77TH BIRTHDAY

White House greets Dr. Lillie Jackson

By ELIZABETH M. OLIVER

Wednesday, May 25, her 77th birthday, was a wonderful day for Dr. Lillie May Jackson, the NAACP "great lady" who has made herself nationally known through the fearless one-woman war she has waged for equal rights over 50 years.

Starting early with salutations pouring in from everywhere, the day climaxed at a magnificent testimonial and reception given in her honor by her Sharp Street Methodist Church.

There over 500 distinguished citizens, church, civic, government and community leaders and persons from all walks of life heaping praise upon praise, saying, "She had it coming to her."

And, among a hundred or so messages of congratulations was a telegram directly from the White House bearing the signature of the President of the United States who said:

"I have just learned of the tribute being paid to you by the citizens of Baltimore and I join them in congratulating you for all your constructive years of hard work on behalf of a better America."

Among those in the long line of platform speakers were special deputies from Gov. J. Millard Tawes and Mayor Theodore McKeldin, who presented certificates and plaques naming Dr. Jackson "the first citizen of Maryland" and "Baltimore's distinguished citizen."

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THE 8 P.M. TO 12 midnight affair was a gala one and included kisses, hugs, flowers and gifts.

Dressed in rose lace, vivacious and gracious as usual, Dr. Lillie took to it all "like a duck to water."

In her own manner, now famous to thousands who know her, she interrupted the program with no less than six impromptu speeches that brought ripples of laughter and resounding applause.

Highlighting was the presentation of a bus to transport Sharp Street's children and the elderly.

Following her custom of giving, rather than receiving, the famed woman requested that proceeds from the affair buy a bus for the church.

She was presented the keys.

At this point came her now immortal "God's storehouse is full" speech.

In it she told how she had longed for the bus for the "little folks and the old folks" and noted "My God has plenty. I asked for a bus and here it is."

The brand new bus stood outside the main door of the church, as she said, "For you to see how God answers prayers."

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FREQUENT BURSTS of applause accented the brilliant occasion that was so thoroughly filled with surprises.

Dr. Jackson's 3-year-old grandson, Clarence Mitchell 4th, provoked sustained applause as he greeted the audience "just like Dr. Jackson" and was termed "A chip off the old block."

Also enthusiastically received was her grandson, House of Delegates member, Clarence Mitchell 3rd, who presented her with the Jackson family gift, a small TV.

Said Mr. Mitchell, "This is for you, grandmother, to keep up with the news so you can keep on giving them the devil."

Applause again came with the presentation of members of the distinguished Jackson family on the scene and the notation that each one carries on the love for freedom she has inspired.

Receiving ovations were daughters Mrs. Virginia Kiah, sculptress and art teacher, wife of a Savannah, Ga. college professor and Mrs. Juanita Mitchell, NAACP Legal Redress Committee head and outstanding attorney.

Also, Mrs. Mitchell's husband, Clarence Mitchell Jr., who heads the Washington D.C. NAACP Bureau; Dr. Jackson's sister, Mrs. Florence Snowden and another grandson, George Mitchell, a teenager who sang with the choirs at the testimonial.

Telegrams came from grandsons Keiffer and Michael Mitchell away at law and medical schools; the only Jackson son, Bowen, of Pasadena, Calif., and the third daughter, Mrs. Marian Jackson Downes and her daughter of Los Angeles, Calif.

Dr. Edward N. Wilson and Mrs. Martha Rossell were co-chairmen while Dr. Wilson served as toastmaster.

Making presentations and serving as official hosts were Sharp Street pastor, the Rev. Kelly Jackson and his wife, Mrs. Viola Jackson.

Committee members and official hostesses and hosts included Mesdames Garrett D. Rawlings, Paymus Lee, Rubye Hill, John Mason, Myrtle Wake, Misses Mary Allen; Sharon Harper.

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BRIEF EXCERPTS from the speeches of various persons who made presentations are as follows:

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The Rev. Frank Madison Reid, Bethel AME Church, pastor, in his prayer said, "Thank God for giving us Dr. Jackson to go to war on prejudice and segregation."

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Dr. Wilson, "She's a great woman everywhere. The most unselfish woman anywhere. "The mother of a great family."

• • •

MAJOR WILLIAM (Box) Harris, official representative of Gov. Tawes who is in Europe, said as he presented the Distinguished Maryland Citizen Award,

"To Miss Lillie for five decades of leadership in the state and the community. She is a woman of never ending integrity and ability."

Samuel T. Daniels, secretary of the Human Relations Committee, official representative of Mayor McKeldin's and the state's fraternal organizations, presenting the distinguished citizens

DR. LILLIE E. JACKSON

award said:

"She is worthy of high recognition for what she has done for the well-being of the Municipality and for her public service 31 years. May God bless her."

• • •

Solomon Liss, Chairman, Public Service Commission, who said he and Dr. Jackson had been "friends and adversaries over 30 years," gave her the first kiss and stated, "With, her it's like the song, Whatever Lola Wants, Lola Gets."

"My only regret is that this affair is given by the colored community when the hosts should be the entire city of Baltimore. Everyone has benefitted and all owe her a debt of gratitude."

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Judge Robert B. Watts, accompanied by three Municipal Court judges, noted, "Her head is bloody but unbowed. We will never forget the fight she has put up, the strength she put behind the movement.

"We'll never forget the work this woman has done, nor her great contribution to the cause.

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Rev. Rev. Mr. Jackson presenting the keys to the Sharp Street Church bus to Dr. Jackson called on the Board of Trustees, Clarence Mitchell Jr., president, to surround the honoree and give a standing ovation.

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Dr. Houston Jackson, assistant superintendent of public schools, on behalf of the Department of Education, said,

"Hundreds and thousands have made contributions to make Baltimore a better place to live, but no individual has made a greater contribution than Dr. Jackson.

"She awakened all Baltimore to the shame of segregated schools. We rise up to call her blessed. She has made Baltimore more beautiful."

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Dr. Parlett Moore, president of Coppin State College, Dr. Jackson's Alma Mater, spoke of the persons he has known to say, "I would rather resist a lion than Dr. Jackson," and reviewed her contributions to education through her fight for equalization of teachers salaries; equal opportunity for children, equal accommodations.

Dr. Moore termed her "A Great American."

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Dr. Martin D. Jenkins, president of Morgan State College, said, "She's the First Lady of Baltimore. Because of her, Baltimore has come a long way in human relations. She won't sit down either until Baltimore's record is much improved."

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Dr. Furman Templeton, executive director, Baltimore Urban League, "To her NAACP and our Urban League, the two oldest civil rights organizations, she pointed out the way and kept us on the move.

"A true statesmanwoman, she as a pioneer suffered years in advance for us to have a better today."

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Thomas D'Alesandro, president of the City Council "What better testimonial

Dr. Jackson received the Distinguished Citizenship Gov. J. Millard Tawes' reward of Maryland from Gov. JMillard Tawes' representative, Major Harris, at the testimonial and reception in her honor at Sharp Street Methodist Church Wednesday night.

could she have from God than to see her hopes and dreams come true.

"The goal is in sight. Seven is lucky. May double seven mean twice as much luck to you."

• • •

Dr. Carl Murphy, chairman of the AFRO Board of Directors estimated and offered proof by listing Dr. Jackson's 30 years contributions that she is worth over $750 million to the Baltimore Community.

He stated, "The Lillie Jackson Corporation is a billion dollar concern. Baltimore couldn't get along without her."

Dr. Murphy also added to extended applause of the audience, "Not counting the 30 years of service and the salary she never got nor payment for her good will."

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Rev. Marcus G. Wood, pastor of Providence Baptist Church, "It is time for us to say thank you, thank you for the hours, days, years she has given us as a woman of courage, great faith and leadership.

"We'll never replace her."

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Silas Pratt, NAACP, Howard County, "She is a symbol, a fitting example. She is known and respected throughout the state. She has inspired us in 23 counties."

• • •

Dr. Montague Cobb, National NAACP Board member. She is the beginning and end. Through her endless thousands have been and are inspired. I predict her spirit will be alive 200 years from now."

• • •

Philip Goodman, mayor of Baltimore during the early sit-in demonstrations in the Northwood community, recalled how he asked Dr. Jackson to come to his office and advise him through the crisis.

He stated, "I asked her what to do in the problem that faced the city. I took her advice and within 24 hours, doors were open to

MAJOR WM. A. HARRIS

all people."

• • •

States Attorney Charles Moylan recalled Dr. Jackson's familiar words, "We're all Americans" and noted "she never fails or gives way to bitterness or despair. She always finds a way to love."

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Lt. Joseph Judd, Northwestern Police District, bringing greetings on behalf of Commissioner George Gelston and Northwestern Capt. Dennis Mello, termed Dr. Jackson "a beloved watchdog of the police department."

Wishing her many returns with a kiss, he extended ahead.

City Councilman Henry Parks predicted greater years ahead because of Dr. Jackson's real worth and devotion to cause.

Municipal Court Judge Jerome Robinson recalled he and Dr. Jackson worked together when he was a member of the Maryland Legislature, "when Civil Rights was an unpopular cause and she helped arouse all America."

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Retired Methodist Bishop Edgar A. Love termed Dr. Jackson, "A great Christian who is great because she is good".

He noted, "She has never lost touch with life. We owe her a debt we can never repay."

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The Rev. Arthur J. Payne, pastor of Enon Baptist Church, speaking for the Interdenominational Ministers Alliance, said: "Her philosophy, that God's storehouse is full, that He will grant you what you ask, guides her life. We are all indebted to her and she has found that all the ministers support her."

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The Rev. Kelly Jackson, pointed out Dr. Jackson takes God seriously, and is a person of strong conviction.

His assertions preceded the presentation of flowers and a silver tray from the Sharp Street Trustee Board by Mrs. Garrett Rawlings and Charles Fletcher.

A letter was read from NAACP attorney W. A. C. Hughes also a Sharp Street member, who is confined to Hopkins Hospital. Mr. Hughes during the 1930's and '40's filed suits for the NAACP.

• • •

OTHER presentations included:

A diamond watch from the Baltimore Branch NAACP; plaques and contributions from the County NAACP Kent, Howard, Charles, Anne Arundel, Balmew-Sparrows Point Branches.

$50 from the Glen Burnie Branch NAACP for gas for the bus was presented by the Rev. Leon White, president.

And checks were received from the Coates Altar Guild; Dr. Frederick Dedmond. Mrs. Kiah Luther Sutton of Calvert County; Bishop James D. Doswell, Wesley Toles, Cleveland NAACP.

TELEGRAMS AND messages received from

Congressman and Mrs. Walter T. Dixon; Rev. Baxter L. Matthews, Pastor, Union Baptist Church. Dr. and Mrs. Vernon Jordan, Mr. Archie D. Williams, Esquire; Mrs. Adah K. Jenkins.

The B. Clarke Davis Neighborhood Club; Mrs. Beatrice Dewitt, President, Westchester County Branch NAACP; Rev. George Dixon, President; Mrs. Willard W. Allen, Mrs. Elizabeth Allen Nelle and Miss M. Rosalind Allen.

Rev. Clinton E. Coleman, Pastor, Pennsylvania Avenue A.M.E. Zion Church; Wesley Wade, A.M.E. Church; Rev. Harold Bender, Pastor, Bethel A.M.E. Church; Mrs. Ruth Wilkins, Executive Director NAACP; Anne Arundel County Branch Samuel Gilmer, President; Balmew Sparrows Point Branch, Mrs. Moses Pounds, Treasurer; James Hurt, Pres. Cumberland-Allegheny County Branch NAACP.

The Rev. Howard Cornish gave benediction.

Others on the program included, Morris Queen, Sharp Street Director of Music; Mrs. Evelyn Catlin, soloist; the Combined Sharp Street Choirs; the Children's Choir; Silas Pratte, Howard County NAACP.

Corsages and flowers were from Summers, Norwood Florists.

Gillis Memorial will dedicate church house

The Gillis Memorial Community Church will reach another milestone in its expansion and development, with the dedication June 3 of the newly acquired Community House, 1034 Pennsylvania Ave.

The Church received the house through the generosity of William and Elwood Sinsky, attorneys-at-law, who donated the building to the church as a gift. The transaction was handled for the church by Attorney Thomas E. Hicks, also a church member.

The Community House will be used primarily for religious and community activities.

The dedication ceremony extravaganza, consisting of more than 100 voices, including The Voices of Gillis, The Men and Women's Chorus, and The Senior Choir, under the direction of Mrs. Pauline W. Lewis, Mrs. Sylia Pearson and Joseph Smith at the console.

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THE MEDICAL portion of the program will be held from 7-9 p.m. in the street in front of the building.

The formal dedication will feature singing by the Senior Choir, preaching of the dedication sermon by the Rev. Theodore C. Jackson Sr., pastor, and Atty. Thomas Hicks presiding as master of ceremonies.

The public is invited and all friends of the church are urged to attend.

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Cassius Clay leads Cairo fans in Islamic prayer

CAIRO (UPI) — World heavyweight boxing champion Cassius Clay toured an Egyptian iron and steel factory and led the plant's 200 workers in Islamic prayer on Thursday.

Following a two - hour tour of the factory, Clay, who likes to be known as Muhammad Ali, raised his hands to sky and led the plant's workers shouting Islam's call to prayer: "Allah Akbar" — God is the greatest.

• • •

CLAY FLEW to the United Arab Republic following his successful title defense in London on Saturday. He told the workers that he was fasting from sunrise to sunset "in humble devotion to Islam which is the truest religion."

Later the world champion visited the Supreme Council for Islamic Affairs where he was presented with an expensive edition of the Koran with an Arabesque bookrest, a Persian prayer rug and records of Koranic chants.

AFTERWARD he returned to his hotel for a recorded interview with the UAR's state - run television.

Clay later attended the boxing finals of the Cairo club teams competing for the Nasser Cup. After the fights he went to a television studio to appear on the program "Your Favorite Star."

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Bears gun for 5th IC-4A relay title

NEW YORK — Morgan State College coach Eddie Hurt and his contingent of versatile Bears have their eyes set on a fifth consecutive mile relay crown here this weekend.

The Golden Bear clocking of 3:10.3, established in 1964, stands as an IC4-A record.

Morgan is competing in the Intercollegiate American Amateur Athletic Association (IC4-A) track and field championships here today (Friday) and Saturday.

Morgan, though never a winner of the overall team title, has captured the featured relay event in each of the four years she has been in the association.

• • •

SOPHOMORE Ray Pollard may prove the key to the Golden Bear aspirations. The fleet youngster is entered in the individual sprints and is one of the mainstays of relay foursome.

In the dashes, Pollard figures to meet up with some of the finest short - race men in collegiate circles.

• • •

ENTERED ARE Sam Perry of Fordham, Jim Lee of Maryland, Earl Horner of Villanova, as well as Ray's speedy Morgan teammates, Spencer Henry and Fred Hunter.

In view of the fact the 220-yard dash final runs close to the mile relay, coach Hurt may be faced with a bid decision concerning Pollard. A hard race in the sprint event could hurt Ray's chances of helping the relay quartet.

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THE ENTIRE relay foursome, incidentally, will be called upon for multiple effort.

Joining Pollard in the mile lineup are Tim Johnson, Mal Brown, Howie Stanback and Herm Hawthorne.

Johnson, Brown and Stanback are to compete in the 440, and Hawthorne in the 880, along with Gary Burgess.

BYRON LEWIS again will be the Bear's main hope in the long and triple jumps, with George Johnson and Hunter also going in the long jump.

In the hurdles field will be Bill Johnson and Willie Stewart.

Harvey Palmore, entered in the Shotput and Discus, is Morgan's top threat in the field—LACY.

Ray Pollard
Morgan's sophomore handyman

'Fickle friends' rapped at Randy Turpin rites

LEAMINGTON SPA, ENGLAND (UPI) — The last sad chapter in the saga of former world middleweight champion Randy Turpin was written Tuesday when the Rev. E. J. C. Haseldon lashed at the "fickleness of friends" at Turpin's funeral services.

As the remains of the one-time champion lay before the crowd of mourners, the vicar asserted, "The fickleness of friends and incompetent advice weighed so heavily on this man that he was forced to desperation."

• • •

TURPIN, who was discovered a week earlier with gunshot wounds, led a life marked by tragedy which culminated in the tragic circumstances of his death, the vicar said.

The Rev. Mr. Haseldon added, "This was a simple man who needed friends to protect him from spongers. To their shame, he was let down."

• • •

THE FUNERAL procession began at his wife's cafe, the place where Turpin and his 17-month-old daughter, Carmen, were found with bullet wounds, and proceeded just a few feet from the triumphant parade route he traveled 15 years ago, after his title victory over Sugar Ray Robinson:

Carmen still remains in Birmingham Hospital.

Bullets' Gus Johnson to teach youngsters

The Baltimore Bullets have announced they will co - sponsor with the Bureau of Recreation an extensive summer program of basketball clinics and Dribble and Shoot competitions at neighborhood centers in Baltimore City.

Coach Mike Farmer and players Gus Johnson, Kevin Loughery, Bob Perry, and Jim Barnes will lecture and demonstrate the finer points of the game at the clinics. The soon - to - be released Bullets film, "The Tall Men of Baltimore" also will be shown.

• • •

THE CLINICS will be held at 20 recreation centers on a Tuesday and Wednesday schedule for nine weeks, beginning on June 21. At the larger regional centers, the youngsters will be separated by age groups, 15 and under, and 16 and over.

The Dribble and Shoot competitions will be staged at all summer recreation centers in the city under supervision of the Bureau of Recreation and with the blessing and cooperation of the President's Council on Physical Fitness.

YOUNGSTERS will participate in three age divisions, 10 through 12, 13 through 15, and 16 through 18. A composite point score will be compiled in free throw shooting, zig - zag dribbling through obstacles, and number of goals scored per minute.

Every youngster attending the clinics will receive passes to certain Bullets home games this season. Every youngster participating in Dribble and Shoot will receive a certificate from the Bullets and the Bureau of Recreation.

WINNERS in the Dribble and Shoot competitions will each receive a Bullets T - shirt. Finalists will each receive a Bullets jacket. Champions will take a trip with the Bullets. Final presentations will be made at one of the Bullet games.

Registration for the clinics and the Dribble and Shoot competition will begin at all city recreation centers next Wednesday.

GUS JOHNSON

Clark College star signed by Knicks

NEW YORK (UPI)— Ron Jackson, a high - scoring guard from Clark College in Atlanta, Ga., this week became the first rookie to sign a contract for the 1966 - 67 season with the New York Knickerbockers of the National Basketball Association.

Jackson, a fifth round draft choice, averaged 29.8 points a game for Clark last season and was the 10th best scorer among the nation's small colleges.

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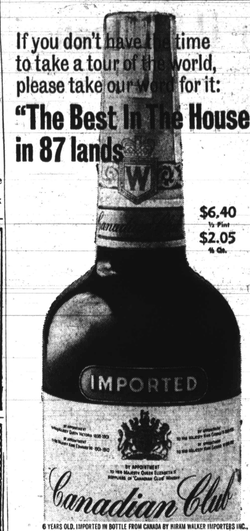

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