



Mr. Martin sketches a coffee shop customer, Benny Woods.

### MIXED REACTION IN BUCKNELL MANOR

# Swank Negro Homes Come to Alexandria

By BETTY JONES

Two Negro subdivisions of homes in the \$25,000-\$40,000 price range are going up on either side of a white neighborhood just outside Alexandria.

Some white residents say they believe their Bucknell Manor community of modestly-priced homes is becoming the first target for Negro "block-busting" attempts in the Northern Virginia suburbs.

#### HIGH OFFERS

Some say they've heard of white home-owners getting offers \$4000 to \$6000 over the usual market price.

Civic association leaders,

however, scoff at these reports as pure rumors, inspired by worry.

One civic association spokesman said: "People with any sense in this area are trying to make it as little a problem as they can."

Ten colored families used to live in a run-down community on eight acres at Bucknell Manor's western edge.

Twenty two-story brick homes — each with five bedrooms and a recreation room — are under construction there now.

The subdivision backer said it's the first such Negro development in Fairfax County. The homes will go on sale for approximately \$25,000

each after their completion this month.

#### VIEW

West of Bucknell Manor, white families in duplexes and Cape Cods on Rollins Drive used to have an open view across pastures and fields owned by William Randall, colored, a part-time farmer.

Mr. Randall, 78, and retired, has subdivided his farm into 19 lots where a colored judge, several school teachers, and doctors and lawyers from Washington and Alexandria are building their own homes. He said the 12 houses finished or under construction have cost \$30,000-\$40,000.

Neighborhood feeling in Bucknell Manor runs the

gamut from lack of concern to angry suspicion that the subdivisions are being financed by the NAACP. Both developers deny it.

One homeowner near the former Randall farm said he doesn't understand why Bucknell Manor residents near Jackson Hall subdivision on the west are complaining.

"They used to look across at a bunch of shacks and broken-down streetcars and buses the colored families were using as houses. What they're getting across the street now is a whole lot better."

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