Lionel Hampton to be honored at Howard

WASHINGTON - Dr. Samuel D. Proctor, prominent minister and educator, will deliver the 1979 Charter Day convocation address at Howard University on March 3 at 11 a.m. in Cramton Auditorium.

Charter Day commemorates the official birth of Howard University on March 3, 1867 when the bill enacting the university charter was passed by Congress and signed by President Andrew Johnson.

Dr. Proctor has been senior minister of Abyssinian Baptist Church in New York since 1972, succeeding the late U.S. Rep. Adam Clayton Powell. He is also professor of education in the Graduate School of Education at Rutgers University where he holds the Martin Luther King Memorial Chair.

During the convocation ceremony, the university will honor the minister - educator by awarding him an honorary doctor of humane letters degree.

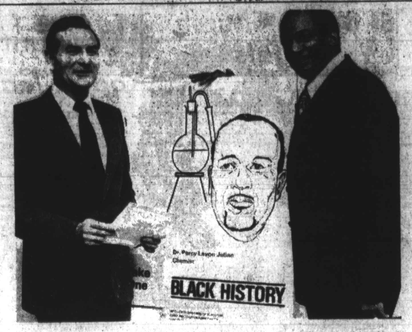
It will also award an honorary doctor of music degree to Lionel Hampton, whose contributions to jazz span half a century, and a posthumous honorary doctor of laws degree to Cilian B. Powell, the physician, businessman and publisher whose will could have as much as $6 million to the university.

A second highlight of Charter Day activities will be a dinner on March 1 at 6:30 p.m. at the Sheraton - Park Hotel where three Howard University alumni will receive awards for distinguished post-graduate achievement. They are: John W. Blassingame, professor of history at Yale University and editor of the Frederick Douglass papers; Christopher F. Edley, executive director of the United Negro College Fund, Inc.; and Toni Morrison, award - winning author of Song of Solomon, Sula and The Bluest Eye.

Flaxie M. Pinkett, president of John R. Pinkett, Inc., the Washington - area real estate firm, is the dinner committee chairman for the $100-a-plate fund-raising event. The corporate chairman for the dinner is R. Robert Linowes, former president of the Metropolitan Washington Board of Trade.

The 1979 convocation speaker began his career in the ministry at the Pond Street Baptist Church in Providence, R.I. in 1945. He began his career as an educator teaching at Virginia Union University in 1949. Through the years, he has served as presidents of two universities — Virginia Union University and North Carolina A & T State University — and held a series of high administrative posts with the Peace Corps in Nigeria and Washington, the National Council of Churches, the Office of Economic Opportunity, the Institute for Services to Education and the University of Wisconsin.

A native of Norfolk, Va., Dr. Proctor received bachelor's degrees from Virginia Union and Crozer Theological Seminary, a doctorate in ethics from Boston University, and 14 honorary doctorates from colleges and universities throughout the country.



DR. ANSON R. BERTRAND, left, director of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Science and Education Administration, helps kick off the agency's recognition of February as Black History Month. He holds a biographical sketch describing the life of Dr. Percy L. Julian, an outstanding chemist whose exciting work with soybeans benefits us all through modern applications in both medicine and industry. At right is Bill Lewis, of the agency's Equal Opportunity staff, who developed the display.

Health Fair to be held

More than 30 health organizations will participate in March of Dimes-B'nai B'rith Women Health Fair Saturday, Feb. 24, 10 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. at the Reisterstown Road Plaza.

This "Facts Fair for Health Care" is a joint effort by the two groups to provide vital information regarding the March of Dimes goal — to ensure a healthy start in life for all babies.

There will also be exhibits by such groups as Florence Crittenton Services, Meals on Wheels and Childbirth Education Association, so that groups of all ages will have access to information relative to their particular health needs.

No more interest limits on home mortgage loans

A 10 percent interest ceiling on home mortgage loans was lifted Wednesday by a bill that was approved in the House of Delegates.

The delegates who braved the snow and inclement weather, passed the measure by a overwhelming 105-20 vote. The bill which would let the market set interest ceilings has already passed in the Senate.

This legislation removes artificial ceilings on mortgage loan interest rates for the first time in 111 years and will take effect as soon as Governor Harry Hughes signs it, as he indicated he would.

Vote on the bill, the first important piece of legislation during the 1979 session, followed the defeat of a proposed amendment that would have automatically restored the 10 percent lid in June 1982.

Passage of the mortgage interest bill, strongly backed by the General Assembly leadership, had been supported by bankers and other lending institutions, the home construction industry and real estate concerns.

One delegate commented, "We need mortgage money in the city. If this measure doesn't work, we can always come back next year and amend it."

Support also came on the heavily lobbied bill, from would-be home buyers who said the artificial interest ceiling had made mortgage money for new home purchases unavailable in Maryland.

Legislation to raise drinking age passes Senate; rape bill killed

ANNAPOLIS — Eighteen - year - old Marylanders may be about to lose their right to legally buy wine and beer in the state.

The Maryland Senate passed and sent to the House of Delegates a bill that would raise the minimum drinking age for wine and beer from 18 to 19.

Elsewhere in a House committee, a bill that would permit a married woman to legally charge her husband with rape was killed.

The 29 - 13 vote on the drinking bill came after Sen. John J. Bishop Jr., R - Baltimore County, said there was a direct link between the 18 - year - old drinking age and the rise in teen - age mortality in traffic accidents.

Opponents of the bill, however, said 18 - year - old have all other rights and responsibilities of citizenship and should be permitted to legally drink wine or beer as well.

The bill that would permit wives to charge their husbands with the crime of rape died, as expected, in the House judiciary committee.

The vote was 16 - 4, with Joel Chasnoff, D - Howard, joining the committee's three women members, Del. Lena K. Lee, D - Baltimore, Pauline H. Menes, D - Prince George's, and Anne S. Perkins, D - Baltimore, in voting for the measure.

State sponsors legislation designed to help rockfish

ANNAPOLIS — A state - sponsored package of bills designed to protect the state's dwindling supply of rockfish should be passed easily by the General Assembly, two members of the house of delegates predict.

Del. Charles E. Kountz, D - Baltimore County, and R. Clayton Mitchell Jr., D - Kent, said they are confident the House committee on environmental matters will issue a favorable report on the bills. The state department of natural resources has proposed a six - inch gill net mesh size limit and other restrictions aimed at avoiding another ban on rockfish spawning areas.

The committee last wednesday killed three bills on management of the state rockfish population introduced by Kountz. The bills, which would have banned commercial use of gill nets and imposed other restrictions, were opposed by several state watermen's groups.

Maryland Watermen's Association President Larry Simms and other commercial fishermen's Association President Larry Simms and another commercial fisherman said the restrictions in Kounts's bills were too severe.

Dountz said he introduced the bills because he wasn't satisfied that the Department — of Natural Resources' rockfish package would adequately protect the state's dwindling rockfish supply.

But after a meeting with Mitchell, Kountz agree to cosponsor the department legislation and asked the house committee for "an unfavorable report" on two of his three bills. The committee voted to kill all three bills.

Medical service in Va. prisons called 'horror' by legislator

By Edward Roby

A horror story of medical neglect in Virginia's crowded prisons should serve the General Assembly as a lesson in the pitfalls of false economies, says Delegate Frank M. Slayton, D - Halifax.

Slayton reminded the House Appropriations Committee that the shoddy medical treatment provided an inmate in a prison clinic cost Virginia a $500,000 federal damage award in a recent suit against the state.

The suit was won by Henry Tucker, a state prisoner whom Slayton successfully prosecuted on an attempted rape charge about 10 years ago. Tucker remains crippled for life after nearly dying for lack of proper care at the state penitentiary.

Slayton, a Southside Democrat with gubernatorial yearnings, urged the committee to approve his bill to have health inspectors keep tabs on prison hospitals and medical clinics at state mental health facilities.

"We're just protecting the people of Virginia by protecting against the things that have been happening over there because it'll cost less money in the long run," he said.

Slayton said other law suits over medical neglect in substandard prison clinics can be expected.

Laymen prescribe drugs at the facilities and psychiatrists diagnose problems over the telephone after prison workers describe an inmate's symptoms, he complained.

"You would be absolutely appalled if you read the transcript in the Tucker case and saw the almost total absence of record keeping in the administration of drugs," he testified.

If enacted, Slayton's bill would take effect in 1981 and would cost $94,000, mostly in staff salaries for two additional health inspectors and a clerk, said Dr. Robert Ham of the Health Department, which backs the proposal.

The department currently inspects only the private medical facilities it licenses.

Patricia Leiser of the Corrections Department urged the panel to kill the bill to permit a department study on the problem to be completed next year.

"It would be a little disconcerting to the task force (study) to learn the Health Department is following on its heels," she said.

Slayton replied "that's what appeals to me about this bill."

He said that without the threat of inspections, there would be no incentive to the Corrections Department to "clean up their act within the existing facilities they've got."

The delegate deleted a portion of the bill calling for state licensing of prison clinics after the Corrections Department said it would require an upgrading of facilities costing $40 million.

The panel deferred action on the bill. (UPI)

New way to kick smoking habit

Baltimore City and its immediate metropolitan area is one of five sites recently selected by the American Lung Association to field test a new approach to helping smokers quit.

The study, developed by the American Lung Association and the American Thoracic Society, the Lung Association's Medical Arm, offers smokers a variety of methods of kicking the habit which can be done in the privacy of their own homes, without attending meetings.

Some 400 smokers in the Baltimore area who would like to quit, and would be interested in participating in this study are needed. Volunteers to conduct a telephone follow-up campaign are also needed.

Other areas in the country participating in the study include San Diego, New York City and Minneapolis.

To find out more about this approach to smoking cessation, contact the American Lung Association of Maryland at 685-6484.

The General Assembly: bills introduced by our lawmakers

With the mountains of snow and sheets of ice covering the roads leading to Annapolis, our Maryland lawmakers found it difficult to travel to the state capitol, therefore cancelling legislative action earlier this week.

However, those bills introduced prior to the snowfall are HB 739 - STATE POLICE - providing that a certain percentage of the cost of maintaining the state police shall be paid by the Transportation Fund. (by Douglass)

HB 743 - MERIT SYSTEM - HANDICAPPED - PREFERENCE - creating a credit on state employment examinations for handicapped persons. (by Conaway)

HB 747 - DRIVERS' LICENSES - requiring revocation or suspension of the license of certain drivers who are convicted of operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol, drugs, or any other controlled dangerous substance. (by Lee)

HB 776 - OLDER WORKERS - requiring an annual report concerning needs of older workers. (by Young)

HB 786 - BALTIMORE CITY - DEPUTY SHERIFF - permitting any Baltimore city deputy sheriff to ride public transportation free of charge during his course of employment. (by Chester)

Cost of living

HB 821 - INCOME TAX-TARGETED JOBS CREDIT - generally relating to the allowance of an income tax credit for a taxpayer employing certain persons for a minimum length of time during a taxable year. (by Dean and Hach)

HB 917 - STATE EMPLOYEES-COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMENTS - providing an automatic adjustment. (by Chester)

HB 1018 - UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE - eliminating certain provisions concerning the qualification of claimants for benefits. (by Dean)

HB 1052 - PUBLIC EDUCATION - STUDENT PERFORMANCE AND SALARIES FOR TEACHERS AND ADMINISTRATORS - providing that increases of these salaries be based on student performance. (by Rawlings and Harrison)

HB 1053 - PUBLIC EDUCATION - ACCREDITATION OF ELEMENTARY AND JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOLS - implementing this program. (by Rawlings and Harrison)

HB 1114 - DISTRICT COURT COMMISSIONERS - abolishing these commissioners. (by Dixon and Lee)

HB 1115 - COURTS-COMMISSIONERS - requiring certain knowledge to qualify. (by Dixon)

School construction

Legislation in the Senate - SB 477 - FOOD STAMPS - redefining the relationship between the state and its political subdivisions in the participation in and administration of the federal Food Stamp Act. (by Blount for Baltimore City Administration)

SB 478 - AUDIT - specifying who is qualified to give a required audit, expression of opinion on required financial statements issued to regulatory bodies. (by Blount for Baltimore City Administration)

SB 479 - CREATION OF A STATE DEBT - SUPLEMENTAL PUBLIC SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT LOAN OF 1979 - authorizing a state debt of $25,000,000 to be used to finance the construction, improvement, or renovation of certain public school facilities. (by Blount for Baltimore City Administration)

SB 491 - CONSUMER CONTRACTS - requiring understandable language in consumer contracts and providing for certain liabilities. (by Blount)

SB 510 STATE SCHOLARSHIP BOARD - providing that the State Scholarship Board shall provide sufficient funds to pay for the cost of each student applying for financial assistance. (by Blount)

SB 511 - JUDGEMENTS - EXEMPTIONS FROM EXECUTION - providing certain exemptions from execution on a judgment, and repealing certain provisions relating to the election of property to be exempted. (by Blount)

SB 512 - CREATION OF STATE DEBT NATIONAL CENTER FOR THE BLIND - authorizing the creation of state debt of $1,200,000 for the purpose of establishing a National Center for the Blind in Baltimore. (by Blount and Levitan)

SB 513 - STATE AID FOR POLICE PROTECTION - increasing the supplemental grant for state aid for police protection to political subdivisions with a certain population density. (by Blount for Baltimore City Administration)

SB 514 - TRANSFER OF USED VEHICLES - excluding all political subdivisions and their agencies from the requirement of obtaining an inspection certificate upon the transfer of their used vehicles. (by Blount for Baltimore City administration)

SB 515 - PARKING FINES - requiring owners and leasors of vehicles to pay for parking fines issued to vehicles owned or leased by them (by Blount for Baltimore City administration)

SB 516 - PUBLIC EDUCATION - FUNDING - increasing the amount added to the state share of basic current expenses for public education for counties with a certain population density and increasing the proportion to be used compensatory programs. (by Blount for Baltimore City administration)

SB 517 - PROGRAM OPEN SPACE - repealing the time limit on the authority of Baltimore City to use certain Program Open Space funds for the maintenance and operation of recreational facilities of the city, (by Blount for Baltimore City administration)

SB 518 - CREATION OF A STATE DEBT - MEMORIAL STADIUM - authorizing the creation of a state debt of $1,000,000 to be used for the renovation of Memorial Stadium. (by Blount for Baltimore City administration)

SB 519 - MEDICAID - APPLICATION TO JAIL INMATES - directing the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to reimburse political subdivisions for medical care provided inmates of their penal institutions who are eligible for medicaid. (by Blount for Baltimore City administration)

Elevators inspectors

SB 520 - BALTIMORE CITY-TRANSFER OF ELEVATOR INSPECTORS TO STATE EMPLOYMENT - transferring elevator inspectors in the Department of Housing and Community Development from employment by Baltimore City to employment by the state. (by Blount for Baltimore City administration)

SB 524 - MEDICAL TREATMENT FOR JUVENILE INMATES OF THE BALTIMORE CITY JAIL - granting authority to the warden of the Baltimore City Jail and his designees to provide medical treatment to juvenile inmates under certain conditions. (by Blount for Baltimore City administration)

SB 535 - RECREATION CENTER IN BALTIMORE CITY FOR HANDICAPPED PERSONS - authorizing the creation of a state debt of $1,500,000 to be used for the provision of a recreation center for handicapped persons, and requiring that Baltimore City provides a matching sum for the same purpose. (by Blount for Baltimore City administration)

SB 536 - BALTIMORE CITY JAIL - authorizing the creation of state debt of $1,250,000 to be used for various projects of the Baltimore City Jail and requiring that Baltimore city provides a matching sum for the same purpose. (by Blount for Baltimore City administration)

SB 546 - UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EASTERN SHORE CAMPUS - requiring the State Board for Higher Education to develop a plan for the establishment of a veterinary school to be located at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore campus. (by Welcome)

SB 547 - SMOKING AREAS - PUBLIC PLACES - allowing smoking in certain public places and places of employment if so designated by the proprietor, providing for nonsmoking areas, providing certain penalties and providing a procedure for enforcement. (by Welcome)

SB 579 PROPERTY ASSESSMENT HOME IMPROVEMENTS — providing that certain improvements to buildings used as dwellings not be included in the valuation for a certain period of time. (by Blount)

SB 598 - CODE OF PUBLIC LOCAL LAWS - legalizing the 1978 Cumulative Supplement of the Code of Public Local Laws of Baltimore City. (by Blount for Baltimore City administration)

SB 604 - GAMING LAWS - prescribing the effect on a claim for return of money seized for a violation of gaming laws. (by Blount for Baltimore City administration)

UMES Federal Hill

SB 605 - FEDERAL HILL LOAN - authorizing a state debt of $300,000 to be used for stabilizing the north and west slopes of Federal Hill Park in Baltimore City. (by Blount for Baltimore City administration)

SB 606 - STATE LOTTERY REVENUES - setting the state's share of state lottery revenues and providing for the distribution of additional revenues to the counties and Baltimore City. (by Blount for Baltimore City administration)

SB 607 - PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD STATION LOAN - authorizing a state debt of $2,000,000 to be used for improving the Pennsylvania Railroad Station in Baltimore City. (by Blount for Baltimore City administration)

SB 634 — BALTIMORE CITY + VOLUNTEER WORKERS - authorizing Baltimore City to provide certain benefits to volunteer city workers for injury or death resulting from assigned tasks. (by Blount for Baltimore City administration)

SB 635 — INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY BONDS — permitting municipalities, counties and industrial development authorities to issue certain revenue bonds for the financing of all types of buildings. (by Blount for Baltimore City administration)

SB 636 - CODE OF PUBLIC LAWS - correcting and repealing obsolete provisions in the 1966 Edition of the Code of Public Local Laws of Baltimore City. (by Blount for Baltimore City administration)

Taxi cabs

SB 637 - DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES - providing for legal services to the local departments of social services by the Attorney General or his designee rather than a county designated attorney. (by Blount for Baltimore City administration)

SB 648 - TAXICAB BUSINESS IN BALTIMORE CITY - excluding taxicab businesses in Baltimore City from permit requirements of the Public Service Commission. (by Douglass)

SB 649 - INCOME - ADJUSTED HOMESTEAD TAX CREDITS — providing a property tax relief program for certain persons who own or rent their homesteads. (by Douglass)

SB 684 - STATE CONTRACTS - providing that an agency of the state may not require bid bonds for certain contracts. (by Douglass)

SB 685 - HANDGUNS - generally outlawing handguns. (by Douglass)

SB 693 - NONMEDICAL INFORMATION - permitting certain information to be given to the payor of medical services. (by Blount for Baltimore City administration)

SB 693 - ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE - authorizing the issuance of a certain license. (by Welcome)

Senate Joint Resolution 25 - SENTENCING REVIEW PANEL - requesting the governor to appoint a commission to determine the feasibility of the establishment of a sentence and review panel. (by Mitchell and O'Reilly)

SJR 41 - DRIVER'S EDUCATION PROGRAMS — requesting a task force to study funding and administration of those programs. (by Welcome)

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From The Colonies until now, we've made history

1750 1979

OSSIE DAVIS, the noted actor, portrays Benjamin Banneker in the coming motion picture filmed in Baltimore and Ellicott City, Md.

By Elizabeth M. Oliver

We arrived on the first ships when American was discovered. In fact, our navigators were on board. And, from the Colonial Period, we made history with out own brand of ingenuity.

Benjamin Banneker, born near Ellicott City, Md. 45 years before the Revolution is a good example. Banneker was a free man and it was he who was charged with surveying the "Federal Territory" which is now the city of Washington, D.C. He made the first clock built in America and printed the first Almanac each year for 10 years.

He was a mathematician, astronomer, surveyor and inventor highly respected and recognized in all the colonies.

Banneker and Thomas Jefferson, secretary of state, exchanged letters and always Jefferson's letters ended with, "I am with great esteem, Sir, your most humble servant."

Black men and women have fought bravely against America's fores since 1623. Free and enslaved blacks fought in the colonial wars.

They died assisting the birth of the American nation — more than 5,000 blacks served in the Continental Army. And, blacks shed their blood in the War of 1812 assuring the results of the Revolution.

According to President Lincoln, Afro-American participation in the Civil War insured Northern victory and preservation of the Union. More than 186,000 blacks served in the Union Army.

Two black cavalry regiments — the 9th and 10th and two black infantry regiments — the 24th and 25th — played a large role in the "winning of the West" during the quarter century after Appomattox.

These four regiments later fought in Cuba during the Spanish-American War.

In the "war to make the world safe for democracy" more than 40,000 of the 200,000 black soldiers sent overseas served in combat.

One of the leading American units was the 369th Regiment which fought so well with the French, it was awarded the Croix de Guerre.

Two black divisions, the 92nd and 93rd, also saw action during World War I.

These two divisions along with many other black combat units saw action in the Second World War.

Photos by Ryales

CONGRESSMAN PARREN J. MITCHELL

FIRST IN 190 YEARS U.S. HISTORY

Rep. Mitchell named House Demo Whip

FEBRUARY 15, 1979 - WASHINGTON - Maryland's first black congressman has received the highest honor in 190 years of the U.S. Congress.

House Majority Whip John Brademas of Indiana has amounced the appointment of Congressman Mitchell to the Democratic leadership post of At Large Whip for the 96th Congress.

Brademas expressed particular pleasure at the willingness of Rep. Mitchell to serve as an At Large Whip.

He said, "Parren Mitchell is an outstanding member of the House and it gives me great pleasure to announce that he has agreed to take on the extra duties and responsibilities of an At Large Whip.

"The House Leadership is greatly strengthened by having his wise counsel and political acumen."

The House Majority Whip Organization functions as an arm of Speaker Thomas p. o'Neill Jr. in gathering support for major pieces of legislation being considered by the U.S. House of Representatives.

It meets at least once a week while the House is in session to discuss the legislative agenda. As one of 11 Democratic whips in the 435 - member House, Mitchell also advises the leadership as well as helping to muster support for major programs.

He is not only the first black person in U.S. history but longtime observers of the Congress believe Mitchell is the first Marylander ever named to the House leadership — EMO.

ANDREW YOUNG
U.S. Ambassador

Marion M. Barry
Mayor of Washington

ALEX HALEY
ROOTS author

EDYE BYRD
Broadway star

BENJAMIN MAYS
orator, minister, historian

CLARENCE M. MITCHELL JR.
statesman, diplomat

SENATOR ARIS T. ALLEN
first GOP party head

JOHN H. MURPHY SR.
AFRO-AMERICAN Newspapers founder

REP. WALTER FAUNTROY
first D.C. congressman

REV. RALPH ABERNATHY
civil rights leader

MRS. JACKIE ROBINSON
wife of famed athlete, businesswoman

VERNON JORDAN
Urban League chief

MRS. JUANITA J. MITCHELL
famed woman attorney

GEORGE HALEY
D.C. lawyer, brother of Alex