—Gerrymander 4th

(Continued from Page 1)

majority to 60 per cent.

• • •

THIS MEANS the colored vote majority will gain just one per cent, though the district will be enlarged physically to cover several thousand new voters.

Plan X as submitted to the City Council a couple of weeks ago, was drawn by a special commission appointed by Mayor Philip H. Goodman.

The commission was headed by Dr. George Bard, president, Baltimore Junior College, and Councilman George W. Arthur (3rd D.), and had among its members Dr. G. James Fleming, political science professor, Morgan State College.

Plan X had the approval of outgoing Mayor Goodman and incoming Mayor Theodore R. McKeldin.

THE DIXON - SOYPHER gerrymander of the Fourth District will be included in the Council approved redistricting plan to go on the November, 1964 city ballot, for voters to accept or reject.

Councilmen Dixon and Soypher insisted on a realignment of the proposed Fourth District boundaries, as provided by Plan X, to cut colored voters by 5,052 and in turn add 4,351 white voters.

Both councilmen, allied with the Pollack faction, did so in this major amendment:

Plan X would have included the Fifth District's Ward between Laurens and Baker Sts. North and Edmondson Ave. south, to Fremont Ave. west to Ellicott Driveway, as a part of the new Fourth District.

Councilmen Dixon and Soypher flatly rejected this area west of Whitmore Ave. to Ellicott Driveway, demanding that it remain in the Fifth District.

• • •

THIS REJECTED area contains 5,032 colored and 552 white voters in the 16th Ward's Precincts 7, 8, 9, 10, 15, 16 and 17.

Councilmen Dixon and Soypher demanded and got instead a Fifth District's sector of the 27th Ward in the Reisterstown Rd. - Park Heights Ave. - Green Spring Ave. area, as an enlargement of the Fourth District.

This area lies north of Garrison Blvd. and Dipont Ave. between Reisterstown Rd. and extends to Belvedere Ave.

It contains 150 colored and 4,551 white voters in the 27th Ward's Precincts 92, 93, 94, 98 and 99.

This predominately Jewish area has long been a Pollack faction stronghold in election after election.

Councilman Dixon actually wanted to extend the Fourth District's northern boundary further into this area to Rogers Ave., but this was rejected.

• • •

HE AND Councilman Soypher then insisted on a further amendment to Plan X's proposed Fourth District boundaries, as another safeguard to their Pollack faction's strength.

They demanded than an area now directly north of the existing Fourth District between Charles St. to the east and the Pennsylvania Railroad on the west, earmarked as an enlargement to their district, be returned to the Fifth District.

This is a sector where the Pollack faction has made no inroads of consequence.

This area south from Cold Spring La. contains 60 colored and 1,608 white voters in Precincts 78 and 85.

When asked by the AFRO why they insisted on these amendments to Plan X which are plainly a gerrymandering to protect the Pollack faction strength, these answers came from the two councilman:

"I am looking forward to a population expansion of my people in that area (the Belvedere Ave. sector) soon," said Mr. Dixon, "We lose on the lower end of the district, but we will pick up on the northern end."

• • •

SAID MR. SOYPHER: "Honestly, I just want to make sure I can get elected again in the Fourth District."

Thomas D'Alesandro 3rd, president of the City Council, had these comments to make on the revised Plan X which also included some minor amendments in the East Baltimore First, Second and Third Districts:

"If we don't pass it (redistricting ordinance) now, it's dead. Before I was elected, I pledged the people I would get a redistricting bill passed.

"Now, I've got to hold to the line."

Ironically again, it was some 20 years ago when the Fourth District's colored voters became strong enough to elect two colored city councilmen, that the district was gerrymandered to weaken their vote power.

This year, just when this district again is able to elect its first two colored councilmen since 1927, up pops gerrymandering again.

Henry G. Parks Jr., president of Parks Sausage Co. won election this year as the Fourth District's second colored councilman, in his initial bid for public office.

Mr. Parks, a product of Ohio State University and a highly esteemed business-

—BURHA at work

(Continued from Page 1)

such positions were open.

Whatever the reason, it still adds up to BURHA being as segregated at the top as any of the other agencies of government in this city and state.

• • •

Whether a few colored people get better jobs within an agency is important, but even more important is what happens to thousands of people caught in a trap of housing that deliberately or otherwise continues the ghetto patterns of old days when there was a definite rigid zone called the colored quarter."

As will be reported here, BURHA has not pushed as vigorously with the idea of open occupancy in public housing (its responsibility) as would be expected of a government agency using great sums of Federal moneies.

This is what is meant:

There are 14 public housing projects in Baltimore under BURHA control. Seven of them are populated strictly by colored tenants, four are integrated and three are completely white.

For these projects they are 8 white project managers and six colored although the occupancy rate is 26 percent white occupants against 74 percent colored.

• • •

THE THINKING within the public housing division of BURHA is still ante-bellum If this series harps on the idea of race it is as a reaction to the racial patterns set up by the housing agency during its existence.

Thus even today in public housing projects in Baltimore you have such situations as colored assistant project managers being assigned only to "colored" projects while whites may be assigned to either.

This is personnel mentality of an out-moded time. To make up for the restrictions placed on where colored assistant managers may work, BURHA covers its tracks by assigning colored management aides to white projects.

But even here racism creeps in. At one project the colored aide is not permitted to visit white families in the course of carrying out the responsibilities of the job.

Colored cashiers are not assigned to all-white projects because of the close contact with the white residents. White cashiers may be assigned to colored projects.

These things may sound like trifles but they are indicative of a larger sickness.

• • •

TO ITS credit, BURHA, then known as the Housing Authority, as Mr. Steiner recently pointed out "moved to desegregate public housing in Baltimore. The (Housing) Commission's action was formalized in a resolution which included 'the following:

"...the Authority is proceeding to revise its admission policies by eliminating the factor of race in the selection of eligible tenants."

This decision, the BURHA chief notes, was on June 25, 1954, some eight years before the "President's Executive Order on Equal Opportunity in Housing."

"One important effect of this policy in the years since," Mr. Steiner continued, "has been a steady increase, both absolutely and proportionately, in the number of public housing units occupied by colored families. Today there are three colored families in public housing accommodations in Baltimore for every one white family."

ALTHOUGH THE older housing projects are not integrated, Mr. Steiner is able now to report that BURHA's fundamental policy with respect to project tenant selection is one free of discrimination and open-occupancy. Race, color and creed are not factors in the processing of either applications or transfers.

Yet and still, public housing in Baltimore is still conceptualized on a segregated basis. This is not to say BURHA is to blame. When an all-colored neighborhood is torn down and a new public housing project erected where former slums stood, the people most likely to become project tenants were those displaced originally, or others of the same race.

What happens then is that the old ghetto becomes the new ghetto. For the planners at BURHA to dare place a public housing project in fresh territory out of the inner city would be a radical but perhaps healthy departure.

Psychologists write much these days of the mentally oppressive atmosphere of an all-colored community which has no traffic with the rest of the peoples of a city.

Whether the public housing project as BURHA, and before it, the Housing Authority, has designed it, is a good an idea as hoped for is doubtful. The public housing project as designed in Baltimore thus far has provided adequate shelter for people, mostly colored who could not afford it otherwise but the projects have not lifted their hopes.

James Baldwin, the writer, said of Harlem's public housing projects: "No colored person likes to live in a project. Colored people hate housing projects even while they live in them. People in projects spend much of their time dreaming of desperate ways to escape them."

They are like prisons.

(NEXT WEEK: BURHA'S NEW APPROACH TO PUBLIC HOUSING)

—Master masons

(Continued from page 1)

sionment unparralled in our history.

"Unless we can begin to get entrances jobs in all types of employment; available middle-income housing, good, comprehensive educational opportunities, we will be facing a situation which Dr. Conant called 'social dynamite' — but' which I would say assumes the proportions of a nuclear explosive potential."

Mr. Young made it clear that he was not saying that the militant civil rights groups are not needed, but it was his belieff that pushes are also needed in other directions.

The Conference of Grand Masters, Prince Hall Masons, opened its 44th Annual Session Thursday in the Masonic Hall, 1307 Eutaw Place.

Presiding was the president of the conference, Dr. Amos T. Hall, Grand Master of Oklahoma, assisted by Samuel T. Daniels, Grand Master of Maryland.

Over 200 Prince Hall Masons from 42 Jurisdictions were present. In addition to the Grand Masters, department meetings are held by past grand masters, grand secretaries, grand lecturers, chairman of foriegn correspondence committees and public relations officers.

Also meeting with the Grand Masters and bringing greetings from their organization were Genoa Washington, Chicago, Imperial Potentate of Prince Hall Shriners; George W. Crawford, New Haven and Dr. John G. Lewis, Jr., Baton Rouge, sovereign grand commanders respectively of the Northern and Southern Jurisdictions Supreme Councils.

P. G. Porter, Grand Master of Kansas, head of the Knights of Pythogoras, the Youth Organization sponsored by the Prince Hall Masons, addressed the body at a luncheon meeting. He stated that the program of the Knights of Pythogoras was devoted to development of leadership, reduction of juvenile delinquency and dropouts in schools and wholesome recreation.

On expanding a youth movement within the Masonic order, Grand Master Porter told his audience:

"... our first obligation (to our youth) is to offer to them the type of leadership that will teach them to strive daily to serve God, their Country as loyal, devoted and patriotic citizens. To repay their parents for the love for them. To defend, if need be, the character of their womanhood with their lives."

Extending an invitation to the Conference to hold its 45th Annual in Nassau, Bahamas.

Ivey, Grand Master of the hamas was James E. Mor-

In his annual report to the body, Conference President tion by Prince Hall Masons, contributions made to the na- Hall paid compliments to the Cross, Infantile Paralysis and United Negro College Funds, a U.S. Savings Bond Project and Cancer Fund.

Among the Masonic conference activities scheduled for today and tomorrow (Saturday), will be:

FRIDAY, MAY 17

2:15 - 5:00—Fashion Show and Card Party for wives and guests of delegates — Auditorium, 1307 Eutaw Place.

7:00 - 11:00—Dinner Dance, Delegates, wives and guests, Dining Hall, 1301 Eutaw place.

SATURDAY, MAY 18, 1963

9:00 - 12:00 — Fifth General Session, Auditorium, 1307 Eutaw Place — Election of officers and installation of officers.

12:15 - 2:00—Luncheon, Dining Hall, 1301 Bldg. Speaker: Genoa Washington, Imperial Potentate Subject: "The Preservation of Masonic Prestige"

2:00 - 5:00 — Tour of Baltimore and Ports, for conference delegates and wives and guests who missed tour on Thursday. (Leaving from Auditorium of 1307 Bldg.)

2:00—Attendance at the 87th Running of the Preakness — (Leaving from the Lanvale St. exit of the Dining Hall, 1301 Bldg.)

—Shots shatter

(Continued from Page 1)

awakened by the barking of a dog.

Mrs. Dailey called police and met them outside, while Oliver went downstairs it was then that he heard a crash and went back upstairs, police said.

Oliver caught sight of a man with a gun who walked past him and fired at Miss Orr.

• • •

AS SERGEANT Taylor came up the steps the gunman fired two shots at him and went into one of the bedrooms, where he is believed to have shot himself.

Sergeant Taylor said that he fired two shots from his own revolver, but apparently none of these struck the gunman.

The sound of the shots brought the other two policemen into the house.

Running up the stairs they say Miss Orr staggering toward them holding her stomach. Blood was dripping on the floor as she collapsed.

They heard the sergeant yell:

"Get an ambulance, get an ambulance, I've been hit."

Mills, who is originally from North Carolina and has only been in the City a short time, was described by his supervisor as a "...nice quiet fellow. He was very neat and very, very well thought of."

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—Russians

(Continued from page 1)

rings, code and signal books, and other articles which were of injury to the United States.

Throughout the first few days of trial, Drummond has talked occasionally with his defense lawyers, William C. Chance and Mrs. Marghurite Hines, of 225 Broadway, and glanced back infrequently at his wife and parents who have been attending the trail.

His parents live in Baltimore. The defense attorneys said they plan to call several Navy top brass next week to bring out Drummond's former excellent Navy record.

Drummond was arrested last September 28 as FBI agents surprised him in a parked car with a secretary of the Russian embassy with 8 classified naval documents on the seat between them. He has been held in $100,000 bail since his arrest.

• • •

AN FBI agent testified on Wednesday that the first contact between Drummond and the Russians came during 1957 when the Navy man was stationed in London.

The agent produced a statement which he said had been given voluntarily by the defendant.

Drummond, according to the statement, was approached by a Russian colonel in London who said he had learned the sailor was in financial difficulties and gave him $700 to "help out."

After that, the statement said, Drummond had further contact with the Russians and when he was shipped back to the States and to Newport, R. I., a contact was set up with the Russian Embassy in New York.

The first meeting, according to the statement, was in Harlem where the contact man was identified by a cutt link.

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Worker Now "Eats Anything"
The habit of grabbing a hot dog and soft drink on the way to work, at lunchtime and similar foods for dinner has wrecked havoc with many a digestive system. Such practices are often attested to the hustle and bustle of activity these days.
One worker has reported recently that he has found a way to guard against the upset stomach, heartburn, gas and indigestion that often arises from such foods eaten in a hurry. "I eat almost anything now," he stated, "foods don't bother me. Time was, when I couldn't even go near the corned beef and cabbage, spare ribs, sauerkraut and the like.
"All I do now after eating is take Ca-Ma-Sil, the powder that overcomes the acid in my stomach that causes the trouble I eat almost anything I want these days . . . including a lot of things I hadn't been able to eat without distress. I'm so glad my pharmacist told me about Ca-Ma-Sil."
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5 Mother's Day visitors die in flaming wreckage

SUDLERSVILLE, Md. — Two New York brothers, their sister and uncle died in a flaming wreck near here Tuesday while returning from a Mother's Day visit to their native Newburg, N.C. home.

Also killed when a tractor trailer truck flattened the 1961 sedan in which they were passengers was a family friend and driver of the car.

Cpl. Marlin Clevenger of the Maryland State Police Centreville Barracks said the victims were burned beyond recognition when the gas tank of the trailer which reduced the car to a shapeless heap of twisted rubble burst into flame.

• • •

DEAD ARE:

John E., 39, and William R. Cannon, 36, and their sister, Mrs. Martha Jane McCall, 41, all of New York City.

Their uncle, David Cannon, 60, Jersey City, N.J., and friend, Chester L. Duncan, 29, of Brooklyn.

Bruno Lafota, Bridgewater, Mass., driver of one of the tractor trailer which collided on U.S. Route 301 about three miles west of this Eastern Shore community, was also killed.

John D. Heavner, 37, of Newton, N.C., the lone survivor, was driving the other truck.

He told police that Lafota's truck, traveling in the opposite direction, was meeting him head-on.

Heavener said he swerved to escape the onrushing truck, but was forced off the highway when Lafota failed to do likewise.

Heavener's truck came to a halt down an embankment in a heavily wooded area.

• • •

POLICE THEORIZED that Lafota's truck then "ran over the car" which was apparently following Heavener's truck off the road.

Trooper Cleavenger said the searing flames prevented firemen and rescuers from getting near the wreckage for three hours.

The body of Mr. Lafota was recovered from the melted cab of his truck four hours after the 5:30 a.m. crash, Cpl. Cleavenger reported.

Positive identification was delayed until Maryland police were able to check authorities in North Carolina and New York because the victim all items of identification were destroyed.

• • •

POLICE LEARNED that the Cannons spent the Mother's Day weekend in North Carolina visiting their mother, who was unable to talk after being informed of the tragedy, Trooper Cleavenger said.

Information on the visitors was gotten from a family friend who failed to give them Mrs. Cannon's name and address, the officer reported.

Bodies of the victims were taken to the Lane Funeral Home in Church Hill and claimed by relatives Wednesday, it was reported.



SIX DIED HERE — Six persons died in this car-truck collision near Sudlersville, Md., on U.S. 301 Tuesday morning. A wrecker pulls the whill assembly of thee truck's cab from the tenfoot ditch beside the highway. Strewn about are package of frozen meat from the truck. When the picture was taken the body of the truck driver was still in the brned-out cab at the grouund).

New community of ranch homes opened in Morgan Park area

Albert Abrahams, president of Albert Abrahams and Sons, Inc., builders and developers, has announced the construction of a limited number of new homes in the 5100 block The Alameda; in the Morgan State College Section of North Baltimore.

Featuring the popular new split level rancher design, these spacious 3-bedroom homes offer a tremendous variety of luxury home touches.

"Space", said Mr. Abrahams, "is what we've con-Park. There is over 1700 square feet of usable area in these homes and they are set on large 50' x 135' lots."

All three bedrooms are invitingly spacious. Another convenience is the powder room off the master bedroom, in addition to the regular full bathroom.

The living - dining room area is dramatically designed with a cathedral ceiling and handsome - decorator wood paneled accent wall.

A PRIVACY - PLANNED front porch-patio entrance is another of the unusual features at Alameda Park that should make these homes very popular with home buyers.

Homemakers will be enchanted with the modern, unitized kitchen in Alameda Park homes. Storage cabinets are of genuine fruitwood, with loads of built-ins. The kitchen comes complete with garbage disposer, coppertone stove and range, ventilating hood and exhaust fan.

"We haven't overlooked a quality feature, to make these the kind of homes that will give any family a lifetime of pride and contentment," said Mr. Abrahams.

Homes in Alameda Park are priced at $16,450, gr $180. The model can be seen daily from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. and on Saturday and Sunday from 1 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Small blaze at school

A fire possibly started by a firebug was discovered shortly after 8 a.m. Wednesday in a fourth floor storage closet at Douglass High School by a custodian.

Mrs. Lillian P. Murphy, principal, said there was only slight damage and no loss of time in the classroom with school going on as normal.

A similar blaze was detected in the school last Monday, giving rise to the firebug theory.

The Fire Department listed the blaze as a one-alarmer.

BJC Awards

The annual Baltimore Junior College Awards Assembly will be held in Lemmel Auditorium on Tuesday, May 21, 10:30 a.m.

Students who have excelled on various athletic teams will be recognized. Activity keys will go to those who have accumulated sufficient points.

Neighborhood Council to honor citizens

The P.I.B.L. Neighborhood Council will hold its annual meeting on Monday, May 20, in the auditorium of the Enoch Pratt Library Branch 17, North and Pennsylvania Ave.

The program will include Councilman Henry Parks, newly elected from the 4th District. Awards will be given to distinguished citizens for outstanding community work. Refreshments will be served after the meeting.

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Ex-prison guard becomes prisoner

The one-year jail term of an ex-guard at the Maryland House of Correction was upheld by Criminal Court Judge Charles D. Harris Wednesday.

Thomas J. Rheubottom, 23, 400 block E. Lafayette, was convicted in Municipal Court of "indecently" assaulting an elderly woman April 15.

The woman testified she was waiting for a bus at the corner of St. Paul St. and North Ave. when Rheubottom passed and made an indecent proposal.

He fled from the scene when she screamed, the witness said, and was chased by the bus driver.

The ex-guard was arrested a few minutes later when he returned to the corner to ask the complainant "if she was alright."

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HOTLY DENYING the charge, Rheubottom testified that he saw a man wearing a "Cossack-type" cap run from the intersection after the woman screamed and gave chase but lost him.

"When I returned to ask her if she was alright," Rheubottom told Judge Harris, "she called me a 'black b...d and slapped me."

The complainant was "jumping up and down and screaming 'filthy n...s,' " the defendant said, and police arrested him when she said he was the man who assaulted her.

"I saw the police a block away, but I walked back to the corner. If I had done anything, do you think I would have come back to be arrested?" Rheubottom asked.

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THE FORMER guard said he had on his uniform with a name plate when the incident occurred, but the real assailant wore light pants and a dark coat.

In addition to the bus driver, an unidentified sailor reportedly chased Rheubottom the man the defendant allegedly was chasing.

However, when Judge Harris recessed court in order to produce the sailor to testify, Rheubottom told prosecutor William T. S. Bricker "don't bother."

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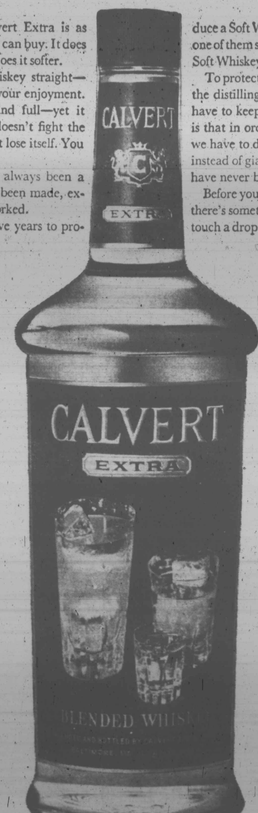
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