—Drugs: Its people, places and things

(Continued from Page 1)

Like most Eastern cities—New York, Philadelphia, Washington—there are thousands of men, women and teenagers in Baltimore who use heroin. Treatment centers like those at University Hospital, Man Alive and the Veteran's Administration are filled to capacity. Addicts often have to wait 30 days or more before being accepted on methadone programs.

This problem doesn't worry addicts like Raymond Johnson who purchase methadone for from $15 to $30 a bottle from men leaving the treatment centers or from those who go directly to a corner like Laurens and Division where drugs are being sold.

By 10:30 a.m., clusters of addicts were beginning to mingle around and near Laurens and Division Streets.

Joe Man had met his pick-up man, passed on the $490 and asked for a new package as soon as possible because he could tell from the crowd forming that it wouldn't be long before he sold his remaining 11 bags which are called, "half-a-jumbos."

A "half-a-jumbo" contains from five to seven quarter spoons of dope and is supposed to sell for $25. Most dealers sell their drus for $50 to $53 a bag. There are about four different packages on the corner where Joe Man works.

When Joe Man first entered the game about a year ago, he asked his boss for the secret to selling dope. He passed the secret on to two pals who help him and are called, runners.

"Don't worry bout sellin' the dope; dope sells itself. Just keep the quality and weight like it is when you get it. Don't go in the bags and everything will be all-right."

Raymond Johnson and a pal had sold an old television packed in a new Panasonic color tv box and were on the corner just before 12 noon in time to flag down Joe Man who was riding a speed bike and wearing a red jogging outfit.

Other dealers were hawking their product:

"Boy, girl, bo," one announced, similar to the way dealers hawk their product in Harlem. There the bags are even personalized. Names such as "speed," "overdose," and "knockout" are printed on the bags. The "boy, girl, bo," translates into, heroin cocaine, marijuana. But Johnson and his friend had heard the spiel before and wanted what they had already tried.

"Joe Man," Johnson called, "how's that thing?"

"Just like it was last time you tried it."

"Can I get it for this?" Johnson asked, pressing $50 into Joe Man's hand.

"No problem," Joe Man said, nodding to a helper standing across the street in front of the R.C. Tire shop.

Turning to Johnson, Joe Man said:

"Meet him on the corner at Druid Hill Avenue and Laurens Street."

Johnson and his pal started down the street where they waited about 10 minutes until the runner went to their "stash" (the location of which is changed everyday). The runner arrived with the dope riding a bicycle. Handing the package to Johnson, he peddled back to Division and Pressman Streets where he waited for Joe Man in front of the Sun and Moon grocery store.

A block away at Etting and Pressman Streets, a group of children swung from the monkey pole and slid down the sliding board in the Rev. L.N. Quille Playground. They are not harrassed by the addicts who come and go.

Most addicts want to get to the corner, cop their drugs, and get away as soon as possible.

The majority of addicts who linger for any time around the corner are "working" with a product. Either heroin or cocaine, although because of the number of people who frequent the area, there are those who hang on the corner to sell marijuana, methadone and assorted downers, usually valums.

Even addicts arriving with stolen merchandise do not stay on the corner longer than is necessary. The object is cop and blow. Get it and go.

Being a transient business, the drug game attracts new people and pops up in new areas all the time. One kind of hustler who makes it his business to hang around the drug scene is Jake "The Burner."

When police infiltrate an area such as Holbrook and Hoffman Streets in East Baltimore, the drug trade drifts to new locations. So it happened that after recent arrests on the East side, traffic picked up on the West side in places like Calhoun and Riggs Avenue, the Murphy Homes projects, and Laurens and Division.

New faces unsettle dealers like Joe Man who immediately ask regulars if they know the strangers. But for a guy like Jake "the burner," a new face is just the ticket for which he has been waiting. Although such a beat could be a ticket to the cemetery.

"You looking?" Jake asks the new comer, jumping at the chance to be helpful.

If the answer is yes, and if the addict is willing to put his money in Jake's hand, he's sure to get "burned." Another victim, money gone up in smoke.

As they present a problem to the community, the drug addict also has problems beyond getting money and finding good drugs. The main problem after making a score is avoiding the police while still in possession of the drugs and not getting caught by the stick up artist specializing in taking an addicts drugs and money.

Dealers had to band together and crack down on guys robbing addicts in the Murphy Homes area last summer. There was no moralistic do-goody motives for the crack down. It was simply bad for business. They finally got all but the wildest freelancers to stop but it was too late.

Outraged victims who could not retaliate on their own called police and put out the word that the area was unsafe. Today, the same courtyards that took in thousands a day stand empty.

The business moved on.

A GRAPHIC ILLUSTRATION of the end of the road for many caught up in the insidious drug traffic in our communities.

Independents went to New York and with as little as $400 and $500, bought their own packages and opened shop on Bond Street, Park Heights, Liberty Road, Clifton and Pennsylvania Avenue, Edmonds on Avenue and Carey Street, Cherry Hill—all over the city.

Whenever top dealers are arrested, independents emerge to take up the slack.

It was almost five in the evening by the time Raymond Johnson and his pal, Buggy, found another victim to con and made it back to the corner. Business was booming and a new product called Mexican Mud (because the dope is brown) was being sold, prompting one of Joe Man's runners to crack:

"We need to run some of these m.f.'s. off the corner."

Joe Man turned a steely gaze on his helper.

"I don't own this corner. Anybody want to deal can come down here. I told you, good dope sells itself. And as long as ours stays like this, you do it just to feel like you gettin' over."

"Hey, Joe Man," Raymond Johnson called, swaggering across the street with a big grin on his dark brown face.

"What can we get for this?" he asked, slapping $90 into Joe Man's hand.

"This ain't but $90," Joe Man said.

"Aw man, come on."

"Gimmie $5 more and you got two."

Johnson looked at his pal, Buggy, with a knowing air of satisfaction, turned his back and slipped five more dollars from his pocket.

"You gonna stop comin' up short all the time," Raymond. "I think you do it just to feel like you gettin' over."

"Naw..."Raymond Johnson started but Joe Man stopped him by hunching his runner and telling him to get the pair two bags.

Unlike most addicts, Raymond and Buggy usually make enough money to take a little dope home so they can start the day with a fix. They don't want to be nervous while running a smooth and well - rehearsed line to a victim.

Sometimes they played con at large department stores like Montgomery Wards and told victims to get the serial number off items and meet the workman at the loading dock. One of them would be holding a clipboard with a pencil sticking behind his ear. They are very convincing. And to keep an edge and not be nervous in the morning they kept a bottle of methadone in the refrigerator.

The con team scored their dope at the same location as they did the first time, but now they had enough to save and some extra money to cop the next day in case things went bad. They were in high spirits and Buggy, nicknamed for his pop eyes, suggested they go to the "Doc" to make sure he got a good clean hit. After 15 years of injections, Buggy found getting a vein, at best, difficult.

The "Doc" is a 41-year-old addict who lives on North Avenue and relies on his skill for finding and injecting dope into an unseen vein just under the surface of the skin. His payment is a shot of his customers dope which he puts aside until he has enough to take himself into the euphoria of a narcotic high.

A customer was just leaving Doc's small and well-kept apartment when the con team arrived. Within 10 minutes, Doc had found a vein, made a clean hit and had Buggy nodding in narcotic dreams.

Doc's apartment is a far cry from the normal "shooting gallery," an apartment or room where addicts go to (shoot up) inject their drugs. The price for this service is $2. A syringe, called works or tools is provided.

The shooting gallery provides a place for the addict to get off quick; the beat artist, hustlers, thieves and runers want to get back to work on the corner.

The corner does not attract just the hustler, however. There are many working people who like to use dope. And for those with responsible jobs who don't want to be seen on the corner, there is the "juggler."

Donald Davis juggles to support his habit.

Davis buys a half-a-jumbo for $50, cuts it in half and sells the half for $35. He cuts the other half in half and sells these two quarters for $25 each. His clientele are respectable working people — teachers, city and state employees, folks who just want to get high on payday or over the weekend.

Just two years ago there was a massive drug bust of employees at Woodlawn's Social Security building.

Working people do not want habits, they just want to get high and let their hair down at home, parties or a disco.

Dusk was settling over the city and the crowd was thinning out when Raymond and Buggy cruised by Laurens and Division Streets in their 1974 Chevrolet. Jake "the burner" almost ran into their car in his haste getting across the street.

Joe Man was in an argument with two addicts.

"I don't care what he said...you didn't give your money to me and I ain't responsible."

One of Joe Man's runners pulled a .38-caliber revolver and the argument ceased.

Buggy looked through the rear window at the departing figure of Jake "the burner" and smiled knowingly at his partner

Jake "the burner" was found the next morning shot to death in an alley. He had been stopped violently, a victim of his own misdeeds. The multi-million dollar drug culture he was a part of, however, would continue. The corner he worked, when multiplied by 50 others like it in this city, staggers the imagination when drug profits are totaled, and the community surrounding each corner is taken into account.

The toll the drug culture takes on young minds and bodies cannot be calculated.

Dusk was settling over the city and the crowd was thinning out when Raymond and Buggy cruised by Laurens and Division Streets in their brown 1974 Chevrolet.

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As Raymond Johnson put the care into second gear and headed for home, he had a premonition of what the morning paper would confirm.

Police found Jake "the burner" in an alley near his favorite hangout about 4 o'clock in the morning. He had been shot to death, a victim of his last burn.

(TO BE CONTINUED)

Reception to thank Project 10,000 supporters

A wine and cheese reception in honor of Rep. Parren J. Mitchell, D-7th, honorary chairman of Project 10,000 and the community groups, organizations and individuals who helped make this year's voter registration drive a success, will be Tuesday, Oct. 5, at Lydell Mitchell's Point After Club, 2231 N Monroe St., from 6 until 9 p.m.

Some of the participants in the 1982 Project 10,000 effort were the Baltimore Welfare Rights Organization; Young Democrats of Baltimore; Behold Publications; KAAB Productions; Three Generations of Struggle; The Council for Equal Business Opportunity.

The West Arlington Community Association; New Horizons Democratic Organization; Coppin State College's Student Association; Providence Hospital Volunteers; Spirit of Baltimore; the Vulcan Blazers; Central Baptist Church.

James Vereen; the Sandtown-Winchester Improvement Association; Zeta Phi Beta Sorority; Ms. Yvette Turner, Willie Coley, the Forest Park Senior Citizens; Ned Graham, Dan Aye, Sam McMillam, Henry Sampson, Ms. Cora Lynch.

Ms. Su Wood, Daniel Brunson, Donovan Brooks and city and state representatives.

Project 10,000 was launched and sponsored by WEBB radio.

Will any black legislators head GA committes?

The answer may be months away

The names of several black legislators have been mentioned as possible candidates to receive chairmanships of the General Assembly's committees, but the man responsible for making those decisions for the House of Delegates said such appointments are months away.

Benjamin L. Cardin, Speaker of the House of Delegates, told the AFRO that several members of Maryland's Legislative Black Caucus have shown "solid talent" when asked about such positions for blacks.

"There are some outstanding members of the black caucus," Cardin said. "I don't mean to slight anyone (when he declined to be specific) but there is no question that there is good, solid talent in the black caucus."

The decisions on the chairmanships, which Cardin said he takes "10 percent responsibility" will not be made until December.

The committee assignments will not be determined until shortly before the General Assembly session for 1983 begins, he said.

Cardin said the decision making process is a long one, but he does not even think about it until after the General Elections in November and "until I know all the people (who will be) in the General Assembly."

A delegate's background is studied through a resume and personal contact he said. The delegate's committee preference also is taken into consideration as well as that person's philosophy of the House of Delegates and where he or she may best serve and be suited.

Cardin said he is making his decisions based on the best interests for the House.

There are seven standing committees in the house and several other important leadership positions also exists such as Majority Leader, Minority Whip and Speaker Pro Tem.

The vacancies that now are open for Democratic leadership positions are the chairmanship and vice chairmanship of the Environmental Matters Committee and the Speaker Pro Tem.

Watts elected to head War Memorial Commission

Judge Robert B Watts of the Supreme Bench of Baltimore City has been elected Chairman of the War Memorial Commission.

A member of the Supreme Bench since 1968, Judge Watts was the Vice Chairman for the Commission in 1981. In May 1962 he was awarded the Distinguished Public Service Award by the N.A.A.C.P.

Judge Watts received an Honorary Degree. Doctor of Humane Letters, from Towson State University in May 1976. He is also a member of the Baltimore City and Monumental Bar Associations.

As Chairman, Judge Watts will serve a two-year term and assist the Commission in its function of supervising and maintaining the War Memorial Building and the War Memorial Plaza.

The War Memorial Commission consists of 10 members, five of whom are appointed by the Secretary of General Services with the approval of the Governor, and five of whom are appointed by the Mayor.

Each member serves a five-year term and must be a war veteran. Maintenance costs of the Building are shared equally by the State and City of Baltimore.

The War Memorial Building and the War Memorial Plaza were erected "to honor the men of Maryland who fought in World War I." The Building is available for meetings of veterans' groups and patriotic societies and for civic gatherings, provided that no collection or donation is taken or any admission charged.

Judge Robert B. Watts

as the wheels turn

By Penny Brady

The month of October is being dedicated to the largest minority group, individuals with disabilities. Gov. Harry Hughes has proclaimed this month as "Employ the Handicapped Month."

The President and Congress of the United States have proclaimed the week of October 4th as "Employ the Handicapped Week."

"It should be recognized that ability counts when performing a job, not disability and that many barriers still exist inhibiting accessibility of employment for handicapped persons," Gov. Hughes' proclamation said.

It is true there are attitudinal barriers that still face the disabled. Yet some of the accessible barriers have been coming down.

Many employers have found ways to assist the disabled. A good example is Amercom in Silver Spring. They have an employee, severely handicapped with cerebral palsy, with a degree in computer science.

As many people know, to be a computer programmer, you need to use your hands. Through a special design by IBM, the employee can use the terminal.

What IBM designed was a lucite plate which covers the keyboards of the computer terminal used by the employee. The plate has a finger hole above each key which permits the employee to place his difficult-to-control hands on the plate, locate the proper hole, and insert his finger to depress the key. Not only did Amercom hire ability, but accommodated too.

Another employer has a specialized equipment officer in their office of personnel. Social Security Administration has Mr. Gabe DiGiacomo to purchase and evaluate equipment to be used by their disabled employees.

Considering that SSA is one of the largest employers, with many disabled employees, the need to accommodate them is very important. Besides ramps and magnifiers, SSA has braille terminals for their visually impaired workers.

Proctor to address NAACP Banquet

Dr. Samuel Proctor, a professor of Education at Rutgers University, will be the guest speaker at the annual NAACP Unity Banquet sponsored by the Baltimore NAACP, Wednesday, Oct. 6, 6:30 p.m., at Martin's West.

Dr. Proctor, who also is the senior staff minister at Abyssinian Baptist Church in New York City, will address the theme of the banquet, "Support We Must—Those We Can Trust."

Included on the program will be the Fernando Allen Singers, who will render the music; Darryl Carter, local orator and dramatist; and NAACP Act-So Winner.

During the banquet, the NAACP will be honoring Congressman Parren J. Mitchell, D-7th,; the Welfare Rights Organization, Wayland Baptist Church and Catherine Holland for outstanding service to the NAACP and the civil rights struggle.

Dr. Samuel Proctor

One of the world's deepest chasms is the 34,000 foot Puerto Rican Trench, which begins two miles off of Puerto Rico's north coast.

Social notes / club news / trends
family and home / urban lifestyles

OUR WORLD

C.A.C.E. — a new thrust for black youth

MS. GRETCHEN STARKS, local gospel soloist, does a soulful song during the Inaugural Reception for Cultural Arts with Christian Emphasis (CACE) held at the Heritage United Church of Christ Sunday, Sept. 19.

AFRO Photos by Roman Hankewycz

By Pattie Hodges

Members of the Heritage United Church of Christ care what happens to black youth.

They have formed a group called Cultural Arts with Christian Emphasis (C.A.C.E.) which is designed to encourage, develop and showcase the talents of young blacks.

To this end Sunday, Sept. 19 C.A.C.E. held its Inaugural Reception in the lower auditorium of the church, 3106 liberty Heights Ave. at 5 p.m.

A capacity audience witnessed inspirational performances by program participants.

Featured were the 'Young Voices' of Washington, D.C. all pre - teens, who did a splendidly dramatic oration of Psalm 150. This youthful group is under the direction of Dr. Linda Wharton - Boyd.

Inspirational solos were done by Ms. Yvette Ferguson, soprano soloist; Wallace Baden, a tenor and Douglass High School instructor and Clarence Henderson, a tenor soloist and assistant principal at Patterson Senior High School.

Sparking the performance was Ms. Gretchen Starks, whose lyrical voice with its fantastic range rang out with several selections.

Ms. Starks won Frist Prize at the Gospel Festival held at Pier 6 during summer.

Trina Thompson, a vocal student of Ms. Margaret Lindsay, sang "Ave Maria" in the absence of her instructor, who was unable to attend.

Other music for the reception included the lucid tones of the Bob Smith Trio.

In between musical selections fashions, designed by Vera Hall were aired.

Modeling was youthful Deidre Thompson. Joan Ledbetter moderated.

Ms. Jean Tucker Adams, executive assistant to Governor Hughes presented the Governor's Citation to Reverend Wendell Phillips, pastor of the church.

Following the program delicious refreshments were served.

THE YOUNG VOICES of Washington, DC whose dramatic oration of Psalm 150 was powerfully moving are (L to R): Carmen White, Nicole Binn, Kelly Smith, Sheree Hamilton and Minyon Mangram. The youthful drama group is under the directorship of Dr. Linda Wharton-Boyd.

Other C.A.C.E. goals are to get funds for reconstruction of the Park Community Center (a facility for young people in the West Baltimore community); to give scholarships to young people entering college; to give young people the much needed exposure to cultural arts and to assist with rebuilding projects within the church.

Mrs. Katie Grove was chairperson for the Inaugural Reception. Mrs. Joan - Johnson - Ledbetter was co - chairperson. Audrey Cyrus McCallum and Julius Tilman served as pianists.

The next C.A.C.E. activity will be held at the church, Sunday, Oct. 10 at 5 p.m., and will feature a Vocal Arts Ensemble, highlighting Rebecca Sydnor, soprano: Dorothy Lofton Jones, mezzo soprano: Slyvester Graves, Lyric tenor, Richard Hobson, baritone and Audrey C. McCallum, accompanist.

SINGLE PARENTING

By Kelly Hill

I was glad to see so many of you who were interested in reading my column and wanted to join Black Single Parents' Without Partners.

Your moral support and efforts are key factors in making the black family stronger. Not only are you showing your children you care, you are also showing society we are "one" we are united and can accomplish anything.

The Election results reflected our ability to work together. To those of you who asked specific advice, I will try to provide answers.

I recently read a study by Sheppard Kellam, M.D., a psychiatrist and Chairman Designate of the Department of Mental Hygiene at the Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health on Children who fail the first grade.

Researchers can now predict what a child will be like 10 years from now based on whether or not the child develops social skills.

The study explained how to identify which family and school characteristics in first grade will lead to the use of substances, i.e., drugs, alcohol and cigarettes, delinquency, lack of motivation, lack of participation and mental distress by age 16 or 17.

Adapting socially in the first grade according to the study is the first major transition from home to school.

There have been studies linking early learning difficulties to psychiatric problems later in life. Learning problems can be related to depression in men and paranoid feelings in women.

In his paper entitled "Early Soft Neurological Signs and Later Psychopathological Development" Dr. D. Schaffer links low childhood IQ to later general psychiatric disorders.

Another study showed above average IQ increased the chances of a positive outcome for artistic children of either sex.

Mastering learning skills is vital. Monitoring your child's progress early in school and maintaining a good parent-teacher relationship is also important.

First grade learning problems in boys are the strongest predictor of teenage psychiatric problems. This effect is less clear in girls.

Shyness among first grade boys clearly hampers drug use at age 16 or17. Another factor according to this study is a strong difference between boys and girls in the growing paths leading to teenage years.

Develop an understanding of how your child accepts challenges and problem solving. It can help to develop the support needed for effective learning.

Boys will signal trouble in adapting to school in ways that are recognized early. Girls also respond to school learning problems, but the signs are not always clear to parents.

Some boys may have trouble adapting and may become inappropriately aggressive, as in fighting, violating rules and upsetting the class in response to study demands they cannot meet.

Also first grade boys who were aggressive were found to be delinquent at age 16 or 17 and heavy users of drugs.

Girls were less likely to act out. Mothers should relate to their daughters in a more powerful but subtle way and erbalize their early growth expectation in the first grade.

The key to understanding your daughter's emotional state is in realizing your own emotional state. Mothers who are depressed and filled with anxiety at this time, showed that the daughter had more depression and anxiety than her peers.

This depression was more prevalent both in the first grade and in in mid - teenagers.

In Dr. M.E. Ensminger's paper, "School and Family Origins of Delinquency: Comparisons By Sex" he mentions the mother-daughter relationship is very important in developing the female self esteem.

There were three basic profiles of males with learning problems: Aggressiveness, shyness, behavior and learning problems. First graders who have these problems have a higher risk of becoming delinquent.

A preventive measure for the first grader who fails is to establish a good parent-teacher relationship. A parent can tell the difference between an enthusiastic, energetic youngster and a quiet child who is headed for difficulty.

According to Dr. Kellam, 30 percent of boys who had learning problems in the first grade were reported to have more psychiatric problems 10 years later than their peers.

It is crucial that we pay attention to our children particularly if we are a one parent family. We must accept this study as a positive beginning in becoming more aware of our children's attitudes towards life.

This study like so many others does not say that every child who fails the first grade will become a alcoholic or drug abuser, or every aggressive child in the first grade who fails will be marked for life as a delinquent. It is saying we should recognize the symptoms of a first grader asking for help.

partyline

By Pattie Hodges

AT THE IRVING PHILLIPS'

If you wanted to really party hearty last Saturday night, then Irving and Clarice Phillips' house was the place to be.

It's becoming an annual event for the under - 40, upwardly - mobile to begin the fall social season by meeting and greeting each other at the Phillips' beautifully restored home in the 2000 block of Madison Ave.

A collection of writers, politicians, dancers, playwrights, business - people, teachers, doctors and dentists — a real cross section of the community — thronged their party in a steady stream that lasted well into the morning.

Pre - taped party music had the dance area of the basement rocking on one side, while folks crowded into the kitchen area (on the other side) for drinks made to order by the Phillips' amiable bartender, and goodies of cold cuts, broccoli and other raw vegetables, chips, dips and the like.

Upstairs other guests chattered away animatedly in the dining and living room area, the latter of which has a strikingly dramatic all-brick wall.

At some points, there were "Wall-to-Wall" people, with many congregating in the halls to engage in lively party patter.

Glimpsed Kurt Schmoke, nominee for Baltimore State's Attorney's Office, along with his wife and his campaign manager, Larry Gibson, who stopped in for a while.

Dr. Leslie King Hammond and her hubby were also on hand for the festivities.

Among the tidbits gathered at the party was a pretty convincing statement uttered by a former courthouse official who stated of his political ambitions: "No, I don't want to run for public office, I'd rather be a kingmaker."

Ears picked up a rap between friends who said that a certain daily paper's coverage of the Jamaican crisis in the Park Heights community was biased.

Lots of rapping on a variety of things went on and on, and it must have been fun night. It seemed no one wanted to leave. When I departed at 3 a.m., folks were still arriving.

Quite a spirited way to begin fall socilaizing.

MRS. FANNIE B. POULSON (C) poses happily with sister Ruby Lee (L) and son Alan U. Poulson (R) during the retirement tribute hosted for her at La Fontaine Bleu, Erdman Ave., Friday, Sept. 17 at 7 p.m. Mrs. Poulson is a retired Baltimore City Public Schools educator.

AFRO Photo by Roman Hankewycz

RETIREMENT TRIBUTE

Mrs. Fannie B. Poulson ended her career with Baltimore City Public Schools retiring as a counselor in early 1982.

Friday, September 17 many turned out for a tribute in honor of her retirement, held at La Fontaine Bleu, Erdman Ave.

Presiding was Mrs. Evelyn B. Faulk, who extended greetings. The invocation was by Dr. Willard L. Clayton, pastor, Macedonia Baptist Church.

Following dinner, there was a musical selection by Wallace Baden.

Expressions extoling the honoree were given by the Honorable Parren J. Mitchell, member, U.S. House of Representatives: the Honorable Robert M. Bell, Supreme Bench, Baltimore City; Mrs. Clarice Brown, national president, Iota Lambda Sorority, Inc.;

Tributes and presentations were forthcoming from representatives of the Dept. of Education, Baltimore Chapter, Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, Baltimore Chapter, Top Ladies of Distinction, Macedonia Baptist Church, family and friends.

Miss Margaret Lindsay rendered a musical selection prior to Mrs. Poulson's joyful response.

Acknowledgments were made by Mrs. Ruby Lee, coordinator of the Retirement Banquet Committee and the benedition by Dr. Willard Clayton.

Mrs. Poulson graduated from Douglass High School, furthered her education at Coppin State Teacher's College, Morgan State, Temple University, Loyola College and the University of Maryland where she received the Master's Degree in Education.

She is a native Baltimorean, is married to Philip L. Poulson, a retired postal worker and church leader, and is the mother of one son, Alan.

Now that she is retired she plans to continue her club and civic activities, as well as her church work, which she has always been very involved with.

She is now heading a city - wide effort to extend Christian Education throughout our Baltimore communities.

DORSEY FAMILY REUNION

This year 112 participants gathered at the Dorsey's homestead in Sykesville, MD. for their recent annual family reunion, with the first of the members arriving the day before the reunion.

Pat Whiten's Food Committee made potato salad, fried chicken, string beans, and cucumber salad for the crowd.

After initial preparations were completed, many elected to spend the night in the remodeled "home place" or in sleeping bags on the floor of the family center.

The kids had already set up and stocked their tents for sleeping out for the night.

As always, Samuel Jackson and Hazel Collins were the early risers (5 a.m.) on reunion day — 5am to light the fire in the outdoor grill and Hazel to rouse and spark the Food Committee into action.

At 10 a.m., president Patsy Dade called on Thelma Jackson who presented an original poem of welcome that contained reminiscences of Carrie and Edward Dorsey, the family founders.

Edna Greer, family historian, with the assistance of John Greer Dorothy Swilley and Martin Whiten, presented a slide tape historical introduction of the individual families of the family tree.

Organized games followed with Tommy Jenkins assumming leadership for adult activities, Celestine Bland the responsibility for children from 7 - 12 years old, while Rosie Marie Chaney with Michele Wright and Brian Chaney guided the younger kids through their activities. Prizes were awarded to all who participated.

After dining sumptuously on Dorsey home - cooked food, the group began card games, basketball and many other games.

Following a long and active day, it was "Entertainment Time." Stephen and Steven Dorsey served as emcees and Carolyn Dorsey directed the family through some of their favorite songs.