Ex-caterer gets 5-year probation

"It was nothing to it.

"She came home about quarter after three . . . I put her in the bed and held her until she went to sleep.

"Then I got out the wrench and wrapped a towel around my arm to keep the blood from splashing. I hit her about 15 times in the head.

"Then I washed myself up, and changed shirts. I dressed and went out and got a cab and came to Dolphin and Pennsylvania Ave. to a drug store . . .

"Then I went to Northwestern Police station and gave myself up. . . ."

This was the statement Roland Thorpe (Pickles) Bowers, 33 formerly of 2201 N. Ellamont St. gave to police on Dec. 3 after he took them to his home where his 28-year-old wife Alice was lying in a "pool of blood."

* * *

MR. BOWERS, a member of a prominent Baltimore family and former caterer, pleaded guilty to assault but not guilty to assault with intent to kill, Criminal Court Judge Joseph Carter on Wednesday gave him a 5-year suspended sentence on the assault charge provided he refrains from using alcohol in any form and that he gets psychiatric treatment under the probation department.

He will live with his sister, Miss Anne Bowers, principal of School No. 138.

* * *

HIS YOUNG attractive wife, declined to prosecute her husband, and told Judge Carter "I just want him to leave me alone." She stayed in Lutheran Hospital one week after the hearing in Northwestern Police Court in December. Mrs. Bowers declared: "I don't know what made him do it. He has been upset ever since he lost his job."

For 19 years Mr. Bowers was connected with the Hughes Catering Co. which recently went out of business.

On Dec. 19, 1955 Mr. Bowers was committed to Crownsville State Hospital subject to the further order of the court.

* * *

IN CRIMINAL Court, Wednesday, Dr. Manfred S. Guttmacher, Supreme Bench psychiatrist, revealed that Mr. Bowers attempted suicide in October by jumping off the North Avenue bridge.

Dr. Guttmacher's report stated that Mr. Bowers was visiting at the home of his mother, Mrs. Grace Bowers, 73, in March 1954 and saw his mother fall to her death.

Mr. Bowers was sitting on the second floor porch and the rail gave way. "He (Mr. Bowers) heard the noise and looked out and saw his mother in a pool of blood."

Mr. Bowers died an hour later. The report states he was very close to his mother and depended on her.

* * *

MR. BOWERS' other sisters and brothers-in-law summoned as witnesses were:—

Mrs. Olga Parker, physical education teacher at School No. 130 and her husband, Harry, principal, Cherry Hill Elementary School; of 1527 N. Payson St.;

Mrs. Edna Mae Williams, English teacher, School No. 130 and her husband, Leon, counselor at School No. 181 of 1800 Pressman St.

And a brother, Edward Bowers, 207 Dolphin St., a waiter.

The wife, Mrs. Alice Bowers gave her present address as 2133 W. North Ave.

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VISITOR AND NIECE—After services at Mt. Moriah Baptist Church, Mrs. Adella Montague from Greedmoor, N.C., stops to rest a bit on a bench in the 900 block S. Fremont Ave. Standing near her is her niece, Mrs. Lidia Pearson, a housewife, 1701½ E. Lafayette Ave.

Here's what the Md. Appeals Court said when it upset death verdict

A Baltimore County Circuit Court committed a miscarriage of justice when it admitted into evidence a confession obtained under force.

For that reason, the Maryland Court of Appeals on Friday reversed the rape conviction of Roland Jackson, and thus saved him from the gas chamber.

He had been confined to the death house at the Maryland Penitentiary since his conviction. Judges Michael Paul Smith and Stewart O. Day, sitting as a jury, sentenced him to death.

The Court's ruling means that Jackson must be granted a new trial.

He is charged with criminal assault upon a 12-year-old white girl on June 4, 1955.

* * *

JUDGE WILLIAM L. HENDERSON wrote the opinion for a unanimous court. The Court, in reversing the conviction, said:

"It is well settled that in Maryland the burden of establishing the voluntary character of a confession rests upon the State. The State must show 'that no force or coercion was exercised by the officers obtaining the confession, to cause the accused to confess.'

"A threat of corporal violence is the most dreaded and an indictment that excludes the confession.'

"In the instant case the testimony produced by the State showed that after his arrest, the prisoner was subjected to the physical indignity of being stripped of all his clothing at a time when it was quite unnecessary to do so for the purposes of analysis.

"He was beaten by Officer Baetz until his nose bled, and hit over the head with a blackjack. Later, at the police station, an officer hit his head against the wall and trod on his toes. The State did not call the officers to deny these charges.

"The testimony produced by the State further showed that Officer Baetz, who was specifically charged with beating the prisoner, was present when he confessed two days later. In fact, the written confession was witnessed by Officer Baetz.

"SERGEANT BOSLEY, who wrote down the confession, admitted hearing something about a blackjack. We think the inference is clear that the prisoner was influenced to some extent by the violence, which the state virtually concedes, or a reasonable fear of its repetition.

"The State contends, however, that the inference was rebutted by the statements of the prisoner made about an hour and a half later in the presence of the State's Attorney, and by the testimony of the court stenographer that the prisoner was composed at the time. We do not agree. . . .

"The explanation of the prisoner's composure may reasonable be that, having made the confession, he did not anticipate further maltreatment.

"In the instant case the doubt must be resolved in favor of the accused. It was not incumbent upon him to take the stand in order to repudiate his subsequently admission to the State's Attorney. The confession offered in evidence was the one that had been witnessed by Sergant Bosley and Officer Baetz.

"The testimony of time between the violence and the confession we think it was error to admit it.

* * *

"THE STATE contends, however, that there was no reversible error, because there was other evidence in the case to sustain the verdict. That might have been an excellent reason for not offering a confession tainted by unrebutted charges of police violence. We do not agree that the error was harmless.

"The confession strongly corroborated the State's case which rested largely upon circumstantial evidence and identification by a young child.

"The Supreme Court of the United States has held that the admission of coerced confessions may amount to a lack of due process, even in trials in the State courts, where more latitude is accorded to procedure than in the Federal Courts.

"We do not reach the constitutional question, because we think there was reversible error under the Maryland law."

Announcing . . .

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Bridegroom freed; killed in 'self defense'

Frank Doles, a 34-year-old bridegroom of eight months, killed his brother-in-law in self defense, Judge E. Paul Mason ruled in Criminal Court Thursday.

Dead is Ashby Hackett of Newark, N.J. who came to visit his sister, Mrs. Ann Doles at her home, 2609 Reisterstown Rd. on Feb. 4.

He was pronounced dead that night from a stab wound of the chest that "tipped the bottom of his heart."

* * *

MR. DOLES testified:

"I do not drink at all.

"On Feb. 4 I came home from work and this little party was going on in my bedroom. They had their little drinks and everybody was happy.

"They were all getting ready to go to a party. I was not going.

"At first I told my wife (Ann) she could go.

"Then I looked at her and said no.

"Seems my brother-in-law was unhappy about this.

"He said, 'that's my sister.'

"I said, 'I don't care . . . that's my wife.'

"I walked away from him. I stood in the kitchen doorway and he came to me and used abusive language.

"He grabbed me in the collar and I pushed him away.

"The third time I pushed him away he grabbed a knife off of the sink. I wrestled it away from him. Then he lunged into the knife. I ran.

"This was the second time I had seen my brother-in-law. We were just like brothers-in-law should be."

Doles was represented by Joseph Rosenthal, attorney. J. Robert Brown, assistant state's attorney prosecuted.

Bandit in female garb seen again

"I don't know if he was sex nut or not."

In exasperation, Mrs. Dorothy Diggs, of the 2100 block of Longwood St., was describing a male thief dressed like a woman who snatched her purse containing $21 Easter Sunday night and boldly returned to her neighborhood again Tuesday. He is still at large.

She related that when she spotted the impersonator-purse snatcher Tuesday night she summoned three teenage boys for help.

* * *

THE THIEF was garbed in a woman's skirt, a kelly green coat and was wearing a kerchief, according to Mrs. Diggs.

He wore similar clothing when he snatched Mrs. Digg's purse when she was parkingher car Sunday, she said.

"When one of the boys (chasing the thief Tuesday) grabbed that thing off his head," continued Mrs. Diggs, "he said, 'this is a man.' He had a heavy voice."

'I didn't compliment the deed,' says judge

"It just hurts me because you complimented these people. They both did me wrong."

"I didn't compliment the deed. I said they were both intelligent and cooperative witnesses."

This conversation transpired between Mrs. Garvie H. Willis, 1300 block of N. Carey St., and Magistrate Linwood Korger in Northwestern District Police Court Thursday morning, following an assault charge brought against Mrs. Willis's husband by "the other woman."

Garvie H. Willis, 39 years old, was arrested early Thursday and appeared in court on charges of carrying a concealed weapon, assault and disturbing the peace.

The latter two charges were lodged against him by Mrs. Pauline Dorsey, 1800 block of N. Fulton Ave., who testified that "he said he was planning to marry me."

Mrs. Dorsey related that Mr. Willis "slammed" her against the wall and cut up her furniture after she failed to keep a date.

Magistrate Koger fined Mr. Willis $50 and costs for assault, $25 and costs for disturbing the peace and suspended a $25 fine or carrying a concealed weapon.

"Just as I got in he jumped up and asked what was I putting down, and I asked what was he putting down being in my house," Mrs. Dorsey said, after relating she was supposed to meet him there at 8 p.m. but did not arrive home until after 11 o'clock.

'They should set example'

"The teenagers were shooting craps in the 2000 block Edmondson Ave., all last summer and it looks like they will be at it again this summer."

Exposing three dice, Officer Fred Luthardt, of the Northwestern District pointed an accusing finger at three youths standing beside him in the police court, Wednesday.

* * *

"IT SEEMS to me they would spend their time trying to set good examples for the young kids in the neighborhood, instead of doing something like this," he declared.

Convicted of disorderly conduct were Donald Brown, 16, 2200 block W. Lafayette; Braxton Jones, 20, 1900 block Harlem and Thomas Johnson, 17, 1200 block Parrish.

Each was fined $15 and costs by Magistrate Linwood Koger.

Robert Ward jailed

"I didn't put my hands on either one of those kids."

Robert Ward, 30, of the 700 block of Poplar Grove St., was testifying in his own defense at Northwestern District Police Court Thursday morning.

He appeared before Magistrate Linwood Koger on charges of ro'sesting two girls, ages 4 and 9 years, respectively.

Magistrate Koger sentenced Mr. Ward to 30 days in City Jail on each charge, but ordered the terms to run consecutively.

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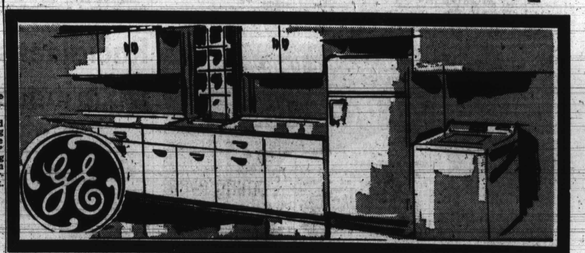

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AFRO Features, Political Columns, Coming Events

— POLITICS —

Republican Viewpoint

By HARRY A. COLE

I suppose that each one of us is becoming more conscious of the fact that a contest is about to take place. I hope that each of us is trying to make up his mind as to how he shall vote.

The first step in determining the course to follow is to realize that this a primary election. In Maryland, primaries are conducted within the party; that is to say, that only persons affiliated with a political party can participate. Thus, these persons who are registered as Independents can not vote at all. Fortunately this number is less than one percent of the vote.

Republicans can vote only for Republican candidates, and Democrats can vote only for Democrats.

The newspapers have been talking about presidential preferential primaries. Actually, these contests do two things: one, they determine the popularity of the presidential aspirants and two, they determine which candidate will have pledged to him the various delegates to the party national conventions where the presidential candidates of the various parties are nominated.

IN MARYLAND, there shall be a primary contest for the United States Senate in both parties. Senator Butler will have very little competition in winning the Republican nomination. Among the Democrats former Senator Millard Tydings is the chief opponent of George P. Mahoney.

Now while I can not in good conscience endorse either one of these men for election, each and every one of us who happens to be a Democrat should not vote for Mr. Tydings. Anyone who would persuade you to do so is misleading the people.

Senator Tydings has had previous legislative experience which he might be judged. He has been consistently against integration of the armed forces, FEPC, and has resisted the efforts of Congress to pass legislation which would protect the servicemen from violence perpetrated in the South.

He has just reached the point in social thinking that it is okay to give minority groups equal facilities in education.

Now we all we know that the Supreme Court has gone way beyond that theory in its recent decision. We have enough reactionaries in Congress without sending another over there. We must be alert to concentiously protect the little progress that is made in the field of civil rights.

THERE WILL also be elections in the seven congressional districts of the State to nominate the party standard bearers for election to the House of Representatives. We shall discuss this more in detail in the coming weeks.

One of the most important things which I can mention here is the fact that we in Baltimore City have been most fortunate in having Governors who appoint first class men to the Supreme Bench of Baltimore. The Supreme Bench is the highest court in Baltimore City.

Those men are appointed by the Governor and must be elected for fifteen years in the next general election.

This is the most import aspect of this primary election. For, different from the other candidates, these judges do not open a campaign for election. Others must campaign for them.

When appointed they must sever themselves from all previous connections with the practice of law or their various business and political ties.

The reason the primary is important to them is that this is where they are really elected. It makes no difference whether you are Republican or Democrat, you can still vote for these three.

They run on both tickets and those who get the most votes in each party are nominated. If each get the most votes on each ticket then of course, they have been successful. I shall discuss the qualifications of these men at a later date.

Democratic Viewpoint

By LLOYAL RANDOLPH

Supporters of Millard E. Tydings' campaign for the Democratic nomination as candidate for the U.S. Senate point out that his 24 years of service in the Senate would entitle him to influential posts on two important committees.

One of these is the Armed Services Committee, through which must pass all legislation pertaining to the Department of Defense and the various armed services.

During his tenure in the Senate Mr. Tydings served as a member of the Armed Services Committee and was one of the members who sponsored legislation which would have made Federal offenses of attacks upon servicemen in uniform.

The views expressed by Mr. Tydings as late as two weeks ago give an insight into the thinking behind his opposition to a measure which would have been an effective deterrent to the abuses to which colored servicemen were subjected in many southern states.

* * *

IN ADDITION, his consistent opposition to all type of social legislation which would have benefited the masses of citizens to be looked back upon with some concern.

The same type of opposition from a man who would hold a commanding position in the U.S. Senate is something which the people of Maryland can ill afford at this time.

* * *

SINCE SATURDAY, April 7, is the last day for registration before the books are closed for the primary, it is absolutely necessary for all who wish to participate in the primary to register if they have not already done so.

Those who have put off registering to this last minute should be warned that they must register at the office of the Supervisor of elections at the People's Court Buildings, Gay and Fayette Sts.

Since the office is open only from 9 a.m. to noon on Saturdays, you must be there before noon if you wish to participate in the primary.

Commendation is due to the loyal supporters of a Fair Employment Practice ordinance for the City of Baltimore. As a result of their efforts, the FEP measure has been advanced to a place where it may be passed at the next session of the City Council.

Although the bill lacks enforcement powers and penalties, the city will have been placed on record as favoring legislative support to equality of job opportunity without regard to color or creed.

Whether or not a bill of this type can be as effective as one with enforcement powers is yet to be determined.

That determination will depend in a large measure upon just how vigorously the people of Baltimore support the Baltimore Equal Opportunities Commission and its program following final enactment of the ordinance.

Another Democratic Viewpoint

By ROBERT WATTS

Millard Tydings really started a mild campaign against himself when he stated at the meeting of the League of Women Voters his thoughts with respect to integration.

It is difficult to understand why he would make such a statement.

It is quite clear how the man feels, for his record clearly indicates a racist point of view.

The League is made up of some of the finest women in the State and their views on race accord with those of the decent thinking people of our community.

I understand the man was told, that such a question would be put to him so that his reply was well thought out before he made it.

* * *

TYDINGS when senator, voted against integration of the armed forces, the anti-poll tax bill etc. He stands unquestionably as a man still fostering the Old Plessy vs. Ferguson doctrine of Separate but Equal.

I for one don't want a man representing me in Washington who in these days and changing times thinks we are better off by ourselves.

A U.S. Senator has nothing to do with the integration of the schools and he would have been smart to have said just that.

WHAT IS equally amazing is the fact the man cites Harford County as an example of how separate but equal will work when its handled properly.

He wants you to believe that because the colored schools are in excellent condition and the teachers get the same salary as the whites, that everyone is happy there.

I have been in many of the counties consulting with the schools, boards, and leaders as to integration of the schools.

Outside of Mongomery County we of the NAACP have had more queries on this subject from Harford County than any other.

* * *

AS A MATTER of fact, a week or so before Tydings made his talk, a suit (the first in the State incidentally) filed to integrate the county schools had been instituted. The Harford County Board had agreed to integrate in September 1956.

A uniformed fan is made be if he doesn't know what is happening in his own County?

It indicated the man has absolutely no interest in our common problems.

* * *

LET ME caution you against a misleading paid political advertisement that appeared in the pages of this paper last week.

If you will read that ad carefully you will notice that he says it that he is in favor of equality for all men regardless of race, color or creed.

This I have heard Southern Senators say including Senator Eastland on TV.

The Separate but Equal boys believe (so they say) in equality . . . that is that your school (or church or job) be equal.

However, they also emphasize the separate.

One reading the article is given the impression the man is for integration—he has told the people of the State clearly and openly that he favors the separate but equal principle declared invalid in case after case in the last months.

Even such a bold, conspicuous article should not, and will not, be allowed to mislead the voters of this State.

OUT FOR A STROLL—South Baltimore was well represented in the Easter parade by Mrs. Rosa M. Damon, housewife, 1209 Briscoe St., and Miss Paula Davis, 149 W. Cross St., a seventh grade pupil at the Harvey Johnson Junior High School.

THE WINNING FAMILY—In the Easter Promenade, this family won first prize as the best dressed family. They are Mrs. Muriel Alexander, 2920 Round Rd., and her children, Wayne, 6, a kindergarten pupil at Cherry Hill Elementary School No. 159; Roger, 5, and Gail, 20 months. Father is Clarence Alexander. The boys' outfits were alike and featured sparkling white sport jacket with contrasting slacks and white shoes. They are members of Ames Memorial Methodist Church.

14 Civil Service jobs available

Fourteen Civil Service jobs are now available. Application may be obtained at the Post Office.

SHEETMETAL WORKER — For employment at U.S. Coast Guard Yard, Curtis Bay, Md. SALARY-$17.28 per diem.

SHEETMETAL HELPER $13.30 — Applications may be obtained at the Post Office or Curtis Bay.

INDUSTRIAL EQUIPMENT REPAIRER — $2.17 per hour.

LAUNDRY MARKER CLASSIFIER, SORTER—Starting salary, 95 cents per hour for employment at Fort Meade.

CABLE SPLICER — Apply Army Chemical Center.

DENTAL MECHANIC — Army Chemical Center.

CAGE CHECKER — $2.10 per hour. Army Cemical Center.

NURSING ASSISTANT — For employment in U.S. Public Service Hospitals SALARY $3,175 a year. Written examination required.

PHARMACY RESIDENT—For duty in Veterans Administration Centers in California and New York SALARY — $2.18 hour requirements—Bachelor's degree in Pharmacy.

ACCOUNTING CLERK — For employment in Washington and vicinity. SALARY — $4,415 a year. Requments—Written examination and one year's experience in general clerical work.

OFFICE APPLIANCE REPAIRMAN — For employment in various Federal agencies in Washington area. SALARY—$1.63 to $2.07 AN HOUR. QUALIFICATIONS — Applicants must have had from one to four years of experience in repairing, cleaning and adjusting various types of office machines and appliances.

Application forms for the above positions can be secured at the Board of Civil Service Examiners office, Post Office.

CHEMISTS, MATHEMATICIANS, METALLURGISTS, PHYSICISTS ELECTRONIC SCIENTISTS — $4,345 to $11,610 per year for employment in the Washington area.

SANDBLASTER — $14.46 per diem for employment at the U.S. Coast Guard Yard Curtis Bay.

INSPECTOR — NAVAL MATERIAL — $3.175 per year to $7,570 for employment throughout the country.

Looking for state work?

Applications for the following positions are now being taken by the Commissioner of Personnel's office at 31 Light St., Baltimoer.

Examinations for the first five jobs have been scheduled for Saturday, April 14 in Room-111 at Eastern High School, 33rd St. and Loch Raven Blvd.

CHARGE NURSE — $3,572 to $4,282; CHEMIST III $3,572 to $4,282; CUSTODIAL OFFICER I — $3,131 to $3,756; REGISTERED NURSE — $3,320 to $3,980; and SENIOR-STENOGRAPHER —$2,564 to $2,074 (general); $2,690 to $3,225 institutional scale.

STATE POLICE — $2,800 per annum to $3,150.

QUALIFICATIONS — Applicant must be a high school graduate or must have completed three years of high school work and have had one year of military service.

PHYSICAL QUALIFICATIONS Age 21, 5 feet 10 inches tall, weight in proportion to height, free from physical defects.

An applicant must also possess a Maryland motor vehicle operator's license, a resident of Maryland for at least six months prior to examination date, and no record of arrests.

The time and place of examination will be announced at a later date.

Other state jobs available include:

MATRON for employment in state institutions — $2,690-$3,225 a year.

MECHANICAL HANDYMAN—$2,690 - $3,225 a year.

MUSICAL THERAPIST $3,572 to $4,828 a year.

Applications for the following must be filed by April 21.

ASSISTANT STATE AUDITOR III — $4,769 — $5,719; Assistant State Auditor IV — $5,572-$5,282; Barracks Clerk; CHEMIST I-$5,021 - $6,021;

INSURANCE EXAMINER II —3,761 - $4,511; Junior Account Clerk — $2,312 - $2772; Junior Draftsman II — $2,816 - $3,376; Junior Engineering Aide II — $2,816 - $3,376.

JUNIOR STENOGRAPHER — $2,312 - $2,772; Junior Typist — $2,186 - $2,621; Laboratory Assistant — 2,12 - $2,772; Library Assistant — 2584- 3074;

OFFICE APPLIANCE OPERATOR—$2,690-$2,690; Office Boy—$1,934-$2,319; Senior Typist—$2,438 $2,923; Statistical Clerk — $2,564-$3,074; Training and Public Relations Officer—$4,769-$5,719;

COMPTROLLER — $5,968 to $7,156 per annum for employment at Morgan State College.

May also teach course in advance accounting at an additional salary of $800 to $1,000 per year. Merit system examination

Qualifications — High School graduate must have completed an accredited course in accounting of at least two years' duration, five years of full time accounting experience, two years of which shall have included supervision of a double entry accounting system, involving maintenance of a general ledger and preparation of required financial statements.

Coming events

APRIL 1-31

"Ethiopian Art, Old and New," is the title of an exhibition of documentary photographs now on display at the Baltimore Museum of Art.

APRIL 7

Football hopefuls have a chance to make the team, the Baltimore Colts that is, when the National League team holds a tryout at Clifton Park 2 p.m.

APRIL 8

Mrs. Lillie M. Jackson, president of the local NAACP and Dr. John H. Fischer, superintendent of schools will be the persons honored this morning at 10:30 a.m. by Kappa Alpha Psi. The place will be the Morgan Christian Center. This ends the meeting of the group's Eastern Provincial Council.

The appointments of pastors to churches in the Baltimore Conference of the AME Church will be announced tonight at Bethel AME Church, Lanvale and Druid Hill Ave. The time is 8 p.m.

APRIL 9

Back to school for the city's youngsters as the spring vacation ends.

APRIL 12

Eastside singers who desire to join a newly form group of community singers, are invited to attend a meeting at 8 p.m., in the Eastside Office Building 1118 E. Monument St.

Douglass Junior Senior High School PTA of Upper Marlboro, Md., presents Morgan State College, band in recital at 8:15 p.m. in the school auditorium.

APRIL 13

Folk songs are the nature of things tonight at 8:30 p.m. as balladeer Murray Phillips appears in concert. Place is the Baltimore Ethical Auditorium, 2217 W. North Ave.

APRIL 15

Annual tea of Provident Hospital Ladies Guild in Auditorium of Douglass Senior High School, Gwynns Falls Pky. and Pulaski St., from 4 to 7 p.m.

The parsonage Aid of Douglas Memorial Community Church presents the Baltimore Boys Choir Inc., in concert at Church, Lafayette and Madison Aves., at 5 p.m.

APRIL 19

Testimonial dinner for Dr. C. M. Lawrence, president of the Carrisbora Club at 7:30 pm., Metropolitan Methodist Church.

APRIL 27

Testimonial honoring Truly Hatchett 4 to 8 p.m. at Monumental Elks Auditorium, 4 to 8 p.m. 1528 Madison Ave.

MAY 5

For the first time the Morgan State College Choir and symphonic band will appear in a concert at the Lyric Theatre. Sponsored by the Alumni Association, the concert starts at 5 p.m.

MAY 11

Rogers and Hammerstein and other composers in the modern vein will be featured at 8:30 p.m. in the auditorium of Douglas High School, Gwynns Falls and Pulaski St., when the Bureau of Music presents its free spring concert.

* * *

$25 for news tips—Call us at our old number, MUlberry 5-3377 or our new numbers 396, MUlberry 5-3812 and MUlberry 5-3813. Just ask for the city desk and say, "I've got a news tip." If there is no answer at these numbers, call LAfayette 3-2811.

At Random

By JOSEPH A. SHEPHARD

Old Eph is a member of a vanishing breed, the junkmen who used to roam up and down the alleys and back streets with their chants of "Ragman," "Junkman," or the singsong "Old clothes, papers and bottles."

Usually their mode of travel was a horse-drawn cart, and the harness of their steeds was often covered with a glibbering array of bits of brass, copper or other shiny metal.

To the eyes of a small boy these bits of metal were always real gold or silver, and the sweybacked nags were spirited, champing warhorses or former racehorses just taking things easy in their old age.

It goes without saying that many of these small-boy beliefs were planted and kept alive by the name of the junk dealers themselves, to whom my father used to endow "an imagination and gift of hyperbole surpassed only by the gulle of a Yankee trader and the soul of a pirate."

It was a long time before I learned just what those words meant, but I felt that I was a lucky youngster, indeed on those few occasions when I could get out of sight of the house for long enough to hold the reins while any one of the dozens of junkmen moved slowly through our alley.

* * *

OLD EPH, as I called him, comes through our neighborhood now, and except for the many years which have passed might himself be one of those who once regaled all of the small boys of the block with their now completely fantastic, but then completely believable yarns.

I was washing the car the first time I saw Eph, and in true junkman tradition, he pulled up alongside to talk about the weather.

"Lovely day," he said on that occasion, "and I guess you're washing her up to get out on the road."

"Nope," I answered a bit at "washing her up because there won't be any peace and quiet in the house until I do."

"Guess people don't get out on the road just to drive any more, anyhow," Eph muttered between puffs on a pipe that looked like a fire hazard, "just ain't got time no more.

"Get out of town into beautiful country where they ought to go slow an' enjoy just looking at what God's put here. Instead, because their cars will do a hundred they have to drive at least sixty.

"They get someplace, sit down and squat a while and then come back faster than they went, just to get home in time to look at some fool show on television. People just don't make sense anymore."

* * *

I AGREED with Eph mentally, and as he drove on off down the alley I said a final goodbye to another half-held boyhood memory of junk dealers, somehow connected with pirates and high adventure.

For Eph is a philosopher and a conservative; one of those holdovers of a bygone day, shunned, balked and buffeted by a world that's moving too fast, filled with people "who just ain't got time—not even to get their junk together to sell."

Tax information service offered

In order that the taxpayers may have the best possible service by telephone, and to offer assistance to those taxpayers who are unable to use the telephone during the day because of business, tax information services by telephone will be extended from 8:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The service started Monday and will continue until Friday, April 13th.

TO AVAIL yourself of the service in BALTIMORE, call Plaza 2-0700; and ask for Tax Information Service.

As a reminder to taxpayers, only two days remain to file Federal Income tax returns.

A note to all renters, please spare the landlord

Please, all renters, spare the landlord's furnishings.

That's the message that came recently from Mrs. Trippe, 719 Poplar Grove St., after one look at a house he had rented to a couple and their two children in the 700 block Poplar Grove St.

"It was bad enough that they moved out owing me $70 in rent, but look what they did to my place," said Mr.Trippe with a wide gesture of his hand. Just look."

* * *

HIS TENANTS had departed overnight, taking with them the light fixtures, the bathroom plumbing fixtures, and several large patches of wallpaper which had been ripped from the wall.

They left behind several broken doors, a broken wall in which the wooden latin were showing, bushels of trash, and waste material on the floor of the kitchen and in the bathroom.

* * *

"LANDLORDS don't expect people to be perfect, but it would be nice if tenants would leave things like they find them, if they wouldn't try to take everything with them, and if they try to remember to treat other people like they want to be treated," said Mr. Trippe.

He added that the tenants had occupied the house for six months.

He also estimated that it would take several hundred dollars to correct the disorder left behind.

But he added with a plantive note:

"Maybe next time, this won't happen."

Mr. Trippe conducts a television and appliance business, owns four homes in the 700 block Poplar Grove St., and has been renting them for about

A LANDLORD'S NIGHTMARE—When Milton Trippe entered his six-room house in the 700 block Poplar Grove St., after his tenants moved out last week, this is what he found on the second floor. He said damaged wall was in perfect shape when he rented the house.

Man loses foot in elevator shaft

James Patterson, 43, 2526 Edmondson Ave., had his left foot amputated at Provident Hospital on Monday, after it had been caught in the freight elevator shaft of the apartment house where he worked as a fireman.

When Mr. Patterson was brought to the hospital, the foot was almost completely severed and beyond surgery. The apartment house is located on Eutaw St. near Druid Hill Ave.

Mr. Patterson is married to Minnie Patterson. They have no children. On Thursday, Mr. Patterson's condition at the hospital was listed as "fair."

Some lucky reader's picture is circled in each week's edition of the AFRO. That circled picture is worth $5 to the subject if he brings a copy of it to the AFRO office at 638 N. Eutaw St., before the next edition is printed. Read your AFRO, it pays.

PROUD GRANDPARENTS—Getting their first look at their new grandchild, Cheryl Ann Davis, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Vinson Jackson of 2025 Robb St., Mrs. Hattie Davis, left, and her mother, Mrs. Margaret Henson marvel over the healthy condition of the 5-pound-9-ounce infant. Officers Walter C. Padrawski and Preston Tull of the Northeastern District assisted with the delivery of Cheryl on Monday when an ambulance was late arriving.