AFRO photo by Mark Gail

RECEPTION GUESTS – Pictured at the Oct. 21 Wine and Cheese reception which formally presented new Regional Director Dr. Emmett C. Burns to the public at 2125 Maryland Ave. are (L to R): Thomas Lee, program director of the State NAACP and Marjorie R. Green, press and publicity chairperson.

—Dr. Burns

(Continued from Page 17)

by this type of situation."

Dr. Burns cited the past winter's snowstorm as an example. He stated that when the mayor wanted to impose a curfew on the city, one half of the NAACP people were for it and one half were against it. In order to keep from tearing the group apart, the NAACP took no position.

When queried on how to correct such a situation, Dr. Burns said: "I have to be so sure of the position that I have to stake it out regardless of the repercussions."

When asked how he would have handled that particular situation, Dr. Burns stated: "I would have said a curfew is in order. There is no excuse for blacks to loot regardless of poverty. It sets back the race and the civil rights movement. It makes whites continue to stereotype us as thugs and hoodlums."

In discussing alternatives to getting our rights as blacks, Dr. Burns feels that there are government structures and constitutional guarantees that, used properly will be tools to help us redress our grievances.

He also says that the low profile of the NAACP will change locally, regionally and nationally. In his words: "I intend to use the power of this office and all its resources to lift to consciousness the problems facing black people."

When asked how he felt about the 70s as they related to black progress Dr. Burns said that he saw that era as a decade of holding on to the statutory gains we had made and that he saw a rear guard action on school desegregation and equal employment on the part of whites.

He feels that there were no affirmative gains made and cited as reasons the death of Martin Luther King, the tide of neo - conservatism sweeping the country and the apathy and lethargy of blacks.

When asked his opinion on the reason for the lethargy and apathy of blacks, Dr. Burns said: "I feel that it is because a few have made it and don't give a damn and others feel hopeless."

In answering the query on the NAACP's thrust for the '80s, Dr. Burns says that he wants to see blacks getting involved in foreign affairs and foreign policy — getting jobs in the State Dept. and agitating for appointive persons (Liaison people and ambassadors) and in so doing, having a direct impact on issues such as the oil situation.

He also sees blacks as abandoning their blind allegiance to the Democratic Party, which has treated blacks like loose women — "They love us till they get what they want."

He feels that Republican representation will provide a balance and that we, as a race, will not be taken for granted, that our vote will county for more. He says that the Democrats will do more with the Republican threat over them.

In comparing the past two decades with the upcoming one Dr. Burns states: "In the '60s civil rights was a social movement and the '70s a political one. The '80s will be an era of economic striving.

We have moved from wanting to be socially accepted by whites. In the 80s we plan on more jobs for blacks, more black businesses and more blacks in managerial pmaitions."

In answering to the "How to" of these thrusts, Dr. Burns said that the NAACP will rely on demonstrations and protests, but that there will also be a great emphasis on the preparation of blacks through their being educationally qualified.

He feels that this is an area where the NAACP's ACT - SO program can help. He stated: "Blacks need to lift themselves educationally."

Dr. Burns further stated: "There are unknown variables (the oil crisis, the Russians, racial flare-ups) which will also affect the thrust of the NAACP."

He claims: "The NAACP has been accused of not being militant. But we pay our bills, we are in the telephone book and we back up what we say with money. Militance doesn."

As a major goal for blacks in the area Dr. Burns sees the election of blacks for citywide office and a bringing together the 100,000 factions in Baltimore as tantamount.

As an indication of the new director's "Man of Action" quality, Dr. Burns plans to write Mayor Schaefer immediately and ask that heated shelters be provided for people who run out of oil at home during the coming winter. He is truly about helping those in need of help.

Dr. Burns is married to the former Miss Earlean Poe of French Camp, Miss., who is a former teacher in the Richmond Public Schools.

He is also the father of three sons: Emmett III, Engel Dawson and Evers Allen.

Guests included: Dr. Robert Y. Dubel, Superintendent of Baltimore County Public Schools; Delegate Walter Dean; Charles R. Thomas, President, Vulcan Blazers, Inc. (Balto. City Fire Dept.); Mrs. Dora B. Ferguson, HCFA;

Also the Rev. and Mrs. Kelly Jackson; Mrs. Marie C. Henderson, Personnel Dept., Balto. County; Clyde J. Smith, Deputy Chief, Balto. City Fire Dept.; Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Brown, P. G. County;

Also Mr. and Mrs. John Perron; Travis V. Vauls; Mrs. Leola Dorsey, Jessup, Md.; Mrs. Margaret Bass and her daughter, Dr. Debra Dudley; Mrs. Dorothy Black, Easton, Md.; Mrs. Margaret Carroll; Harlow Fullwood; Edward A. Brown;

Also Mrs. Marjorie Green, Md. St. Conf. Press and Publicity Chairman; Miles White; Col. (Balto. County Branch President) and Mrs. James R. Pennington; Dr. Cathy Pope Smith, Laurel, Md.; and numerous others.

Woodlawn Highlights

BIG is attended by blacks from across the nation

By Marjorie R. Green

Approximately twenty - five Social Security (SSA) and Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) employees were among the twenty - two hundred registered delegates at the first national conference of Blacks In Government (BIG) held at the Shoreham Americana Hotel in Washington, D.C.

Black government workers representing all levels of government and coming from across the United States attended three days of workshops, training sessions and panel discussions concerning vital issues which affect their jobs and lives.

Mr. Lonis Ballard, National BIG president referred to the historic conference as "the beginning of a plan of action essential to the culmination of a united effort which will have a positive impact on policies and programs affecting blacks in government."

He further stated that "these deliberations should eventually impact on the quality of government - related services rendered to blacks."

The Honorable Parren J. Mitchell began his address on Friday morning by commending the government workers for making "Liars" out of those who say that blacks cannot come together in unity and in purpose" to fight bigotry, racism, and prejudice. In his closing he suggested that in 1980, BIG should be dominated by the theme "Spirit to Struggle and the Power to Prevail."

Several SSA staff employees were actively involved in workshop presentations. Mrs. Ethel Hill, Equal Opportunity Specialist was the moderator for the session on Disciplinary Actions.

During this session significant changes in adverse action procedures were discussed by Mr. Lloyd Johnson, staff director, sub - committee on Postal Personnel and Modernization, U.S. House of Representatives.

Mr. Alexander Faison, director, Office of Human Resources, U.S. Customs Service and Mr. James Washington, presidential intern, Federal Aviation Administration.

Ms. Janice Warden, deputy associate commissioner for Government Affairs, SSA, and Mr. William F. Cooper, acting deputy director, Insurance Programs, SSA were panelists in the Retirement, Social Security (Federal, State and Local Government Employees) workshop which was moderated by Mr. Paul L. Everett acting assistant director, Office of Civil Rights Programs, SSA.

Other attending the conference were: Ms. Audrey Hopkins, Caradella Robinson, Joan Cooper, Walter Statham, Nathaniel Trader, Phyllis Bracey, Bernice White, Odessa Woods, Marge Green, and Donald Hill. Representing HCFA was Ms. Barbara Mitchell, Evelyn Holland and Lafayette Grier.

The Honorable Eleanor Holmes Norton, chair, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission was the keynote speaker at the Saturday evening banquet attended by seventeen hundred delegates. The conference closed with delegates united in their decision to press for an executive order endorsing a special emphasis program for blacks.

Send news items for this column: c/o WOODLAWN HIGHLIGHTS, P.O. Box 785, Baltimore, Maryland 21207.

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Columbia Capers

Arthur Fletcher to keynote Interfaith Center's Men's Day

By Pinnie L. Ross

Arthur Fletcher to keynote Men's Day at the Interfaith Center.

Annual Men's Day will be observed Sunday, October 28th at the Interfaith Center, Wilde Lake Village Green, at 11:45 a.m.

"A Challenge to Men as Christians" is the theme eor the morning service.

Guest speaker for the morning service will be a man who has spent most of his life working in the field of Human Development and Training, Mr. Arthur A. Fletcher, president of Fletcher's Associates and former candidate for Mayor, Washington, D.C.

The Decade of the 60s and 70s were spent by Mr. Fletcher working in the Human Development, Employee Relations and Employment standards arenas.

From 1961 to 1965, he served as a classroom teacher in Berkeley, California's public school system.

During 1975 his Executive Level Training Experiences included serving on The Advanced Management Institute Faculties at IBM and AT & T Management Training Facilities.

From 1967 to 1968, he served as an Employee Relations Consultant and Recruiting Officer for 9 Government Contractors at the Hanford, Washington Atomic Energy Reservation in Richmond. In Washington from 1969 to 1971.

Mr. Fletcher served as The Assistant Secretary for Employment standards at the United Stated Department of Labor.

He provided the leadership and signed the regulations that stated The Federal Government Equal Employment Opportunity Affirmative Action Enforcement Program.

He is the former Executive Director for the United Negro College Fund. In 1972 The UNCF raised $11.2 million dollars.

Mr. Fletcher graduated from high school in Junction City, Kansas. He attended Washburn Univerity in Topeka, Kansas, majoring in Education and Sociology with a minor in Religion.

He is a scholar of the Bible and has been all of his life. He has a religious library that's worth more than $3,000.00 in religious books.

He and his wife Bernice resides in Washington, D.C. They are the proud parents of four children, Joan, Phyllis, Paul and Phillip.

Music for the Men's Day service will provided by the Men's Day Special Chorus under the direction of Dr. Leroy Giles, Dr. Jesse Clay Sr. and Dr. Haley Flack.

Men's Day Committee members are James Fitzpatrick, Chairman; John Sheppard, co - chairman; William Ross

Arthur A. Fletcher

Jr., finance; Jasper Clay, publicity; Larry Erwin, chairman of Ushers along with Luther Blackwell.

THOUGH FOR TODAY:

This is the day which the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it—Psalms 118:34.

Baltimore's Las Amigas to host National Collaboration on Youth

Over 40 black women leaders from the Baltimore Metropolitan Area, representing 12 national organizations affiliated with the National Council of Negro Women, will assemble at Provident Hospital Auditorium on Saturday, Oct. 27, 1979, 9 a.m.

These women will launch a major national thrust effort called the National Collaboration for Children and Youth.

Organized under the National Council of Negro Women (NCNW) umbrella, convening organizations will pool their collective resources for the benefit of black children and youth in the Baltimore Area.

Baltimore has been designated as one of the target cities, along with Atlanta, Ga.; Chicago, Ill.; Cleveland, Ohio; Detroit, Mich.; Kansas City, Mo.; Los Angeles, Cal.; New Orleans, La.; Newark, N.J.; New York City; Pittsburgh, Pa.; Richmond, D.C., and the State of Mississippi.

Alarmed by the epidemic of yough unemployment, teenage pregnancy, and school dropout statistics, in particular, the heads of black women's organizations have called upon their membership to turn around these statistics — during the final months of the International Year of the Child.

This kick - off and planning session is designed to mobilize forces and develop comprehensive models for action by pooling existing resources and jointly seeking new resources to preserve and develop the potential of our young people. A special emphasis will be put on teenage pregnancy.

The Baltimore Chapter of Las Amigas, Inc. is the convening organiation of the local project, with Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Chi Eta Phi Sorority, Inc., Continental Societies, Inc., Delta Sigma Theta, Inc., National Association of Fashion and Accessory Designers, Phi Delta Kappa, Inc., Tau Gamma Delta Sorority, Inc., Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc., and Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. participating.

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Made possible by a grant from the Maryland Committee for the Humanities.

City schools' 150th anniversary marked

In keeping with the celebration of one hundred fifty years of Baltimore City Public Schools, some teachers of the Thomas G. Hayes School No. 102, 601 N. Central Ave., presented a program in the school's auditorium recently.

The program included remembrances of the old Thomas G. Hayes done by Mrs. Dolores Cornick, senior teacher, who is a former student of the old School 102. A song, "Memories" was done by Mrs. Chesteena Greene, a teacher.

An original skit, written by a retired teacher, Mrs. Geraldine R. Laker was done by students of the school.

The skit, entitled "Times to Remember at Dear Ole No. 102," which was done under the direction of teachers Mrs. Marian B. Bordley, Mrs. Ernestine Hill, Miss Delores Burgess and Linwood Harris, compared the life styles of the old No. 102 with the new No. 102, and traced the history of the school from its beginning up to the present time.

Pupils who were performers in the skit were: Anthon Johnson, Mellissia Diggs, Latanya Freeman, Terri Smith, Brian McCorkle, Loudell Higgins, Rodney Harris, Nathalia Drew, Latanya Soloman, Anthony Johnson, Trina Landon and Levant Pollard.

Vivid scenery for the skit was done by Thomas Miller, Art Resource teacher at the school.

At the end of the program remarks were given by two former principals, Mrs. Anne L. Payne, and James McDonald, and the current principal, Warren Sears.

Following the program guests and parents attended a luncheon in the Parents' Room of the school. Miss Quandra Robinson, a teacher, hosted the luncheon.

Guests included parents, former principals mentioned before, Joseph Jones, former assistant principal, Sister Catherine from St. James Catholic School, John Mohamed, from the Region Two regional office, Mrs. Elaine Nolan, Follow - Through Coordinator and Mrs. Theda Wilson, regional superintendent.

Mrs. Cynthia Ray, a teacher, was the chairperson for the event.

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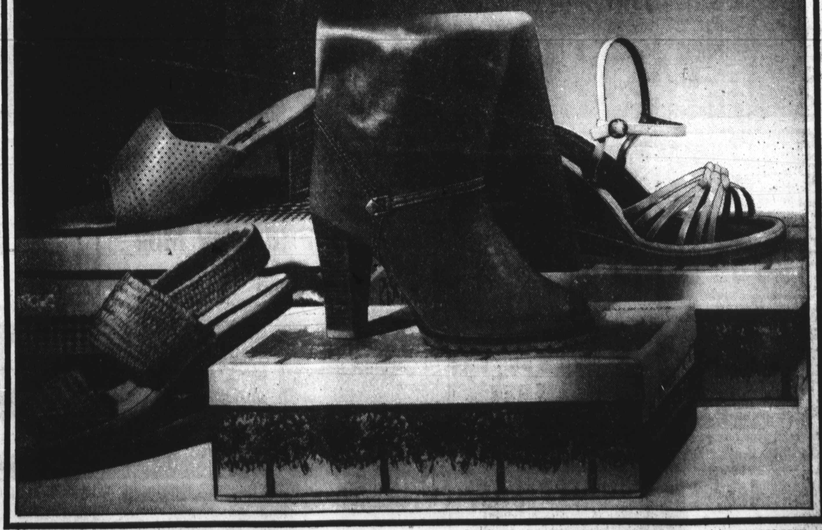

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