—Strike

Continued from page 1

"There is absolutely no validity to Marcus' claim that Baltimore hospitals are subsidizing New York hospitals. The ratio of union membership between Baltimore hospitals and those in New York is 1 to 10. Now you tell me how Baltimore could be subsidizing New York?"

Marcus, one of the key protestors in the labor dispute, has maintained from the outset that Sinai has "overpaid" almost $1 million into the fund over the past four years.

Experience reports requested by Marcus from the union, he said, showed overpayments by as much as 40 percent a year were taking place.

Marcus said that when he noticed the trend of the overpayments, he demanded a complete breakdown of participants in the Fund, the purpose of which, he said, was to help him determine where the excess money was going.

He contends, however, that the records supplied to him by the union were unacceptable, not showing him which hospitals in which states paid money into the fund as indicated on the computer print-out. In addition, he claims, the print-outs contained "huge, blatant white - outs," in some cases indicating that a large amount of money had been paid into the fund, but not indicating by whom.

Infuriated, Marcus states he then complained to the National Labor Relations Board, which, in turn, ordered the union to give the hospitals a more accurate print-out and advising the hospitals that they had no obligation to bargain with the union until the records were in fact received.

Marcus has now filed a claim of unfair labor practices against the union with the 4th Circuit Court of Appeals in an attempt to secure the information, but litigation on the case, he says, won't take place for quite some time, perhaps even as much as a year.

Hollie says, however, that in spite of Marcus' allegations, the real issue is that the hospitals want to destroy the union.

He said that Marcus' figures of overpayment for the years 1977 through 1979 were "no where near correct."

While he remembered Marcus' complaints that the computer print-out was unacceptable, he said Marcus was sent a revised copy, which, he said, Marcus apparently found to be alright.

He also said that Marcus understood from the outset of his requests for the records that there would be confidentiality involving the hospitals and the employees specifically listed.

"There are some records that they want that they're just not going to get," Hollie said flatly, "and when Marcus received the revised report of the printout he initially found to be so unacceptable, he said he could see how "some of the information might not have come through and that he also realized nothing was being hidden."

Hollie said: that the implications of corruption being tossed about are frustrating.

"The hospitals all say that they feel there's no corruption...and that nothing illegal is being done with the money...but their actions don't say the same.

"We're not trying to hide anything. Our records show that there has never been any misdoing with any funds. It's a smokescreen...they're using the benefit issue to hide their real intentions."

Hollie said that at one time, New York hospitals subsidized Baltimore hospitals, when the union was first formed in this city. That condition no longer exists, however, he said.

Marcus has implied that the excess money being paid into the fund might be being used to pay for "A" type benefits enjoyed by union officials.

Employees in the hospitals receive "B" benefits, which are not as complete as "A" benefits but better than "C" type benefits. Employees in New York also receive the "A" benefits.

But Hollie explained that each union district pays its own 10 percent or more into the fund to receive the benefits. "If we don't pay, we don't get the benefits," he said. "The hospitals are not paying for our benefits, you can be sure of that."

Hollie said that the reason New York employees get "A" benefits is because the average salary of the union members there is much greater than in Baltimore.

"In New York a lot of our members are professionals, i.e. nurses, doctors, etc.," Hollie said.

"The hospitals in New York are paying 10 percent into the fund, in most cases, but because the salaries are higher, the 10 percent yields a greater amount of money into the fund."

He explained that the higher the average salaries of the hospitals, the less they have to pay for employees to receive the best benefits. In order to get "A" benefits in Baltimore, with salary levels remaining as they are, the hospitals would have to pay a far greater percentage than they do currently.

When asked, finally, why the union just did not turn over the requested records to the hospitals so that the impasse would end and the employees could return to work, Hollie responsed that that action on the union's part wouldn't make any difference.

"They only say that's what they want," he said. "If we gave them what they say they want, things would still be the same."

Hollie also said that because the fund is operated by a trustee committee consisting of 10 trustees from hospital management and 10 from the union, the opportunities for mismanagement of funds was practically nil.

"Everybody is so keyed up that unions are corrupt...but has anybody taken the time in this thing to examine big business?" said Leon Davis, past president of the Benefit Fund who helped initiate its beginning.

"If big business were honest...it wouldn't be in business," he said.

Hollie said that the union is the only one in the country with primarily black leadership. He reiterated the union's honesty and said "we wouldn't be sitting here if we didn't believe in what we are doing."

"Even union busters have a problem with us," he smiled. "They call us the most honest union in the world."

—Murphy

Continued from page 1

judge that the Eleventh Chapter of Isaiah Fourth verse describes: "But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked."

"Pray with me that I will remember the words of Frederick Douglass: 'Power does not yield without a struggle.'"

Judge Murphy thanked the 116,000 citizens who voted for him in November and said, "You have humbled me because you have placed me in a robe of a judge."

With tears in his eyes he thanked his parents and stated his father made him 95 percent of what he is today and continued, "If I can be half the man that my father is today, I'll be satisfied."

Chief Judge Grady who presided at the sixty - minute ceremony stated Judge Murphy will be the last judge to be sworn in as an associate judge of the Supreme Bench of Baltimore City since the recently passed constitutional amendment provides that after the next general election, the Supreme Bench will be known as the Circuit Court for Baltimore city. Any judge elected to the bench after that time will be judges of the Circuit Court for Baltimore City.

Judge Solomon Baylor welcomed Murphy to the Supreme Bench, saying, "Judge Murphy has proven to be not only a formidable advocate, but also an outstanding scholar, a true humanitarian and a man who is eager and determined that justice should prevail for all persons.

"The nation's trial lawyers have lost a great practitioner and this bench is now enriched by virtue of that loss. Our new judge is truly a living example of the directive given us in the Book of Proverbs, Fourth Chapter, Seventh verse, 'Wisdom is the principal thing, therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding,'" he said.

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—Rent

Continued from page 1

the bill, when in reality they won't be."

But Mfume feels that the new additions to the bill will make it attractive enough to ensure its passage. He said that the four-unit provision was made in order that purchasers of such dwellings would be eligible for FHA, VA, and conventional lending institutions' mortgage policies.

He downplayed the significance of the guaranteed rate of return, which he said would have been mandated by the tenant landlord commission anyway, and added that his amendment was only designed to make the bill more explicit.

Although Mfume admitted that he was "in a lonely position" with foes of the bill and those who oppose compromise on either side, he said that he has no intentions of abandoning his fight.

"I am not in City Council to play games," he said. "I am not going to play the game of symbolism, so I will not say '.283 or bust' when there are people in my district who are suffering. If I can get some kind of control, then I will."

—Day care centers

Continued from page 1

cuts stand, more cuts will be made ...an atmosphere will be created which will lead to more cuts."

Local day care centers are already feeling the brunt of the budget slashes. Between 800 and 1100 children may be phased out of local centers which are subsidized by the city's Department of Social Services.

Wednesday, representatives from agencies as diverse as the Associated Catholic Charities and the House of Ruth, a shelter for battered women and their children, decried the proposed budget reductions.

Charles Dorsey, head of the city's Legal Aid offices, said that "Even if we receive the same amount as last year, that will be a budget cut," and other spokesmen had similar messages of despair.

Governor Hughes has ordered all state department heads to formulate 1982 budgets which take into account 4, 7, or 9 percent budget cuts.

Baltimore has been hit the hardest by the current cuts, and city officials estimate that approximately 1,100 senior citizens may lose their home visitors services. Five - thousand other city residents stand to lose various social welfare benefits and services because of the move.

The city has been targeted to absorb half of the cuts in the Human Resources Department budget because the city receives the largest proportion of funds from that office.

Mayor Schaefer, during the press conference, recalled Hetleman's days as a city head of human services, and said that maybe the secretary's elevation had caused him to lose his humanitarian perspective. "When you get away from the grassroots," said the mayor bitterly, "and get down to where the trees are green, you lose sight of a lot of things."

Although the cuts are due to take effect soon, there was no representative from DHS at AFRO presstime who could give a precise date for the cutbacks or for the day care center closings to begin.

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Discrimination cited in tobacco firm

A lawyer for black tobacco workers urged the Supreme Court Wednesday to clear the way for settlement of an employment discrimination controversy involving a Virgina tobacco company.

A federal court erred when it refused to approve a negotiated settlement of the dispute between the seasonal workers and the American Tobacco Co.'s Richmond Leaf Department, lawyer Napoleon Williams said.

The black workers sued under Title VII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act on grounds the company's hiring and promotion policies restricted them to the lowest paid and least desirable jobs.

The 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals held the district court decision could not be appealed. If the Surpeme Court agrees, the issue will be forced to trial — an option the American Tobacco Co., a division of American Brands Inc., and the tobacco workers union now appear to favor.

Under questioning by the justices, company and union leaders said circumstances have changed since they agreed to the settlement and the case is now moot — without live legal controversy.

Their stand drew skeptical remarks from Justice Thurgood Marshall, the court's only black member, who asked: "You did sign it, didn't you?"

Williams argued the company and union had made contractual obligation when they signed the proposed agreement.

But the company said it was no longer legally bound because its only obligation was incorporated in the consent decree and it had been rejected by the court.

The proposed settlement would bar the company from discriminating against blacks and require it to take steps to place more blacks in supervisory jobs. Some 150 seasonal employees work at the Richmond plant about six months a year.

Correction

In the full page advertisement for Food-A-Rama Stores appearing in the Baltimore AFRO-AMERICAN dated Tuesday, December 9, 1980 the price of white potatoes was incorrect. It should read U.S. No. 1 white potatoes 5 lb. bag 99¢. Food-A-Rama regrets this error.

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NAACP leadership may change

By James M. Abraham
AFRO Staff Writer

A changing of the guard may be in store for the Baltimore branch of the NAACP as the group, which heretofore has been dominated by women, stands a good chance to gain several males who are seeking leadership roles within the organization.

Corrections official Paul Showell, Julian Morgan, head of Threshold, Inc., a community corrections center and George Buntin, a young political activist, are all seeking seats either as executive board members or vice-presidents of the NAACP.

Rev. Douglass Miles, the minister of Brown Memorial Baptist Church and who was actively involved in the 1979 city elections, is also in contention for a vice-presidency, as well as Dr. Cathy Pope Smith, who headed the nominating committee.

Dr. Smith, who some observers say represents the current administration of the group, came under fire at a recent NAACP meeting when Morgan, whose bid for office was rejected by the committee, questioned the fact that Dr. Smith did not remove herself from deliberation on his application since she was also a candidate.

Dr. Smith was supported by current president Enolia MacMillan who is also seeking re-election in her claims that there was no question of ethics involved in her decision to review Morgan's bid.

Morgan, as well as Showell, Reginald Robinson, and Buntin, all had to be nominated from the floor, as the nominating committee did not include any of their names in the list of candidates presented to the membership at the last meeting.

Both Showell and Dr. Smith will be running for the 1st vice-president's slot on the executive board. Dr. Smith was previously the 3rd vice-president while Showell is the 2nd vice-president.

Norman Watkins, current 1st vice-president, is seeking the 2nd vice-presidency opposite Morgan, and Miles is running unopposed for the third vice-presidential slot.

Present secretary Josephine Eversley and current treasurer Raymond Wade are both attempting to retain their seats. Mrs. Eversley faces no competition, while Wade is defending his position against young Reginald Robinson.

One organization of youthful politicians are so intent on sweeping the elections that they are promising transportation to all who need a means of getting to the Maryland Ave. headquarters of the branch to vote.

Rumors about both groups running have been circulated, and one state legislator said that he has been approached by both factions for support.

Another prospective candidate whose application for nomination was rejected by the nominating committee, Harlow Fullwood, was also nominated from the floor, and he joins a list of 17 persons seeking 15 slots on the executive board.

Fullwood heads the city police department's recruitment office.

Candidates for the executive board include; Mary B. Ames, JoAnn Anderson, Dr. Richard Bragg, George Buntin, William Calhoun, Daisy Coffey, William Devance, Harlow Fullwood, Pattie Holloway, Frieda Jones, Edelle Marcus, Patricia Quann, Ida Russell, Benny Short, Caleb Sandifer, Wilbert Walker and Elizabeth Williams.

Elections will be held Tuesday, Dec. 16 at NAACP headquarters, located at 2127 Maryland Ave., from 2 p.m. until 8 p.m. All who have been NAACP members 30 days prior to Nov. 16 are eligible to vote in the elections, which are held during every even-numbered year. For further information, contact the NAACP office at 837-6778.

OFFICERS INSTALLED — The Walbrook High School Chapter of the Future Business Leaders of America recently installed their officers for the 1980 - 81 school year. They are (L to R) Maria Fitch, vice president; Theresa Trower, secretary; Deborah Boyd, president; Maureen Laws, historian; Trisha Robinson, treasurer; Malissa McMillan, parliamentarian; Trenita Cann, reporter; and Janet Deans, assistant secretary.

Merit scholarship students cited

Baltimore city public school students who have received recognition for outstanding achievement as National Merit Scholarship semi-finalists and National Achievement Scholarship semi-finalists for the year 1980-81 were honored at a reception this Dec. 10.

The reception was given by Superintendent John L. Crew and was held at school headquarters at 3 E. 25th St.

Among the guests were the parents, teachers, counselors and principals of the students, several members of the board of school commissioners including the new president, David Daneker and other representatives of the Department of Education.

Of the 17 semi-finalists selected from Baltimore city, 12 of the students came from the city's public schools.

The National Achievement semi-finalists include Baltimore Polytechnic Institute - Nancy V. Brown, Nathan M. Gundy, Elias Johnson, Edward L. Mohan and Peter M. Phelps.

Walbrook Senior High - Cynthia O. Sessoms; Western Senior High - Brandi V. Chaffin, Dana M. Cole, Rhonda L. Datcher, Jennifer K. Drayton, Lisa M. Johnson and Lisa F. Rawlings.

The National Merit semi-finalists are Western Senior High - Ellen K. Lupton and Julia M. Lupton; Baltimore Polytechnic Institute - Stephen G. French, Joseph I. Glen, Jeremy D. Kargon and Matthew E. Weinstein.

Black political party organizes

By James M. Abraham
AFRO Staff Writer

Two weeks after the national convention for the founding of a black political party was held in Philadelphia Pa., a state branch of the party, responding to a mandate agreed upon at the conference, held their organizational meeting.

The group, which had been meeting as the Maryland Black Assembly, approved a name change which will affiliate them more closely with the national effort.

Their new name is the Maryland Chapter of the National Black Independent Party.

During the organizational meeting, held at St. Ambrose church, located in the 2000 block Park Heights Ave., officers were elected and a complement of committees were formed.

Michael Middleton, who chaired the Maryland delegation during the Philadelphia convention, was unanimously elected to head the group, along with Gwen Bardwell, a Prince Georges Co. resident who has been active in the national organizing effort.

Two leaders, or co-convenors, were chosen because of a motion by the group to strive for equal male-female representation and leadership in the party.

Herb Singleton, local attorney, volunteered for the position of corresponding secretary. James Bardwell, husband of Gwen Bardwell, was elected to the parliamentarian's position; and Kija Wallace, a local community activist, became the group's treasurer.

More than fifty persons attended the meeting, which at times was filled with controversy. Daki Napata raised the question of whether the Maryland group really represented the state, since most of the members were from Baltimore. After 25 minutes of debate Bobby Checks called for an end to the discussion, and urged those from outside the Baltimore area to "go back to your respective sub-divisions and spread the word."

A massive recruiting drive was tentatively scheduled for the winter months.

A half hour was spent arguing on a motion which would have automatically given women a fifty-percent share of all committee leadership seats and an equal percentage of representation on the committees.

"We don't need this sex issue right now," said Mary Benns, a former Rent Control Campaign spokesperson. "Right now, we're trying to build a black party."

Following a 20-18 vote, the motion for women's representation was carried.

Committees formed during the session include media membership education, youth, labor, fund and fundraising

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