# SLASHER WEEPS ON STAND, FACES MENTAL EXAMINATION

The total collapse on the witness of James Morton on Wednesday during his trial for cutting a woman so badly that 117 stitches were used, resulted in his being held for a medical examination.

Morton, who lives at 2821 Reese Street, had just been asked by his attorney, J. Howard Payne, to tell his story concerning the cutting of Mrs. Hester Barrett, of 413 Heber Street.

As the man reached the height of his testimony, he broke down, sobbing:

"I didn't mean to cut her. I didn't know how it happened. We had a fuss over $4 and when she missed me with a flat iron, she picked up a razor. I remember taking it away from her, but that's all."

**Left His Wife**

Mrs. Barrett, mother of eight children, "just kinda confidenced" him, Morton said. He further stated that sometimes he would leave his own wife and go to the other woman's home and remain.

The sight of a man crying on a witness stand threw the court into wild disorder. When attendants managed to restore order, Judge Roland K. Adams continued the case and ordered Morton examined by Dr. Manfred Guttmacher, supreme bench psychiatrist.

# SO HE MARRIED THE GIRL AND DUCKED FACING TRIAL

Leander Booker, 23, of 1215 Jefferson Street, one of nine persons arrested on non-support charges last week, evaded trial by marrying the mother of his alleged illegitimate child.

Four of the men arrested were sent to the higher courts while five others reached an agreement before the various local magistrates.

**Get Blessing and $1**

Booker, arraigned before Magistrate Hugh H. Jones in the Northeastern district on a warrant charging him with being the father of a daughter born to Miss Josephine Mason of 1045 Front Street, told the jurist he married Miss Mason. The magistrate gave them his blessing and handed the young mother $1 as a gift for the child.

Charles Dockins, 26, of 1415 E. Fayette Street, was held under bail for court for failing to support his 2-year-old illegitimate son; Vincent Childs, 22, of 3205 Barclay Street, was likewise held for failing to support his 3-year-old son; while James Jackson, 23, of 1502 E. Lombard Street, was similarly held for failing to provide for his 3-year-old son.

**Husband Faces Trial**

Confronted by statements of his wife, Mrs. Madeline Jackson, of 1535 Orleans Street, that he failed to properly provide for her and their three minor children, Harrison Jackson, 30, of 623 N. Bradford Street, was held under bail for court on Tuesday.

Those released after agreements before magistrates included:

Garfield Henry, 34, of 1808 Orleans Street; Charles Douglass, 59, of 537 N. Central Avenue; Edward Harrison, 30, of 115 S. Dallas Street; and James Shiffer, 30, of 243 N. Arlington Avenue.

**SAYS MAN TOOK PURSE**

Charged with snatching a purse from Miss Mabel Fipp, William Perry, 1638 E. Madison Street, was held under $500 bail after a hearing in the Central police station, Monday.

## Three Fathers Must Support Kids

Three of four men arrested by Northeastern district police for failing to provide proper support for their alleged illegitimate children were held for the grand jury this week, while the fourth was dismissed.

They were: James Frisby, of Sparrows Point; Simon Clayton, 26, of 1413 Mullikin Street, and Arthur Scott, 20, of 1320 Dallas Street.

James Freeman, 38, of 927 N. Durham Street, was dismissed.


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# ANNE WIGGINS BROWN ASKS DIVORCE

BALTIMORE'S SWEETHEART WILL RESUME MAIDEN NAME

THE AFRO-AMERICAN

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LATE CITY EDITION

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# Go to Mayor in Board Fight

## Civic Group Will Support Orchestra

A citizens' committee stepped into the City Colored Orchestra controversy in an effort to insure the continuance of that organization in Baltimore, this week, when a group met and formed a permanent organization to promote civic efforts of this kind.

Following a lengthy discussion of the orchestra situation the committee prepared a communication to be sent to Director of Municipal Music Frederick R. Huber and Mayor Howard W. Jackson.

**Recommend Continuance**

In their statement the group urged that the work of the orchestra be continued as a civic movement and pledged its support to W. Llewellyn Wilson, conductor.

**While refraining for the present from passing upon certain controversial matters which have developed between city officials and the musicians' union, the committee unanimously took the position that the question of preserving the valuable gains made along this line is one which interested every citizen.**

Baltimore, it was pointed out, is already in the forefront of other cities in the matter of municipal music, mainly because of the efforts of Mr. Huber and the support he has received from Mayor Jackson and city officials.

**Ask More Funds**

The committee asked for more funds for the purchase of instruments, for the provision of proper instruction, and for additional concerts.

What could be done to iron out the present difficulties of the orchestra with fair consideration to all parties of the controversy was also discussed at the meeting.

Taking part in the meeting were Francis M. Wood, director of schools; the Rev. E. W. White, the Rev. Frederick Douglas, Miss Dukye Wood, Mrs. Ada K. Jenkins, Mrs. Sarah C. Fernandis, J. Larkins, Mrs. Violet Hill Whyte, and William N. Jones.

**DUNBAR TEACHERS HEAR JOHNS HOPKINS PROFESSOR**

Dr. Leon C. Marshall, white, of Johns Hopkins University, spoke on "New Approaches to Teaching of Social Sciences," at the professional faculty meeting of the Dunbar Junior High School, Thursday.

A request from Mayor Howard W. Jackson, this week, that the Association for the Handicapped submit the names of one or two qualified persons as candidates for appointment on the school board and that the association list grievances that they felt should be investigated in the school system, was interpreted as a favorable move in the long fight the association has waged to secure a representative on the board.

Robert W. Coleman, manager for the association, with fifteen representatives of civic and interracial organizations conferred with the mayor, Monday, and offered a petition asking that a colored member be appointed to the school board when the appointments are made in March.

**Mayor Gets Petition**

The petition, presented by Mrs. Bruce Alleyen, a member of the Association for the Handicapped, stated:

**Petition**

His Honor:

"Racial and religious problems do not arise when all races are given a just and fair chance at positions which vitally affect any one or more of the races. The exclusion of colored citizens in the governing and administrative body of our public school system, merely because of color, creates a racial problem which you can solve by appointing a colored representative on the school board.

**Spirit of Fair Play**

"Such representation would be in line with our form of representative government and our constitutional guarantees. It will indicate a spirit of fair play, tolerance, and the inclination to uphold the fundamental principles of democracy. Surely no one could maintain that in choosing members of the board, there should be exclusion because of color, any more than there should be because of creed.

**"It is an undisputed fact that representation of the colored race will be productive of much good to our community, and will also promote a better understanding between the respective races. One illustration of this point should be convincing.**

"There are certain unique problems of Negro life, similar to that of any other substantial minority. It is, therefore, essential that an intelligent, broad-minded, and liberal colored man or woman be a member of the school board, in order that where problems arise concerning the colored people, the board may be able to have the benefit of official and intimate intelligent counsel. A large number of colored organizations, churches and individuals are co-operating with

Continued on Page 2, Col. 4


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## "Sorry I Drank Too Much," Woman Says

"I'm sorry that I drank too much and did not listen to the officer when he told me to go home," said Miss Thelma Barrett, 22, of 2102 Whittier Avenue, before she was dismissed on disorderly conduct charges Sunday.

A Northwestern district patrolman said that he was forced to "bring her in" when she had created a disturbance in a tavern at 908 Calhoun Street, the night before, and refused to go home when ordered.


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## 7 DAYS UNTIL CHRISTMAS

**The Weather**
Fair and Cold

## Holdup "Victim" Nabbed When Hoax Explodes

The collapse of a trumped-up holdup story of a bridegroom-to-be had its repercussions, Sunday, when the purported victim himself was held in connection with a holdup and robbery.

Lieut. Michael J. McKew and Sergt. Albert Kirwan of the Northwestern district on investigating a reported holdup at Stricker Street and Riggs Avenue found Edward Marshall, 26, of 1515 Mosher Street, who said he had been robbed of a box of groceries and $26.

**Admitted the Hoax**

Questioned more closely about the holdup, the man broke down and admitted that it was a hoax, the officers said. Marshall, it was said, stated that he was in love with Miss Rosie Wilson, of the same address, and that they were about to be married.

**On Sunday morning Miss Wilson asked Marshall to get some groceries, but the man, not wanting her to know that he had no money, ordered the articles from one neighborhood store, about $4 worth, and then went to another store where he borrowed a nickel and reported the fake holdup to police.**

A search of the man's clothing revealed a wallet and three railroad passes issued to a white retired crossing watchman. A check-up disclosed that the watchman had been recently held up and robbed.

As a result of this information, Marshall was turned over to police of Baltimore County for questioning and Lieutenant McKew and Sergeant Kirwan accredited with clearing up the robbery and holdup.

## Stork Beats Reaper by 39 in October

A total of 273 colored babies were born during October, while 234 deaths were reported for the same month, according to the Baltimore Health Department.

There were 2 homicides; 20 cases of tuberculosis; no suicides, and 542 cases of syphilis reported.

With the exception of tuberculosis and syphilis, the report says that the communicable disease situation in Baltimore during October was more favorable than during the corresponding month of 1936.

## THEY'LL MODEL GOWNS AT CHARITY SHOW

MRS. JOSEPH LOUIS BARROW,

wife of the world's heavyweight boxing champion, shown in Chicago with Mrs. Irene Castle McLaughlin, white, former dancer and social leader, as they studied a program of the annual United Charities ball to be held on December 29. They were wearing the gowns that they will model on that occasion.

## Mother Faints as Son Draws Life

Albert C. Johns, 19, radio technician, who formerly lived at 1318 McCulloh Street, saw his elderly mother collapse in a state of insensibility when he was found guilty of first degree murder, Wednesday.

Attired in a black woolen dress, a black brimless hat, with shoes and stockings to match, Mrs. Carrie B. Johns, the mother gave all appearances of culture and refinement, was apparently willing to give up her life as a sacrifice to obtain freedom for her son, who allegedly stabbed George Carter, 50, a janitor.

Frequently wiping her swollen eyes, Mrs. Johns sat quietly, three rows behind her son and listened attentively to the verdict returned by Judges Joseph N. Ulman, Oscar Lester, and J. Abner Sayler, until she fainted.

For the first time in more than five years, three sitting judges presided over a single case.

**To Serve Life in Pen**

Although sentence was with-

Continued on Page 2, Col. 1


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## Mother's Christmas Prayer Frees Youth

Judge O'Dunne played the role of Old St. Nicholas, on Thursday, when he answered a mother's prayer by releasing her only son from prison to spend Christmas with her.

Allan Montgomery, 16, of 1532 Baker Street, was sentenced to three months in the house of correction, last week, on a robbery charge. But his mother, Mrs. Martha G. Montgomery, obtained his freedom on parole.

## Nice Donates to Kiddie Party

Gov. Harry Nice has done his share to help the American Legion's theatre party for poor children by donating $10, Linwood G. Koger, assistant State commander, announced on Thursday.

With only a few days remaining, Mr. Koger has asked the public to contribute freely and help make a success of the party to be held in the Royal Theatre on Christmas morning.

**Receive Donations**

Donations were received this week from George B. Murphy, Sr., Max Hochschild of Hochschild and Kohn, candies from McDon-

Continued on Page 2, Col 8

## CHELTENHAM TO GET BUILDING FOLLOWING $15,000 BLAZE

According to the Rev. Frederick Douglas, a member of the executive board of the Cheltenham School for Boys, a new building will replace the institution's $15,000 hospital building which was destroyed by flames on Sunday.

At the meeting of the committee early in January, plans and specifications will be taken under advisement. Plans are expected to be drawn up by State building engineers.

Others on the executive committee are Joseph Branford, Howard Claggett, John McCormick, and Willard W. Allen.

A defective flue is said to have caused the fire at the institution.

# Opera Star Says Medic Left Her

**Declaring that her husband, Dr. Floarda Howard, resident surgeon at Provident Hospital, had deserted and abandoned her two years after their secret marriage, Mrs. Anne Brown Howard, the former Anne Wiggins Brown, star of the George Gershwin opera, "Porgy and Bess," filed suit for an absolute divorce this week in the circuit court.**

The opera star's action confirmed numerous rumors which have repeatedly bobbed up during the year that she and her physician husband had reached a parting of the ways.

**Wed While Student**

The Howards were married secretly in Portchester, N.Y., on January 13, 1932, while Mrs. Howard was still a student at the Institute of Musical Art of the Juilliard School of Music in New York City. She graduated that same year.

**Dr. Howard, a graduate of New York University, is the son of the Rev. Floarda Howard, vicar of St. Jude Chapel. Revelation of the marriage did not come until twenty-one months later in October, 1933. At this time, Dr. Howard was pursuing a medical course at Flower Hospital.**

The desertion occurred on October 2, 1934, according to the petition. The couple have no children.

Mrs. Howard, who also asked that her maiden name, Brown, be restored, is the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Harry F. Brown, who reside at 1835 Madison Avenue here.

**Acclaimed Here**

Baltimore music lovers recently acclaimed Miss Brown, who made her third appearance here in recital on Sunday at the St. James P.E. Church, accompanied by W. Llewellyn Wilson, Douglass High School music instructor and organist.

The singer made her musical debut in Baltimore at the Metropolitan M.E. Church in 1932, and sang here again at the Sharp Street M.E. Church in 1934. In 1935, Miss Brown reached new heights when she took the leading role of Bess in George Gershwin's folk-opera, "Porgy and Bess" in New York, playing opposite Todd Duncan.

**Starred at Douglass**

She graduated in 1928 from the Douglass High School here where she starred in several of the school's largest musical and dramatic offerings. While studying at Juilliard, Miss Brown won the coveted Margaret McGill scholarship in singing, a three-year alumni award.


AFRO-AMERICAN

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## Balto. County Equalizes Its Teachers' Pay

TOWSON, Md. — A step to equalize the salaries of colored and white teachers in Baltimore County was taken at the recent meeting of the board of education when that body voted to grant equal pay to first-grade teachers without regard to race or color.

By the action of the board, Superintendent Cooper told the AFRO-AMERICAN, all teachers who qualify by training and experience to be placed on a list, which, will be designated as first class, will receive a standard scale of salary and get the benefit of standard rules of promotion and salary raises.

**Eliminate Others**

The action of the board, he said, will apply to both races alike and in effect will put the salaries of colored teachers on the same base as that of the whites.

**Teachers in the schools who at present do not come up to the stated requirements will be given an opportunity to qualify or will be eliminated, he said.**

The action of the body will avoid court action on the part of Baltimore County teachers such as was taken in Montgomery County.

Officers of the NAACP stated this week that they believed other counties would follow the course of Baltimore County.

Court action, however, will be taken in all counties which do not equalize teacher salaries until the fight throughout the State is won, they said.

**To Equalize Requirements**

Mr. Cooper declared that one of the aims of the board is also to equalize the educational requirements of teachers in the county schools. There will be the same requirements for both races, he stated.

## 10 Elementary Teachers Named

Ten persons were appointed to teaching positions in the elementary schools of the city when the school board met on Thursday.

They were:

Miss Elaine L. Bailey, Miss Imogen G. Byrd, Miss Constance V. Clark, Miss A. Pearl Cole, Miss Rebecca M. Evans, Miss Vashti Minor, Miss Ethel E. Reid, Wilfred Seaborne, Miss Maud J. Wil-

Continued on Page 2, Col. 3


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# Josephine Baker Is Sensitive to Public Sentiment, Editor Finds

By WILLIAM N. JONES

Josephine Baker Lion is highly sensitive to the reaction of public sentiment, three interviews made by the writer in the last few years show.

In the trans-Atlantic interview with the popular actress, Monday morning, the readiness and enthusiasm with which she plunged into and even led the conversation almost took me off my feet.

Such was the contrast with former efforts to squeeze a few sentences out of her.

It was not difficult to realize that Madame Lion was in the best of spirits and that everything in the world was one of happiness and optimism with her.

Last year, while on her way back to Europe after a short-lived effort to make another stage hit in the United States, Josephine seemed obviously resentful.

**It took two days of continuous effort to even get an interview, and even then she was far from the enthusiastic "Joe" she was on Monday morning.**

The American audiences turned somewhat of a cold shoulder to Josephine's stage love-scenes with white males. They "could not take it" in New York, and even her appearances in New England, where her routine included caresses and kisses, the effect was apparent, and not so well taken.

**At Home in Paris**

When the Normandie's passengers reached Paris and a big and enthusiastic crowd of Parisians were on hand to welcome the Folies star, she became hearty again.

No actress could have hoped for a more dazzling welcome than Josephine received at Gare Lazare when the boat train pulled into that station.

**Cold in London**

My other interview with the actress was in London, when she was filling an engagement in one of the first-line theatres there. In that London engagement she had a musical vehicle which, if presented by an English actress, would have been a riot.

**It was built around the story of an Englishman who had lost his way in the African jungle and was found and nursed back to health by his African sweetheart.**

Just as in America, this theme did not take so enthusiastically among Londoners, although the house was crowded the night I attended.

I sat in the second balcony and noted with interest the reaction of her white audience, especially those close to me.

**Banana Costume**

In this show Josephine donned the famous banana costume, and, as I recall, on close examination back stage, those bananas consisted of velvet tassels in the form of the fruit and not more exciting than many of the costumes one finds at the average musical show.

**But the less Josephine wears the more divine she is. Her figure is unusually attractive and she has learned a lot of things about physical culture.**

At an interview in her hotel, the actress was willing to talk as one countrywoman to a countryman, as she said, but not so much for publication.

It was in her trans-Atlantic talk on Monday, that she was the lilting, musical, enthusiastic, all-is-well-with-the-world creature. And it was an experience that a reporter likes to keep as a permanent memory.