Baltimore Afro-American

4 JULY 6, 1957

"We are Americans and, as Americans, we would speak to America." —Frederick Douglass

FOUNDED IN 1892
By John H. Murphy Sr.—1840-1922
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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.*

Soldiers' Armory

Morgan State College has named its beautiful new Reserve Officer Training Corps building, Soldiers' Armory. The name was suggested by Mr. Josiah Henry, chairman of the school's building committee.

According to Mr. Henry, it honors the 8,463 officers and men of the 4th, 7th, 8th, 19th, 30th and 39th Regiments, United States colored troops, Maryland Volunteers, who fought in the Civil War.

Mr. Henry stated that Maryland troops fought under both Generals Grant and Sherman, were cited for uniform conduct and soldierly bearing and, after only 24 weeks of training, set an example for veteran troops.

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CASUALTIES OF the Maryland Volunteer Troops were among the highest of any regiment Maryland sent into the Civil War.

In the case of the 7th Regiment, the dead ran to thirty per cent.

In addition to the monument to Frederick Douglass, the Memorial Refectory with its bronze relief in honor of 800 men who fought in World War II, Morgan State now adds this new building in honor of Civil War soldiers.

It reminds the people of the state that the fighting tradition of Maryland troops did not begin with World War II.

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DURING THE Revolutionary War, the Maryland legislature authorized the enlistment of 750 colored men to be mixed with other troops.

Boatmen from the Eastern Shore of Maryland helped evacuate Washington from Long Island.

Morgan State historians would perform a useful service if they uncovered the names of these colored boys who fought for American independence, the regiments to which they were attached and the campaigns in which they were engaged.

Jim crow reversed

The city of Baltimore spends $12,000 a year to run Camp Francis Wood for colored children under the direction of the Department of Public Welfare.

Miss Esther Lazarus, director of the Department, says her DPW board considered integration of thecamp but decided to keep it all colored this year.

Reason: Integration might deprive some colored youngsters of camping facilities.

We do not agree. All Miss Lazarus has to do is obey the law, open the camp to all. She has no choice now.

Further, the city of Baltimore would be expected to take the first step to make sure its welfare programs are open to all citizens.

After it has done that, it would likewise work to see that camping programs, which are conducted in conjunction with the city are also open to all.

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THERE IS NO earthly reason we can see why the city should spend $12,000 for Camp Wood and open its doors to colored children only.

By keeping Camp Wood jim crow, the Department of Public Welfare is unlawfully perpetuating segregation.

The Fresh Air Camp which the Community Fund supports now admits only white children.

It would be more inclined to admit colored children if the city set the example, and had an open-door policy at Camp Wood.

Denkins dismissal

Patrolman Ernest E. Denkins of the Southwestern District has been discharged from the force for "failing to be properly patrolled his post," "answering a superior officer in an insolent manner," and "failure to salute a sergeant."

Officer Denkins' defense was that his superior officers were prejudiced and had addressed him in a derogatory manner.

This was the first case since the advent of colored members to the Baltimore police force where such a charge has been made.

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COMMISSIONER JAMES E. HEPBRON investigated the case and personally walked Officer Denkins' beat. He learned that it would have been impossible for a patrolman not to see the lights of the police call boxes, if he stayed on his beat.

The first requirement of a policeman is that he do the job for which he is hired, and that he submit himself to a virtually military-like discipline.

The summary dismissal of Patrolman Denkins can be accepted as an indication that Commissioner Hepbron proposes to enforce the department's regulations firmly and without favor.

The 7th Commandment

The Seventh Commandment says "Thou Shalt Not Kill."

We firmly believe this applies with equal force to an individual and to a state.

Maryland has never used the electric chair to exact the death penalty.

Last week it switched from the old-fashioned gallows to the more modern use of poison gas.

Officials contend that gas is a more humane method of execution.

But the condemned man, Eddie Lee Daniels, after 13 painful minutes was just as dead as if he had been hanged.

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MICHIGAN AND California have abolished the death penalty as a punishment for crime.

Last week the State of Illinois, uncertain as to whether it should join these two, suspended the death penalty on a trial basis for six years.

During that period a life sentence will be the severest punishment a murderer, rapist or kidnaper, may receive.

We think it's time for Maryland to do away with the death penalty.

We suggest Senator Harry Cole give serious consideration to drafting the necessary bill for the next legislature.

Senseless killing

AFRO readers had reason for concern and shock last week with the story of the wanton attack on an East Baltimore man of 55.

Police reports indicate that two teenagers pulled him from a restaurant and clubbed him to death—for no reason at all.

By the time police finish their investigation and the suspects go to trial, the public will be treated to some reasons.

But whatever they are, we are certain that no argument, no act on the part of the dead man was sufficient to merit such killing.

It is time for people to understand they cannot take the law into their own hands.

Senseless killings like this are repulsive to all law-abiding citizens.

The Week's Conversation Piece

Mama: "Yes, the more he unwinds a subject the more he winds it."

Papa: "Judge Thomsen's opinion is long and involved as usual."

Thinking Out Loud

By RALPH MATTHEWS

A young Washington hoodlum was done to death in the gas chamber in the Maryland Penitentiary, last week, as the Old Free State inaugurated a new method of ridding itself of undesirable malefactors.

Naturally, considerable controversy resulted from this change. Much debate has centered around whether this new technique is an improvement over the old method of extracting society's pound of flesh—by evicters at the end of a rope, a technique discontinued last April.

Some contend that the new system is less humane as it takes the victim too long to die.

WHETHER THEY advocate returning to the gallows, using the electric chair or the guillotine was not made clear.

But just what lofty purpose will be accomplished by this change in methods of execution I do not know.

I have seen many men hanged, and others riddled by bullets on their attlefield. I can conceive of no way that unnatural death can be made more comfortable.

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I WILL never forget the first time, as a cub reporter, I was assigned to the death house to watch a man pay the supreme penalty.

I am certain that in the last hours I suffered as much as he did, because up to that time I had never been exposed to death even in my own family.

Once prior to that I had visited a slaughter house and saw the butcher kill a cow. The look of disbelief in the animal's eyes as the man crushed its skull with an axe haunted me for days.

To add to the apprehension I felt as I made my way to the execution chamber was the fact that I had sat through the trial of this victim. Consequently, I had come to know him fairly intimately, because he had intrigued me both by his crime and his reaction thereto.

It seems that for no good reason he could recall he had chopped up his common-law wife with a meat cleaver and hid her dismembered body under the boards of the kitchen sink.

He had quietly gone to sleep and forgotten all about the matter until the gendarmes were called in to investigate the lady's disappearance.

All this took place in the worst slums of West Baltimore, where such carnage and bloodshed were common occurrences every Saturday night.

Everybody predicted that he probably would be sentenced to no more than six months, with time off for good behavior since both parties were colored.

But the fates were operating against this particular cultprit. When he was brought to trial a new judge, who took a dim view of the differential between the races ascended the bench.

He believed that colored murderers should pay the same price for killing as white murderers.

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TO THE shock of all concerned, the judge sentenced our man to the gallows, thus establishing a new precedent in Maryland jurisprudence.

Up to that time most of the delegates to the death house had been accused of rape against white women, or some other heinous violation of the racial code. Practically no white men had been hanged at all.

It was against this background that I made my first visit to the execution chamber. Along with other witnesses I stood in the tall whitewashed enclosure nervously chewing my fingernails and looking at my watch.

Right on the second the door opened on a platform high above us. The prisoner, accompanied by a holy man and several guards, made his appearance. With businesslike dispatch they bound his legs, sliped the hood over his head and the rope around his neck, in less than two minutes the trap was sprung and the cleaver - killer was no more.

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OF THIS incident, I recall one dramatic feature. Although this man was in his late 20's, during the weeks that elapsed between the imposing of sentence and his execution, his hair had turned perfectly white.

Since that time I have seen many men die on the gallows, many of whom I had known in a similar professional way. I could never quite get used to watching men die, but I am a strong believer in capital punishment. And have no sentimental reservations that make me think a wilful slayer should escape paying for his crime.

This is especially true in the cases where the murder was committed in the course of robbery.

Sometimes a person may slay in a fit of anger or due to provocations beyond his control.

But when young hoodlums, out of shiftlessness, greed and the desire to get something for nothing, take an innocent life, on my books, the death penalty is too benevolent.

THERE IS a case before the Washington courts today in which three men are on trial for slaying a prominent realtor.

The question which has tripped two juries is whether the victim, while bound and gagged, died from suffocation or whether he died from natural causes.

This may never be determined. However, it is a fair presumption that if the accused had minded their own business and left him alone he probably would be living today. So, why quibble over technicalities?

THE ADVOCATES who seek to abolish capital punishment contend that this method does not deter crime, that as many murders are committed in states that employ this method as in states that do not. This sounds like nonsense.

The fear of punishment is a powerful deterrent in any phase of life. People avoid parking in front of fire plugs or running through red lights, not because they are so moral but because they do not like to pay fines.

If people will control their impulses to save five dollars, how much more control will they employ to save their necks?

Repeal the traffic laws and our streets will become a jungle.

Remove the fear of capital punishment and you will invite murder. Life will be given full release.

The gallows puts a price tag on the other fellow's life.

When we shed tears about being gentle with criminals let us stop and ask how much gentility did they show for their victims.

No wonder!

Dear AFRO:

A photo in Tuesday's AFRO on page 13 shows an 11-year-old boy being held by the arm and the seat of his pants.

The accompanying caption says the boy is shown as he was being carried to a hearing in Nashville, Tenn., after he was overcome by gas. He was dead on arrival at the hospital.

My comment on this is no wonder the child was dead!

If the people who were carrying him had any concern for saving his life they wouldn't have carried him like a dirty piece of paper.—J. L. SMITH

Off the Beaten Path

By ELIZABETH M. OLIVER

I WASN'T AS SCARED AS THE MEN WERE

FIFTEEN MEN and I witnessed the gas chamber execution of Eddie Lee Daniels last Friday night at the Maryland Pen.

If you think I was scared, read this:

As we suddenly entered the brightly lighted gas chamber room and viewed the prisoner alive and just a few feet away sitting in the chair with his hare back to us, my steps faltered.

A guard had been trailing me throughout the evening with a big bottle of smelling salts in his pocket.

He touched my arm. He was shaking like a leaf.

At one point, I thought I might have to help him.

A FEW minutes later, the prisoner turned in the gas chamber and weakly smiled at me and a gentleman reporter.

I ducked behind someone else.

My male friend nearly knocked me down as he fled from the doomed man's gaze.

Soon, the corner where the prisoner could easily turn for another smile and-look was deserted.

No one stood in that particular spot until somewhat later.

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THE JOURNEY from the prison entrance to the death house was a long one. Down winding stairs, through hallways and passageways, through rooms, outdoors to a courtyard, garden all abloom with roses, dahlias, Ladys' Slippers and petunias — through a machine shop, across the ball park where games are all "home games," past the recreation room.

On and on we went silently, for we were instructed not to say a word.

We entered another building somewhere near Forrest and Madison Sts. Up some more steps, down narrow passages.

For a moment's rest we sat in a small room.

Such chain - smoking and whispering you'd never see at the Saturday women's bridge club. And, such walking of the floor!

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AS TENSION relaxed during the rest, the men told of as many as a dozen hangings they had witnessed, but none had seen a "good-night," "sleepy-time" party such as we were about to observe.

Joseph Chiang, representative of the Chinese News Service, described beheadings and firing squad executions.

He said: "Both are more merciful than hangings. In China, the rope has been ruled out.

"The doomed man kneels down, puts his head on the block, a knife comes down, wham — and his head rolls off.

"The body quivers like a chicken with its head cut off. But does he seem suffer? No, he can he — his head is cut off."

Throughout the period of time taken for Daniels' physical body to expire, Mr. Chiang kept whispering: "To err is human, he was a victim of circumstance."

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AT ONE POINT during the ordeal when all expected Daniels' last breath to come, he raised his head for a fifth time.

If anyone had said "boo," everyone of us would have dropped dead. The suspense was terrifying. Mere seconds seemed like hours.

When Warden Vernon Pepersack announced the man was dead, the formerly extremely courteous 15 men beat me to the exit door!

A common cause makes all kin, so says an ancient proverb.

Strange how 16 persons can react in a similar manner to so strong a stimuli as fear. We all did the same thing at the same time.

When one walked tippy-toe, all walked tippy-toe. When one stopped, all stopped. When one glanced around to see how the others were faring, all looked around.

• • •

TAKING NOTES was done in concert. Each time the victim coughed or sighed — scribble, scribble, 16 pencils flew.

Strangest reaction: How 16 persons seeing the same thing, recording the same facts, could write different accounts?

Daniels seemed to be asleep in the final stages of the execution. A child with the whooping cough could have more difficulty doing off than he did.

THE CONDEMNED man was given a tranquilizer called equinol, the warden said.

As contrasted with an analgesic which relieves pain, equinol has muscle-relaxing qualities, medical authorities say.

It acts on the central nervous system, calms anxiety and tension, has no effect on the heart or respiration, produces a drowsy effect, is made up in large sized tablets, about 400 milligrams.

The cyanide pellets (about 2 pounds) and hydrochloric acid combined to produce the lethal gas cost about $5 or $10, the prison business office reports.

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IF SYMPATHY helps, Daniels rests beyond the pearly gates. Persons witnessing the event seemed filled with pity.

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IT WAS the Rev. Edward Weglein's first execution. He is a Protestant chaplain and succeeded Father Joseph J. Ayd who had 30 years service as prison chaplain.

Father Ayd witnessed 54 hangings.

The Rev. Mr. Weglein admitted he managed, in 3 minutes of execution, praying and encouraging the condemned man to pray.

The new chaplain was pastor of the Calhoun St. Christian Church and will be with Old Hospitals before he became full-time minister to prisoners.

He told the men: "I'm sure your heart be troubled. You believe in God, believe also in me. . .) and the Father, I go to prepare a place for you."

"The earth is the Lord's and the fulness thereof. . .) to me shall every knee bow."

Quotations from the New Testament passages.

Daniels could hear none of the prayers. The gas chamber is air tight, sound proof.

Both the Rev. Mr. Weglein and the Catholic priest, Rev. Father Francis Tolly wore long, black ecclesiastical robes.

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SIGN IN PEN LOBBY: No inmates are allowed to receive shoes from visitors.

This precaution is probably taken lest friends may hide get-away tools in the soles.

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Did you ever hear the one about the elderly wife who baked a hack-saw, a file and a chisel in a cake and took it to her silver-haired husband who was doing a 99-year stretch in the pen?

It appeared in the New Yorker as a cartoon some time ago.

P.S. He escaped.

Girard benefactor

Dear AFRO:

I would like to answer a question from a letter written by some members of the Ku Klux Klan (concerning desegregation of a Pennsylvania school).

The question was, "What satisfaction can they (the colored youths) ever have when they learn it is against the will of the donor?" The letter was referring to the attempt of two colored youths to enter Girard School located in Philadelphia.

In my opinion, the youths will have the satisfaction of knowing that the school which they wish to attend was founded with the money that once belonged to one of their ancestors.

During the period when Haiti was attempting to free itself from French rule, Toussaint L'Ouverture had obtained six million francs from sources which were friendly to his cause.

L'Ouverture, fearing that he would be harmed by the French, had entrusted the money to Girard's care to be used in his (L'Ouverture's) behalf.

When Toussaint was kidnaped by the French and subsequently died in prison, Girard, instead of returning the money to Haiti, fled to Philadelphia and established Girard College, using the money that L'Ouverture had entrusted to him.

Is it sacreligious for decent Christian people to break into a grave and defile the will and memory of a man or the will and memory of a thief?

FLOYD NEAL

Pick your colleges now

Students who are planning to go to college this fall and haven't already made the final arrangements should be getting to it seriously right now. It takes time for all the wheels to turn.

If you're having trouble making up your mind about what school to attend, consult your nearest branch library; the librarians will be able to provide materials which will help you decide.

Readers Say

Martin Co. picnics

Dear AFRO:

It touches me deeply that the Glenn Martin Co., should give separate family outings for its employees. (The outing for colored workers is July 13 at Carr's Beach, one for whites is at Gwynn Oak Park.)

This has been going on for the past nine years. I have gone along with the idea until 1954, when the Supreme Court handed down a ruling that all people could use public parks and pools and other public facilities.

Tickets for the picnic are being sold by the committee to people who are not employees. They do not know that the company is holding separate outings. If they did, they would not attend or permit their children to go.

• • •

I FEEL if colored people of the Southwest walk to work for a year rather than ride on a jim crow bus, we could do without one day of pleasure to make ours a better community for our young people.

There are about 2,600 colored people working at the Martin Co. We work together, I think we can go on a family outing together.

There are public picnic areas in Baltimore — Sandy Point, Ft. Smallwood, Patapsco State Park —, where all would be welcome.

—A MARTIN WORKER

Editor's Note: Name deleted for obvious reasons.

(EDITORS NOTE: Charles M. Crowley, industrial relations director of the Martin Co., advised the AFRO on this matter as follows: "Where could we hold one together? We start around for picnic groups in the late spring. We never doesn't permit colored people (the picnic for white employees is set for Gwynn Oak.) We found the same thing at Carlin's. This is the practice which has gone on for a number of years. This year we just continued that practice. We've had no complaints. Everybody has been satisfied." Advised that the AFRO call followed a letter of complaint from a colored employee who wrote, "If we all work together why can't we have a family picnic together?" Mr. Crowley said: "One letter doesn't make a quorum.")

On tactful prejudice

Dear AFRO:

In your Reader's Column of June 21 a letter referring to the Baltimore Park Police used the term "tactful prejudice." I agree that the police outfits in this town reserve certain assignments for colored officers, but there is nothing tactful about it.

Prejudice and discrimination are unchristian in any form and I agree with the writer it reveals itself in the attitudes of the officers.

The degenerating factors associated with discriminatory practices has to permeate throughout the organization and unfortunately it manifests itself with overt acts against the public.

The Park Police have no valid reason for the assignment of its colored officers, for as pointed out in a recent newspaper article, they are "employed by the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore," which is the same body which enacted a city FEPC ordinance.

What an irony, the employers are supposed to be impartial, yet the employer wants everyone else to be fair.

Both the Mayor of the Baltimore City Police whose commissioner is appointed by the Governor have no excuse or reason for not employing a few colored officers, for as pointed out in a recent newspaper article, they are "employed by the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore," which is the same body which enacted a city FEPC ordinance.

What an irony, the employers are supposed to be impartial, yet the employer wants everyone else to be fair.

Both the Mayor of the Baltimore City Police whose commissioner is appointed by the Governor have no excuse or reason for not employing a few colored officers.

On the other hand the Department of Recreation and Parks and maybe Mr. Callowhill and his plan to get the City Service Commission to certify "white only" to his department has a carry-over value.

I wonder if the AFRO or the NAACP have ever wondered why the Park Police do not have colored officers in every assignment. I wonder what reason the heads of the department would give. Do you?

EDWARD R. THOMAS JR.

Prove he's lying

Dear AFRO: I have just read the story about the dismissal of Officer Ernest Denkins from the police force. I believe Officer Denkins that his dismissal was unfair.

Police Commissioner James Hepbron's statement about the Denkins case was what got me. The Commissioner ruled out that charge of racial discrimination made by Officer Denkins.

I say if Officer Denkins was lying about racial discrimination, the police department can prove him wrong by seeing that some of our colored officers are assigned to patrol cars.

As of now, and until our colored policemen get some assignment other than walking a beat, I believe Officer Denkins.

—J.L.X.

Hamp 'alk shook up'

Dear AFRO:

I am sorry Mr. (Lionel) Hampton was "all shook up" about the Tuesday night attendance. I was surprised also, but after half an hour I could understand.

Maybe some of the people in Baltimore had experienced his appearances before, as I had.

He may be the best paid band but who wants to pay $2 to hear "Flying Home" and "The Waltz You Saved for Me?"

I love music, but Mr. Hampton should learn some new songs and (then) I think the Fifth Regiment Armory would be filled to capacity.

I am a member of the IBPOEW, and as long as he received his $2,500 I don't think the crowd's gathering should disturb him.

I am a faithful AFRO reader and I love to see Lionel Hampton play the vibes.

(Mrs.) RITA WILLIAMS

New and old lists for rec center head, appointments

RECREATION DIRECTOR
RECREATION CENTER DIRECTOR—held June 25, 195712H
List begins May 10, 1957—18 on list—1st 10 certified
Salary scale—$3660 - $4404
Katherine E. Rawlings, 3018 Northway Dr.—84,583—selected
Richard A. Pope, 1286 Holbrook Terr., Washington—82,517
Helen Elmore, 5311 Windsor Hill Rd.—82,467—selected
Dannie O. Hunt, 3102 Liberty Parkway—81,833—selected
Jeanette W. Hoos, 1821 N. Milton Ave.—80,05—selected
Alice M. Caster, 1516 E. Hoffman St.—79,467
Ernestine T. Ward, 609 Gold St.—79,267
Tina W. Parker, 2617 Huron St.—78,883
Dorothea R. Bartens, 7526 Belair Rd.—78,267—selected
Irvin M. Luckman, 3949 W. Cold Spring La.—78,254-5selected
Minnie W. Payne, 709 Dolphin St.—77,95
Robert H. Harris, 1307 N. Caroline St.—77,537
Earl L. Reide, 3171 Keswick Rd.—76,838
James E. Grant, 3216 Piedmont Ave.—76,553
Lucille W. Sharp, 5014 The Alameda 75,267
Frances Crandell, 2705 Penwick Ave.—75,229
Brady I. Golden, 847 Avondale Rd.—73,017
Carl B. Whitted, 6128 Ritchie Highway—71,167

List begins Oct. 5, 1956—held Nov. 2, 1956
Certified 12-12-56—held 4-8-57
Leroy E. Jones, 1427 W. Lanvale St.—84,692
John C. Fiege, 8613 Chestnut Oak Rd.—84,5—selected 1-1-57
Nelldean K. Albert, 1630 Waverly Way—82,103—selected 1-1-57
Catherine L. Beasley, 800 Cathedral St.—81,3—selected 1-1-57
Victor DiMeo, 5517 Purdue Ave.—80,841—selected 1-1-57
James J. Brown, 832 N. Kenwood—80,247—selected 12-12-56
Richard A. Pope, 1286 Holbrook Terr. Washington—75,723—Declined
Ernestine T. Ward, 609 Gold St.—75,231
Annabelle C Ruffin, 2305 Koko Lane—73,014—selected 4-15-57
Emma J. Baylor, 3201 Gwynns Falls Pkwy.—71,414

How they ranked and who were appointed to recreation jobs

Here is the list for senior recreation center director supplied by the Recreation Department by the City Service Commission, and from which two persons were appointed by Harold S. Callowhill last week:

Exams held June 25, 1957
1st six certified for appointment June 28, 1957 — 13 on list — Salary scale $4200—$5000
1. Jesse L. Joseph Brown, 3030 Jarrettsville Rd. 68,725—Selected
2. Wayne Lee Clark, 2213 Bryant Ave. 68,175
3. George T. Faulkner, 3524 W. Lanvale St. — 84,032
4. Albert K. Neildean, 1690 Waverly Way — 83,98 3
5. Victor DiMeo, 557, Purdue Ave. — 83,06—Selected
6. John A. Faulkner, 2042 Rentalop St. — 82,203
7. Laura L. Garrison, 1700 Guyons Falls Pky. — 82,125
8. Aona J. White, 3018 Northway Dr. — 82,033
9. T. Madison Garrison, 1700 Guyonns Falls Pky. — 78,458
10. Lucile Obrigkeit, 2732 Brendan Ave. — 78,267
11. Walter James Konala, 402 Gilmer Ave. — 77,958
12. Hazel F. Duvall, 3319 Edmondson Ave. — 76,704
13. Jeannette Ruth Whitehouse, 118 University Pky. — 74,381

Betlye Jean Davis

Funeral services were held on Wednesday in Williamsburgh County, S.C. for Betlye Jean Davis, 7, 1214 N. Potomac St., who died at Johns Hopkins Hospital on Saturday.

Death was caused by leukemia. Burial was in the South Carolina cemetery.

The child was one of six children of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Davis.

She is survived by her parents; two sisters and three brothers, her grandmother, six aunts, and three uncles.

NAACP asks hearing on Recreation hiring

The NAACP on Wednesday formally protested "the continuing racially discriminatory employment practices" of Harold S. Callowhill, superintendent of recreation.

"Our Association is deeply concerned over these complaints of the discriminatory hiring practices of a city official and we feel that there should be an immediate and thorough investigation and a hearing in this matter," said Mrs. Juanita Jackson Mitchell, secretary of the NAACP legal redress committee.

Mrs. Mitchell directed the request for a hearing to Richard W. Emory, chairman of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

(Continued from Page 1)

IN HER letter to Mr. Emory, Mrs. Mitchell said:

"This is to request your investigation of the complaint which has been made to the Baltimore branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People of the continuing racially discriminatory employment practices of Mr. Harold S. Callowhill.

"It is reported that, without waiting for the decision of your Commission concerning his recent request for permission to set up separate white and colored lists for appointment to the Department of Recreation, and without exhausting the lists of the City Service eligible list, Mr. Callowhill had the City Service Commission give a new examination on Tuesday, June 25.

"Designed as a closed promotional examination, it was for the positions of senior recreational center director and for the positions of senior recreational center director. Every recreation director in the Department had a right to try for senior recreation director. Yet they were denied the opportunity to everybody on our staff.

"What we did here is to operate within the city solitor's ruling. We had no separate lists. Everyone was on the list and had an opportunity to be appointed."

MR. CALLOWHILL added that earlier on Wednesday he received an eligible list for recreation leader with four names on it and all four were white, two colored and he appointed all four of them.

He identified the four as: Sarah Y. Dodson, Flossie T. Ford, Doris Bryant and Catherine Evans.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The four referred to were the only persons left on the list from the April 1957 list and no new examination could be held for these jobs until the list was exhausted.)

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IN MAY Mr. Callowhill, in asking for an EECC ruling, said his list contained the names of colored applicants and that he was disinclined to appoint white leaders to such so called white playgrounds.

Richard W. Emory, chairman of the EOC, requested an opinion on the proposal from the City Solicitor's office.

Mr. Emory wanted to know whether "a position of a recreation center director or recreation leader for the public playgrounds reasonably requires the employment of a person or persons of a particular race or color."

Mr. Callowhill had requested permission to have separate eligibility lists in the following classifications:

Senior recreation center director, recreation leader and recreation assistant.

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"WE ARE informed that in prior years it had been the practice of the City Service Commission to maintain separate lists based on race for certain recreation positions," said Mr. Ricciuti.

"In recent years, however, it has discontinued this practice, and has now established a single classification without respect to race.

"Since the passage of Ordinance No. 379 of 1956, the City Service Commission has not and does not tabulate the race of the various eligible applicants on the list."

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MR. CALLOWHILL in an interview with the AFRO on Wednesday, denied that in holding new examinations for center directors and senior center directors last week, he did so to keep from promoting colored people who were already leading the list.

"He was a veteran of World War II and served in the Infantry. He was a chemical company worker. Burial was in the Baltimore National Cemetery.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Rose Henderson; two daughters, Patricia and Darcelle; four stepdaughters, Shirley, Barbara, June and Gilda Pinkney;

Also a son, Murray; his mother, Mrs. Mary Jesse Henderson; two sisters, Misses Eddie Lee and Ruby Henderson; and four brothers, Burton, Daniel, T. J., and James.

SCENE OF CRIME — The apartment house at 13 Milford Ave., Newark, where Patrolman Reginald Kick was killed by his sweetheart.

Rev. M. Wilkerson dies; was founder of Zion Baptist

The Rev. Matthew W. Wilkerson, pastor of the Zion Baptist Church, Caroline and E. Lanvale Sts., died at St. Joseph's Hospital on Wednesday.

Funeral services will be held on Saturday, July 6, at 12 noon at the Zion Church which he founded in 1934.

The Rev. Mr. Wilkerson had been ailing since October, 1956, when he left his pulpit and was confined to bed for 14 months.

During this period, the assistant pastor, the Rev. Robert M. Williams, has carried on.

Mr. Wilkersons last visit to his church was on June 2, 1957.

The Rev. Mr. Williams and the Rev. George A. Crawley, pastor of St. Paul Baptist, will officiate at the funeral.

• • •

THE REV. MR. Wilkerson was pastor of the Zion Church for 23 years.

Under the founder's guidance, it became one of East Baltimore's most progressive churches. The effective community program reached beyond religious and denominational bounds.

The Rev. Mr. Wilkerson organized the Zion Church after serving for two years as pastor of the Mt. Ararat Baptist Church in Canton, Md.

Born in Lexington, S.C., he was the son of the late Walter and Corrine Wilkerson. He came to Baltimore in 1918.

The same year he was married to the former Miss Ethel Gertrude Richardson of Ermo, S.C. Their only two children, Dorothy and Douglass, are deceased.

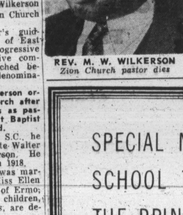
• • •

THE REV. Mr. Wilkerson was educated in the Columbia, S.C., public schools and received theological training at the Harbison Junior College there.

During the first eight years existence of the Zion Church, the Rev. Mr. Wilkerson brought the membership from one person up to 420 members.

The Rev. Mr. Wilkerson is survived by his wife, and a sister, Mrs. Gussie Dash of Columbia.

Also a foster daughter, Mrs. Nell La Beach.



REV. M. W. WILKERSON
Zion Church pastor dies

—Callowhill plan

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Reporters' Report to the People

Yes it's true

By GARFIELD HINTON

One of the most hopeful signs of the coming of a true democracy is the sad almost pathetic showing most defenders of the Old South make on television panel programs.

Usually, the programs have about four persons on them—a moderator, chosen because of his civic mindedness; a religious leader; an outstanding person of color, and the upholder of the Old South.

The moderator says: "One of the most significant problems of today is the problem of Civil Rights."

The religious leader then comments: "Yes, but a change in the hearts and souls of men is basic to any change."

Defender of the South—"Exactly, you can't force Civil Rights down the throats of millions of loyal American citizens, who are not ready for them, yet."

• • •

PERSON OF Color—"It is not a question of being or not being ready. It is a question of law."

"If the law makes it punishable to discriminate against people for no reason other than the color of their skins, such discrimination will stop.

"Consider traffic laws. Do you think people would obey them, if they did not know they would be punished for violations. Of course, some violate anyway, but they pay the price."

Upholders of the South—"Is all the fault of that National Association of something or another; they incite our good colored people of the South and stir up a lot of trouble. We never used to have all this trouble.

The moderator then notes: "After all the NAACP is a legal organization operating for an enforcement of rights guaranteed by our Constitution—nothing more. It is unfair to condemn the NAACP. We should condemn ourselves for not abiding by our own Constitution."

• • •

RELIGIOUS leader—"The whole answer is in the Bible. If men only would love one another, as we have been taught—"

Upholder of the South—"From my childhood, I've been taught to treat the colored man as my inferior.

Now because of some foolish Supreme Court ruling, you expect me to change overnight! The Supreme Court should be impeached—every last one of them.

"I don't care what you say, the South will never accept integration. Never! Never! Never!"

On that note the moderator interrupts: "I am sorry folks but our time is up."

Along the way

By STEVE DUNCAN

I woke up one fine morning this week at peace with the world. It was a sunny day and a breeze was stirring, reaffirming the weather man's prediction that the temperature would again be bearable.

Then, over coffee and a newspaper it happened.

My attention was attracted to Senator Russell's latest diatribe against the pending civil rights measure which would give colored Southerners the right to exercise their balloting privilege as guaranteed in the Constitution.

• • •

SENATOR RUSSELL and the other opponents of this measure are on the defensive. They are fighting a last-ditch holding action. The handwriting is on the wall. The opposition of Southerners against the legal rights of the Darker Brother is on the way out.

"This bill is a potential instrument of tyranny and persecution," asserts the man from Georgia.

Is Mr. Russell saying colored residents of his State and other States behind the cotton curtain of ignorance and intolerance aren't even now victims of this tyranny and persecution?

"It (the bill) can be used to jail, imprison, and mistreat American citizens and to deny them elemental rights inherent to all mankind . . ," observes Senator Russell.

This statement from segregationists Russell is ambiguous. Colored Southerners who are denied the right to vote are American citizens. And those who usurp these rights should pay the penalties.

Does Mr. Russell's ranting and raving represent the bourgeoisie Swan song of this kind of intolerance? The immediate answer is up to those senators who firmly believe in human rights.

• • •

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"I don't care what you say, the South will never accept integration. Never! Never! Never!"

On that note the moderator interrupts: "I am sorry folks but our time is up."

Noteworthy

By HERBERT MANGRUM

The fun of going on a Fourth of July picnic or spending a day at the beach is gone.

To me it's all work.

Can't be anything but work with all the junk one has to take along these days to survive.

There's the radio, folding chairs, beach umbrella, baseball equipment, swimming gear and you haven't started to work on the picnic basket.

An army can travel with less equipment.

I'll bet that if you glanced out of your window Thursday morning, you saw your neighbors struggling to get away for a day of rest.

What a laugh and we call that having fun?

Come next July Fourth I'm heading for the nearest shade tree with a beer, and sandwich, and a radio.

• • •

REMEMBER WHEN those 500 Air Force planes flew over Saturday morning?

In the 1900 block of Division St., practically everyone told a different story about where they were going, what they were doing, and they were all wrong.

The radio and the papers had been saying for a week that the planes would fly over Baltimore enroute to Philadelphia.

With all forms of communication at our disposal I often wonder how so many of us can be so misinformed.

Bet more than 500 persons can tell you what transpired at Pennsylvania Ave., and Mosher St., last Thursday afternoon.

Everyone stopped to look when a dog trotted by pulling a carriage with a baby inside.

The mother was walking not far behind to make sure that baby had a safe trip.

Some of the guys who spilled out of a nearby bar to watch the procession were seen rubbing their eyes in disbelief.

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AT FINAL RITES for the slain patrolman, Mrs. Cecilia Kirk, of Baltimore and another relative leave Churchman Funeral Home in Newark.

—Slain cop

(Continued from Page 1)

verses of the World War I song, "My Buddy," then wiped tears from his eyes with a handkerchief.

At 8:47 p.m., the legionnaires again marched to the bier of their comrade, each laying a poppy gently on his body, saluted and filed out into the street.

• • •

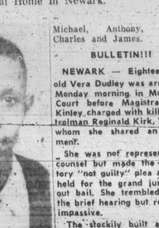
BEHIND THEM came the police officers who also said farewell to their comrade with snappy salutes.

James Murphy, chaplain for the post, said a brief prayer at the beginning and close of the service.

Burial was in the National Cemetery in Beverly, N.J., on Tuesday morning where a firing squad and a bugler sounded several taps for the U.S. Navy and Korean War veteran.

• • •

SURVIVORS BESIDES his wife are:



REGINALD KIRK
Slain on sweetheart

A son, Reginald Jr. (Mrs. Kir