24 Individuals Named To 1953 AFRO Honor Roll

Mother Gets Wrong Baby

"We are Americans, and as Americans, we speak to America." —FREDERICK DOUGLASS

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By JIMMY WILLIAMS

The hum of conversation fades as Magistrate E. Everett Lane takes a seat behind the long wooden desk in Northwestern police court.

This is Wednesday, Feb. 3, 1954. Court is now in session.

You take your seat near the clerk and watch as the curtain goes up on a drama that is repeated seven days a week in this busy courtroom.

To Northwestern come people in trouble. Their stories range from the tragic to the humorous. Their occupations range from the practice of medicine, the preaching of the Gospel, to back breaking menial work.

Class Is Forgotten

But in this courtroom class is forgotten. A teacher sits next to a thief, women wearing fur coats brush elbows with men in dirty overalls.

This is part of life in Baltimore. At times it may appear sordid or amusing. But it is always real, without sham or pretense.

The cast changes from day to day, but the plot remains the same. The drunks, the domestic arguments, the petty thefts, the dope addicts, the fights caused by too much whiskey and silly quarrels.

The first defendant to appear before Magistrate Lane is Walter A. Murray, 40, of the 1600 block McCulloh st. He was arrested Tuesday night on a disorderly conduct charge.

His clothes are those of a working man. He appears confused and ill at ease as he stands to the right of the desk facing the magistrate.

Landlady Complains

To the left stands Mrs. Mattie Jones, also of the McCulloh st. address.

The story she tells is simple.

Mr. Murray occupies a room in her apartment. On Tuesday night he had too much to drink and when he entered the apartment he began cursing in a loud voice, Mrs. Jones says.

Mrs. Jones tells Magistrate Lane that when Mr. Murray refused to stop, she had him arrested.

The defendant readily admits that the charges might be true, and adds the explanation that he had been drinking and was a bit hazy about what actually happened.

An Old Story

This is an old story to Magistrate Lane. He has heard it hundreds of times. From men who stammered and from men who talked with a glib tongue. By now he has lost all patience with the excuse.

"Fifteen dollars and costs and I advise you to move," he tells the defendant.

A young woman, scarcely out of her teens, enters the courtroom with a baby in her arms. All of the seats are filled but a stocky man gets up and gives her a seat. The air in the courtroom is growing stale.

The clerk reads the name, "Robert H. Brown, charged with larceny." You see an officer lead a well dressed young man to the dask. Another well dressed man gets up from his seat and also walks to the desk.

His face is familiar. You start thumbing back through your memory and finally you recognize this man.

Coach At Morgan

Alvin "Boo" Brown, assistant football coach at Morgan State college, man about town, and one of this city's rising young figures.

Here is a story of brother against brother. It's not a pretty story and as "Boo" Brown tells it you can easily sense the deep

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2 Witnesses In Bribery Case Uncalled

Court Upholds Police Bar Search

Mother gets right baby at hospital after 12-day error

Mixup occurs after boys with same name are born; everything all right now

Mrs. Gertrude Williams has gone home from City Hospitals with two babies within the past two weeks, believing each time that she carried her own newborn son. On the first occasion, she was wrong.

(See other photo Page 28)

Today, she is fully satisfied that the baby she took home Wednesday afternoon is the four-pound, five-ounce son born to her at the hospital at 8:03 p.m. on Jan. 16.

But on Jan. 22, she had taken home a baby born to another woman. For twelve days she showered her motherly care and attention on this baby, but on Feb. 2, the hospital notified her that a mistake had been made and took back the baby to give him to his rightful mother.

Mrs. Williams, her husband, Roger and their two other children live in a second-floor rear apartment at 851 W. Fayette st. The family includes 12-year-old Laura and Roger Jr. who will mark his first birthday on Feb. 14.

Mix-Up In Parents

Dr. Thomas Holcomb of the hospital staff explained to the distressed mother, Wednesday, that the mistake was a mix-up in parents named Williams, rather than a mix-up in babies.

At no time were the two infants placed in the same nursery.

The other baby, an eight-pounder, had been born to Mrs. Lula Williams of 421 S. Paca st. His birth occurred in an ambulance while his mother was en route to the hospital. He therefore was not placed in the nursery with babies born inside the hospital.

He was kept for further treatment when his mother was released from the hospital.

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IN BABY MIX-UP CASE— Mrs. Gertrude Williams leaves Baltimore City Hospitals with her newborn son, Jerry Tyrone. Two weeks previously, the hospital called her by mistake and gave her a baby born to Mrs. Lula Williams. Both women had been discharged, leaving their infants at the hospital for further treatment.

Lawyer's suit dismissed by Judge Smith

25G suit against 'frisking' in bars will be appealed

Chief Judge W. Conwell Smith, in Superior Court, this week, found nothing wrong when patrons of the Club Tijuana were "frisked" by Northwest police officers last spring.

Dismissing the $25,000 civil suit in which one of the patrons filed damage charges against the police sergeant, conducting the raid, the judge justified the search by saying:

"The officers believed they were acting within the limits of their authority and in accordance with the instructions of their superior.

"The court can see no reason why people should object to cooperate with the police in the prevention of violent crime, even though that requires a resignation of personal dignity."

To Appeal Case

W. A. C. Hughes, counsel for the plaintiff, David Mason, attorney, says he will appeal the case.

Mr. Mason was accused by the defense counsel, Robert D. Bartlett, of carrying a chip on his shoulder in regards to law enforcement.

"The frisking was done to break up the crime wave," the attorney explained. "He (Mr. Mason) had no concern of helping the law."

The $75,000 night club was raided Feb. 15, 1953 when four uniformed policemen barged into the place without a warrant at 1:30 a.m. and frisked the male patrons.

Conducted Raid

Conducting the raid was Sgt. Charles Wrightson, defendant in the case.

Due to the sudden outburst of serious crimes throughout the city, Police Commissioner Beverly Ober had instructed police to search the taverns seeking persons carrying deadly weapons.

According to Sgt. Wrightson, the raid on the club, which at

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Mr. DAVID MASON

Coffee is appetizing conversation

By RUTH JENKINS

Despite the Jimmy Roosevelt indiscretions, new Senate appropriations to McCarthy and the Big Four conference in Berlin, the subject on everybody's lips these days is the rising price of coffee.

They can afford to let coffee get just that close to their lips.

One price - protesting addict is refusing to drink any coffee, even when offered to him free.

As a matter of fact, he has a half pound which he is allowing to go stale in its can. Says he'll throw it out eventually, just to show his independence.

On the other hand, there's the confirmed coffee drinker who says he'll stick to coffee, no matter what the cost. He's a member of Alcoholics Anonymous.

A Federal Case

It's actually become a federal case.

In Washington, the Senate agriculture committee has approved a bill to put the New York coffee exchange under federal regulation.

This has the approval of President Eisenhower who admits to being one of the country's greatest coffee drinkers.

The proposed legislation grew out of rising demands for action against price jumps to more than $1 per pound in many stores and 15 cents a cup in some restaurants.

Reason for the price increase is not quite clear. Some authorities blame it on speculation in the coffee trade. Some say there's a need for more coffee production.

Brazil Production

Brazil produces about half of the world's supply. But the Hit

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24 persons on Honor Roll

Fire Bd., Guard officers top list

(See Pages 4, 15)

The Baltimore AFRO-AMERICAN's 1953 Honor Roll is named this week.

Ten individuals or groups are named to this distinguished list for doing something during the past year which reflected credit on either Baltimore City or the State of Maryland.

The 1953 Honor Roll consists of a total of 24 persons, among them some lawyers, a minister, a recent high school coed, some Korean veterans, a social welfare worker and a construction worker.

Fire Commissioners

Among the groups honored were the Board of Fire Commissioners which began hiring colored firemen last year, making a first for Baltimore.

Also honored were the 13 Na-

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1953 Honor Roll

1. Board of Fire Commissioners
2. 13 National Guard Officers.
3. Alderman Roscoe Parker
4. Alderman T. Norwood Brown
5. Mrs. Mae Gellman
6. Miss Mamie Livingston
7. Patrolman Dave Hubbard
8. Mr. Harry Cole
9. The Rev. H. Octavius Graham
10. Mr. Harry Gardner

Full co-operation asked for survey

A special appeal is being made for public co-operation with the workers who will begin interviews this week end in Baltimore's self survey on human relations.

The appeal came from Dr. Herman M. Long of the American Missionary Association at Fisk university, director of the local study.

Interracial teams of volunteer workers are seeking facts important to problems of the community, particularly those of minority groups.

Information Confidential

Urging full co-operation of the persons being interviewed, Dr. Long emphasized that all of the data will be kept strictly confidential. It will be used only for analyzation of the community problems with a view to suggested improvements.

Some 350 interviewers are making the study of conditions involving family living, employment, housing, education, recreation, public accommodations and interfaith relations. All families, firms and agencies interviewed will become anonymous when the findings are tabulated.

The study is under sponsorship of the Maryland Commission on Interracial Relations and the Baltimore Commission on Human Relations, with the cooperation of 66 prominent local organizations.

First rights case started

Resumes Monday in Federal Court

By SHIRLEY KYLE

Maryland's first civil rights prosecution case will be decided Monday by a 12-man federal court jury, two of whom are colored.

The case, which began Thursday before Judge W. Calvin Chesnut, involves a former white Annapolis policeman accused of illegally beating a colored resident.

Though testimonies of the state and defense witnesses had ended by 3 p.m. Judge Chesnut ordered that the case be continued to allow sufficient time for argument of the facts from both sides and a careful explanation of the law involved.

In effect, the law holds that any citizen who deprives another of his constitutional rights because of race or color, shall be sentenced to one year in prison or fined $1,000 or both.

Persons Of Authority

George C. Doub, U.S. Attorney, pointed out that this law applies only to persons of official authority and not to lynching parties.

The case grew out of the arrest of Elmo Roberts, 29, 43 Paca st., Annapolis, who accused Patrolman Henry W. Trott, of beating and kicking him while he was under custody

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Two Witnesses Uncalled

Two of the principal witnesses in the bribery case against Motorcycle Patrolman George Glick were not summoned to appear before the grand jury which this week failed to return an indictment.

Charges against the 34-year-old officer were dismissed Thursday.

The witnesses who were not called were Roland Graham, the 23-year-old veteran who testified in police court that he gave the officer $10 on Jan. 20 and Buddy Lonesome, AFRO reporter.

Was With Graham

According to testimony given at the police court hearing, Mr. Lonesome was with Mr. Graham when the alleged payment was made to avoid a fine for a traffic ticket.

The only witnesses summoned to appear before the grand jury were Capt. L. Gould Rollins, Lt. James Boyle and Sgt. Charles Klemmick, all of the Traffic Division.

Capt. Rollins is Officer Glick's superior, and Lt. Boyle and Sgt. Klemmick arrested Glick the night the alleged bribe was paid.

The fact that neither Mr. Graham nor Mr. Lonesome appeared before the grand jury has been brought to the attention of State's Attorney Anselm Sodaro.

As a result, it was learned late Thursday that the state's attorney's office is investigating the matter.

COMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY 7

Iota Lambda sorority's Negro History Week celebration, Mrs. Sanona Nixon, guest speaker, YWCA, 3 p.m.

Baltimore Youth Guild Musical Preview of Calvary, First Baptist church, Caroline and McElderry sts., 4 p.m.

Union Baptist church choir concert at Ames Methodist church, 5 p.m.

Colored Blind Association musical concert, Trinity Baptist church, Druid Hill and McMechen, 6:30 p.m.

FEBRUARY 9

Master Beautician's Association, regular meeting, Beauticians Center, 1522 Madison ave., 8 p.m.

FEBRUARY 10

J. A. Rogers, historian and newspaper columnist, addresses Morgan College assembly program, Hurt Gymnasium, 10 a.m.

FEBRUARY 11

Wilson Park Association meeting, School 155, Lawson Veney guest speaker, 8 p.m.

FEBRUARY 13

Radio interview, Matthew Henson, North Pole explorer, with Herbert Frisby and Douglass High student, WFBR, 8:05 to 8:30 p.m.

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Predict crowded school conditions to get worse

Despite the conversion of School No. 137 and the addition of Western, overcrowding in junior and senior high schools in northwest Baltimore will become progressively worse, the school board was told, Thursday.

Nor will the situation be altered if the Supreme Court rules against segregation and Baltimore public schools become integrated.

The situation, according to Miss Clara E. Grether of the research department, is the result of an accelerated birth rate which has more than doubled junior high school population since 1929.

Will Reach 10,012

The net roll, she said, was 2,358 in 1929; 4,965 in 1954, and calculating from the number of children already born will reach 10,012 by 1964.

At present the school capacity for junior high pupils is 5,601.

This includes provisions for 2,175 in the Booker T. Washington School No. 130; 357 in School No. 130A; 824 in School No. 137; 210 in School No. 137A and 2,035 in Douglass High school, No. 450 including the space in Western high school where these pupils will go this year.

No Simple Problem

This space will be decreased if, as is now being considered, Schools Nos. 137 and 137A are reconverted to elementary use.

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Feb. '34 DHS grads planning reunion meeting Feb. 10

Members of the February 1934 graduating class of Douglass High school are urged to attend a reunion planning meeting, Feb. 10.

The meeting will be held at 8 p.m. at Pratt Library Branch No. 17, North and Pennsylvania aves., to decide on a suitable celebration.

Class members who cannot attend the meeting are urged to call or write and give their present addresses to: Mrs. Louise Kerr Hines, 2106 Whittier ave., (LA. 3-5256); or Mrs. Melvina Thornton Jackson 1639 Monroe st. (Ma. 3-7120).

4 military-post schools weigh ban on segregation

(See Editorial On Page 4)

Four counties in Maryland may be affected by the Defense Department's order to end segregation in schools on military posts by September, 1955.

Such schools are operated in Prince Georges, St. Marys, Anne Arundel and Charles counties.

While the military - post school situation varies in each county, the school superintendent of each is under the impression that Maryland law requires segregated schools.

But this impression was declared "without legal foundation" by the NAACP which sent a wire this week to Charles E. Wilson, U. S. secretary of defense, strongly urging enforcement of the non - segregation order.

Student Bodies Mixed

The NAACP wire pointed out that students of both races are attending the University of Maryland, the Polytechnic high school and the Edison - Mergenthaler evening vocational school in Baltimore.

Similar telegrams were sent to Dr. John Hannah, assistant secretary of defense; and to Mrs. Oveta Culp Hobby, secre-

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28-Page HISTORY WEEK SECTION Inside

Weather

Cloudy, moderate temperature Friday, Saturday and Sunday

A 2-W week end: WINTER WANES

953 DAYS

since charges were filed and sustained against the Superintendent of

Boys' Village

The January, 1952, grand jury recommended that no State employee should be named to the Board of a State Institution.