Baltimore Afro-American

May we let our light so shine that it will illuminate that which is good and beautiful, and magnify our Father which is in heaven. May we stand strong and firm against despair, falsehood, rudeness, hatred, pessimism and prejudice. — Carl Murphy, Editor-Publisher—1889-1967

Health Repairs Needed

Authorities who administer public health facilities often find themselves in the condition of the lowly homeowner who, having repaired one damaged part of the house, must immediately attend a newly injured one.

Thus the public health experience has been in South Baltimore.

For years, South Baltimore General Hospital has been growing less and less adequate to care for the health needs of the expanding population thrusting out from the South Baltimore community across the Hanover St. bridge into Cherry Hill, Brooklyn and the southern-most areas of the city next to Anne Arundel County.

Then money came, initiative was organized, plans made and last year a new, larger South Baltimore General Hospital was built on South Hanover St. across from Cherry Hill Homes.

Now people in the outlying southern areas of the city would have less difficulty in receiving hospital care whether of an emergency nature or the lie-in type.

But those who had lived close to the old South Baltimore General were placed in a situation very much like the one outlying residents had experienced before. Now they were left with a community bereft of a hospital facility. In future they would have to travel about a mile—generally by bus or car—across the Patapsco River to the new site.

The AFRO has learned that a community group has been formed to protest this matter. They have discussed the situation with the Department of Public Health, and the latter has put out feelers for an established facility to open and administer a health center in South Baltimore to help repair the newest damage to the public health.

Those who are attempting to correct the situation by bringing into being a new center are apparently meeting with opposition from some professionals who would prefer to avoid the rigors of working with the poor and of plowing new public health ground.

When the health of the community is at stake, there should be vigorous activity and full cooperation between all parties concerned in maintaining the best health conditions possible.

Homage To Dr. King

The AFRO joins City Councilman Robert Marbsall (D-4th) in his praise for the Board of School Commissioners for taking the lead in declaring Thursday, Jan. 15, Dr. Martin Luther King's birthday, a school holiday.

We were also pleased to note that when Mayor Thomas J. D'Alesandro, II was pressured to declare Thursday a memorial day in honor of the memory of the slain martyr, he affixed his signature to the proclamation without hesitation.

The same high regard for the towering contributions of Dr. King were not, sad to say, demonstrated by Governor Marvin Mandel.

When asked by Delegate Troy Brailey (D-4th) to declare Thursday a State holiday, he reacted like an overly-cautious politician rather than a high-minded statesman.

The governor counter-reacted by issuing a proclamation declaring January 15 Human Rights Day, avoiding any specific mention of the great black leader, Dr. King.

Perhaps our governor thought it might displease Dale Anderson, his Baltimore County, political consort, if he affixed his name to a proclamation honoring a black man.

Getting back to the schools, including Catholic schools, they have shown themselves to be less hesitant about memorializing the greatest American of the century than any other institution.

But more could have been done at least in the public schools. The Catholic schools closed officially and in addition held constructive programs on Wednesday explaining the life and ideas of Dr. King.

While the public schools closed, they had no official plan for an observance which would cause the King name and philosophy to become better known to school children, nothing structured.

In the future, we think all secondary schools should develop organized programs of study of the life and times of Dr. King.

There should be assembly programs which emphasize the life and achievements of Dr. King.

When classes are closed, there should be some approved, structured programs to make the day meaningful.

In short, with experience, all agencies of government ought to become more efficient in handling the novel event of paying homage to a black martyr.

The Forgotten Men

If we were a slave state and made no claims about being concerned with the dignity of the individual, it would not be a remarkable matter that as of January 15 there were 338 prisoners in the Baltimore City Jail — we had been there more than 90 days awaiting trial.

Nor would it matter that 91 of those who are in this category are there because they are in a sub curia status, awaiting the judge or some official to take some action.

Over and above these 338 Americans locked up without trial for more than 90 days, there were 439 prisoners in the detention facility, there less than 90 days awaiting trials which have been scheduled, but seem never to come off as scheduled.

Court and jail officials say that most failures to meet trial schedules are because of postponements of one kind or another.

The black community should be doubly concerned about this condition because 1,326 of the total 1,828 City Jail population on January 15, fewer than 500 were white.

Quietly and without fanfare at the moment, there is underway in Baltimore and key areas of Maryland a Citizens for Shriver movement—and reports are it's fast gaining momentum.

Aims, of course, are so drum up voter support for R. Sargent Shriver, U.S. Ambassador to France, should he voluntarily enter the shaping campaign against the Democrats' Gov. Marvin Mandel.

And if he is slow in making up his mind — to entice him by way of a draft to bid for the Mandel seat.

These citizens hope to encourage Mr. Shriver with an early showing of ready-made support in major voting areas.

Initial group leaders are expecting many of these advanced Shriver bandwagoners to come readily from the black community.

Illuminated points that Mr. Shriver is a staunch liberal and a brother-in-law of the late President John F. and Senator Robert Kennedy can be expected in these areas as added enticers.

But chief appeal, as put by one of the blossoming group's leaders, is somewhere for Maryland's Democrats to go with high confidence in the September primary other than Gov. Mandel—somewhere excessingly attractive.

Citizens for Shriver feel Mr. Shriver has all the qualities necessary for such attractiveness.

Another argument broached is that Mr. Mandel, head of the Democratic Party in Maryland under the Republican Agnew regime and now governor, has a stronghold over the party.

Expressions are that dissident Democrats are caught in a bind — or more aptly left out in the cold by way of attention, appointments, etc.

A group leader contends that any other candidate of note would likely be a member of the Mandel Old Guard and the same situation would be continued, if he were a winner.

Baltimore's Mayor Thomas J. D'Alesandro 3rd, who wants to be governor very much, has yet to make up his mind about running at this time.

Except for 162 prisoners who were in various hospitals, the rest of the population — amounting to 866 were in City Jail, following trial, serving sentences. These were the lucky ones, against whom the red tape of the detention system had taken some effect and who could feel that they were progressively paying a debt to society.

But as to the others — those mostly black individual Americans languishing in the City Jail — they are the forgotten men of an antiquated system of detention and general jail delivery.

Earlier this year Supreme Bench Judge Harry Cole said he was putting into operation a more rigid plan of granting postponements so that the backlog would diminish. Obviously more judges and court officials need to address their attention and expert knowledge to this problem of delay.

We are not a slave state; we do respect the dignity of the individual; we might not compromise our national and civic principles by permitting the jail backlog to continue.

Now We Are Eight

For the first time in the history of the Baltimore Grand Jury, there are as many as eight black jurors among the 23 selected.

While this represents progress of a sort, the picture of these Baltimore citizens, surrounded like an island in a sea of white, demonstrates just how far we are from an ideal democracy and just how much farther we have to go.

First of all nine-tenths of the cases that come before the Grand Jury are black.

And while we do not maintain that all juries and boards everywhere should have the same racial makeup as that of the people who appear before them, we are conscious of the fact that if there were more political and economic democracy there would not be as wide a gap as there is between percentages of black members on the Grand Jury and of persons whose cases come before it.

Further, everyone in the court — except one — assigned to duties that will bring them into close contact with the Grand Jury is white — the State's Attorney for Baltimore City, the Deputy State's Attorney, all the Assistant State's Attorneys, all the Clerks of Court, all the Court Reporters and all judges, except the one, black Criminal Court Judge, Hon. Harry A. Cole.

We have come a way as free and equal Baltimoreans — as the presence of the eight shows — but we still have a long way to go.

AFRO Credo

A newspaper exceeds 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 done what God except to see that their liberties are preserved and their future ensured.

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 and prejudice, or compromise.

JOHN H. MURPHY SR. — 1938

Political Notebook

...Citizens For Shriver... Gathers Momentum

By MAX JOHNSON

The mayor is a great believer in polls — and is waiting to see what the one he order shows.

Mayor D'Alesandro has said just recently, however, he doubts quite strongly that he will be a candidate if somebody persuades Mr. Shriver to run.

He visualizes that he and Mr. Shriver would attract the same elements of the voting public— and would, thefore, be running against each other, rather than both against Gov. Mandel.

Mayor D'Alesandro, nonetheless, would have nothing to lose but money in the coming gubernatorial campaign—for he will still be mayor, if unsuccessful until the municipal elections next year.

So far though — the mayor hasn't the open appeal that has been sent out in Mr. Shriver's direction.

He has been quick to notice this direction of the political wind.

The Citizens for Shriver group is likely to make up the mayor's mind — despite whatever favorable results of his polls.

Actually — Mayor D'Alessandro, who has an undisputable strong following of his own, talks like a man who favors the Shriver candidacy.

* * *

So — the hoped for Shriver candidacy movement gathers momentum.

Impetus is added because there is no name Republican of high appeal seeking the governorship at this time to whom dissident Democrats could turn in the November general election.

Without Shriver, one of the group leaders said flatly: "We ain't got nobody."

Mr. Shriver, meanwhile, appears quite happy in his ambassador post and Richard Milhous Nixon seems rather slow in looking a second time in his direction.

It's a foregone conclusion, however, that the President will eventually replace him with a member of his Republican Party.

Meanwhile — nobody wants to see Mr. Shriver fired quickly more than the Citizens for Shriver.

Perspective

New Philadelphia Plan

By DAVID E. SLOAN

The complicated America civilization has developed many rules which, sometimes literally applied, operate to hinder rather than to advance democracy.

Take the rules grounded in the U.S. Constitution which prohibit the passage of unwarranted class legislation, i.e. legislation designed to benefit one group over another.

It is alright under court decisions to legislate for a special class if there is admittedly something peculiar about it—such as all people who are deaf, all people who are under 21 or all people who lose millions of dollars per year in Texas because of oil speculation.

But color of skin is not, according to the law of the land, a sufficient peculiarity to warrant special legislation.

This is another way of saying that all Americans of whatever complexion are equal before the law.

Thus it became difficult to advise a law which would have the effect of placing black workers on jobs where the unions supplied workmen.

An employer would get a government contract, and in order to get his job done he would have to go to the union for workers. The union had only white workers, so they would send only white workers to the job.

To cure this situation, the much talked-about Philadelphia Plan was contrived in the U.S. Labor Department, requiring contracting employers to guarantee that they would hire a certain percentage of black and other minority workers on government contracted jobs, regardless of union membership.

The effect was to make the employers and union begin a new argument over how these men were to be recruited, the employers saying they would take any workers who could do the job, and the union saying that if they did, all union workers would be pulled off the job, thus making it impossible to get the work done.

Thrown into this confusion was a ruling by the Attorney General's office that the plan, as originally devised, was unconstitutional in that by setting a definite percentage, it was unfair class legislation, benefiting black workers over white.

Laymen would say with a great deal of reason that anyone ought to know that black workers are a legitimate special class needing as much favored treatment under law as say, minors or Texas millionaires.

But the political posture of things as well as the long-range historical and legal significance will not permit this common sense observation to be the basis for remedial law.

This has led to the promulgation of a new Philadelphia Plan, which, instead of imposing prior determined percentages of black and minority workers on jobs, has engaged in the fiction of saying that the goal of employing more minority workers does not unduly favor them over whites; that once the percentage factor has been eliminated from the formula, the objection of favoritism is also removed.

It is difficult for ordinary minds to perceive the difference between these two propositions and indeed to understand the need for such a distinction.

But in Ohio the question was litigated and the new Philadelphia Plan upheld by one trial court. The U. S. Supreme Court last week left the decision undisturbed, implying that this fictional reasoning is an acceptable one upon which to reach the desirable social end of putting more black men to work on better jobs at higher pay.

One tends to have no objection to the fictional basis if the Plan works to carry out the social purpose.

Our Readers Say:

Judge Blum Responds

Readers are invited to submit letters for publication. All letters must be signed, but signature will be omitted if requested. Letters should be no more than 300 words in length. Address them to "Our Readers Say," Baltimore AFRO-AMERICAN, P.O. Box 1857, Baltimore, Md. 21203.

Dear AFRO:

Your editorial, "Misguided Judge," which appeared in the January 3rd issue of your paper, has just been brought to my attention. I am at a loss to know where your reporter secured the facts on which you have based the editorial. Presuming that you want to be fair and accurate in your reporting, I am herewith taking the liberty of setting the record straight.

A Mr. Cornell Holloman appeared before me on December 22nd last in the Western Municipal Court (Arrest Register No. 57968) charged with "feloniously making an assault upon one Wanda Bonett and violently stealing from her 1 lady's purse, value $5 and $45 in U.S. currency" on the 22nd of December, 1969. At the same time Wanda Bonett was charged (Arrest Register No. 57968) with "unlawfully leading a disolute and disorderly course of life." Both cases were heard together.

Mr. Saul Jablon, assistant State's Attorney, appeared in both cases, on behalf of the State. Apparently, in conformity with State's Attorney Charles E. Moylan's attempt — because of the heavy load of cases pending in the Criminal Courts to dispose of as many cases as possible on the Municipal Court level — Mr. Jablon indicated to the Court he would reduce the charge against Holloman to "larceny" of the items in question. This was instead of robbery, as it appeared on the docket, over which charge I would not have had jurisdiction.

A reference to the Court docket will reveal that a number of witnesses, all colored, in addition to the police appeared on behalf of the State. They bore out the facts in the case which are as follows. Holloman "propositioned" the Bonett girl who worked in a bar. It was agreed that she would have intercourse with him for the sum of $25. They went to her apartment at 1933 W. Baltimore Street where he gave her $25 and they did have intercourse. Thereafter, while she was in the bathroom, Holloman placed a screw driver at her throat, threatened to kill her, and made her give him all her money. She managed to get away from him and started screaming for help. A colored male, a Mr. Noble, together with a girl friend, a Miss Joyce Sinsavage, who were in another apartment of the building, came to her assistance. A fight ensued between Mr. Noble and Holloman and Holloman ran from the premises, leaving behind some of his clothing.

Several blocks from the scene, Holloman, contrairwise, complained to the police that he had been robbed at 1903 W. Baltimore St. The police, investigating the matter, questioned the girl, Holloman and Noble, with whom he had had the altercation. The girl admitted her relationship with Holloman which he, incidentally, denied. She freely testified to the facts in open court as well. The police took Wanda Bonett to the Fine Street station where she was examined by Dr. George Wells, police physician, and it was confirmed that she had had a recent intercourse.

The gravamen of the charge against the girl was whether or not she had had intercourse with the defendant Holloman and was leading a life of prostitution. It is true she "had no complaint about having had relations with the soldier," as you say, but she did complain to the police about being robbed and the facts bore her out. I did not 'exonerate the girl,' as you indicate. I convicted her and imposed a six months sentence which I suspended on payment of a fine of $150 and costs.

At the time she was on probation in a burglary case and I ordered the police to bring the conviction in the case before me to the attention of the Probation authorities so she could be charged with violation of probation, a conviction on which charge could result in a considerable sentence. With respect to Holloman, I did not believe his story and felt he had also committed petit perjury in the premises.

You take issue with the inquiring of the defendant, Holloman, whether or not he had had intercourse with this girl and indicate it was "clearly irrelevant." Quite to the contrary, it was most pertinent and went to the heart of the issue as to the girl's case and could not have been more relevant in his case. Bear in mind, too, she had already testified in open Court, in addition to her testimony to the police, to the relationship, before he testified. Notwithstanding, and on the strength of the above facts, you charge me with a "resist concern over interracial intercourse." Your editorial so indicated. Nothing could be farther from the truth. I convicted Holloman because I was convinced he robbed the girl and not for having relations with her.

I believe you were not fully acquainted with, and apparently of the true facts in these cases. Under the circumstances, I felt impelled to bring the aforesaid facts to your attention for whatever action your inherrent sense of fairness would indicate.

ALBERT H. BLUM

Harvard Protest

Dear AFRO:

At present I am a student at Harvard University who took part in the demonstrations and take over this fall in order to achieve a minimum of 20 per cent black on the construction site at Harvard.

For years black students at Harvard have stationed themselves on an island called Cambridge Mass., but have never dared to help our black brothers in Boston, we are suspended, called racist and forced to point where our only alternative is to "liberate a building."

This is sad, sad indeed that Harvard, the richest university in the country says that it would be too expensive to force contractors to employ 20 per cent black on their work force.

Getting the workers is no problem at all; the Urban Community Construction Workers of Boston has skilled black workers who are out of work and desperately need the jobs.

Harvard has a chance to eliminate present and future discrimination by demanding that all contractors employ 20 per cent black or forget about taking the job.

After all we number 20 per cent of the population in the area.

If only 5 per cent of the present work force is black, what else is there to conclude except that Harvard is not willing to spend part of its fortune to eliminate the discrimination that does exist.

If Harvard moves, I am sure that it would not just stop there, but spread to other college campuses.

We need a broad base of support so if you feel that what we are fighting for is just and reasonable, please sit down and send a letter to: Archibald Cox, Mass. Hall, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass. 02138, and inform him that black students ought not to have their scholarships taken from them for not racist militants, but people, black people looking out for the best interests of our people.

WILLARD WITHERSPOON JR.
Harvard University

It's NOT A Man's World

By BERNICE S. WHITE

MRS. WHITE

One of the many important issues surrounding the Women's Liberation Movement is that Women's freedom will come about only through social revolution. Some of the more militant females believe that this freedom will evolve through destruction of the family, private property, and the nation-state.

The activists refer to this as a sexist society.

They blame television for projecting the image of woman as one of being empty-headed, weak, helpless, dumb, insecure, senseless and silly (primarily interested only in enticing a man).

* * *

They also offer the prostitution laws as one of the sex-based inequities which society imposes on women.

These laws, for example, punish women for selling her body but not the man who patronizes her.

The radicals picket beauty contests protesting girls being paraded like prize cattle.

No matter how radical or how militant, each woman's group has a project and each group is commited to do its own thing towards making women strong and a recognized voice in the labor market.

* * *

Although the picture has improved a bit, many women still hold jobs which are far below their training and talent.

In 1968, approximately one sixth of working women who had completed four years of college were non-professional; employed in clerical, sales, service worker or semi-skilled operative categories.

Women not only are concentrated in the lower-level jobs, but are paid relatively less than men for comparable work.

The median income of year-round full-time workers in 1967 was; men; $7,182; women, $4,150. In 1967 less than 3 percent of full-time year-round workers earned salaries of $10,000 or more; the proportion for men was 23 percent.

* * *

Since 1930, women have been receiving a decreasing proportion of master's degree, doctorates, and faculty appointments.

Many public high schools, vocational schools, and even some state universities are sexually segregated. Early in their training, then, girls are in their training, then, girls are trained for and shunted into "girl's jobs" which require less skill, pay less, and offer very few promotional

This means that the young woman who seeks a career, instead of or as well as a man, meets frustration.

When she applies for a professional job, or states that she is interested in executive and management training programs, she is looked at rather strangely and queried about how fast she can type or take shorthand.

* * *

At the other end of the spectrum is the fact that the single girl or woman is the victim of unfair social regulations.

An article by Paula Stern, published recently in the New Republic, cited some examples. "When she tries to buy something with her own money, credit regulations hem her in.

"A single girl is considered a bad risk by credit bureaus that assume she is bound to get married soon. If she is married or separated, she can't get credit on her own, since her records are filed under her husband's name.

Although her record may be "clean," she is forced to assume responsibility for her husband's credit (for better or for worse).

Additional inequities in FHA policy for insuring mortgages preclude her buying a home alone, though there are plenty of women—single, separated, divorced, widows—who are in the market for a house. These arbitrary credit regulations are not written in law, but they might as well be."

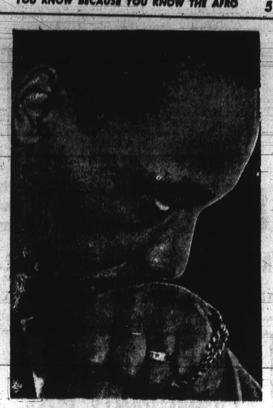
* * *

To put it bluntly, women have been put in their places and have been content to remain there.

Even though women's suffrage began half a century ago, the legal position of women in this society has always been clearly defined.

To quote from Blackstone, "Husband and wife are one and that one is the husband." This new decade we are entering promises to be one of challenge and change for women—and men. Watch the new silent majority-WOMEN.

Next Week: Reducing Barriers To The Employment of Mature Women.



Poems To Dr. Martin Luther King

Birthday Tribute

Devoted his life to serve humanity.
Rendered his service to all regardless of race, creed or color.
Militant leader of the world.
Aroused the interest of all nations.
Religiously inclined at an early age.
Truth was expressed in his speeches.
Inclined to work hard for equal rights.
Noble Peace prize winner.
Love he expressed to everyone
Unlimted struggle to peace and justice.
Together we stand, divided we fall.
Humble and meek was his motto.
Emancipation for the black people.
Richly awarded, although being associated.
Knowledge to him was power.
Interested in serving my country.
Never tiring doing his duty.
Greatly to be remembered.

MRS. ESTHER MELCHER
755 W. Lexington St.

A Great Man

A great man
Is now at God's Promised land
A great man
Got a lot of helping hands
A wonderful man
He used to wonder why we ran...
That great man has died
But we still know him in pride.
That great man is Dr. Martin Luther King
A choir will sing
To honor Dr. Martin Luther King.

By JEROME PLUNKETT
Dunbar High School

Congress Should Act On Dr. King's Birthday

As we have said before, Congress should act affirmatively on the efforts by the Rev. Ralph David Abernathy and others of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference to have January 15, the birthday of martyred Rev. Martin Luther King, proclaimed a national holiday.

Continuing their attempts in this direction, the Rev. Mr. Abernathy and Rep. John Conyers (D-Mich.), with several local supporters, signed their own proclamation designating this honor for the slain civil rights leader.

It was an impressive gesture but of course has no force and effect in the national level until and unless the Federal and state Governments follow suit so that this occasion is given the same public deference as other national holidays.

It is unfortunate that the Rev. Douglass Moore, chairman of the Black United Front, seized this solemn occasion to stage an out-of-order ruption which can only be considered an affront to the memory of Dr. King.

The Rev. Moore took umbrage at the participation in the plans for King celebrations of the Vietnam Moratorium Committee and the Mobilization Committee to End The War in Vietnam, both of which are predominantly white.

It was the feeling of the Black United Front spokesman that Dr. King's birthday should be a holiday for black people only and whites should be excluded.

Many statements have been made and actions taken since the assassination of Dr. King which do not rightly belong within the purview of those responsible for his exposure. Surely, Dr. King's views did not correspond with the violent acts committed after his death.

There is no place either in Dr. King's attachments or integration which would be consistent with the Rev. Moore's call for exclusion of whites from those allowed to honor deceased minister's memory.

When Dr. King led his famous battle of Selma, Ala. and the need for "bodies" was critical, his nationwide appeal for support included ministers of all faiths, creeds and religions. He was gratified by the overwhelming respone of black and white together who flew, drove and walked to Selma to defy, "eyeball to eyeball," the atrocities of law officials led by Jim Clark.

So it was with understandable dismay that participators and participants in the signing of the "Proclamation" honoring Dr. King viewed the antics of the Rev. Mr. Moore, who, as a veteran of the Southern struggle, should have known better.

Essentially, Dr. King was a man of peace. Dispite this, it was with some astonishment that Dr. King watchers first heard him take issue with the Vietnam War. There were angry outcries from some of his critics who felt he was an interloper meddling in foreign affairs and he lost some of his more cautious supporters who betrayed him by howling in outrage because Dr. King won the Nobel Peace Prize for having expressed opposition to the policies of his own Government.

Hence, today we see the support for the views of Dr. King not only among civil rights groups but also among the peace movement. At the symbolic signing of the "proclamation," a spokesman for the Vietnam Moratorium Committee stated the civil rights movement and the anti-war movement were parts of the same struggle for the same goal.

He reminded that it was the Rev. Dr. King who first called attention to the fact that the bombs dropped in Vietnam in a sense, land in America and that the social needs of this nation go unmet while billions are wasted in an immoral and unjust way.

It was Dr. King who prophetically said, "The United States is the greatest purveyor of violence in the world today."

The War in Vietnam, the speaker noted exacted, as Dr. King knew, a special toll from black and brown Americans "who suffer disproportionate loss of life on the battlefield only to find programs to eradicate poverty at home literally non-existent."

Congress should declare the birthday of Dr. King one of the Federal and District Government legal public holidays. It would do much to obtain that goal of Dr. King's supporters to dedicate the nation to achieve these dreams for which Dr. King died.

Afro Line

AFRO LINE is an AFRO community service to help you solve problems, whatever they may be. All you have to do is write a postcard to AFRO LINE, Affiliate 629 N. Eutaw St., P.O. Box 1857, Baltimore, Md. 21203. In addition to stating the question you want answered, include your name, address, and phone number. Then watch for the answer in the AFRO LINE each week because that is where the action is.

JAMES McCLARY, Carver High School senior, one of 10 black students serving as student-pages in the Maryland State Legislature during the session early this year. See AFRO-Line for further details.

QUESTION: Why did you run an article in your paper which said that James McClary was the first and only black page in the Maryland legislature when in fact my daughter, who attends Forest Park High School, is one? — M. J.

ANSWER: The AFRO was not completely informed of the page program in the State Legislature at the time of the story. In fact, the legislature has for the first time conducted a student-page program in which 90 student-pages were selected from high schools across the State. Ten of these 90 are black students. Each one serves a two-week stint during the time the legislature is in session. The AFRO's congratulations are extended to all these fine, young people for their achievement.

Courtesy Mayor...

Bet you wouldn't believe the august members of the Baltimore Board of Estimates wring their hands and scratch their heads in the most businesslike tradition before they decide to spend the taxpayers' money.

A good example of how conscientious the Board can be was demonstrated last week as a decision was being made on whether to build a new scoreboard at the stadium.

The opponents, including Comptroller Hyman Pressman and City Solicitor George Russell, wanted to hold off until the Colts renew their uncertain contract with the City for use of the Stadium.

The others felt the City was getting a good deal even though the low-bid sign constructor is scheduled to build a model that is 10 years old.

Cost of the project is a mere $90,000, and we have witnessed the Board deliberating a much shorter time to spend a much larger sum.

Happily for taxpayers, before the matter becomes law, it must not only be subject to City Council scrutiny, but will be reviewed by both Mr. Russell and Mr. Pressman.

If and when we get a scoreboard at the Stadium, it could well be inscribed with the words reserved for monuments of great moment: "Courtesy the Mayor and City Council — not to mention the Comptroller and City Solicitor — of Baltimore."

THEATER REVIEW

BY SANDRA DOBSON

The Center Stage production of "The Glass Menagerie" by Tennessee Williams opened Tuesday night for a short run engagement.

Mr. Williams' story is one of memory which unfolds during 1945 in St. Louis, and involves a family of three. The mother, unable to forget her glorious past as a southern belle, her crippled daughter Laura, who is pathetically shy as well as homely, and the son, Tom, who cannot escape the drive that led their father to abandon the family.

The only realistic character, as the opening narration points out, is the gentleman caller, who is always alluded to, but not actually seen until the second part.

The others are the products of their own dream-like state, and seldom face reality.

The play offers good performances by all four characters, but in spots, not because of poor writing, the tempo seemed to lag.

Perhaps it was that the audience did not know whether to laugh or cry at the words of the characters. One observation was that this was "serious comedy," while others stated that it was strictly a drama.

It is my opinion that the play is one of a pathetic nature because all of the characters, except the Gentleman Caller, is so far removed from reality that they are distressing to the point of comedy.

The setting, direction and costumes are up to the fine standard of Center Stage, but as a black person, I could not enjoy the presentation as entirely as the majority of the audience did.

Center Stage is located at 11 E. North Ave. "The Glass Menagerie" will be performed tonight and tomorrow at 8:30. For ticket information, call 685-3200.

Next Tuesday, "The Tempest," by William Shakespeare, will begin its run with a preview performance at 8:30.

If YOU Ask Me

BY BETTYE M. MOSS

MRS. MOSS

People, places and things

When she takes over as president of the Baltimore NAACP on Sunday, Mrs. Enolia P. McMillan will be wearing 'my little old acqua dress made in Hongkong . . . nothing particular,' she added modestly.

She selected the material when she was in Hongkong a year back.

But, says the new NAACP president, she's not hung up on clothes.

She is more concerned and delighted about the promises of help and support which have come from the community since she was elected to succeed Dr. Lillie M. Jackson.

* * *

Cuff note: If you've heard Mrs. McMillan speak since her election, you may come to realize that she and Dr. Jackson sound alike, both are dedicated women.

And after all, Mrs. McMillan worked long years in the NAACP vanguard under Dr. Jackson's direction.

Good luck to her in her new job.

Cuff note: Plans are afoot for a testimonial honoring Dr. Jackson. It's set for Thursday, Feb. 12 at 7 p.m. at Lord Baltimore Hotel.

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Embarrassing moment: — It happened on Tuesday at Lexington Market. I handed the man at Mary Mervis delicatessen what I thought was a $5 bill in payment for a sandwich.

When he gave me change for only a dollar, I insisted I had given him a $5 bill.

Not until I returned to the car and found the $5 bill in my purse did I realize I had made a mistake.

When I returned to the market to hand him his $5 back, he shook his head, smiled and said, 'well, I wasn't certain either.' Ho hum!

* * *

These words to remember are excerpts from a last speech (24 hours before he died.), by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. (1929-1968), the assassinated civil rights leader whose birthday was Jan. 15:

"I don't know what will happen now. We have got difficult times ahead. But it doesn't matter with me because I've been to the mountain top. Like anyone else I would like to live a long life. But I'm not concerned with that.

"I just want to do God's will, and He has allowed me to go up the mountain. I see the promised land.

"I may not get there with you, but I want you to know tonight that we as a people will get to the promised land. I am happy tonight that I am not worried about anything.

"I'm not fearing any man. Mine eyes have seen the glory of the Coming of the Lord."

Come Feb. 2, E. Thomas Williams, manager of Md. National Bank's Mondawmin branch, takes a new post in D.C.

He will be on leave of absence for two years to serve on the urban affairs committee of the American Banker's Association.

Some 50 top bankers in the nation organized the committee to help them get more involved in inner city areas—open mortgage lending to small businesses, etc.

The committee will help in the decision-making and select areas in need of help.

Carl Hitchen, formerly at Equitable is set to succeed Mr. Williams at Mondawmin, which incidentally is one of Maryland National's largest branches. (Understand it's a bit unusual for this branch to handle a half million any day).

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Another banking note: Howard Griner a former manager at Equitable, has left to go into private business.

If all of the above suggests to young people there are openings all around and they should widen their horizons and prepare for opportunities like this which are open now and larger opportunities coming in the immediate future, they are on the right track.

Get started now.

Study note: Major William (Box) Harris, the police department's community relations aide is off Sunday for Los Angeles.

He will be enrolled in the Delinquency Control Institute at the University of Southern California. The course extends through April 10.

More people and things

In the mail: B. J. Small of Villa Nova Rd., comments on our story a week back:

"In today's issue is something I'd like to comment on-nothing very serious-that was in your column.

"You apparently make quite a distinction between the words 'derogatory' and "offensive" — somehow I think both say the same thing when explaining the word "n...r" in the way it is almost always used.

"I myself have never usedtheword because I considered it insulting, derogatory and offensive.

"As a matter of fact I always used the word "Negro" very timidly for fear that the person listening might think he heard "n...r" and therefore used the word "Colored"-but now I'm told "Negro" and "Black" are preferred.

"Is time I'll get "in the groove." (I'm white and Jewish).

As to the story you related, the conversation between teacher and child, I was inclined to think unless in the actual happening the teacher could tell exactly what the child had in mind, the child was of a mind that "Black and "n...r" were one and the same thing, and not in derogatory and/or offensive way. Just a thought. Read it, yourself-this what I'm saying has any merit? SHALMON!

* * *

Thanks to Mr. Small. Glad to know our white neighbors are reading us.

The story this letter refers to was printed in this space a week back.

It concerned two white second graders fighting because one called the other a "n...r."

The black teacher, of course, was trying to make light of the incident.

In this corner, "n...r" is derogatory and offensive and ill-mannered.

* * *

Parents of Wilberforce University (Ohio) students were invited to participate in a "Weekend With Students On Campus" just prior to the Christmas holidays.

Participating in the orientation weekend from Baltimore were Mr. and Mrs. Edward Bunch, Jr., of the Alameda.

* * *

More people being kind to others: Edgar S. Allen, the chateerer, known as business man concerned about the quality of service he gives to his staff as he is to his clientel.

Each year at Christmas time his Elegante Room has a festive air and his staff is invited to "wine and dine," along with their friends and they did.

Many know Mr. Allen as an energetic black business man who has had to overcome great odds to stay in business.

He is also Food Services Director for Provident Hospital.

Mr. Allen is married to the former Bernice Lucas. They have three children Leveda 10, Edgar Jr. 9 and Lorna 4.

* * *

Dayton, Ohio visitors here recently were Mr. and Mrs. Henry King. They were guests of Mrs. Loretta Kitchen. By the way Mrs. Kitchen marked her birthday on December 29.

Among those helping her celebrate: Messrs and Mesdames H. King, Otis Stanley, Milton Kitchen, Mesdames Edith Cotton, Bessie Fullivers, of Ohio, Florence Stanley, Olma H. Bay, and Misses Rosetta Martin, Loretta D. Kitchen.

* * *

We looked in on the press conference held at the Hilton on Monday to advertise the so-called 'super fight' between Muhammad Ali (Cassius Clay), and Rocky Marciano. It will be on screen at Uptown and Royal Theatres beginning Tuesday.

But making that press conference gave us an opportunity to meet in person with Mr. Ali (Clay).

This is to report that he talks and acts like a Mr. bad child. He is cleancut and tall, somewhat handsome.

He distressed this reporter with his frequent use of that racial epithet which gives us a pain in the neck, n...r that is).

* * *

When we took him to a corner and asked him to explain how come he's all tied up with racial epithets and explained how he was appearing in a town where this newspaper has campaigned (for 78 years) against any kind of ugly word like that, he allowed as how he was just kidding and trying to get you-know-who's goat.

Frankly, he got my goat and I was disappointed in him.

Frankly, he is a good fighter, but he talks too much. Honest!

Date note: Circle your calendar now for Jan. 30. That is the date of the 'Salute To Verda Welcome' affair, set for Blue Crest North.

Game Disorders

Baltimore scholastic sports received another black eye Thursday afternoon from the unseemly behavior of a small hoodlum element which disrupted a basketball game at Forest Park High School.

MSA officials are frustrated in their attempts to control the conduct of young spectators at varsity football and basketball games, and they might be excused if they are giving serious consideration to the idea of discontinuing the varsity competitive program.

They, like many others interested in the total education of young people, however, are afraid that such abandonment would undoubtedly be misinterpreted.

It would not be accepted by the miscreants as the schools' solution of a persistent and gnawing problem. Instead, they would feast upon it as another case of surrender — of which there are too many already.

The common explanation is that students do not cause the disturbance, that all the disorders stem from invasion of the school facilities by outsiders.

Since basketball games are not self-sustaining anyway, why bother to open doors to hooligans by the public sale of tickets?

Why not restrict entry to students only, as is done for the English and History classrooms, and other areas of the curriculum?

Happiness Means

By GRACE JOHNSON

Happiness to me means the complete joy of being really alive. Alive spiritually as well as physically. Attuned to the beautiful wonders of nature.

Happiness to me means not harboring any dislike, envy or jealousy and having everyone else feel the same way.

To see the sun come up in the morning and set in the evening and know in my heart there is a God and to be grateful for his tender mercies and know that He is ever present. To me this is the ultimate of happiness.