richard B. Sellars, Chairman of the Board, Johnson and Johnson Company, will be guest speaker for the Equitable opportunities luncheon on Monday. The Alpha Phi Alpha Job Opportunities Recruitment program, which is open to the public, will be conducted in the Memorial Gymnasium at the University of San Francisco.

Carroll Nursing Home site in Harlem Park

The Baltimore Planning Commission recently approved a plan for the building of a new N. M. Carroll Nursing Home.

Designed by the Leon Bridges Co., the new building will feature ultra-modern facilities and an attractive atmosphere. It will have 100 beds in contrast to the 29 at the present home.

The Carroll Nursing Home is presently located at 822 N. Carrollton Ave., a three story row house. The site for the new five story home is Harlem and Arlington Avenues.

Mrs. Rose H. Jones, president of the Harlem Park Neighborhood Council told the commission, "We are happy to have such a building in our comminity. Last November we thought that we were going to lose it and we're so glad to still have it."

The Rev. Elder Johnson, retired pastor at Sharp Street Methodist Church is also an avid supporter of the home. He sees it as a type of building which would attract senior citizens and fulfill their needs.

Mrs. Jones' organization has donated $1,025 to the building so far; $400,000 has been given by the United Methodist Church, and 1.5 million will be paid by the State Department of Economics and Community Development.

The $2 million dollar development should be completed by December 1975, according to the Leon Bridges Co.

Northeast declared real estate conservation area

At its regular monthly business meeting, held on July 18 the Real Estate Commission of Maryland voted to designate certain areas of Northeast Baltimore as Real Estate Conservation Areas.

The move is to ban certain methods of advertising and solicitation in these areas.

The Commission also voted to impose a for sale sign ban in those areas. The designation and the ban will not go into efect however, until after the Commission receives advice from the Attorney General as to legal ramifications of these decisions as well as to proper procedures for implementing them.

In the meantime the solicitation ban previously imposed under Regulation No. 28 is considered to be still in effect and the Commission intends to enforce it.

What? Sip Bacardi before you mix it?

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BACARDI rum.

Kings, 17 mg "tar," 1.3 mg. nicotine; Longs, 17 mg. "tar," 1.2 mg. nicotine, av. per cigarette, FTC Report Mar. '74

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THERE WAS JOY of accomplishment at the 36th annual commencement of the Cortez W. Peters Business School held last month at the Pimlico Holiday Inn. The graduates are: (bottom row, left to right) Miss Deborah Phillips, Michael Evans, Miss Doriscel Burley, Alfred Thornton and Miss Sylvia Thomas. Second row, left to right, Miss Sarah Campbell, Miss Olivia Cureton, Mss Denise Peels, and Miss LaVerne Brooks. Third row, left to right, Misses Veronica Turner, Jean McCain, Debra Raimey, Loretta Smith, Takeeta Wright, Peggy Nicholson and Mr. William Bragg. William Bragg, and Misses LaVerne Brooks, Olivia Cureton, and Loretta Smith were inducted into the WHO'S WHO AMONG STUDENTS IN AMERICAN VOCATIONAL AND TECHNICAL SCHOOLS.

JOIN TODAY — The AFRO's 40th annual Clean-Block campaign is now on. REGISTER your block TODAY. Application blanks appear in this edition.

HEW cancer grant for U. of New York

HEW's National Cancer Institute has announced the award of a $1.2 million one-year grant to establish a specialized cancer center at the Mount Sinai School of Medicine of the City University of New York.

NCI's award partially supports salaries, equipment, and supplies at the Mount Sinai Cancer Center.

It also provides partial core support for an integrated research program including chemotherapy, immunotherapy, biochemical diagnosis, and supportive patient care. The NCI will provide two additional years of comparable funding for this new center.

Facilities at the Cancer Center, directed by Dr. James F. Holland, will include a research ward with a four-bed laminar airflow unit and a research clinic, where patients will be treated on an ambulatory basis.

Md. 135th air group trains in Georgia

For the third summer the 135th Tactical Air Support Group of the Maryland Air National Guard packed up and moved the bulk of its operation to Travis Field, Ga., for two weeks for intensive training.

Approximately 450 men for the Baltimore area, led by Col. Richard T. Lynch, group commander, participated in exercises with several other Air Guard and Air Froce reserve units.

In addition to the 135th's forward air control mission the Marylanders were assigned to act as "host" unit at the training center located just outside of Savannah, Georgia.

As base commander, Col. Lynch and his men performed many of the "housekeeping" chores necessary to the smooth functioning of a day-to-day military operation.

Activities ranging from meal preparation, to personnel and paper work processing were as much a part of summer camp as the simulated combat training. Close coordination and cooperation were necessary to properly balance the numerous duties required of the 135th.

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17 mg. "tar", 1.3 mg. nicotine av. per cigarette, FTC Report March '74.

Jacobs named safety council president

Jay A. Jacobs, director of human resources of the Black and Decker Manufacturing Company in Towson, Maryland, has been elected president of Safety Council of Maryland, Inc., for 1974-75.

Jacobs succeeds John J. Barranger, manager of Maryland Casualty's loss control department, who was appointed chairman of the council's executive committee.

The Safety Council of Maryland is the non-profit state chapter of the National Safety Council. Operating under the name Baltimore Safety Council for the past 51 years, the council changed its name this month to reflect expanded accident prevention activities throughout the state.

AIDES OF THE YEAR of the Henryton Center recently honored are from left Miss Deloris Miller, director; Mrs. Evelyn Rhuebottom, health assistant III; Willie Hanson, health assistant III; and Mrs. Louise Lewis, health assistant III.

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Fire equipment dedication

Mayor Schaefer and other city officials will be present at the dedication ceremony of a new Pumper to be placed in service at the fire house at 1201 E. Cold Spring Lane.

The unit designated Engine 4 will serve the Cold Spring Lane area as well as other adjacent sections when needed.

Built by Seagrave Fire Apparatus, Inc. to Fire Department specifications, the Pumper provides the most modern and effective fire fighting capability available.

Post Office employs more women

The U.S. Postal Service has become one of the world's largest employers of women, the product of a long-standing postal tradition of providing career opportunities to women.

At the end of the 1974 fiscal year, last month, postal employment totaled about 710,000, including 127,882 women or more than 18 per cent of the total force.

In the last 10 years employment of women in the Postal Service has nearly tripled from the 1964 total of 45,000, when they comprised only eight per cent of the total.

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BERNARD DAVIS, son of Mrs. Mildred Davis of Baltimore, has been graduated from recruit training at the seaman recruit training center at the Great Lakes, Ill.

DENNIS JORDAN, son of Mrs. Azilee Branch of Baltimore, has been graduated from navy firemen recruit training at the Naval Training Center at the Great Lakes, Ill.

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