War Housing Shut-Down Hits 865 Residents

FIRST VOCATIONAL GUIDANCE INSTITUTE HELD:

Group Hears Talk By Dr. C. H. Wesley

"Parents have a responsibility for encouraging students to train and prepare for jobs according to their own interests and abilities," Dr. Charles H. Wesley, president of Central State College declared Sunday.

Dr. Wesley spoke at the closing session of the first two-day Vocational Guidance Institute ever held here on March 20 and 22.

The event was co-sponsored by the Supreme Councils of the Northern and Southern Jurisdictions, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry (Prince Hall Affiliation), and the National Urban League.

Opportunities Greater

Dr. Wesley pointed out that opportunities for young people are greater than ever today, but their horizons must be expanded to include many of the new fields which have developed since the war.

The so-called "blue collar" jobs he stated are especially promising because of the tremendous industrial growth of our nation since the war.

"Too Often," Dr. Wesley continued "we try to live their life (youth) and dominate their choice of careers in terms of the way our own lives have been lived, instead of encouraging them to do what their abilities dictate."

Guidance Institute

The Vocational Guidance Institute is part of a national program financed by the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry in cooperation with the National Urban League. Similar Institutes were held recently in Birmingham, Alabama and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

The purpose of the institutes has been to stimulate greater interest on the part of parents, educators, and influential civic leaders in helping youth train and prepare for significant and rewarding careers.

It was also designed to help parents learn more about the vocational guidance, education and training offered in public and private schools; and to help break down mis-conceptions regarding training for the professions.

It also attempts to build up greater appreciation of the satisfactions and rewards in the "blue collar" occupations, and in avenues of employment for those youth who will not go to college.

Workshop Session

The core of the institute was a workshop session in which parents, educators, industry and business leaders participated.

Houston R. Jackson, assistant superintendent of Colored Schools for Baltimore, indicated that the placement counselors faced a difficult task in doing a good employment job for the youth of this city.

He pointed up the need for community-wide action to break the segregated pattern of hiring by local employers.

He added, "some day race will cease to be a factor in determining opportunity for employment and other community services. Class and caste barriers which combine to put the colored pupil at a disadvantage will be removed.

It is our greatest challenge to see that he is ready for that day when it comes, as well as to bring that day closer to the present by intelligent, aggressive action."

Panel Discussion

Following the workship session, a panel discussion was held in which leaders from business, labor, industry and education participated.

Panel members included Emil Starr, field representative, Jewish Labor Committee; S. Edward Smith, personnel director, AFRO AMERICAN Newspapers; and William M. Passano, president, Waverly Press.

Also William V. Lockwood, placement counselor, Department of Education; John Liebensberger, executive secretary, U.S. Board of Civil Service Examiners; Cortez M. Puryear, director, Maryland Vocational School; and George Jude, manager of the Charm Centre.

Actively participating as an observer for the Supreme Council of Masons, and as consultant was Dr. Richard S. Grossley, professor of Long Island University.

Planning Committee

Members of the Baltimore Planning Committee included: Iin E. Wicks, Robert B. Croxton, Alvan Stanley and John R. Hill, all 33rd degree Masons.

Also Frederick T. Hicks, 32nd degree Mason; Mrs. Vivian William A. Jones, Charles Gordon Jr., Henry U. Ayers, Dol-Washington, Mrs. Gloria Basfield, of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority; and Mrs. Clara E. Harris, Order of Eastern Star.

Others included of Dr. N. A. Pitts, of Coppin State Teachers College; Mrs. N. A. Pitts, Morgan State College; Felix Barre, Douglass High school; J. Percy Bond, Morgan State College; and Tom Hawkins of WAAM TV

Baltimore Urban League

Fred Z. Nichols Jr., director of Industrial Relations and David L. Glenn, assisstant director, represented the Baltimore Urban League.

Coordinating the program from the National Urban League was Otis E. Finley Jr., guidance information specialist.

In the opening session of the workshop at Douglass Memorial church and the school administration building Friday, 16 questions in four divisions were discussed by two groups.

They included the following:

Questions Discussed

Division No. 1

Do the present guidance programs in the Baltimore city school system meet the needs of the students? What do these programs consist of? Is the guidance personnel adequate or are more counselors needed?

How is occupational information transmitted to students? Does this information include occupational trends and the present picture for colored workers?

What fields or areas of industry and business offer the greatest potentiality for colored workers in the next five years?

What is labor doing to increase opportunity for colored workers in the skilled and "blue collar" jobs? What full time career jobs are available in labor unions as such?

Division No. 2

To what extent do parents influence children's vocational choices? What guide should parents use in advising their children of vocations which might be suitable for them?

How can we provide parents with more information about jobs and training for jobs? How can the Masons and the Urban League help in this?

What guidance and counseling is given to students with special abilities and aptitudes for trade and technical training? What assistance are they given in placement?

Are apprenticeship or training programs available to qualified colored students in the Baltimore area? If not, what problems are encountered?

What programs have been set up by business, industry, employment service and organized labor to advise educators and counselors of anticipated or existing opportunities for all workers?

Division No. 3

How active are PTA groups? How can we interest more parents in the schools and in what their children are learning? How can the Masons help accomplish this?

Are there any cooperative education programs co-sponsored by business, industry and organized labor in the schools? If not, are they needed?

What steps are being taken now by labor, management and the employment service to recruit students in fields where there is a current or potential shortage? Have the methods used proved effective to date?

Are high school graduates getting jobs in line with their training. What deficiencies are most apparent among high school graduates today?

How can management, organized labor, community agencies, groups of parents, fraternal organizations and public service groups work together in extending the guidance program of the schools?

Division No. 4

What types of training are given to high school students in the Baltimore schools? Are these the skills needed by employers?

What occupational fields are suffering most from the lack of trained personnel? Which ones are overcrowded?

What kind of opportunities do government agencies afford colored woekers both progessional and otherwise? What skills are most in demand? Are the salaries of professional workers in government comparable to the salaries of corresponding workers in business and industry?

What programs have been put into effect by labor to secure equal opportunity for all workers? How will participation in labor unions tend to increase opportunities for them?

Final Meeting

In the final meeting Sunday at Sharp Street Methodist church the workshop declared the following:

That there is a shortage of counselors in Baltimore. The ratio between student and counselor they said is one counselor per 1,200 pupils.

That school pupils need more courses equipping students with vocational guidance on the secondary level in order to prevent a petty change later in courses on the college level. They also, pointed out that more help must come from the home.

The workshop labeled as false the mistaken idea that vocational schools are for dull pupils only. They declared however that the vocational school curriculum needs revising.

Music for the Sunday program was rendered by the Morgan State College A Cappellila Chor. Invocation was delivered by the Rev. Harold G. Nixon, pastor of New Life Presbyterian church.

The benediction was given by the Rev. Joshua O. Williams of Sharp Street Methodist church.

At Maryland State Career Conference

Career Consultants Air Views At College Session

After greetings from President John Taylor Williams, and introductory remarks from Paul Jewell, Mechanical Arts, visiting principals and guidance counselors of the Delmarva Peninsula and the western shore of Maryland heard 7 consultants Friday at the Maryland State college Vocational Opportunity conference, air their views on educational planning for tomorrow.

Later, during two panel discussions, the undergraduates and visitors heard present day trends pin-pointed in certain Areas.

Commenting on opportunities today, Julius A. Thomas, directional Urban League, New York, and Moderator of the group said:

It is significant that in 11 states and 29 cities, comprising over 70,000,000 persons, discrimination in industry has been outlawed."

Engineering Future Rosy

The future for the aspirant in engineering was never rosier, affirmed Stephen S. Davis, department of mechanical engineering, Howard University.

Eighty thousand engineers are wanted, this year 85,000 will graduate, one half of this number will enter the armed forces, and as the number keeps this ratio from year to year, what what then?" he asked.

James C. Evans, assisted to the Secretary of Defense, revealed that "in 1850 six out of seven families produced food, in 1953 the picture shows one out of seven producing food, and more than enough. We can afford to aid other countries in need. All this through technology."

Women's Prospects Good

Mrs. Annabel Speaks Nolez, secretary to the executive director, YMCA, New York, assured the audience that the prospects and position of women in industry today were at an all time high, and expressed the hope that the high school administrators and counselors would strive to give the youths adequate preparation for the tasks ahead.

Principal C. H. Chipman of Salisbury high school, Salisbury, Md., responded briefly on behalf of the attending educators.

Jackson Robb, nationally known artist, entertained at the console throughout the dinner hour.

Saturday emphasis shifts to the more than 700 visiting senior high school students, who will be invading the college campus in annual observance of the institutions' High School Invitation Day. The Quartette from Verdi's Rigoletto, as rendered by the mixed group under the direction of Mrs. Clarice J. Michaels, head of the department of music, highlighted the program.

Consultants and presidential staff at Maryland State College are shown during a luncheon at the college last week during the Career Conference. From left to right around the table are: Clarice J. Michaels, Francis H. Harris, Annabelle S. Noles, Stephens S. Davis, Olie Carpenter, E. R. Welch, Julius A. Thomas, President John T. Williams, Harold H. Hawkins, and Harrison B. Watson.

Magistrate's Wife Serving As Juror

Mrs. Kathryne J. Lane, wife of Magistrate E. Everett Lane is among the persons to serve as petit jurors for the March term of the U.S. District Court.

The group also includes:

Edward H. Gross, 1617 W. North ave.; Ernest E. Allen, 919 N. Eden st.; James T. Dorsey, 1216 N. Bentalou st.; Thomas R. Allen, 2330 Madison ave.;

Mrs. Elizabeth Martyn, 2518 Madison ave.; and Mrs. Mary Carpenter, 1221 Argyle ave.

Job-Seeker Decides He Doesn't Want To Work After All

A bakery shop owner lost $85 and a potential employee Sunday.

Mrs. Mary Rew, white, of the 700 block N. Payson st. told Northwestern district police that she was on duty at the Rabai bakery in the 2000 block of Edmondson ave. when a man about 35 or 40 years old with a thick moustache and light grey topcoat came in.

He came to answer an ad in the newspaper about a job opening he told Mrs. Rew.

Couldn't Wait

Mrs. Rew walked to the rear of the store to tell the owner, and came back a few minutes later and told the man that he would have to wait a little while.

"That's all right, I'll come back tomorrow," the man was reported as saying.

After he left, Mrs. Rew opened the cash register to ring up a sale and discovered $85 missing from the till.

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4213 Reisterstown Rd.

Newsboy Robberies Laid To Gang; 2 Youths Held

A pair of teen-age boys, suspected of participating in a series of newsboy holdups, are being held by Northwestern district police.

A third, gun-carrying youth is being sought in connection with the robberies and two more, now awaiting trial in city jail on other charges, have also been implicated by the arrested boys.

Police said the five may be members of a gang of teen-agers which has specialized in yoking and assault on newsboys on their routes.

Captured In Chase

A 15-year-old boy was captured late Sunday in the 600 block of Whitecast st. after being chased for several blocks by police. His two companions escaped.

The youth admitted to four recent robberies, police said.

A 14-year-old youth was arrested later.

The first arrest came when the trio was spotted at Edmondson ave. and Calhoun st. shortly after a 14-year-old new carrier, Ernest Cromer, reported to police that he was jumped and robbed of $3 by three youths in the 300 block N. Carey st. The newsboy said he was threatened with a table knife during the robbery.

Giving chase in a police car, Patrolmen Fred W. Harris and John H. Brown were joined by Officer Norman Mike, homebound in a taxicab, who saw the police following the youths. Officer Mike leaped from the cab to make the arrest.

Threats of bodily harm have kept many of the newsboy robberies from being reported, police said.

John R. Taylor of the 1000 block N. Appleton st. gave an eye-witness account of the police chase in which the 15-year-old boy was captured.

"I had just taken by wife to church and was driving down on Harlem ave. near Stricker st. when I heard shots," Mr. Taylor said.

"The policemen were coming through the square, shooting at the boys. I'd say they fired between eight and ten shots.

"A couple of fellows standing on a corner said they saw bullets ricocheting off buildings at Edmondson ave. and Calhoun st.

Sollers, Turner And Holabird To Close

Families Told They Will Have To Find New Homes In Future

The first steps in the disposition of three temporary war housing projects operated by the Housing Authority of Baltimore City for the federal government has been announced by Oliver C. Winston, HABC executive director.

In accordance with the relaxing of restrictions last January that had been imposed on the disposal of World War II Lanham Act housing, the government has requested the authority to prepare Sollers Homes, Turner Homes, and Holabird Homes for disposition.

Sollers and Turner are in Baltimore county. Holabird is in Southeast Baltimore.

Although no exact date for disposition has been established by the government, the authority has notified tenants that they will be told to look for other places to live "in the near future."

865 Residents To Move

Letters were mailed to the 865 residents of the three projects on March 20 telling them of the plans, and assuring them that they will be given four months notice to vacate the projects.

Mr. Winston said that families eligible for low-rent public housing will be permitted to transfer to such projects, and all families will receive every consideration in solving their housing problems. Special meetings of tenants have been arranged by the HABC to answer any questions residents may have regarding disposition.

The letter to residents explains that the projects were built of temporary construction for temporary use, and reminds them that they have been aware all along that the homes were expected to be torn down after the war.

Effected By Korean Conflict

However, on instructions from the Presidentof the United States following the invasion of South Korea by the Communists in June, 1950, restrictions on disposition of war housing were put into effect by the Housing and Home Finance agency to conserve all federal resources which might be useful to the defense program.

The three projects were first opened and occupied in 1944. Another temporary war housing project operated by HABC for the federal government, Banneker Homes, has been is disposition status for several weeks. It is to be cleared of all tenants by the end of this month, at which time the government will be informed that the 245-unit project is ready for demolition.

All four of these projects were built on leased land which will be returned to the owners, Mr. Winston said.

The authority operates five other war housing projects of permanent construction for the government, in addition to its own low-rent public housing program.

Easter Services To Be At Stadium

The 24th annual city-wide Easter Sunrise Service will be held in the Memorial Stadium April 5, at six a.m. Services will be conducted by the Easter Sunrise Service Board.

All persons participating in planning, directing and performing the Sunrise Service do so without compensation. The service is a public testimony to faith in the Risen Christ.

The public is invited to attend. Hamilton A. Hooper is president of the Sunrise Service Board of directors. Vice-presidents are Mrs. G. Franklin Onion and David John Lowe.

U. S. Job Open For Upholsterer

An examination for the position of Upholsterer, Severn River Naval Command, Annapolis, Maryland, is now open.

The entrance salary ranges from $1.72 to $1.93 per hour.

Applications should be filed with the Recorder, Board of U.S. Civil Service Examiners, Severn River Naval Command, U.S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, Maryland.

A former farmhand and carpenter, Mr. Alexander (left) worked his way through college, became an engineer with a building-building company.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY ARNOLD DE MILLE

Today, his own engineering firm is one of the most successful in the country. Here, Mr. Alexander directs a new project with his associates.

MR. ARCHIE A. ALEXANDER
Successful Engineer...
Successful Host

Successful men act successful. They choose only the very best for themselves . . . and for their friends.

That's why men like Archie Alexander choose Lord Calvert . . . the whiskey that's *Custom Distilled* and blended to achieve a taste that's wondrously mellow, satin-smooth. So jealously is its *custom* quality guarded that each bottle is numbered and recorded at the distillery.

Tonight, try *Custom Distilled* Lord Calvert *yourself* . . . and make *your* next drink a *better* drink.

Because of his wide-spread activities, Mr. Alexander has two homes —one (above) in Washington, D. C., the other in Des Moines, Iowa. A popular host, he is noted for his fine food and excellent drinks. Naturally, Mr. Alexander serves the whiskey of distinction, *Custom Distilled* Lord Calvert . . . America's finest.

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The Baltimore Afro-American March 24, 1953

INSIDE: George Washington—Hero Or Hypocrite?

AFRO MAGAZINE SECTION

"She Will Sing In The Metropolitan Opera"

By JOHN JASPER

The "finest coloratura of this generation" is a former Atlanta Sunday School singer, Mattiwilda Dobbs, of 572 Houston st., Atlanta, Ga.

Just the other day she made her debut in famed LaScala Opera House in Milan, Italy before a large audience and was heavily applauded.

The *Lonelo* magazine, Opera, in an article by the publisher, Henry Pleasants, said this great contralto sing.

Miss Dobbs is on a concert tour of leading European cities and will appear in London during the Coronation.

In the U.S., she is under the management of Columbia Artists Anderson (Sol Hurok). Says Hurok — next season she should sing in the Metropolitan Opera.

The road to LaScala Opera House began for Miss Dobbs 21 years ago. Her father John Wesley Dobbs, Grand Master of Masons and a leader of his race in this state's Republican party, recalls his daughter's first musical performance.

"My wife and I celebrated our 25th wedding anniversary when Mattiwilda was six years old. Her fourth sister, Josephine played piano and Mattiwilda sang "When Your Hair Has Turned To Silver."

"That was her first musical venture."

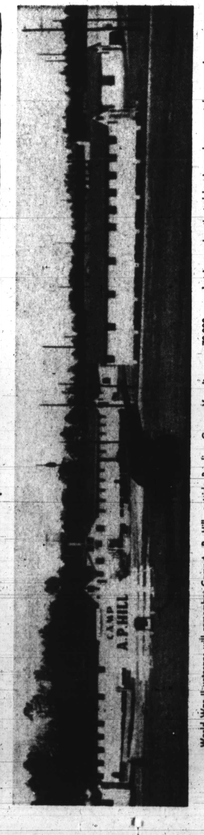
Mr. and Mrs. Dobbs saw to it that all six of their daughters were given the same music and educational advantages.

"Irene, our oldest daughter, and

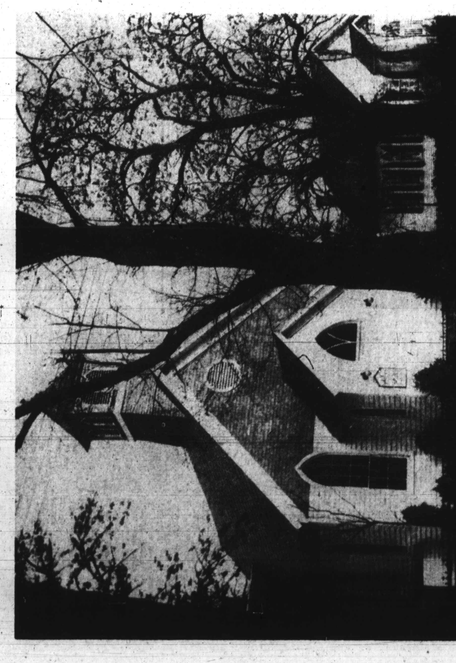
(Continued on Page 7)

Her name is Mattiwilda and you will have to learn it. It's a combination of the first names of grandma Mattie and grandma Wilda.

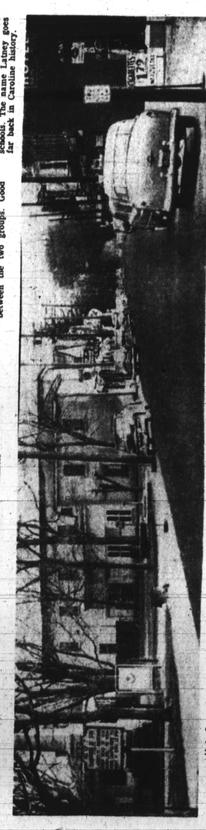
Highlights Of Bowling Green, Va.



World War II veterans will remember Camp A. P. Hill, outside Bowling Green, Va. It covers 70,000 acres but is now inactivated, leaving only a caretaker guard.



In Bowling Green on Route 301, main thoroughfare through the town, stand two churches, one colored, the other white. Left is Shiloh Baptist church, seat of the Caroline County Ministers and a cornerstone in the Montagon Association of more than 60 churches. The Rev. A. Wendell Chandler is pastor. At right is the white Shiloh, is a white church.



Main Street in Bowling Green means Routes 2 and 301. At left is a memorial stone, noting where the Revolutionary Army under Lafayette camped on April 29, 1781.

Caroline County, Virginia, with its county seat, is Bowling Green, on Route U. S. Route 301 would offer a perfect setting for a sociological study of what ails America.

Here is a county populated by 7,500 colored citizens and 7,000 whites.

In addition, the land of the county is owned about evenly between the two groups. Good farmers, and land, and rich farmlands belong to both groups. Tax returns in the county show that colored farmers by at least on land valuation, are the equal of the white. Political subdivision of Virginia are supported by both.

Yet, these facts exist:

The board of supervisors, elected by the people in free elections, contains none but whites. An estimate of the vote, based on the last election, is a poll tax system, is 1 Negro with colored voters in the minority.

The school board has only white members. Governor Byrd's organization appoints the board and the board in turn appoints the school board.

There is strong feeling among residents that citizens of color should be organized on the school board.

This is evident in the forceful appeal by colored citizens which led to the building of the Bowling Green high school, near Bowling Green.

This brick structure of seven classrooms was built at a cost of $300,000 and was opened for use in February 1952. Before that time the school had operated on buildings dating back to the building of the old Bowling Green Academy by L. L. Davis back in 1902.

Had the new school been built in a white community, it would have been asked by colored citizens and repatedly by the school board, to be made a county-wide school. Yes, as many more children, too, as many have been built for the same price.

Politically there are no colored sheriffs and no magistrates.

But occupationally there are three certified plumbers and as many more in the county of Lafayette, a Hampton graduate, Oliver Slowkowski first heard this great contralto sing.

Miss Dobbs is on a concert