Baltimore Afro-American

"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.*

The Sybert ruling

Does a person under arrest or in police custody have the right to retain legal counsel?

Attorney General C. Ferdinand Sybert answered this question this week in a letter to Police Commissioner James Hepbron.

Mr. Sybert said: "It is most important that every member of the Police Department be instructed that a person in custody has an absolute right to the advice and presence of a lawyer from the moment of arrest.

And, Mr. Sybert added, . . . "he has the right to call forthwith any lawyer of his choice and consult with such lawyer at any time."

Can relatives or friends of a person in police custody retain a lawyer for him?

"Yes," says Mr. Sybert and . . . "such lawyer is in the same position as one retained by the person under arrest, subject only to the detained person's right to refuse . . . and such refusal should be made face to face . . ."

Are the police required to tell a lawyer where his client is being held in police custody?

Mr. Sybert: "A lawyer who inquires as to the location or status of a client under arrest or in police custody is entitled to a prompt, complete and truthful answer."

Can a lawyer interview his client in police custody? or must he wait until the police are finished questioning him?

Mr. Sybert: "A lawyer is entitled to interview immediately and privately any client in police custody. The convenience of the police is secondary to the constitutional rights of the individual."

* * *

THIS RULING by Attorney General Sybert, in effect, invalidates the 72-hour policy under which our police department has been operating.

It means that policemen may no longer hold a suspect for questioning or investigation without charging him or giving him a chance to see his lawyer immediately.

Back in 1951, Judge Eugene O'Dunne stated this same principle in the suit of Carl Murphy vs. Officer Horace Heinze for false arrest and damages.

In that case, the Court gave a verdict of $1,000 against the policeman declaring a citizen was within his rights in declining to answer questions directed to him by a policeman and advising his wife not to answer them except in the presence of counsel.

At the time, Judge O'Dunne suggested that the police department needed a class in its training course to provide policemen with legal information so they would know that "every citizen has certain constitutional rights that must be respected."

* * *

WE HAVE A police academy now which teaches the rights of citizens and the rules of the police department.

From recent arrests, it is clear that either police department regulations and Attorney General Sybert's ruling are clearly ignored and policemen are violating police regulations.

What is needed is that the Sybert ruling shall be clearly written into the police department regulations, and that police captains be instructed to carry out the department rules.

The Attorney General volunteered his ruling. It was not requested by Commissioner Hepbron.

But the Commissioner has been quick to accept it, send it to his police captains and officers and direct them to govern themselves accordingly.

The Commissioner and the Attorney General have acted with commendable vigor and clarity.

The South is beaten

By a lopsided vote of 286 to 126 the House of Representatives Tuesday passed the Eisenhower-Brownell civil rights bill.

The House beat down the last of four attempts to attach a crippling jury amendment proviso by a vote of 251 to 153.

Happily, all seven of Maryland's representatives cast their votes with the progressive majority.

Two of the three colored members of the House—William L. Dawson and Adam Clayton Powell—were really too ill to be on the floor, but they were there just the same.

Powell violated doctor's orders to make an impassioned speech opposing the jury amendment.

Dawson, walking with a cane, hobbled the 200 painful yards back and forth to the House well ten times for teller votes, although he had been warned to abandon all official business.

* * *

THE BILL now goes to the Senate where a group of Republican and Democratic Senators hopes to keep it out of Senator Eastland's pocket and get it immediately before the Senate by invoking a seldom-used rule.

That's the struggle we'll be watching with considerable interest this week.

All the leadership in the upper chamber is equal to that in the House we'll have a vote before the Senate adjourns in August.

We told you so

We predicted editorially last week that members of the Bar Association of Baltimore City would vote to abolish the 78-year-old sex and color barriers to membership.

The special secret ballot to decide this issue when tabulated Monday revealed the following results:

For admission of women, 614; against admission of women, 409.

For admission of colored lawyers, 606; against admission, 417.

* * *

WE WERE confident that the vote would be favorable because we have supreme faith in the fundamental decency and honesty of the majority of Baltimoreans.

We saw no reason why members of the legal profession should be any different.

The ballot proved one other thing.

Whenever people are given a chance to vote on an issue as contrasted with the action of tight, little executive committees, the people invariably vote right.

That's why autocracy is deadening and sterile.

It is also why democracy is vibrant and dynamic.

Hello Bills!

Several thousand visitors are expected to come to Baltimore this weekend.

They will be coming to attend the 37th annual convention of the Tri-State Association and Auxiliary of the Independent Benevolent Protective Order of Elks of the World.

OFFICIAL HOSTS will be Monumental Lodge No. 3 and the Great Southern Temple No. 30 but the entire community will roll out the welcome mat as the Elks return to our city for the first time in 21 years.

Hello Bills! We are glad you picked our city and we hope your stay here will be a pleasant and profitable one.

'What Do You Mean School? We Don't Go Back Until Next September'

Thinking Out Loud

By RALPH MATTHEWS

During the past several days everybody in Washington has been complaining about the heat.

I have tried to avoid this sort of thing, because I still have a lot of grises still left in me about the bitter cold and snow of last winter.

By nature, I am what might be called a hot weather man. I can always manage somehow to keep cool in summer.

Keeping warm in winter has always been a problem, and it seems the more atomic bombs they drop the worst the winters become.

IT IS because of my aversion to cold weather that most of the sermons I have heard about life in the hereafter generally leave me unmoved.

The more I hear about fire and brimstone, the more inviting Hades sounds to me.

I just wouldn't like to contemplate an eternity in which I would be exposed to frostbite and other inconveniences of winter.

Most of the pictures I have seen of the glories of heaven have done little to relieve my anxiety to go there as a permanent guest.

Those flimsy nightgowns the angels wear don't look any too warm to me, unless they come fitted out with a suit of red flannels which the artists hide for modesty's sake.

MY INCLINATION toward thin blood and a high freezing point probably accounts for my silence when my more frightenous friends go around saying uncomplimentary things about Satan.

I am not so worried about the other things he is accused of doing so long as he promises to keep the place reasonably warm.

We have a saying in the newspaper trade: "Be kind to the copy boy, he may some day be your boss."

Well, I also keep this in mind when the hotter-than-thou crowd starts exhorting against Old Nick:

"Be careful what you say about him while on earth, some day he may be your landlord."

IF THERE is any gripe I have about the summer months it is the way people take a little heat for an excuse to be sloppy and unconventional.

This applies especially to the fairer sex. Just why we persist in calling them the fairer sex I do not know. I have seldom seen a female who could be really fair about anything.

Now, take my wife for instance. She is as nice a girl as you would ever want to meet. But she persists in dragging me out into the byways and the hedges the moment the sun starts to shine on both sides of the street.

She is the rugged outdoor type who likes to commune with nature.

She looks upon it as an insult when I refuse to join her in this pastime.

She is always brewing up a plot to get out in the country like a life termer scheming to escape from Alcatraz.

The trouble is she always wants an accomplice and I am generally elected.

Every time I see her shining up the portable stove, packing up the weiners and mustard and camping utensils I start looking around for a place to hide and pray for rain.

You see, my early life was spent in the country. I stored up enough of the rustic influences to last me for the rest of my life.

To me the beautiful countryside is just some place I pass through en route from one urban center to another.

* * *

BY SOME peculiar twist of fate, it seems that mother nature is no more fond of me than I am of her.

Every creature of her domain seems to join in the conspiracy to make my sojourn as miserable as possible.

Bees sting me, chiggers get under my skin, ants get in my food and even the birds single me out for target practice.

Even the weeds and grasses, which seem so relaxing to others, suddenly turn out to be poison ivy the moment I stretch out in the shade. I once had a dispute with a skunk. I lost.

Now all this would not be so bad were it not for the fact that a lot of other people have these same ideas about getting away from it all.

* * *

NO SOONER do we arrive at a destination, which to all intents and purposes was supposed to be quiet and cool, before the place is overrun by several hundred others who only succeed in making it twice as hot.

This frequently gets me into social difficulties. People are constantly walking up yelling at me with an air of easy familiarity and seem quite miffed when I am unable to recall their names or figure out where I ever saw them before.

The fault is not wholly mine in spite of my unreliable vision. The trouble is in the get-ups they wear. They look more like some strange creatures from Mars than any human beings with whom I am evenly remotely acquainted.

WHEN YOU have been accustomed to seeing a friend or acquaintance dressed up in conventional masculine attire, it comes as a shock to see something approaching you in a loud sports shirt flapping over his hinderparts with his hairy legs exposed to the elements, wearing a hat the size of an outsized umbrella.

My first impulse is to take to my heels and run for dear life, but I learned in travelling around the world that the best thing to do when you are faced by strange tribesmen is to stand your ground and put up a brave front in the hope that this false courage might prove disarming and perhaps save you from being cooked for dinner.

Imagine my surprise when upon closer inspection discover that this terrible abortion is your next door neighbor.

Of course, with women it is even worse.

In the case of the distaff side, it is the size which generally causes my confusion.

When the ladies doff their girdle and other trappings they seem to swell to twice their normal size, especially if your observation is confined to the rear extremities.

As often as not, when they turn around you are no better off because if you could identify their faces they are half hidden behind dark glasses the size of automobile headlights.

I have been fortunate so far in that no great murders have been committed on these outings where my friends needed my testimony to establish an alibi.

If their lives depended on my statement that they were in my company on a certain day they would be in a bad fix. They might have been there, but they could not prove it by me.

I just do not understand why the fashion experts find it impossible to work out something whereby people can be both cool and comfortable without looking like hooligans enroute to a Halloween ball.

I would like to be able to recognize my friends in summer as well as in winter, without having to check their finger prints.

Readers Say

Park Police

Dear AFRO:

For the second time, a Baltimore Park policeman has been suspended for alleged abuse of a citizen within a year's time.

What more can you expect of an organization which is discriminatory in its operations?

Like the Baltimore City Police, there are certain assignments colored officers don't get, so if the administrators of the unit allows "factful prejudice" of its own officers because of color, how then can all citizens expect equal treatment?

ROBERT KENNEDY

Writes poem

MIRACLE

I met a man I could not like,
No matter how I tried.
He had such mean, unlovely ways,
Such arrogance and pride.
Then Christ spoke e'er so soft,
"If my disciple you would be,
This man is your Gethsemane,
I died for him upon the tree."
Now, I go ever out of my way
Doing some kindness every day
To this man for whom our Master died.
And do you know, deep down I'm glowing now a flare of love
Kindled by the Power above?
And now, a miracle I see,
I like this man, and he likes me.

MARY RODGERS CARTER

Parade hijinks

Dear AFRO:

The Elks is a wonderful organization. I think there should be special officers on duty when there is a parade to keep people and their bicycles from crowding around the majorettes.

This kind of hijinks is a disgrace to Baltimore. In no other city I have been have I seen a parade interrupted by children following the marchers. The parade on Monday was a case in point.—CITIZEN

EDITOR'S NOTE: The parade on Sunday was not sponsored by the Elks but by the American Legion. The parade had participants from a number of fraternal groups.

Sightseeing

By JAMES D. WILLIAMS

Three young ladies, all of them dressed in similar white dresses, were proud figures this week as graduation exercises were held at the David E. Wegleys School No. 2, Central Ave. and Stiles St.

Their names are Brenda Jean, Bernice Janice, and Hazel Elizabeth Mercer. Brenda and Bernice are 12-year-old twins and Hazel is all of 11.

They entered the school in 1954 and according to all three it was quite a thrill to come out of school together. Now they are headed for Dunbar High — still together.

Mother Mrs. Nellie McDuffie, 1124 E. Pratt St., is very proud of her youngsters and after all it is not everyday that you have three graduates in the family at the same time.

* * *

SHOWING THAT they recognize the qualities that go to make up a good man, the Methodist Men of Sharp St. Memorial Methodist Church selected Clarence Mitchell, head of the Washington Bureau of the NAACP, for the title "Father of the Year," and presented him with a wallet on Father's Day.

* * *

TEACHING SEEMS to be one of the favorite future vocations of this year's crop of graduates. In this category falls Miss Phyllis Brooks, 17, 814 Sea Gull Ave., Cherry Hill, who will graduate from Douglass and plans to attend Coppin.

She is a member of the National Honor Society. Her parents are Mr. and Mrs. Issac Brooks.

Listed among the law school graduates at the University of Maryland, are the names of Paul James Cooper, 1625 E. Eager St.; Christopher Foreman, 341 Piedmont Ave.; Ernest Davis Young, 1603 Gwynns Falls Parkway.

* * *

PEARL PRIMUS and her dancers gave a benefit show this week for the patients at Crownsville State Hospital.

Sign on a store in Redevelopment Area 12 informs customers that the place has been moved. Lists the new address as "McCulloh" St. Probably meant McCulloh St., wouldn't you say?

Though you would like to know that if an accident occurs while a car is traveling under 40 miles an hour there is only one chance in 44 that someone will be killed, at over 40 miles the chances are 1 in 19 that you will meet your Maker if there is an accident.

* * *

SEVERAL YEARS AGO, and I do mean several, the Army decided that I belonged in Pueblo, Col. The only other fellow in the company from Baltimore was Jeff Jones of the Eastside.

He used to walk around the base in his white coat and I meant he was attached to the Medical Corps. Meanwhile,

I was doing my part for the war effort on the base newspaper by figuring out such important things as to whether the cartoon showed too much leg and if it did how was I going to get it past the editor whose major qualification for the job was that he used to be a butcher and wrapped meat for his customers in newspapers.

Just last week I saw a gentleman whom I thought I recognized. He thought he recognized me as well and darned if we weren't both right. He's a physician now on the Eastside, Dr. Jeff Jones, and I am still in the newspaper business. Tempus fosit. — Short for I'm getting older, but then who isn't?

If You Ask Me

By B. M. PHILLIPS

People, places and things...

Just in case you care: The $40 a week alimony and support the court ordered Howard Dixon to pay his wife, Mildred, for herself and their two children, is not all he'll have to pay.

Circuit Court records in the case show he will also have to pay her attorney's fee of $250.

And, that's not all: His own attorneys, charged him $450—pretty cheap when you consider the trial of the case took two whole court days, and that testimony would fill a stenographer's notebook.

* * *

It is a junior for Mr. and Mrs. Howard Allmond. (She's the former Marion Jenkins — the 'Miss Marian' of our staff — chief of classified section. He's business manager at Barrett School.)

Baby weighed in at 6 pounds 15 ounces early Tuesday at Johns Hopkins.

She had been at work late Monday because they didn't expect their bun until sometime in July!

* * *

Jack and Jill Club at its meeting on Monday evening received Mrs. Blanche Hughes president for the fourth term.

She had begged for a successor but the members wouldn't listen.

This is her last year in the group because her youngsters are teeners now so she reconsidered and accepted for this last year.

Also reelected: Margaret Proctor, vice president; Doris Oswell, treasurer, Ruth Jennifer, program chairman. Other officers: Ruth White, recording secretary; Catherine Adams, financial; Gladys Prestwidge, corresponding; Vivian Washington and Ida Smith, journalists; Cordelia Johnson, sergeant - at - arms.

Charlotte Mebane, parliamentarian;

* * *

During the meeting, members reviewed activities during the year. They took special pride in the fact that they have expanded their charity giving to include other organizations which benefit youngsters. Heretofore they've given only to the March of Dimes.

These other groups which received Jack and Jill funds during the year are: $100 each to Druid Hill YMCA; Madison Ave. YWCA, to use as they see fit for the youth program; $100 first installment on an NAACP life membership; $50 to the Urban League; and $300 to the March of Dimes.

Mrs. Hughes will be the Baltimore group's delegate to the National Jack and Jill Conference meeting in San Francisco July 5-7.

* * *

G. Albert Wright, principal of Barbour School No. 161, pulled a fast one on his wife, Viola, who is principal of Cherry Hill Elementary School.

He invited her out to dinner at the YW on Tuesday. She had no idea that he had made special arrangements and there would be friends about to wish her a happy birthday. It was a real surprise.

Dining with them were: Mr. and Mrs. Robert Seldon, and Mesdames Bertha Anderson, Mildred Seaborne, Juanita Young and Lelia Powell.

* * *

And on Thursday evening, members of Union Memorial Methodist Church feted their pastor, the Rev. N. B. Carrington, and his bride, the former Mrs. Agnes Allen.

They were married a week back — just slipped off to Washington without saying a word to anybody.

They honeymooned in Ohio and are now in the church's new parsonage.

Newlyweds: Mr. and Mrs. John E. Riley exchanged vows Churchy a Saturday ago.

She is the former Miss Maddress L. Fowlkes, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Buddie Long.

After school closes (she's a Philly teacher and he's a D.C. postal worker), they will be at home at 2400 Roslyn Ave.

* * *

Dr. and Mrs. Carl Murphy (Vashti) marked their 41st wedding anniversary on June 9.

Wedding anniversary greetings June 24 to Mr. and Mrs. James T. Dorsey. It will be their 15th.

More people and things...

Members of the June 1947 class at Dunbar High School held a week of affairs to mark their tenth anniversary.

They held vesper services a Sunday go at New Shiloh Baptist Church to open the celebration.

Closing event was a formal banquet on Saturday evening at Biddle Hall. . . Special guest was Dr. Carrington L. Davis, then principal, now retired.

And, their favorite teachers then — Mrs. Mildred Seaborne, Mrs. Ethel Payne and Mrs. Ruth Lighston, were also present.

Heading the celebration committee were: Henry Taylor, Charles Wilson, Alice Cook and Bernard Ralph.

Special not this week to Mrs. Anne Beadenkopf, the artist. She is one of the good neighbors of our town.

Last week, she received a letter from Roy Wilkins, national NAACP head, calling attention to now some people going out of their way to do things for the NAACP out of business.

The Wilkins letter asked for a $1 contribution.

"I would be ashamed to send just a dollar," so I sat right down and wrote a check for $5. I had planned to do something else with the money, but I couldn't in all conscience send only $1," she explained.

And, that's not all — in addition to sending her $5 contribution immediately, she got on the telephone and called others she knows who might give and received their promise to send a check or money order.

The next time you're inclined to think all white people are like the Eastlands et al, remember that in this town of ours and all over the country there are hundreds of white friends like Mrs. Beadenkopf who believe in and work for democracy.

* * *

Letter in the mail from Mrs. Daniel Skinner (Vynna) in Paris, advising that she and her Morgan State College professor husband, and their two sons will soon be back home in Baltimore.

He has been overseas as a Fulbright fellow. Their tour of duty is almost ended. They plan a month's travel in Europe before returning to the states in July.

"It will be nice to see familiar faces again," says Vynna.

Among those seen: Vyna and her husband hosted a party at their apartment which attracted a dozen or more international guests.

Americans present were Jean Murrell Capers, Cleveland attorney; Dr. Helen G. Edmonds, N.C. College; Mr. and Mrs. Larry Lankford of Washington, Miss Juanita Mitchell, Ollie Stewart, AFRO writer now living in Paris.

* * *

The Carter Woodson Recreation Center in Cherry Hill has opened its doors for a stream for its Woodson Day Camp.

Youngsters will enjoy arts and crafts, nature study, swimming, music and a bus trip every week.

Franklin DeShields, 2135 Woodbrook, was the caterer for the AFRO awards banquet a Friday night ago.

Nicest thing about their service—the food was piping hot — even the last to be served were able to eat hot food.

That's a real achievement especially when you're serving 1,000 people.

P.S. And the food was good, too.

About this and that...

Liquor Board will hear residents opposing that Winchester Area tavern next Thursday (June 27) at 1:20 p.m.

* * *

At the Peabody Conservatory commencement, Miss Veronica Tyler, the AFRO scholarship winner, was called to the platform to receive the $85 Henrietta Ries Kiern achievement for outstanding vocal achievement for the second straight year.

Miss Jenetta Jones received a $50 voice prize.

* * *

The death of Mrs. Theress McIver, the longtime city teacher, recalls that for the past eight years she suffered with heart trouble.

Her death last Tuesday followed a stroke the day before when "paralyzed her. Close friends are singing the praises of her husband Robert, who was devoted and attentive during her long illness.

And they also recall that even though Theress was suffering, she took a special interest in the Catonsville neighborhood club; and up to the last performed her duties as treasurer of Phi Delta Kappa Sorority.

Two colored persons are serving on the current Criminal Court grand jury which sits until September. They are:

The Rev. Marion C. Bascom, pastor of Douglas Memorial Church; and Edgar Draper, business manager at Morgan State College.

By the way, Mr. Draper is looking for a small apartment for one of Morgan's handsome foreign students.

Charles Cooper is the proud papa of the son of former Liberian Ambassador C. D. B. King.

Line forms to the right, ladies.

* * *

James Lloyd Young, the pleasant, kindly chief deputy clerk at the Maryland Court of Appeals, has been promoted.

Beginning July1, he will be chief clerk. He will succeed Maurice Ogle, who is retiring.

* * *

A year ago this week: Richard Thomas Hunt was charged with killing his wife, Helen, and shooting their infant child, Ivy, even as she was holding it her arms.

* * *

Also a year ago: Judge James K. Cullen in Criminal Court found W. Merrill Pratt, Morgan athletic star, guilty of aggravated assault on an 18-year-old coed. The jurist ruled it was not rape, thus exonerating the student of a capital offense.

And another year ago: Md. Court of Appeals upheld the right of Mrs. Ruth Butler to continue to rear her six-year-old grandson, Warren Scott.

That was the case you remember, attorney Mike Freedman fought over a year.

Last year, Mrs. Butler and her grandson were living at 1707 W. Lexington St. Today, they are residing in Lafayette Courts.

* * *

Hey, Mister, drive carefully —school's out.

Remember the child you hit might be your own!

Reporters' Report

Noteworthy Along the way

By HERBERT MANGRUM By STEVE DUNCAN

Giving a friend, or an enemy, a nickname is as American as the hot dog and baseball.

At Catonsville way Friday, because a new cop hung more than a dozen traffic tickets on automobiles in a one block radius he was tagged Wyatt Earp by the angry neighbors.

The husky fellow passed out so many traffic tickets that by the time he reached the fourth block he had writers cramp.

"Mr. Earp" was the nicest thing folks had to say about him.

* * *

SOME PEOPLE just can't abide by the rule: "Live and Let live"!

Why else would an angry woman call the Southwestern Police Station and say:

"You arrested that preacher who had all that powder and herbs, now why don't you arrest those two W. Lexington St., ministers who are advertising "Marriages Performed Here"?

The gentlemen were arrested and when found not guilty, thanked Sgt. Vincent Serio for not sending them to jail in a prowl car.

They were given summonses.

* * *

AFTER MORE than two months, police are still searching high and low for that husband who allegedly did in his wife on Amity St.

Friends say he's still in town and has had his beard shaven clean as a cue ball to prevent identification.

That Riggs Ave., gentleman who wound up with 53 traffic charges before leading police on a merry chase through the downtown area, was all courtesy when the cops first told him to pull over.

Before taking off for the 119 mile-per-hour ride he asked: "Yes sir, What did I do"?

Tan Baltimoreans will get a chance this week to view and appraise the movie, "Island in the Sun," which opens at the Regent Theatre on Thursday.

The movie, by Hollywood standards, is revolutionary and will find the going rough below the Mason - Dixon line. The story treats on interracial romances involving Dorothy Dandridge and Michael Rennie and Harry Belafonte and Joan Fontaine.

"Island in the Sun" had its local premier showing at a lily-white downtown theatre. It strikes me as very funny that a movie house practicing discrimination would bill the flicker in the first place.

* * *

BUT THE thing that really struck my funny - bone was this: A friend of my relatives that a blond co - worker of his was made aware of the futileness of discrimination and segregation when he went to see the much - publicized movie.

As I got the story two well-dressed tan ladies sauntered up to the ticket window at the theatre in question and were flatly refused admission. Then, along came a plastered white man who purchased a ticket and was admitted without the bat of an eye.

According to my friend, the blond sent a hot letter to the manager deploring the stupid practice.

The controversial subject matter treated in the film show that the racial tension is slowly coming of age after, to these many years.

It is evident, however, that a large number of the local movie houses aren't keeping pace with this new innovation.

Arrested person

(Continued from Page 1)

hundred per cent.

"In the future, I think no one should be held incommunicado by the police."

* * *

MR. SYBERT'S opinion said, in part:

"It recently came to our attention in the public press and from members of the local bar that an attorney, retained by the parents of a female minor, was denied the right to see his client in the Police Department of Baltimore city and that the lawyer had been given misleading information as to the place of his client's detention.

"We are advised that the lawyer was seeking a writ of habeas corpus when the girl was released on bail as a material witness.

"Since it is the legal duty of this office to advise and represent your department, we feel constrained to write you as to the legal obligation of the Police Department in connection with the rights of a prisoner to legal counsel."

The attorney general also said:

"A lawyer who inquires as to the location or status of a client under arrest or in the custody of the police is entitled to a prompt, complete and truthful answer."

* * *

MR. CALLANAN charged the police gave him the run-around in his effort to see Miss Bell after he had been retained by her parents, Joseph and Clara Bell. He told the AFRO:

"A person is entitled to counsel, and this holding people on the theory of investigation without allowing them to have access to their families or their attorneys if they desire them, is absolutely unconstitutional."

* * *

ANOTHER: LAWYER who complained of being given the run-around in an effort to see a client was Joseph I. Paper.

"I feel darn good about it," said Mr. Paper Tuesday in a reference to the Attorney general's ruling.

He said following the opinion he received a personal letter from Mr. Sybert in which the attorney general said:

"I trust that neither you nor any other member of the bar in Maryland experience the same difficulty in the future."

The question of holding suspects incommunicado by police was also brought up by another attorney, Milton R. Rothstein, in a letter to Mr. Sybert on May 9.

Mr. Rothstein took exception to a published statement in which the attorney general was quoted as siding with policemen in this practice.

Mr. Sybert informed Mr. Rothstein this week that he was misquoted and sent him a copy of the ruling mailed to Commissioner Hepbron.

Mr. Sybert said in his letter to Mr. Rothstein that:

"I had merely told the reporter that the police have the right to hold a suspect for a reasonable time while the crime is being investigated, and had not mentioned the matter of right to see counsel at all."

The attorney general said he agreed with the position of Mr. Rothstein on the matter. Mr. Rothstein contended in his communication that to deny a person the opportunity to consult with counsel was "a flagrant deprivation" of the suspect's constitutional rights.

* * *

THE POLICE practice of holding suspects incommunicado came under criticism from Mrs. Hattie Bunch, 544 Baker St., whose son, Meadrow Bunch, 36, has been charged with murdering a German-American restaurant operator.

Mrs. Bunch charged that she was not permitted to see her son until ten days after his arrest.

Herewith, Capt. George H. Mintines, head of the detective bureau, denied relatives were prevented from visiting Mr. Bunch.

* * *

WHEN COMMISSIONER Hepbron was asked by the AFRO to explain how the ruling would affect the present police policy of holding suspect incommunicado, he said:

"We haven't had a chance to study the letter and I would not want to make a comment until after I have done so."

When asked whether this new ruling meant that the 72-hour rule would be thrown out of the window, the commissioner said, "I don'f know, I haven't had a chance to consider it yet."

A veteran police officer, who did not wish to be quoted, said it was necessary in many cases for officers assigned to a "reasonable time" and that it interferred with a phase of this routine when the interrogation of a suspect had to be interrupted.

When asked what is the "reasonable time" and that it interferred with a phase of this routine when the interrogation of a suspect had to be interrupted.

"It is of course the right of one accused of crime to be represented by counsel of his own selection, and it is equally true, that the State's Attorney in this case did not cost, interfere with and to a large extent prevent the accused from communicating with counsel, for which there can be no justification advanced . . ."

(McCleary v. State, 122 Md. 294, 400.

* * *

IN THE past twenty-five years the Supreme Court has expanded the meaning of "due process."

Under the federal practice a conviction obtained using illegal detention alone has been the basis of invalidating an otherwise valid confession.

(Upshaw v. United States, 335 U.S. 410, 412; McNabb v. United States, 318 U.S. 332, 340.

In reviewing State court convictions, the Supreme Court has noted such disparates as denial of counsel during police detention, (Ex Parte Hawk, 321 U.S. 114, 116; Levra v. Denno, 347 U.S. 556, 559; Gallegos v. Nebraska, 342 U.S. 55, 63; Malinski v. New York, 324 U.S. 401, 404; Payne v. Arkansas, 356 U.S. 560, 561; Chambers v. Florida, 309 U.S. 227, 229.

Generally the Supreme Court has allowed to the denial of counsel, white under custody (whether legal or illegal), as the denial of a right, Watts v. Indiana, 338 U.S. 49, 52; Haley v. Ohio, 332 U.S. 596, 599; Ward v. Texas, 316 U.S. 547, 555; Canizio v. New York, 327 U.S. 82, 278, 286; Ex parte Exparte Exparte 278, 286; Ex parte Exparte Exparte Expar