—Festival thefts

(Continued from page 1)

The Pepsi official could not tell the AFRO how much the cart cost. A local golf cart dealer put the price for an electric model between $495 and $2,250.

The Coca-Cola dispenser also disappeared on a Monday after a festival, before the soda distributor returned to the Inner Harbor to pick up any unused soda and equipment.

The dispenser was also taken to the warehouse where it remained until Oct. 32, when it was moved to a foreman's office. The foreman called the Coke distributor and claimed he found the dispenser.

The foreman received three cases of soda as a reward for returning the dispenser.

The AFRO also learned that a cash register rented to a vendor for the Greek Festival by National Cash Register, NCR, was stolen and hidden in a foreman's office.

An AFRO reporter visited the office and saw the cash register, which was hidden in a cardboard box and placed in the knee-hole of an unused desk. A yellow rain slicker was draped over the box.

An NCR foreman said the cash register in question, which is an older model that is no longer manufactured, could be considered "junk."

NCR usually waits 90 days after a reported theft, he said, before action is taken, at which time NCR's legal department receives the information.

The foreman said the model stolen is not really worth the time nor effort it would take to get it back.

City workers are angry because they say supervisors and foreman involve subordinates in the thefts and thereby implicate workers.

Taxpayers and festival-goers pay the final tab for the thefts through higher insurance costs to vendors and increased rental for stall space.

What is the city agency doing about the charges of thievery by its workers?

The AFRO learned Wednesday, Nov. 7 that some 20 employees were called to an official's office to relate information about the reported thefts. Of that number, about 12 signed statements confirming that property was stolen.

The official said a meeting was planned for Thursday, Nov. 7 at 1 p.m. with the agency's deputy director and a section chief to discuss the allegations.

The deputy director's secretary said he had one meeting scheduled Thursday, at 2 p.m. to discuss a contract. She said he was in his office all morning and she was not aware of any 1 p.m. meeting.

The two remaining officials were not in their offices and did not return repeated telephone calls from the AFRO.

One supervisor named in the thefts has been transferred to another section of the agency until a final determination is made, an official said.

Until the agency takes official action, the thefts will remain an unsolved crime.

—Cross burnings

(Continued from page 1)

The dining room window has been broken twice. Around Oct. 15, a rock was thrown through the window on a Saturday night. Mud was splashed on a friend's car which was parked near Wise's house and the rear view mirror was cracked.

On Halloween, a racial epithet was soaped on the car and a rock was thrown through his front storm door.

The dining room window was broken a second time at 1 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 4. Pellets were shot from a BB gun and a rock was also thrown through the window.

Racism is not new in predominantly white Gardenville.

One year ago, the AFRO reported that two black families were harassed and their homes and property vandalized by white neighborhood youths.

One of the families moved from the area to escape the racist harassment.

Wise, who said his is the only black family on his street, bought the house and moved in Aug. 14, 1979. His $100 deductible homeowners insurance does not cover the cost of the windows, which sell for about $14 apiece.

More importantly, Wise said he has become very apprehensive in his new home.

"It's hard to sleep nights. I don't know what's going to happen next," he said.

Wise said he has no problem with unsociable neighbors.

"I can deal with the cold shoulders. What I find hard to believe is that no one ever sees or hears anything. That seems suspicious," he said.

Police department spokesman Dennis Hill also told the AFRO that no one living on Shamrock Avenue could give officers any information.

Hill said there are no suspects in the cross-burning.

—The people won

(Continued from page 1)

The Keep Baltimore Best Committee reportedly spent almost $300,000 in their losing effort to stop the amendment, while the rent control backers had only $9,000 at their disposal, a thirty-to-one differential.

Cheeks sees the results of the election as a trend toward a new day in Baltimore politics.

"We've got Norman Reeves and Kweisi Mfume in city council, and they won't be licking the mayor's boots. I think because of what the people did politicians will have to start dealing with this constituency. How can we desert our own people? They showed their guts and their power in this election."

"There is a new generation coming up in Baltimore these days," stated Kwiesi Mfume, celebrating his Fourth district city counsil seat victory at the Sphinx Club, on Pennsylvania Avenue. "It's not just age, 'cause we have old people feeling young again. This is turn-around time!"

George Collins, an associate editor with an area television station's news department, agreed that a new wave of people politics is here. "Black politicians have got to start realizing that the people are setting the pace."

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For further information concerning the Small Business Institute, contact the Community College of Baltimore at 396-0380 or 396-1850.

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Election seen as mixed victory for black voters

By James M. Abraham
AFRO Staff Writer

Baltimore's black voters enjoyed a mixed victory Wednesday, as the black community gained two new black city councilmen and proved pivotal in passing the rent control amendment.

But the bid by St. George I.B. Crosse to become the city's first black comptroller was thwarted, and in the Fifth district, Carl Adair's Republican city council campaign failed by almost 10,000 votes . In the In the Fifth, however, there was cause to celebrate as Nroman V. A. Reeves repeated his September primary performance, garnering the highest vote total of any of his Democratic running mates.

In the Fourth, an infusion of new blood, in the person of 30-year-old Kweisi Mfume, provides the district with a candidate who holds the distinction of being the first councilman from that era who was not sponsored by any of the competitive political clubs of that region.

"I am an example of independence." Mfume told a reporter, raising his voice to be heard above the din of his supporters at the Sphinx Club on Pennsylvania Ave. "I feel that younger voters may have learned, through my campaign, that you can win by being independent. I didn't seek the endorsements of any of the established clubs, I took the campaign to the people and won!" Mfume, who won the Democratic primary position on the Fourth district slate by only three votes, after a hotly contested race, won a resounding victory over his Republican competition. He beat his closest challenger, Madie E. Mitchell, by over 10,000 votes.

Hopes for a Republican resurgence were crushed in the election as Democrats swept every race in town. The highest G.O.P. vote getter was comptroller candidate St. George I.B. Crosse, who received 40,064 votes, despite a Democrat-Republican ratio of 9 to 1.

The rent control amendment won by over 5,000 votes, despite its lack of support from many area politicians.

The success of the referendum prompted Art Murphy, head of Politicon Creative, an area political consulting firm, to state , "this is turnaround time. The black vote came through and it did make a difference."

TIRED CAMPAIGN workers at Carl Adair's headquarters on Duvall Ave. are Mrs. Castina Dorsey and her son, Melvin, age 2.

Few blacks involved in Swisher testimony

The corruption trial of State's Attorney William A. Swisher has gone by for the past seven weeks without much involvement by blacks.

Most of the testimony during the trial where Swisher, 46, is charged with 18 counts of mail fraud and three counts of extortion, has been presented by top white officials.

Prosecutors set out to prove that Swisher turned over complete control of the state's attorney's office to political boss, James H. "Jack" Pollack for his political patronage in the 1974 state's attorney election.

And they also hope to prove that Swisher killed an investigation of a bid-rigging scheme where a public works official took bribes in return for demolition contracts.

To date, the only black person called upon by the prosecution which rested its case this week, was Earl T. Booker, a former criminal investigator hired by Swisher.

Booker, a member of the Trenton Democratic Club, headed Booker, a member of the Trenton Democratic Club when Pollack controlled it, said he lost his job as a promotion director at the Mondawmin Mall because he supported Swisher at the request of Pollack during the 1974 election.

"The appointment I was granted came out of the patronage system," said Booker. "I lost one job from politics and got another job from politics."

In addition to Booker, the only other black person even mentioned in court is Judge Milton B. Allen who was in 1974 the state's attorney and ran unsuccessfully against Swisher that sameyear.

Suspect held without bail in police shooting

Ervin Williams, 31, of the 100 block Ablemarle St., has been arrested and charged with assault with intent to murder Officer John H. Miller, 24, in a parking lot near Central District police station on Nov. 7.

Miller, 24, has been on the force since June 1978 and was shot twice in the right side when he walked from the police station toward his van parked at Fayette and Exeter St.

Williams, who was being held without bail at AFRO presstime is also charged with robbery and handgun violations.

He was arrested after police investigated a gun firing at 1101 Orleans St., a high rise apartment building. Police report Miller's revolver, which was stolen during the assault Wednesday, was found in a hallway of the apartment. Miller is in critical condition at Mercy Hospital.

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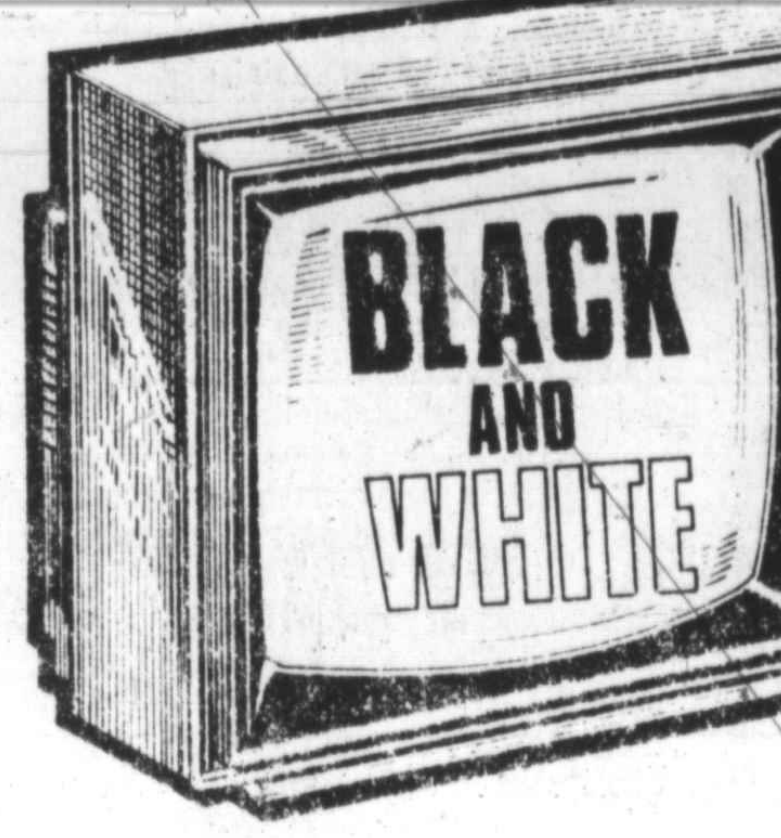

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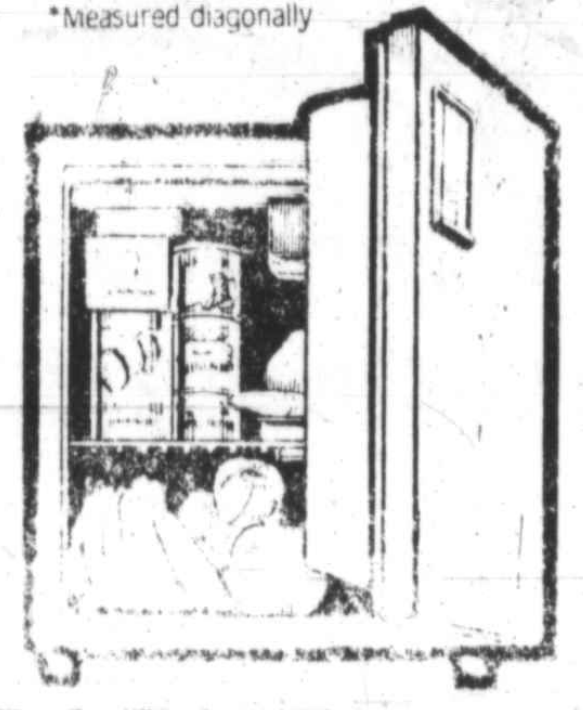

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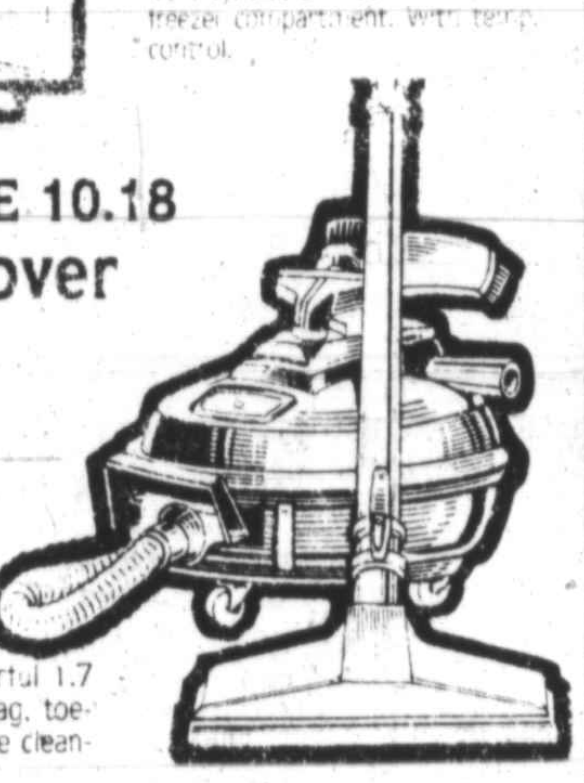

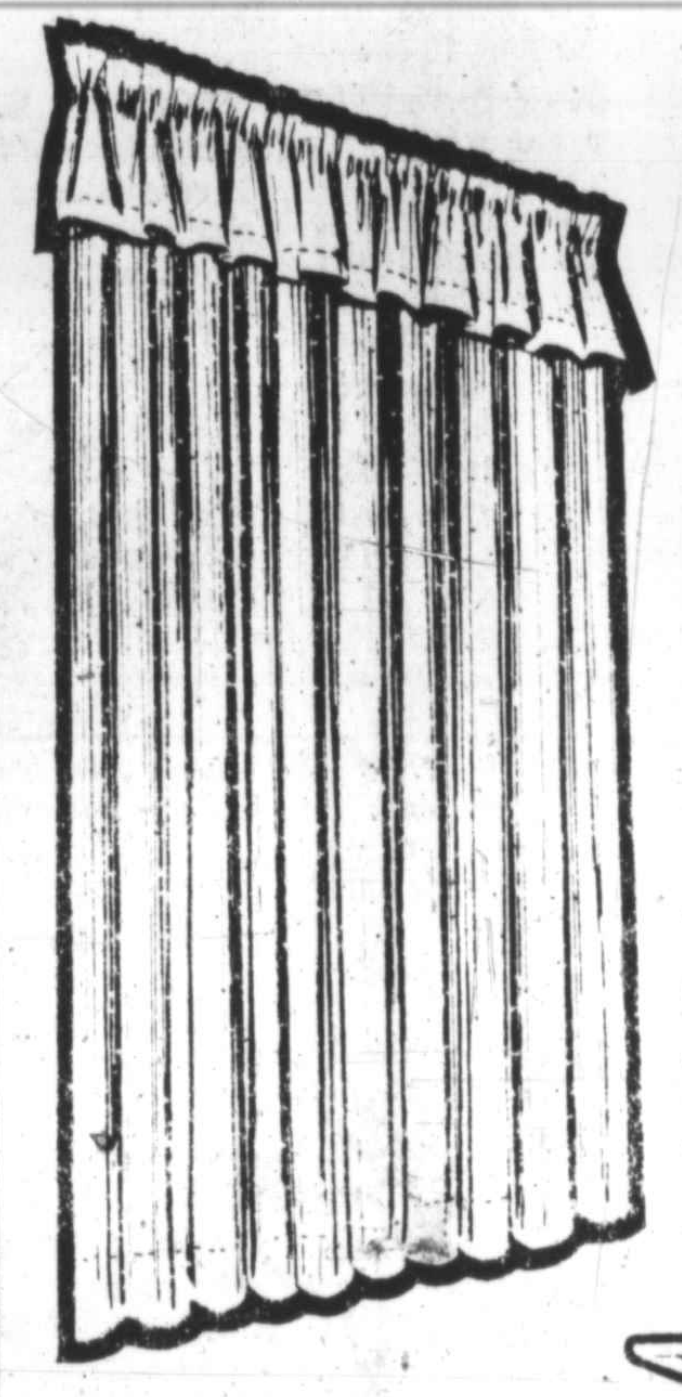

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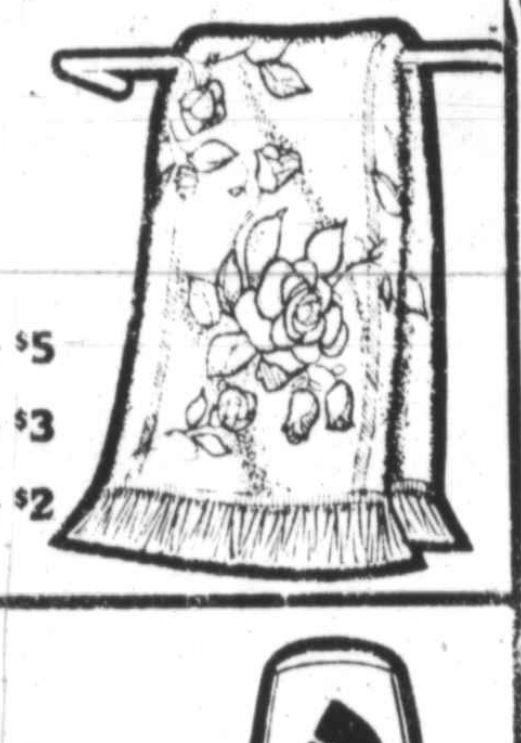

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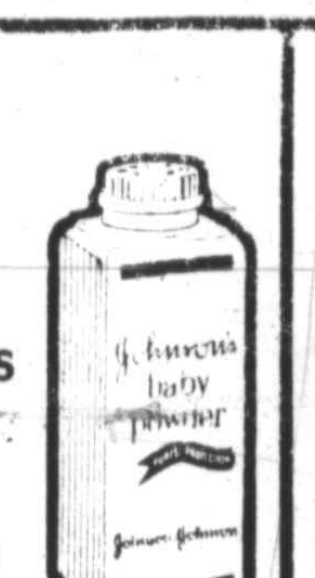

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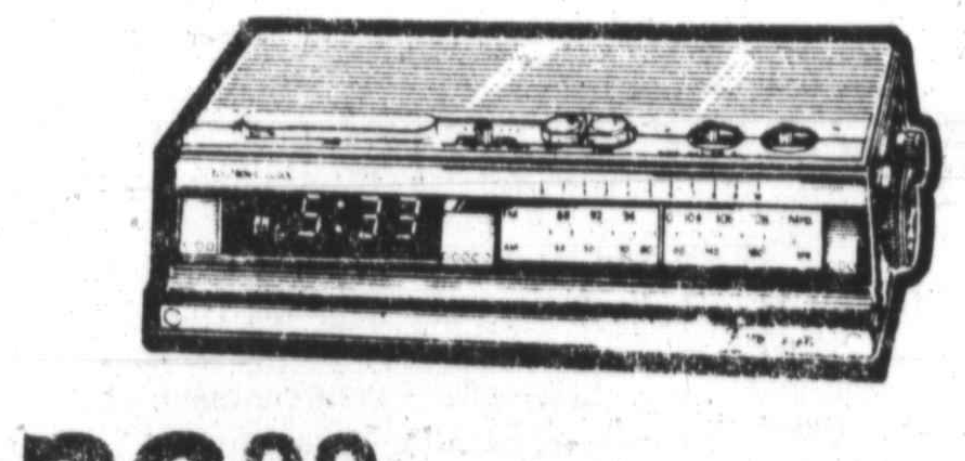

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