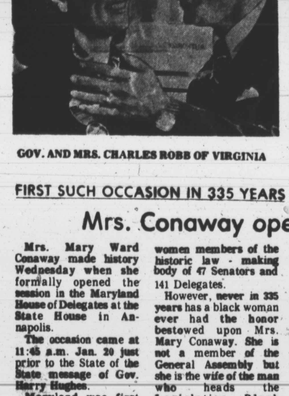
NEW GOVERNOR, NEW DAY IN VIRGINIA

Del., Mrs. Brailey at Gov. Robb ceremonies



GOV. AND MRS. CHARLES ROBB OF VIRGINIA

Baltimore's Del. and Mrs. Troy Brailey were among the scores of distinguished guests at the inaugural affairs for Virginia's new governor, Charles Spittal Robb.

Del. Brailey who has many close relatives and friends in Virginia reveals that the brilliant weekend marked a new era for the citizens in that beautiful state.

He states that there were over 10,000 persons at the inaugural Ball and many, many of them high - ranking black persons from near and far.

The stellar events began Friday, Jan. 15 and the Braileys with son, Norman, were invited through all sorts of engraved invitations. Their acquaintance with Mrs. Lynda Robb began when her father, Lyndon B. Johnson, was president of the United States.

Again they renewed acquaintance when Del. Brailey honored President Johnson after his death and Lynda and her husband came to Baltimore to accept.

The Brileys had seats in the governor's special box when all Richmond turned out for the Inaugural Weekend from the prayer service at St. Paul's Episcopal Church ceremonies at noon Saturday, the parade review, the various parties and the ball.

IN 1973 Gov. and Mrs. Robb were guests of honor at the Citizens Banquet in Baltimore when Del. and Mrs. Brailey (right) gave them the plaque for Co-chairman Va. Sen. L. Douglas Wilder was the only black official. The Brileys met and renewed acquaintance of the many statesmen, diplomats and top state officials they have enjoyed knowing in their long association with the Johnson family.

Lynda's father, the late President Lyndon B. Johnson. Left is Clarence M. Mitchell Jr., also a longtime Johnson friend.

FIRST SUCH OCCASION IN 335 YEARS

Mrs. Conaway opens House of Delegates session

Mrs. Mary Ward Conaway made history Wednesday when she formally opened the session in the Maryland House of Delegates at the State House in Annapolis.

The occasion came at 11:45 a.m. Jan. 20 just prior to the State of the State message of Gov. Harry Hughes.

Maryland was first settled in 1631.

The Maryland General Assembly first met in the year 1647. On that deep winter day of Jan. 21, a woman, Margaret Brent, was denied the right to vote as a member of the General Assembly.

There are now 28 women members of the historic law - making body of 47 Senators and 141 Delegates.

However, never in 335 years has a black woman ever had the honor bestowed upon Mrs. Mary Conaway. She is not a member of the General Assembly but she is the wife of the man who heads the Legislative Black Caucus, Baltimore's Del. Frank M. Conaway.

A celebrated soprano, Mrs. Conaway has appeared as soloist with symphony orchestras and frequently with groups in Europe. In the 1970's she sang with the Harry Belafonte group in Ethiopia and other African countries.

ANOTHER EVENT

Monday, Feb. 8 is the date when nine recognized authorities on Afro - American history and culture will appear before the Senate committee of 18 Maryland senators for confirmation.

The occasion is the re-appointment by Gov. Hughes of members of the Commission on Afro-American History and Culture, the only such commission in the United States.

Headed by Carroll Greene Jr., the panel which was created in 1968, has Dr. Roland C. McConsell as chairman and Dr. Louis R. Harlan, vice chairman.

Commissioners are Rev. James J. Fuller, Mrs. Phoebe Ro Jacobsen, Mrs. Mary S. Johnson, Dr. William H. Kiah, Dr. Elizabeth M. Oliver, Senator Verda F. Welcome and Mrs. Angeline P. Williams.

The Commission was created by Chapter 435, Acts of 1968, and acts as statewide coordinator and clearinghouse in preserving evidence of the black experience in Maryland.

It specializes in historical preservation and research, unearthing and collecting historical materials — art objects, memorabilia, manuscripts, photographs, and other articles of significance to black history and culture.

The Commission maintains art and historical exhibits in Annapolis and Baltimore.

It also provides exhibits and resource materials to the community at large and to local educational systems and institutions within the state.

The Commission conducts a continuing statewide historic landmark survey to locate and identify those sites and buildings significant to the black experience in Maryland.

A portion of the artifacts collected by the Commission will be displayed at the Banneker - Douglass Museum of Afro - American Life and History, scheduled to open to the public in July 1983.

The Museum will be housed in the old Mt. Moriah A.M.E. Church, 84 Franklin St., Annapolis.

The Commission also includes an Advisory Committee consisting of a maximum of twenty - one members (Code 1957, Art. 41, sec. 409).

DEL. AND MRS. FRANK M. CONAWAY

SNOWY WINTER NIGHT

Guests find warm welcome in Sloan's picture book home

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Stockett

Attorney David Sloan and wife, Jo Rogers Sloan recently called some close friends together for a casual evening at their home not knowing that Saturday night would be one of the coldest in memory.

Nevertheless, the jolly crowd came bundled up against the blizzard to enjoy the great fireplace in the living room, the catered menu (which included everything delightful) and every inch of the Sloan's beautiful Howard Park residence.

The rambling house set back among evergreens on the spacious lawns was indeed a warm winter sight, the lights glowing from the many windows.

But most of all, inside they admired the way the friendly couple has made each of numberless rooms like pictures from a magazine.

Made to feel entirely at home, the guests who kept coming throughout the snowy night, relaxed all over and then finally assembled in the basement bar and fun room. The lower floor complete with kitchen and dining area is the latest creation of the colorful Sloans, in sunbright yellow and green.

The huge living room upstairs is done in antique white and has an added note, a matching piano, which by the way both David and Jo play with the ease of the masters.

The whole affair was a repeat of the traditional Christmas Day seated dinner the Sloans had with her sister from Philadelphia, their son, Ronnie and guests as the special honorees.

The Sloan's granddaughter, barely three years old and a little friend were the ideal Christmas children who busied themselves with ragged Ann dolls and a three - story doll house you could only see in fairy stories.

Asked how they have time to make their home such a dream world, the modest Sloans merely reply, "That's the way we like it, homey, colorful and friendly."

On Jo's guest list were Messers and Mesdames A. Paul Moss, Warren Parker, Charles Hurt, Edward Stockett, William Hill, Frank M. Conaway, Charles Carter, Montell Kyler; Drs. and Mesdames, Addison Pope, John L. Crew, Louis Richardson, Simon Carter; Judge and Mrs. Robert B. Watts, Judge and Mrs. Solomon Baylor, Rev. and Mrs. Marion Bascom, Dr. Frank W. Washington, Abner Lee, Frank Maddox, Prince Haile Selassie II, Ms. Fran Gonzales, Ms. Elizabeth O. Abney, Attorney John Ryans, Attorney James Stancil and Judge Robert Bell.

Attorney David and Mrs. Jo Rogers Sloan

Abner Lee, Charles Carter, Charles Hurt

Mrs. Lucretia Datcher, Mrs. Anne Parker, Mrs. Hilda Carter

Prince Haile Selassie II, Dr. and Mrs. John L. Crew and J. Adrian Datcher.

Charles Hurt, Mrs. Essie Hurt, Jo Sloan, Frank Maddox. All Ryales photos

BUSINESS/REAL ESTATE

This week's financial section produced by P. E. Badham

City housing market is comprised mostly of local buyers

The Baltimore homes sales market relies more on local homebuyers and less on purchasers from other areas of the country than any of the 14 metropolitan areas surveyed last year in the National Association of Realtors national homebuying survey.

Jack Carlson, chief economist and executive vice president of the association, said that according to the survey, 87 percent of Baltimore home purchases which took place in late summer and early fall of 1980 were made by persons already living in the area while only 13 percent were made by persons relocating from other areas of the country.

Like their counterparts elsewhere, Carlson added, homebuyers in the Baltimore area purchased homes valued at nearly twice their annual incomes and took out a mortgage debt of one and one-half times their incomes.

He noted that even with relatively high interest rates and high home prices prevailing in Baltimore and other areas at the time of the survey, moderate and middle income households were still able to participate in the homebuying market.

"With a median income of $32,700, Baltimore homebuyers responding to the survey purchased houses with a median price of $63,700," he said. "And one-fifth of those buyers had incomes of less than $25,000.

Overall, the survey respondents from the 14 metropolitan areas had a median income of $33,100 and bought homes with a median price of $70,800.

One reason for the lower income and home price figures in Baltimore, Carlson noted, was that respondents from this area were generally younger than buyers in other areas.

"While detached single-family homes accounted for a majority— 59 percent— of home sales in the Baltimore metropolitan area," Carlson added, "townhouses accounted for nearly 35 percent of the home sales in this area— a far greater share than in another area surveyed."

Existing home sales, Carlson noted, play a significant role in stimulating the economy according to the overall survey results which showed that the average repeat buyer does not put all of the equity realized from the first home into the purchase of the next.

"In fact, while repeat buyers realized an average of $53,000 in equity from the sale of their previous home, the average amount of equity placed into the next home was about $29,000," he said.

"This means that an average of $24,000 per existing home sale was not put back into the next home and was available for other purposes," he pointed out. "This considerable sum is an indication of the significant impact an active resale market has on other sectors of the economy."

The homebuying survey was taken in March through May last year among buyers who had purchased homes in late summer of 1980. Approximately 5,200 responses were received providing data on buying experiences and an additional 2,000 responses provided data on sales experiences.

The 14 areas surveyed were: Atlanta, Baltimore, Boston, Chicago, Cleveland, Dallas, Los Angeles, Miami, Nashville, Pittsburgh, Oakland, San Francisco, Seattle and Tampa-St. Petersburg.

The National Association of Realtors, the nation's largest trade association, represents nearly 700,000 individuals involved in all phases of the real estate industry.

Will to speak on enterprise

Syndicated columnist and Pulitzer Prize winner George Will is the second of a six-lecture series sponsored by the University of Maryland.

Will's lecture will begin at 12:45 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 2 in the University's Center of Adult Education located at the intersection of Adelphi Road and University Boulevard in College Park.

The series, entitled "The Future of Privat Enterprise: Initiatives for the Eighties," is free and open to the public.

It is made possible by a $25,000 grant from the Dr. Scholl Foundation and the Association of Private Enterprise Education.

Maryland is one of 10 institutions selected nationwide to host one of the forums on private enterprise.

Maryland's series focuses on three key questions: What is the future of private enterprise? What can it offer as a major source of economic development and social progress in the years ahead? How can our colleges and universities contribute to the economic well-being of our nation?

Will in 1974 began his syndicated newspaper column which today appears in more than 300 newspapers.

James W. Rouse, developer and master planner of innovative center-city projects, kicked off the series last September with a talk on "New Initiatives for the Urban Environment."

The Center for Business and Public Policy of the University's College of Business and Management and the University of Maryland Foundation, Inc. are coordinating the lecture series.

For free tickets for any of the lectures and more information on the series, call 853-3739.

Investment topic of CCC course

"Investing in Income-Producing Properties" is the topic of a credit-free course to be offered by Catonsville Community College this month.

Attention will be given to depreciation methods, preparation of sample income statements, feasibility studeies and the pricing of properties.

The class will be held Saturday, Jan. 30 from 9 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. at CCC, 800 S. Rolling Road. The fee is $9.

For more information or to register, call the College of Continuing Education at 455-4318.

Free sessions set on home buying

A free house buying session will be conducted by the Housing Advisory Service of the Greater Baltimore Board of Realtors, on Saturday, Feb. 6 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Board offices, 1501 W. Mount Royal Ave.

The service, now in its eighth year, features practical information on financing, the buying process, what to look for in a house, closing costs and responsibilities of home ownership.

Every attendee is provided with a packet of information for their personal reference and will have the opportunity to ask questions during the class.

Additional free sessions will be held at the Board on February 20, March 20 and April 3. Each class contains the same information and topics.

Sessions are informal and registration is not required. Entrance is allowed on a first-come basis due to limited seating.

Business news?

If you have information about a business or trade organization that you want printed, let the AFRO know.

The Business Page is geared to pertinent information about the business, financial and real estate community.

Send your information to P.E. Badham, Business Editor, AFRO - AMERICAN Newspapers, 628 N. Eutaw St., Baltimore, Md. 21201.

VILLA IN JAMAICA

On North Coast in MAMMEE BAY, 12 min. from Dunn's River Falls. 3 Air Condit. bedrms. Each with Priv. bath, liv. rm and D.R. with Maid & Cook. $340.00 Wkly. U.S. For Further Info. Call D. O. Whittaker, 301-988-9254, M D. or Wilbert Smikle, 201-381-4340, N.J.