BALTIMORE AFRO-AMERICAN

EDITORIAL PAGE

Error is always talkative.—OLIVER GOLDSMITH.

About the Junior Colleges

Last week we were about to have a junior college established in our midst. This week the plan has been pigeonholed.

The objection of eleven city councilmen to passing the ordinance that would permit the school board to open the doors of the colleges is that the tuition is too high.

It is—definitely. As charged by the dissenting councilmen, the plan is discriminatory against the young non-veteran who wishes to continue his education beyond high school but who cannot afford the expense of a regular college.

It seeks to favor the veteran whose fees would be paid by the Federal Government under the GI Bill of Rights, but the fact is that not even a veteran could afford to enroll in Baltimore's junior colleges under the plan now being discussed.

Thomas Van Sant, director of adult education, who is in charge of plans to open the colleges, states that there is some question about whether or not other colleges will accept the junior college credits if a graduate chooses to continue his education.

Furthermore, the fees at some regular, bona fide colleges are cheaper. Morgan State College asks $359 per year for boarding students and only $133 per year for day students. The junior college almost established this week at Douglass High School would have asked $405 per year.

By what stretch of the imagination can proponents of the idea expect either veteran or non-veteran to spend $405 for something he can get for $359, with room and board included?

It would appear that the idea behind the plan is simply to establish a device for grabbing off some of the money the U.S. Government is willing to pay for the education of those who fought for us.

Whatever the idea, however, it was apparently predestined to fail. While plans called for 50 enrollees in the Douglass unit, only two persons had expressed an interest in enrolling.

The City Council is to be commended for recognizing and holding up this queer business with the puzzling figures. But we still need the junior colleges. There is no institution in the State offering terminal instruction on the junior college level for colored students.

When the plan now "under further study" comes out of the council, it is hoped that not only will the price of this schooling be made right, but that some sensible recommendations will be made about having the college rated by the Middle States Association of Colleges.

Good News in Housing

Indications are that the Baltimore Housing Authority may soon get a new executive director as well as two new board members. This, to us, is good news.

With new blood in the agency it is to be hoped that the kinks which have been causing general dissatisfaction in many quarters about the housing administration can be ironed out so that the Authority can get on with the important business of much-needed post-war housing.

It is reported that one of these vacancies of the five-man board may be filled by a woman. We are suggesting that one of the appointees, man or woman, be colored.

Since its organization in 1939, the board has had only one colored representative at a time. The original member, Dr. George B. Murphy, served until January, 1946, when he was succeeded by Furman L. Templeton.

An additional representative would be justified by the extensive housing program which the Authority has undertaken here for colored citizens.

The Authority is now managing 20 housing projects, 6 of a temporary and 14 of a permanent nature. Eight of this number, including five occupied by colored people, are the property of the local Authority, while the remainder, built for war workers and Army personnel, are owned by the Federal Government but operated by the Baltimore organization.

Of the 20 projects now in operation, 11 have colored tenants numbering 4,284 families, while 9 are occupied by 6,070 white families.

We therefore have more than half, or 55 per cent of the Housing Authority's projects, but only 20 per cent representation on the board.

Better housing in Baltimore requires not only more and better homes but a better understanding between housing project tenants and the operational board which works out their plans, problems, programs and progress. This can be acquired only through fair and practical representation.

Another Way Out

Despite heavy opposition which pointed out that a City Charter amendment was not the proper course for gaining a raise, city firemen won a salary increase last week through referendum by a majority vote when the issue was placed on the general election ballot.

It occurs to us that by the same procedure we might be able to repeal the Maryland interstate jim-crow travel law which has been in effect since 1904.

This out-dated statute, found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 27, Section 510, requires that all railroads and steamboats provide separate facilities for colored and white passengers.

Although a large segment of the community wants it revoked, repeated efforts to get the State Legislature to outlaw it have failed. We ought to be willing to take a chance on having the common people vote it off the books.

Any law which does not involve finances may be repealed by referendum. We overlooked this opportunity in last week's State-wide elections so now we will have to wait until the general election of 1948.

With 182,000 colored persons in Baltimore, it should be a simple matter to obtain the 10,000 signatures necessary to place the matter on the ballot.

It is expected the issue will again come up for debate when the State Legislature meets in January. If the repeal idea is again defeated, it can be submitted to the voters. Now is as good a time as any to begin thinking along this line.

Hitlerites on the Heath

Terrorization of Jews in the Hamilton District, adjacent to Morgan Park and Morgan State College, by persons identifying themselves as Klansmen from the South, is no different in import and threat to community peace from the anti-colored conduct of the infamous Columbians in Georgia.

We see the vandalism as part of a nation-wide threat of Nazism. It will be recalled that quite recently Nazi swastikas were painted on Jewish synagogues in New York. Similar intimidation of minorities has occurred in Boston and Chicago. The Georgians, who wear the shoulder patch of the Nazi Storm Troopers, struck a new low in un-Americanism, and now we have shadows of the looming threat against community peace cast on Baltimore.

We have not had this sort of thing in our town, either in this or the preceding decade. We hope that law-enforcement agencies will take every necessary step to nip these Hitler Jugend in the bud.

It is disconcerting, however, that daily newspapers gave more space and bigger headlines to stories about Jews throwing bombs in Palestine than to blatant abuse of their civil rights here.

Of Men and Jobs

by A. J. Allen Jr.

Do you know anybody between 21 and 30, male, in good physical condition, preferably a veteran, with a good military record, who is interested in a good vocation?

Talk to him about the Baltimore Police Department. Several hundred additional men will be taken on within the next few months and, if Commissioner Hamilton R. Atkinson has his way, 40 or 50 will be colored.

One does not have to be a college graduate. He must be able to write an intelligent report. Factors of character and good judgment are important.

Interested persons may get application blanks for the examination from the Board of Police Examiners, fourth floor, Police Building, Fayette and Pallaway.

New FEPC Sponsored

Everybody knows FEPC stands for Fair Employment Practices Committee; but the commission on law and social action of the American Jewish Congress has come up with a new one.

It has drafted and is sponsoring a model State Fair Educational Practices Commission bill, which it expects will be introduced and pushed in the legislatures of several States in the coming months.

The bill is modeled on the Austin-Mahoney bill, which the group had introduced last session.

It forbids discriminatory practices based on race, color, religion, national origin or ancestry on the part of educational institutions in the admission of students and the employment of faculty members.

The bill also creates within the State Department of Education a State Commission against Discrimination in Education to prevent or eliminate such practices.

Backed by N.Y. Senators

Like the familiar FEPC, the commission would function as "a quasi-judicial administrative agency empowered to prevent or eliminate discrimination by informal methods of persuasion and conciliation and, if necessary, by cease and desist orders."

At an all-day conference in September at Hotel New Yorker, both Herbert H. Lehman and Irving M. Ives, then rival candidates for the U.S. Senate, endorsed the bill along with Mayor O'Dwyer, Dr. Channing H. Tobias and Sen. James M. Mead.

Will Open Closed Doors

In States where this legislation passes, schools will have to abandon racial and religious quota systems.

Students will be admitted on merit and colored veterans will be able to enroll in technical and professional courses now closed to them.

In short, this will do for education what New York's Ives-Quinn law is doing for jobs.

Credit for the spearheading job goes to the American Jewish Congress. Who said minorities don't need one another?

Lights and Shadows

by Dwight Holmes

The recent election of Dr. Charles S. Johnson, distinguished sociologist, as president of Fisk University by the board of trustees, is of great social and educational significance.

Placing the administration of this great learning institution in the hands of a member of the race which it was founded to serve, is an indication that the efforts of the founders and promoters of schools for the freedmen, have been crowned with conspicious success.

Expression of Confidence

The action of the Fisk board is a declaration to the world of its confidence in the ability of colored men to assume the important responsibility of guiding the destinies, and of managing the affairs of a full-fledged university.

This does not mean, of course, that this election is an experiment. During the entire life of colleges for colored people, some members of that race have been entrusted with such responsibility.

General Pattern

Most of them have succeeded while others have failed just as have presidents of colleges in general. In the main, however, the colleges of this group were administered for many years by white men.

This was particularly true of colleges operated by independent boards or by white religious denominations. State colleges for colored people have had indigenous leadership from the first, as have those controlled by colored denominations.

It became, therefore, the heavy burden of the presidents of the colleges in the two categories last mentioned to prove the potentialities of the race to lead and manage.

And, in spite of the peculiar handicaps under which they labored, as a whole, they succeeded remarkably well.

Otherwise, more conservative boards of the other group of colleges would have had no examples of success to justify the experiment of giving colored men the opportunity of proving their metle.

Efforts of these pioneers began to bear fruit conspicuously after the first decade of the 20th century.

The Baptist replaced white men by colored in the presidencies of Bishop, Benedict and Shaw. Presbyterians long ago did so at Johnson C. Smith. Howard inaugurated its first colored president in 1926, which meant that such changes had passed the experimental stage.

Changes at Other Colleges

Dillard's first active president was colored after the merger of New Orleans and Straight universities whose presidents had been white. Morgan made the change in 1937, with Lincoln in Pennsylvania following suit only last year. And now comes Fisk.

There has been, of course, considerable reluctance at times to make these changes. In almost every instance there were some who thought that the "time was not ripe." Strangely enough this group sometimes included colored people.

Those who do the voting, however, realize that the only way to develop leadership in a group is to give its members the opportunity to actually lead. This practice has justified itself so abundantly that time alone should be needed to convince the remaining doubters.

Congratulations to Fisk for moving with the current.

Beauty at Home

by Lynn Carter

Q.—What special care of the makeup does one have to take when wearing beige, or any of the light "putty" shades?

A.—Beige has a tendency to "wash you out." With it you'll need powder with deeper, rosier lights in it and lipstick that is either bright, clear red or rusty, brownish red. Apply fresh powder, rouge, and lipstick often.

Q.—What is a good way to impart a nice sheen to my blonde hair?

A.—One of the best ways is a lemon rinse. Use the juice of two lemons in a quart of water for your last rinse.

Q. Is the use of brilliant lipstick advisable?

A. Not unless you have a perfectly-shaped mouth and beautiful, evenly-spaced teeth. The lip coloring should be more of a whisper during the daytime, and perhaps a little heavier for evening wear.

Planned Parenthood

Clinic Service Provided to Help Reduce Local Infant Death Rate

Although Maryland stands well up on the list of States with the lowest infant death rates, there is room for improvement, according to Mrs. Catherine Adams, president of the board of directors of the Northwest Branch of the Planned Parenthood Clinic of Baltimore, which seeks to assist safe, healthy births through medical methods of child spacing.

According to U.S. Census Bureau reports, Maryland's rate of 43.9 infant deaths per 1000 live births places this State in 29th position. Connecticut has the lowest infant death rate, New Mexico the highest. The national average is 40.4 infant deaths per 1000 live births.

3rd Highest Cause of Death

Pointing out that childbirth and conditions associated with it represent the third highest cause of death in the country, Mrs. Adams urged that provision be made so that no mother need undertake pregnancy until she is physically fitted for it. Poor health on the part of the mother is a basic cause in high infant mortality.

"If you consider the '78,000 stillbirths we suffer each year,' she said, "together with the death of some '72,000 babies in the first month of life, you find that childbirth, which should be a lifegiving process, ranks next to heart disease and cancer as the greatest killers.

These figures do not include the illness and loss of life resulting from illegal operations which are estimated as numbering between 200,000 and 1,000,000 each year.

Serious Medical Problem

According to Dr. Bessie L. Moses, medical director, abortion is one of the nation's most serious medical problems. "Wartime conditions greatly increased this evil," she stated, "and legal and moral curbs failed to check this health menace.

"A better answer, I believe, is knowledge of the dangers of illegal operations, together with information which would make it possible for married women to plan the birth of each child," she said.

Clinics Open to All

The Planned Parenthood Clinic was organized in 1927 to provide married women with medical information they need to plan their families in accordance with their health and economic circumstances. It is supported by voluntary subscription.

The 13 clinics in Maryland are open to all married women who do not have access to private medicine. No one is ever turned away because of inability to pay nominal clinic fees. The Northwest Branch is at 1523 McCulloh St.

The Fertility Clinic was organized in January 1946, for the diagnosis and treatment of childless couples who want children. This effort is the result of a realization that 17% of married couples are sterile.

Behind Scenes

by Marse S. Callaway

The recent election of the new Congress means a better leadership at the helm of the U.S. Government, and, it is hoped that the election of W. Preston Lane as Governor means the same for the State of Maryland.

Mr. Lane will be, I believe, in our favor. He comes from Western Maryland near the Mason-Dixie Line, but, his background is such that he should not be governed by his party or prejudice.

If the new Governor enforces the operation of non-segregated public carriers in the State, better treatment can be expected.

Steps already have been taken to do away with the operation of ferries and instead a bridge is contemplated and was pledged to be built connecting the Eastern Shore with Baltimore City.

Certainly, if such a bridge is constructed, segregation on ferries no longer will exist.

Changes in Committee Heads

With the change of power in politics from the Democrats to the Republicans, oppressed groups can be assured that Bilbo, Rankin, George, Connally, and others like them, will not be chairmen of any committees. Instead they will be men from those States where segregation does not exist or is at a minimum.

Because the new chairmen in all probability will be friendly to colored people, the election of the Republicans is justified, if for no other reason.

Lack of Unity

The local situation is not perfect for there are people who live in certain localities and whose thinking follows that of their leaders, many of whom are narrow, prejudiced and jealous.

If each organization would stay in its own sphere, the one for which it was founded, instead of trying to expand its leadership far afield, the entire community would benefit.

Importance of Working Together

I am of the opinion that the ministers are the only real leaders, because they are constantly associate and deal with the majority of the people.

There must be some way to get together and work with them so as to formulate definite plans to guarantee the election of colored citizens to office in the next election. Why can't all groups unite and support one candidate, instead of having every organization support a different one?

If the saying, "United we stand, divided we fall," is followed, with one organization prepared to present group problems as strongly as possible, the goal can be reached.

Therefore, I advocate that all organizations support one candidate for office and see that someone is elected to the council. It can be done, if the foolish idea that everybody must lead is abandoned.

Modern Etiquette

by Roberta Lee

1. Is it customary, following a church christening, for the father to give a fee to the clergyman?

2. When one is applying for a position, should one offer to shake hands with the prospective employer, either when arriving or departing?

3. Should the guests at a dinner be introduced before the dinner or afterwards?

4. What should a man call his wife when introducing her to his social acquaintances?

ANSWERS

1. Yes, and also to the sexton. 2. No; it is the employer's place to offer to shake hands. 3. Before the dinner, never afterwards. 4. "My wife."

People's Forum

Likes Boys' Choir

Dear AFRO: I was not among the fortunate persons who attended the concert of the Boy's Town Choir, but I have heard the Baltimore Boys' Choir often, and by reading in your paper of the comparison between the two, I was able to get some idea of what the recital was like. Incidentally, I think the Baltimore unit, headed by Meredith H. Birche Jr., is a promising group of youngsters.—(Mrs.) VIVIAN RAZOR.

Shooting Explained

Dear AFRO: This is to explain the background to the story which appeared in last Friday's AFRO about the shooting of a soldier by my wife in our seafood restaurant at 1332 Pennsylvania Ave.

The man, Duke Ellison, is not a soldier but an ex-service man. Leaving the restaurant after a dispute about payment of his food bill, he later returned, and after posting two of his pals outside the door, he rushed behind the counter and cursed my wife in a threatening manner.

The counterman struck him to protect my wife, but when Ellison got the better of him, my wife, in self-protection, shot him in the leg. On this evidence, both she and the counterman were cleared when the case reached the police station.—MARVIN TODD.

Election Results

Dear AFRO: While our colored candidates for the House of Delegates made a good showing in the recent election, I was disappointed when all were defeated. I understand that there are 90,000 Republicans in the city, at least 50,000 of whom are colored. If all qualified voters in the Fourth Legislative District had gone to the polls and supported these men, I think the results would have been more favorable. — SAMUEL MUNDY.

Look and Learn

by A. C. Gordon

1. What is the difference between engraving and embossing?

2. What is the common name for sodium bicarbonate?

3. What general name is applied to animals that chew the cud and have more than one stomach?

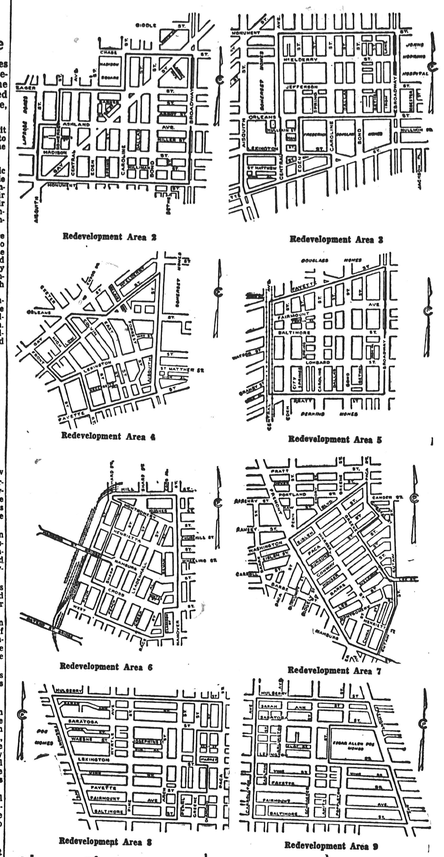
4. For what Naval hero was a destroyer named?

5. Who is considered the best-loved poet?

ANSWERS

1. To engrave is to cut into the surface in sunken patterns; to emboss is to raise in relief from the surface. 2. Baking soda. 3. Ruminants. 4. Conrad L. Harmon. 5. Paul Laurence Dunbar.

Slum Areas to Be Redeveloped



Slum Clearance

by Mae Morris

The Commission on City Plan's program to redevelop Baltimore's slum areas moved ahead rapidly, Tuesday, when it referred, in the form of 12 ordinances to the City Council's committee on highway and franchise.

This means that the program will get under way as soon as the ordinances are approved by the council and Mayor McKeldin, which takes from six weeks to two months.

Each ordinance designates a "blighted area," only one of which is predominantly white, and in total, they embrace some 650 acres.

Areas to Be Added

It was indicated by the City Plan Commission, of which John L. Berry is a member, that other areas needing rehabilitation will be suggested to the council frequently.

In each of the present redevelopment neighborhoods selected, there are churches, institutions and schools which are in good condition, and will not have to be torn down.

7 Blight Conditions

Each neighborhood selected is affected by seven of the following conditions:

A large percentage of the dwellings over 45 years old without bathrooms, or in need of major repair; an average monthly rental of $17.83; over 36 persons living within one acre.

Over 6 per cent of the houses having more than one person to a room; over 80 per cent of the houses occupied by tenants; high rates of tuberculosis and juvenile delinquency; and an excessive welfare caseload.

Slums Located

The 12 areas, excluding the white neighborhood, which is known as project No.1, are as follows:

Redevelopment Area 2—bounded by Chase St., Broadway, Monument, Aisquith Sts., Ashland Ave., Somerset, Eager and Caroline Sts., containing approximately 70 acres;

Redevelopment Area 3—bounded by Monument St., Broadway, Orleans, Eden, Lexington, Caroline, Fayette, Aisquith Sts., and Central Ave. (these streets border the Douglass and Somerset Homes), consisting of approximately 57 acres;

Redevelopment Area 4—bounded by Orleans, Low, Aisquith, Fayette, High, Lexington, Front, and Exeter Sts., consisting of about 38 acres;

Unwholesome Sections

Redevelopment Area 5—bounded by Fayette St., Broadway, Pratt St., and Central Ave., some 57 acres;

Redevelopment Area 6—bounded by Hill, Hanover, Cross, Clarkson, West, Sharp, Cross Sts., Plum Alley, Montgomery and Howard Sts., some 42 acres;

Redevelopment Area 7—bounded by Washington Blvd., Paca, Cornell, Burgundy, Greene, Lee, Eutaw, Hamburg Sts., and Fremont Ave., some 45 acres;

Redevelopment Area 8—bounded by Mulberry, Paca, Saratoga, Greene, Lexington, Diamond, Fayette, Pearl, Baltimore Sts., and Fremont Ave., some 72 acres;

High Death Rate

Redevelopment Area 9—within the boundaries of Mulberry St., Fremont Ave., Saratoga, Amity, Lexington St., Fremont Ave., Baltimore St., and Carrollton Ave., consisting of about 63 acres;

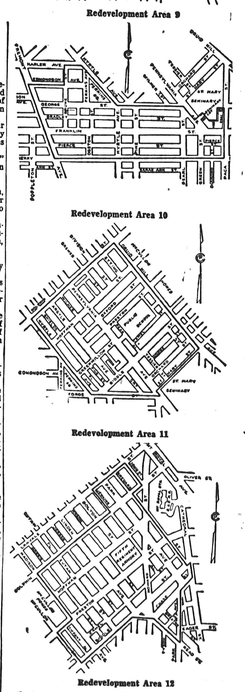
Redevelopment Area 10—within the boundaries of Harlem Ave., Myrtle Ave., George St. Pennsylvania Ave., Seminary Ct., binding on St. Mary Seminary property, Paca St., Mulberry St., Fremont Ave., Edmondson Ave., and Brune St., containing about 50 acres;

Redevelopment Area 11—some 64 acres within the boundaries of Dolphin St., Druid Hill Ave., St. Mary's St., Pennsylvania Ave., George St., and Myrtle Ave.; and

Alleys to Be Cleaned

Redevelopment Area 12—some 69 acres within the boundaries of Lanvale St., John St., Dolphin, Brevard, Biddle, Cathedral, Chase St., Park Ave., Read St., Biddle St., McCulloh St., Preston St., Madison Ave., and Jenkins Alley.

Project No. 1 is within the boundaries of 30th St., Loch Raven Blvd., 28th St., Reese, 27th St. Matthews St., 28th St., Greenmount Ave., and 29th St., approximately 23 acres.



They Share in Community Fund

BALTIMORE AFRO-AMERICAN, NOVEMBER 16, 1946

Here's How Your Fund $$ Are Spent

The Baltimore Community Fund, from its 1946 collections of $1,794,890, for the support of 32 health and welfare agencies, represents an effective and economical way to alleviate social ills.

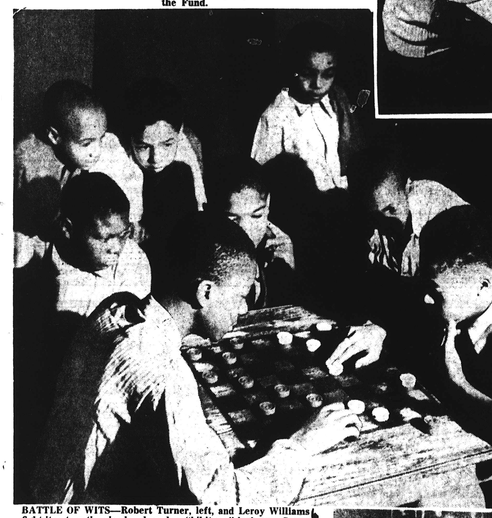
Among the agencies benefiting are Provident Hospital, the YMCA, YWCA, Urban League, Boy and Girl Scouts. The remaining 26 function on an interracial basis. The yearly quota is based upon budget requests submitted by each agency.

District 5, Elmer A. Henderson, chairman, over-subscribed its quota by reporting a total of $22,119.34 or 109% of its $20,140 goal.

BOOKS FOR KIDDIES — Mrs. Bonnie Peasants, Clark U. graduate, assistant in the children's division of Branch No. 5, Pratt Library, 818 N. Broadway, helps young book worms make selections. This is not a Community Fund beneficiary. The division is operated on an interracial basis.

CHAMPIONS OF THE PEOPLE—These members of the Urban League staff shown in session at the Pennsylvania Avenue offices are, left to right, Mrs. Hazel Barrett, Mrs. Charlotte Flowers, Cecil Scott, Ambrose Smith, Alexander Allen, executive secretary, and Samuel Kirkman. Mrs. Pearl Bond, another staffer, is not shown. This agency received $18,000 from the Fund.

THIS IS OUR TOWN—One of Northwest Baltimore's better known structures, the YWCA serves the recreation, home and food needs of the city's women folk. This institution received $23,000 from the Community Fund. Mrs. Alice B. Arrington is executive secretary of the YWCA. This three-year-old building is at 1916 Madison Ave.



BATTLE OF WITS—Robert Turner, left, and Leroy Williams fight it out on the checker board as "kibitzers" look on. Scene is in the YMCA which received $11,000 from the Fund.

THE DOCTOR KNOWS—In the emergency room of Provident Hospital Dr. William Garner dresses injured hand of Maurice Dorsey. Nurse Edna Gover looks on. The hospital got $38,000 from the Fund.

SINGING BUT NOT FOR SUPPER—Teen-age girls at the Madison Avenue YWCA rehearse under the direction of Mrs. Ethel Freeman. Fund gifts of $23,000 make such activities possible.

DOERS OF GOOD DEEDS—This is Girl Scout Troop No. 537 at Grace Presbyterian Church. Mrs. Grace Burkett is leader. Mrs. Janet Steele assists. Girl Scout troops got $5,000 from the Fund.

HE'S A "TENDERFOOT" NOW—Thomas Roach receives Tenderfoot pin from Albert Reid during the meeting of Troop No. 272 at Morning Star Baptist Church. Leader is Marion Harris. Scout troops got $11,000 from the Fund.