—Rent strike

(Continued from Page 1)

control may have to call for a rent strike to put pressure on city officials and landlords for a freeze on city rents.

He said a rent strike may be necessary if the City Council does not pass a rent freeze being pushed by the group or if the court of appeals upheld a decision invalidating the rent control law passed by referendum Nov. 6.

"We put our word out in the streets that a rent strike might be an eventuality," Moore said.

Moore was one of between 50 and 70 people who marched outside the building tooting noisemakers left over from New Year's Eve and chanting "we need it. We want rent control" as the City Council prepared to meet upstairs.

He said next week Councilman Kwiesi Mfume will introduce a bill for the group that would freeze rents at the levels of July 1, 1979, for six months or until a rent control law is in effect.

Violations of the proposed law, which would allow for rent hikes of between four and 10 percent to make up for rising fuel costs, could result in fines of $500.

Circuit Judge Joseph H. Kaplan overturned the rent control law Nov. 29, saying such a bill could be passed only by the City Council. Rent control supporters are appealing that ruling.

Mary Benns, a group leader, said the bill was drafted because of widespread complaints about landlords raising rents as much as $100 in the wake of the court of appeals decision to rule on the rent control case in February.

"That's just inhumane. No one's income can stand it," she said. "Tenants have no rights in this city. This city has demonstrated that it's pro-landlord."

Moore said further that a rent strike is still in the "talking" stage but gaining support for such a move would use the same door-to-door canvassing tactics used to persuade residents to vote for the November referendum.

Rent control campaign legal advisers would work to make a rent strike as protective as possible, Moore said. Additionally, as many middle income renters would be involved to provide protection to low income tenants "so poor folks won't have to bear the whole brunt" if landlords retaliate, he said.

One early step in a possible rent strike would be gathering pledges from residents to withhold rents if sufficient numbers of tenants participate.

"Our only strength lies in large numbers," Moore said.

Concrete plans will not be formulated until after the Appeal process is complete and rent control backers have exhausted efforts to pass a freeze in City Council and have it signed into law by Mayor William Donald Schaefer.

Moore is skeptical about enactment of a city-wide curb on rent increases but said pro-rent control forces will continue to exert as much pressure as they can muster on city legislators.

—Park Heights

(Continued from Page 1)

Jackson's request for his resignation.

Page 10 of the personnel and policy manual states that "any employee shall have the right to make known his problem or complaint...may be referred to the personnel committee and if resolution is still not achieved it may be referred to the board of directors."

Burroughs said he sent Mailgrams to both the chairman of the personnel committee and the president of the PHCC board of directors, dated Dec. 27, requesting his termination be heard, in his presence, by the personnel committee and the full board of directors.

He also asked that he be notified in writing of the date and time of the hearing at least five days before scheduling.

The hearing was held the evening of Dec. 27. Burroughs was not present.

He received a letter from the chairman of the personnel committee, dated Dec. 28, which said the committee concurred and supported the decision of the executive director. It also requested his resignation on Dec. 28.

Burroughs wants his job back so he can "erase this blot on my record."

Until that happens, Burroughs and his supporters will continue to caucus on the best course of action.

—Narrow brush

(Continued from Page 1).

next to theirs and a suspect fired one shot.

Robin Satterfield, 22, of the 900 block of Argyle Ave., was struck in the upper left leg by a bullet which passed through the arm of Eugene Henry, 34, 900 block of Willmont Court.

Both Miss Satterfield and Henry were transported to Johns Hopkins Hospital were they were held for observation.

Police said the suspect was driving a mustard-colored Thunderbird with a brown top.

No arrests had been made at AFRO presstime.

—Mfume

(Continued from Page 1)

make up a majority of the city's population, shows the mayor's insensitivity to our community. A black should have been appointed to the position."

Mfume says the move to place Ramsey in the position may be partly due to the outspokeness of the present head of the fire board, Calhoun Barnes.

"Schaefer has been getting a lot of opposition from the fire department and the fire commission. With Ramsey in there, that opposition is ended. Plus, if Ramsey is elected he will have to make a choice of a new fire chief to replace Burke." (Thomas Burke, the present fire chief, is retiring in the near future.)

"The black community needs to be reminded of the fact that he was the man who fired Dr. Patterson" stated Mfume. "My gut feeling, above all else, is that it is about time Mayor Schaefer appointed a black to the position."

Mfume added that he plans on voting against the confirmation of Ramsay, which is required before he is formally charged with the duties of the appointment.

Mrs. Murphy's winter

By Portia E. Badham
AFRO Staff Writer

While most Baltimoreans are quite comfortably relaxing in their homes, totally oblivious to the cold temperatures outside, one East Baltimore woman knows the winter's chilly reality inside her home.

Mrs. Lillie Murphy, a 83-year-old mother and grandmother has lived in the 700 block E. Preston St. since Dec. 14 and has been wearing her coat since the day she moved in. Mrs. Murphy has no heat.

Here is not the story of one of Charm City's residents who cannot afford to pay the rising cost of heating fuel. It's a problem as simple as it is complicated because she is a victim of a landlord-tenant, problem plagued situation.

Her furnace has not operated since she moved in the house after separating from her husband. She felt her attempts to get the landlord, Update Realty Company, to repair the faulty heating system were going unanswered and contacted the AFRO-AMERICAN for some assistance.

In addition to her heating troubles, other problems exist in the three-story rowhouse. Loose floor panels, cracks in walls and falling plaster from the ceilings are all outward signs that the house is inhabitable.

Mrs. Murphy, speaking in a rather helpless tone, tried to show some sign of lingering determination when she stated, "I've got to move. I'm cold. I can't live like this."

But where can Mrs. Murphy go? She doesn't have the on-hand cash for a security deposit to move some place else.

And she's caught in a bureaucratic red tape system that says she can't get public housing unless she already receives public assistance . . . she doesn't.

It also says that in order for her to be relocated by the city, she must have been already evicted by the landlord for non-payment of rent...that hasn't happened yet.

While one spokesman for the realty company stated that he was unaware of the heating problem when Mrs. Murphy moved in, another person said that the company did know about the problem and asked her not to take the house.

Mrs. Murphy denied this and also denied a statement by property manager, Oscar White that she refused to let workmen in to fix the furnace the first time they went to the house.

It has since been learned while workmen were out this week to replace the pipes that the entire furnace must now be replaced which could mean another four to five days Mrs. Murphy must remain in the cold.

Ms. Joann Mayo with Update Realty Co., stated Wednesday that she would personally visit the 739 E. Preston St. house and work out an arrangement with Mrs. Murphy to possibly move her into another house.

With the temperatures steadily dropping, it is quite apparent Mrs. Murphy must find another home, but right now that seems like only a slight possibility.

James Farmer talks on MLK

Civil rights leader James Farmer will speak at the Washington Ethnical Society Sunday, Jan. 13 in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Sunday.

The meeting will begin at 11 a.m.

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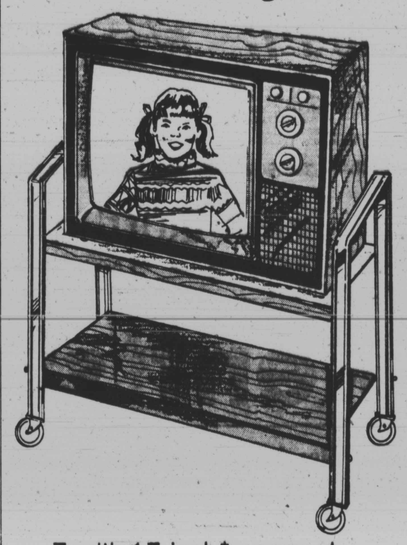

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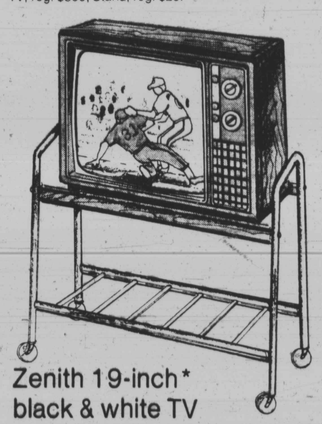

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Lawson's job expands as mayor re-arranges his cabinet

The mayor has increased the area of responsibility for Quentin R. Lawson, the city's director for human development.

Quentin R. Lawson

Lawson who has been at City Hall since the mayor took office in December 1971, will now manage the Office of criminal Justice in addition to his regular duties.

He has also been given control of the Office of Neighborhood and Community Affairs. Both areas when first implemented had coordinators who reported directly to the mayor.

In addition to the reorganization in the human development section, two areas will be reorganized under the fiscal development office which include the office of energy and the office of transportation.

"This reorganization will improve the administration by making it more efficient and better coordinated.

"It's also another indication of the new mayor and his administration," stated Lawson who also serves as educational L laiason with the Baltimore city public schools.

Mayor's aide denies housing report squelched

An influx of well-to-do homebuyers threatens to make adequate housing more difficult for low income city residents to find, according to a report commissioned by Mayor William Donald Schaefer.

The report, which was completed last May but never formally released, recommended the city increase efforts to improve housing opportunities for low income residents.

City Hall spokesman, Chris Hartman denied earlier newspaper reports that claim he stated that the mayor did not release the report because he did not want it to become a political issue during last year's city election.

He also told the AFRO that he had not seenthe report and could not make any comments on it,

When asked if the city had any authority to prevent the houses in low income areas being bought up by investors, he said, "There's no way the city can prevent people from buying homes anywhere in the city. It would be completely unconstitutional."

The task force suggested that the city devise specific plans to help protect residents of low income neighborhoods from disolacement by middle class homebuyers.

However, Hartman explained that while is has heard several proposals he had no specific plans.

What's up with MSU?

The future of Morgan State University is still undecided, as the State Board For Higher Education will not take action on a proposed merger of the institution until early Febuary, according to Dr. Andrew Billingsley, head of the school.

The most recent threat to Morgan's autonomy came a week ago, when the state Commisionner of Higher Education, Dr. Sheldon H. Knorr, and the board held hearingson a plan submitted by Knorr to consolidate Morgan, the University of Baltimore, and the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, under one authority as a metropolitan college network. The University of Maryland at College Park was mentioned in Knorr's proposal as a possible administrator of the three-college system.

If the board decides to implement Knorr's plan, then the issue will go to the Maryland General Assembly, where, according to several legislators, it is doomed to defeat.

The National Alumni Association of Morgan is spearheading efforts to rally the community to Morgan's aid. A letter-writing campaign is being organized, and several rallies are also being planned.

Black legislators to the General Assembly have strongly backed Morgan, and several have hinted at blocking any legislative attempts to annex the institution.

"It all comes down to legislation," said Delegate Howard "Pete" Rawlings, D-40.

Teen girl charged in man's death

Miss Latanya Patricia Dorsey, 15, is charged with stabbing an 18-year old Southwest Baltimore man to death in front of a police officer on Jan. 9.

At AFRO presstime, Miss Dorsey, of the 100 block Palarmo St., was being held on $5,000 bail. Police report they received a call to the Palarmo Street house for a domestic argument between a sister of the suspect and the victim, Stanley C. Slater.

As the police officer attempted to stop the fight, police state Miss Dorsey entered the house, reached over the officer and allegedly stabbed Slater in the neck.

Husband and wife stabbed in bed

James Melvin Boyd, 34, was found lying on the hall floor between his bedroom and living room around 1:50 a.m. Jan. 8. He had been stabbed twice in the back and once in the neck.

His wife, Mrs. Elouise Boyd, had been stabbed in the back and was running out of her apartment screaming for help when police arrived. Boyd was pronounced dead at Johns Hopkins Hospital and his wife is listed in satisfactory condition.

Police report the couple was sleeping in their McElderry Court apartment when a man forced his way into the apartment through the kitchen window, entered the bedroom and stabbed Boyd and his wife. A Southeastern district officer who was walking through the area reported he heard loud noises and screams coming from the apartment. As the officer entered the ground floor of the apartment building, he reports he saw a female running towards her neighbor's house and a man following her with a six inch blade knife

The suspect, Kenneth Leroy Reddin, 35, was told to stop and drop his knife. He was arrested at Southeastern District and held without bail at AFRO presstime. He is charged with homicide, assault with intent to murder and assault with a deadly weapon. Police state the couple had been separated and an argument started when Reddin entered the apartment.

Counties against drug paraphernalia

About 100 Anne Arundel County parents told County Council members Monday they want to ban the sale of drug paraphernalia.

The parents spoke at a hearing on a proposed bill proposed by county Executive Robert Pascal that would ban the sale of drug-related gadgets.

One parent said she was astonished that her third-grade child knew more about the drug scene than she did.

Democratic Councilman William D. Brill, who had complained that Pascal's ban was too weak, said he would support the measure after Pascal introduced several amendments.

While the debate continues in Anne Arundel, the Harford County council has already voted 7-0 to ban the sale or display of drug paraphernalia.

The ordinance passed Tuesday, Jan. 8, bans cocaine spoons and marijuana pipes from being sold in the county. It was introduced by Democrat Barbara A. Kreamer.

The vote makes Harford County the third Maryland jurisdiction to regulate the sale of drug paraphernalia. Prince George's County and Ocean City acted earlier.

Baltimore has not imposed a ban but has restricted the sale of paraphernalia.

A Federal judge in Baltimore has issued an injunction against enforcement of the Prince George's County law. The court order was obtained by owners of businesses that sell the paraphernalia.

Fire deaths in Maryland have decreased for the third year, according to the State Fire Marshal's Office. In 1979 115 deaths were attributed to fire while 126 such fatalities occured in 1978. During 1977 there were 136 fire deaths in Maryland.

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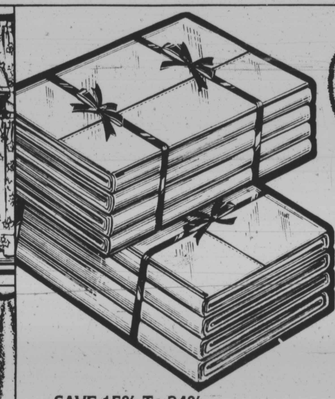

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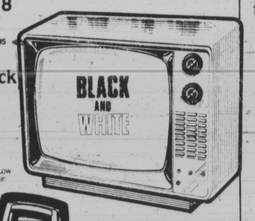

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