Baltimore Afro-American

FOUNDED IN 1892
By John H. Murphy Sr.—1884-1922
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"We are Americans and, as Americans our united aims to America." — Frederick Douglass

The Baltimore AFRO's Platform

1. *Fair employment practice (FEP) laws and enforcement power. Begin with city, county, state and federal governments.*
2. *100,000 registered voters in Baltimore City.*
3. *A judge on the Supreme Bench and in the Federal District Court.*
4. *Integration in the state's reform schools and penal institutions.*
5. *Public hotels and restaurants open to all well-behaved citizens.*

Independent voters

The Board of Supervisors of Elections will soon provide mobile registration for Baltimoreans to register before the April 19 deadline.

Potential voters must be on the ballot books before they can participate in the May 20 primary election.

Also in order to participate in the primary voters must be registered with one of the two major political parties.

For example—if you are a registered Democrat you have a choice of deciding whether J. Millard Tawes or Dr. B. C. Byrd will be the candidate for governor in the election.

OR, YOU COULD decide among such candidates as Thomas D'Alesandro, Dr. Clarence Long, George P. Mahoney or James Brose to oppose the GOP selection for the U.S. Senate.

Independent voters can not make such a selection. They can only vote in a general election.

If you have not yet registered to vote, be sure to sign up as a Democrat or Republican so you can actively participate in the selection of the standard bearer.

You will get a second chance to vote during the general election, and if you choose, may cross party lines to cast a ballot for the candidate whom you feel will do the best job.

By registering as Republican or Democrat, you get two bites at the apple instead of just one.

The children first

The Mayor and City Council have put off until Monday to decide what is to be done about the location of an elementary school in the Harlem Square area.

School authorities, cooperating with the Urban Renewal and Housing Agency and representatives of 50 organizations in that section, selected a site which would use one-half of Harlem Square and raze three city blocks affecting 332 families.

Two alternate sites have been suggested. One would displace 441 families while the second would uproot 562 families.

The third alternate plan suggests the use of only one square block for an elementary school, leaving the site for a badly needed junior high school entirely out of the picture.

SELECTIONS OF a school site in this crowded city is difficult.

Anywhere a school is located some home owners must be displaced.

But in the Harlem Square proposal, the displacement at least is not for nurses and intern dormitories of a private hospital or to make room for a state office building.

The land is needed for the children of the community and for the children only.

MORE than 4,000 of this city's school-aged youngsters are now part-timers who lose 36 school days or seven weeks' every year.

Now before we allow this hassle to result in further delay, every year of which adds 4,000 part-timers to our overcrowded school system, it is to be hoped that all sides will consider first what the delay and postponement will cost the children of the Harlem Square section.

A luncheon engagement

Mr. Philip A. Camponeschi, executive secretary of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, invited a guest to lunch with him at the Stafford Hotel to discuss EEOC matters.

Instead of food, Mr. Camponeschi got a taste of discrimination solely because his guest was colored.

HAD THE EEOC secretary entered the dining room alone he would have received prompt and courteous service. This service, however, is not reserved for colored patrons in many Baltimore establishments where the hue of your skin is more important than your conduct or your ability to pay.

The EEOC has the sensitive responsibility of investigating unfair hiring practices, which especially plague colored persons.

Because of his embarrassing luncheon engagement Mr. Camponeschi has come face to face with the kind of rank discrimination many of us encounter when job hunting.

Devereux enters race

James P. S. Devereux, member of the U.S. Congress in the Second Maryland District, has entered the race for Governor on the Republican ticket.

Out of 56,131 colored voters registered in Baltimore 34,875 are Republican.

We assume that some of them, either voluntarily or upon request, had word of Mr. Devereux's intentions and requested him to enter the race.

There are many ways of filing a nomination for Governor of the state. A smart way, we think is to get the backing of some organizations before filing. That doesn't seem to be what happened in this case.

Marriage and school

Attorney General C. Ferdinand Sybert ruled last week that pupils may not be barred from a high school because they are married.

Dr. Thomas G. Pullen, state superintendent of schools, asked for the ruling after the question reached the stage of debate in some counties.

In Baltimore City, the procedure is that children who marry while in school with the consent of their parents, are permitted to remain in school.

This is in keeping with Maryland's compulsory school attendance law.

CHILDREN OVER 16 who marry while in school with their parent's consent are requested either to transfer to another school or enroll in night school where the curriculum is the same.

The justification in the second instance is that married persons are regarded as adults, rather than children.

The fact remains that youngsters go to school to study.

They can do their best work when they devote themselves to this task without the distractions that belong to the adult world of marriage, earning a living and having children.

The blessings of danger

It is unfortunate but true that the democratic form of government seems to function best in time of crisis and approaches perfection only when its very existence is threatened.

Four times in our generation we have experienced this phenomenon.

During World War I great strides were made in social adjustment. Thousands of colored citizens broke the bonds of serfdom which had practically tied them to the Southland since emancipation and opened new vistas in the industrialized north. This was accomplished under the aegis of saving the world for democracy.

Another social revolution was set off when the great depression of the early thirties threatened to destroy democracy through economic collapse. Thousands of qualified workers, who had hitherto been excluded from white collar positions, were infiltrated throughout the New Deal agencies. The agencies hastily created to insulate democracy against anarchy.

WORLD WAR II, fought to offset the trend toward totalitarianism saw other prescriptions against colored citizens in the military establishment destroyed in the search for greater efficiency.

But it will be noted that the moment the danger seems to abate, the forces of evil seem to come back into the ascendency. The accompanying apathy on the part of the masses gives them full sway until danger threatens again.

Just a few months ago we saw another crisis arise in the launching of the Sputniks by the Russians.

The attendant fears gave rise to a new feeling of conciliation. The nation, sensing the danger, seemed willing to put the quietus on troublemakers in the interest of unity. Liberalism seemed to be given a release on life which held fourth the promise of more advances toward the democratic ideal.

BUT THIS respite from reaction was cut short by the launching of our own satellite which put us back on equality with the Reds and caused the nation to breathe easy again.

While we understand and share the justifiable pride that the nation takes in this accomplishment, we cannot help but warn that the easing of tension may prove a boomerang. The small voices crying for necessary reforms must not be drowned by the cheers of those who believe that danger is passed.

The task of those searching for a more perfect social order will be hindered rather than helped by this advance into space, and it will be necessary to double rather than relax our efforts in this regard.

THE AFRO'S CREDO

A newspaper succeeds because its management believes in itself, in God and in the present generation. It must always be itself—Whatever it has kept the faith with the common people.

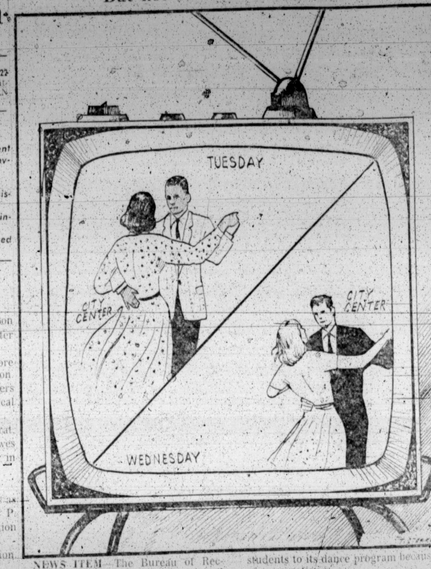
Whether it has no other goal except to see that their liberties are preserved and their future assured.

Whether it is fighting to get rid of slums to provide jobs for everybody.

Whether it plays out of public hysteria to expose corruption and contribute injustice. Free prejudice or compromise.

—JOHN MURPHY SR., 1922

But not on the same screen—



NEWS ITEM—The Bureau of Recreation and School Board advised WJZ-TV they will no longer refer students to its dance program because of segregation.

Along the way

By STEVE DUNCAN

There's no business like show business, so the saying goes. But Actors' Equity is one of the theatrical businesses that appears to be in no hurry to admit recent moves to allow colored performers to be integrated into Broadway vehicles, which have other than musical formats.

If my understanding of Equity's pronouncement is correct, it simply means that all colored members of Actors' Equity will get a chance to play human characters along with their ability, talent, etc.

IT IS ALSO my understanding that such a move is in keeping with the ideals of democracy. In the past it has been too difficult to cast a colored performer in a musical where he is called upon to do one of those specialty numbers.

But, as far as the colored performer is concerned, it could have come sooner, perhaps.

THERE HAVE been notable exceptions to this rule, however, the outstanding one being the late, great actor Frank Silvera.

Mr. Silvera has a long string of roles behind him where he has interpreted characters can-ing without regard to his etcetera.

He Mr. Silvera has been able as a Mexican general in the movies and as Italian in the stage.

There are many other roles in which the ability to do the job is equal credentials. What's good for Actors Equity is good for the country.

A FEW HOURS after your editor has arrived you will probably know the reason why this whole thing has nobody seems quite sure about. Everybody knows Your stock has probably been exhausted and now the male novels are choosing sides and chase some liquid joy and from plan to spend the rest of the evening.

While they are so occupied, I'll go to some place where I can be alone in a nearby phone booth and call up your wife, who has probably gone to bed early.

She will turn maker of good coffee in anticipation of your return. She will be happy to hear from you and will be glad to know that you are safe and sound. Now if that doesn't end the evening nothing will.

Sightseeing

By JAMES D. WILLIAMS

The little of this exploration into realms unknown is "How to Give a Cocktail Party." It comes after repeated requests for information on this very vital subject.

Starting with first things first, you should have a reason for having a cocktail party.

It really isn't too important but it is nice to have an answer to the question "Why?"

If you be somebody's birthday, Washington's, Lincoln and General Lee included, the fact that you have just finished paying off a remarkable unfriendly friendly finance company, that your next door neighbor's dog has just had pups.

NOW THAT you have the reason you need a guest list. Here is an accepted practice to invite people, though some times I wonder why.

I would be more fun to invite some Martians, but until a flying saucer lands, you are stuck with people.

You should try to arrange it so that there is a man for every woman, the theory being that the lady will tell her mate when he has had enough, thus avoiding the necessity of you providing overnight accommodations for someone who doesn't have enough sense to quit while he could still stand up.

THEN COMES the question of food.

Remember those cans of anchovies and broiled sardines you picked up at the supermarket last year? Now is the time to get them out of the back of the shelf, where they have gotten a little soft, some potato chips that have lost their crisp and some crackers that you're in good shape.

NOW COMES the weighty problem of liquid refreshments. A few bottles of a family decent kind have enough gold then you can pick up a few "specials" which the dealer will recommend as being those they don't know what they are drinking about.

And as for cocktails, don't worry about being an expert mixed drinks cocktails are anybody's guess.

Why not use a little imagination?

February 17 marks the birthday of Elisha Bryant Allen, founder of the AME (African Methodist Episcopal Church).

Bishop Allen was the son of Rev. Thomas E. Montough, Jr., Zion Presbyterian Church in New York.

February 17 marks the second anniversary of the daring escape from the Maryland Penitentiary by Tunnel Joe Holmes.

Baby News: It is a baby girl for the James Smiths (Mrs. Smith is the former Geraldine Muldrow).

And the Fred Wilkinsons Jr. (Gene) up in New York (where he is a buyer for Macy's) expect an addition this summer. They're hoping for a boy to go with their two year-old daughter.

The Robert Matthewses 3rd (Vassie) Murphy have the news that of the day. Their daughter will number five by the time Indian summer comes along. They are already blessed with two boys and two girls, so either way will give them an uneven number.

In Sinai Hospital this week for an operation: Mrs. Jonetta Singleton, 2401 W. North Ave.

Pleasant person met this week: Nathan R. Jerald director of the Maryland Region National Conference of Christians and Jews.

He, told of the work of his organization at the monthly meeting of the Philomathian Club.

Under all the rules—background, training, experience, Mr. Jerald qualifies as a liberal—but the longer we talked I could not understand how an organization such as the Christians and Jews can continue to meet in Baltimore hotels which bar you and you and you.

Maybe the answer is that brown-skinned contributing members to the organization are, as he says, almost negligible.

Whatever it is—it is hard to take, brotherhood in a hotel where the brown brother is not welcome.

Mr. Jerald has just been here a year—perhaps under his leadership, things might change.

P.S. Your contribution will be welcome at the National Conference of Christians and Jews. Address checks to them at 314 Keyser Building.

Elementary School No. 142 at Smallwood and Walbrook will now be known as the Robert W. Coleman School in honor of the well known Baltimoreian who made such a marvelous contribution to the community through his efforts to help the blind and through publication of a business directory.

Sudden thought: If Robert W. Coleman could look down on Baltimore today and see the school which honors him, he just might shudder.

Lean on the pavement surrounding the school is still thick despite the fact that the school is now in use.

At this writing it is not safe for people to walk. Why is it city school properties can't be fenced and these hazards before there is a tragic accident?

And, speaking of schools—take a look at the Friday 1958 Douglass High School sur-

Unless I received a proof error, the photos of graduates which appear on page six are a disgrace.

Fact of the matter is you can hardly see most of the girls and the faces of the boys are little better.

Best photos in the book those of school heads. Heads on page 3 and 4 and of a sign on page 40. And the shots on pages 27 and 28. Don't take my word for it, look for yourself.

If You Ask Me

By B. M. PHILLIPS

Send a card of cheer to Mrs. Helen King (Mrs. Charles), the vocational teacher of 2216 Eutaw Ave.

She is just back from Dayton, Ohio, where she went to bury her brother, Walter D. Anderson, the real estate man. Mr. Anderson died in a tragic accident at his home.

He and his wife, Camille, were overcome by gas fumes. Seems as though they had a gas heater in the solarium of their split-level home.

In the night fumes went up through the hot air ducts and permeated the entire house.

Mrs. Anderson is still critically ill.

Also surviving: The 22-month old boy they adopted several months ago and the one-of-their prize wired hair terriers who was in the basement. A second dog was found dead in bedroom. Heat register in baby's bedroom was turned off so he escaped.

Friends last saw the Anderson's Saturday midnight, and became apprehensive until late Sunday because both cars were parked in driveways.

Send birthday greetings Feb. 17 to Mrs. Alice Thomas Weaver, city teacher of 1336 Druid Hill Ave.

John Rich, another city teacher of 1733 Druid Hill Ave. will celebrate on February 18.

Mrs. Bernice Mabre, 1109 N. Fulton Ave., blows out her candles on February 19, and Mrs. Cleave Valentine, 1019 Edmonson Ave. on February 18.

Belated birthday cheer to William A. Jenson, 124 Winters Ave., Catonsville, who was 73 years young on January 23 and is another Catonsville resident, Mrs. Lillian Snowden, Frederick Rd., who was 87 on January 15.

February 14 marks the birthday of Bishop Richard Allen, founder of the AME (African Methodist Episcopal Church).

Bishop Allen was the son of Rev. Thomas E. Montough, Jr., Zion Presbyterian Church in New York.

People, places and things...

Recommended reading: "A Giant in the Earth," the biography of the late Dr. J. B. Rodgers by his son, Dr. Charles Emerson Rodgers.

The book is dedicated to the author's brother, the Rev. J. Timothy Rodgers, pastor of the New Shiloh Baptist Church, here in Baltimore.

This book is dedicated to Rev. Rodgers who practically raised the author's father.

I read the book in one sitting. It was so good I had to finish it. Also praiseworthy was anxious to find out what happened to the Rodgers family. The efforts of Father Rodgers to keep the church and family together is a truly inspiring one.

Now I know why the Rev. J. T. Rodgers is such a fine person. He has a marvelous background. Anyone who is proud of his family tradition is just following in the family tradition.

Newspaper called this week to ask if we saw Billy Eckstine and a girl lady here in Baltimore last week and have some the AFRO, didn't make the rewarding acquaintance.

Dear Newspaper: Maybe so, saw someone else.

Don't miss Charm Centre's fashion show at Club Casino, Saturday at 2:30. They do say the styles Victorine Adams will show will knock your eyes out!

Special note for you: If you are crazy about Cook Books and especially new Cook Books with special recipes, to help the mother over her difficult meal tickle the palate of dad and make literary savings for the children, you will want to clip the coupon from ESSKAY's ad appearing in this week's AFRO, and get a copy of ESSKAY's 100th Anniversary Cook Book, with its 100 new kinds of pastries.

A table of Baltimoreans stood and waved Maryland flags as Governor McKeldin addressed the organ played "Maryland, My Maryland" on Friday night at the Pennsylvania Educational meeting at the Broadwood Hotel in Philly.

Governor McKeldin and Mrs. Daisy Bates of Little Rock, Ark., were among four persons presented plaques by the Elks.

The presentation to Governor McKeldin was made by Truly Hatchett.

Other Baltimoreans in attendance included Lionel Randolph, Joe Neal, Moose Dorsey, Sam Stewart and of course, Mrs. Pearl Brown who is grand daughter treasurer of the Elks.

Prediction: Twenty years from now—if the city and schools win the right to use the Harlem Square site for schools—the area might well resemble the School No. 122 area of "Freedom" Druid Hill Ave. and Pennsylvania Ave.

And—why don't the powers that be listen to citizens who live on the Harlem Park site who oppose it?

After all—the people who are now backing the school and its proposal don't live there—they live in suburbs and in Ashburton and Windsor Hills areas—so they can talk for what is best for the Harlem Area?. Well?

More people and things...

Orchids to Lou Ellis, the screen Ethel that Big Daddy Lipscomb is sporting and the new job which belongs to Buddy Young, and the unnoticed orchid job belonging to the AFRO's Jean Harris.