# City asks woman to repair property bought from her in 1970

## *Official claims it was a natural, human error, that probably happened to 100 other property owners*

A woman, who was in 1970 a resident of the 800 block South Sharp St., sold her property to the city and received her money.

Then, she moved to another area of Baltimore, and thought that was the end of the matter. Her old house was due for demolition and that was that.

However, it was not.

Early in February, 1975, she received a registered, "return receipt requested" letter which required that she make extensive repairs to the old house that she thought is now city property.

The letter was in the form of a "violation notice" from the Mayor and City Council and signed by Jerome Selby, inspector.

The ferocious - looking VIOLATION NOTICE was sent again threatening the woman with a lien if the repairs were not made.

Also attached was a large page in big, black printing from the City of Baltimore, Department of Housing and Community Development, saying, "The law places continuing responsibility upon owners to maintain property in good condition, etc., etc., etc."

**SUIT THREATENED**

A personal suit against the woman was also threatened.

* * *

The property owner, Mrs. Pearl Fraling, reveals she was so frightened, amazed and filled with confusion, she sought the aid of a fellow church member, Del. Troy Brailey.

When Del. Bratley investigated, he was still more amazed.

When the AFRO checked to see if all this was really true, circumstances amazed us.

* * *

Several different versions of the matter came from Inspector Jerome Selby and someone directly over him, named Edwin Browne.

The AFRO is still checking, therefore.

Edwin Browne described himself to the AFRO as an area project supervisor, Department of Housing, East Office, 413 Caroline St.

**HUMAN ERROR**

He stated, "It's very simple, the explanation. Everybody makes errors. We sued a 1973 assessment book. It was an office error."

On and on he went saying, "It was a human error".

* * *

Somewhat curt and abusive in tone of voice he said, "Somebody is making a mountain out of a mole hill. Who cares? Why all the interest in a thing like this? This has gone a little too far."

When asked if he realizes it all concerns taxpayers' money, the money from whence his salary comes, Mr. Browne replied in a much less abusive voice, "I apologize. We owe the public and the citizens our best efforts. This says we have not given our best effort."

**100 HOUSES**

Probed further on how many other such registered letters may have gone out "by human error" he explained further:

"When buildings are vacant, we send for ownership verification.

"That day we were pressed for time. We made a survey of about 100 houses.

"THERE WERE NO NOTICES ON THE BUILDINGS", he revealed.

* * *

The AFRO then told Mr. Browne it can be assumed that some 100 registered letters may have gone to 100 persons, "by human error".

He replied, "Yeah, maybe."

Mr. Browne was informed the AFRO's investigation will of necessity go "higher up and further on" since "human errors" of this sort give indication to more and more "human errors," costing taxpayers more and more money.

However, Del. Bralley's experience brings necessity for deeper investigation.

Here is his side of the story:

**WHAT'S YOUR PROBLEM, TROY?**

When I contacted Edwin Browne, the acting superintendent, this week, to try to ascertain why Mrs. Pearl Fraling was sent a registered letter on Feb. 4, 1975 giving her 30 days to rehabilitate a house that the city had bought from her in 1973, he became very belligerent.

He said, "So what? That lady has become irate over nothing. People get hundreds of letters like that every day."

When I informed him that Mrs. Fraling was very upset and she asked me to look into the matter, and that she had given me copies of the letter that she received from his office, he said, "I don't care if she has given copies to the President of the United States."

Mr. Browne also reminded me that he has been employed with the UCD for 19 years and he knows his job.

I did not question his ability to do his job. He volunteered that.

At first Mr. Browne was told that Del. Bralley was on the phone, he came on the line and said, "Troy, what's your problem?"

**PHONE CALLS**

MEANTIME, the AFRO learned that Mrs. Fraling was being pestered by frequent telephone calls.

# BNI seeks data on bank boards

Questionnaires have been sent by Baltimore Neighborhoods, Inc. to 57 federally insured and regulated savings and loan associations requesting information on the racial and sexual composition of their boards of directors.

BNI, a non-profit organization which deals with equal housing and tenants' rights, is seeking to strengthen its testimony before the Federal Home Loan Bank which is considering amending its regulations on conflict of interest.

* * *

However, BNI is mainly concerned with the portion of the regulations that deals with the composition of the boards.

Federal regulations previously required federally insured banks to have at least five members on their boards. It is now proposing a seven-member board.

BNI states that the boards should have at least 15 members who not only live in the area served by the savings and loan associations but that represents the racial, sexual and economic composition of the area.

"We feel that having a 15-member board would allow more room for women and minorities who are more representative of the community," George Laurent, director of the organization, told the AFRO.

The questionnaires which were mailed Feb. 7 must be returned to BNI by Feb. 18 in time to submit its testimony before the bank board on Feb. 20.

The questions include value of assets, number of women and blacks who currently serve and the number of board members living in areas throughout Baltimore City and the surrounding counties.

# High court nixes minority strikes

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The Supreme Court has stepped into the growing conflict between minorities and their labor unions, coming down firmly in support of unions and employers.

Justice Thurgood Marshall said blacks can be fired from their jobs if they picket an employer independently of their union because they believe the union is not handling discrimination grievances fast enough.

The justices are likely to be faced in the coming months with a much tougher union-minority question: whether layoffs should be on the basis of strict seniority or racial balance.

Tuesday's decision did not deal with that issue, but Marshall's opinion expressed a firm belief that federal law favors preserving the collective bargaining agreement.

The minority labor case involved employees who picketed a San Francisco department store because they thought their own union was not settling discrimination grievances properly. The employees were fired.

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia ruled that the federal labor law and the 1964 Civil Rights Act gave minorities a special status to contest employment discrimination.

Marshall agreed that if unions do not make a good faith effort to fight discrimination, minority members could take independent action.

But Marshall found no evidence of this and said the black union members must attempt to solve their grievances as provided in collective bargaining agreements.

# *Time said ripe for black veep*

NORMAN, Okla. (UPI) — Voters can elect a black vice president in 1976 and blacks must demand an integrated ticket, the Rev. Ralph Abernathy, SCLC president, said.

He spoke at a black heritage week program at the University of Oklahoma.

"In racist America, no black man or woman of any race will be elected President in 1976 but I believe we can elect a vice president," he said.

Abernathy said he endorsed Hubert Humphrey in 1968.

"Humphrey had a great conception of the problems we face in the nation and by 1976 we must demand an intergrated ticket," he said.

He called Alabama Gov. George Wallace "a racist in a wheel chair" and said he does not stand a chance to be elected president because he has not picked enough black support.

"He has no strong black backing, he has the same support of several years ago," Abernathy said.

The only way President Ford could receive black support, he said, would be for Wallace to win the Democratic nomination.

# Last rites held for minister's son

Funeral services were held Wednesday for William (Bill) Scott, 25,year-old son of the Rev. Andrew Scott, pastor of Cedar Baptist Church.

Young Scott is buried is Westview Cemetery. Mr Scott of the 4000 block Kashland Ave., was shot and killed Feb. 14 during an attempted robbery as he was waiting for a bus with two friends at the corner of Garrison Blvd. and Fairview Ave.

He attended Forest Park High School and was employed at Bethlehem Steel at the time of his death.

* * *

Young Scott enjoyed sports especially football, swimming, archery and track. He was a member of Cedar Baptist Church, where his father the Rev. Andrew Scott is pastor.

In addition to his father, he is survived by his mother, Mrs. Sallie Scott, brothers and sisters.

* * *

Pallbearers were Richard Evans, David Hill, Tyrone Hill and Stiner Dorsey. Honorary pallbearers were Ronald Lee, Anthony Carroll, Andre Copeland, Lynworth Morgan, Tyrone Withers and LaVerne McDaniel.

# *Students and firemen injured in accident*

Four fireman and 15 handicapped children were injured around 9 a.m. Thursday when a fire truck responding to a false alarm hit a school bus at Bonaparte and Kirk Ave.

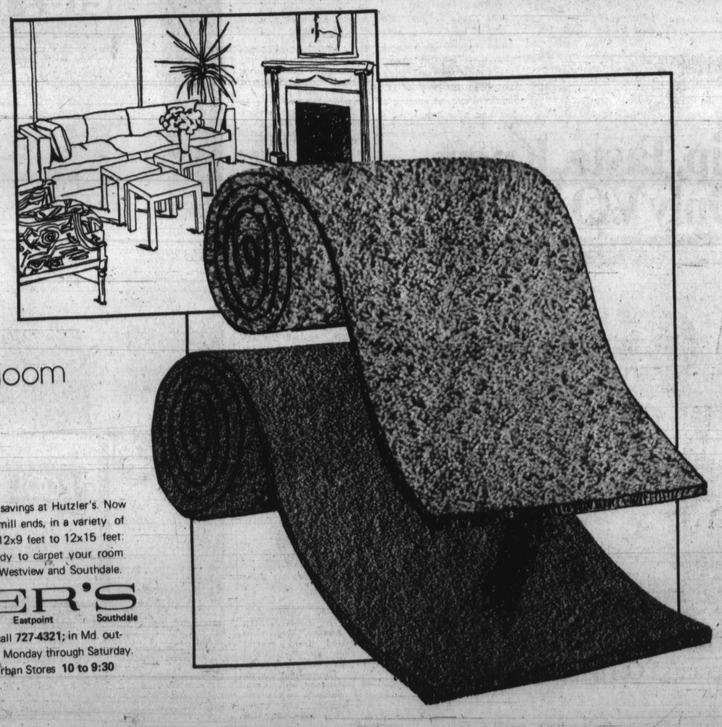
Police report the hook and ladder truck struck the bus on the right rear side. The bus flipped over onto its left side.

The bus was carrying the children to Claremont school in the 5300 block Erdman Ave.

A spokesman at the hospital reported the most serious injury treated was a broken arm sustained by one of the students.

The bus driver, Curtis Price, four firemen and the other children were treated and released for minor cuts and bruises.

MURDER SCENE — William (Bill) Scott, 25-year-old Bethlehem Steel employee was shot and killed on Feb. 14, at a bus stop at Garrison Blvd. and Fairview Ave.
(AFRO staff photo by Robert Matthews)

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# 1,500 Attend Concert In Memory of A Beautiful Girl

## *Sharon remembers Connie in song*

Sharon Baptist Church was filled to overflowing Sunday as it rung to the rafters with songs of praise and thanksgiving.

The Memorial in Song recalled the life of a beautiful young woman, the daughter of the pastor, who died nine years ago. The event marks the 9th Annual Memorial Scholarship Concert which attracts more and more Baltimoreans each time.

The Memorial Scholarship Fund was started in memory of the late Constance H. Moore, the daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. James L. Moore.

Connie, the name by which she wished to be known, attended the Edmondson High School, graduating with honor.

At the time of her death, June 27, 1965, of Lupius Erythematosis, she was a student at Morgan State College. She felt that there was a great need for people to work with the handicapped. It was for this reason she was preparing herself to enter the field of Physical Therapy.

* * *

It is in her memory, then, that the family and her many friends established a Memorial Fund in May, 1966. Each year, on the Sunday closest to Feb. 12 (her birthday), a musical is presented at Sharon Baptist Church as a memorial and to beneift the Fund.

From this fund, scholarship awards are given to the Central Scholarship each year to persons who will link up their dream with hers by preparing themselves intellectually, spiritually and morally to help people help themselves.

Morgan students who received the Constance H. Moore Memorial Scholarship Award are: Diane Diggs, 1966-67; Sharon Artis, 1968-69; Peggy Mason, 1970; Louise Lafranque, 1971; Janice Pumphrey, 1972; Donna Hayes, 1972; Yolanda Hooks, 1973; Kari King, 1973; and Sharon Russell, 1974.

Other students to receive the award are: Darrell Gray, Johns Hopkins, 1968-69-70; Nathan Rollins, University of Maryland, 1972; James Green, Bowie State College, 1973; Cheryl Wilson, Coppin State Teachers College, 1974; and Hugh Page Jr., Hampton Institute, 1974.

A contribution was given Bureau, Inc. Students can borrow money from this bureau without interest to complete their formal training.

**MASS CHOIR**

The Mass Choir of Sharon Baptist Church (composed of the Elliott Choir and Gospel Chorus), was organized in October, 1974, for the sole purpose of bringing together as mass a group of people who would be joined in a bond of Christian love to sing the praises of God.

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Under the leadership of Ms. Audrey Epps Phillips, Directress; Edmond D. Meade, and Ronald Franklin, accompanists, the choir has acquired a rich repertoire as well as the development of professional and sincere musicality. These accomplished musicians have worked untiringly to develop the talents of the choir, and they have also provided adequate support at the console of the organ, and the keyboard of the piano, respectively.

In their rehearsals, they have cultivated a spirit of Christian fellowship and devotion which is an asset to good performances.

The gospel is portrayed through Anthems, Sacred, Classical, Spirituals, Jubilee, Hymns of the Church and Gospel Music. All of these comprise the repertoire of the Sharon Baptist Mass Choir which performs the first and third Sundays.

Mrs. Christine Coleman is president; Mrs. Betty L. Foy, vice president; Mrs. Stephanie Knox, secretary.

SOLOIST, MRS. CHRISTINE COLEMAN

SOLOIST, MRS. PATRICIA WHITTAKER

SOLOIST — MISS JOANN COOLEY

SPONSORS OF THE MEMORIAL — Surrounding the pastor the Rev. Dr. James L. Moore are members of the Sharon Baptist Board of Trustees. First row in photo by J. D. Howard are Mesdames Audrey Stokes, Willie Gray, Ethel Quarles, Elaine B. Paige, chairman; Ruth Pratt. Bottom row, Mesdames Beatrice Creigler, Bernice Hooker, Esther P. Brooks and Frances Johnson. Not shown are Mesdames Alice F. Ford, Katherine Carter, Elihu Moore of Detroit, Mich.

**All photos by J. D. Howard**

QUARTET—Gary Jenkins, Mrs. Shirley Atkinson, Carlvin Fauntleroy and Miss Deborah Thompson.

## *Members of the Sharon's Mass Choir*

Sharon Baptist Church's Mass Choir performs every first and fourth Sunday under direction of Ms. Audrey Epps Phillips with Roland Franklin at the organ and piano. Members are:

Mesdames Beatrice Ames, Shirley J. Atkinson, Shirley M. Atkinson, Tera Atkinson, Doris Cephas, Christine Coleman, Jacqueline, JoAnn Cooley, Karen Crockett, Belle Deuberry, Odessa Dukes, Clara Evans, Betty Foy, Deborah Golder, Sabrina Harris.

Also Mesdames Jeanette Jenkins, Agnes Jones, Marcella Kellum, Virginia Kellum, Stephanie Knox, Ernestine Lawson, Wendy Leak, Barbara Lee, Deborah Lewis, Cheryl Lindsay, Florence Matthews, Michelle Parham, Dora Pettigrew, Loretta Rochester, Georgianna Scott, Eleanor Smith, Josette Sykes, Deborah Thompson, Mamie Thornton, Leanda Toon.

Mesdames Patricia Whittaker, Cheryl Wilson and Shirley Woodson. Messers Howard Brooks, Emmanuel Cephas, Clinton Coleman, Carlvon Fauntleroy, Michael Jenkins, Nathaniel Perry, Charles Weems.

FEB