Huge Community Salute
For Mrs. Melnea A. Cass

A great community leader and still active at nearly 70, Mrs. Melnea A. Cass will bask this evening in the admiration of the countless "friends" she has made in her long service to the city and state.

Dignitaries of state and city will gather at a gigantic "Community Salute" at the Hotel Bradford in Boston.

Reception is at 5 p.m. and dinner at 6. Arrangements are being made by a committee of distinguished citizens headed by Mrs. George R. Bailey Jr., chairman.

Principal speaker will be Atty. Gen. Edward W. Brooke, while Mrs. Volpe, wife of the governor, Mrs. Collins, wife of Boston's mayor, and Mrs. Richardson, wife of the lieutenant governor, will be on hand to pay their respects.

Born in Richmond, Va., but a Bostonian since the age of 5, Mrs. Cass was the first Negro woman to be elected as state president of a patriotic organization in Massachusetts — the United War Mothers of America.

Mrs. Cass has the distinction of being the only female charter member of the original board of directors of Action for Boston Community Development, Inc. (ABCD), and Community Action Program Committee chairman. This is the agency carrying out the poverty program in Boston.

Co-organizer of Women in Community Service (WICS), she serves as Community Resources chairperson. Women in Community Service recruit girls for the Job Corps.

A member of St. Mark's Church, Mrs. Cass is a charter member of St. Mark's Mothers' Club; and a member of the Social Action Committee, Missionary Guild and Pastor's Aid Club.

Other affiliations are: Committee member of the Race and Religion Committee of United Church Women; charter member of the Freedom House Board and an active participant in the urban renewal program of Roxbury-N. Dorchester and the South End.

Mrs. Cass is a member of the Mayor's Citizens' Advisory Committee on Minority Housing, Civic Unity Committee and Public Affairs Committee of the YWCA.

One of the founders of Chapter 7 of the United War Mothers in Roxbury and a member of Chapter 12 Gold Star and War Parents of America, she is presently serving as treasurer of Wm. E. Carter Auxiliary 16 of the American Legion, a post she has held for more than 20 years, as well as Americanism chairman.

President of the Women's Service Club, 464 Mass. av., Mrs. Cass and her members have presented a proposal under the anti-poverty program for In-Migrant Domestics.

This program, if funded by the Office of Economic Opportunity, will provide services for girls coming to Boston from the South who fall into dire circumstances and need counseling and guidance.

The Women's Service Club is a member of the Mass. Federation of Women's Clubs. Through the Service Club participation in Mass. Federation programs, Mrs. Cass has been appointed vice chairman for Community Services for Massachusetts.

She has been the recipient of many awards and citations, among which are:

Community Service Award of Freedom House; Shaw House Award; Zeta Phi Beta Finer Womanhood Award; First Sojourner Truth Award of the Negro Business and Professional Women of Boston and Vicinity, Inc.; NAACP Service Award; Citation from Conference of Christians and Jews for outstanding services to the ideals of brotherhood; special citation from Empire State Federation of New York as Clubwoman of the Year; Lambda Kappa Mu Showcase Woman; and Achievement Award from National Assn. of Colored Women's Clubs in the field of Cultural and Human Relations.