WIFE INDICTED — Mrs. Marguerite Lightner (R), wife of Raleigh Mayor Clarence Lightner (L), is shown outside magistrate's office after signing personal appearance bond. Mrs. Lightner was indicted last week along with four others by the Wake County grand jury on charges of conspiring to receive and dispose of stolen goods. (UPI Telephoto)

Town shocked as mayor's wife charged

RALEIGH, N.C. — Mrs. Marguerite Lightner, wife of Mayor Clarence Lightner, has been charged with receiving stolen goods from a woman arrested on a shoplifting charge.

When police arrested Linda Jones for shoplifting in nearby Pittsboro, they found a small black notebook in her possession with the names of several persons among them Clarence and Marguerite Lightner.

The District Attorney's office said "at the present time" it has no plans to seek an indictment against Mayor Lightner.

* * *

Investigators have revealed little of the evidence in the case thus far. They only state that the notebook led them to Mrs. Lightner and several others who allegedly received stolen goods from Linda Jones over a period of years.

If convicted, Mrs. Lightner could face up to 10 years in prison.

Last week, she was ordered to post a $1,000 bond pending trial and finger printed at the local courthouse.

The charges against Mrs. Lightner have left this city of 110,000 whites and 30,000 blacks stunned.

A year ago when the mayor was elected, he became the first black ever to head a large predominantly white Southern City. He has served as a non-controversial mayor who politics quietly but effectively.

However, the charge against Mrs. Lightner forecast cloudy days for the mayor and the city.

* * *

"A lot of Raleigh went out on a limb for Clarence and we deserve — the city deserves — a statement, an explanation, a reassurance," said Thomas Bradshaw, a former Raleigh mayor.

The Raleigh News and Observer, in an editorial last week entitled "Lightner's Silence Is Unfortunate," said:

"Realism demands a recognition that the case has raised questions among the city's citizens. The questions are shared by others elsewhere. Lightner, as the first black to be elected mayor of a major southern city, is something of a national figure.

"Only a trial and full exposition of the evidence can fully answer the questions. In the meantime, the mayor has a responsibility that can be fulfilled only by a public statement of reassurance from him.

"This regrettable incident must not be permitted to cast doubt on city government and its leadership."

White politicians who have been supporters of Mayor Lightner are now publicly reminding citizens to presume that Mrs. Lightner is innocent until proven otherwise through the courts.

* * *

The trial will probably not take place until early next year.

"It was all going good, but we can't help but wonder about what's to come, especially if Mrs. Lightner is convicted," said Councilman Oliver Williams, a professor of political science at North Carolina State."

Masons honor 2 at Norfolk church

NORFOLK — Brother and Mrs. V. S. Scott have been honored here as two Prince Hall Masonic lodges sponsored an "Evening of Fellowship" at Saint John AME Zion Church.

Scott received a two-foot high bronze plaque honoring him for 34 years of service to his lodge. Mrs. Scott was also honored by Raphael Lodge 138.

Malachi Lodge 138 co-sponsored the event with the Raphael Lodge. The Rev. Dr. A. R. Powell, pastor of the host church, was the guest speaker for the program.

"This thing hasn't yet gone to court and I still think Clarence Lightner is the best man to be mayor," said Bradshaw.

Mrs. Lightner is the mother of four children, and her husband's business partner.

The mayor, who is a mortician, operates a cemetery and is an insurance agent.

Residents at the Lakeview Towers held their annual Yuletide party sponsored by the Garden Club. From (L to R): Mrs. Ethel M. Jackson, Mrs. Freda Hall, Mrs. Carrie Robinson, Mrs. Hattie L. Smith, Mrs. Jeanetta Wilson, president; Mrs. Margie Brown, chairperson.

(AFRO Photo by Benjamin M. Phillips IV)

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MEN'S FASHION DOUBLE KNIT SPORT COATS SAVE $7 15.88 REG. 23.88. Single breasted styles, with wide lapels and center vent. Sizes 36 to 44. Not all sizes and colors in all stores.

WOMEN'S X-SIZE POLYESTER SLACKS SAVE 1.11 TO 6.11 4.88 REG. 5.99 TO 10.99. Perfect fitting, figure-flattering slacks, featuring stitched creases. Sizes 32-38.

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JUNIOR BOYS' SLACK SETS SAVE $1 1.99 REG. 2.99. Crewneck, turtleneck knit shirts with matching flared leg slacks. 100% nylon and corduroy. Sizes 4-7.

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GIRLS' TURTLENECK NYLON BODYSUITS 2.88 REG. 4.97. Styled with snap crotch and zipper back. Asst. colors. 7-14.

MISSES' BIKINI PANTIES 2 FOR $1 REG. 59¢ TO 79¢ EA. Choose from many solids and prints. Nylon and acetate. S-M-L.

MISSES' BRA BONANZA 2 FOR $3 REG. 1.97 TO 2.97 EA. Seamless, criss-cross and double knit. White and colors. 34-40, A-B-C-D.

MEN'S INSULATED UNDERWEAR 3.99 EA. REG. 4.99. Vest, shirt or matching pants. Fully cut. Warmth without weight. Asst. colors. S-M-L-XL.

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Reflections... lifestyles, fashion, women, food, youth, society, clubs

She's cool, not conceited

"I held back because I was afraid I couldn't make it."

"My coolness makes me different from every other model." It's individual — it sits out like a sore thumb. My audience notices that."

This is how Verna Brogden distinguishes herself from other models. No, she is not conceited. She is elegant, new to the business with lots of potential.

Miss Brogden has only been in the modeling field for 18 months, and in that short period of time she has already made a name for herself.

She attended Travis Winky Modeling Studio where she was graduated recently. She confessed that it was a friend who encouraged her to go into modeling.

Part of the reason for Miss Brogden's success may be found in her philosophy on modeling. One of the points she stresses is "models should model for the retailer and not themselves."

In part, Miss Brogden feels a model should be as individualistic as possible. She, the model, should have a relationship with the audience which will help them relate to the garment.

Miss Brogden is now a part of the Fashion Beat which is a group of 13 models who "do their own thing at fashion shows." This is what makes them popular, says Miss Brogden. "They (the audience) do not know what we're going to do next as far as scenes and audience participation."

By attending a modeling studio, it helped Miss Brogden with her self-confidence, and it took away some of her insecurity.

"It made me aware of a lot of things in the fashion world like styles and new looks.

Like most good high fashion models, she believes in putting herself in the mood of the garment she wears. It accentuates the garment in her opinion and helps the audience in seeing how it will fit in their own wardrobe.

For instance, "When I wear a sports outfit, I try to relate the fun of having this garment on; while in an evening dress that looks sexy, I want to portray the sexiness of that particular garment."

Practice is also important to Verna Brogden as far as keeping in shape and trying to improve her own style. Everyday she spends at least an hour practicing.

Miss Brogden feels that a model should not model for herself, and she does not like the ones who do that. She adds, "She can do her thing but keep it at a minimum so the audience can see the garment.

"Essentially people make the clothes." A model can make a particular garment look good or bad in the way she presents it to an audience. "That's why it's so important for the model not to show herself off."

When you do not see Miss Brogden on the runway, you are most likely to see her at the City Health Department where she is a senior clerk typist. She has been with them since she graduated from Forest Park High School in 1970.

A career woman at 22, Miss Brogden attends the Community College of Baltimore where she is studying shorthand.

A sleek 5'8", weighing 115, she has a natural look of elegance. She has built her style around that look.

As Miss Brogden describes it, "It is an elegant form, not anything wild, consisting of one whole turn and a gliding-like action down the runway.

She likes to wear long flowing gowns. A petite size 5, she would like to go to New York, but ... "some of the designers here are just as good as the ones there."

Her advice to anyone who wants to get into the field is you should go on and get into it, and do not hold back. "I held back because I was afraid I couldn't make it. If a person has any doubts, they should at least try it."

AFRO model of the week

By Benjamin M. Phillips

Working in front of mirrors, Verna Brogden shows off a two-piece tweed crumpet suit with an over-the-knee skirt from the Pauline Brooks Boutique.

The AFRO Model of the Week spotlights a professional fashion model in each Friday edition. Names are taken from a master list and are selected at random. Area models are invited to submit their names for consideration. Write: AFRO Model of the Week, P. O. Box 1857, Baltimore, Md., 21203. Attn. B. Phillips.

89-year-old Santa came to town

By Marie P. Cooke
Reflections editor

Santa Claus visited the Marborough Apartments last Saturday night. Jovial as always, Santa had a new look . . . black, 89-years-old and a LADY.

It was the first annual Yuletide party sponsored by the Tennants Association and Diamond Management. Marborough opened its Eutaw Place doors a year ago to city senior citizens and maintains 287 efficiencies and one bedroom units for its residents who are over 62.

Ho, Ho, ho, said Mrs. Josephine Cole as she entered the party, all dressed up like Santa. And loads of goodies she had in her bag; one for each of the 175 guests. They say it was the best party they'd ever attended.

Mrs. Louise Johnson, left, and Mrs. Panepha Clark were among the 175 guests who attended the holiday party sponsored by the Tennants' Association at the Marborough Apartments.

Holiday feature

Jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way," she sang loud and clear unbile her daughter, Mrs. Lillian Yates played at the piano; all joined in unison.

And, there was more.

The Rivers Chambers Trio was there playing old favorites and holiday carols.

Probably the most thankful of all the guests present was Mr. Albert Johnson. Still quite active at 96, he was certainly part of the fun.

Mrs. Mattie Ashton, 84, heads the Association. The manager and her assistant are Margaret Forehand and Sallie Wolf.

And a ho, ho, ho, said Santa as she passed out gifts to all the residents. In real life Santa was 89-year-old Mrs. Josephine Cole. (Reflections photos by Benjamin M. Phillips)

Publication highlights

WASHINGTON — Women made up a higher proportion of job applicants at public employment offices during the year ended June 30 than they did of the Nation's workforce, a recent issue of Manpower reports.

Women accounted for 44 per cent of the 13.3 million people who registered or renewed registration with the U.S. employment Service, while they constituted only 30 per cent of the total labor force.

The job placement rate for women increased by 2 per cent to 23 per cent from the previous year but was still lower than the 26.6 per cent placement rate for men during fiscal year 1974.

Women's median starting pay was considerably less than men's even though the starting pay gap between men and women narrowed slightly. Median hourly pay for women was $1.91—up 17 cents from fiscal 1973. For men it was $2.15, a 12 cent increase over the previous year.

Only five per cent of the women placed in jobs received $3.40 an hour, compared to 19 per cent of the men placed. In addition, more than 11 per cent of the women applicants, compared to 5.4 per cent of the men, got jobs paying less than $1.60 an hour.

Single copies of Manpower are available at $1.30 from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

Women Workers Today," a revised 8-page summary report on the personal and employment characteristics of women workers analyzes the age, marital status, educational attainment, worklife patterns, occupations, and earnings of women in the labor force. It is available free from the Women's Bureau, Employment Standards Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, Washington, D.C. 20402.

Community calendar

DEC. 27
Chesapeake Club, Inc., Annual Buffet Dinner Party; 2216 Eutaw Place, 6 p.m.

DEC. 28
Continental's Dinner Dance; 6617 Dogwood Rd., 10 p.m.-2 a.m.

JAN. 1
New Year's Day Breakfast, sponsored by the Ladies Two; 2432 Shirley Ave., 2 a.m.-noon.

JAN. 3
Retirement Dinner honoring Mrs. Grace Cy Gates, Roman Holiday Room, Holiday Inn, 301 W. Lombard St., 5-8 p.m.

JAN. 9
Child Study Association Family Affair; Winand Elementary School, Scotts Level Rd., 8:15 p.m.

JAN. 13
Child Study Association, "Kids Biz," Tiffany Square Apts. Speaker, Dr. Malcolm Freed, "Sex and Marriage."

JAN. 18
Carnation Ball sponsored by the auxiliary of the National Alliance Postal Federal Employees, Baltimore local; 10 p.m., 6617 Dogwood Rd.

JAN. 22
Women's Fair, Pimlico Racetrack Clubhouse, 9 a.m.-9 p.m.

JAN. 26
King's Landing Women's Club salute to Alonzo Paul Moss; Blue Crest North, 5 p.m.

JAN. 31
National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa, Gamma Chapter, Annual Sweetheart Ball, Bluecrest North, 401 Reisterstown Rd., 10 p.m.-2 a.m.

FEB. 15
Coppin State College 75th Anniversary Kick-off and Homecoming Celebration Dance, New Hilton Hotel, Pikesville, 10 p.m.-2 a.m.

International Women's Year

A monthly discussion series led by panels of prominent women will be offered by the YWCA to acknowledge International Women's Year; to sharpen women's consciousness of their position in today's world and to support the empowerment of women.

1975 has been designated International Women's Year by the United Nations "to promote partnership." Proclamation by the President of the U.S. has called for constructive action to advance women. Gov. Mandel has proclaimed 1975 International Women's Year in the state of Maryland and has cited the dedication of the state to eliminate discrimination against women.

Topic for the first YWCA discussion is "Women and Non-violence" to be held at the Lutherville Elementary School, 1700 N. York Rd. on Jan. 11 from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. The discussion session is open to the public. Participants are Willa Bicknam, feminist and social activist organizer; Marcia Hettinger, past Childbirth Education Association president and presently a NOW (National Organization for Women) health task force chairperson and a civil rights activist.

For information about participation in this or any of the following panel discussions, the number to call is 252-4230, the North Area YWCA.

Panel discussions for the succeeding five months are as follows: "Women and Economics," February 5, 8 to 10 p.m. at YWCA Center, 31 Lan Lea Drive, Lutherville; "Women and Communications," March 7, 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at Northminster Presbyterian Church, 70 5 Main St., Reisterstown; "Women and Volunteers," April 16, 10 a.m. to noon at St. Timothy's Lutheran Church, 100 E. Timonium Rd., Timonium; "Women and Education," May 22, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at First Christian Church, Roland and Lake Avenues, Baltimore; "Women and Food," June 6, 10 a.m. to noon; Northminster Presbyterian Church, 705 Main Street, Reisterstown.

Subjects discussed for the most part relate to topics suggested by the United States Center for International Women's Year, 1975.

The year came into being because, despite decades of progress in eliminating discrimination against women, in no country have they attained full equality; and because of growing global recognition of the importance of women in nation-building.

Goals for the Year envisioned by the United Nations are: to promote equality between men and women; to integrate women into the total special and economic development effort of nations and to recognize women's increasing contributions to strengthening world peace.

Among the more than 700 million illiterates in the world, the majority are women, in some areas 80 to 85 per cent. Percentages of girls to boys enrolled in primary and secondary schools in the same regions in 1969 was, in most instances, under 40 per cent. Female to male enrollment reached one to one only in Latin America and North America. Women in most countries are concentrated in unskilled and low-paid jobs; only a small percentage hold policy-making posts.

In 1973 in the U.S. women's pay averaged only 66.1 per cent of men's. To this date, under the laws of many countries, a married woman is deprived of a number of personal and property rights.

The Md. Commission on the Status of Women is the official coordinating office for observances of International Women's Year. Groups wishing information about national programs may contact the U.S. Center for International Women's Year, Meridian House International, 1630 Crescent Place, NW, Washington, D.C. 20009.

Thank-you department

Dear Ms. Cooke:

The Pierians wish to express our deep appreciation for the generous and newsy picture coverage you gave to the 16th annual premier opening of our art exhibition in conjunction with the Gallery of Art, Morgan State College.

You may like to know that, despite the worst storm of the year, to date, over 200 people turned out for the event.

Sincerely,
Hazel H. F. Fleming
Jacqueline Lewis
Co-Chairman,
Pierians' Art Show

On the inside. . .

AFRO columnists, Pinnie L. Ross and Marjorie L. Green talk about happenings in Columbia and the Social Security Administration, Woodlawn . . . read Columbia Capers and Woodlawn Highlights .

Send for your FREE copy of "So You've Been Elected Publicity Chairman," an easy-to-read booklet, published by the AFRO-AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS. It tells how to write and submit news releases to the mass media. Write: Booklet, P.O. Box 1857, Baltimore, Md., 21203. Attn.: Women's Dept.

club news and more

Area clubs and organizations are into their holiday thing. Read about group acitvities in Local Club Notes. Notes about parties are in R.S.V.P. with Marie . . . inside today.