Priest Planning Benefit to Establish School in La.

If the plans of Father John A. McShane work out, the children of one Southeastern Louisiana area will have an opportunity to get an education denied them under the dual school system of that State.

Father McShane, well-known here for his interracial work, has arranged an all-star benefit show featuring the Ink Spots, to be given on the night of June 20 in the Fifth Regiment Armory.

Proceeds from the show will go towards building a school for colored children at Houma, a settlement on the bayous of Southeastern Louisiana.

Sponsored Mixed Sports

Eight years ago, Father McShane, then assistant in St. Peter Claver's parish, made local sport history by sponsoring interracial basketball between Catholic girls' teams.

Despite pressure from various groups, he maintained these games until he was transferred to Thibodaux, La., where he was made pastor of St. Luke Church.

Conditions Shock Priest

Shocked by the tremendous amount of work to be done in educational and spiritual fields, and the extreme poverty of colored people on the sugar plantations, Father McShane immediately began work to improve their plight.

This soft-spoken priest of the Society of St. Joseph of the Sacred Heart built an elementary school at Thibodaux, and last year, acquired some property at Houma, 75 miles distant, and constructed St. Lucy Church there.

He plans to build St. Lucy School nearby.

Father McShane says public schools for colored children in that section are "wretched unsanitary shacks, without equipment." He also criticized their poor curricula and noted that the teachers were underpaid.

Ink Spot Tenor Responds

When white Southerners refused to underwrite the project, Father McShane wrote to Bill Kenny, famous Ink Spot tenor who formerly worshipped at St. Peter Claver.

It is through Mr. Kenny that the Ink Spots are to appear on the benefit show.

Now in Baltimore on leave, Father McShane is stopping at St. Peter Claver Rectory, and making arrangements for the show. It is his hope that the Ink Spots will "sing" a school into existence on June 20.

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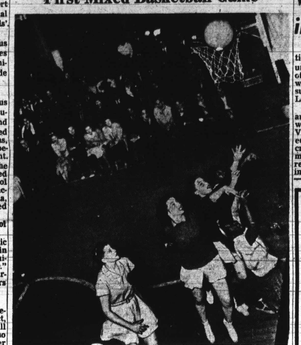
First Mixed Basketball Game



The first interracial girls' basketball game staged in Baltimore, shown above, was sponsored by Father John A. McShane, who is now making efforts to raise funds with which to build a school for colored children in Louisiana. A mixed audience attended this game in St. Peter Claver Hall in 1942 and saw the St. Brigid team break the Claverites' 15-game winning streak, with a 37-18 victory.

Man With Two Wives Goes Free

When a man is acquitted on a bigamy charge, to which wife is he still married?

This question was left pending in Criminal Court, Wednesday, when Judge Edwin Dickerson, reasoning that the man had shown no criminal intent in marrying a second wife, released George Mack, 41, on the bigamy charge.

Usually, if a man is convicted of bigamy, the criminal judge can annul the second marriage. In this case, since Mack was acquitted, Judge Dickerson advised the man's counsel to take the question into a court of equity for settlement.

The case extends back to a day in Policewoman Violet Hill Whyte's office when wife No. 2, Mrs. Louise Mack, complained that her husband was mistreating her.

When Mrs. Whyte sent for the husband, and saw that it was Mack with whom she had worked on other matters for some 13 years, she exclaimed to wife No. 2, "This can't be your husband. He already has a wife."

Thought He Was Divorced

Prosecution followed by wife No. 1, Mrs. Mary Mack, who, it was said, was married to the man on Jan. 26, 1933. The second marriage took place on May 12, 1947.

Mack claimed that when he was released from a prison term in Feb. 1943, he was informed by an official in the State's attorney's office that wife No. 1 had obtained a divorce.

He said that he obtained for $1 a certified copy of a divorce involving a George and Mary Mack from the Circuit Court clerk's office.

The only discrepancy in the divorce papers was that the child in the case was named Rosalie. Mack said that the child born to him and his first wife is named Rita.

Informed that he could not correct the child's name on the papers, Mack said that he accepted the divorce papers as belonging to him, and married wife No. 2 with whom "it was love at first sight."

Acted in Good Faith

In court on Wdnesday, Henry Siegel, attorney for Mack, said that the divorce papers Mack obtained probably belonged to some other couple with identical names.

Judge Dickerson, however, pointing to the fact that Mack thought the divorce papers were his, and had stated that he was a divorcee when applying for the second marriage license, ruled that the man had acted in good faith.

William J. O'Donnell, assistant State's attorney, prosecuted.

Suspect Accused of Beating Cabbie

Charged with assault with intent to rob a taxicab driver, Mike Montague, 46, of 420 S. Avondale Rd., Turners Station, is being held for a hearing in Dundalk police court, 7 p.m., today (Friday).

Montague is accused of attempting to rob Gordon W. Garner, 30, white cab driver, late Wednesday night.

Garner said he picked up a man at Fairmount and Linwood Aves. and, following directions of the passenger, drove to a poorly-lighted spot in Dundalk where the fare demanded $2 from him.

The cabbie said the man got out of the cab and he followed, grappling with the man. Garner told police he was knocked down and the man fled.

After calling police, Garner got into his cab and searched for the man, finding one that resembled him walking along the streetcar tracks. Garner got out of the cab and seized the man and another tussle ensued.

Bryan Barton, a Dundalk cab driver, helped to subdue the suspect and held him until police arrived. Montague was first booked as being held for investigation and later charged with assault with intent to rob Garner.

Veterans' Increased Benefits in July or August Pay Checks

World War veterans in education and training programs are urged not to write or contact VA offices about increased benefits which may be due them as a result of the newly enacted Public Law 512 which raises ceilings.

The higher rates will be paid automatically to those trainees whose existing applications with VA contain the information needed to certify them for the increases. When additional information is needed, the veteran will receive a form from the VA asking for necessary data.

Under the new law, a veteran without dependents could not draw subsistence allowance from the VA if his earnings amounted to $175 a month or more. For a vet with dependents, the ceiling was $200.

New Ceilings

The new ceilings are $210 for those without dependents and $270 for vets with one dependent, and $290 for those with two or more dependents.

The first adjustments that can be made will be in the June allowance checks payable on or after July 1. It is more likely, however, that most of the increases will not be made until the July checks are mailed out on Aug. 1.

Veterans to Organize 92nd Division Unit

Local war veterans who served in the 92nd Division are requested to contact either Harold A. Burkett at 6009 Prescott Ave., or Charles E. Diggs of 613 N. Payson St.

Efforts are being made to form a local unit of the veterans prior to the first national meeting of the 92nd Division Veterans Association to be held in Chicago.

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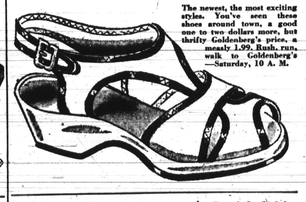
The newest, the most exciting styles. You've seen these shoes around town, a good one to two dollars more, but thrifty Goldenberg's price, a measly 1.99. Rush, run, walk to Goldenberg's—Saturday, 10 A. M.



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Sizes 8 to 16
Built to take plenty of wear, reinforced at all points of strain, copper-riveted so no seams will open, with 4 deep pockets.

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SUN., JUNE 13th
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REV. M. E. HOLMES
See Page 5

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Scenes From 81st Commencement of Morgan State College Monday When 179 Received Diplomas

The AFRO photographer caught the above scenes, Monday, at the graduation of 179 seniors at the 81st commencement exercises of Morgan State College. First picture shows bachelor of arts recipients, left to right, Frances Wallace, Audrey Williams, Norman Uncles, Juanita Holsey, Natalie V. Hill, Australia M. Hines and Dorothy M. Hanks, all of Baltimore. Second picture includes platform guests, Dr. Carl Murphy of the trustee board; Dr. Martin H. Jenkins, new Morgan College president; Judge Morris A. Soper, chairman of the trustee board, who delivered the commencement address; and Dr. D. O. W. Holmes, retiring president. Platform also included Mayor D'Alesandro and other trustees. In the next picture, Gov. William Preston Lane, who awarded diplomas, transfers the symbolic key to Sojourner Truth House, one of two buildings dedicated at the ceremonies, to Judge Soper. Adjacent is a closeup of a section of the 2,000 guests who attended the graduation; while below, Governor Lane awards a diploma to Roberta Rae LaVarr, chemistry major, and high ranking graduate of Bronx, N.Y., who also received a Finer Womanhood Award. Ground was broken for a third building and the cornerstone laid for a fourth.

Sen. Taylor, Canada Lee to Speak at Armory

Senator Glen H. Taylor, Vice Presidential candidate on the Wallace Third Party ticket, will be the main speaker at a rally at the Fifth Regiment Armory, at 8 p.m., Monday.

The spotlight will be shared by Canada Lee, stage, radio and screen star, and James W. Wise, writer and radio commentator.

Pulls 'Cup' Lever, Firemen Respond

A thirsty visitor at Sydenham Hospital pulled a lever to get a paper drinking cup, Wednesday afternoon, and instead got seven fire trucks and two police radio cars.

The visitor was Curtis Wilkes, 27, 1011 Aisquith St., Horace Hodes, the hospital superintendent, told the police and firemen. Mr. Hodes explained that the hospital's automatic fire alarm on the second floor is located near the drinking-water cooler and that Wilkes pulled the alarm, thinking it was part of a paper cup dispenser.

MRS. MARY COUSAR

CHARLOTTE, N.C.—Funeral services for Mrs. Mary Cousar who died recently, were held at Clinton Chapel Metropolitan Church May 30 with the Rev. G. H. Hairston pastor, officiating.

Red Cross First-Aid Course Opens Thursday

Oscar W. Hoar, director of the Baltimore Chapter Safety Services has announced that a standard Red Cross first aid course will begin on Thursday, 7:30 p.m., at the Lexington St. Recreation Center, 734 W. Lexington St. Classes are free, and registration may be made on the opening night. Mrs. Hazel Akehurst will be the instructor.

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