Help these children through Mrs. Santa

Readers Say

Wants later hours

Dear AFRO:

I am a law abiding and re[illegible] person. As I have [illegible] about the city quite a bit, I love taverns and bars in and about [illegible] our city operating on Sundays.

If there is nothing that can be done about this [illegible] at least they should be made to open no earlier than 9 p.m.

A READER

Police criticized

Dear AFRO:

Several months ago I wrote a letter to the AFRO AMERICAN stating my views on racial discriminations in the Police Department of Baltimore City.

About the same time my letter was written and published, your paper and the NAACP came out with a statement praising Commissioner James M. Hepburn during his hearing at Annapolis.

Thinking that the Police Department would be run in a more democratic way, especially after his thrashing, I joined the NAACP for your support. I didn't copy.

Also when the city was being redistricted I really thought that since the Western District would be approximately populated by ninety per cent colored, there would be colored officers assigned to radio cars and cruising patrol.

But there are none and no colored officers are assigned to traffic, motorized, mounted and foot patrol. In the Western, even the police dogs ride in the marked cars.

STANLEY JACKSON

Comments on clergy

Dear AFRO:

I have read about the "kissing Pastor" in the AFRO.

More men are going to seminaries to become ministers for the sake of prestige, easy money, and fine clothes more than ever before.

Our churches are weak and will get weaker if the members permit poor leadership in our churches. Such holds related not enough for spiritual guidance. The members are weak because they accept the minister instead of God.

Most preachers prefer to help an 18-year-old helpless girl than an aging woman or a wayward boy. They call this brotherly love, but it is getting more sisterly every day. It always has a price.

MRS. C. JOHNSON

Liked foreign film

Dear AFRO:

I recently saw the picture Sapphire which was an excellent production in acting, directing and producing.

I recommend that every colored person in this country should see it because it shows one of the many things that can and do happen when many light - skinned colored people forget their race and that the Almighty God made them what they are and nothing more.

Also, this picture shows how much foreign actors and motion picture industries are doing in references to better race relations and understanding between races.

Foreign pictures are not afraid to co - star or feature non - white actors in first class films opposite white actresses, as is the policy in our country.

The cast in Sapphire was balanced in acting, language and number of non-white actors and actresses.

It was not an "Imitation of Life" or an old or new version of "Pinky," or "Mark of the Hawk" or "The Defiant Ones," or "Tamango," or "The World, the Flesh and the Devil" and many other bi - racial films produced in this country.

I have seen a number of pictures of the Sapphire type during my residence overseas as a member of the military services in 1945 to 1959, and have enjoyed seeing them because they weren't flown or servant type pictures that have been produced in this country for many years.

A READER

Baltimore Afro-American

FOUNDED IN 1892

By John H. Murphy Sr.—1840-1922

Published every Tuesday and Saturday by the AFRO AMERICAN Publishing Co., Inc.

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

4 DECEMBER 19, 1959

Who wants California?

Baltimore and the surrounding area these past 10 days have enjoyed unseasonable weather.

The sun shone brightly on nine of the past ten days. Temperatures have ranged from a low 32 on Dec. 19 to a high of 62 on Wednesday, the warmest December 16 in 82 years. On Dec. 16, 1877, the temperatures reached 63 degrees.

These 60-degree days are more like spring than fall or winter and much unlike the normal 39 degrees we're used to in this section of the country.

Winter officially bows in on Tuesday, Dec. 22 at 9.35 a.m.

In other sections of this land and abroad, the weatherman has not been so kind.

Blizzards are sweeping New Mexico. Heavy rains and melting snow in Sultan, Washington, ran water three feet deep.

In the Rockies, a warm spell gives relief from snow which has been falling off and on since November.

Two years ago at this period, the Baltimore area was under a foot of snow and schools and public offices were closed.

A year ago (on Dec. 17), temperatures were down to 27 degrees. Snow fell on Dec. 3, 8, and 14.

But today — well today is a different story..... we're having just dandy weather.

Many people talk about the joys of living in sunny California with its moderate temperatures.

Certainly in these past few days, we might well ask "who wants California when we can have the Far West's balmy weather right here?"

To be sure, we may have to eat our words in another few days, but while we have this grand and glorious weather let's just thank our lucky stars.

A query for Rocky

Queried on a television program concerning his position on federal aid to school construction, New York's Gov. Nelson Rockefeller, whose friends see him as a Presidential candidate said:

"I think that as far as aid is concerned, that should be done without trying to dominate or break down a basic fundamental tradition of our country, which is local control."

In other words, if we are to believe our own ears, Mr. Rockefeller is saying that Congress should pass out federal money to Alabama and Mississippi and let these states continue their traditional discriminatory way in spending it.

This is a most disappointing stand and coming from a Rockefeller, whose family has had many years of first-hand experience in dealing with the cheating

A sure kiss of death

During the whole unfortunate Little Rock school mess, John L. McClellan, the state's senior Senator, never opened his mouth, has yet to voice his disapproval of Gov. Faubus' use of national guardsmen to keep nine children out of school.

Only when President Eisenhower was forced to send troops to restore law and order did he express an opinion. He almost burst a blood vessel in Dixie anger.

A similar strident outburst has marked his reaction in speech after speech, to the Supreme Court's 1954 school desegregation decision.

Speaking in Dallas the other night, Sen. McClellan had warm words for Sen. Lyndon Johnson, the Senate majority leader, who pictures himself as the Democratic Presidential nominee in 1960.

"I think I can say he is the closest (of the Presidential contenders) to my philosophy. I can enthusiastically support him when we get to the convention in Los Angeles next summer — and perhaps even before," the Arkansan said.

If that isn't placing the political kiss of death on the "great compromiser" we have ceased to know the meaning of those words.

No small 'n' candidate

Seven men prominently mentioned as candidates for President in the Democratic Party spoke last week in New York from the same platform.

They included Adlai Stevenson; Senator Hubert Humphrey of Minnesota; Sen. John Kennedy of Massachusetts; Governor Robert B. Meyner of New Jersey; Governor G. Mennon Williams of Michigan; Sen. Stuart Symington of Missouri; and Governor Edmund Brown of California.

Speakers prophetically declared, "The next President of the United States is in this room."

An alleged eighth candidate, Senator Lyndon Johnson of Texas, was absent.

Just as well.

We are not the first to say this.

In fact, the following sentence is some 90 years old.

A very wise man has said, there will never be a successful candidate for the presidency who spells the word Negro with a small "n" and two "g's".

Which about disposes, we think, of Lyndon Johnson.

THE AFRO'S CREDO

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 the faith with the common people;

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

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

Whether it stays out of politics except to expose corruption and condemn injustices, race prejudice or compromise.

JOHN MURPHY, Sr., 1920

City-owned cars

Mayor Grady's economy program has reached the City-owned cars.

He proposes to put all of the autos we taxpayers bought in a pool so they can be assigned and used under strict supervision.

Specifically, as of January 1, the Mayor proposes:

1. Sell five of the city's 413 passenger cars.

2. Restrict the use of 27 more, now on around-the-clock use on a take-home basis, to work hours only.

3. Take 63 city-owned autos from individual employees and add them to nine now in a motor pool, raising this fleet to 74 cars.

Under the Mayor's program, persons on the public payroll will be expected to use the cars assigned to them for business only.

It will thus be illegal to take cars home to drive the family to the market, or carry the girlfriend to the beach.

We think the city has an obligation to taxpayers to see that public autos are properly used.

Banning of extra-curricula activities in city cars is bound to save money. So Mayor Grady is on the right track.

Dean George C. Grant

Not many men have been privileged to build their lives so effectively into the education of young people as the late George Camron Grant, dean of Morgan State College.

Before death came to him suddenly on Saturday, he looked back on 33 years of activity as principal of the Morgan Academy, head of the Department of Education and dean of the college.

Prior to that he was principal of Garnett High in Chestertown, Md., and supervisor of schools in Kent County, Md.

These were successes, but Dean Grant had known failures.

Eight years intervened between the time he left Howard University and eventually earned his bachelor - degree from Morgan in 1923.

He withdrew from Howard for lack of funds, worked at menial jobs, married and became a father of four, all the while nursing his ambition to become a teacher.

Eight years of discouragements might have daunted others, but not George Grant.

He discovered the art of living with handicaps and overcoming them.

His experience gave him a compassionate understanding of the difficulties which faced the young people under his charge at Morgan so that he ripened into a wise and friendly counselor of the first rank.

He set high standards for himself and utilized his abilities to get from others more than they thought they could do.

Seven weeks ago, Morgan trustees honored Dean Grant by naming him acting president during the absence abroad of Dr. Martin Jenkins.

The young man who had waited and worked for eight years to get a college diploma had come a very long way indeed.

Judges and parking

There are two kinds of motorists who drive to work in the center of the city.

One drives to work, parks his car and doesn't see it again until he drives home.

The other motorist is one who requires his car during the day in connection with his business.

Supreme Bench judges belong to Class One which weakens a suggestion that the city should continue to provide free parking spaces for them in front of the courthouse.

Two-hour parking meters should prevent congestion of city streets by Class One motorists.

Judges, always so quick to sense public good and to set the example, will be the first not to want to inflict their cars upon already overcrowded thoroughfares.

Sightseeing

By JAMES D. WILLIAMS

She's only 12 years old, but when it comes to courage there are many adults who can take a lesson from her.

Her name is Coleen McGraw and her story makes you realize that Christmas is something special, a time when people take time to think of someone else.

Three years ago Coleen was badly burned in a fire at her home and both legs had to be amputated.

When you are young like Coleen it isn't pleasant to realize that you can never play again, or do any of the things that should be part of every child's life.

* * *

ALL THAT she could do was to sit and gaze out of the window at her home and watch the other boys and girls.

Though her dreams were shattered, Coleen, somehow, managed to keep smiling and to keep her faith in God and in her fellow man.

Maybe that explains why she wrote a letter to the AFRO's Mrs. Santa telling of the torture she has gone through and of her hope that for Christmas she might receive a phonograph and a wheelchair.

Because the circumstances of her family are modest, they had never been able to afford a wheelchair and Coleen's only method of transportation was a baby stroller.

Her story was published in the AFRO and it struck some pathetic chords in several hearts.

A few days after the story appeared a stranger walked in to Coleen's home and gave her a brand new record player and a number of records.

* * *

THEN A minister read the girl's story and with the members of his church she raised the necessary funds to purchase a brand new wheelchair.

The order was placed with a local firm and then an odd but pleasant situation rose.

Morris Wolfe of the Champion Realty Co. was also touched by the story and he went to the same firm and ordered a chair for Coleen.

When it became apparent that Coleen might end up with two chairs a quick consultation was held and Mr. Wolfe agreed to cancel his order and devote the funds to another worthy case from the files of Mrs. Santa.

With a wheelchair and a phonograph, Coleen was assured of a Merry Christmas, but there was even more in store for her.

Readers of the AFRO sent in a total of $50 for Coleen and several called Mrs. Santa to say that they would give her toys and food baskets for Christmas.

In addition, a number of readers sent Christmas cards to Coleen at her home, 2006 E. Federal St.

* * *

SO YOU can see that Coleen is going to have the best Christmas of her life and all because there are people who do care. Coleen has received all that she needs, but there are still more families in the files of Mrs. Santa who do need help.

Perhaps you would like to help one of them ... it's a way to make your own Christmas happier, there's nothing like helping someone else.

If You Ask Me

By B. M. PHILLIPS

Noteworthy

By HERBERT MANGRUM

Remember a few years back when Orson Welles threw the country into a panic with his radio version of an invasion from Mars?

Well, apparently there are still a few diehards among us who really believe that the Martians are planning to annihilate all earthlings.

Many New Yorkers still believe in the theory. They still crowd the walls whenever outer space is whispered.

Last Tuesday one New York woman went all to pieces when she picked up the telephone and heard:

"Space ship one, space ship one, come in space ship one. This is Flotilla leader. I am now over Washington. Do you read me, space ship one?"

The woman froze in horror when a voice answered:

"I read you, Flotilla leader. We are now approaching New York. Five wasps in control of Sheridan Square."

In despair the woman got in touch with police.

Their investigation disclosed that the outer space conversation involved two telephone repairmen who were merely trying to amuse themselves while testing equipment.

WHAT IS there to say for a married woman who has a married man arrested for molesting her and then turns around and pays his fine after he is found guilty?

That's what a Hanlon Ave housewife did this week.

She told police that she was perfectly willing for the relationship to continue, but that her boy friend would have to stop calling her white bubby was at home.

Magistrate Calvin Douglass told the lover boy, "I'm declaring open season on you and your kind."

One courtroom spectator muttered, "The fool. He had a sweet little romance going there and had to mess it up."

I'VE WALKED WITH THE DEVIL.

I've walked with the devil —on dangerous roads,
Doing his bidding, never thinking,
Tearing my soul into utter disrepair,
Weaker I grow, repentence is near,
Louder are the cries of the abused,
Those that have felt my sordid wrath,
Laugh—I was the fool the devil used.

By PAUL D. McALLISTER

People places and things

Predictions in this space last week proved correct.

Cortez Puryear, NAACP executive secretary, resigned, has returned to Winston Salem, N.C.

Provident Hospital has appointed a board man, that's topsy, to be surgery chief as of January 1. He is Dr. Richard Montgomery.

Delegate Verda Welcome (D-4th) will be moving at a slower pace for the next month.

She fell down the steps on Saturday and chipped an ankle bone.

Her right foot will have to remain in a cast for four weeks.

* * *

There was standing room only at the Funeral services on Wednesday morning for Morgan State College's Dean George C. Grant.

St. Mary the Virgin Chapel at Walbrook Junction across from the Walbrook Post Office was the Episcopal Church where the beautiful requiem high mass was sung.

This is the church formerly known as St. Mary's Church and formerly located on St. Mary's St. Father Lawrence Lacher is the pastor.

Dean Grant was a lifetime member of the Church.

Only an estimated 100 persons could be seated in the small, but beautiful chapel. Another 40 persons stood during the 45-minute rites.

* * *

Here for the services, Dr. F. Williams, president of Morgan State College; Pioneer Amos; Also Dr. D. O. W. Holmes, president emeritus of Morgan; and I spied Bishop Sherman L. Greene, the Rev. W. Leslie Jackson, Mary Cox, and Walter Lomax.

And, of course the Rt. Rev. Edgar A. Love, presiding bishop of the Baltimore Area, Methodist Church, who was a lifetime friend.

Actually, it was Bishop Love who was one of two men responsible for sending Grant to coming to Morgan.

* * *

Mr. Grant had gone from his home in Parkville to Lincoln University, Pa., to study at Howard University. His mother had died and he was forced to leave school.

In the interim he married, took odd jobs (remember when he was a waiter at Pennsylvania Station, "ran on the Road") and worked on a newspaper in New York City.

One day in 1923, the Rev. Mr. Love went to Edward N. Wilson, then as now, registrar at Morgan, and said: "Ed, there's a fellow over on 23rd St. I'm trying to interest in coming back to college."

Mr. Wilson, in his inimitable way, was immediately interested. He sent for him and said, "Let's see what we can do."

The result was that George Grant was able to study at Morgan and still practice racial discriminations as was before Chief Judge Roger K. Thomsen in U.S. District Court here.

Dr. Brenne E. Hackley, dentist at Edgewood Arsenal, is seeking a court injunction to permit him to purchase a home in a project outside the post where he said his application was denied.

BISHOP LOVE MRS. HIGGINS

Bishop Love, who was on a special assignment (land of Canaan) and just back, was on a special assignment (land of graduation) he returned to serve his Alma Mater with distinction for 23 years.

* * *

Some idea of the storm which his friends and co-workers held Dean Grant's funeral Tuesday. Late Funeral Home was aglow with the beautiful floral designs and hundreds of friends called on Tuesday and on into Tuesday evening.

Pretty floral piece: the red bleeding heart from the Talladge Hills labeled "devoted friend." And, the two huge wreaths which stood in the adjoining chapel. They were from the Men of Morgan Dorm and the Thursday Night Club.

And one mourner: He was Louis the diplomat dean. The man who has abolished, reduced and [illegible] human and [illegible] problems involving members of the student and faculty and world food.

Now, Dean Grant. Members of the Morgan Bridge were honorbearers at the funeral home.

Dr. and Mrs. T. Bradshaw Higgins (Hilda) and their [illegible] were here.

* * *

It will be his first trip home for Christmas in 25 years.

Rev. Mr. Lawson E. Hall, Mr. Mr. Mrs. Mr. Mrs. [illegible] Bishop Sherman L. Greene, Mrs. Mrs. Mrs. Mrs. Mrs. [illegible]