

Bishop and other proponents of the divorce bill argued that the Senate should pass the legislation it wanted, and the women delegates could try to affect its outcome in the House — where their influence was proper.

The women delegates lobbying for changes in the bill argued it would never pass the House with the amendments. The bill passed the Senate Saturday after the amendments they objected to were deleted. It now goes to the House where several senators will undoubtedly be lobbying their delegates to get it passed.

Also last week, several senators protested when Majority Leader Stenon apparently lobbied enough senators and promised enough favors to round up the necessary votes to pass a special interest tax break for vending machine operators, although the bill had previously been killed several times.

AMONG THE favors Stenon promised was the majority leader's support for a bill aiding minority contractors that was a legislative priority for black senators. As a result, three black senators, who earlier had either abstained or voted against the tax break for vending machine operators, changed their votes to help give the bill the necessary majority.

The three were Sens. Tommie Broadwater, D-Prince George's, and Robert Douglass and Clarence M. Mitchell III, both Democrats from Baltimore.

Two other senators, Howard A. Denis, R-Montgomery, and Edward T. Conroy, D-Prince George's, also switched their votes to help Stenon. They later said they regretted their action and tried — too late — to change their votes back again.

Perhaps the most significant illustration this session of how the process works, however, came

TOWN

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As a result of those activities, he said, "I had developed a sort of rapport with the financial institutions."

"I had to personally guarantee everything — all the loans — but I was able to get them," he said. Asked if he hadn't been afraid of losing all he had achieved, he said, "I still am."

FORT LINCOLN has been "very satisfactory," he acknowledged, although he says his profits have been lower than usual for a developer. At the same time, he is aware that the housing market can change suddenly, and other unforeseen events could quickly make a failure of what so far is a successful project.

The low profit margin has enabled Hagans to sell his Fort Lincoln houses for less than the going rate elsewhere. The new section of Fort Lincoln consists of "piggyback" townhouses, large units on top of smaller ones. They will sell for an average \$85,000.

"You'd think that's just a little above the market in that area," Hagans said. But he said that for well-built, all-brick houses with the amenities he provides — ceramic bathroom tile, trash compactors, smoke and burglar alarms and storm doors, for instance — the prices are bargains.

What sort of people have been buying at Fort Lincoln? Although there are three dozen singles, most are couples and small families, according to a buyer survey by the corporation.

THEY ARE white-collar workers with incomes of about \$25,000. A dozen families make more than \$40,000 a year. While most are black, they include a significant minority of whites. Most are from 25 to 40 years old.

The vast majority did not own homes previously, and 28 moved to Fort Lincoln from the suburbs, an indication that the development is in keeping with Lyndon Johnson's goal of making city living appealing once more.

The residents are by and large "overjoyed" with

MURDER

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three months, but the large number of murders has raised concern.

"The volume of homicide in the past few months has been heavy," said Lt. Eugene M. King, a supervisor in the police department's Criminal Investigation Division. "There's no question about it. However, you can't really draw a conclusion until the end of the year."

"At the outset it looks bad, but that could change."

"This county is a funny county," said Commonwealth's Attorney Robert F. Horan, "in that murders seem to run in streaks."

Several years ago, he said, the year started with an even greater number of murders than 1978. Then from March to September there were none, followed by seven murders in about two weeks.

MURDERS SO FAR this year include "a lot of very typical ones," Horan said, meaning those involving relatives, girlfriend and boyfriend or alcohol.

In addition to making arrests in six of the cases — the seventh was a murder-suicide — homicide detectives are still working on several cases from last year.

One is the unclassified death of 16-year-old Jacqueline Schor, whose body washed out of a storm drain behind her parents' home Dec. 18.

Although the medical examiner has ruled that her death was "consistent with asphyxiation," the police department has not decided whether the death was murder, suicide, accident or natural — the four possible categories.

But Horan said, "I think that one has been pretty much ruled out as a homicide."

THE INVESTIGATION of another murder from last year goes on "almost daily," according to homicide detectives. That is the shooting death of 17-year-old Christian J. Karotsch.

Police have released drawings of two suspects, one of whom allegedly shot Karotsch Oct. 21 as he walked at the corner of Rogers Drive and Lee Highway. The suspects had demanded marijuana from Karotsch, who said he didn't have any, according to police.

The shotgun shooting death of Ernest Huff, a 43-year-old construction worker whose body was found in a woods near the Twin Lakes Golf Course nine days earlier, likewise remains unsolved.

And there has been no arrest in the shooting death last April 16 of Donald A. McGill, 52, night manager of the Howard Johnson Motor Lodge in Springfield. McGill's wife witnessed the shooting after her husband told an apparently intoxicated teen-ager there were no vacant rooms in the motel.

Another investigation is into the disappearance of Deborah Fitzjohn, last seen by her grandmother Jan. 27.

ALTHOUGH NOTHING specific indicates that Fitzjohn, a 25-year-old office worker, met with foul play, there has been no trace of the Centreville resident since her grandmother found her car the afternoon of Jan. 28 parked near a night spot on Lee Highway near Centreville.

In Fairfax County in 1976 and 1977, 32 persons were murdered in 27 different incidents. Twenty-

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DEL. PAUL WEISENGOFF, D-Baltimore, principal opponent of the prison site, has been lobbying legislators and cutting deals with them for the past several weeks in preparation for the vote on the issue late last week.

Yet, any delegate, including Weisengoff, is fighting an uphill battle against the governor's office, because the governor has more to trade for a vote.

The prison measure was defeated for want of a constitutional majority. But several of the 30 delegates who abstained from voting simply wanted more from the governor and plan to vote in favor of the bill when it is reconsidered this week after talking more with the governor's lobbyists.

Meanwhile, as the House enjoyed a day off Saturday, Weisengoff was staked out in the Senate lounge. He was lobbying as many senators as he could corner in an effort to gain support for his opposition to the prison bill once it reaches the Senate.

DESPITE THE obvious, some legislators believe that the amount of "vote-trading is overrated down here" — as Sen. Wiser recently put it.

Wiser said that he, for example, has pretty much followed the practice adopted by U.S. Sen. Paul S. Sarbanes, D-Md., when Sarbanes was in the Maryland House of Delegates.

According to Wiser, Sarbanes introduced no bills his first two years in the state legislature and very few after that because he wanted to avoid getting embroiled in the self-interest lobbying and vote-trading that goes on.

"He used to say that most members' bills are trivia and the legislature wastes too much time on such petty concerns," Wiser recalled.

Fort Lincoln, according to Luther Brown Jr., president of the condominium association.

"More than any other area in the city, Fort Lincoln has what I call a neighborliness about it," he said. The condominium association organized a variety of committees to deal with its tasks — maintenance and finances, for example — and also became a focus for a variety of social get-togethers in the community, he said.

A SOCCER TEAM was organized for the children, and plans are under way for a spring cleanup of the near-spotless grounds. Many residents have bought shrubbery to supplement what the developer planted, said Brown, a news editor for a television station.

He acknowledged that there had been a few problems with the new houses but said they were no greater than what might be expected in any development of brand-new homes. He said Hagans had been "quite cooperative" with the residents.

Brown said he had become angry over published suggestions that Fort Lincoln does not welcome whites. "My response to that is that we are trying to be beyond all of that," he said.

Whites who came to live in Fort Lincoln with open minds, he said, would be "glad they came."

Contrary to some fears, crime has been rare at Fort Lincoln, he said. That is unusual in the city, he added.

Other, new townhouse developments are springing up around the city without government involvement.

LAST MONTH a pair of developers announced plans for a \$35 million condominium development at North Capitol Street and Michigan Avenue.

The announcement seems to confirm Hagans' judgment of the market in Northeast Washington and, while presumably providing competition for Fort Lincoln, also could bring more buyers into that section of the city.

One persistent problem for Fort Lincoln has been its difficulty in shaking the image of a government-subsidized development for poorer families. That idea no doubt was fostered by the grandiose original plans for the place, compounded by the subsequent years of debate and planning and negotiations with the government.

two of the 27 cases were closed, either with an arrest or determination of murder-suicide.

According to Robert W. Hooker, an analyst for the police department's criminal investigation division, that works out to an 81.5 percent closing rate.

Many of the cases were closed quickly because in 16 of the 27 cases, the victim and the accused were acquainted. In 10 of the 16 cases the relationship was a close one — marriage or long-term friendship.

HOOKE SAID that in Fairfax County, as in the rest of the country, the predominant murder weapon is the gun. Twenty of 27 cases involved a gun, with another five involving a cutting instrument.

One of the most time-consuming investigations is that of the murder of Mona L. Abney, a 25-year-old Richmond woman who had come to Fairfax County to shop at Tysons Corner, according to police.

SHE CHECKED into the Tysons Corner Holiday Inn shortly after 6 p.m. Jan 27. A maid found her body the next morning. She had been strangled, and the room was in disarray.

Police have been in touch with Abney's husband, but must also attempt to make contact with everyone checked into one of the more-than-100 hotel rooms. At least one large meeting also took place at the hotel that day.

And, there is the Harold Scarborough case. Neighbors on either side of Scarborough's townhouse at 6541 Yaddick Court were not home the night he was killed. No one heard the shots, and no one saw anyone running from the house. Police announced the reward almost two weeks ago and haven't had even a telephone call on the case.

(Anyone who might have information is asked to call homicide detectives at 691-2587 between 7:30 a.m. and midnight or 691-2131 at other times.)

A MOTIVE for the killing has been difficult to determine. The house had been ransacked, but police aren't convinced anything was taken. And if robbery was the motive, friends pointed out that the gasoline station owner never took home money from the station at night.

Scarborough didn't have any enemies as far as Page, a friend for about eight years, knows.

"I would say he was a very easy-going person," Page said.

"He didn't have any enemies," agreed Scarborough's woman friend, who said they planned to be married. Scarborough had been separated for three years and was waiting final action on a divorce, according to friends.

"**HE WAS JUST** a wonderful person," she said. "As a matter of fact sometimes he was almost too good because he gave too much of himself."

Scarborough was a good father to the two children from his marriage and spent considerable time with her three teen-agers, she said.

He was an athlete who jogged, played tennis and water-skied. He also sponsored Little League teams.

Afraid to stay alone in her home or go out at night, she wonders about what might have happened had she walked in the front door with Scarborough and whether in her terror at discovering that he had been shot if she missed seeing a clue.

She knows police are working hard, she said, "but it's hard when it's a loved one. . . . It just doesn't make sense."

TICKS

Duma predicts a "sizable" caseload again this year and says the first case of 1978 may be reported any day. "We expect to see it right about now," he said.

However, a spokesman for the State Health Department here said it might be another month before the disease breaks out.

According to Duma, too, Northern Virginia and the entire Interstate Route 95 corridor between Washington and Richmond are prime tick areas. Virtually anyone living in Virginia can consider himself subject to tick exposure, he said, either in the outdoors or by contact with pet dogs.

Not all ticks found in Virginia carry the virulent disease, however. Those that do are the wood, or "lone-star," tick, characterized by a diamond marking on its back, and the plain brown dog tick.

The educational campaign of the Virginia chapter of the infectious disease organization largely will repeat last year's efforts to alert the public and Virginia doctors, says Ruth B. Finley, a research technician at the Medical College of Virginia here who is head of the state chapter.

THE APPARENTLY sharp increase in Rocky Mountain cases in Virginia last year may have reflected greater awareness and more reporting of the disease based on the 1977 educational campaign, she said last week.

The warning program this year again will include dispatch of 3,000 posters to Virginia schools with a graphic reminder of "Virginia's hidden enemy," the tick.

The foundation's campaign once again will feature an exhibit at Richmond area shopping centers, complete with a 10-minute slide show on "Toughly the Terrible Tick."

Much of the campaign is aimed at children, for they are the most common victims of Rocky Mountain spotted fever these days.

The education effort last year also included a mailing of 5,000 warning brochures to Virginia doctors, but that step may not be necessary this year, Finley said.

Rocky Mountain spotted fever's symptoms are fairly easy to spot, but often are confused, even by doctors, with those of common flu-type illnesses.

Duma said the tell-tale signs form "a sort of trilogy: fever, headache and muscle ache. That's how it begins."

The spotted rash that gave the disease part of its name comes later and often means the rickettsia organism responsible for the illness has entrenched itself fairly well in the body.

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