BIGGEST BECAUSE IT'S THE BEST!

SMILING GRADUATES—Fresh from receiving their diplomas on Sunday as the first two graduates of Catholic High School are Misses Catherine Moore 2115 Dukeland St., and Yvonne Powell, 2138 McCulloh St. Catherine has her eyes set on Coppin State Teachers College and Yvonne favors Morgan State College.

Commission favors end of segregation in training schools

The Maryland Commission For the Prevention and Treatment of Juvenile Delinquency has gone on record as favoring the end of segregation in the four state training schools.

The action was taken at the Commission's recent meeting and came after a commission committee on institution had failed to pass the proposal only to have Howard H. Murphy, member of the State Department of Public Welfare take it to the full Commission and win approval.

In support of the proposal Mr. Murphy said:

"As a member of the State Board of Welfare, I am in a position to know what a handicap it is to us to operate the four schools under the present segregated system.

"We realize the present system is inadequate because it handicaps us in administering these schools on a more modern system, namely: segregating children by age groups or trainability.

"Having brought this to the attention of the Commission, I feel it incumbent on the Commission to so state these facts, and recommend that this present handicap be removed by whatever means is possible.

"The fact that the forestry Camps are desegregated and the proposed Study Center will also be desegregated is all the more reason that all of the Training School facilities be likewise desegregated."

RULING MONARCHS—There were coronation activities at the William M. Alexander School No. 112 last week. Shown in the first picture is the Rev. Reginald Daniels as he crowned Yvette Barnes as queen. The next photo shows Michael Barnes and Delysia LaSiter proudly wearing their crowns as king and queen of the kindergarten.

Your school honors John H. Murphy Sr.

By GARFIELD HINTON

On August 25, 1947, the Columbus, Ohio Urban League, in a 15 - minute radio program honored John Henry Murphy Sr. (1840-1922). N. B. Allen, executive secretary of the League, and a man who had personally known John Murphy, paid the tribute. He told his huge radio audience:

"For an organization to succeed beyond the mediocre, it must grow from the tap-root of service. Without service as the basis of its operation, it will eventually die.

"I want to tell you about a man, who, with this idea in mind built a monument to his family, his race, and the nation.

"His is not among the household names of famous colored persons, though his accomplishments are among the best and he is widely known in the circle of the fourth estate.

"Here, he was not only a pioneer, but the father of present-day journalism on behalf of the colored people" Mr. Allen said.

* * *

A NATIVE of Baltimore, John Murphy was born on Christmas Day, 1840. His grandfather and father had been named Benjamin. "I should have been named Benjamin myself, instead of John Henry," he once said with a smile.

His parents sent him to one of the local grammar schools, where he dutifully did his lessons from an old - fashioned John Comly's Spelling Book. He learned this spelling book inside and out.

"The fact of the matter was that the teacher knew nothing else to teach," Mr. Murphy commented a number of years later. He added:

"At that time this was thought to be sufficient education for a colored boy.

He would be able to read the signs and tell the numbers on the doors, and he could get a good job as porter in a store because of his 'education.'"

John Murphy did many things in life. He later worked on a farm. As a young man of 24, he joined the Army. The eager soldier was assigned to the 30th Regiment, U.S. Colored Maryland Volunteers.

RECALLING that period in his life, years later, he wrote: "It doesn't take long to train soldiers, I enlisted March 18, 1864, and by summer was fighting with General Grant in the Wilderness.

"By April, 1865, I was in North Carolina with General Sherman when he captured the rebel army of General Joe Johnston.

"That was a real war for liberty. I went in a slave and came out a freedman. I went in a chattel and came out a man with the blue uniform of my country as a guarantee of freedom, and a sergeant's stripes on my arms to prove that there is promotion for those who can earn it."

The war ended in victory for Sergeant Murphy. War is a maturing experience. As a soldier, he had seen men die.

JOHN H. MURPHY, SR.

This experience, no doubt, helped the young sergeant, realize the seriousness of life.

Glad the war was over, Sergeant Murphy eagerly hurried home to another and perhaps even more exciting experience . . . marriage, family, and business.

He describes them, thusly: "I remember the day I first saw Martha Howard. I was mustered out of the Army, and rushed home to see my mother.

"We lived at 4 Forney Alley and, like a kid, I rushed into the back way to surprise her. Instead, I surprised myself, for there in the kitchen, with her skirt rolled up and pinned in the back, so as to make an apron, was as pretty a freckled face girl as I had ever seen.

"Her sleeves were rolled up and she was 'rubbing out' a few things at the wash tub. I hardly got to my mother's room, where she was lying down, before I asked, 'Who's that girl?'

"'Just a neighbor,' mother said. She dropped in to see me, and when she found me unwell, stayed to put things to rights.'

"After a while, I went back in the kitchen. The dress was down, and so were the sleeves. The place was bright and shining; so were her eyes.

"I remember how she picked up my cap and coat, where, I had dropped them; put the cap on her head and pressed the stripes on the coat sleeve with thoughtful fingers.

"This was the Army blue, and this was the soldier who fought with Abe Lincoln and Grant and Sherman to free the slaves."

* * *

THE VETERAN, interestingly continued: "I said to myself, 'John, that's the girl for you if she'll have you.' And I lost no time.

"But it took me a year to put it over because Father George Howard wasn't anxious to have his daughter marry a penniless soldier who would have to take his bride to live with his parents.

"I looked at that 500 - acre farm of his, stocked with horses, oxen, cows and chickens, and promised her a world that would be gay with the laughter of children and happy because I worshipped her.

* * *

"FATHER GEORGE was reticitant, but the two of us won him over, and on January 2, 1868 we were married.

"After the second child came, we named it George Benjamin and went to live on Saratoga St. in a house Father George gave his daughter.

"From then on, there were for me, children and jobs. I kept the home together all winter and for 30 summers packed the whole brood off to Father George in the country, where they worked on the farm.

"Back they came in the fall laden with dried fruit, preserves, vegetables and meat to last through the cold weather."

John Murphy worked many years as a white - washer, but, he wrote: "Wallpaper succeeded white - washing and I was out of a job. As a war veteran, I was appointed to the postal service and was immediately discharged when the Democrats came in with Cleveland.

"I became a porter, then a janitor, ran a feed store and finally landed in a print shop as manager.

"I had to make good my pledges to Martha and Father George."

* * *

JOHN MURPHY made good his pledges to both his wife and father in - law. In 1899, the Rev. William M. Alexander, a civic leader, founded the "Home Protector."

The name of this weekly was later changed to "AFRO-AMERICAN." Later the Northwest Supply Co., operators of a local business, took over the newspaper from the minister.

This business group eventually failed financially. It was at this time that the young 'jack-of - all- - trades,' bought the "AFRO" for $300, he borrowed from his thrifty wife, Martha.

The "Ledger," edited by the Rev. George F. Bragg, rector of St. James P. E. Church merged with the "AFRO" in 1900.

The "AFRO" was for awhile printed on McElderry St., in "Ledger's" plant, and later moved to its present address in the 600 block N. Eutaw St. where it has undergone periodical expansions.

Endowed with an incredible amount of energy John Murphy at first was almost his entire staff. The newspaper grew, almost phenomenally, eventually becoming a chain with branches in Richmond, Philadelphia, Newark, Washington, and printed in 14 editions.

Mr. Murphy was an indefatigable worker in the AME Church. He served as superintendent of St. John's AME Sunday school, and was for years, chairman of the board of trustees and superintendent of the Sunday school at Bethel AME Church.

In fact, before printing the "AFRO," he printed, "The Sunday School Helper."

There was little activity in Baltimore concerned with civic uplift or community betterment, of which John and his wife, Martha, were not a part. Mrs. Murphy was particularly active in YWCA work.

The AFRO Ideal Mother of 1957, Mrs. Lillie M. Jackson, speaking several years ago said:

"Mr. Murphy gave the people of Baltimore City an inspiration that has been felt throughout the years."

Prophetically written December 25, 1920, the words of John H. Murphy, Sr., still ring true.

I measure a newspaper not in buildings, equipment and employees—those are trimmings.

A newspaper succeeds because its management believes in itself, in God, and in the present generation. It must always ask itself—

Whether it has kept faith with the common people.

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

Whether it stays out of politics except to expose corruption and condemn injustice, race prejudice and the cowardice of compromise.

The AFRO-AMERICAN must become a necessity, then a weekly, and eventually, when advertising warrants, a daily.

It has always had a loyal constituency who believe it honest, decent and progressive. It is that kind of newspaper now and I hope it never changes.

The John H. Murphy Elementary School No. 119, at Gilmor and Mosher Sts., named in 1932 in honor of one of Baltimore's outstanding citizens, has a faculty of 24 and a student body of 894.

Mrs. Mary B. Thomas is principal of the school. Grades 1-VI as well as kindergarten and opportunity classes are served.

TOP STUDENT — Valedictorian of the Douglass Evening High School was Mrs. Ethel Mae Webster, shown above. Ceremonies were held in the Douglass auditorium on Tuesday.

73 in Coppin's graduating class

Coppin State Teachers College will graduate 73 during their Commencement exercises, Monday, June 10 at 6 p.m., on the college campus. Or in case of rain in the auditorium of Douglas High School.

Dr. Mordecai Johnson, president of Howard University, will deliver the commencement address.

Baccalaureate vespers will be Sunday, June 9 at 4 p.m. at Sharp Street Methodist Church, Dolphin and Etting Sts. The Rev. Edward Carroll, pastor, will speak.

President Parlett L. Moore will preside and present citations to two distinguished Coppin Alumni.

Graduates are:

Delores M. Amos, Mildred L. Brooks, Delores E. Bacote, Clifton B. Bell, Ruth M. Brooks, Gertrude L. Cathan, Ruth Cooper, Madeline M. Dorsey, Phyllis B. Douglass, L. Durham, Frances A. Ford, Ann Marie Funk, Gwendolyn D. Gibbs, Marion Gladden, Bettye E. Gordon, Lydia L. Gordon, Ruth Gordon, Geraldine Hackney, Gwendolyn Hamilton, Yvonne Hutchinson, Minnie M. Jones, Anna M. Larkins, Ruth Lawson, Lena J. Marshall, Dolores J. Merritt, Delores Mitchell, Ruth D. Mitchell, Ruth Mitchell, Geraldine D. Molton, Carolyn Jean Peters, Joseph L. Pinder, Marion L. Redmond, Gertrude Reed, Ruth E. Robinson, James Robinson, Jr., Camilla L. Rose, Phyllis A. Russell, Mildred L. Scales, Claudette B. Sutton, Francenia Thomas, Janet Thompson, Ruth M. Thompson, Ida B. Vanderson, Bernice M. Vickman, Alma Walker, Almenta C. Wadley, Ruth A. Wade, Ada Wood, Roberta F. Woodfin, Beatrice L. Young, Edward Blanchard, Jerome Bell, Carl Lee Carr, Douglass McClean, Joseph D. Coleman, Emma W. Draper, Ruth E. Dyson, Walter J. Green, Vincenia McGregor, Lorenzo J. Marbury, Nathaniel W. Parker, Ernest L. Pinkney, Annie L. Rich, Benjah M. Roberts, Ernest J. Robinson, Robert P. Rose, Ernest L. Scott, Jerome A. Stokes, Lawrence D. Wilson, Catherine White, Lizzie Brown, Doris Robinson, Willie J. Hoyer.

Commercial Certificate

Rosetta Brown, Verna Dungee, Patricia C. Hall, Dorothy L. Harris, Virginia Wynn.

* * *

THE REV. WILLIAM TAPSCOTT, pastor of Morning Star Baptist Church, Catonsville, gave both invocation and benediction. The school chorus, directed by Mrs. Marion Smith, and band directed by Chester Rowlette, gave selections. Mrs. Smith and Mr. Rowlette are both faculty members.

Commencement at Coppin

June 7—Alumni Night at the College "Carribean fiesta," 9 p.m. highlighting the Classes of '7's and inducting the 1957 graduating class into the association.

June 8—President and Mrs. Parlett L. Moore at home to 1957 graduating class, faculty, staff, alumni and friends 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

June 9—Baccalaureate Vesper Service 4 p.m. Sharp Street Methodist Church, Speaker: the Rev. Edward Carroll

June 10—Annual Commencement Exercises on the campus 6 p.m. Speaker: Dr. Mordecai Johnson. Alumni and friends are invited.

College Graduation Dates

June 8—University of Maryland, 9:45 a.m., College Park, George Keith Funston, president, New York Stock Exchange, speaker.

June 9—Towson State Teachers College, 3 p.m., campus, Dr. J. Wendell Yeo, vice-president, Academic Affairs, Boston University, speaker.

June 9—Loyola College, 6 p.m., campus, His Excellency Jose Maria de Areliza, Spanish ambassador to the United States, speaker.

June 10—Coppin State Teachers College, 6 p.m., campus, Dr. Mordecai Johnson, president, Howard University, speaker.

June 11—Johns Hopkins University, 10 a.m., Gilman Terrace, Dr. Nathan Pusey, president of Harvard University, speaker.

30th Commencement for Douglass Evening High

The 30th Annual Commencement of the Frederick Douglass Evening High School was held in the school auditorium, Tuesday at 8 p.m.

Mayor D'Alesandro awarded certificates and diplomas. Top graduates were: Mrs. Ethel Mae Webster, valedictorian; Miss Agnes Williams, salutarian, and Miss Barbara Bennett, honorarian.

Other graduates were:

Academic

Celestine Anderson, Sandra V. Banks, Clyde Berlin, Walter A. Bell, Barbara M. Bennett, Ruth Bennett, Minnie C. Carter, Juanita B. Courtney, Alma M. Eldridge, Louise Fisher, Jessie Fisher, Ruth Wightsmith, Eva M. Hall, Marion Johnson, Rosie B. Jones, Rosa B. Jones, Ruth Lewis, Lillian Lewis, Lucille G. Mason, Sandra V. Nesbit, Lucinda Crawford, Mary A. Dunn, Maggie Parrish, Ruth Pinkney, Marie Holland, Edith W. Howard, Catherine Jackson, Martha A. Oliver.

Commercial Certificate

Minnie C. Carter, Caroline Dorsey, Pauline D. Garrett, Ruth Hawkins, Catherine Hudson, Rosetta Jones, Jessie Lewis, Ruth McCoy, Winifred E. Parrie, Beatrice Pittman, Ava A. Plummer.

Dressmaking

Alice Black, Carrie Bullock, Mamie L. Chaney, Sandra L. Chaney, Lucinda Crawford, Mary A. Dunn, Maggie Parrish, Ruth Pinkney, Marie Holland, Edith W. Howard, Catherine Jackson, Martha A. Oliver.

Home Nursing Certificate

Marie Alford, Helen Benjamin, Mary E. Burrell, Mary E. Cook, Mary W. Ross, Virginia Gibson, Mary K. Gaskin, Etheria Hinton, Ruth Jones, Viola M. Jefferson, Etheria L. Johnson, Hattie Johnson.

Also receiving diplomas were, for July 16th Academic:

Hilda M. Bell, Bertrand M. Hicks, Rita Lynn Tuson.

Graduates of the February, 1957 class, who received diplomas were: Academic

Barbara Bell, Pauline Chew, Joseph Simon, John Smith.

Commercial Certificate

Vera Dungee, Dorothy L. Harris, Virginia Wynn.

Dressmaking

Alice Black, Carrie Bullock, Mamie L. Chaney, Sandra L. Chaney, Lucinda Crawford, Mary A. Dunn, Maggie Parrish, Ruth Pinkney, Marie Holland, Edith W. Howard, Catherine Jackson, Martha A. Oliver.

Home Nursing Certificate

Louise Johnson, Florence C. Jones, Virginia Newsome, Ruth Pinkney, Mary Ralph, Mary W. Scott, Eva Mae Sharpe, Mamie Thompson, Ruth Wilson, Hazel C. Williams.

Art exhibit

Maryland State College, at Princess Anne, has announced that the sixth Annual Art Student's Exhibitions', therewhich began May 20, will end June 8.

On exhibition are paintings, sculpture, ceramics and prints from the Art Department, and also a special display by the Wicomico Art League of Salisbury.

Big Carnival tonight at Harvey Johnson JHS

Harvey Johnson Junior High School No. 106, with cooperation of faculty, parents and student body, is looking forward to a successful carnival, this evening (Friday), 7-10.

The carnival is expected to both raise funds as provide enjoyment for all. Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Johnson will be crowned. The fellow and girl, reporting the largest sale of tags, will be crowned.

A special prize will go to the pupil selling the most tags. The homeroom class selling the largest amount of tags will be given a party.

Other activities will be a dance, a movie, the wheel of fortune, block toss, bingo, bottle toss, weight guessing, darts, ring toss, fish pond. Besides all this, there will be refreshments. Miss Laura McDaniel is chairman of the carnival.

* * *

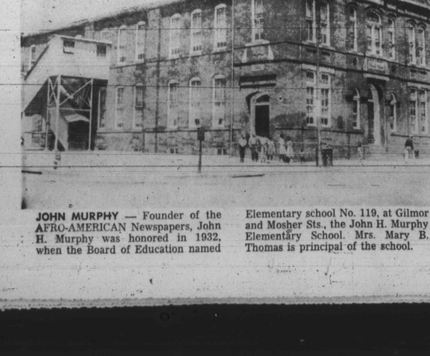
THE clean-up, fix-up campaign at Harvey Johnson Junior High was a success. Teachers and students cooperated. Rooms were judged by their cleanliness, orderliness and beauty.

The homerooms of Miss Jenrye Thomas and Mrs. Mattye Robinson received outstanding recognition. Mrs. Inez Martin was chairman of the campaign: a luncheon was held for representatives from each homeroom class.

The last PTA meeting for the school year, 1956-57 was held in the gymnasium. Theodore Gross, PTA treasurer, presented his final report for the school year. The executive committee will plan the use of the funds.

The PTA meeting considered a report of the spring concert, and planned the Spring Carnival.

Discussions of student problems concluded the meeting. Refreshments were served. Mrs. Rose Dingle, PTA president; James R. Hite, principal.



JOHN MURPHY — Founder of the AFRO-AMERICAN Newspapers, John H. Murphy was honored in 1932, when the Board of Education named Elementary school No. 119, at Gilmor and Mosher Sts., the John H. Murphy Elementary School. Mrs. Mary B. Thomas is principal of the school.

Travels 100,000 miles to attend high school

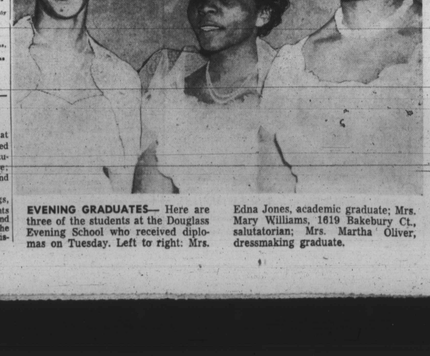
When Thomas Curtis Jr., 17, of 727 Dolphin St., is graduated from the Salesianun School, Wilmington, Del., tonight (Friday) he will have covered 100,000 miles in pursuit of his high school education.

Young Curtis has commuted from Baltimore to Wilmington every school day for the past four years. The schedule meant leaving 7:25 a.m. and returning on the 4:15 p.m. train.

In a class of 165, Mr Curtis is the salutatorian. He will be enrolled at Loyola College this fall.

* * *

SON OF MR. and MRS. Thomas Curtis Sr., he has three sisters, Mary, Janice and Jean, and a brother, Anthony.



EVENING GRADUATES— Here are three of the students at the Douglass Evening School who received diplomas on Tuesday. Left to right: Mrs. Edna Jones, academic graduate; Mrs. Mary Williams, 1619 Bakebury Ct., salutatorian; Mrs. Martha Oliver, dressmaking graduate.

King, queen selected at School 109's spring activities

Ralph Winder and Carolyn Steed 6A pupils at School No. 109 were chosen king and queen of the school at School No. 109's Annual Spring Activity Wednesday.

The king and queen and their attendants were selected because of their proficiency in reading, writing and arithmetic. Included in the Spring program were games and dances for the children.

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POPULARITY CONTEST When the Douglass-Somerset Carnival committee recently sponsored an indoor carnival and popularity contest, the three charming young ladies shown above were contestants: Left to right, they are: Miss Ross Morton, Miss Gwendolyn Reader, and Miss Ruth Banks. Frank Veney is manager of the Douglass-Somerset Homes.

Indoor carnival held at Douglass-Somerset

The Douglass-Somerset Carnival Committee recently sponsored an Indoor Carnival and popularity contest. The three day festivities of the carnival included games, prizes and food. Francis Green of Wards Baking Company brought in a merry-go-round for the children and the grown-ups won prizes at bingo, water pitch and wheels of chance.

Climaxing the week, a semi-formal Coronation Ball was held at which the winning contestants in the "Miss" and "Mrs." Douglass-Somerset contests were crowned.

Mrs. Gloria Hairston was the winner of the Mrs. Douglass-Somerset title and Miss Flora Everett was crowned Miss Douglass-Somerset. Contestants and their guests danced to the music of the Bus Green Combo, and entertainment furnished by the Canals.

* * *

PARTICIPANTS in the "Mrs." contest were Mesdames Ida Armwood, Mable Bailey, Gloria Hairston, Hattie Harrison, Odessa Jones, and Estelle Vieing for "Miss" were: Reeder, Misses Ruth Banks, Flora Everett, Janet Haney, Colleen Johnson, Rosa Morton, and Mrs. Willie Mae Byrd was Gwendolyn Reeder.

the most helpful worker in selling an special award for having votes for the contestants.

The proceeds from these activities will be used to supplement the project welfare fund and help provide Thanksgiving and Christmas for the needy, and the aged.

Frank R.Veney is manager of Douglass-Somerset Homes.

Gloria still champ one year after TV

GLORIA LOCKERMAN

As a good part of the nation sat almost spellbound before television sets a brief announcement was made and the tension was broken.

The time was the night of June 3, 1956 and the main actors in the little drama were Gloria Lockerman, then 12 and Baltimore's gift to the world of TV, and Andrew Douglass, 12, of Greenwich, Conn.

For weeks the youngsters had battled it out on even terms on the program, "The $64,000 Challenge," and even when they reached the level where the winner could pick up a check for $64,000, they were still tied.

* * *

BOWING to the will of the public the program's sponsor decided that the spellers had spelled enough and it would not be fair to make them try to spell each other down again.

So the money was divided with both Gloria and Andy coming away $34,000 richer, that is before taxes.

Now Gloria is all of 13 and still the champ in the hearts of all who remember her many appearances on TV and the fascinating way she has of giving the impression that she is stumped and then reeling off such monstrosities as, "antidisestablishmentarianism without blinking an eye.

Gloria is now a tenth grade pupil at Western High School and as "sweet as ever" although during the year she has been showered with additional honors and is constantly being invited to make personal appearances.

* * *

DURING THE past year, Gloria, who was included on the AFRO'S 1955 - Honor Roll, has been praised by Sen. John M. Butler in the U.S. Senate, received an NAACP plaque and the keys to Buffalo, N.Y., and Frederick, Md., and about 15 other awards.

Gloria's star began to rise when she spelled the words satellite and plenipotentiary correctly in the state contest and became Maryland's champion speller.

Going to the finals in Washington, Gloria went to the ninth round before she went down on the word meerschaum.

She was asked to appear on the "$64,000 Question" program in July 1955, and there completely won thousands of TV fans with her demure personality as well as by her ability to spell. She also earned $10,000.

DURING THE past year, Gloria's life was saddened by the death of her sister, Rosalind Singleton, who lived with Gloria's mother in Philadelphia.

The child was the victim of burns suffered in a fire on Jan. 11, 1957.

Gloria, however, returned from the funeral to her studies and since then has continued to rank high on the list among her classmates.

At present Gloria is looking forward to school summer vacation as any normal kid of 13 would.

This summer she plans to go to New York for a few weeks vacation.

PROVIDENT TALENT SHOW

A Provident Hospital Benefit Talent Challenge Show featuring Maurice "Hod Rod" Hulbert, radio personality, will be held at 8:30 p.m. Saturday at the Astor Theatre, 611 Poplar Grove St. All proceeds will go to Provident Hospital.

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