Doctors Urge Audit Of Provident Hospital Books

Baltimore Afro-American

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B—16 MAY 5, 1973 YOU KNOW BECAUSE YOU READ THE AFRO

Ousted officials react to firing

A group of doctors from Provident Hospital and the Maryland Conference of Social Welfare, meeting in Baltimore yesterday and today (Friday), have demanded a thorough audit of Provident's books by the General Assembly in Annapolis.

The move came Thursday in the form of a resolution by area doctors calling for an audit of the institution's financial picture over the past five years.

It was introduced by William Hankins, director of the Sinai-Druid Pediatric Clinic, on behalf of the Community Health Council during a workshop moderated by Dr. C. Alex Alexander, who was dismissed this week as Provident's director of medical affairs.

The dismissal, ordered by newly-appointed court receiver George L. Russell, Jr., Baltimore's city solicitor was billed as an economy move designed to help save $1 million.

RUSSELL ACTS

As soon as he took over, Mr. Russell announced, Provident is alive and well."

He added that despite published reports the hospital is not bankrupt, his findings show the institution has $3 million in assets in excess of debts, but is in need of drastic economy measures.

He gave notices to two other key personnel and some 143 other employees in several categories.

Among them were W. W. Walston, associate director for administration and second-in-command to hospital administrator Henry J. Whyte, and longtime Russell political aide, Charles G. Tildon, head of the Provident Hospital Development Fund and associate director in charge of public relations.

DISMISSAL

Mr. Russell's letter of dismissal to Dr. Alexander read in part:

"It is with the most profound regret that we are compelled to terminate your services with the hospital, effective immediately.

"We sincerely appreciate your past efforts and past contribution to the establishment of this great venture, but as you know we are faced with very difficult times, and austerity is the order of the day.

"This is as unhappy for us as it is for you; but our primary concern is and must always be the welfare of the hospital and the community it serves.

* * *

"We trust you will always keep foremost in your mind that even though you are no longer employed by Provident, it will always acknowledge your assistance.

"Hopefully, in another less troubled time, we may again renew our happy association.

"Of course, upon completion of an audit of your account all monies due you including any accrued leave will be paid forthwith."

DR. ALEXANDER

Dr. Alexander's reaction to his dismissal, aside from yesterday's motion to demand an immediate audit, was to criticize Mr. Russell.

Dr. Alexander's statement to the AFRO said in part:

"I am concerned about the future of Provident Hospital.

"All patient care, training and research programs built up by my colleagues and myself during the last nine months are beginning to be dismembered.

"We are waiting to see the response of the community leaders and the black legislators to rescue Provident from its present situation."

* * *

Dr. Alexander added: "I would personally like to request the legislators to financially help Provident, but only on condition that all of the financial records and administrative procedures of the hospital are subjected o a through and rigorous scrutiny by a com-

(Continued on Page B-10)

SPONSOR—John H. Murphy, 3rd, president of the AFRO-AMERICAN Newspapers right, signs an agreement making the AFRO a participating sponsor in the upcoming Baltimore Trade Fair, slated to open May 24 in Mondawmin Shopping Center. Also seated from the left are Mel Butler, coordinator for the fair; Fred O'Neal, president of the Mondawmin Merchants' Association; and William L. Waller, Advertising Manager for the Baltimore AFRO-AMERICAN.

Administrators vs. superintendent

BULLETIN

Baltimore City Circuit Judge David Ross this morning (Friday), denied an injunction sought by the Public School Administrators and Supervisors Association.

Judge Ross stated that delaying the reorganization plan by the public school administration would, "risk harm to the school system."

He added that the State Board of Education has primary but not exclusive jurisdiction to determine what changes and working conditions are subject to negotiations.

Mrs. Blanche Wahl, assistant city solicitor told the AFRO, "I will now call Dr. Patterson, his staff will advertise the jobs and implement the plan."

* * *

The decision on the injunction request came two days after an all-day hearing (Wednesday) before Judge Ross.

Dr. Roland Patterson, school superintendent; Dr. John Walton, School Board president; John Waters, PSASA head; and Dr. Elaine C. Davis, reorganization coordinator, testified.

The administrators' union had sought the injunction because it felt it should have been consulted in the decentralization plan which affects more than half of the 800 administrator jobs in the school system.

* * *

PSASA attorney, Stephen Sachs, in his injunction petition reported the reorganization plans in part became public when the School Board approved the plans on April 26.

The move to create nine regional school systems would alter the function or authority of 226 supervisor posts, 150 staff persons below "supervisor 2" level would be "redeployed" and 75 jobs would be eliminated.

* * *

Meanwhile, Dr. Patterson told reporters Wednesday circulars on the 17 top posts created by the reorganization plan have gone out to school staff.

Interested staff have until May 19 to apply for the jobs.

Those jobs, including four deputy superintendents, two aides to the superintendent, a comptroller, nine regional superintendents and public relations director, will be advertised nationally.

David Mason sues HEW for welfare $

Claiming the federal government "illegally withheld and impounded approximately $26 million due Maryland" for welfare expenditures this spring, David Mason, state welfare secretary, announced Thursday the state has filed suit against the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW).

He stated "The Attorney General filed suit (Wednesday), on my behalf, in the Federal District Court against HEW to compel them to make full and prompt payment of the monies in question."

* * *

"At the present time," he explained, "all social service programs and assistance payment programs in this state are being funded entirely by state monies.

"This development has resulted in a critical financial situation and has placed the social service programs in this state in serious jeopardy."

He added, "I consider this action by HEW not only arbitrary and illegal, but autocratic and in complete disregard of the impact it will have on this state."

* * *

Federal shares of welfare monies are supposed to be paid out on a quarterly basis (every three months). Maryland has yet to receive the payment for April, May and June, 1973.

HEW is responsible for approximately 50 per cent of all assistance payments and 75 per cent of expenditures for social service programs.

Secretary Mason predicted the filing of the suit in his speech before the Urban League last Sunday.

AME conference report tackles national issues

Presiding elders, ministers and delegates to the recently concluded 157th annual Baltimore AME conference have presented Bishop Henry W. Murph with a far reaching 'State of the Country' report.

The report called for the AME churches to take a strong stand in favor of the following issues:

—preserving black colleges as a training ground for black leaders, professionals, teachers, etc.

— to continue in the struggle for social justice, helping to root out the evils which have been exposed from Watts to Watergate to Wounded Knee.

— to fight against the pollution of the world's land, air and water.

— to seek the removal of all abortion laws and make the matter one which is resolved by careful ethical discussion between at expectant mother, her doctor and pastor.

— to fight the destructive presence of harmful drugs in society and to help in the dispensing of information to make people aware of the dangers these drugs pose.

* * *

On the issue of black colleges, the report stated,

"In the early history of the American education the black church established a system of private and church related colleges and universities, specifically for the purpose of providing professional black leaders such as teachers, ministers, medical doctors, lawyers, etc.

"For nearly 100 years these private and public black colleges were responsible for the education of over 90 per cent of black in America. Now we are distressed. The very existence of these colleges has been seriously threatened. The federal government poses to cut off federal funds.

Now, whereas the black colleges of America have contributed so much to the educational opportunity and cultural heritage of black Americans throughout the history of our nation and.

"Whereas these black colleges, public and private represent a great national education resource for both black and white Americans alike.

"Whereas these colleges are now beset with great financial difficulty in their struggle to provide quality education, be it therefore

"Resolved, that the African Methodist Episcopal Church recommend to the President of the United States and the Congress, and to the corporate foundations, and to private philanthrophy, and the several states, that they make every effort through their financial resources and their prayers to assist these institutions to continue to exist and provide quality education for all qualified students who seek the offerings at these colleges and universities."

On the issue of social justice, the report said,

"The African Methodist Episcopal Church has such a great stake in the democratic process. It has traditionally called upon its (communicants, constituency, members) to believe in, to participate in and to support the "rhyme and reason" of the government at all levels.

"We see the misuse of presidential powers in such areas as: the cutback in the poverty programs, the undermanning of the Defense Department, the snail's pace at which the vital agencies and department head positions are being filled, and the unresponsiveness to social priorities.

"The unquantified executive privilege probably was never more dramatically illustrated than in the explosive "Watergate case". The nation's capital as well as cities throughout the country are hypnotized into an apprehensive mood of suspense and apathy toward all governmental officials. We propose that the emphasis should shift from fidelity to the President and the party to good and honest government.

"Whereas, in an attempt to evaluate the growing lack of confidence and its

(Continued on Page B-9)

NAMED 'MAN OF THE YEAR'

Agnew avoids Watergate in Maryland press club talk

By BLAINE TAYLOR

Avoiding any mention of the growing Watergate scandal, Vice President Spiro T. Agnew Wednesday night accepted the Maryland Press Club's first annual "Man of the Year" award for 1973.

Agnew told over 500 dinner guests at Martin's West "As one of those lucky individuals who has never disagreed throughout his career with the press, I accept the award."

Seated at the head table with the official Vice Presidential party were Mrs. Frances Murphy II, chairwoman of the board of directors of the AFRO-AMERICAN newspaper and George W. Collins, deputy news director for WMAR-TV.

Mr. Collins stated "The Maryland Press Club stands for freedom of the press and freedom of speech — and that includes freedom of speech for the Vice President of these United States."

* * *

Not many black faces were visible in the crowded ballroom, but those who were there included Mrs. Vashti Murphy Matthews, AFRO librarian and wife of NBC news manager Robert W. Matthews; State Commissioner of Corrections James Jordan and Mrs. Jordan; and Warden Ralph Williams, head of the House of Correction at Jessup.

Also present were State Parole Board member Jasper Clay, Mrs. Mary Clayborn, press club secretary; Del. and Mrs. Joseph Chester, photographer Irving Phillips and Mr. and Mrs. Frank A. DeCosta, Jr.

Baltimore's own Ethel Ennis opened the program with her soulful rendition of "The Star Spangled Banner."

* * *

The Vice President told the throng "I'll continue to make my suggestions for better news coverage but with more discretion and tact in the future."

Next, he delivered a round of pot-shots at former Texas Governor John B. Connally, who had that very day become a Republican and thus a prime contender for the 1976 G.O.P. Presidential nomination.

The band, which had welcomed Mr. Agnew with the Presidential tune "Hail to the Chief," received this tribute from him: "I'm deeply grateful for the band's not playing me in with 'The Eyes of Texas are Upon You!'

"I know what Connally has in mind, but I don't think it'll work."

Turning to Dale Anderson at the head table, Agnew quipped: "I don't think Connally will ever be elected Baltimore County Executive!

May John Connolly reach for his star and grasp it firmly, just like John Lindsay!"

The last reference was to the New York mayor's 1971 party change-over from Republican to Democrat, followed by his poor showing in last year's Presidential primaries.

* * *

Apparently backing away from his previous harsh stand against the press, the Vice President asserted "I do not apologize for my earlier sentiments about the press, but I freely admit I could've expressed myself less abrasively.

"Government and the media must put aside their visceral reactions to each other and discuss their differences rationally."

Agnew left the dining room after his short address to the tune of his 1966 gubernatorial campaign theme "Ted Agnew — he's my kind of guy!"

Towson student gets 15 years for narcotics

Christopher Glick, 23, 6000 block Falls Rd was convicted for possession of cocaine with intent to distribute it.

Judge Anselm Sodaro imposed a sentence of 15 years. Glick an A-student at Towson State College was majoring in sociology.

Prosecutor Michael S. Libowitz testified police arrested Glick last October following a raid at his home. Narcotics agents found drugs worth $8,300.

At the time of the arrest there was $1,038 in cash in his possession. He was employed with the Police Department's children's program.

GETS 20 YEARS-Thomas E. Southerland was convicted Thursday in Federal Court in Baltimore on charges of missing Air Force travel documents. The government intimated he was involved with smuggling heroin into the U.S. in the bodies of dead soldiers from Vietnam, but no such charges were filed against him.

VICE PRESIDENT HONORED—At Martin's West dinner are, from left, Mrs. Helen Delich Bentley, chairman of the Federal Maritime Commission; Vice President Spiro T. Agnew; Mayor William Donald Schaefer; Mrs. Larry McDaniel, wife of the president of the Maryland Press Club; William F. Schmick, publisher of "The Sunpapers;" and Mrs. Frances Murphy II, chairwoman of the board of directors of the AFRO-AMERICAN Newspapers.

(AFRO photo by Scott D. Ponemone.)

Meetings held for lottery sales agents

A series of briefings for new Lottery Sales Agents will be held around the state beginning May 7.

According to George P. Mahoney, chairman of the State Lottery Commission, the briefings are designed to acquaint agents with the procedures they will follow when lottery sales begin around the middle of May.

The briefings are to be held in National Guard Armories according to the following schedule :

May 7, National Guard Armory, Easton, 7:30 p.m.;

May 8, National Guard Armory, Annapolis, 7:30 p.m.;

May 9, National Guard Armory, Pikesville, 3 p.m.

May 9, National Guard Armory, Pikesville 7:30 p.m.;

May 10 ,National Guard Armory, Hagerstown, 7:30 p.m.;

May 11, National Guard Armory, Greenbelt, 7:30 p.m.;

The briefings will be conducted by Mr. Mahoney and members of the lottery agency staff.

Other lottery commission members, John M. Martin Sr., Ackneil M. Muldrow, II, Morgan W. Wayson Jr., and Edward C. Wilson are also expected to be present, Mr. Mahoney said.

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Ladies and Gents wed at Macedonia

Mrs. Bernadette Parker adds the finishing touches to Yolanda Parker's bridesmaid's gown.

Ring bearers come in all sizes ... says Lonnie Harris, Jr.

The little guys and dolls of Macedonia Baptist Church really looked snappy in their tuxedos and white gowns when the Flower Circle of the church presented its annual Tom Thumb Wedding on April 26th.

Impatiently the grooms paced up and down church hallways waiting for their brides to appear while the more lovelier than ever wedding parties gathered to make the final step into holy matrimony.

* * *

In the background of the successful event which raised a total of $500.00 were: the Rev. W. L. Clayton, pastor of Macedonia Baptist Church; Mrs. Florence Simpson, president of Flower Circle; Mrs. Eugenia Allen, chairman and Mrs. Genevieve Hutto, co-chairman; Mrs. Gloria Foster, mistress of ceremony.

Participants in the wedding were Misses Lynn Michie, LouJill Russell, Yvette Brown, Tammy Miller, Donna Farmer, Gwendolyn Joyner, Robin Gould, Michelle Upshur, Veronica McDuff, Julia Heet, Deborah Pool, Karen Perry, Yolanda Parker, Lanette Harris, Christine Harris, Chatay Simmon.

Also Messers Cauvin Taylor, Kevin Darling, Kevin Wheeler, Kenneth Lane, Charles Hutchins, Don Gould, Rodney Gould, Michael Smith, Charley Black, Clark Hawkins, Charles Harris, Kenneth Lane, Douglass Clark, Kenneth Williams, Sammy Wilson, Phillip Pancele, Clarence, Gould and Paul Power.

Let Us Know

The AFRO will gladly attend your social, church and fraternal functions, weddings too, and will print your story along with AFRO photos free of charge. Simply call the Women's Editor, Marie P. Cooke, 728-8200, ext. 65, at least two weeks in advance and let her know what's happening. She'll take care of the rest. Remember, IT'S FREE.

Newlyweds? No, in real-life they're Kenny Love and Christine Harris!

Members of the Pi Omega Auxiliary are from left: Mesdames Juanita Gates, Kathryn Grant, Constance Ward, Dorothy Hazzard, Hazel Parks, Ernestine Johnson, Elnora Barber and Ponjola Priest. The group held its annual luncheon, fashion show and card party to benefit Provident Hospital on Saturday at the Baltimore Sheraton Inn.

R.S.V.P. with marie

Epicureans hold spring thing; 250 fashionites were there

By MARIE MURPHY PHILLIPS COOKE
(AFRO Women's Editor)

The Baltimore Chapter of National Epicureans, Inc. wined and dined some 250 fast-stepping, high-fashioned townfolk at the Blue Crest North last Friday night. It was the group's annual spring shindig and dinner which got on the way around 10 and continued until the early morning hours. It was a night of prime fun. The hostesses, gowned in the latest spring fashions, kept their jolly guests entertained throughout the evening. Like local president, Mrs. Audrey Pinderhughes, who was smart in a red floral, floor-length gown with shiny gold accessories.

And, other Epicureans like Mesdames Saberna Morris, National president from Richmond, elegant in a red knit with gold trimmings and matching accessories; Annabell Rawlings, in a shirt waist gown of beige lace; Delores Sykes, two-piece floral print with fan pleated skirt, and Bernadine Harrison, in black and white chiffon with silver accessories

Also, Mesdames Blanche Beckham, charming in navy blue knit with gold accessories; Merita Stokes paladro nants in ice blue crepe; Elva Edwards, in midnight black with gold accessories and Gladys Daniels, in kelly green crepe with gold accessories.

Other members present and looking good were Mesdames Nikki Randolph, Doris Wallace, Betty Morton, Barbara Bennett, Dorothy Johnston, Elise H. Clarke, Gordine Blount.

And, their male counterparts were exceptionally handsome that night: Raymond Pinderhughes, Randolph Edwards, Marsden Rawlings, John E. Stokes, Paul Beckham, Lester Wallace, Lloyal Randolph, William Norton, Alonzo Bennett, Samuel Daniels, Miles G. Harrison Sr. and Clarence Blount.

From out of town came "Eppies" Mary Riley from Hampton, Va., and Eunice Wilder from Richmond.

for and about Women

Guests from other points were Mr. and Mrs. Allen Brodnax, Richmond; Mr. and Mrs. Charles Price, Columbia, Md.; Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Stubbs, Chevy Chase, Md. Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hicks, Frederick, Md., Harry Beckham, Detroit, Mich.

LOCAL GUESTS

From Baltimore came Messrs and Mesdames James Harris, Walter Edmonds, Roger Johnson, Roland Williams, Milton Dugger, Hiram Butler, William Harris, Irving Williams, E. V. Stokes and David Wright.

Also, Messrs and Mesdames Charles Robinson, Richard Cummings, Roscoe Monroe, Dennis Crosby, William Hayes, Ronald Kimball, William Parker, Earl Bundara, Arthur Hudgins, William Tompkins, James Flint and Richard Fry.

Messrs and Mesdames Ronald Scott, Carlyle Fields, Wilbur Valentine, Robert Diggs, James Smith, Emory Spriggs, George Wood, Marcellus Moore, Cornelius Griffin, Eugene Hillen, Maceo Williams, Yancy Whittaker, Ernest Lee and John Parker.

Also, Messrs and Mesdames George Lottier, John H. Griner, Oliver C. Taylor, Sr., Charles Hillen, Alfred Woolridge, Howard Murphy, Benjamin King, Linwood Jennings, Leroy Thompson, Harry Scaborough, Kenneth Wilson and Roland Hardy.

Messrs and Mesdames Robert Harris, William Momby, Royal Weaver, Alvin Watson, Robert Blount, Wilfred Seaborne and Samuel Blackwell.

MORE GUESTS

Also, Dr. and Mesdames John Chissell, Simon Carter, Curtis Adams, Arthur Lamb, Joel Carrington, Herbert

(Continued on Page C-18)

Summer travel program

A summer travel workshop on the Decorative Arts in American Homes and Furnishings will be offered by the University of Maryland, College Park Campus, from July 9 to July 27.

The study-travel program will include morning lectures and research on the campus and visits to the Smithsonian Institution during the first week. Students, who may enroll at either the graduate or undergraduate level, will visit Philadelphia, New York City, Tarrytown, N.Y., the Hudson River Valley and western Massachusetts, Deerfield, Mass. and western Connecticut during the second week.

The final week will continue class work on the campus and include trips to Delaware and southern Maryland.

* * *

Persons satisfactorily completing the course will receive academic credit in special topics in housing and interior design. Travel costs will amount to approximately $250, depending upon the number of enrollees.

Further information may be obtained from Sheldon W. Odland, Department of Housing and Applied Design, Marie Mount Hall, University of Maryland, College Park, Md. 20742.

Seen at the gala Epicureans' party on Friday evening at the Blue Crest North were from left: Mr. and Mrs. Raymond S. Pinderhughes (she's president of the Baltimore chapter; Mr. and Mrs. Milton Dugger, Mrs. Marsden Rawlings and Mr. and Mrs. LeRoy Thompson Sr. More in R.S.V.P. (Photo by Moss)