

# Leaders Seek Meeting With Mayor

# BLAST POLICE MASS ARRESTS

## Gov. Swainson, Aides Pledge to Continue Fair Administration

In an unmistakable pledge to continue the liberal trend in government started by his predecessor G. Mennen Williams 12 years ago, Michigan Governor John B. Swainson promised reforms and better government for all the people in his inaugural address in Lansing New Year's Day.

Reflecting the influence of youth and new blood in the Capitol, Swainson declared the new administration recognizes that the problems facing the state will require solutions which will be different and newer than those used a short ten years ago.

He called for basic reform in the Michigan tax structure and indicated the whole framework of the state government would be carefully reviewed by him and those who will be working with him.

Sworn in with Governor Swainson were members of the Administrative Board which included Otis N. Smith, Auditor General and the first Negro to be elected to a top administrative post in the history of the state.

It is believed to be the only instance so far of such an achievement any where in the United States.

Swainson, a Democrat, is the first of his party to succeed another Democrat in 100 years. He succeeds G. Mennen Williams, chief

executive of the state, since 1948.

Williams was recently named assistant secretary of state in charge of African affairs.

Swainson, a 36-year-old double amputee of World War II, in his inaugural address, called for Democratic-Republican co-operation in four "major areas"—steady improvement in

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## Eastside Man Succumbs in Multiple Crash

A 48-year-old Eastsider was killed last Thursday in a three-car smash-up on the Edsel Ford Expressway.

John Dooling, of 3661 E. Ferry, died in the collision that occurred on the west-bound Expressway at the Ceel overpass.

Witnesses told police that Dooling caused the accident when he cut off an automobile driven by Greer C. Parker, 24, of 6571 McDonald.

"LACK OF COOPERATION"

## Sammy, May Expect Baby in August

HOLLYWOOD — Sammy Davis, Jr., will be a father in 1961.

The entertainer and his wife of seven weeks, blonde May Britt, are expecting a baby next July or August. They were married in a Jewish ceremony last Nov. 13.

Frank Sinatra was the best man at the ceremony. Also attending were Peter Lawford and President-elect John F. Kennedy's sister, Pat.

Announcement of Mrs. Davis' pregnancy was made by Davis' public relations office. The singer-actor currently is appearing in New York's Copacabana night club. Mrs. Davis is in New York with him.

Sammy, who formerly was married to Loray White, says he and May hope the baby will be a boy and have already decided upon a name for him.

According to Columnist Earl Wilson, the popular entertainer said: "We have already picked the name which will be Mark. We love that name and it is one his bud-

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## Wife Cleared in Slaying of Irate Husband

A 35-year-old nurse's aide

## Breaking Ground for New School



DR. REMUS G. ROBINSON, member of the Detroit Board of Education for the past six years and president of the board during the 1958-59 school year, breaks ground for the new Jamieson Elementary School at 2900 W. Philadelphia. The first

ground breaking of the current five-year building program, the Jamieson School is scheduled for fall 1961 completion. Standing to Dr. Robinson's right is Dr. Samuel M. Brownell, Detroit superintendent of schools.

## National Dignitaries at Funeral

# Thousands Attend Final Rites for Elk Leader

Thousands of members, friends and spectators witnessed final rites for the late Dr. Nettie Carter Jackson, 58, Grand Daughter Ruler of the Grand Temple, of the Improved Benevolent Protective Order of Elks of the World, held in Sailors Snug Harbor on Richmond Terrace, Staten Island, N.Y., Saturday.

## Pastors Endorse Policy Statement

### Group Blames Daily Press, Police for Creating "Racial Hysteria"

By CHARLES J. WARTMAN

Rejection by Mayor Miriani of a proposal to call in national crime and police authorities to investigate the recent crime wave, and Detroit police measures for dealing with it, and the continuance of "dragnet" arrests of hundreds of citizens in the central area of the city, have resulted in growing unification and tightening of opposition to the "race labeling" and mass arrests.

In a meeting on Sunday morning, Dr. Jesse Jai McNeil, spokesman for a group of Detroit ministers who last week indicated great concern for the rise in crimes of violence, indicated his group would support in principle the statement issued Saturday after representatives of more than twenty civic, church and labor organizations had deliberated.

This indicated that in addition to a drive to reduce crime in the community, these groups would also adhere to the position that Negro leadership does not accept a disproportionate share of the responsibility for crimes committed by Negroes.

This position was affirmed Tuesday when the Baptist Alliance voted to endorse the five point program issued Saturday by the group which met at the Episcopal Cathedral Center.

Aroused by the mounting number of arrests which passed the 1,300 mark as of

Tuesday, the group at the Cathedral Center vehemently

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## LOST AUTO

## Ex-Convict Is Slain by Police

A 21-year-old ex-convict was shot and killed by a police officer last Thursday while fleeing down an alley after breaking into a parked auto.

The victim is Lawrence G. Paul, of 279 Englewood. He was dead on admittance to Receiving Hospital of a gunshot wound inflicted by Patrolman Donald W. Ogle, 32, of the Motor Traffic Bureau.

Ogle said he and his patrol car partner, Patrolman

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# Leaders Meet, Blast Arrests

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attacked the community hysteria being created by the race baiting policy of daily newspapers and charged the Mayor with having a major responsibility to speak out in the crisis and define the role of police and citizens alike.

Particularly strong was their resentment of the blanket labeling of the central city district as the crime area, when as a matter of fact some of the largest business and cultural establishments in the entire city are located in the area.

Harold Norris, of the American Civil Liberties Union talked on the legal problems involved in arresting on suspicion, and pointed out that a first step in securing obedience to the law requires that police officers themselves act lawfully.

Arthur Johnson, executive secretary of the Detroit branch NAACP, spoke on the implications for the total community in the present crisis and presented statistics to place the problem in its proper perspective.

He attacked particularly the editorial in the "Detroit Free Press" which had charged that a organized plan of violence against white women was in operation in the so-called "crime area."

The group raised the question as to why, after a white housewife had admitted killing her husband, no effort was made by either the police or the newspapers to soften the stigma and hysteria which had been created by proclaiming a Negro as the as-

sailant and conducting a long search for the "Negro" fitting the housewife's description.

The group authorized a telegram to Mayor Louis C. Miriani which read in part:

"Regard for law and order and respect for the enforcers of law are essential in any community. Equally essential is a regard for the rights of citizens by law enforcement officers. Only in a society in which these mutual responsibilities are recognized and upheld can effective action be taken to reduce delinquency and crime.

"Mass hysteria will not do the job. Neither will disregard of citizens' constitutional rights; nor large-scale indiscriminate arrests of alleged offenders against whom there is an incriminating evidence.

"We pledge continuing support of every fair, objective and constitutional effort used in this community to combat crime and at the same time to protect the constitutional rights of all citizens.

The following recommendations were developed to implement this position:

"1—That a committee representative of the entire community meet with Mayor Louis C. Miriani to discuss the responsibility of his office and of City Government as a whole in regard to the present situation.

"2—That a committee meet with the owners and editors of daily newspapers and representatives of other communications media to voice community concern about their treatment of the crime situation and press responsibility for fair and objective reporting of crime and related news.

"3—That appropriate steps be taken immediately toward creation of a Detroit Police Commission.

"4—That steps be taken

to reaffirm and enlarge support for the establishment of a Public Police Review Board.

"5—That the Mayor engage a committee of recognized, nationwide experts to evaluate present law enforcement techniques."

Representatives from the following organizations were among those participating in the Saturday meeting: Catholic Inter-racial Council, Detroit Council of Churches, American Civil Liberties Union, American Jewish Congress, The Methodist Church, the Congregational Church, the UAW, Local 800, Pioneers, Detroit Council for Political Education, Cotillion Club, Interdenominational Alliance, Women's League for Peace and Freedom and the YWCA.

Also the Detroit Urban League, the Detroit Medical Society, Jewish Community Council, Anti-Defamation League, Michigan Labor Committee, Trade Union Leadership Council, Booker T. Washington Trade Association, Detroit branch NAACP, and the Baptist Minister's Alliance.

The Mayor responded by rejecting the outside study proposal on the grounds that the city "already knows" its problems. He said further that Detroit has a committee which has been studying crime prevention for almost two years. He added however that he would study the full telegram when he returned to his office.

## Jail Father

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the House of Correction last week.

Edgar Lowman, of 8169 Prairie, pleaded guilty in Recorder's Court to the assault and battery of his infant daughter, Donna.

## About Cars!

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## T.N.T. Explodes At

THOMPSON



# Crime: A Community-Wide Problem

The rash of violence and criminal assaults which have plagued the Detroit community for the past several weeks are matters of deep concern for the entire community.

The unthinking and irresponsible persons who have committed these crimes are and should be the recipients of the castigation and contempt of all people who respect the right of all to be secure in their own persons and who abhor lawlessness of any kind.

This, however, is no reason why the communications media of our town should so present the problem as to panic the entire com-

munity with stories which are slanted in such a way as to aggravate community tensions and distrust rather than to contribute to a social climate in which crime can be reduced.

Obviously identifications of a superficial nature have not reduced appreciably the incidence of crime in this or any other major city. In fact, such identifications have served to divide the community, build up antagonisms and make even more difficult the overall job of law enforcement.

Anyone with a modicum of intelligence, however, recognizes

that in the final analysis that law enforcement officials have a responsibility to solve these crimes and cannot use as an excuse or a crutch, the fact that the criminal had been identified at some point as a Negro.

As we view and study some of the stories that have been written about these crimes we are genuinely confused as to whether the objective is to find the criminals and punish them or drive sharp wedges between segments of the population.

The major point, we would contend is that the people who rob people, assault them, rob banks,

murder their wives and molest children are first of all criminals. They must be handled as such and thought of as such by all the people. Racial and ethnic identifications are beside the point and anyone who insists on using these identifications does the entire community a disservice.

All Detroiters, except possibly the criminal elements, are against crime, abhor brutality and condemn lawless behavior. The nature of the social order demands that those who violate laws, whose presence is potentially dangerous to others, and who

are not properly adjusted must be handled in such a way as to protect the entire society, regardless of nationality, color or ethnic group.

It is incumbent, therefore, upon the Mayor of the City to call upon the leadership of all levels of the community to meet with each other to discuss and work on solutions for the problem which is total in its implications.

Any other approach will be less than begging the question as it shifts responsibility from the individual criminal to ethnic groups.