—Pickets

(Continued from page 17)

said that the influence over city-related matters he and other black elected officials have in Annapolis may be used as leverage to insure that the mayor makes good his promises.

But he left unanswered why leveraging has not brought cooperation from the Schaefer administration so far.

"We are in a position of preventing a lot of things from happening at the state level if the mayor doesn't follow through. And we intend to do that," Sen. Mitchell said.

Coalition members are afraid that the black community will fall victim to a political ruse, however, and want to know the specifics of the Mitchell-Schaefer talks while there is still time to respond at the polls.

"What is he going to do, wait until after the election is over before telling anybody?" Tshamba asked. "We have gotten broken promises before."

With their endorsement the Mitchell brothers join their father, Clarence Mitchell Jr. in backing the mayor. Mitchell Jr., a long-time civil rights activist, has publicly supported the mayor for months.

The Mitchell's uncle, Congressman Parren J. Mitchell (d-7th) is an active supporter of Murphy's challenge to the mayor.

—Women claim

(Continued from page 17)

possible suit by white males.

"We are asking that Attorney General Steven Sachs develop a legal opinion on the two proposals, and meet with us to review the results.

"Whereas the Human Relations Commission proposal was based on recent Supreme Court decisions on affirmative action, the governor's plan was not. We see little point in adopting a plan which might be shot down in court," said nine to five spokeswoman Joanne Holcombe.

Attempts to hand deliver a special letter to Sachs were thwarted by his absence from the building at the time of the press conference; however, the group did promise to leave both the correspondence and a list of their solutions with his office.

The crisis over discriminatory hiring practices at the Maryland Lottery first surfaced in 1982 and has been brewing since then.

Under the governor's current plan two positions to safeguard against preferential employment would be created and minorities would be highly considered for three additional upper grade-level positions.

Nine to Five and the NAACP feel Hughes's plan is a cop-out and want the original agreement drafted by the Human Relations Commission implemented.

"If his plan (Hughes's) is unconstitutional, the governor will have to accept the Human Relation Commission's plan," says Dr. Emmett Burns, regional director of the NAACP.

Burns also indicated that a legal complaint has been filed by the Maryland chapter of his organization, with the U.S. Justice Department.

—Murphy

(Continued from page 17)

just the latest in a long series of incidents. We've lost hundreds of yard signs and have received calls from people, black and white, who believe there is an effort to suppress the visibility of the Murphy campaign," says Hoshall.

"We've received hundreds of calls about instances, but the majority of people cannot come forward. These are the bravest of the brave here today," said Hoshall of the nine men and women who faced reporters and TV cameras.

Lenora Rainey of the Gardenville community said that every sign she had posted on her home since last week has been torn up. Displaying photos of her broken windows and the torn up Murphy signs on her lawn, Ms. Rainey added, "I've heard hearsay that people were paid to vandalize my property and I'm waiting to hear from the police."

John Selden Stricker, of Belair Edison community and the only white Murphy supporter who spoke at the press conf. said that his Murphy For Mayor sign had not been on his lawn 34 hours before he was harrassed.

"A young man came by while me and my wife were sitting on the porch and he called my wife nasty remarks. I called the police and they said to take the signs down." Stricker did remove the signs when he received threats that his house would be burned down if he did not.

However after speaking with Hoshall, Stricker said he replaced the signs only to discover the next morning that vandals had ripped apart the radial tires on his car. "I called the police and told them I was a Murphy supporter and they looked at me with a "who cares?-attitude."

Wednesday Stricker attached his Murphy sign to a railing with wire. Thursday morning he discovered the sign had been reversed so that the white backing of the sign showed and 'n---- lover' had been written on the back.

Mrs. Dorothy Wilson of Ashburton says her Murphy signs were torn down twice by a group of young teenage boys who she says have torn down signs from at least 16 other Ashburton homes.

"They were in a car, seven or eight boys. I was sitting on the patio when I heard all this commotion. By the time I got to the front, they jumped in the car and took off," says Mrs. Wilson.

She recognized the driver of the car, also a teenager, and called the police who made the boys put back the signs and apologize. "But this is not the answer. The boys said they were promised payment and that they would come back at ten p.m. and throw eggs," says Mrs. Wilson.

Mrs. Wilson claims that she knows who is paying the boys. "She's a Schaefer supporter, she's well-known and she's black," says Mrs. Wilson.

Cleoda Walker of Cherry Hill says her rental agent, he Cherrydale Apt. Corp. told her to remove her signs three times. "I was told no signs were to be placed in the complex although I have a notary sign and anti-crime signs and I was not asked to remove them. I am a former Schaefer supporter and I was never asked to remove a Schaefer sign," says Ms. Walker.

Further harrassment occurred when she found her car covered with Schaefer stickers and reported for work and found a batch of copier headlines from a Balto. daily paper had been shoved under the door of her office. The headlines were about Murphy's alleged tax indebtedness.

Frank Pettaway Sr. of the Perring Loch Community, who has worked in the Murphy Campaign for the past nine weeks says that in his integrated community he has been replacing Murphy signs for the last four to five weeks.

"As fast as I put them up they take them down. I've even put signs on trees and now they're tearing them down off the trees and replacing the Murphy signs with Schaefer signs. I can't tear the Schaefer signs down because that would put me in the same category as those people," says Pettaway.

The police department promised surveillance and Pettaway says he described the pattern of vandals, such as the fact that they tend to work in the wee hours of the morning, but he believes that had police been watching at those times they would have caught the vandals.

Margaret Hammett of the Perring Manor area of Northeast Balto. stated that several weeks ago while at work she received a call from her neighbor and babysitter. Apparently her rental agent was banging at her door and yelling in her window telling her to remove her signs in support of John Clark for City Council President and Murphy for Mayor.

Ms. Hammett's 10-year-old daughter was inside the apartment at the time and was instructed by Ms. Hammett not to open the door. "I called the rental agent and he denied banging on the door and being rude. He said he only said not to display signs, but one week later I saw Schaefer signs in the development and on the lawn.

"I felt that wasn't fair and put the signs back up. They've asked me to remove them again. People also yell into my car 'Take that t- off your car' and 'He hasn't got a chance.'" says Ms. Hammett.

Also, billboards for Murphy in predominantly white areas have been defaced.

Others at the press conference told of being threatened by a neighborhood organization to remove Murphy signs or the association would remove them at the homeowner's expense; or having a glass storm door smashed, and being told that some people were being paid 20 dollars to take down Murphy signs.

Bishop Carroll guest preacher at St. James's

The Rt. Rev. Edward G. Carroll will be the guest speaker at St. James Episcopal Church's Homecoming Service at 10 a.m. on Sunday, Sept. 11th.

Bishop Carroll is a prelate of the United Methodist Church and was formerly the pasto at harp Street Memorial Methodist Church.

The service is open to the public. Father Donald O. Wilson is rector.

Bishop Carroll

Joint venture wins NY cable franchise

NEW YORK — Queens Inner-Unity Cable Systems, Inc., a joint venture between Unity Broadcasting Network Inc. and Inner City Broadcasting Corporation has signed an agreement with the Newark City Board of Estimates for a franchise to provide cable television to one-third of the Borough of Queens.

"This franchise is exciting on a number of levels," said Eugene D. Jackson, chairman of Unity Broadcasting Network. "It is one of the first joint ventures between major African-American entrepreneurs, and we hope this will prove an inspiration to others."

Inner City Broadcasting, headed by Percy Sutton has successfully captured a mass listening audience in New York through its radio stations WLIB and WBLS. In addition, Inner City owns 5 radio stations in Los Angeles, San Francisco and Detroit.

The Light Touch

By Mrs. LEE

Success usually comes to those who are too busy to look for it.

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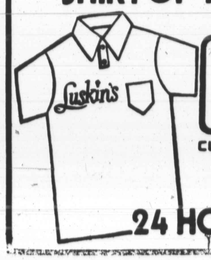

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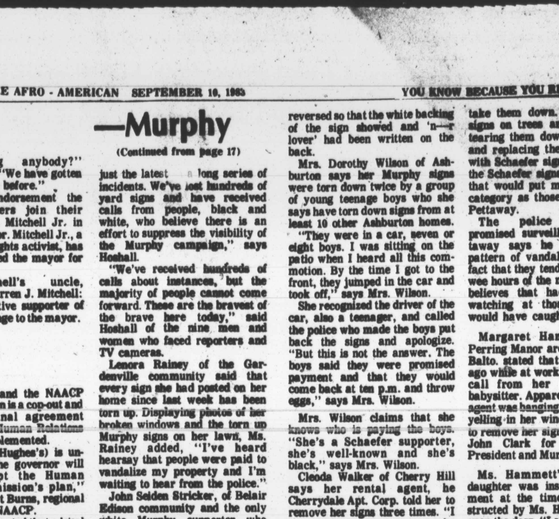

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Three men convicted on income tax charges

Three Maryland residents described by the state as tax protesters pleaded guilty Wednesday in Anne Arundel County District Court to charges of wilfully failing to file state income tax returns.

Each of the men was fined $150, placed on a year's probation and told to clear up his tax problems with the State.

Marvin Bond, a spokesman for State Comptroller Louis L. Goldstein, said the three had either failed to file tax returns or had written on their forms that they were protected from paying income tax returns by the 5th amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

John B. Lyons, 23, a swimming pool mechanic from Timonium; Ruben Cantu, 46, of Glen Burnie, a life insurance salesman and Stanley Madison, 54, a Baltimore physician.

Bond said Lyons had a criminal tax liability of $1,326 and pleaded guilty to three counts of wilfully failing to file state income tax returns in 1979, 1980 and 1981.

Cantu, with a tax liability of $3,061, also pleaded guilty to the same charges for the same three years.

Madison pleaded guilty to failing to pay his taxes in 1979 and 1980 and had a criminal tax liability of $2,856, Bond said.

Before appearing before District Judge Donald M. Lowman, Lyons paid his back taxes, penalties and interest, but Bond said the amounts still owed by Cantu and Madison are still in dispute.

Bond said he believed a series of convictions of tax protesters in recent months had convinced others to plead guilty rather than argue their cases in court.

"I think a lot of them are beginning to come in out of the cold when they see what is happening, when they see the convictions that are occurring," Bond said. "Those are not leaders in the (tax protest) movement. They have been told just one side of the story."

AFRO Photo by P. A. Greene

BLUE CHIP IN WORKER — Tonya McLendon, a 17-year-old senior at Western High School worked as a Blue Chip In worker for two months at the AFRO-AMERICAN Newspaper. Miss McLendon said her experience at the AFRO was "truly a remarkable learning experience. She spent her summer working in the bookkeeping office. Miss McLendon is the daughter of Diane McLendon and plans to attend Villa Julie College, where she will major in court reporting.

READ THE AFRO

State prosecutors launch crackdown on health spa

State prosecutors Wednesday launched a crackdown against health spas that allegedly failed to comply with Maryland's new registration and bonding requirements.

Maryland Attorney General Stephen H. Sachs ordered officials from four suburban Washington clubs to show why they should not be banned from selling memberships and required to refund money to consumers.

The four clubs, club Nautilus of White Flint Inc. in Bethesda and three Fun and Fitness centers run by Beachwood spas International in Temple Hills, Forestville and Camp Springs, allegedly failed to register with the consumer protection Division as required by law. The four also allegedly did not post a mandatory $50,000 bond.

Officials with the Attorney General's Consumer Protection Division said they have information indicating that the clubs were aware of the law's requirements, but failed to register or arrange for a bon...

Managers of the health clubs refused to comment on the allegations Wednesday.

All of the spas have been directed to send representatives to an Oct. 10 hearing at the Consumer Protection Division's office in Baltimore.

At that hearing, the Attorney General plans to seek an order requiring the firms to register and obtain a bond, a letter of credit or deposit of $50,000 if they wish to continue offering long-term contracts to consumers.

Prosecutors also want the firms ordered to cease selling contracts until they register and to refund money to consumers holding contracts for more than three months if they do not fulfill the bonding requirment.

In addition, Sachs said his office has sent warning letters to other health clubs believed to have violated the beefed-up state health spa law, which went into effect July 1.

The 1983 General Assembly voted to tighten the regulations governing Maryland Health clubs after several spas went out of business after selling memberships to consumers.

AFRO Photo by P. A. Greene

TRACEY WILLIS, 16-year-old junior at Western High School spent her summer working at the AFRO-AMERICAN Newspaper as a Blue Chip In worker. Miss Willis worked in the business office and was a switchboard operator. She has received awards and certificates from her school for being an active member of the concert band and marching band. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel (Vivian) Willis.

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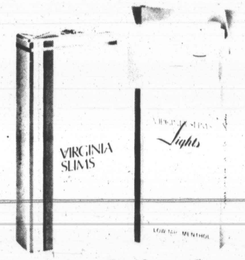

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