OFFICIALS CITE STAFF PROBLEM:

Citizen-Alarm Spreads At Crownsville Escapes

While alarm spreads through the community, and officials of the hospital blame lack of personnel and adequate space, inmates at Crownsville Hospital continue to escape from the institution.

Eight patients, three of them dangerous, and one of them a murder suspect, escaped from the institution on Saturday. Four days later another patient walked away from the hospital.

Patients Complain

Meanwhile, the AFRO continues to be flooded with letters from patients who complain of being mistreated and neglected.

With the escapes on the increase, Dr. Jacob Morganstern, superintendent, blamed lack of adequate personnel and space. He said there are 81 vacancies on the staff and that the proper persons can't be found.

Admitting that he "can't sleep nights," the superintendent added "The situation is critical, and will remain so until Crownsville has an adequate staff."

BULLETIN

Crownsville authorities said Thursday night that Albert Ridgeway did not leave the institution and was found in another building in the hospital grounds.

3 Captured

Five of the eight patients who escaped Saturday have been returned. Still at large is Albert Ridgeway, another patient, who walked away Wednesday night.

Others at large include John Lane, charged with murder; Edward Satterwhite who escaped last September, and Hubert Griffin. All are considered dangerous.

Not Dangerous

A patient at the hospital since 1942, Ridgeway is not considered dangerous. He worked in the carpentry shop and was classified a trusty.

Because of that status, he was allowed unrestrained use of the grounds. According to Dr. Morganstern, Lane was committed shortly after peing apprehended on a murder charge.

Satterwhite has been in Crownsville one year and was schedded to be released in 1953. Griffin, if returned, must stay in the institution until 1984.

Alarmed At Publicity

When questioned by the AFRO, Dr. Morganserin professed alarm over the unfavorable publicity given to the recent escapes.

"Every man who walks away from here should not be termed an escapee," he declared. "Many of our patients have ground privileges, and sometimes betray this trust by walking away.

"Nor is every man at Crownsville a criminal!

"Escapes occur at all our State hospitals. Recently, a young escapee from Springfield was shot and killed by a policeman.

"That case wasn't given much publicity, in fact, nobody knew he has escaped."

Much publicity has been given to the fact that frequent escapes have been made from Crownsville's "C" building. The building houses those patients adjudged "criminally insane."

Although originally intended for 150 patients, at present there are more than 300 patients in the building. Of that number, not more than 100 are classified as being "criminally insane."

200 Don't Belong

The other 200 patients don't belong in the building, but because of lack of space, must remain with the more dangerous patients.

In regards to this situation, Dr. Morganstern said, "At present we have 29 attendants in that building. We need at least 54 attendants, however, to manage that building properly.

"There are 81 vacancies on the staff at Crownsville, and the proper persons just can't be found.

"Security measures will never be sufficient unless the proper amount, and right type, of employees are available to maintain them."

Ratio Cited

According to Dr. Morganstern, the proper "patient - attendant" ratio should be one attendant to four patients. With approximately 320 patients in Building "C", cared for by 29 attendants, the approximate ratio is 10 to 1.

Crownsville's official capacity is listed as 1,200 patents. At present there are 2,300 patents.

There are 200 attendants at Crownsville State Hospital, making the patient-attendant ratio for the entire institution more than 10 to 1.

Alarmed at the increasing number of escapes, Governor McKeldin has ordered Nathan L. Smith, State directog of public work, to survey Crownsville to find means of curbing fiture escapes.

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Dougalss Class Of '36 Holds Reunion

Pictured are the members of the publicity and program committees of the June 1936 Class of Douglass High School which held a reunion, this week. Standing from left to right are: Ernest Hammond, Mrs. Margaret Gillard, Joseph Palmer, Mrs. Constance Brent, publicity chairman; Miss Julia Bluford, Cyrus Marshall, Mrs. Ima D. Watson, Milton Spriggs, Gaines Lassey, and Miss Edith Joyner. Seated: Mesdames Arnetta Hammond, Martha Allen, Evelyn Johnson, program chairman; Ralph Cook, general chairman; Mrs. Teresa Goodwin, treasurer; Meber Watts, and Mrs. Palestine Anderson. Not shown are Miss Elizabeth Fisher and Mrs. Ruth K. Jones.

Tall Cedars Chapter Launches Campaign

$35,000 Goal In Drive Against Muscle Disease

By S. EDWARD SMITH

Plans for its Muscular Dystrophy Campaign were made by the Baltimore Chapter of the Tall Cedars of Lebanon Wednesday at the Emerson Hotel.

The Campaign which extends from August 23 through Sept. 16, was off to a grand "kick-off" luncheon attended by members of the Press, Radio, and Video. S. Edward Smith, personnel manager of the AFRO - AMERICAN Company, represented Carl Murphy, president.

Tall Cedars hopes to raise some $35,000 to $40,000 to contribute to the national campaign.

400 Local Cases

There are 400 cases of Muscular Dystrophy in Baltimore and about 65,000 throughout the nation.

These funds will be used by the New York Hospital and Johns Hopkins Hospital for research to determine the cause; find a relief and to affect a cure for muscular dystrophy.

Joseph Newman, Sr., a member of Tall Cedars local chapter brought his son Joseph, Jr., 6, to the luncheon so that the officers and guests could see first hand what a child looks like who has this malady.

In Wheel Chair

James Dotterwich, 9, of the 900 block Renfew Street, Essex, Md., was also present. He was confined to a wheel chair and could not support himself by his muscles.

Young Newman falls on an average of 40 to 50 times daily, his father related. He had been afflicted two years with this dreaded disease.

Joseph Kolodny, former magistrate of the Traffic Court, and president of the Muscular Dystrophy Association of Baltimore, which is co-operating with Tall Cedars in the drive, made brief descriptions of the disease.

Prognosis Of Disease

This disease, thus far incurable, is characterized by the fatal wasting away of muscle groups, and a general weakness in all limbs. Some scientist believe it is due to imperfect or faulty nutrition of the muscles—an improper function in the body's complex chemical processes which causes muscles to degenerate until they are useless.

The disease attacks voluntary muscles, group by group, until motor paralysis is complete.

The disease is 100 per cent fatal, as the cause and cure are unknown to science today.

Luncheon Speakers

Other speakers at the luncheon were Harry I. Rogers, Sr., Grand Tall Cedar, and N. Chester Phillips, former Grand Tall Cedar, who was named general chairman of the campaign.

Muscular Dystrophy knows no race, color, income group, religion, or residential area. It can strike anywhere without warning.

Charge Man With Choking Officer

A man choked Patrolman James Harriman so vigorously, Wednesday night, that the policeman's tie had to be cut from his neck.

The police officer was walking past 460 W. Conway St., when he heard a woman's screams. Investigating, Patrolman Harriman found Eddie C. Rogers, 30, tusseling with three women.

When the policeman tried to pull them apart, Rogers grabbed him by the throat and began choking him, Harriman said.

Finally Subdued

When the man was finally subdued, Mrs. Pearline Lipscomb, mother of two daughters, Elaine and Vivian, charged that Rogers, her landlord—struck them after a dispute over use of the kitchen.

At Southern police station, his fellow policemen had to borrow a knife to cut the tie from around Harriman's neck.

In police court, Thursday morning, Magistrate Avrum E. Rifman held Rogers in $1,100 total bail on four charges of assaulting the women and Patrolman Harriman, plus a charge of disturbing the peace.

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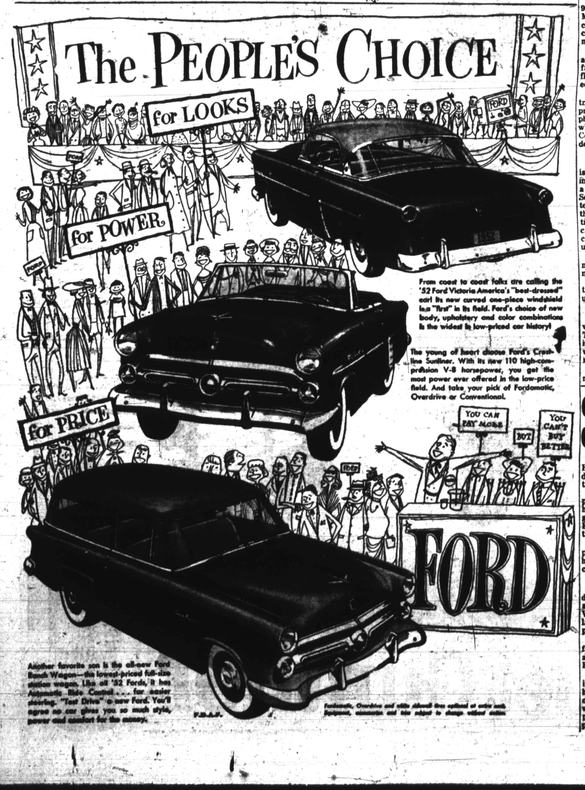

From coast to coast folks are calling the '52 Ford Victoria America's "best-dressed" car! Its new curved one-piece windshield has "first" in its field. Ford's choice of new body, upholstery and color combinations is the widest in low-priced car history!

The young of heart choose Ford's Crosley Sportmar. With its new 110 high-compression V-8 horsepower, you get the most power ever offered in the low-price field. And take your pick of Fordomatic, Overdrive or Conventional.

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CLEAN-UP PAINT-UP

Clean Block Highlights

Now that the Fourth of July is over, the Clean Block Campaign will really settle down to work. Many of the jobs that need to be done will be awarded. Both weeks will be chock full of the campaign. The Clean Block Campaign is a community improvement and human relations project.

Captain Praised

Mrs. Pearline Lipscomb, of the 400 block of School Street, reported that Captain Lee was very polite and helpful. Captain Lee was with her when the boys came to her door. Mrs. Lipscomb asked the Captain to be her spokesman for calling. Captain Lee was glad to do so. He said he was happy for the opportunity to be of service to the community. Captain Lee said he would be happy too.

Clean Blockers are experiencing some first like Joe. Clean Blockers have been called upon to be the guests of "Bill Alexander" on his program at Carlton Cafe. Bill is giving a party for Clean Blockers. Bill is very proud of the work we have been selected. However, he feels that we should be honored. Friday, at 1 p.m. over the station WITH the Clean Blockers will have a message for CLEAN Blockers in their Friends. Don't miss it. It will be a real treat.

We have been checking our files. We have found that some people have been convicted of Clean Blockers. We have found a number of Clean Blockers in the Afro-American office. WATCH FOR THEM.

Our first orchid goes to Mrs. Bertie Holmes, of Sarah Ann Street. Mrs. Holmes is a Clean Blocker, despite the fact that she is blind. She should get two orchids.

An orchid to the Proclaimers of Gilmor Street. Mrs. Proclaimer promised to include the AFRO-Clean Block Campaign in their Block Club.

Captain Lacy Lee of the 1000 block of Fulton Avenue, is the Clean Blocker of the week. Captain Lee is a very active man. He is a member of the 1000 Block Club. He is a member of the Boy Scouts. He is a member of the Fulton Avenue Civic Association. He is a member of the Mt. Olivet Church. He is a member of the Sunday School. He is a member of the Choir. He is a member of the Ushers Board. He is a member of the Sick and Shut-In Committee. He is a member of the Mt. Olivet Church Choir. He is a member of the Mt. Olivet Church Sunday School. He is a member of the Mt. Olivet Church Ushers Board. He is a member of the Mt. Olivet Church