Idris Alooma — Sultan of Borno (1580-1617)

Osei Tutu — King of Asante (1616-1717)

Affonso I — King of the Kongo (1506-1540)

Moshoeshoe — King of Basutoland (1815-1868)

There's a Great Future in your past.

You have a past that's a prophesy of your future.

Great, highly-inspired Blacks have made their way through a turmoil of difficulties and injustices to become men of stature and respect.

Like these great Kings of Africa.

Granted, your future is in your hands, not theirs. But if ever you need inspiration for a successful future, look to your past. It is there that inspiration for success is firmly lodged.

ANHEUSER-BUSCH, INC. • ST. LOUIS

Askia Muhammad Toure — King of Songhay (1493-1528)

Sunni Ali Ber — King of Songhay (1464-1492)

Menelek II — King of Kings of Abyssinia (1844-1913)

Mansa Kankan Musaa — King of Mali (1312-1337)

Hannibal — Ruler of Carthage (247-183 B.C.)

Shaka — King of the Zulus (1818-1828)

Taharqa — King of Nubia (710-664 B.C.)

Akhenaton — Pharoah of Egypt (1375-1358 B.C.)

Mitchell, Young may enter Council race

See Column one

AFRO readers comment on looting, curfew see page 4

Baltimore Afro-American

WE ARE NOW IN OUR 87TH YEAR

First Baptist celebrates 143rd anniversary see Living Church

87TH YEAR No. 58 Copyright 1979 by the AFRO-AMERICAN CO. for all material previously printed in the current National Edition. BALTIMORE, MD. MARCH 3, 1978 LATE CITY EDITION 30 CENTS

2 gospel singers executed

Their bodies found in Eastside garage

AFRO Photo by Roman Hankewycz

MURDER SCENE — A neighbor is shown pointing to the Rose Street garage in East Baltimore where two gospel singers were killed.

A 24-year-old man and his 40-year-old friend, both gospel singers, were found dead in a vacant garage cluttered with debris in the 1700 block of Rose St., in East Baltimore.

Earl Hamilton, of the 800 block Collington Ave., died of gunshot wounds to the neck and John Casey, 40, of the 3100 block Sequoia Ave., was shot in the head.

The AFRO learned both men had been shot more than once. However, a spokesman for the medical examiner's office refused to say how many times the men had been shot.

Their bodies were discovered around 2 p.m. Feb. 26 in a garage behind an unoccupied house in the 1700 block Milton St., approximately 20 feet from the old Baltimore cemetery.

Hamilton and Casey, who was known as "Johnny" by friends and relatives, had been singing gospel music for six years and sung with the Johnny West Gospel Singers, a local group. Case was the director and pianist for the group.

Neither man had a wallet or identification in their pockets and were identified by fingerprints nearly six hours after they were found.

John Casey

Both men were found lying side by side, face down and fully dressed.

Hamilton was wearing a black shirt, gray pants with a purple design, black socks and a threequarter length coat. His clothes were covered with blood and he was not wearing shoes.

Casey had curlers in his hair and

(Continued on page 2)

Lawmakers eye Council prexy post

Clarence W. Hunter
AFRO Staff Writer

Del. Larry Young is a possible candidate for City Council president in the upcoming citywide election, the AFRO has learned.

Rumors that Young, also of the 38th district, may throw his hat into the ring rose recently after a special committee was formed last month to study this possibility.

Sources close to Mitchell said he has met with Sen. Julian Lapides, D-39th, on several occasions for the last several weeks to explore the chances of forming a ticket with Lapides as the mayoral candidate.

Young did not deny reports on his political future. But he did say certain circumstances prevented him from specific comment at this point.

He did say, however, that he has given the matter serious thought and has met with the committee to discuss the possibility of how he can enter the race.

Mitchell on the other hand, denied that he is thinking about running for City Council president. He did admit meeting with Lapides but only to discuss Lapides chances of running for mayor.

(Continued on Page 35)

Swisher—'captured by evil'

William Swisher, Baltimore state's attorney, was described as a man "captured by violence," by the Rev. Linwood Garrenton, rector of the Church of the Holy Trinity, in his regular sermon last Sunday.

A departure from the usual tone of his sermons, Father Garrenton was referring to Swisher's earlier assertion that he would condone storekeepers sitting in their business places with guns, waiting for looters.

"A man, sworn to uphold the law, should not even hint that he would condone lay people taking the law into their own hands, much less their being able to kill suspected offenders, even including looters," the priest at Wheeler and Lafayette Sts. declared.

Father Garrenton also condemned the looters who would demolish their own community, but most of his words were about Swisher.

(Continued on page 2)

TV personality Reg Williams out of rights enforcement job

Reginald T. Williams

Reginald Williams, civil rights activist and television personality, has reportedly given up his position as affirmative action officer at the United Way of Central Maryland.

Reportedly, because the status of his resignation is unclear at this point. Williams says he had not given his letter of resignation to the agency (as of Thursday), but United Way sent a memo to the staff saying Williams' resignation went into effect Feb. 28.

"The memo is inadvertent," Williams said. "I haven't turned in my resignation and I am not expected to until tomorrow. I haven't decided whether I'm going to do that yet.

"I told them I would think about it. I'm supposed to meet Friday, (March 2) with Executive Director Phil Schneiderman."

Schneiderman has a different story. He denied rumors that Williams had been forced to resign and said he had asked to resign.

"He happened to be in New York attending a funeral when we first discussed his resignation," Schneiderman said.

"He had come here with a set of certain goals and objectives that he wished to obtain on behalf of affirmative action and United Way. He feels he has accmplished this and he now wishes to pursue activities in human relations and the broader environment."

Bettye Williams (no relation to Reginald) has been appointed interim affirmative action director. A search committee will be appointed next week, according to Schneiderman, in an attempt to fill the vancancy within the next four to five weeks.

Bill Springer, a spokesman at

(Continued on Page 35)

Fashion entrepreneur faces gunman

Lawrence Parker assaulted, burned out

Lawrence Parker, fashion designer and owner of Parker Ltd. in downtown Baltimore, had more bad luck this week when his apartment building went up in smoke.

Parker is the same person who produced the Anniversary Show of Stars which took place at the Civic Center on Jan. 28. Only 494 persons showed up for the event even though the Center was prepared to hold 12,000.

According to police reports, the following describes what took place at 1:30 a.m. Sunday Feb. 25 in Parker's apartment located on the second floor above his clothing shop at 402 N. Eutaw St.

Parker was awkened by a noise early Sunday morning and when he opened the door to investigate, a man—unknown to Parker — was standing there pointing a pistol at him.

The suspect stated "Get back in, I don't want to hurt you," to Parker. Both time both men went into the apartment.

At that point the man told Parker to put his hands behind his back. Parker refused and a struggle between the two began.

During the struggle, according the police reports, the two knocked over an elecfric stove which ignited the fire and Parker's attacker dropped the gun.

Once the fire started both men

(Continued on page 2)

LEGISLATIVE SPOTLIGHT

Sen. Blount fights 'redlining'

Sen. Clarence W. Blount

By Portia E. Badham
AFRO Staff Writer

This article is another in a series featuring each of Baltimore's black delegates and senators in the Maryland General Assembly.

Sen. Clarence W. Blount's bill to prevent insurance companies from charging higher rates or refusing to issue policies to people with Sickle Cell Trait has had a favorable hearing in Annapolis.

Serving as vice chairman of the Budget and Taxation Committee, Blount is optimistic about eliminating this form of discrimination this year.

He is also chairman of the Baltimore City delegation and will oversee the progress of bills for obtaining state funds for improving the Pennsylvania Railroad Station, stabilizing the slopes of Federal Hill Park, increasing state aid for police protection and renovation of Memorial Stadium.

Blount has introduced some important legislation dealing with the problems of people in the 41st district which he represents.

"I would like to see a tax break created for people who improve their homes," said the senator. "People should be encouraged to upgrade their property, and Senate Bill 597 is a step in this direction."

This bill creats an exemption from Property assessment for up to $4,000 that an individual puts into improving his home the year the improvements are made.

He is again trying for passage of legislation to prevent "redlining" by lending institutions. Lower mortgage availability in changing neighborhoods has often contributed to community decline.

His position as Assistant Majority Leader of the Senate places him on the Legislative Policy Committee which meets with the governor, other members of the Senate, and leaders of the House of Delegates to make policy decisions on legislation.

As assistant majority leader he also helps to muster votes for important bills.

Among these will be the governor's tax relief package. And he is often able to use his position to influence the provisions of a bill to reflect black interests.

(Continued on page 2)

Storm also brings out the best

Volunteers saw Provident through

Photo by J. D. Howard

PROVIDENT SNOWSTORM VOLUNTEERS — Lisa Mincey, 14 and Olivia Gross, 13, worked in the Provident Hospital cafeteria during the blizzard of 1979. Community members also worked on the switchboad and helped plow parking areas.

By Michele L. McRae
AFRO Staff Writer

While most post-blizzard talk was about looting the fact is that the looting involved a very few.

Most citizens spent storm days quietly with their families and neighbors helping to dig each other out of the snow.

Countless numbers of Baltimoreans managed to lend a helping to others.

For example: Some 100 residents of the Providence Hospital area braved the snowstorm and walked to the hospital to volunteer their time in any way possible to keep this medical facility operating.

The hospital had alerted the community that many of their regular staff persons, including doctors and nurses were unable to make it to work and they needed the community's support.

(Continued on page 2)

MA
AR