THE AFRO AMERICAN

FOUNDED IN 1892
By the late John H. Murphy Sr.

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OUR CREED

We believe that America can best lead the world away from racial and national antagonisms when it accords to every man, regardless of race, color or creed, his human and equal rights. Having no man, fearing no man, the Colored Press strives to help every man to the firm belief that all are hurt so long as anyone is held back.

"We are Americans, and, as Americans we speak to America . . ."

—Frederick Douglass

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Life does not proceed by the association and addition of elements, but by dissociation and division.

—HENRI BERGSON

Grand Jury Inconsiderate

The Grand Jury, investigating rackets in the Northwest section, summoned some 26 witnesses, Wednesday but heard only six of them.

Mr. and Mrs. William Adams were out-of-town on vacation and did not appear Wednesday but were on hand Thursday.

The other witnesses, not so fortunate, happened to be in town and were compelled to answer the summons.

Why the Grand Jury summoned 26 people, as hot as these days are, to come down to the courthouse and sit around when they knew they would only hear so few, raises an important question.

These people are presumed to be innocent until they are found guilty. Some of them are on vacation and all of them have something else to do besides sit around in the courthouse and wait to be called in.

A more efficient system, it would appear, would be for the Grand Jury to call only 3 or 4 witnesses a day since it knows in advance it cannot hear 26 at one time.

Every Grand Jury has its legal duties to perform as well as these special hearings on the Northwest Baltimore racket. Therefore, it ought to be able to work out its schedule of hearings so as not to compel individuals summoned to spend 3 or 4 days or more just sitting around in the Grand Jury witness room when the officials know they cannot possibly be called on that day.

'Regrets' Are Not Enough

We are advised that the Board of Directors of Friendship International Airport "regret" that operation of facilities at the airport must bow to the wishes of the Anne Arundel County Liquor Board and colored citizens cannot be served in the airport dining room.

We are likewise informed by the Anne Arundel State's Attorney that the liquor board's policy of segregation has never been incorporated into law.

Nobody is going to be satisfied with the regrets of the Airport board. Apology for a discriminatory abuse does not take into consideration the quivering nerve ends of a citizen who is shown to dine and is told he cannot be served food because a white citizen wants to drink liquor.

The question arises that if visitors to the airport must be denied food because a liquor license prohibits the serving of colored and white persons in the same room, then why serve liquor at all?

Governor McKeldin has asked President Truman to lay aside plans to build a new airport in Virginia to relieve traffic at National Airport in Washington, urging that Friendship Airport be used instead.

This seems a reasonable request, except that the segregation policy of the Anne Arundel County Liquor Board would be in a position to embarrass not only Maryland citizens but the United States of America as well.

Far too many of the very important persons who have business in the nation's capital are not white and are not inclined to accept such ridiculous customs as the Anne Arundel Liquor Board would perpetuate.

The President is certain to take this into consideration when he reviews our Governor's request.

The Airport board must do more than "regret" that concessionaires

Raid 'Tip-Offs'

It is remarkable that Captain Alexander Emerson was not able to prove his testimony in court to the effect that "tip-offs" warning law violators of impending vice squad raids are given.

This would seem to show the strength of those who deliver the tip-offs and of those who are protecting them.

Every reasonably well-informed person knows that police are paid for protecting vice and gambling in a town the size of Baltimore, but proving it is another matter.

Difficult though it may be, it could be done by the Grand Jury, the state's attorneys city-wide, the police head if he were an able administrator. But when a police department has weaknesses such as are openly admitted in Colonel Ober's counter-charges against Captain Emerson that his office lacked an orderly filing system there is not much hope.

If there is a shred of suspicion that someone is tipping off policemen, Colonel Ober is obligated to the citizens of this city to search him out and ride him out of the department. Until he does, to the satisfaction of everyone, the whole police department is in the unenviable position of operating under a cloud.

Sickening Affair

The Baltimore Bar Association has a special committee of ex-presidents considering the question of how to expel Communist members of the Association and see them disbarred.

What the Association says about barring persons who are Communists might be all right, provided it follows closely the lead of the American Bar Association which spells out, in a series of resolutions, exactly who is meant.

The ABA calls specifically for the expulsion of party members or advocates of Marxism-Leninism.

What is the Baltimore Bar Association's definition of a "Communist? Verily, what is the definition of a Communist?

Is it a man who belongs to the Communist Party and has his name on the roll book? Is it a man someone charges with being a Communist? Is it a man who attends a meeting with Communists?

We say again that the Bar Association does about Communists what it may be all right but it is sickening to have a Dye-Wile Vickers-like this, which, taste all concerned, lawyers and the courts and dictate as to which shall or shall not practise his profession.

POETRY

TO MOTHER

I wish you every happiness
For all the years ahead
And hope that I may always help
To keep you comforted.
To be your friend in trouble,
Your counselor in strife,
And take away whatever fears,
May try to touch your life.
I hope the sun will shine,
Wherever you may be
May each silver star reflect
Some pleasant memory.
Whether I am near you or
We have to be apart—
May love, faith and courage bring
A rainbow in your heart.
There are no sentiments that I
Could more sincerely say,
May God protect and cherish you
And bless you every day.

LOUIS COLEMAN

Hodge Podge

By BOB MATTHEWS

If you have a million dollars, they call you eccentric — if you haven't, you're just plain crazy.

Guess I'll have to qualify under the crazy classification—but if I am, I'm happy in this state.

It all started during the hot spell we've been under.

Little children run around minus shoes, practically naked — housewives adopt pedal pushers, shorts, or what have you—but the poor males are expected to sweiter in shirts and long pants.

Decided to stage a one-man rebellion.

Donned a short-sleeved sports shirt, argyle socks, soft shoes, cap and SHORTS, and strolled nonchalantly out into the street.

Such a raising of eyebrows you have never seen. You'd have thought I was stark naked.

Went to one of the larger drug stores and nearly upset the joint.

Walked into a bar and not whistled at. (Now I know how the women feel).

Noticed one thing though. After the initial outburst of sarcasm my costume evoked, the next remarks were usually ones of envy.

Couple of fellows came up and hinted that they'd like to put on shorts but didn't have the nerve.

Others stated that they would put them on, but their legs looked too bad. Guilty conscience I guess. They have made so many snide remarks about women's legs for so long, they're ashamed to show their own.

Crazy or not—next time the temperature reaches 90 degrees — if you drop by the menagerie—I'll be in shorts. If you haven't the nerve —shame on you!

Wallie Reeves Scribbler at Large

MAN'S WEAKEST MOMENT

Man — the brute, the lug, the brute and sometimes the louse is woman's most endearing charm.

But, granting you that, the male half of the sexes also has his weakest moment.

A man generally marries a woman to keep some other man from marrying her.

Glutton for Punishment

If he should happen to fail in his first marital cruise, two to one he will try a second attempt and maybe a third voyage. Truly a big glutton for punishment, a man never gives up as long as a woman keeps nudging him, would rather die than let it be known he'd failed.

Falls Hard For Beauty

The average man will fall like a ton of bricks for a pretty face, a lovely physique and so on. He never stops once to think what that bit of feminine polchritude represents aside from being appealing.

The average man will date a woman for six months, a year or maybe longer and wonder he eventually marries her, he still finds that he doesn't understand her.

Never Understands

The average man will tell you that he has strange moments where a woman is involved. He never knows what she will do from one minute to the next.

She is subject to caress him one minute and knife him the next. She is subject to cry for him one minute and despise him the next. Man's weakest moments are many where a woman is concerned. He's just a mere toy for the joy of his counterpart—woman.

Old Residents of Waverly Now Faced With Relocation

By MAE MEDDERS

With some of them having lived on the site for over 20 years, 117 colored families in the Waverly section are faced with the problem of finding new homes.

Waverly is one of the oldest sections of the city, and it includes some 17 acres bounded by Greenmount Ave., Reese St., 27th and 30th Sts.

It is one of two sites selected by the city for the first phases of its redevelopment program which involves razing buildings and clearing land so that private contractors may construct new housing. The idea is tied in with slum clearance.

New Homes for Whites

But although only 75 white families live in the Waverly area, all of the 291 new units to be constructed there will be for whites.

Meanwhile, the biggest problem of the majority of colored families in Waverly is finding places to live where to rent. For years they have lived in the two-story, four and five room houses with an average monthly rental of $20.

Aiding Agency at Work

To work with the community on this problem and the many others that arise in the big question of relocation, a relocation office has been set up by the Redevelopment Commission and Housing Authority, at 2819 Matthews St., in the heart of the Waverly site.

To date, a total of 22 colored families have moved away from the site, and nearly half of these people are purchasing homes in other sections of the city.

Nor are these families confining their relocation to any particular section of the city. Some have moved to Northwest Baltimore, others to East Baltimore, and still others to new housing at Cherry Hill in the southern end of the city.

"Bettering Their Condition"

John Callan, the relocation officer of the Housing Authority, revealed that in nearly every case of relocation to date, the families have bettered their living conditions.

Of the families who have moved away, 11 are renting, 10 are buying homes and none have moved into public housing projects.

A total of 19 of the families, moreover, relocated themselves without any assistance from the city agencies.

One of these families found a second floor apartment in a better section of Northwest Baltimore for $10 a week, the same rent it cost been paying on the Waverly site.

The head of another household sold his Waverly property to the city, and with some $5,000 representing the equity he had in the property, he was able to purchase another home just outside of the redevelopment area, and through the same building and loan company that financed his original purchase.

In another instance, the relocation office was able to find a six-room house, with three bedrooms and central heating, for a family of six for $6 a week.

On the Waverly site, this family had been paying $5.50 a week for poorer quarters, but the new home happened to be one of the few with a low ceiling rental in an area of the city recently opened to colored persons.

GI Boys Home

A GI with a wife and two children living in Waverly tried to purchase a home through a GI mortgage and was refused, but through the relocation service, financing was arranged with a company at the low rate of 4 per cent.

The problems of the people, however, are not always so easily solved.

Many of the Waverly families who now are renting have incomes which disqualify them from the rent ceilings of public housing projects.

At the same time, vacancies do not occur frequently in the public housing projects occupied by colored families.

Have Housing Priority

If, however, there are vacancies, families displaced by redevelopment have priority in public housing units, provided that their incomes are within the minimum.

Meanwhile, the city is in the midst of acquiring the properties on the Waverly site, and 69 residential properties have been acquired, and demolition ordered on 14.

After acquisition, families living in these properties live rent-free for two weeks, and then pay rent to the city until they find some place to move.

Waverly Dress Rehearsal

Clearing of the Waverly site is a dress rehearsal for the terrific job of clearing the second redevelopment area, the Broadway site where more than 1,000 families involved.

This site of 30 acres is bounded by Orleans St., Central Ave., Monument St. and Broadway. Over 900 families in the area are colored. Only 200 new units are being planned for colored families on the Broadway site. Officials estimate that it will take three years to clear the area.

They hope, meanwhile, to clear the Waverly site by January of next year.

Citizens Helping

The relocation problems were taken into consideration by Mayor D'Alesandro several months ago when he set up an interracial advisory committee.

This group includes persons prominent in many fields so that when relocation problems occur they may be channeled through the specialized experiences of various committee members.

On the advisory committee are: Mrs. Alice Arrington, president of the YWCA, Mrs. Hugh Dugger of the Northwest Baltimore Association, Edgar Ewing, president of the Baltimore Urban League, Houston Jackson, assistant superintendent of schools; William L. Krolle, executive secretary, David YMCA; Schenley Lane, president of the Monumental City Bar Association; Dr. Robert McDaniel, physician; and William E. Taylor, coordinator of the Eastside Community Center.

NAACP Files Protest

In the meantime, the NAACP through Clarence Mitchell, director of the Washington bureau, has lodged a protest with the Federal Housing Administration, over the review of Federal assistance to the Baltimore redevelopment program as long as the new housing is restricted to whites.

Local redevelopment officials stress the fact that they cannot enter into any contract which stipulates that the new housing will be restricted on a racial basis. They add, however, that they cannot tell the private contractor whom to choose as tenants.

'Amos N Andy' Style Humor Not Only Kind

By ARTHUR RANDALL

Discussing the controversy about the "Amos 'n Andy" radio show, a friend of mine remarked that no treatment of the humorous aspect of colored people's lives would be immune from criticism by such organizations as the NAACP.

He said that Octavious Ray Cohen's series on Florian Slappy of the Beulah Show, Dusty Fletcher, the late Two Black Crows and most of the acts which have won acclaim on stage and radio would be taboo.

What colored comedian he asked would be able to perform on television today without being subject to criticism that he was selling the race down the river?

The Great Bert Williams

The answer was not long in coming from me. But it was not helpful in suggesting someone to play a part today.

I told my friend that humor was not racial and that even a guy who worked in blackface (and who incidentally was colored) is known as the greatest comedian produced in America.

His name is Bert (Egbert Austin) Williams, a West Indian who came to the United States when he was a week. He made theatrical history in the first part of the 1900's.

Bert Williams, who performed in burnt cork because his manager believed that no colored person would be accepted by white audiences in that day per se, portrayed the struggles, the sorrows and humor of his oppressed fellow countrymen with such love and skill that his songs and quips were sung and related the world over.

Used No Dialect

He used no dialect. He had no corps of writers. He slurred nobody. He jerked tears, but sang no "mammy" songs.

Like Paul Robeson, he was a folk song man, one of his typical lyrics being the following:

Believe me, I'm getting tired of always being the dub.
They've worked on me so faithful till I'm worn down to a nub.
You all have heard about the straw
That broke the camel's back—
Well, a bubble added to my load
Will surely make mine crack.
But BELIEVE me,
Woo un's he or she
Who tries to ease me
That bubble!
BELIEVE ME!

One of his famous expressions, repeated by scores of later comedians and a byword among Negroes, was: "If you don't want my peaches, don't shake my tree."

Never Due Credit

Bert Williams is not given his due honor today. At least two genuine geniuses grew up ignorant of the contributions of artistry and warmth that this made to their country's culture.

However, in his day he was loved by millions, and more than 15,000 persons, colored and white, packed Mt. Philip's Episcopal Church in New York in 1922, when his funeral was held.

Among those who paid tribute to him there was Dr. W. E. B. Dubois, who in speaking of the deceased who died of tuberculosis, said:

"When in the calm afterday of thought and struggle as racial peace we look back and pay tribute to those who helped most, we shall single out for the highest praise those who made the world laugh—those as Bert Williams.

'Above Blood, Tragedy'

"For this was not mere laughter, it was not a smile that hovered above blood and tragedy; the light mass of happiness that hid breaking hearts and bitter souls. This is the top of bravery; the finest thing in service. May the world long honor Bert Williams as a great comedian— a great man."

Few people knew that Williams —like Paul Robeson and DuBois—was greatly concerned with the political happenings of his own day.

Kept in Touch

He kept in sharpest touch with what was happening both in the North, and South. It was because of this close touch, this sharp identification with his own people that Williams was able to attain a great albeit as an artist. He drew his material from the lives of the workers and farmers.

So great was he at the art of entertaining that he was invited on all the stages of Europe, although most of the people attending the performances couldn't understand a word he said.

Yearning to be a tragedian, the artist said of himself in one of his most famous songs: "Jonah Man, Why am I this Jonah? I sure can't understand but I'm a good, substantial, full-fledged real first-class Jonah man."

Sob-Sister

By RUTH JENKINS

NOTED IN PASSING:—The Department of Education Military Science is still carrying the name of Elmer A. Henderson as assistant superintendent of schools, despite his retirement last January and his death last month.

Several public buildings around around town carry dates on their cornerstones such as AD 1904.

Seems to me that the "AD" is unnecessary. We could hardly expect to find any towering structures in Baltimore built in B.C. 1904, let alone with cornerstones bearing the dates.

I understand that before he left town in dramatic martyrdom, the Rev. M. E. Holmes appealed to Mrs. Lillie M. (NAACP) Jackson to see if she could do anything about his court-order exile.

En Route to Europe

ENVY DEPARTMENT: — Incidentally, Mrs. Jackson and her hairister - daughter, Juanita Mitchell left Thursday for the Big City on the first lap of their trip to Europe.

In New York, they will be the guests of Dr. and Mrs. Mann Henderson until noon Saturday when they sail on the Queen Mary. Before sailing they will have a bon voyage reunion with Mrs. Mitchell's husband, Clarence, and their three sons.

They will land in Cherbourg on Aug. 9 and go by rail to Paris where they will be met by another daughter, Jacqueline, Marian Downs, who is studying voice in Italy.

After five days in Gay Paree, Mrs. Jackson and Juanita will visit Switzerland before going on to Marian's home in Milan, Italy.

Then they will take in Rome, Florence, Venice and Naples, coming back by way of Amsterdam, Holland, to London in order to attend the Ecumenical Conference of the Methodist Church in Oxford, England.

Something to Talk About

They will sail for home on Sept. 7 expecting to be back in Baltimore on the 12. This trip should really give Mrs. Jackson something to talk about.

THE ALASKA CAMPUS:—Summer (?) school at the University of Alaska will close on Aug. 14 when Alaska's Baltimore student, Herbert M. Frisby, of the Douglass High School science department will set out for home.

From Aug. 16 to 19, he will be in Anchorage, Alaska until he boards the Steamship S.S. Denali.

Through Aug. 21 to 27 the ship is due at ports of call in Seldovia, Kodiak, Juneau, Seachikan, Alaska and Seattle, Washington. Boarding a train from there, Mr. Frisby should reach home about Aug. 29.

If you don't have a television set, these days, nobody wants to come visit you. No wonder Rosemary Cluny has so much difficulty getting the guy to "Come On A My House." She promises him everything but TV.

POLITICS

From the DEMOCRATIC Viewpoint

By LLOYAL RANDOLPH

After you have urged people to register and vote one year after another; and,

After each election you have realized how many failed to respond, you are likely to have been discouraged.

You feel as though the time, energy and money used is a waste of effort.

At the point when you are about to give up and say "if the people are not interested, why bother"—out of no where comes that spark of hope that gives the necessary inspiration to continue.

That inspiration came this past week from the first prize winning essay of Catherine Hill, a Carroll County teen-ager.

The subject of her paper was "What America Means to Me".

Catherine Hill

Catherine Hill, who is in the third year of high school proved that the young people are not all thrill seekers, dope addicts and irresponsibles.

Miss Hill thoroughly demonstrated that they know why an education is necessary and what the future world expects of them.

She is one student who has been inspired by the history of our people in America.

In her essay we find the following thought: "I have been exposed to the kind of training that will assist me in becoming a worthwhile citizen of my country".

"I shall be able to realize the great duty which is mine—to cast the ballot, to express my opinions on local, state and national affairs, to hold political office, perhaps".

Schools Teach Citizenship

It is indeed encouraging to see that our young people are being taught the value of citizenship. I wish it were possible to have Miss Hill's essay reproduced and placed in the hands of all those who have been indifferent in registering and voting.

Here we have a little high school girl who knows that only by have sufficient voters can she be elected to office, is she so desirés to be a candidate.

Encourage Young People

Therefore, we who are interested having our representatives on all boards, in the City Council and State legislature, should encourage these young people to become more active in politics.

Even though they cannot vote yet, they can spear head block committees and instruct their elders in registering and voting the democratic ticket.

POLITICS

From the REPUBLICAN Viewpoint

By MARSE S. CALLOWAY

The Republican party, under the splendid leadership of Governor Theodore McKeldin, has taken on new life, and points the way for a return to sensible government and sound financing.

Our people will benefit from the government's sound policies and fair treatment. His appointees are given to appointees reflect upon him. If they be good he is praised; if they be bad he is condemned.

McKeldin Appointees

Men like Judge John Berry, magistrate of the Northwestern Police Station, are a credit to our city, and to the Governor.

Other men, such as Dr. Holmes the great educator, Dr. Ralph Young, Dr. J. A. White, and Howard Murphy, the lads named recently appointed as the first of our race to the Welfare Board, bring honor to our city.

They stand high in the esteem of the citizens regardless of color. They have, as do others appointed by Mr. McKeldin, integrity, ability, and statesmanship.

It is heartwarming to see that the Governor has appointed, and will continue to appoint, our people to positions of trust in state government. He is indeed our tried, true friend and champion.

Men of Integrity

Other Republicans, appointed to head the Traffic Court, Motor Vehicles Commission, State Accidents Commission, and other important Boards and positions are men of experience and integrity; and they will reflect glory on themselves and their party for their fair and impartial judgement and treatment—serving as the United Color line. The most recent appointment of Mr. Small to head the Racing Commission, is in keeping with the high principles of the Governor.

Support Our Friends

One thing is certain, and that is that the Democratic Party of the years gone by has been tested and found to measure up to our ideas of equal treatment and fair play.

We must continue to support our friends in public office every where, so that by democratic processes, some day we may cease fighting for our rightful heritage —it will have become ours.

★ REPORTERS' REPORT TO THE PEOPLE ★

Scratch Pad

By MAE MORRIS MEDDERS

MEDDERS

For over a week, those of us who hang around the courthouse knew something big was brewing and the news spread.

Some poisons it would appear.

But when the story broke Monday morning it was bigger than we had expected. The list of persons summoned to appear before the grand jury for the "investigation" was so long that some observers were more concerned with why her "so and so" wasn't called rather than why "so and so" was.

Butler and Cabinet

There were many, white and colored, who hated to see the names Lloyd James Butler and Det. Lloyd Johnson tied in with the "investigation."

Several of these folks advanced the theory that the whole affair was an effort to discredit the two colored detectives who have maintained an enviable record while on the force.

Next question of concern was "who's been whispering in the ear of the grand jury and the State's attorney?

Again the theories were plentiful. Was the investigation coming from the testimony before the U.S. Senate committee by William (Little Willie) Adams? These who ought to know say "Hardly, and if so, not all of it."

Was it coming from the lips of disgruntled persons who have been sent to prison under Judge Joseph Sherbow's jail policy for convicted gamers. Well, maybe, the theorists said.

But the hottest theory of all is that the thing is the result of some people "private eyeing" by a well-known fellow, colored too. Yes, I said colored!

Lonesomania

By BUDDY LONESOME

LONESOME

INNOCUOUS TRIVIA. Went to Sandy Point Beach near the Chesapeake Bay Bridge, Sunday. It's a fine, uniform beach with picnic tables and trees on an overhanging bluff. Although the beach is open to EVERYONE, our colored citizens fall flock together at one end. Shows that despite what a lot of people think, we love each other. So much, we can't bear to be separated. A case came up in Southern Police Court in which two men, one white and one colored, became involved in an argument over delivery of some produce. The colored man weighed a mere 140 lbs. while the white man weighed him with a 250 lb average. When the white man maneuvered him in a tight corner, the colored fellow evened odds with a big bite of the other man's skin. After the injured man was treated at South Baltimore General Hospital, Magistrate Rifman fined both of them, but suspended sentence when the men shook hands and begged each other's forgiveness. When Junior Gilliam and Hector Rodriguez were in town with the Montreal baseball team they were besieged by feminine followers of the sport. The men, however, took it in stride and politely refused all dates. Many people don't know it, but both of the men are happily married. Gilliam married an 18-year-old Baltimore girl and lives in Cherry Hill. Lt. A. Stranahan of the South Cherry Hill Station is quick to point out that although there seems to be quite a bit of trouble emanating from Cherry Hill lately, most of the offenders come from other parts of Baltimore. Two cases in point are the shooting of Officer Donnel Lorenz, and the recent attempted holdup of a female cabbie by an 18-year-old Washington boy.

Mainstream

By RALPH MATTHEWS JR.

MATTHEWS JR

A young husband walked into Northwestern police court and asked Magistrate John L. Berry for help.

"My wife's parents won't let me move," he told the judge. "They say I can't take my furniture unless I bring a policeman."

The magistrate couldn't help him. It was a civil matter.

"I came into the act innocently enough. "If you were me, the husband asked me outside he court room, "What would you do?" I didn't know but I listened.

The story turned out this way: The husband was tired of living with his in-laws. He wanted to move to the apartment he had selected for her and their baby boy. Her parents did not want her to leave.

"I married her, not her family," the youth told me. "I'm sick of living in one room for eleven bucks a week. An apartment costs fifteen."

Said the wife, when questioned: "He (meaning her husband) likes to think big. With no money. Now if he had constulted me before deciding to move, I might have gone."

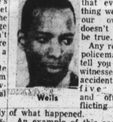
Said the father-in-law: "She stays here, he can't support her." Said the mother-in-law: "We take care of her, he can leave right now."

Said the cop on the beat to the wife: "Surely, you can't love your husband if you refuse to live in the home he wants to provide."

Frankly, I think the cop was right. What's your opinion?

News Beat

By RUFUS WELLS



Wells

"I know it happened 'cause I saw it with my own eyes." "We've heard that statement many times, but the truth is that even the thing we see with our own eyes doesn't have to be true.

Any reporter or policeman will tell you that five witnesses to an accident will give five different versions of what happened.

An example of this occurred at Reisterstown Road and Woodlawn Avenue Sunday night. A white and a colored motorist had an argument about who had the right of way.

A Terrific Blow

A witness reported that the colored man struck the white man "a terrific" blow in the face and fled. Police spread an alarm for the colored motorist after the white man was taken to the hospital.

But the medical examiner, after an autopsy, reported that the man died from cerebral hemorrhage and not from a blow. It seemed the man suffered high blood pressure and the excitement of the argument caused a blood vessel to burst.

A thorough investigation revealed that the white man had not been struck at all. Yet, a few hours earlier, police had been alerted to the fact that a colored motorist is suspected of murder.

Capt. William Foehler, North-western district commander, and former head of Baltimore's homicide squad, commented:

"That's the case of the murder that wasn't. My theory is alone was that the man died a natural death. The medical examiner's report confirmed my belief."

Out of the MAIL BAG

Outdated Entertainment

Dear AFRO—In a Catholic pamphlet entitled, "Fifty Ways to Improve Race Relations" we read:

"Jack Benny's Rochester . . . and Beulah and Amos and Andy likewise seem to be an age-gone-by of American humor. Help to put them in the museum where they belong by twisting the dial, writing to the sponsors, and buying the products they advertise."

This is really bound advice and from the many letters and articles that have been appearing in the AFRO lately, in reference to the "Amos and Andy" television show, I feel that you are in full accord with me, as are all clear-thinking people.

False Notions Perpetuated

False notions about the American colored people are just being perpetuated by entertainment of this type. White Americans only too readily takes these caricatures as standard patterns, into which they erroneously place all colored. It is high time that we get together to fight this harmful propaganda.

I, for one, shall never tune in on any of these programs, nor will I purchase the products they advertise. If we could interest others in doing this we should soon see a decrease in the demand for these products of this kind we shall accomplish but little.

To Practice the Theory

Because of an accident of birth, I happen to be white; but because I firmly believe in the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man, I am dedicated to do all in my power to put into practice what is in so many cases only a beautiful theory.

As a Catholic, I have been taught about the inherent dignity of the individual and the infinite value of each human soul and am trying to live in union with my fellow men with these things in mind.

Conscious of the many injustices inflicted upon minority groups, I am ever on the watchtower to praise those who made the world laugh—those as Bert Williams.

'Above Blood, Tragedy'

"For this was not mere laughter, it was not a smile that hovered above blood and tragedy; the light mass of happiness that hid breaking hearts and bitter souls. This is the top of bravery; the finest thing in service. May the world long honor Bert Williams as a great comedian— a great man."

Few people knew that Williams —like Paul Robeson and DuBois—was greatly concerned with the political happenings of his own day.

Kept in Touch

He kept in sharpest touch with what was happening both in the North, and South. It was because of this close touch, this sharp identification with his own people that Williams was able to attain a great albeit as an artist. He drew his material from the lives of the workers and farmers.

So great was he at the art of entertaining that he was invited on all the stages of Europe, although most of the people attending the performances couldn't understand a word he said.

Yearning to be a tragedian, the artist said of himself in one of his most famous songs: "Jonah Man, Why am I this Jonah? I sure can't understand but I'm a good, substantial, full-fledged real first-class Jonah man."

Sob-Sister

By RUTH JENKINS

NOTED IN PASSING:—The Department of Education Military Science is still carrying the name of Elmer A. Henderson as assistant superintendent of schools, despite his retirement last January and his death last month.

Several public buildings around around town carry dates on their cornerstones such as AD 1904.

Seems to me that the "AD" is unnecessary. We could hardly expect to find any towering structures in Baltimore built in B.C. 1904, let alone with cornerstones bearing the dates.

I understand that before he left town in dramatic martyrdom, the Rev. M. E. Holmes appealed to Mrs. Lillie M. (NAACP) Jackson to see if she could do anything about his court-order exile.

En Route to Europe

ENVY DEPARTMENT: — Incidentally, Mrs. Jackson and her hairister - daughter, Juanita Mitchell left Thursday for the Big City on the first lap of their trip to Europe.

In New York, they will be the guests of Dr. and Mrs. Mann Henderson until noon Saturday when they sail on the Queen Mary. Before sailing they will have a bon voyage reunion with Mrs. Mitchell's husband, Clarence, and their three sons.

They will land in Cherbourg on Aug. 9 and go by rail to Paris where they will be met by another daughter, Jacqueline, Marian Downs, who is studying voice in Italy.

After five days in Gay Paree, Mrs. Jackson and Juanita will visit Switzerland before going on to Marian's home in Milan, Italy.

Then they will take in Rome, Florence, Venice and Naples, coming back by way of Amsterdam, Holland, to London in order to attend the Ecumenical Conference of the Methodist Church in Oxford, England.

Something to Talk About

They will sail for home on Sept. 7 expecting to be back in Baltimore on the 12. This trip should really give Mrs. Jackson something to talk about.

THE ALASKA CAMPUS:—Summer (?) school at the University of Alaska will close on Aug. 14 when Alaska's Baltimore student, Herbert M. Frisby, of the Douglass High School science department will set out for home.

From Aug. 16 to 19, he will be in Anchorage, Alaska until he boards the Steamship S.S. Denali.

Through Aug. 21 to 27 the ship is due at ports of call in Seldovia, Kodiak, Juneau, Seachikan, Alaska and Seattle, Washington. Boarding a train from there, Mr. Frisby should reach home about Aug. 29.

If you don't have a television set, these days, nobody wants to come visit you. No wonder Rosemary Cluny has so much difficulty getting the guy to "Come On A My House." She promises him everything but TV.

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City Issues New Birth Certificates

The issuance of a new type of official certification of birth records was put into effect Monday, July 23 by the City Health Department. It is known as Certification of Birth, short form, and shows only the name, age, sex, date of birth, place of birth and the date that the original certificate was filed.

The City Health Department will continue to issue full certified photostatic copies of original birth records when requested for special purposes. All the information will be given on the birth certificate including name, age, and birth place of parents.

The short form certificate will be sufficient in most instances to prove age and citizenship when required for employment purposes, securing marriage license, motor vehicle operator's license, or like papers.

A certified photostatic copy is required in certain legal actions, for passport applications and for civil service positions.

CPL. THOMAS COMPLETES SPECIAL TRAINING COURSE

Cpl. Frederick W. Thomas, the son of Mrs. Irene Thomas of 1008 N. Carrollton Ave., has completed the eight weeks Leaders' Course conducted by the Special Training Regiment of the 8th Division, Fort Jackson, S.C. He is a former pupil of Dunbar High School.

Urban League Program Aired on TV

WAAM Televises the Urban League

Representatives of the Baltimore Urban League began a three-week televised series of interviews over WAAM's "Tee Vee Waamboree," Monday.

The general function and background of the Urban League was discussed on the first program. Participating in the discussion were Mrs. Isabel Nelson, member of the executive board, Urban League;

Furman L. Templeton, executive director, Urban League, Edgar M. Ewing, president, executive board, Urban League, and Nick Campofreda, director of the television program.

AFRO Editor Speaks

On Wednesday, Elmer Free, Chairman of the Public Relations Committee, Urban League, and Vincent T. Dubin, AFRO Magazine editor, spoke on: The Press and the Urban League.

On Friday, Robert Freedman, president of the Yellow Cab Company, Leroy Griffin, business agent of the taxi-cab drivers union, and Fred. Z. Sickels, executive secretary of the Urban League, will discuss the hiring and integration of colored taxi-cab drivers by the Yellow Cab Company.

All Activities Covered

League activities in such fields as public relations, employment, police training, housing, redevelopment, education, and related topics will be covered by the televised series.

The series was arranged for WAAM by the Public Service Director, Joel Chaseman, in co-operation with Mr. Templeton, and Miss Lois Rosner of the Baltimore Urban League.

Eccentric Defies

(Continued from Page 1)

told to repair the house, he was unable. After he gives the building association the weekly payment due, there is just enough left for food.

Seing his financial plight, Magistrate Brown sent him to the Legal Aid Bureau. The Bureau finded a lawyer. The lawyer tried to help the man negotiate a loan.

Briggs did not want a loan to get his home repaired. He did not want anything except to be let alone. The lawyer even found a way to sell the house that would have netted Briggs $600 profit.

This expert's advice seemingly went in one of Brigg's ears and out the other.

"Your Honor," said the attorney, "All he's interested in is paying for that house. He'd go without eating before selling it or missing one payment."

The lawyer then left the courtroom. He had wished his hands of the case.

Dad's Collect Rent

Briggs' not only refused to do all that had been suggested, he even refused, continue to collect rent from his tenant, according to one officer familiar with the case.

He was in love with his house and that was that. He wouldn't be budged.

Finally, Briggs spoke. In a high boyish voice, he told the judge, Magistrate: "I'm trying to get it straightened out. I pay them (the building association) the rent here for my house."

This was his sole argument. It was his house, he was paying for it, he wasn't going to leave.

The magistrate shook his head in bewilderment and told him that unsanitary conditions could not continue. Then she fined him $25 and costs.

"Can you pay your fine?" asked the bailiff.

Briggs shrugged. "No money."

Took Him Away

They took him away to jail. For the next 24 days, Briggs will be away from his self-imposed second-floor prison and in a cell, a jail not of his making.

Meanwhile, the young hermit's house stands as it has. The floor sag, plaster falls, the dirt piles up and the rats scamper up and down the stairs.

He is a man who loved his home not wisely but much too well.

Miss Battle to Enter U. of Md.

Miss Mattie Ruth Battle, 19, of 668 W. Mulberry St. is the second colored student to be accepted in the University of Maryland's School of Nursing.

Miss Esther McCready, the girls, was