



—By News Staff Photographer

Housing

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are William Pearson, 3916 Stockton avenue, and Lawrence Martin, 9079 Greeley avenue. Pearson was carrying an unloaded revolver and had nine bullets on his person, and Martin had a loaded .32 caliber revolver, police said.

Negroes given treatment at Receiving Hospital included Henry Love, 3050 Watko avenue; Edward Siebert, 13126 Orleans avenue; Fred Ware, 17833 Binder avenue, and Malvin Clark, 18050 Wexford avenue, all with head injuries, and Clarence Caviness, 18152 Wexford avenue, who suffered a fractured shoulder.

The rioting resulted from the determination of a crowd of 500 whites to prevent 24 Negro families from moving into the recently-completed Sojourner Truth defense housing project at Fenelon and Nevada avenues, a half mile east of the riot scene.

'NO SNEAK MOVES'

Skirmishes between the whites, Negroes and police broke out sporadically despite an announcement to the crowds of Mayor Jeffries' decision to postpone the scheduled occupation of the project "until further notice."

At 2:30 p. m., a group of about 40 younger Negroes led by a youth swinging a pick-ax, attempted to push through the police lines into the white district.

An officer wrested the pick-ax from the youth, and a concerted rush of officers swinging their night sticks broke up the group. Officers pursued the Negroes back across Ryan road, but the youths dispersed and fled into nearby fields.

At about the same time, two cars loaded with Negroes drove into the white section, but withdrew when cars full of whites converged on them.

At about 3:30 p. m., three Negroes passed the police lines and walked east on Nevada toward the housing project. At Justine avenue, half a block from the project, a crowd of whites halted them and a fight ensued.

Chief of Detectives Paul H. Wencel and a detective, who were driving past, stopped the melee. They took one Negro to St. Francis Hospital for treatment and arrested a white man for investigation.

Charles F. Edgecomb, director-secretary of the Detroit Housing Commission, told the whites that there would be "no sneak moves" and that they would be notified in advance of any future attempt to move in the Negro families.

Despite Edgecomb's statement and a similar plea for dispersal from Horace A. White, Negro clergyman and member of the housing commission, to his own people, the two crowds remained at the intersection, glaring at each other and shouting taunts back and forth across the intervening police lines.

The most serious outbreak occurred when a truck, full of club-bearing Negroes, broke through the police lines and started east on Nevada. Halted by a throng of whites, the truck careened into a side street, the Negroes poured out of the truck and individual fights began.

TAKEN TO STATION

While one detail of police sought to stem the onrush of the remaining Negroes, others ranged through the district, rounding up the Negroes and taking them to the Davison Station. Many of them had blood streaming down their faces.

The first police tear gas bomb fired into the crowd of Negroes that remained behind was the signal for a shotgun barrage fired by two Negroes on the porch of a house near the intersection. One of the men who fired had been seated on the porch throughout the morning, a shotgun across his knees.

Joined by the other man, both began shooting into the air. As police started towards them, they fled through the house and into the

This was the scene outside the Sojourner Truth defense housing project at Fenelon and Nevada avenues Saturday morning before a clash between Negroes and whites prompted Mayor Jeffries to postpone indefinitely the scheduled occupation of the project by 24 Negro families. The pickets shown marching around the project are part of a crowd of 500 whites who gathered to prevent the occupation. In the subsequent skirmish, a policeman and white woman were hit on the head by flying rocks.

yard behind. A policeman fired his revolver after them, but it was not learned if he had hit anyone.

BULLETS PENETRATE HOME

Mrs. Mary Williams, a Negress living at 4015 Nevada avenue, near the intersection, said two bullets penetrated the wall of her living room as she sat watching the melee through a window.

Several white and Negroes were taken to nearby hospitals for treatment of cuts by flying rocks and fragments of broken cement blocks.

The tear gas barrage was complicated by a wind which blew the fumes back into the faces of the policemen, forcing them to retreat with the whites.

An Army sergeant appeared among the crowd of whites in his uniform and carrying a club. Some one asked him why he was there.

"I'm protecting my home," he shouted, waving his club.

Police said numerous curiosity-seekers, attempting to drive through the vicinity, were further complicating the system. They established a blockade for two blocks each way from the Ryan-Nevada intersection, turning back all cars.

The whites had protested for months against the proposed designation of the project for Negro occupancy. Saturday was the day scheduled for the moving in of the first families. Picket lines had been established around the project as early as 6 a. m. Saturday, the crowd swelling to 500 within two hours.

John R. Williams, 1926 St. Antoine street, Detroit representative of the Pittsburgh Courier, Negro publication, charged that "real estate interests" were back of the picketing.

"This is not a sincere movement by white citizens," he said. "These pickets were introduced by real estate interests."

"Seemingly a deal has been made whereby there is picketing and a mob atmosphere. The mob atmosphere has given Charles F. Edgecomb, director-secretary of the Detroit Housing Commission, an excuse for postponing Negro occupancy."

"Edgecomb is playing ball with the real estate interests. White citizens as a whole are not opposed to Negro occupancy of the project."

CALLED 'RIDICULOUS'

Edgecomb said Williams' statement was "obviously ridiculous."

"All my activities in this controversy have been governed by mandate from Washington and the Detroit Housing Commission," he said. "Police officials here on the job have stated that occupancy of this project today would mean bloodshed and I still feel this should be avoided."

The 25 families that were scheduled to move into the project Saturday are being housed in the Brewster Homes and in buildings on the site of the Douglass Apartments.

Army Backs Away From Old Park Guns

WASHINGTON, Feb. 28.—(U.P.)—The War Department said "no, thanks" today to offers of civic groups to return cannon and other World War 1 trophies to the Army for use in the present war.

The Army Ordnance Department said the trophies adorning hundreds of parks and public squares are available only as scrap metal and suggested that civic groups contact junk dealers.

It suggested that proceeds from the sale of the equipment be used to purchase defense bonds or for local defense needs.

14 Injured in Housing Disorders

5 Policemen Among Victims of Riot

Fourteen persons were injured and 20 were jailed Saturday, as tension between whites and Negroes over the Sojourner Truth defense housing project turned to violence.

Police rushed all available reserves to Ryan road and Nevada avenue, where the fighting centered, but Deputy Supt. Albert Siska admitted the force of 150 mounted and foot patrolmen assembled there was inadequate to cope with the situation.

Volley of shotgun fire from two Negroes on the porch of a house near the intersection and the firing of police tear gas bombs marked the situation as police joined with white and Negro leaders in attempting to halt the violence.

Seven white persons and seven Negroes were injured. The whites included five policemen and a young woman.

STABBED IN BACK

Most seriously injured was a white man, Walter Efimetz, 24 years old, of 19775 Wespahalia avenue, who was stabbed in the back as he attempted to aid an officer struck by a flying missile. He was taken to Saratoga Hospital.

Also at Saratoga was Patrolman Carl Mayer, knocked from his horse by a brick. He suffered a six-inch cut behind his left ear.

At Harper Hospital were Patrolman Terry Mason, of Hunt Station, with injuries of the right cheek, and Patrolman Thomas Turckley, of Hunt Station, hit in the face by a rock.

Patrolman Joseph Dunn, of Schaefer Station, was taken to Saratoga with head injuries. Patrolman Edward A. Koss, of Davison Station, struck on the head by a flying rock, was given treatment at St. Francis Hospital, Hamtramck.

WOMAN STRUCK

Miss Dolores Homer, 17137 Sunset avenue, struck on the head by a rock as she went to Koss' assistance, also was taken to St. Francis Hospital.

Two of the injured Negroes were held as police prisoners at Receiving Hospital, after police reported arms had been found on them. They

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