Night Hearing Set on Expressway

Hearings for persons both for and against the proposed second leg of the expressway have been set for Feb. 9 and Feb. 16 at night.

The evening arrangement was made because the City Council was told that many citizens who work would be unable to attend the hearings during the day.

Those favoring the expressway plans will have the hearing on Feb. 9 at 8 p.m. Those opposed will be heard on the second date at the same hour.

The second leg involves the widening of Russell St. north from a point at Ridgely where the first leg ends. Subsequently, the expressway would travel through the South Baltimore areas designated for slum clearance. All hearings are held in the Council chambers at City Hall.

Machine Cuts Off Man's Right Arm

The right arm of a 48-year-old worker was severed above the elbow, Thursday morning, when it was wedged in a machine at a downtown food firm where he is employed.

Rushed to the South Baltimore General Hospital, Jesse Brigges, 400 block Henrietta St., was "doing nicely," according to hospital authorities talked with later that evening.

Mr. Brigges, who has been employed at the Maryland Biscuit Company, 500 block of S. Charles St., for 19 years, told Southern District police he caught his arm in a fig grinding machine.

February Class At Harvey Johnson High

Here are the 60 graduates of Harvey Johnson Junior High School who received their diplomas Tuesday. At left, first row, is Mrs. Vivian Cook, principal.

Brown Named to Housing Authority Advisory Unit

Theodore Brown, senior supervisor of recreation, is a member of the advisory committee appointed this week to aid the Housing Authority with recreation programs in future housing projects.

Formation of the 20-member committee was announced by Oliver C. Winston, executive director of the Housing Authority.

As its first job, the committee will gather information on existing and contemplated playgrounds, libraries, recreational centers and recreation programs offered in churches and schools. Its findings will be used to determine project needs.

Members Listed

L. B. Twist of the YMCA is committee chairman. Members are:

Harry Bard of the Department of Education and Paul Donovan of the Salvation Army board, who represent the Division of Recreational and Educational Agencies as members of its executive committee; Gustave Bisgyer, YM and YWHA; Theodore Brown, Harold S. Callowhill, and Miss Mora Crossman, Bureau of Recreation; Major Douglas Eldredge, Salvation Army Boys' Clubs; Mrs. Willis R. Ford, YWCA; Mrs. Lee B. Gorsuch, Enock Pratt Library; Lt. William Hartung, Police Boys' Clubs; Robert Heistand, Boy Scouts; Michael Kelley, Area Projects; Carolyn Lyder, Girl Scouts; the Rev. Thomas Mardaga, Catholic Youth Organization;

Frank T. Rhoad, Council of Churches; Isadore Sollod, Jewish Educational Alliance; and Dr. Elmon Vernier, Department of Education.

Mrs. Hugo S. Dalsheimer, as chairman of the division, will be an ex-officio member of the committee; and Miss Ruth Pease, secretary of the divison, will serve as the committee's secretary.

AFRO SPECIAL

See stories and pictures of junior high school commencements on Page 5.

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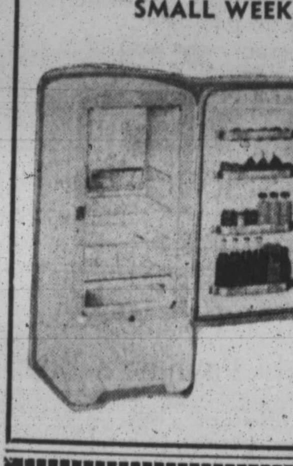

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$250 Offered in Essay Contest on Handicapped

A state-wide essay contest which is open to 11th and 12th grade pupils in public, private and parochial schools was announced this week by David Fringer and R.C. Thompson, co-chairmen of the Governor's Committee to Promote Employment of the Handicapped.

The contest opened, Wednesday, and will close April 1.

Each student entering will write an essay of 1200 words or less entitled, "Hire the Handicapped, It's Good Business."

$250 in Prizes

State prizes will total $250 in U.S. Savings Bonds. All four state winners will receive certificates signed for the President of the United States by the chairman of the national committee. Also, the first-prize essay will be entered in the National Essay Contest.

All essays should be sent to R. C. Thompson, director, Vocational Rehabilitation Division, State Department of Education, by April 1.

Opens Law Office

James L. Bundy, 2704 Claflin Court, Cherry Hill, a June graduate of the University of Maryland Law School, has opened offices at 14 E. Pleasant St. He is associated with Linwood Koger, well-known local attorney.

Attacker Appeals for New Trial

A new trial motion was filed this week by counsel for Samuel Walker, convicted criminal attacker of an expectant mother.

The victim's sixth child was born shortly after the assault. She identified Walker, 29, of the 1600 block Bruce Ct., as the man who forced her into an alley near North Ave. and Etting St. on Nov. 13, and abused her for three hours at gun point.

Traced Through Coat, Hat

Walker was traced through his hat and coat, left in the alley, and a Government check he had shown to the woman. He was arrested by Detective Lloyd Johnson and Lt. Clarence German who found a gun under a cushion of his parlor sofa.

The man claimed he had been drinking so heavily that evening, he did not remember any details of the affair with the woman. His own wife was expecting a child at that time. Walker's attorney is Earl Rosenthal.

$500 Asked for Injuries Sustained in Car Mishap

A $500 suit was filed against a motorist, this week by Elmore C. Bloard of Halethorpe, who said he was injured in a traffic mishap Dec. 2.

Represented by Linwood Koger and Jams L. Bundy, attorneys, Mr. Bloard sued Gordon H. Hankey of 4212 Penhurst Ave. The Superior Court suit cited that Hankey's car struck Mr. Bloard's at Ridge St. and Hammonds Ferry Rd.

Keep Digit Fund, Grand Jury Urges

The new Baltimore grand jury has confirmed what everybody knew all along that many Baltimoreans are numbers addicts.

After studying increased numbers activity, the grand jury urged, Monday, that money taken in raids be confiscated.

The jurors made public their views in an interim report submitted to Judge Michael J. Manley of the Criminal Court favoring a bill that would include this provision. They said:

"Sizable segments of the population seem to be infected with the numbers mania and bent on getting something for little or nothing.

Pied Piper Amateur

"From the mass of testimony already heard, it might be concluded that the Pied Piper of Hamelin was an amateur compared to the master mind charmers of the numbers business in Baltimore city.

"We are informed that there is uncertainty whether the State under existing law may confiscate moneys seized in gambling cases.

"Returned funds, among other things, could prove a convenient source of reimbursement for defendants in the matter of fines, counsel fees and resumption of operations.

Bill Recommended

"We are also informed that to discourage the return of seized funds. . a claimant must file a petition under oath, alleging that the funds are his personal property before you will sign an order directing the police commissioner to make return."

The report urged passage of a bill to be introduced before this session of the Maryland Legislature.

It would make seized funds, "contraband of the law and forfeited to the county or city interested."

Plumber Files Suit to Collect $720 Debt

A $1000 suit was filed this week against two officials of the Em-Cee Contracting Co. by a plumber who cited a $720.25 balance due for his services.

In a companion suit, the plumber, Gordon E. Myers, of the William F. Myers and Son heating and plumbing company, filed a $500 claim against T. Shelton Coles of the Em-Cee concern and his wife.

Mr. Coles, 1138 Myrtle Ave., is named with Alfred Moore of 1701 Appleton St. in the $1000 litigation.

Here it was charged that a $720.25 balance is due on $892.70 worth of plumbing and heating fixtures installed in three properties by the Myers company in Aug. and Oct. 1948 and Jan. 1949.

Mr. and Mrs. Coles are charged with failing to pay a $277.97 balance on a $677.97 bill for installation of heating fixtures and plumbing work in Oct. 1948. Both suits were filed in the Superior Court.

Dr. Hairston Attends Dental Society Session

Dr. Chalmers Hairston, local dentist, attended the three-day annual meeting of the Philadelphia County Dental Society, which opened at the Bellevue-Stratford Hotel, Wednesday.

Recording secretary of the Maryland Dental Society, Dr. Hairston attended five of the clinics that were offered at the meeting.

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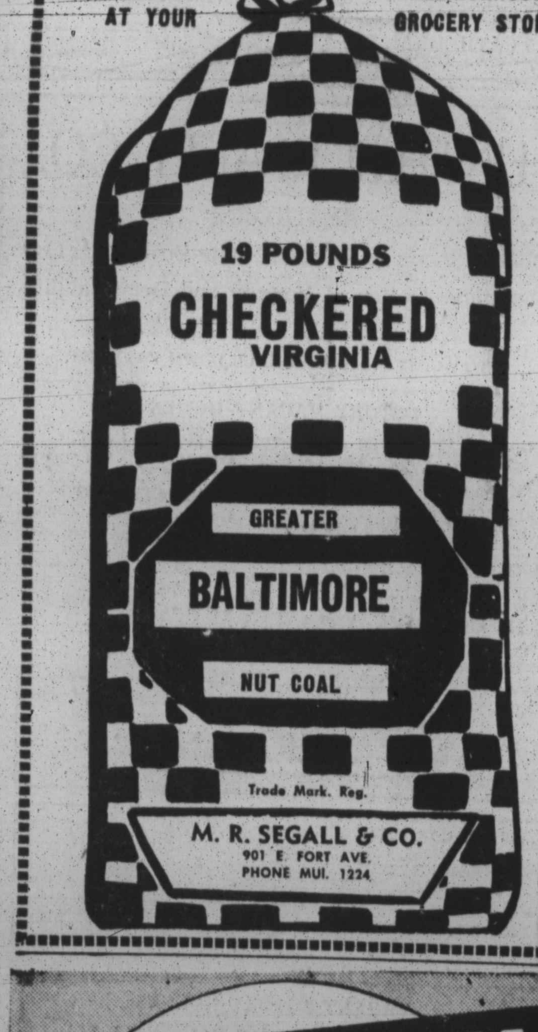
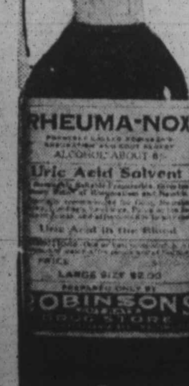


RHEUMATISM



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USO to Discontinue Operation, Shows Stay

The Maryland State Committee of the USO has announced that its operations and activities will be terminated within the next two weeks.

The announcement followed a statement by the national USO that the organization will be deactivated on a nation-wide basis due to lack of funds.

C. Markland Kelly, State USO chairman, said all solicitation for the Maryland USO campaign will cease and that county chairmen have been instructed to turn over their local contributions to State headquarters.

$34,000 Contributed

He stated that $34,000 had been contrbuted to date throughout the State. The USO, he said, will continue to finance the Veterans Hospital Camp Shows for the first quarter of this year.

This operation brings entertainment on a regular basis to over 1000,000 patients in 120 veterans hospitals in the United States.

In Maryland, veterans hospitals at Perry Point and Fort Howard are included on the camp show circuit.

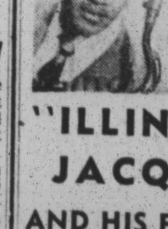
Anti-Delinquency Unit Sets Meeting

The Women's City-wide Committee for Delinquency Prevention will hold a luncheon meeting, Saturday afternoon, at the Eastside Community Committee office, 1206 E. Monument St.

Composed of 50 women, the group will elect officers at the meeting. It is the sponsor of the annual Blue Ribbon Tea, which will be held on March 5 at Dunbar High School.

Speaker at the March meeting will be Mrs. Marie Bauernschmidt, executive secretary, Public School Association. Music will be presented by the Gerald Burks Wilson Singers and the Hollander Junior Orchestra.

"DANCE WITH THE JACQUET"



"KING OF THE TENOR SAX"

"ILLINOIS" JACQUET AND HIS FAMOUS ORCHESTRA

SUN., FEB. 5

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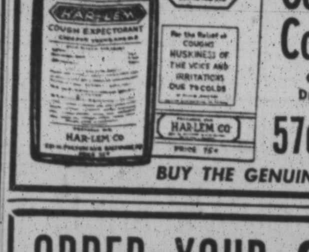

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Mayor and Governor Proclaim 'Banneker Week'

Were Youthful Pals Marked for Death?

Morgan Theft Inside Job?

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58th Year, No. 54 BALTIMORE, MD., FEBRUARY 11, 1950 10c IN BALTIMORE; 12c ELSEWHERE

Death singled out two buddies for a fatal rendezvous, Monday night, as depicted above by the AFRO artist. In the top photo, X marks the spot, an alley near 1005 N. Arlington Ave., where Norman Gibbs was found. Identified in the same manner is a spot less than 70 yards from the other where Eugene Woodford was lying.

Mother, 29, Who Killed Daughter Ruled Insane

Edwards to Leave Death House Soon

Awaiting Governor's Action After Appeals Court Grants Him New Trial

Thomas A. Edwards's confidence for seven months that he voluntarily would walk out of the penitentiary death house, paid dividends on Tuesday.

Granted a new lease on life when the Maryland Court of Appeals ordered a new trial for him, Edwards still occupied a cell in death row, late Thursday, but he expects to be moved any day.

Governor Must Act

Frank Kaspar, night captain at the penitentiary who is in charge during the warden's absence, said:

"Edwards is still in the death house. I'm trying to find out what procedure will take place before he is moved.

"According to our regulations, he can be moved only on orders of the Governor, and we have received no word from him as yet."

Parents, Sister Visit

Edwards's father, Rufus James Edwards; his sister, Frances, a Morgan College student; and his mother visited him for a half-hour on Thursday.

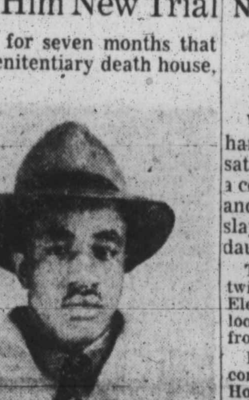
They declined to say what was discussed, but indicated that Edwards made no mention of the new trial.

In previous visits family members have described Edwards as being confident "everything will turn out all right."

Trial Date Not Set

William J. McWilliams, court-appointed counsel for Edwards, said he has not decided whether he will ask for a jury or judges to hear the new trial.

No date has been set for the trial, but Mr. McWilliams is making plans for a two-week Florida vacation and the trial will probably be held in March.



THOMAS A. EDWARDS

Convicted of the double murders of Miss Mary Kline and John Mahlan in September, 1948, Edwards has been in the death house since last June.

The unanimous opinion of the appellate court, headed by Chief Judge Ogle Marbury, was that Capt. Henry J. Kriss, chief of Baltimore detectives, had illegally "exhorted" Edwards to confess the crimes.

The Court of Appeals, in its decision, also ruled inadmissable two other confessions allegedly made by Edwards.

After this sudden turn of events, State prosecutors announced Wednesday that they will "soon start" preparing their case against the 23-year-old Marley Neck war veteran for the new trial.

James C. Morton, Anne Arundel County State's attorney, is presenting the State's case with the assistance of Kenneth C. Proctor, Baltimore County State's attorney, and Anselm Sodaro, assistant State's attorney for Baltimore City.

The court decision was a tri-

(Continued on Page 2, Column 1)

Effort to Slay Self Failed

Pistol Jammed After 1 Bullet Hit Girl

NO OTHER WEAPON

Walked to Police Station After Deed

With bowed head and folded hands, a 29-year-old mother sat impassively, Thursday, as a court ruled her "insane then" and "insane now" in the gun slaying of her 12-year-old daughter.

The captain of the guard called twice to the defendant, Mrs. Eleanor Liggon, before she looked up. She then followed him from the courtroom.

Immediate arrangements to commit her to Crownsville State Hospital were ordered by Chief Judge W. Conwell Smith.

Dramatic as any movie script was the woman's written statement to police in which she described how she stood over the sleeping form of the girl on Oct. 28, summoning up courage to send a bullet through the daughter's head.

The mother's own attempt at suicide failed when the gun jammed after the first bullet found its mark in the brain of the sleeping, young Henrietta Jones.

Laying the jammed gun on the bannister of the second-floor stairway of the home in the 1700 block McKean Ave., Mrs. Liggon went alone to Northwestern police station, and told Sgt. Frank Battaglis and Lt. Gould Rollins, "I have just killed my daughter."

The sergeant said she was "very

(Continued on Page 2, Column 6)

Meet 'Miss Valentine' of 1950

The Baltimore AFRO's choice for "Miss Valentine" of 1950 is lovely Miss Anita Butler. The charming and attractive young woman is a co-ed at Morgan, majoring in physical education.

Was Morgan College Holdup Inside Job?

Police Quiz Students, Employees; Examine Hundreds of Pix in Probe

(See Pictures on Page 17)

Police are working on the theory that the $16,500 hold up at Morgan State College Monday was an inside job.

The intensive investigation being conducted on the Hillen Road campus is based on the assumption that the well-planned, perfectly-timed hold up was engineered by a student, a former student or someone with more than average knowledge of the school's operations.

The two young men arrested and released by police Thursday night in connection with the case brought to eight the number of persons apprehended since the four-day probe got underway.

Student Questioned

One of the men, a 20-year-old radio television student, was freed after a co-ed said his car was not the one she noticed parked on the campus Monday.

The other, a 22-year-old laborer was held for questioning for 24 hours after police received a tip that his brother came here from Virginia last week end and left a sedan with friends here.

Both cars were old models and resembled the one used by the gunmen in their getaway.

The investigators have abandoned an earlier theory that two five-dollar bills found in North Baltimore business establishments were part of the college loot.

The probe is now being centered on an old model car seen by several students on the campus shortly before Monday's Sensational daylight robbery was staged by four unmasked gunmen.

One of the five-dollar notes turned up in a Dartmouth Rd. beauty salon, and the other appeared in a Roland Ave. drug store. Both bills bore penciled notations and the store owners became suspicious and called police.

Morgan College cashiers examined the bills Wednesday in an effort to recognize their handwriting. James H. Carter, college business manager, explained that the markings were similar to those made on money in practically all business establishments, but did not resemble notations made on the college funds.

Probe College Students

At the college campus five policemen, working under Lt. Amrein of the Northeastern district, are pressing the investigation. The officers are still questioning students and employees in an effort to get some bit of information that may have been overlooked in the first hasty questioning.

Working on a theory that the well-planned and perfectly-timed holdup was "engineered" by a student or former student, Capt. Julian I. Forrest, Northeastern district commander who is heading the probe, had the cashiers examine pictures of all students who had attended the school in recent years.

After looking at thousands of pic-

(Continued on Page 3, Column 5)

2 Buddies' Deaths Same Night Probed

Foul Play Connected With Earlier Slaying One of Theories Advanced

By STAFF CORRESPONDENT

What's behind the mysterious deaths of two life-long buddies, whose bodies were found sprawled within 60 yards of each other, early Tuesday morning?

One youth, Norman Gibbs, was found in an alley in the 1000 block N. Arlington Ave. The other, Eugene Woodford, was lying on Riggs Ave. near Arlington.

Were they cunningly put out of the way because they knew too much?

Were they victims of mobsters, a youthful gang, or is it possible that they accidentally poisoned themselves by self-injections of dope?

Unique Case

These are among the questions being asked here, this week, as police and medical examiners work to unravel circumstances surrounding one of the strangest double deaths in the memory of veteran policemen.

Spurring the rumor mill is the fact that Gibbs was under $100 bail as a State's witness in the fatal beating of George (Hop Leg) Thomas in December.

Thomas died in the 1300 block Woodyear St. at a point which forms a triangle between the homes of the youths found dead this week.

That case, in which Norris Ross, 1700 Ditman Ct., is being held without bail, is now pending before the Criminal Court.

Testimony Differed

Some noted that testimony by various witnesses differed sharply in the police court hearing less than a month ago at which Norris was charged in connection with Thomas's death. Gibbs, Woodford, Thomas and Ross all knew one another well.

Other rumors of retaliation were prompted by reports that Woodford, second of the youths found dead this week, recently served a jail sentence on an assault charge lodged by an alleged member of another youthful "gang."

Gibbs was spotted around 2 a.m. by Radio Patrolman Raymond Novak and Richard Erdman, who saw him stretched on his back about five feet from 1005 N. Arlington Ave.

Lying diagonally from the dwelling's wall, his hands were placed under his head as if intended as a cushion.

Wallet Empty

He wore a blue shirt, open from the neck to waist, blue overalls and shoes. He was not wearing underwear or a hat. His leather wallet contained personal papers but no money.

Although a preliminary police report said Gibbs had been ill, his mother, Mrs. Florence Gibbs, declared:

"Except for childhood ailments, he'd never been sick a day in his life."

He was rushed to Provident Hospital in a police wagon. A staff physician pronounced him dead on arrival.

Woodford Found Later

With such stunning swiftness

(Continued on page 15, column 1)

Cupid's Corner

Seventeen-year-old Zelda Johnson and her soldier sweetheart, Carl H. Perry, 19, formerly of 1517 E. Chase St., now stationed at Hamilton Field, Cal., and Miss Shirley Banks, also 17, who will wed Rufus Shedrick, 27 years her senior, are among the 49 couples licensed, here, this week.

Mr. Shedrick, a divorcee, lives at 136 N. Exeter St. Another 17-year-old bride-elect, Miss Penny Lou Richardson, will be mar-

(Continued on Page 10 Column 3)

Bids In for Three Morgan Buildings

The John K. Ruff Company submitted the low bid of $1,256,735, Thursday, for the combined construction of three new buildings at Morgan State College.

These buildings are a gymnasium, women's dormitory and men's dormitory. The Ruff Company also was low base bidder on single bidding for the gymnasium job, at $580,417, and the women's dormitory at $374,522.

Contracts Due Soon

Low bidder for the men's dormitory was the Young and Adams Construction Company at $309,000. Contracts for the jobs will be awarded after final tabulations by the Department of Public Improvements, which accepted bids on Thursday from eight construction companies.

Second and third lowest bids for the combined construction were made by the Davis Company at $1,340,000 and the Mullan concern, $1,370,000.

On the gymnasium, the Leimbach Company submitted the second lowest bid at $593,400 and the Mullan Company at $596,214.

Second and third lowest bidders for the men's dormitory were the Piracci Company at $316,000 and the Ruff Company at $318,800. On the combined bidding, Ruff said the work would be completed in 450 working days, Davis in 325 and Mullan in 375.

One other combined bid was submitted by the Scrivner Company at $1,373,526 to complete the work in 365 days. The Leimback Company submitted an in-

(Continued on Page 3, Column 4)

Blakes Near Out-of-Court Settlement

A second hearing in the court fight of Mrs. Margaret Blake to obtain permanent support from her physician husband, Dr. James R. Blake, and his bill for a limited divorce from her, was postponed in Circuit Court No. 2, here, Monday, when the battery of attorneys withdrew, ostensibly, to discuss terms of a settlment.

Both Dr. Blake and Mrs. Plake admitted that they are now amenable to an out-of-court settlement.

The Blakes, who had been bat-

(Continued on Page 2, Column 5)

MAYOR, GOVERNOR CO-OPERATE:

'Benjamin Banneker Week' to Be Observed

With Governor Lane and Mayor D'Alesandro issuing proclamations in connection with the celebration, "Benjamin Banneker Week" will be observed in Maryland, Feb. 12 to 19.

The week's tribute to Banneker, native Marylander, astronomer, scientist, inventor and author of an 18th Century Almanac published in this State, marks the local emphasis upon the national and annual celebration of History Week.

In his proclamation, Governor Lane declared that the annual observances "have grown in importance from year to year as the understanding and appreciation of the contributions made by colored citizens of the State and nation to the upbuilding of America's democratic heritage have broadened."

Lauds Special Observance

He lauded the special Banneker celebration as an "opportunity to enrich the local celebration of

(Continued on Page 2 Column 4)

The Weather

Increasing cloudiness with rain expected tonight (Friday) is the local weather man's prediction. He forecasts temperatures in the upper 40's.

Temperatures over the weekend are expected to average about five degrees above the season normal which ranges from the low 40's to the mid 20's.

REVERSE USUAL PROCEDURE:

Parents Fight Against Gaining Tots' Custody

Reversing the instances in which parents fight to retain their children, Judge Emory H. Niles found it necessary, this week, to withhold granting a divorce because neither parent wanted custody of five minor children.

The case was that of Nathaniel Augustus, 1823 Penrose Ave., who sued Mrs. Juanita Augustus for divorce on grounds of voluntary separation. The wife in a cross-bill charged desertion.

At the hearing, the father agreed to keep two of the children but insisted that the mother take the remaining three. He had agreed to pay $15 per week for the children's support.

Mrs. Augustus told the court that he would have to take all five of the children, because she could not support the three on $15 per week.

The husband said that he could not take the children because there was not room in the home in which he lived with his mother, to house three extra children.

He added that he was unable to allot more than the $15 out of his salary of $48.20 per week, and still provide for the two children and himself.

Judge Niles withheld the granting of a divorce until an investi-

(Continued on Page 2, Column 8)

Hastie Undergoes Minor Operation

PHILADELPHIA

Judge William H. Hastie returned to his Yeadon home, Saturday, following a brief stay in Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, where he underwent a minor ear operation.

The judge's condition was reported good; and he returned to Baltimore for a checkup, Tuesday.

Plagued by Ear Trouble

It is hoped that the operation will cure a slight hearing defect in one ear which has bothered the judge for several years.

Judge Hastie is expected to return to his chambers for active duty, next week.

Mayor Makes 'Benjamin Banneker Week' Official

Flanked by members of the committee promoting the observance, Mayor D'Alesandro gives to Mrs. Vivian Cook, chairman, the proclamation designating Feb. 12 to 19 as "Benjamin Banneker Week" in Baltimore. A mass meeting at Enon Baptist Church, Sunday, will launch the week's activities, sponsored in connection with Negro History Week. Others with the Mayor are Dr. Willard W. Allen, Mrs. Edyth Myers, Howard H. Murphy and Mrs. Alma Gray.

Coming Events

Friday

Douglass High School commencement in the auditorium of the school, Calhoun and Baker Sts. —8 p.m.

Reunion dance of the Douglass High School Class of 1940 in the Blue Room of the York Hotel, Madison Ave. and Dolphin St. — 10 p.m.

Saturday

Pre-Valentine party of the Little Folks Theatre Mother's Club at the Pride of Baltimore Elks Home, 620 Dolphin St. —4 p.m.

Reunion dinner of the Douglass High School Class of 1940 in the Blue Room of the York Hotel, Dolphin St. and Madison Ave. — 8 p.m.

Sunday

Address by Dr. Horace Mann Bond, president of Lincoln (Pa.) University at Grace Presbyterian

(Continued on Page 13 Column 1)

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